

# Rotary

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Your  
guide to  
doing  
good.

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2023**

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## The magnitude of our impact

*The Rotary Foundation*

**SPECIAL EDITION!**  
YOUR GUIDE TO OUR FOUNDATION

Rotary 

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to End  
Cervical  
Cancer  
in Egypt

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# The magnitude of our impact



This month, as we celebrate The Rotary Foundation, let's recognise it for what it is: one of the world's best humanitarian organisations.

**By Barry Rassin**  
**Foundation Trustee Chair**

**MANY** charities, relief organisations and non-profits do the same type of work, and the public associates them with the causes they work on. But I wonder how many people know that Rotary supports those same

causes – seven of them in fact – which we call our areas of focus.

If they want clean water, good health and a sustainable future for our planet, they support what our Foundation does. If they envision a world where peace, full literacy and economic opportunities for communities to support themselves exist, they also believe

in Rotary's mission. And if they want to see mothers and their babies thrive, their vision aligns with the work we do.

We have a lot of work in progress through the Foundation. Polio eradication is changing the world, one drop of vaccine at a time. Rotary Peace Centres are training peacebuilders to reduce





violence and resolve conflict. And through Foundation global and district grants, we are improving lives in a real way.

The way we work also sets us apart. We have global reach, with more than 48,000 field offices in the form of Rotary and Rotaract clubs. We emphasise good stewardship of your funds and efficient implementation of your projects. And we always aim for sustainable solutions.

During the 2022-23 Rotary year, the Foundation awarded 1,092

global grants. If you think of what a single grant can do, you begin to grasp the scale of our work and the magnitude of our impact – an impact people can see and feel in their daily lives.

Our district supported a global grant project that focused on basic education and literacy in Malawi, where we helped train 38 teachers who are responsible for 4,000 students. We also built two toilets and installed a pump, so they had water for drinking and hand washing.

I will never forget that when Esther and I visited the school, a young boy pointed to my Rotary pin, recognising it from other volunteers who wore their pins during the project. He said, “I know you helped me. I won’t be able to travel to thank the others who helped me, so please thank them for me.”

So, thank you, Rotary, on behalf of a child in Malawi whose future you made a little brighter, and on behalf of thousands of others you have helped by supporting The Rotary Foundation. RDV

# The Founding of our Foundation

From an initial contribution of \$26.50, The Rotary Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects since it was founded more than 100 years ago.



**RIGHT:** Rotary President Arch Klumph and the 1916-17 Board of Directors. Top (L-R): FW Galbraith Jr., E Leslie Pidgeon, Chesley R Perry, and Guy Gundaker. Bottom (L-R): Arch C Klumph, Allen D Albert.

**AT** the 1917 Rotary International Convention, outgoing Rotary International President Arch C Klumph proposed setting up an endowment “for the purpose of doing good in the world”.

That one idea, and an initial contribution of \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, US, set in motion a powerful force that has

transformed millions of lives around the globe.

During the Convention Arch reminded Rotarians that “Rotary is at the present time entering a new era, demanding improved methods in administrative machinery, with which to carry out the splendid principles which have been laid down heretofore.” He defined six points of action, including the establishment of an endowment, which would later become The Rotary Foundation.

“Carrying on, as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world, in charitable, educational or other avenues of community progress, or such funds could be well used for extension work.”

Through Arch’s simple yet profound statement,

the Rotary Endowment Fund was born. In 1928, the name formally changed to The Rotary Foundation, and a Board of Trustees was established, with Arch serving as the first trustee chair from 1928 to 1935. Even after stepping down as chair, he remained dedicated to educating Rotary leaders and members about the importance of the Foundation and encouraging contributions.

Today, Rotary Foundation grants fund thousands of projects every year, with contributions reaching into the tens of millions. In the 2022-23 Rotary year, The Rotary Foundation funded 1,092 global grants at a cost of \$68 million; 473 district grants at a cost of \$28 million; 324 disaster response grants at a cost of \$15 million; and one program of scale grant at a cost of \$2 million. RDU

**“Carrying on, as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world, in charitable, educational or other avenues of community progress, or such funds could be well used for extension work.”**



# 2022-23 Grant Summary

**473**

**district grants**

**324**

**disaster  
response grants**

**1092**

**global grants**

**1**

**programs of  
scale grants**

**\$28m**

**program awards**

**\$15m**

**program awards**

**\$68m**

**program awards**

**\$2m**

**program awards**

## Our all-star charity

**FOR** the 15th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating – four stars – from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the US.

The Foundation earned the recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

“We are delighted to provide The Rotary Foundation with third-party

accreditation that validates their operational excellence,” said Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator. “The Four-Star Rating is the highest possible rating an organisation can achieve. We are eager to see the good work that Rotary is able to accomplish in the years ahead.”

Charity Navigator assesses nonprofit performance based on four key indicators,

including the impact of the charity’s program relative to cost; the organisation’s governance and financial health including its transparency, efficiency, and sustainability; a charity’s leadership capacity, strategic development, and ability to adapt to internal and external changes; and its overall culture and connectedness to its constituents and the communities they serve. <sup>RDU</sup>



# Rotary's AREAS — OF — FOCUS

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever. While these causes are central to all Rotary service projects, humanitarian projects, scholars, and vocational training teams funded by Global and Programs of Scale grants work toward specific goals in one or more of the Foundation's areas of focus.



**PICTURED:** In the Yarra River Clean-Up project, the Rotaract Club of Melbourne City, Vic, leads an effort by Rotary members in District 9800 to remove pollution from the river and surrounding pathways to prevent it from reaching the ocean.



## Environment

**GLOBAL** environmental issues represent some of the defining challenges facing humanity, and solutions that account for our relationship with nature and natural resources connect us both locally and globally. More than half of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 are closely linked to environmental sustainability.

**TAKE ACTION**

Rotary supports activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance environmental sustainability, and foster harmony between people and the environment.

Our members work on addressing environmental problems such as pollution and habitat degradation. Addressing the root causes of such problems for the benefit of people and nature often requires collaboration with multiple stakeholders.

