

## Matching Grant success!!!

We have been successful in obtaining a Rotary grant of \$4000 towards our work in the Philippines. The successful grant goes towards improving the health and well being for the families of the village/compounds at Mansilingan and Sipalay, Negros, Philippines. Also for repairs and refurbishment of the Village Community Centre at Kabugwason.

The project is part of the on going project partnership between the Rotary Clubs of Illawarra Sunrise Australia and the Metro Bacolod Rotary Club Philippines

For background, the Village has 49 families with an approximate population of 260 with 50% totally blind and the 50% with some vision disabilities that need medical and dental assistance.

There is also a water supply problem within the Village with the current deep water well drying up and the artesian well not working. The main water supply is connected to only a couple of homes in the village. The mains water supply is for general use only not for drinking without filtering first.

- Sipalay village school of 300 + children was identified in the 2015/16 project year. The team did a feeding program in the area and identified the medical & dental needs in this area. The area because of its location does not get the support from the local authorities.
- Kabugwason is a relocation village of approx. 5,000 people of relocated swatters from the city of Bacolod. The team over the past 10 years have been building school class rooms, water systems and have run medical clinics. In 2007 the team built a community centre for the women of the village so they can form micro businesses. The centre is in need of repairs.