Soul work in Korea

For some volunteers participating in the Macquarie Seoul office’s ‘Korea Community Day’ in June, there was a little apprehension about the people they might encounter on the day. MFG’s Lynn Jang admitted to some nerves at the prospect of meeting women residing in the Charity House of the Annunciation, a home for women with mental health issues and disabilities.

However, she found the “warm smiles, pure souls and child-like innocence” of the inhabitants a joy to experience. Lynn was one of 18 staff who helped clean the facility, provided baths, and harvested vegetables (the main source of food) from the facility’s garden.

More than 70 people participated in the Community Day, the second year it has taken place. The Community Advisory Committee arranged activities with five Seoul-based charities, with staff randomly allocated to each. Whether volunteering or not, staff were also invited to donate to these charities. Including Macquarie Group Foundation support, more than KRW60 million was split between the five charities which included the Korean Association for Children with Leukemia and Cancer, Childfund Hanlove Community, Baffor (Dail Community), Save the Children and the Charity House of the Annunciation.

CAF’s Jinyoung Oh, one of the 11 staff who helped paint a Save The Children study room echoed Lynn’s comments about the rewards of volunteering: “We were making a small contribution to our neighbors but actually it was more of a cleansing moment for ourselves in realising there are many things we can do to be happier,” he said.

Jackie Kim, also from CAF, was impressed by how the simple tasks she and the other 22 volunteers undertook with children at Childfund – feeding, reading, bathing and playing with them – were so gratefully received. “Our day spent there meant so much, like rain in a drought.”

Other activities on the day included cleaning and planting flowers at temporary accommodation for suburban children who need somewhere to stay in the city while undergoing treatment for cancer, and preparing lunch for the homeless at a community centre.

The Community Day’s lead organiser, MFG’s Justine Huh, pointed to the teamwork that went into making the Community Day a success, describing it as a “truly amazing phenomenon to witness”.

“From the Korean Community Advisory team members who liaised between the committee, charities and the volunteers, to the business heads who supported and encouraged everyone to participate, to the volunteers who donated their time and money on the day, it really was teamwork in the true meaning of the word,” Justine said. “Even the staff who didn’t get to participate were in fact supporting the event by covering for their colleagues’ absence.”

Chairman’s message

Our staff continue to undertake great work in many different communities around the world. We include many examples of volunteering, fundraising and pro bono service in this newsletter and I would like to commend and recognise the efforts of the staff involved in these activities. Please contact the Foundation staff member in your region to find out more about how the Foundation can assist Macquarie staff activities.

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Macquarie staff and the Foundation support Oxfam Australia in Timor Leste

Macquarie staff in Australia, Hong Kong and the UK have for many years been enthusiastic supporters of Oxfam and its major fundraiser Trailwalker, with the Macquarie Group Foundation matching fundraising efforts in this event as part of its staff support policy.

Between 2007-2010 in Australia alone, Macquarie staff and the Foundation provided more than $940,000 to Oxfam Australia for its important humanitarian work.

The Foundation also congratulates MacCap’s David Bennett, Alex Harvey, Christine Hollyoak and James Wilson who, as this newsletter was going to print, announced they had raised $82,523 for Oxfam Australia through the Sydney 2011 Trailwalker, a fundraising record for the event in Australia. With support from the Foundation, the total amount equalled $165,000, achieving an international Oxfam Trailwalker fundraising record.

In 2011, the Foundation decided to more effectively leverage its matching donation for the Oxfam Trailwalker to Oxfam Australia’s program in Timor Leste. This program is working to reduce hunger and improve income, access to food and living standards for families in very poor East Timorese districts. With the support of the Foundation, the Timor Leste program is building clean water sources, improving sanitation, creating food storage solutions and protecting the local environment.

Advances in health research supported by Macquarie

The Australian Governor-General, Quentin Bryce, recognised Macquarie as a significant supporter of Research Australia and its work in building a strong Australian health research sector at an official event in Sydney in July.

Research Australia is an Australian alliance of organisations committed to making health research a higher national priority. Macquarie’s decade-long support of the not-for-profit saw Ms Bryce present a Platinum Member certificate to the Foundation at the event.