You can engage with this area of focus by designing projects and programs that seek to:

- Protect and restore land, coastal, marine, and freshwater resources
- Enhance the capacity of communities and local governments to support natural resource management and conservation
- Support agroecology and sustainable agriculture, fishing, and aquaculture practices to improve ecological health
- Address the causes of climate disruption and support solutions to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases
- Strengthen the resilience of ecosystems and communities affected by climate disruption
- Support education to promote behaviours that protect the environment
- Advocate for the sustainable consumption of products and the environmentally sound management of by-products to build a more resource-efficient economy
- Address environmental justice issues and environmental public health concerns



# Peacebuilding And Conflict Prevention

**AT** the end of 2022, 108.4 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.

While the solutions that will end violent conflict are complex, Rotary believes that when groups of dedicated people work to create peace in their communities, their efforts can have a global effect.

Our members focus on prevention and transformation – identifying and working to resolve the underlying conditions, relationships, and social structures that give rise to conflict.

By addressing the causes of conflict, communities can move beyond conflict resolution or management to change the environment that led to violence or a threat of violence. This focus on transformation helps ensure sustainable and lasting peace.

## TAKE ACTION

Read the **Rotary Guidelines for Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention**.

## TAKE ACTION

Enrol in the **Rotary Positive Peace Academy**. ([www.positivepeace.academy/rotary](http://www.positivepeace.academy/rotary))

## TAKE ACTION

Learn more about **Rotary's partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace**. ([www.rotary.org/en/institute-economics-and-peace](http://www.rotary.org/en/institute-economics-and-peace))

## TAKE ACTION

Learn about **Conflict Sensitivity and the Do No Harm program**, a well-known framework to ensure projects don't cause unintended harm when they're implemented.

## TAKE ACTION

Recruit candidates for a **Rotary Peace Fellowship**. We award up to 130 peace fellowships each year for study at Rotary Peace Centres at universities around the world. ([www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships](http://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships))





# The road to peace



his month, Rotary takes a step toward supporting peacebuilding in the Middle East and North Africa region.

In November, Rotary and District 2420 are hosting a signing ceremony for our newest peace centre in partnership with Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul.

The ceremony is the first in a series of events recognising the new centre at BAU and Rotary's work to promote peace. The 2024 Rotary International Convention in May will mark 25 years since the first Rotary Peace Centres were announced – coincidentally at the Rotary Convention in Singapore in 1999. Recruitment for the first cohort of Rotary Peace Fellows at BAU also starts in 2024, and selected candidates will begin their program in early 2025.

Since its beginning, the peace centres program has prepared more than 1,700 peace fellows working in more than 140 countries to create a more peaceful world. That is certainly worth celebrating, but Rotary Peace Fellows are more than statistics on a page. Their actions have helped *Create Hope in the World* and will continue to do so.

For example, Jennifer Montgomery and Gorett Komurembe – peace fellows from the program at Makerere University in Uganda – are co-founders of the Magenta Girls Initiative. The international non-governmental organisation equips Ugandan girls and young women with the support and tools to overcome harmful gender norms, generational poverty, gender-based violence, trafficking, and trauma.

Ndzi Divine Njamsi, another peace fellow who studied at Makerere, has taken lessons learned about Positive Peace and is sharing them with students of his own in Cameroon. He became interested in the Rotary Positive Peace Activator training program after witnessing extremism, online hate speech, and violence in Cameroon. Since completing the program, he has brought his lessons on peace to students at the Yaoundé International Business School and other organisations in the central African country.

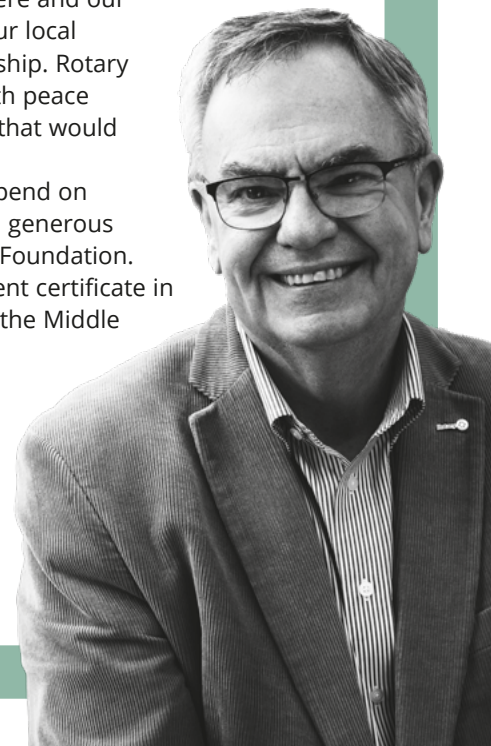
The world needs more people like the graduates of the program at Makerere and our other peace fellows. To that end, we can all advance peace by encouraging our local peacebuilders to learn more about Rotary and apply for this impactful fellowship. Rotary members can also mentor candidates for the fellowship. Or you can work with peace fellows who have already graduated. They probably have an initiative or two that would benefit from your help.

Our peace centres in North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, and Asia depend on financial support as well. The program at BAU was made possible thanks to a generous gift of \$15.5 million to The Rotary Foundation from the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation.

This new Rotary Peace Centre will offer a one-year professional development certificate in peace and development studies for fellows focusing on peacebuilding within the Middle East and North Africa region.

Peace must be waged persistently; it is the soil where hope takes root. But as with any journey, we take one step at a time. Let's take those steps together.

**By R. Gordon R. McNally**  
**President, Rotary International**



# Disease Prevention And Treatment

**RIGHT:** A healthcare worker prepares to head out on a bicycle during a polio National Immunisation Day in the village of Adjiri, Cote d'Ivoire.

**OPPOSITE:** Kindergarten students at PACE Universal, a school for girls in Piyali Junction, outside of Kolkata, India, that is funded in part by Rotary clubs and The Rotary Foundation.

## Preventing Disease

Non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, dementia and cancer, account for 74 per cent of all deaths globally, according to the World Health Organisation. Each year, 17 million people die from a NCD before age 70; 86 per cent of these premature deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.

Despite a global decline in the percentage of deaths due to communicable diseases, they remain a challenge, primarily in low- and middle-income countries. Although the world is on the brink of eradicating polio, communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and malaria are still leading causes of death in these countries, with reports of decreasing or plateauing progress.



### TAKE ACTION

Provide training to local health care providers and community health workers.

### TAKE ACTION

**Organise activities** to address behaviour that can be changed, such as an unhealthy diet, a lack of physical activity, and the harmful use of substances such as tobacco and alcohol.

