

Rotary District 9800 Foundation News December 2021

A message from the Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair:

Do you know your Foundation? *

When people ask me what The Rotary Foundation is, I tell them it's the heart of Rotary. You may have heard before that Rotary has an intelligent heart. The Foundation combines our emotional response

of compassion with pragmatic action. With both heart and brains, you can change the world.

So, what does the Foundation mean to you? November is Rotary Foundation Month, but do you really know our Foundation?

First, it truly is our Foundation. The

Rotary Foundation doesn't belong to me or the other 14 trustees, nor to the RI Board of Directors, nor to the RI President. It belongs to each Rotarian around the world.

And it's there for all of us to change the world. We save mothers and children because we have compassion, and we know how to plan. We provide clean water and sanitation where they're needed to those who need them, because we build strategies based on a community's needs. We combine support for peace, education, and economic stability for at-risk communities with an ability to manage big projects.

Giving to the Foundation is smart, too, because in doing so, you multiply the value of that gift. How many other Foundations can you think of that identify the projects, fund them, and run them on the ground themselves? Ours is the only one I know. And we get it all done at such a relatively

low administrative cost. This is one reason Charity Navigator consistently gives the Foundation a fourstar rating.

I sometimes get asked a question: How much

should I be giving to the Foundation? Each year, make a gift of what you can afford to give. For some, that is \$100, and for others, more. What's most important is that you give something because each generous gift helps us meet the increased demand we're seeing from members for global grants and our other programs.

This year, we want to raise \$50 million for PolioPlus,

which will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for a total of \$150 million. If every Rotary club contributed just \$1,500, we would surpass this goal. We have other goals as well — for the Annual Fund, the Endowment Fund, and outright gifts — adding up to a grand total of \$410 million.

We will get there if we set our hearts — and minds — to it. But remember, it's not about the money; it's what the money can do.

There's a saying that goes, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

The Foundation is that stone, so let us turn ripples into great waves with it, using our hearts and our minds.

John F. Germ Trustee Chair 2021-22

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Walking to End Polio in 2021

For the second year in a row, District 9800 hosted the *Walk With Us to End Polio* campaign. Throughout October, people were encouraged to walk, run, or cycle as individuals, or as part of a team. Participants registered their interest on the website (www.rotarywalkwithus.org) and encouraged their friends, families, and others to sponsor them. The outcome for this year was spectacular - 314 walkers and 40 teams from 13 Rotary Districts, and more than 14,000 donors, raised \$111,649. Approximately, \$67,000 of this figure came from D9800 participants but walkers and teams from all around Australia and even several from overseas, were involved.

Individuals		Teams	
Dale Hoy	\$7644	Central Blue Rotary	\$8738
Robert Fisher	\$4322	Brighton North Rotary	\$7724
Philip Archer	\$3027	Rotabears North Balwyn	\$5784
Jessie Harman	\$2733	Hawthorn hawkers	\$5369
Grant Hocking	\$2665	Team Camberwell	\$4231
Kate Strain	\$2626	Rotary E- Club of Melbourne	\$3847
Gabe Hau	\$2421	Polio Free Prahran	\$3800
Peter Shepheard	\$2317	Southbank	\$3367
Murray Verso	S2198	Chaddy Chatters	\$3126
Eric Wood	\$2138	Balwyn Rotary Club	\$3116

DG Dale Hoy showed great leadership by raising \$7644 in sponsorship and topping the leadership board. The Central Blue Mountains team, led by PDGs Jennifer and Ian Scott, raised \$8738 to be the top fundraising team. The top ten fundraising individuals and teams are shown in this table, but we appreciate the involvement of all walkers and sponsors.

Benefits of the month-long campaign included:

- When the match from the Gates Foundation is added, \$334,947 was raised to End Polio.
- Getting people out and walking improved their health and fitness.
- Improving the mental health of participants by getting them out and about during Melbourne's lockdown period.
- Getting Rotarians to think about the value of the End Polio campaign.
- Increasing the public awareness of polio and the.
 important role Rotary is playing to eradicate it.

Thank you to PDG Grant Hocking, District End Polio Chair, Kitty O'Connor, and IT guru Stephen Sennett for the work they did to make this another successful year. We were also grateful for the support of RI Director Jessie Harman. Jessie posted commentaries of her daily walks on Facebook and was one of our most successful fundraisers.