Some of the health charities Macquarie supports have made some major research announcements recently, including:

- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation which, with Macquarie Group Foundation assistance, was able to launch a vital document for both type 1 diabetes researchers and funders by mapping the research resources currently available in Australia and helping to identify the best utilisation of these resources;
- MS Research Australia which found levels of Vitamin D and glandular fever infection were linked to multiple sclerosis;
- Schizophrenia Research Laboratory which has indicated there are promising initial results in a clinical drug trial it is managing to improve cognitive performance in people with schizophrenia.

Macquarie wins award for supporting the Canberra Symphony Orchestra

Earlier this month, the Macquarie Group Foundation won the NSW/ACT Australian Business Arts Foundation’s (ABaF) Toyota Community Award for its support of the Canberra Symphony Orchestra (CSO).

The Foundation has partnered with the CSO, the professional orchestra of Australia’s capital, since 2007, enabling the provision of free music education concerts to the local community. Since that time, the interactive concert program, known as Noteworthy, has reached over 16,000 children aged between 3-18.

At the awards ceremony, ABaF highlighted how the partnership benefited the local community by developing the musical audiences of the future, meeting quality education objectives and supporting a strong regional arts organisation.

The Foundation was also a recipient of ABaF’s Good Practice Recognition for its partnership with the CSO.

New Foundation Board Member

The CEO of Macquarie’s EMEA region, David Fass, has been appointed to the Macquarie Group Foundation Board, bringing his experience and interest in the UK community and philanthropic sectors to the Board.

As the EMEA advocate on the Board, David is its second international representative following New York’s Michael McLaughlin appointment last year.

The increasing geographic diversity of the Foundation Board’s membership ensures senior commitment and recognition of the important work staff do in communities around the world.

David has also agreed to serve as co-chair of the EMEA Community Advisory Committee with Lord Gus MacDonald.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, all monies raised by staff mentioned in this newsletter include Macquarie Group Foundation matching and are denominated in local currency.
OUR STAFF IN THE COMMUNITY
1. **Grads rock the boat to keep cool**

As temperatures spiked across New York City this summer, the 2010 Macquarie graduates found a great way to get into the water. Volunteering with the charity Rocking the Boat, they sweated alongside high school students to re-finish several canoes that are used in the organization's education programs, before launching the boats into the Bronx River for a quick paddle. The boats are used as a catalyst to help young people in the South Bronx develop self-confidence to set ambitious goals and the skills needed to achieve them. In October, the grads will also seek to accomplish their own ambitious goal — recruiting a team of nine fundraisers who will row 29 miles around the island of Manhattan.

2. **Calgary cowboys rule the roost**

‘The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth’ takes place in July in Calgary each year (otherwise known as the Calgary Stampede), with 10 days of rodeo and chuck wagon events, pancake breakfasts and Calgarians dressed from head to toe in western gear. Over 600 people attended Macquarie Private Wealth Calgary’s first foray into the Stampede party scene, a fundraiser in support of the Canadian Kidney Foundation which raised over $100,000. Co-hosted by BFS’s Kurt Pedersen and client Sonny Warrack, with assistance from Jen MacLean, money was raised through ticket sales, a bull ride auction (of mostly rookie riders) and the unique ‘Chicken Drop’ event where squares in a chicken pen were sold for $100 each and, based on the chickens’ ablutions, won a lucky square owner $5,000. Grant MacEachern’s square was the most spattered and he generously donated half of his winnings back to the Kidney Foundation. Staff across the Calgary office participated enthusiastically in all of the events.

3. **London graduates look to next generation**

What are some of the key skills required when you start work? Fifteen Macquarie graduates - led by Nick Coxon, Harri Halonen, Nikhil Chulani and Lauryn Cunningham — provided some answers to 60 local high school students during a 6-week long series of workshops recently. Many of the 14-15-year-old girls from Islington’s Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School are from disadvantaged backgrounds so the workshops focused on the importance of confidence and provided the girls with an opportunity to practice mock interviews, followed by individual feedback. They also visited Macquarie’s London office where David Fass, CEO of EMMA, and MacCap’s Graeme Conway hosted sessions arranged by the Graduate Volunteer Network. David Fass described the girls’ confidence and spirit as “fantastic”. “Our graduates have done a great job in helping the girls understand the variety of roles in an organisation like ours,” he added.