### TAKE ACTION

Help **immunise** people against vaccine-preventable diseases.

### TAKE ACTION

**Support health education** programs that explain how diseases are spread and promote ways to reduce the risk of transmission.



### Healthcare Services

Less than half of the global population has access to essential health services, according to the United Nations. Major disruptions such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and high-conflict situations could reverse decades of improvement in preventing both communicable and non-communicable diseases by decreasing access to healthcare professionals, facilities, and other services.

More than 40 per cent of all countries have fewer than 10 medical doctors per 10,000 people, and more than 55 per cent of countries have fewer than 40 nurses and midwives per 10,000 people. An additional 18 million health workers are needed, primarily in developing countries.

## Basic Education And Literacy

### Teacher Professional Development

Teachers are the cornerstone on which we build inclusive, equitable, quality education. To foster a healthy and equitable learning environment for all, including students further marginalised by the COVID-19 pandemic, countries need to provide quality training to ensure teachers acquire relevant skills to strengthen their leadership roles.

To reach universal primary and secondary education in 2030, nearly 69 million more teachers are needed, according to the UN – more than 24 million for primary education and more than 44 million for secondary education.

Sub-Saharan Africa has the lowest percentage of trained teachers: 65 per cent at the primary level and 51 per cent at the secondary level. The ratio of pupils to trained primary teachers is 58-to-1 in sub-Saharan Africa and 40-to-1 in southern Asia.

### Supporting Students

Access to school has always been a global challenge. It was only exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced about 90 per cent of all students, or around 1.6 billion people, out of school. It also put many marginalised students at a further disadvantage because they were excluded from distance learning opportunities.



# Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

**OPPOSITE (TOP):**

Debora Valeria Lucca holds her daughter, Oriana Saucedo, following an infant hearing test at Hospital Raul F. Larcade in San Miguel, Argentina.

**OPPOSITE (BOTTOM):**

Rotary members from 21 districts, in partnership with UNICEF, are working with local governments to develop and implement immunisation programs to protect 100,000 children from rotavirus, pneumococcal disease, and cervical cancer across nine South Pacific Island countries.

**BELOW:** A young local uses water collected from a borehole well provided by a RI-USAID WASH project in Bulawula, Kayunga district, Uganda.

## Sanitation and Hygiene

According to UNICEF, in 2022 3.5 billion people lacked safely managed sanitation services, of which approximately 1.5 billion people lacked even basic services. Of these, 419 million still practice open defecation, more than half of which live in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia.

Poor sanitation is linked to the transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid, and polio. It can also undermine the growth and development of children.

At least 10 per cent of the world's population is estimated by the World Health Organisation to consume food irrigated by untreated wastewater. Each year, 297,000 children under the age of five die from preventable water and sanitation-related diarrhoeal diseases.

## TAKE ACTION

Support communities as they construct their own toilets, using local materials and resources.

## TAKE ACTION

Increase access to water and sanitation services and expand watershed protection and restoration measures in order to improve water quality and quantity and reduce the vulnerability to water-related risks and stresses.

## TAKE ACTION

Train teachers to instruct students in healthy habits in schools, using participatory lessons in sanitation and hygiene and including subjects such as menstruation.

## Improving Water Quality and Access to Water

By 2025, the UN says 1.8 billion people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity, and two-thirds of the world's population could be living under water-stressed conditions. UN figures show that some 663 million people don't have clean drinking water. And globally, women and children spend 200 million hours every day collecting water, according to UNICEF.





# Maternal And Child Health

## Child Healthcare

In 2020 an estimated five million children under the age of five years died, mostly from preventable and treatable causes, according to the World Health Organisation. More than 80 per cent of these deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals include specific targets for reducing the preventable deaths of newborns and children under age five by 2030.

## Reproductive Health

According to the World Health Organisation, 214 million women in developing countries had unmet needs for modern contraception in 2017. Having access to contraception offers benefits including more possibilities for education and economic development, and in some cases prevents the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

## Antenatal Care, Childbirth and Postpartum Care

According to the World Health Organisation, one in 45 women is at risk of dying from causes related to pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum care compared with one in 5,400 in developed countries.

In 2020, almost 800 women every day died from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth – almost one every two minutes.

Almost 95 per cent of these deaths occur in developing countries, and 80 per cent of them could be prevented with access to reproductive health services, prenatal care during pregnancy, skilled care during childbirth, and postpartum care.





## Community Economic Development

**RIGHT:** Maria Higinia Reyes mills corn in Zacate Blanco, Honduras. She takes part in an Adelante Foundation program supported by a Rotary global grant, in which women in rural Honduras get group borrowing opportunities and business training aimed at increasing their household incomes.

**BELOW:** Suryamaya Karki, a member at the Seven Women Centre, a social enterprise that produces fair trade products and services. Stephanie Woollard, a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, and former Rotary Peace Fellow, started the organisation in 2006 to empower marginalised women in Nepal.

**THE** world is facing an unprecedented confluence of crises – including climate change, inflation, conflict and food insecurity – with developing countries hardest hit. These challenges have been further compounded by the far-reaching impacts of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a growing debt crisis in many countries, the residual effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and devastating natural disasters.

The World Bank anticipates that between now and 2030, developing countries will need an average of \$2.4 trillion per



than 700 million people.

The world's poorest people bore the steepest costs of the pandemic. Their income losses were twice as high as the world's richest, and global inequality rose for the first time in decades. The poorest also faced large setbacks in health and education which, if left unaddressed by policy action, will have lasting consequences for their lifetime income prospects.

According to the World Bank, the recent crises have pushed the world further off track from the global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030. The 2023 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index found that 1.1 billion of

year to address these global challenges.

For three decades, the number of people living in extreme poverty – defined as those who live on less than \$2.15 per person per day –

was declining. But the trend was interrupted in 2020, when poverty rose due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 crisis. The number of people in extreme poverty rose by 70 million to more

6.1 billion people across 110 countries are poor. Roughly five out of six poor people live in Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia: 534 million (47.8 per cent) in Sub-Saharan Africa and 389 million (34.9 per cent) in South Asia.

Given current trends, the World Bank believes that 574 million people – nearly seven per cent of the world's population – will still be living on less than \$2.15 a day in 2030.