We had hoped to have had as many people as possible walking together on World Polio Day (24 October), but lockdown arrangements meant a large live event wasn't possible. However, a small group of people were able to walk to the top of Mt Macedon in rural Victoria.



Philip Archer, Darrell Secker, Grant Hocking, Andrew & Jessie Harman, and Rob McGuirk.



Funds available for District Grants!

Last year, twenty-five (25) projects were approved for District Grant funding and eighteen (18) scholarships for \$1000 each were given to clubs for use by Year 11 - 12 students. This year we will have **USD70,000** (i.e. **AUD99,000**) in our Block Grant to fund District Grants such as these.

However, so far in the first half of this Rotary year, applications for grants have been surprisingly low. Only two District Grants totalling AUD5000 have been approved. Thirteen (13) scholarships have been awarded.

We know that the pandemic lockdowns have severely restricted the ability of Rotary clubs to carry out service projects, but now that things are opening up, a District Grant may be just the thing you need to help your club with a new project.

Please contact Foundation Grants Chair, Richard Blakeman to discuss your club's project needs.

Email: Foundation.Grants@rotary9800.org

You will find more information about our grant guidelines and application forms here: D9800 District & Global Grants

Below are examples of the District Grants allocated during the 2020-2021 Rotary year.

CLUB	COUNTRY	PROJECT	COST	GRANT
Altona	Australia	Primary School Cubby House	11,500	5,000
Brighton	Australia	Building young Social Entrepreneurs	13,000	2,500
Brighton	Australia	'Bayspeak' Youth Public Speaking Comp.	4,200	1,400
Brighton	Uganda	Hope for Mothers Project	16,461	3,984
Brighton North	Australia	End Trachoma Toiletry Kits	2,003	1,000
Brighton North	Australia	Bayside Youth Suicide Awareness Project	8,050	2,500
Brighton North	Cambodia	Sustainable food sources and clean water	16,500	5,500
Central Melb.	Cambodia	Clean Water and Sanitation Kok Tnoth Village	12,000	4,000
Camberwell	Cambodia	Well Water Project, Kampong Thom Province	5,000	1,667
Camberwell	Timor Leste	Water and Sanitation	100,000	6,000
Chadstone –EM	Vanuatu	Providing Clean Water for Schools	9,000	3,000
Daylesford	Australia	Herb& tea Garden at Dharma School	2,285	1,142
Essendon	Australia	Everyday Conversations Moonee Valley	2,750	1,375
Essendon	Australia	Youth Projects CAG - After Dark Project	4,000	2,000
Essendon	Philippines	Basic Education and Literacy Philippines	5,215	1,788
Hawthorn	Australia	Christmas Care Gift Bags	4,800	2,400
Keilor East	Cambodia	WASH Projects	19,989	6,000
Kew	Timor Leste	Online shop	19,716	3,572
Melbourne	Timor Leste	Provision of hand sanitisers	6,551	2,000
Melb. Passport	Nepal	Toilets in the Shree school in Kathmandu	8,325	1,908
Melb. South	Uganda	Moyo Hospital Provisions	15,000	5,000
Prahran	Uganda	Malaria Control Program	4,140	1,270
Rochester	Australia	Rotary Park Windmill Restoration	20,000	2,500
Williamstown	Australia	Create a Bird Hide at Jawbone Reserve	4,911	2,455
Wyndham	India	Preventing avoidable blindness	10,000	2,500

WINNERS OF ROTARY AWARDS

The following people have been recognised for their tremendous service work for Rotary and the Rotary Foundation. Immediate Past District Governor, Philip Archer, presented the awards at the District 9800 Changeover Lunch in July.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD - Ruth Carlos Martinez

The Service Above Self Award is considered the highest honour that RI can bestow on a member. Up to 150 outstanding Rotarians and Rotaractors are chosen for the SAS Award each year because their service activities have made make an impact on humanity.