4. **South Australian fundraising for local burns charity**

BFS Adelaide staff member Jed Richards was one of 20 South Australians who travelled to China earlier this year to complete the 42-kilometre Great Wall of China Marathon. As well as completing the gruelling marathon, Jed chaired the ‘2011 Running for Dylan Fundraising Project’ which coordinated a cocktail party for 400 people. Both events raised money for a 12-year-old boy living in regional South Australia who has suffered serious burns and requires regular treatment in the city. Including Macquarie Group Foundation support, a total of $72,600 was donated to the Julian Burton Burns Trust which purchased a new seven seater car for people requiring regular treatment in the city. Including the Macquarie staff learned to play cricket for the Bronx River for a quick paddle. The boats are used as a catalyst to help young people in the South Bronx develop self-confidence to set ambitious goals and the skills needed to achieve them. In October, the grads will also seek to accomplish their own ambitious goal — recruiting a team of nine fundraisers who will row 29 miles around the island of Manhattan.

5. **Records broken, the fight goes on**

Macquarie had a record-breaking year in the Ride to Conquer Cancer Canada, with more than 40 riders raising over $300,000 for a range of cancer charities, including the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation and the BC Cancer Foundation. BFS Vancouver’s Mike Siggs came third in the individual fundraising rankings in British Columbia, with over $53,000 raised. Despite torrential rain, arriving at the camp to find tents missing, and one rider’s knee swelling to the point he was advised to stop riding, the Macquarie BC Team all finished, everyone raised their $2,500 and every member vowed to do it again next year. The Macquarie Toronto team, on the other hand, cycling 200 kilometres from Toronto to Niagara Falls, enjoyed sunshine, blue skies and no major injuries.

6. **Next generation leading the way**

More than 140 Macquarie volunteers in the New York and Toronto offices welcomed a total of 15 high school interns over the summer as part of the Foundation’s signature LEADS (Leadership, Education, Advancement, Development, Support) program. The high school seniors are part of a program developed by Macquarie that offers a unique paid work experience in a corporate setting. Budgeting, project management, public speaking and IT skills are all training components of the program, with staff assisting students in the development of professional skills and preparing them for college and a future career. In addition to individual and group projects, the students also completed projects developed by their mentoring teams within the businesses. Volunteer outings and shared experiences such as a baseball game and golf outing helped facilitate strong mentoring relationships while community partners Big Brothers, Big Sisters in Toronto and Columbia University Double Discovery Center in New York provide the continuum of support needed as the students apply to college in the fall. Macquarie’s country head for Canada, David Fleck, said the Toronto office was able to build on the strong LEADS internship program developed in New York. “The internship enables the participants to develop their skills, learn from Macquarie staff and take part in real business tasks,” he said.

7. **Focus on summer**

Most kids look forward to summer but for young people in Toronto’s poverty-stricken neighbourhoods, the end of school often means nothing to do. So throughout July, more than 20 Macquarie Toronto volunteers helped occupy kids by assisting with soccer and cricket programs organised by United Way’s Focus on Youth. The program helps over 12,000 young people participate in summer camps across the city and for over 400 kids in the Flemingdon Park area of Toronto, sports summer camp is the highlight of their summer holiday. In fact, many of the Macquarie staff learned to play cricket for the first time alongside the elementary kids they were helping. (The Macquarie Group Foundation funds Flemingdon Park’s sports summer camp as part of its staff support commitment through United Way.)

8. **Mentoring challenge sees graduate outcomes**

Concerted efforts by 27 mentors across all of Macquarie’s London divisions over the last year has seen 38 proud Cardinal Pole School students graduate from the Hackney School Mentoring Programme (HSMP). By arranging mock interviews and role plays and offering career guidance and self-awareness workshops at Macquarie’s office, staff worked to raise the confidence and aspirations of the 14 and 15-year-olds. Mentor Richard Abel, from MFG, said that working with his mentee over the academic year was both fulfilling and challenging at times. “I learnt a lot and I’d recommend it to anyone who wants to step outside of their comfort zone,” he said. Half of the 2010/11 Macquarie mentors have signed up to participate once again with this year’s batch of students.
Shelley Street sobriety

Proving that the traditional Aussie barbeque does not need an adult beverage to accompany it, 12 Sydney BFS staff recently cooked up a storm on the Shelley Street building’s terrace without a drop of liquor on hand. The rooftop BBQ proved a hit with more than 200 staff buying their lunch and raising funds and awareness for the month-long abstinence campaign known as Dry July. Sausages sold out by 2:00pm, while proceeds of more than $4,000 have gone to the Dry July organisation to assist adults living with liver cancer across Australia.