### Income Generation and Financial Inclusion

Financial inclusion means that individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs – transactions, payments, savings, credit and insurance – delivered in a responsible and sustainable way.

Financial accounts give people a safe way to make payments, store and save money, and access loans. As a result, financial inclusion facilitates investments in education and job opportunities, and increases resiliency to shocks.

One positive to come from the COVID-19 pandemic was that it catalysed a rise in financial digitalisation, demonstrated by millions of adults using digital payments in lieu of cash-based payments for the first time.

Data from the Global Findex – launched in 2011 as the world's first and only source of data collected from users of financial services on financial account ownership, usage, and financial resilience based on nationally representative

surveys of adults – show a 50 per cent increase over the past decade in the worldwide share of adults with an account.

From 2017 to 2021, the average rate of account ownership in developing economies increased by 8 percentage points, from 63 per cent to 71 per cent.

The gender gap in account ownership across developing economies has fallen to 6 percentage points from 9 percentage points, where it hovered for many years.

Despite these areas of progress, there continue to be gaps in financial access for typically underserved adults. Women, the poor, the young, and those outside the workforce all continue to have lower account ownership rates on average

than men and adults who are higher-income, older, and in the workforce.

### Job Creation and Entrepreneurship

Unemployment and underemployment caused by the coronavirus crisis affected as many as 1.6 billion workers in the informal economy – half of the global workforce, according to the International Labour Organisation.

According to the United Nations, only 47 per cent of women of working age took part in the labour market in 2020, compared with 74 per cent of men. The number is even lower in southern and western Asia and northern Africa, where less than 30 per cent of women are part of the labour market.

**BELOW:** Joselina, a microloan recipient in Honduras, collects payments from members of her loan group who meet in her home. Joselina's group is part of a program supported by a Rotary global grant through the Adelante Foundation, where women in rural Honduras receive group lending opportunities and business training aimed at increasing their household income.





# Global Grant Projects Doing Good in the World

Global grants range from \$30,000 to \$400,000 and fund large international humanitarian projects, scholarships and vocational training teams that have sustainable and measurable results in one or more of Rotary's areas of focus.



There were 42 active global grants sponsored from Zone 8 during 2022-23, with seven districts and eight clubs involved as

the host sponsor, and 15 districts and 20 clubs as the international sponsor. The total value of the 42 projects was US\$3,259,596, which included US\$844,570 funding support from The Rotary Foundation's World Fund.

In considering the total value of District Designated Funds (DDF) held across the region at the end of 2022-23, there is ample opportunity for districts and clubs to host or support many more global grants.

**RIGHT:** The girls soccer team at PACE Universal, a school for girls in Piyali Junction, outside of Kolkata, India, that is funded in part by Rotary clubs and The Rotary Foundation.





## Eligible Activities

Global grants support international activities in Rotary's seven areas of focus:

- **Humanitarian projects** provide sustainable, measurable outcomes that address real community needs. Twenty-seven of our 2022-23 projects were humanitarian projects, including:
  - Ten health projects – either maternal and child health or disease prevention and treatment projects
  - Six water, sanitation and hygiene projects
  - Five in support of the Zone 8 centennial project Rotary Give Every Child a Future (GECAF) – disease prevention and treatment projects
  - Three basic education and literacy projects
  - Two peace and conflict resolution projects
  - One community economic development project
- **Vocational training** improves job skills in communities through

educational programs. It also supports teams of professionals who travel abroad to gain knowledge and skills or build the capacity of the community they visit. Two of our 2022-23 projects were for Vocational Training Teams (VTTs).

- **Scholarships** fund international graduate-level study by people seeking a career in an area

of focus. Thirteen of our 2022-23 projects funded global grant scholarships.

## Global Grant Requirements

Regrettably, the perception in many Rotary clubs is that global grant processes make them too difficult to undertake. However, there are clear guidelines and excellent resources available in the My Rotary Grants Centre.

In addition, there are significant sources of support available to assist clubs (and districts) with the global grant process. These include the District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC) and District Foundation Committee members, the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator (RRFC) and Assistant Coordinators (ARRFCs), the District Information Service Chair

**ABOVE:** People get safe drinking water from a filtration facility in Karachi, Pakistan. The facilities were installed through a decades-long partnership between Rotary clubs and Coca Cola Pakistan.

**LEFT:** Students at South Delhi Municipal Corporation Primary School in Shahpur Jat, New Delhi, India, participate in a WASH training program.



(DISC), and members of the Cadre of Technical Advisors.

The reality is that the majority of global grant projects start with an individual Rotarian bringing a good project idea to their club. To be eligible for a global grant the project must:

- Have a long-term, sustainable impact
  - Include activities that align with the goals of one of Rotary's areas of focus
  - Have a minimum budget of \$30,000
  - Address an important need identified by the community
  - Strengthen the community's capacity to address its own needs
- The club (or district) should establish a project

team to develop a project plan and budget. These can be used to attract funding partners and will provide most of the information required for completing the global grant application.

## The Project

Things to consider when developing a global grant project:

- Qualify your club or district for global grants every year
- Actively involve the benefiting community in the project
- Partner with a club in another country
- Act as primary sponsor of no more than 10 active global grants at a time
- Develop a project plan

that includes a budget and a financial management plan

- Apply for a grant through the Grant Centre
- Stay up to date in reporting for all active grants
- Rotary members must be actively involved in all global grant projects, and
- All projects must comply with the terms and conditions for Rotary Foundation global grants.

For humanitarian projects and those that involve vocational training teams:

- Conduct a community assessment before applying and include the results in your application, and
- Measure progress toward the outcome.

**BELOW:** Rotary members and volunteers plant prairie grasses along the Milwaukee River.



## ACTION

If your club has yet to undertake a global grant project, don't be put off by the process. If your club or district doesn't have a suitable project idea, then look to partner with another club or district. Use the resources available to reach out for opportunities. Successful global grant projects are very rewarding activities.

Finally, it is important for us to tell our Rotary activities. Global grant projects provide excellent opportunities for stories about Rotary *Doing Good in the World*. Ensure photographs are taken to document the project, and district or regional PR resources are available and willing to assist with producing newsworthy articles. **RDU**



# Changing Lives in Cambodia

A Rotary team of 17 clubs from 11 districts are changing lives in Cambodia by building washroom toilets for approximately 350 families across two villages, with the support of The Rotary Foundation.