Ruth Carlos Martinez from the Rotary Club of Melbourne joined Rotary in 2003 and has been an absolute dynamo with international projects ever since. Filipino by birth, and Australian by choice, Ruth is highly respected by fellow Rotarians for her selfless commitment to making a difference. She has completed more than 100 major projects to improve lives and opportunities for underprivileged and remote communities in the Philippines. They have had the benefits of Rotary Foundation Global Grants and RAWCS funding. Ruth's work has been predominantly, but not solely, in the area of water and sanitation. In 2018, she was the inaugural recipient of the Zone 8 Humanitarian Award.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD - Robert Fels

The Distinguished Service Award is an internationally competitive award granted annually to a maximum of 50 Rotarians who have exhibited exceptional active service to The Rotary Foundation. Nominees must have



received the Citation for Meritorious Service at least four years prior. **Robert "Bob" Fels has been a** member D9800 Rotary Peace Fellowships

Subcommittee since 2001 and chaired it for 8 years. Thanks to Bob, D9800 has

produced 42 Peace Fellows, far more than any other district in the world. At the same time, he has played a major role in selecting people for postgraduate global scholarships. For 6 years, he served on Rotary International's Peace Fellow Committee and was involved with reviewing Rotary Peace Centres. He continues to promote the Foundation at every opportunity, and to maintain links with and mentor Peace Fellows and Postgraduate Scholars.

THE ROBERT FELS PEACE AWARD - Robert Helme

The Robert Fels Peace Award is a District 9800 Award to recognise a person who has significantly enhanced peace building and conflict resolution at international, national, or local community level. The award recognizes the leadership of Bob Fels in realising these outcomes.



Prof Rob Helme, a neurologist and geriatrician, was inducted into the Rotary Club of Melbourne in 1997. For several years, he worked with Robert Fels on the club's Peace Fellow selection committee and later joined him on the District 9800 Rotary Peace Fellowships subcommittee. From 2015 until 2020, Rob chaired the subcommittee. He did an outstanding job of selecting and mentoring the candidates and was instrumental in maintaining the district's unbroken record of successfully sponsoring one or more Peace Fellows every year. In 2019, Rob began planning a peace conference to be part of the

centenary celebrations of Rotary in Australia. Unfortunately, ill health meant he had to give up the role 9 months before "The Future of Peace Leadership" Symposium was held in April 2021, but his vision and input was a major factor in its success.

Congratulations Ruth, Bob, and Rob!

ROTARY FOUNDATION DISTRICT SERVICE AWARDS



The Rotary Foundation District Service Awards are presented in the form of a certificate for outstanding service promoting The Rotary Foundation and its goal of world understanding and peace. This year's awards were presented to:

- Jane Pennington, D9800 Foundation Committee Secretary
- Catherine "Kitty" O'Connor, D9800 End Polio Chair
- Katrina Flinn, D9800 Stewardship Chair
- Richard Blakeman, D9800 Grants Committee Chair

Some of the other recipients in recent years have included:

Bernie & Marjorie Gerlinger, Vijay Susarla, Robert Hines, Keith Ryall, Anne Peace, Adrian Nelson, Peter Shepheard, Gordon Cheyne, Susie Cole, Don Heath, Roger Thornton, Graeme Newton, Grant Hocking, Gabe Hau, Chris McCormack, David Abbey, Philip Archer, Julie Mason, Cheryl Pisterman, Mark Stephens, Dennis Shore, Roger Leask, and David Gorman.

MEET OUR LATEST PEACE FELLOW Biong Deng Biong



In June 2021, The District Peace Subcommittee, chaired by PDG Dennis Shore, interviewed and selected Biong Deng Biong for nomination as a Rotary Peace Fellow. This year, the Rotary Foundation received over 600 endorsed applications for just 130 fellowships in 2022. In November, we were thrilled to learn that Biong had been selected from this highly competitive field. He was selected to attend the Professional Development program at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda early in the New Year.

Biong is an outstanding community leader with an incredible life story. He was born in war-torn South Sudan. As a 9 year-old boy he became displaced and separated from his parents. He was left alone with other boys around his age (known as the "lost boys" of South Sudan) he trekked from South Sudan to Ethiopia. During that time Biong witnessed friends and relatives, mainly civilians, children and women either being

killed or forced into wilderness where they died of hunger, thirst, diseases or were killed by wild animals. Biong ended up in a refugee camp in Kenya where he was selected from thousands of other children for a scholarship which allowed him to complete his school education in Kenya.

Biong had lived as an unaccompanied war child for about 15 years until he came to settle in Australia in 2004 on an humanitarian visa. After two weeks, he started working as a carpenter but studied and worked hard and attained a master's degree in finance and banking as well as a graduate certificate in migration law. His natural inclination to improve social harmony and to promote equality saw him gravitate to several community roles, including an aide at St Albans Primary School in Melbourne, a Community Liaison Officer with the Brotherhood of St Laurence in Fitzroy, and Program Coordinator with the Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Services where he is now the Executive Officer.

