



Andrew Howard from Pack and Send in Ballarat is congratulated by Neil Donelan from Insulin for Life on supporting the project into Nauru and the Solomon Islands.

## Company supports Insulin for Life

**REGION** - It is not every day that you can say you worked with the Israeli Government to assist in sending 73,900 syringes, 7,900 blood testing strips and 29 blood testing meters to the Solomon Islands and Nauru.

However, this request and others is all in a days work for former Stawell man Andrew Howard, the owner of Pack & Send Ballarat.

Andrew worked closely with Insulin for Life Australia, who is a not-for-profit organisation that organise much needed insulin, syringes and test strips for third world countries. Insulin for Life knew that urgent medical supplies were needed in these countries and had to get them there quickly.

Insulin For Life successfully organised for Diabetes Australia to donate the required equipment and worked with the Israeli Government, who assisted in funding the project.

"I was approached by Insulin for Life earlier this year and asked if I was able to send 73,900 syringes to the Solomon Islands and Nauru," Andrew said.

"They were very surprised when I immediately said yes to the challenge. As our motto says, we send anything, anywhere."

Pack & Send has a no-limits policy which means that no job is too big or too small.

The syringes and other medical supplies are being sent to the Solomon Islands and also to the island of Nauru.

Dr Kieren Keke, Minister for Foreign Affairs, said Sunia Soaki, Secretary for Health, Republic of Nauru was very grateful for the donation, as it will help fight the battle against disease as well as educate the Nauruan people.

Dr Elizabeth Wore, Director of Medicine at the National Referral Hospital in the Solomon Islands strongly agrees with Dr Keke.

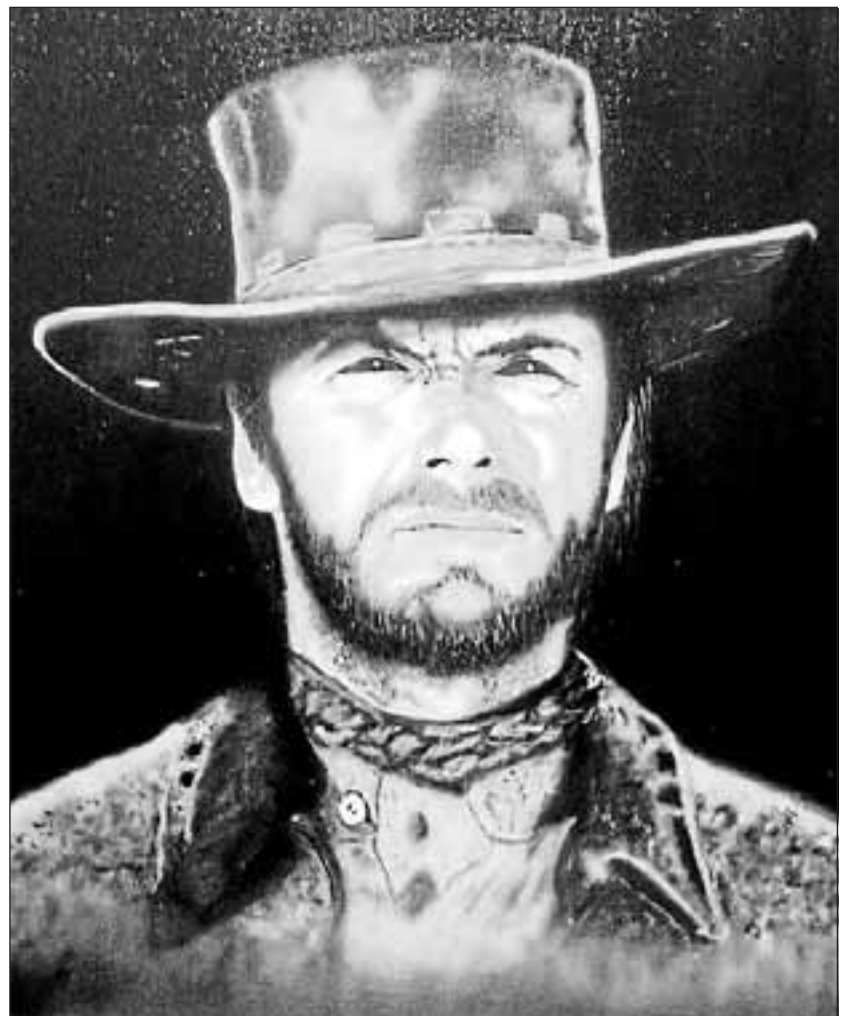
"We are looking forward to receiving these supplies," Dr Wore said.

"We run out of insulin syringes and sometimes have to use syringes which are not appropriate for insulin injection. Thank you for your help."

Andrew and his team not only shipped all the medical equipment to these remote areas, but did it at a reduced price.

"After seeing all the hard work that needs to go into these types of jobs, the least I could do was to do it as economically as possible," he said.

"This is a great initiative which I was more than happy to support."



This airbrush painting of Clint Eastwood will be among works displayed by self taught artist John Syrad at the Farmers Market in Stawell this Sunday.

## Self taught artist at Farmers Market

**STAWELL** - The Stawell Farmers Market is on again at Laidlaw Park this Sunday.

The market is in its fourth year and is still going strong thanks to the support of the Stawell people who visit our market each month.

Self taught artist John Syrad, specialises in airbrushing. John will have his work on display at Sunday's market.

John worked as a photo chemical engraver at Frankston before moving to Stawell. He was always interested in the techniques of airbrushing and aquired an airbrush and has been hooked ever since.

John uses a photograph to work from and adds his own creative flair to his work.

John also works in acrylics.

The market now has a new stallholder, Frank Barone, who will be bringing fruit to the market. These will include apples (Pink Lady) grapes, pumpkins, valencias for juicing.

So come along and enjoy the market as there are many stalls offering great produce and products.

The market starts at 9am at Laidlaw Park.

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 PRESIDENT'S REVIEW  
**PRESIDENT'S REVIEW OF VCAT BALLARAT COMMUNITY FORUM**  
 Justice Kevin Bell, President of VCAT, is conducting an extensive review into the operations of VCAT - Australia's largest civil and administrative tribunal - and is particularly interested in how the tribunal can better meet the needs of regional Victorians.  
**Date:** Monday 27 April 2009  
**Time:** 6pm registration, 6:30pm start  
**Venue:** North Ballarat Sports Club, Creswick Rd, Ballarat  
**RSVP:** feedback@vcatreview.com.au or 03 9628 9702  
**Duration:** Two hours (approx)  
 All members of the community are invited to attend this event to be hosted by Justice Bell. It is an opportunity to find out more about VCAT, the review and to contribute ideas and suggestions about how VCAT can improve access and service for individuals and groups based in regional areas.  
 For further information on this event please visit [www.vcatreview.com.au](http://www.vcatreview.com.au)