**A WASHROOM** toilet provides a toilet for the whole family, but equally or more importantly, provides a dignified and safe space for women to bathe themselves and their children.

The design used is of an above ground toilet built on a brick and concrete base, with the below ground structure consisting of two tanks – the first is a processing tank with a solid concrete bottom that relies on bacteria to breakdown waste, and the second tank accepts clean water from the first and returns that water to the aquifer. The shelter is a timber construction with sheet steel cladding and a steel-framed door that can be locked from the inside.

The life-changing impact is significant, and the benefits cycle ensures less contaminated water, which leads to less illnesses and more time at school or work.

While the physical health benefits are observable, the improvement in mental wellbeing is also important. For example, being able to go to the toilet at night knowing

it is a safe and secure space with minimal risks of assault is significant.

As a further benefit to these communities, a small number of villagers are being trained to build the washroom toilets, rather than engaging commercial contractors.

These villagers will be paid a rate for each washroom toilet that is completed to standard, generating income to buy food, medicine and meet other family needs.

A gender equity advisor will be engaged to meet monthly with the women in each village to obtain their feedback on the rollout of the project and discuss if they feel safer within a washroom toilet. This feedback will inform the continuation of the project implementation.



Clubs from Districts 9800, 9790, 9685, 9640, 5500, 5030, 3360, 3350, 3340, 3461 and 1160 have all been involved in the project.

When thinking about what to do with your charity dollars how could you possibly go past The Rotary Foundation? Every dollar donated will generate a tax-deductible receipt. By contributing to The Rotary Foundation like-minded Rotarians can continue to deliver impactful projects such as these. RDU

"As a further benefit to these communities, a small number of villagers are being trained to build the washroom toilets, rather than engaging commercial contractors."



**Rotary Give Every Child A Future**

# A case study for building cooperative partnerships

Rotary Give Every Child A Future (RGECAF) was conceived in 2018 to celebrate the centenary of Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific in 2021. Its aim was to introduce human papillomavirus (HPV), rotavirus and pneumococcal vaccines into nine Pacific Island countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

**By James Allen and Michelle Tanner**  
***Rotary Give Every Child A Future***

**FROM** the start of the centenary project, it was recognised that there were

significant areas in which Rotary lacked the expertise or capacity that would be required. Rotary notably did not have deep relationships with the governments, particularly the Ministries of Health, in countries

across the Pacific, with such relationships cited as being critical to the sustainability of the project. RGECAF's aim was to fund the (costly) introduction of these vaccines, with governments committing to imbed them into their national immunisation programs after three years.

It did not take long to identify UNICEF as the logical partner. UNICEF and Rotary have a long history of working together on the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. However, this would be a local partnership and there was little or no history of cooperation between UNICEF and Rotary International at this level. UNICEF has worked in the Pacific for many years and had the necessary relationships with, and is a trusted partner of, governments in the region.

**BELOW & OPPOSITE:**  
Itaeta Vaccine clinic, South Tawara, Kiribati.  
(Photo: UNICEF Australia 2022)





It also had expertise in the introduction of new vaccines and is the largest procurer of vaccines in the world.

With all this in mind, we made our initial approach to UNICEF Pacific, based in Fiji. It took a few conversations for them to understand the scope of the project we were proposing, but they undertook to put together a program and budget, and identified which countries we could have the greatest impact in. They introduced us to UNICEF Australia and UNICEF Aotearoa New Zealand, who became our key contacts throughout the project. In turn, they would liaise with UNICEF Pacific, who would implement the project on our behalf.

In 2018, we could never have imagined that our project would be disrupted by a measles outbreak in Samoa, a volcanic eruption, cyclones and floods, not to mention a global pandemic. However, by mid-2023, thanks to the support of The Rotary Foundation, Rotary districts and clubs, Rotarians and others, our goal of US\$3.9 million has been reached, and the implementation of RGECAF is now well underway. All

planned immunisation programs have commenced, except for HPV in Kiribati, which is due to roll out in the next few months.

Rotary Give Every Child A Future has only been possible because of the partnership we forged with UNICEF, with Rotary raising the funds and UNICEF implementing the immunisation programs. In addition, The Rotary Foundation has played a significant role with a total of 23 global grants supporting the project, noting that grants for Programs of Scale did not exist when the project began.

Our journey has been interesting and at times difficult. In the light of our experiences, what advice can we offer Rotarians planning large, complex projects?

- Define exactly what you are seeking to achieve and honestly assess your capabilities. Identify gaps.
- Consider partners who could fill those gaps and work out how best to approach them.
- Identify the key Rotary Foundation personnel in your regional office and discuss with them, particularly which grants

are the best fit for your project.

- In establishing your partnership(s) make sure the responsibilities of each party are very clearly identified and documented in a memorandum of understanding.
- Get to know each other's organisations and try to avoid misunderstandings, which can happen very easily. Rotary International is a large and complex organisation and it is difficult for non-Rotarians (and even Rotarians) to understand. The partner organisation may also be so. UNICEF certainly is.
- Good, regular communications are essential.
- Celebrate and publicise your successes.

This project has been successful not only because of the partnership developed with UNICEF, but also because of the key relationships formed between the lead Rotary clubs on both sides of the Tasman, and the support received from so many Rotary districts and clubs. Forming these relationships within Rotary and getting clubs and districts to work together has been challenging, but we should do more of it. It is arguably the only way in which Rotary can undertake large, impactful projects such as Rotary Give Every Child A Future in the future. **RDU**

"This project has been successful not only because of the partnership developed with UNICEF, but also because of the key relationships formed between the lead Rotary clubs on both sides of the Tasman, and the support received from so many Rotary districts and clubs."



For more information, visit  
**[everychildafuture.com](https://everychildafuture.com)**



"One amazing woman said that she is so happy now that she doesn't have to get up at 1am every day to walk for hours to get water, and she has also donated thousands of dollars from her sold crops to help rebuild a local monastery, paying it forward."

# A water lifeline for Nepal

Following the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, an acute water shortage forced villages in the Thamdanda area to purchase high priced water for washing, cooking and rebuilding. The lack of water also impacted their main income sources, animal husbandry and agriculture.