Million dollar promise

In honor of his best friend, who was diagnosed with colon cancer at the age of 33, FICC NY’s Randy Reiff helped found Matt’s Promise, an organization devoted to battling terminal illnesses affecting young people. One of these illnesses is Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy which affects approximately 60,000 male children and is the leading genetic killer of children worldwide (typically, by the time a child with DMD enters his teens, he uses a wheelchair, and in most cases, by the time he is twenty, he dies from respiratory or heart failure). As the president of the Board of Directors of Matt’s Promise, Randy plays a significant coordinating role and was rewarded with the fundraising outcome of its recent annual gala held at Cipriani Wall Street. Well over $1 million was raised with the assistance of a team of Macquarie FICC employees who worked tirelessly to sell tables and source auction items. More than 30 Macquarie staff also attended the event.

Hi-ho, the derry-o, the farmers from the bank

This year’s London interns needed their Wellington boots at one of the largest working farms in London recently, shovelling their way through piles of manure to aerate the fertiliser, as well as fixing fences and tiding up. The Hackney City Farm provides the community with an opportunity to experience farming in the heart of the city, helping educate young people about agriculture, providing training to locals and selling vegetables and herbs it grows. Twenty-nine Macquarie participants helped out through the Farm’s volunteering program.

Macquarie steps into IT breach

When a shipment of new computers was stolen from a New York City public housing project after residents had spent years advocating for a lab, Margarita Curet, a senior citizen and president of the local tenants’ association, thought her dream had vanished. Instead, Older Adults Technology Services (OATS), which had already enrolled local seniors in free computer classes, called Macquarie ITG and asked if they could help. Within days of a new security system and lock being installed, Ryan Wu, Valeri Vinogradov and Andrew Tucker were setting up donated computers, a printer and wireless internet for the seniors. At the lab opening in July, Macquarie and the volunteers were thanked by a local city councilor and long-time supporter of the tenants association for supporting the centre during its time of need.

CAF’s open house opens up wilderness

The San Jose CAF team opened a new equipment facility in August - but rather than simply host a launch event for clients, the team used the opportunity to raise funds and awareness for a camp for children with special medical needs located on 80 acres of Sierra Nevada wilderness. The event featured a silent auction of great prizes sourced by CAF staff, as well as a raffle for a donated motorcycle, and was attended by more than 100 customers and vendors. The successful fundraiser contributed more than $30,000 to support Tuolumne Trails’ work, while also demonstrating the CAF facility’s capabilities for equipment inspection and reconfiguration.

Helping out the homeless at the Haven

To mark Nelson Mandela International Day on 18 July, Cape Town’s MSG staff prepared and delivered sandwiches to local charity The Haven Night Shelter, a temporary home for homeless men and women. Earlier in June, staff also donated blankets, food and a selection of good quality clothes to the Haven. The Chaelti Campaign – a charity started by children in 2004 for children with disabilities – has also caught staff attention, with fundraising now underway.

Raindrops keep falling on their heads

Both England and Sydney recorded the wettest July in living memory – but it was the English Trailwalkers who drew the short straw by having to actually brave the rain to meet their Oxfam fundraising commitments! Fourteen Macquarie staff participated in this year’s 100-kilometre hike, with representatives from CAG, FICC and RMG walking along the South Downs in under 30 hours. The Four Kinds of Crazy team (including FICC’s Michelle Whiting, Ian Fong and Brad Hopkins) lived up to their name, finishing in 14 hours by running most of the way. Mild hypothermia, the onset of trenchfoot and blisters galore were the downside of a fundraising story which saw Macquarie ranked sixth overall with more than £26,000.

Variety the spice of life for Vancouver kids

Question: “What’s a pirate’s favourite letter of the alphabet?” Answer: “Rrrrrrrrr!”

