

Spectacular Spectacles

During September 2025, the Rotary Club of Traralgon are collecting spectacles and sunglasses to support an eye care program in Africa. Our "Spec-tember" appeal.



Spectacles and sunglasses are sent to the Meki Eye Clinic, in the Oramia District, Ethiopia, about three hours drive from Addis Ababa. This poor region has over 60,000 people that previously had no access to eye care. Eyes for Africa has restored sight to some 4,000 people living in remote areas of Ethiopia who would otherwise have remained visually impaired. Recently, Eyes for Africa set up a permanent Primary Eye Clinic. It has employed a full time local ophthalmic nurse, and amongst other services, school children are being checked, treated and fitted with "reused" spectacles.

Donated spectacles analysed and prescription noted, and then matched to individual patient's needs. Sunglasses are particularly useful for protection after eye surgery.

Please collect spectacles and sunglasses as follows:

- In good condition - can be worn without the need for any maintenance.
- Hard spectacles cases are useful.
- If spectacles or sunglasses are not in a hard or soft case, please place in a sandwich sized in zip-lock bag, with an air pocket to act as cushioning.
- Bi-focal glasses are OK.
- But no to multi-focal spectacles as they are too hard to match to a patient. If the frames are in good condition and the lenses can be removed, please collect just the frames.
- Spectacles and sunglasses are to be brought to the Rotary Club of Traralgon scheduled meetings on Tuesday, 16 September, or Tuesday, 7 October 2025. (6 pm at the Traralgon Golf Club.)

The Rotary Club of Traralgon will then send the glasses to the Eyes for Africa coordinator in Queensland for shipment to Ethiopia.

Thank you for participating in this program.

For further information: <https://www.eyesforafrica.org/>

Please direct enquiries to The Secretary, Rotary Club of Traralgon: glenntatches@gmail.com