**MANY** of us do not get close to The Rotary Foundation projects supported through our individual and club contributions. But Clare McCall, of the Rotary Club of Westhaven, NZ, has experienced it from start to

finish. Earlier this year she got to hear the stories and meet the people whose lives were changed by Rotary and its partners.

The Thamdanda villagers were desperate when they met Rabindra Lama, Clare's

friend and co-founder of their organisation, Himalayan Leaky Foundation, which focuses on assisting Himalayan communities in need. The villagers had pleaded with local and central government for help, without results, and their village was almost abandoned.

The Rotary Club of Westhaven, in conjunction with the local Rotary Club of Kavre-Banepa, received a US\$125,000 global grant to provide safe drinking water, sanitary facilities, and to support income generating activities for five villages.

The project installed 8km of pipeline from an identified water source to the impacted villages and established the Thamdanda Water Supply and Sanitation Users Committee, which was accompanied by training in







water supply maintenance and management.

Pre-construction training was held in June 2019 and a blessing was conducted before construction began. Over the next few months there were challenges with flooding and landslides in areas where the pipeline was laid, but despite all this water

arrived in the villages on October 27, 2019.

Improved crop production resulted in more produce to take to market and increased income, which has enabled re-builds within the village and expansion into new food crops. More women have become empowered through their involvement

in the Thamdanda Water Supply and Sanitation Users Committee, and young men are upskilled in pipeline maintenance.

Clare attended the COVID-delayed official handover



ceremony at the village on April 2, 2023, along with representatives from the Rotary Club of Kave-Banepa and media. Clare was told the project is known for its success all over Kave (a district bigger than Northland in New Zealand) and the ceremony was broadcast on the radio. Some members of the Rotary Club of Westhaven even joined the official event celebrations via Zoom.

"One of my favourite parts [of the ceremony] was meeting the women," said Clare. "One amazing woman said that she is so happy now that she doesn't have to get up at 1am every day to walk for hours to get water, and she has also donated thousands of dollars from her sold crops to help rebuild a local monastery, paying it forward. Now people are coming back to live in the village and there is life and hope again."

This was the first global grant supported with District Designated Funds (DDF) from all the districts in New Zealand, as well as District 3501 (South Korea), District 9820 (Australia), District 3292 (Nepal), and the Rotary Clubs of Westhaven, Kave-Banepa, East Coast Bays, Henderson and North Harbour.

This project is a fantastic example of what a small club of 15 members with a contribution of around NZ\$3,000 can achieve with the leverage power of The Rotary Foundation and the values and network of Rotary. <sup>RDU</sup>

## Granting Sanitation in South Africa

"From little things big things grow" has been applied to a host of experiences since it was written more than 30 years ago. From its origin as a protest song to a superannuation advertising campaign, the words can be equally applied to Rotary Foundation global grants. It certainly was the case for the first global grant awarded and completed by District 9790.

**PDG David Anderson**  
**Chair, D9790**  
**Foundation Team**

**THE** seeds for the grant were sown by students at the Sacred Heart Primary School in Yea, Vic. They wanted to do something to provide clean water for a school in another country. They called their project 'Buckets for Bores' and raised money from their local school community by walking around with buckets on their heads to collect contributions for the project.

When the Rotary Club of Yea heard about their efforts, the club agreed to match the \$1,000 the students had raised. Shortly after, during a Rotary Friendship Exchange between District 9790 and District 9400 (South Africa) the late Ruth Konig, a past president of the Rotary Club of Yea, presented the \$2,000 as a debit card in South

African Rand to the Rotary Club of Rustenburg Kloof, with instructions to "find a suitable water project". They did – a bore was to be installed at Dayspring Childrens Village near Rustenburg. Situated in a remote community in North West province, the village and school had originally started as an orphanage for children of parents suffering from HIV and AIDS.

Through continued contact between Ruth and Cheryl Phillips, a past president of the Rotary Club of Rustenburg Kloof, the idea of a Rotary Foundation global grant took shape. However, during the development, writing and submission of the grant application, Ruth was diagnosed with cancer. Despite her declining health, Ruth's passion and commitment to improve conditions for the children of Dayspring never wavered.



When she attended the District Conference in Bendigo, all who saw her knew it was only a matter of time. A little over a week later, in her hospital bed, she received news that the global grant had been approved – the first applied for by the Rotary Club of Yea and the first in District 9790. She passed away the next day. Having waited for approval, she could now go, knowing that the lives of many children were about to be improved.

The identified project was a plumbed ablution block with a biological water treatment plant to provide wastewater for the toilets and irrigation for the food garden. Flushing toilets with grey water would save water and stop the continued pollution of ground water by the waste seeping from the existing, unsanitary long drop toilets. The project was budgeted at US\$89,000.

Despite several challenges faced during the implementation of the project, including local politics, COVID-19 lockdowns, unseasonably heavy rains during the

construction phase, and the passing of Rotary Club of Rustenburg President Francois Pienaar, the project has now been completed – and under budget!

During a visit to Australia in January, Cheryl, also a past Youth Exchange student hosted in Hamilton, Vic, told Yea Rotarians to never underestimate the value of the project to the host

community. Not only has it succeeded in providing an improved, safe and hygienic ablution block and wastewater facility, it provided much needed skills training for local workers.

In a country where the unemployment rate is more than 40 per cent, “The project didn’t just provide employment for a half a dozen workers, it provided employment and hope for half a dozen families,” said Cheryl.

The memory of Ruth lives on through the District 9790 Conference Walk she began in March 2012, which continues today as the Ruth Konig Memorial Walk. And, in the grounds of the Dayspring Childrens Village there is a memorial garden dedicated to the spirit, compassion and commitment of past presidents Ruth and Francois. “Auntie” Ruth would be pleased. **RDV**

**LEFT:** The late Ruth Konig in training for her Camino pilgrimage across Spain. Ruth was the driving force behind the Dayspring Childrens Village water project.

**BELOW:** Children from the Dayspring Childrens Village say thank you to the Rotary Club of Yea for the global grant project, which provided them with a safe and hygienic ablution block and wastewater facility.







## Funding Community Projects

District grants fund smaller-scale, short-term projects that address immediate needs in your community or abroad and offer an excellent opportunity for clubs to access funds to support their community projects. During 2022-23 all districts in Zone 8 participated in the district grant program, enabling many worthwhile community projects to be undertaken.