Just as important as the $40,000 Julie Catling raised for the Variety Club’s annual Boat for Hope event recently is the special memories created for the 450 special needs children who attended with their families. Eleven staff from Vancouver volunteered at the event (special mention to Stacey Wallin who volunteered to be ‘Heartly’, the costumed mascot for the day). The kids took part in a pirate hunt and were entertained by a magician and the mascots at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, as well as passing a series of challenges – including the joke above - before being allowed to enter checkpoints. Police and fire service volunteers helped the kids and their families into the 35 waiting pirate ships where they set off on a 90-minute adventure, picking up loot and spraying the “bad guys” with their water guns. Julie said the parents were very appreciative of the Variety event “as it gives the kids a day to forget their problems, be in a safe environment and have an unforgettable experience.”

From left, Chris Noe and David Coons announce silent auction winners at the launch of CAF’s new equipment facility.

RMG’s Rob Liddle was encouraged in his Trailwalker efforts by his kids.

Shiver me timbers, it’s the Macquarie Private Wealth team from Vancouver!
Macquarie spins into the record books in Dublin and London

Macquarie teams rode into the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s inaugural ‘Spin to Cure’ in Dublin and came out on top with CAF’s Johannes Peeters named ‘King of the Spinners’ and Trudi Gunnning ‘Queen of the Spinners’.

In the London Spin, Macquarie was represented in 10 out of the 34 teams entered in the event. Team FICC won the overall event, followed by Team MIRA in second place (supported by team members Batman and Robin). Congratulations to FICC’s David Kettle who was named overall King of Spin and Neshaat Mirzaie who was the second fastest female competitor.

Pedal power saves lives at sea

They say laughter is the best medicine and it’s also a fun way of raising money for a good cause. MacCap’s Claire Farrell and James Hooper and CAF’s Anja Groeters from Macquarie’s Dublin office recently organised a comedy night in aid of the Inspire Foundation, raising €4,330. Ninety people attended the event MC’d by high voltage funny man, Fred Cooke, which featured some of Ireland’s top comic talent, including Jack Wise, Eric Lalor and Shazwanda.

No hehcking for Prince’s Trust ambassadors

Having confident ambassadors is a great way to promote a charity’s activities and success stories. However, public speaking can be anxiety-provoking for many people, so the more practice speakers can have, the more comfortable they will be presenting to large audiences. For that reason, four Macquarie London staff volunteered to be mock audience members for the Prince’s Trust Young Ambassadors’ training recently, enabling young people to practice public speaking for the first time. RMG’s Julie Roe was so touched by the stories she heard, she subsequently signed up to become a Prince’s Trust progression mentor. She will support a young person graduating from the Prince’s Trust “TEAM” course, which aims to continue to motivate and inspire over the following twelve months. “Hearing first hand some of the issues these young people have faced and how they have turned their lives around led me to want to really help them grow and develop their skills,” Julie said.

Laughter the best medicine

It’s a statement spoken by many who have seen the healing power of a good laugh. “As a child I used to be bullied, and I’m very grateful now for the joke that saved my life!” said the 19-year-old founder of the Pavey Trust Educational Foundation, which raises funds for young people in the UK.

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My day job is... Senior Manager with Prudential and Regulatory Affairs in the Risk Management Group.

I got involved with my chosen charities... To support the great work they do in their communities, whether it be disaster relief in developing countries or helping disadvantaged young people in the UK.

My community needs more... Volunteers to help run the various community groups.

I can help my community by... Helping young people make the most of their potential and being a source of advice for them in how to achieve their goals.

I’d like to volunteer to... Coach people to identify their goals - whether educational, career or personal - and assist them in setting out how they will achieve them.

If I could fix one problem it would be... Less red tape for people who want to make a go of something, whether it’s starting a business or running a charity.

The people who inspire me are... Some of my friends who have serious disabilities but have still gone on to achieve great things.

I’m most proud of... My Trailwalker team and support crew for surviving the 100km and each other!

If everyone could just do one thing to make a difference what would it be? Pick an activity, whether charitable, social or community group and stick with it for a while. Everyone can contribute something of value and you’ll get more out of being involved than what you put in.