



■ World Sight Day Challenge



Giving sight: Cherrybrook optometrist Joseph Macri has supported Optometry Giving Sight for seven years. The organisation funds sustainable programs that provide eye exams and glasses to millions of people in need.

Picture: Natalie Roberts

Girl receives vision

OPTOMETRIST Joseph Macri donated his eye exam fees on World Sight Day (October 13) to help provide eye exams and glasses to people in developing countries, such as 18-year-old Donglian who lives in a rural province of China.

Her blurred vision stopped her from seeing the school blackboard.

Caring for her mentally ill father and working the family's farmland for four hours each day before school, Donglian couldn't afford an eye exam, but thanks to a visit from a team of newly trained local eye care professionals and a pair of glasses, she can now see.

The team received training from Optometry Giving Sight, the organiser of the World Sight Day Challenge, which also develops vision centres that deliver long-term vision care to people in desperate need.

Mr Macri of In Focus Eyecare Cherrybrook was one of nearly 400 optometrists across the country to participate: now he is inviting his patients to make a donation this month.

Optometry Giving Sight guarantees that 85 per cent of all funds raised by optometrists and their patients goes to projects in 16 countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and indigenous Australia.