### What District Grants Support

District grants to fund a variety of district and club projects and activities, including:

- **Humanitarian projects**, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts

- **Scholarships** for any level, length of time, location, or area of study
- **Youth programs**, including Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotaract and Interact
- **Vocational training teams**, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about their field or to learn more about it themselves

The types of activities undertaken by clubs during 2022-23 included:

- **Environmental projects** in Australia and New Zealand
- **Literacy projects** in Australia and New Zealand
- **School equipment** projects in New Zealand
- **Toilets and sanitation** projects in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand and Sri Lanka
- **Water supply and filtration** projects in Fiji, Philippines and Bhutan
- **Student scholarships**

While most of the projects undertaken were

humanitarian projects, The Rotary Foundation allows plenty of freedom to customise service projects, and each district can choose the activities it will fund and to set guidelines for grants.

### How They're Funded

Districts may use up to 50 per cent of its District Designated Funds to receive one district grant annually. This percentage is calculated based on the amount of DDF generated from a district's Annual Fund giving three years prior, including Endowment Fund earnings. Note, the district is not required to request the full amount available. The district will receive this funding as a lump sum and then is able to distribute it to the clubs with approved projects.

### How Clubs Apply

If your club is seeking district grant funding, you must apply directly to your district as each individual district administers its own district grant programs. Please check with your district to find out about available funding, application forms and guidelines. RDU



## A Safe Space for Children to Play

With the aid of a district grant and a community-minded business, the Rotary Club of Cairns Trinity, Qld, has helped provide a safe play area at the Cairns Toy Library.

**By Merewyn Wright**  
**District Public Image Chair**  
**Rotary Club of Airlie Beach, Qld**

**WHEN** the Cairns Toy Library moved to a new location in 2021, much work needed to be done to both the buildings and grounds to ensure a safe environment for the young users. Not least on the list was the need to fence the property to provide children with a safe and secure yard to play in and an area that could be used for functions. This is where the Rotary Club of Cairns Trinity stepped in, successfully applying for a Rotary Foundation district grant of \$2,160.

As the extent of the task became clearer, it was apparent that the cost and labour required was going to be substantially more than was originally anticipated.

"I was able to seek assistance from Hansen Yuncken Builders, who were prepared to install the

fence free of charge," said club Secretary/Treasurer Tim Bentley. "In addition, they provided new concrete pathways at the front and rear door to allow for safe transition from the building into the outdoor areas. This was over \$10,000 in value.

"As the yard required further attention, we decided to redirect our club's efforts to the landscaping, turfing and topsoil. Additionally, as the Toy Library had funding to install solar panels to supplement their power consumption, we elected to assist them further by upgrading the electrical switchboard."

The club also arranged signage for the fence to acknowledge their part in the

project as well as that of the builder involved.

The total project value was in the order of \$15,000, with \$2,160 coming from the district grant, a club contribution of \$2,335 and approximately \$10,000 donated by Hansen Yuncken.

The Cairns Toy Library primarily serves as a resource for families and children in the community, providing access to a wide range of toys, games and educational materials. The primary focus of the library is to promote play and early childhood development, and the power of the connections facilitated by the Rotary Club of Cairns Trinity has added great value to this important community asset.<sup>RDU</sup>

**BELOW:** Dave Hayden from Hansen Yuncken Builders, second from right, with Rotary Club of Cairns Trinity members Sandy McEachan, John O'Brien, Michael MacKellar, Peter Agar and Tim Bentley with the completed fence and signage at Cairns Toy Library.



# Our Foundation's Annual Fund

The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund is unique from other non-profit organisations because it includes multiple designations – SHARE, the World Fund, and our seven areas of focus funds. Did you know that on average, 60 per cent of donations made to The Rotary Foundation are made to our Annual Fund?

## **SHARE**

Through the SHARE system, contributions to The Rotary Foundation are transformed into grants that fund local and international humanitarian projects, scholarships, vocational training teams, and more. At the end of every Rotary year, contributions directed to the Annual Fund SHARE from all the clubs in the district are divided between the World Fund and the District Designated Fund (DDF), after five per cent is deducted for operating expenses.

At the end of three years, your district can use the DDF to pay for Foundation, club and district projects that your club and others in the district choose. Districts may use up to half of their DDF to fund district grants. The remaining DDF may be used for global grants or donated to *PolioPlus*, the Rotary Peace Centres, the Disaster Response Fund, or in support of another district.

## **World Fund**

The World Fund provides the necessary funding for our highest-priority activities around the globe. Although 47.5 per cent of the donations directed to Annual Fund SHARE are applied to the World Fund automatically, you can also choose to direct your entire gift to the fund. The Foundation uses the money to pay for grant and program opportunities available to all Rotary districts.

## **Areas of Focus**

The Rotary Foundation currently has seven areas of focus – basic education and literacy, peacebuilding and conflict prevention, community and economic development, disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, water sanitation and hygiene, and our newest focus, the environment. Annual Fund contributions that are directed to the Foundation's areas of focus count towards a club's annual giving goal and per capita giving calculations. They are not included in a district's SHARE calculation and do not increase its DDF. RDV







## Our Disaster Response Fund

**DISASTERS** can devastate a community, impairing its social and economic development. In the aftermath of an emergency, your contribution ensures that we can supply important goods and services to communities in urgent need. Whether by providing supplies, medical care, or by supporting rebuilding efforts, your gift allows Rotary members to respond swiftly and effectively, bringing hope to those who have been affected by disaster.

In 2019, Rotary International established a new Disaster Response Fund. Your gift to this fund



helps Rotary clubs provide disaster recovery and support rebuilding efforts where the need is greatest. Contributions are combined into one fund and made available through Rotary disaster response grants of up to US\$25,000 each. Since this fund was established,

1,064 disaster response grants have been awarded to communities around the globe. In Australia alone, seven disaster response grants were awarded to assist with bushfires and eight disaster response grants were awarded to respond to flooding. RDU

**ABOVE:** Members from The Rural Fire Service and Bobin residents talk after evacuation and fire protecting training in Bobin, NSW.

**LEFT:** PDG Terry Brown, of the Rotary Club of Lismore, NSW, was at the forefront of flood relief in 2022. (Photo: @rhysmartin photographer)





## Supporting life-changing programs forever

**ABOVE:** Members of the Rotary Club of Krakow Wyspianski, Poland, work with non-profit Challenging Hope at Intervention House for Refugees, a shelter for people displaced by conflict in Ukraine.