Biong also serves as a regional advisory Council Member of the Victoria Multicultural Commission and as an Ambassador for Melbourne Victory Football Club. He is the proud father of six children.

OUR PEACE FELLOW ALUMNI

Biong follows on from Peter Pal who was selected for the 2021 inaugural intake at the new Peace Centre in Uganda. He joins 41 other Peace Fellows who have been selected from D9800 since the program began in 2001. Included in the list below are 10 representatives of Victoria Police. VicPol has identified the value of the Professional Development Certificate program for its members. Two of the Fellows (Stephanie Woollard and Lucienne Heyworth) were subsequently honoured with prestigious Rotary-United Nations recognitions.



Tania Miletic



Charles Allen



Jessica Trijsburg



Anggia Burchill

V	No	11.2		
Year	Name of	University		
Selected	Peace Fellow	Peace Centre		
2001	Tania Miletic	ICU, Tokyo		
2002	Yung Li Nietschke	Duke/UNC		
2003	Jonathan Kolieb	UC Berkeley		
2004	Jackie Bornstein	Bradford		
2005	Anna Schurmann	Duke/UNC		
2006	Pia Simonsen	Duke/UNC		
2007	Susan Carew	Chulalongkorn		
2008	Simon Artz Julia Watson	Chulalongkorn UC Berkeley		
2009	Charles Allen Tom Bamforth Samantha Hardy Francis Suleiman	Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn		
2010	Jessica Trijsburg Sophie Brown	Duke/UNC Duke/UNC		
2011	Zuleika Arashiro Natasha Holt	Chulalongkorn Duke/UNC		
2012	Suze van Meegen Stuart Bateson Stephanie Woollard	Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Uppsala		
2013	Dominic Bowen Jamil Alfaleet Russell Patten	Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn		
2014	Chris Gilbert Lucienne Heyworth	Chulalongkorn Uppsala		
2015	Ellen Maynes Jessica Siriosi Andrew Miles	Chulalongkorn Queensland Chulalongkorn		
2016	Peter Greaney	Chulalongkorn		
2017	Jennifer Grover Jean-Noel Melotte Kelly Lawson	Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn		
2018	Anggia Burchill Cath Harris Martin Harris	Chulalongkorn Duke/UNC Chulalongkorn		
2019	Eva McKinley Jennelle Fuller Essan Dileri Natascha Hrychow	Bradford Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn Chulalongkorn		
2020	Peter Pal	Makerere		
2021	Biong Deng Biong	Makerere		



Jonathan Kolieb



Stephanie Woollard



Lucienne Heyworth



Peter Pal

BUILD VIBRANCY IN YOUR CLUB BY SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION

Clubs that deliver inspiring outcomes have a huge advantage in attracting and keeping members and The Rotary Foundation enables clubs to deliver amazing outcomes!

By dramatically increasing the impact of club projects, the Foundation helps Rotary clubs to build their reputation within their communities, and also build the enthusiasm and commitment of its members. By helping clubs to "Do Good in the World" the Foundation builds stronger clubs.

One of the joys of having a leadership role in the Foundation is to witness clubs making this connection between Foundation funding and their own success—and to see the increase in club vibrancy that follows. Not surprisingly, the clubs and Rotary members who understand the nexus between doing good and growing club vibrancy are the ones who support the Foundation most passionately.

Rotary has FOUR Funds that you can contribute to:



Most often, this support is directed to the Annual Fund, because half of these contributions come back to the district to support local initiatives. However, it's also reflected in greater support for Rotary's number one cause, End Polio Now.

Members and clubs that have witnessed the very rapid impact of a Disaster Response Grant tend to support the Disaster Response Fund, while those who want to see Rotary's impact continue in

perpetuity often give cash or leave money in their Wills to the Endowment Fund.

