



EndTrachoma by 2020

Rotary Building Healthy Communities

Guest Speaker: Lien Trinh is a Rotary Foundation Scholar who applied herself to become qualified in Optometry with studies at the University of Melbourne, University of New South Wales and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine at the University of London. Having received her Master of Optometry, Lien applied for the Rotary Foundation Scholarship which led her to travel to the UK in 2013 to become qualified in Health services, Health Systems, Indigenous health, and Medical anthropology. Lien is now a Project Co-ordinator with EndTrachoma by 2020 working to identify and support effective public health interventions that will contribute to ending trachoma, a potentially blinding infectious eye disease, from Australia by 2020.

Trachoma is a bacterial eye infection that can lead to blindness if left untreated. Australia is the only developed country in the world where trachoma still exists. The Australian government and non-government organisations including Fred Hollows, have invested much money and efforts since the 1970s to eliminate the disease, and we are very close to doing this by 2020.

EndTrachoma by 2020 is an initiative led by the Rotary Club of Melbourne with Nourish our Communities Ltd, in conjunction with Rotary Clubs around Australia.

Lien is keen for us to spread the message of EndTrachoma by visiting their Facebook page and “Liking and Following” them to make your network of friends aware of this community health problem in Australia.

[Visit the Facebook Page](#) , Read More [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

Lien Spoke about her experiences with Aboriginal Communities where she assists with recovery of sight through cataract and Trachoma treatment. Lien explained that Trachoma is the result of several infections (even 100’s) which eventually cause the eye lid to turn inward causing major irritation and scarring of the eye surface leading to blindness. Its occurrence is largely due to poor hygiene in deprived remote aboriginal communities where washing of clothes, and daily face washing is not widely practiced.



Lien with Host Geoff Kneale

Visit <https://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au/projects> to see how your donation can help to buy a Personal Care Kit, A Mirror, Pool Maintenance, and Washing facilities.

You can donate by clicking [HERE](#)

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Surgery is needed to reposition turned-in eyelashes so they do not scrape against the cornea.	Antibiotics treat the infection and decrease transmission in endemic regions.	Facial cleanliness helps to reduce transmission.	Environmental improvements such as access to water and basic sanitation, reduce risk of exposure and infection.