On average:

- people in the community give over \$100 per year to charity—and Rotarians tend to be more generous than most
- about 70% of the Foundation's contributions come from personal donations
- approximately 25% of Rotarians contribute to the Foundation

If the other 75% of Rotarians better understood the doing good / club vibrancy nexus, perhaps they might contribute at least \$100 per year to Rotary's charity? This dovetails perfectly with the Centurion program that was created some decades ago by the Rotary Districts of Australia and New Zealand. However, that is just one of the programs that recognise the generosity of our donors:

Imagine the additional impact we could deliver if **EVERY ROTARY MEMBER** made a personal contribution **EVERY YEAR** to help fund our humanitarian projects.

And—not to forget clubs—what if every club gave at least \$1,500 to Polio Plus and at least \$100 per member to the Annual Fund. Just imagine how much more vibrant our clubs could become.

Please click here to donate:

DONATE





Making 100% of Rotarians Centurions in our Centenary year!

Many years ago, Rotary Districts in Australia and New Zealand initiated the Centurion Program, as an effortless way for all Rotarians to support their charity, The Rotary Foundation.

The program asks members to make a yearly contribution of AUD100 or more to the Foundation's Annual Fund. That is about \$2 per week.

With Rotary celebrating 100 years in Australia and New Zealand in 2021, it is a suitable time to consider becoming a Centenary Centurion! 100% of the members of Altona Rotary did exactly this in 2021.



of the Foundation as your Impact Multiplier.

Doing so means that the Foundation can help Rotarians to deliver impact projects, in our communities and around the world.

Any Rotarian with a great idea can access Foundation funding to deliver a community project that would otherwise have been well out of reach. It is estimated that for every \$100 contributed in Australia, Rotarians received grants of \$183 to support their projects! Think

How do you become a Centurion?

- Some clubs simply add a \$100 option to their annual dues invoice and then forward this, on your behalf, to the Foundation.
- Others add \$2 to the weekly attendance fee.
- Mostly, members just go to My Rotary and set up a regular payment, whether monthly, quarterly, or yearly, to the Annual Fund.



For half the cost of a cup of coffee, or \$2.00 per week, you can become a Centurion.

The Rotary Foundation is our charity. Let us all support it and multiply our impact in the world. Please make your club a 100% Centurion Club in Rotary's 100th year.

ZONE 8 APPOINTMENTS FOR 2022



PDG Bronwyn Stephens has been selected to succeed PDG Dennis Shore as the Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor (EMGA) for Zone 8. Dennis has done a wonderful job as the Zone's EMGA over the past 3 years and will be an excellent mentor for Bronwyn.

PDG Julie Mason has been selected to be an **Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator (ARRFC)** with responsibility for several districts in Victoria.

These two key positions help to generate support for the Rotary Foundation throughout Australia and New Zealand. Bronwyn and

Julie will take up their appointments on 1st July 2022. We offer warm congratulations to them both.



R.I. District 9800 PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY LUNCHEON

Approximately 30 members of the District's Paul Harris Society enjoyed a very convivial Christmas lunch at Graduate House on Friday 10th December. It was well organized and hosted by our PHS Coordinator, PDG Julie Mason, assisted by Peter Shepheard. Guests enjoyed roast turkey, vegetables and plum pudding served by the cheerful staff at Graduate House.

A highlight of the day was the induction of Michael Lishman from the Rotary Club of Woodend into the Society. His partner Deidre Willmott also intends to join.

Julie challenged everyone present to discuss two questions: "Why did you join the PHS?" and "Why do you stay a member?" Some of the responses included:

- I appreciate the good work of the Rotary Foundation (TRF).
- I'm impressed by the high ratings TRF receives from Charity Navigator.
- I was tapped on the shoulder.
- I want to set an example to others.
- I have the capacity to give and very happy to do so.
- The programs funded by TRF are very impressive.



Click here if you would like to join the largest PHS in Australia: Paul Harris Society | District 9800













NEW ROTARY FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA WEBSITE



Rotary Foundation Australia is one of The Rotary Foundation's eight Associate Foundations around the world. It enables Australians, both individuals and organisations, to make tax deductible gifts to the Foundation.

RFA has just launched a new website: <u>Rotary Foundation Australia.</u> It provides material that is highly informative, both to the public and Rotary members.

For example, the site provides <u>details of grant-funded projects</u> that deliver significant and sustainable impact to communities, locally and globally. Australian clubs are encouraged to <u>submit stories about their projects</u> for inclusion in the site.

The site also includes a My Foundation page. Think of it as a go-to page with links to a whole range of resources, such as forms, brochures and guidelines as well as handy pages in rotary.org.