**ANNUAL** gifts to The Rotary Foundation help people around the globe live better lives today. Planning a gift to Rotary's Endowment supports the same life-changing programs forever. For example, a gift of \$25,000 to Rotary's Endowment Fund can generate \$1,000 for the SHARE Fund annually into the next century and beyond. Gifts to the Endowment can be made in several ways, including a gift made now, during your lifetime that allows you to see your legacy in action, or a gift made in the future through a will or estate plan that does not impact your finances today.

Rotary strives to increase the value of your gift to the Endowment Fund by preserving and investing your initial contribution and spending only a portion of the earnings. This strategy supports important causes today, while generating funds to sustain the work of future Rotarians for generations to come. An Endowment has the added benefit of protecting against inflation and severe market fluctuations.

Rotary works with the online will provider, Safewill, in Australia and New Zealand to offer Rotary members, family and friends the opportunity to document a simple legal will online in a few easy steps. Safewill also

prompts you to consider a gift to The Rotary Foundation in the process. This service is provided at a discounted rate to Rotary members. Go to [www.safewill.com/rotaryfoundation](http://www.safewill.com/rotaryfoundation) to find out if an online will is right for you. Rotary recommends consulting with your personal tax and legal planners before making any gift.

### **\$2.025 by 2025 Rotary Endowment fundraising goal**

Join forces with fellow Rotary members in your club or district to help meet the \$2.025 by 2025 Rotary Endowment fundraising goal. Visit [rotary.org/shareforever](http://rotary.org/shareforever) for inspirational ways to fundraise to help meet this important goal or reach out to [plannedgiving@rotary.org](mailto:plannedgiving@rotary.org) for assistance with individual gift discussions. RDU



# Building The Rotary Foundation **ENDOWMENT**

2.025 by 2025

**COMBINED TOTAL = \$1.599 billion**  
**Remainder to goal - \$426 million**

**Goal \$1billion + \$1.025 billion = \$2.025 billion**



## ENDOWMENT FUND-SHARE



GIFT MADE TO  
**ENDOWMENT  
FUND-SHARE**



PRINCIPAL  
INVESTED



SPENDABLE  
EARNINGS  
CALCULATED AND  
DISTRIBUTED



50%  
WORLD  
FUND



50%  
DISTRICT  
DESIGNATED  
FUNDS

GOOD  
WORKS  
FUNDED

# Programs of Scale



## Fighting cervical cancer in Egypt

The Rotary-led initiative 'United to End Cervical Cancer in Egypt' aims to reduce cervical cancer cases and enhance women's health in Egypt through targeted awareness-raising and improved access to preventative care.

*By Etelka Lehoczky*





nited to End Cervical Cancer in Egypt is the recipient of Rotary's

third annual Programs of Scale award, announced by then Rotary International President Jennifer Jones at the RI Convention in Melbourne, Vic, in May.

The four-year program in and around Cairo will vaccinate more than 30,000 girls aged nine to 15, provide cancer screenings for 10,000 women, and launch a public awareness campaign to reach four million people.

"As a cancer survivor, I am proud that we are supporting this project – and especially gratified that we are taking such an important step to support women's health," said Jennifer. "By providing preventive care, we can empower women and girls with the knowledge and resources they need to stay healthy and thrive. This program is further proof that Rotary is capable of creating large-scale, meaningful projects that create lasting change."

Cervical cancer is considered one of the most preventable cancers. It's caused primarily by the human papillomavirus (HPV), the most common viral infection of the reproductive tract. Ninety per cent of deaths from cervical cancer occur in low- and middle-income countries, where cancer screenings and routine HPV vaccinations aren't available and cultural misconceptions may deter women from seeking care.

A 2021 report from the

World Health Organisation showed that less than 10 per cent of women in Egypt had cervical cancer screenings in the previous five years and, of those diagnosed with the disease, more than half die from it.

"By increasing awareness and promoting preventive care for cervical cancer, we can save lives and create healthier communities in Egypt," said Amal El-Sisi, a professor of paediatrics at Cairo University and a member of the Rotary Club of El Tahrir. "As we gather data for the first time on the HPV and cervical cancer burden in the greater Cairo area, we are gaining crucial insights into the overall prevalence in Egypt."

In addition to increasing awareness of cervical cancer and improving medical services for women, the program will make progress toward the goals set by WHO's Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative. This global effort aims to vaccinate 90 per cent of girls, screen 70 per cent of women, and treat 90 per cent of women who have precancerous or cancerous cells. It aims to meet those targets by 2030.

United to End Cervical Cancer in Egypt was initiated by the Rotary Club of El Tahrir, supported by Rotary clubs in and around Cairo and modelled after a presidential initiative on breast cancer that increased women's visits to clinics and now offers routine breast health services. It has assembled a coalition of partners that include the Egyptian Ministry of Health

**"The four-year program in and around Cairo will vaccinate more than 30,000 girls aged nine to 15, provide cancer screenings for 10,000 women, and launch a public awareness campaign to reach four million people."**

and Population, the Egyptian Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, and the Sona3 El Khair Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation awards one US\$2 million Programs of Scale grant each year to an evidence-based program that aligns with at least one of Rotary's causes and is ready to be expanded to create larger-scale change. The programs are sponsored by Rotary members in collaboration with local communities and partner organisations that offer expertise and support.

The other finalist this year was the Digital Interactive Classrooms program. It aims to improve the quality of education in Panama by introducing new technology in 230 classrooms. **RDU**

**OPPOSITE:**  
Then Rotary International President Jennifer Jones announced the 2023 Programs of Scale grant recipient – United to End Cervical Cancer in Egypt – at the RI Convention in Melbourne, Vic, in May. (Photo: @rhysmartin photographer)

# Our passionate pursuit of polio eradication

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 35 years. Our goal of ridding the world of this disease is closer than ever.

**AS** a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has helped reduced polio cases by 99.9 per cent since its first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979.

Rotary members have contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly three billion children in 122 countries from this paralyzing disease. Rotary's advocacy

efforts have played a role in decisions by governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort.

Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But it's crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years polio could paralyse as many as 200,000 children each year.

## A timeline to ending polio

**1894**

The first major documented polio outbreak in the United States occurs in Vermont; 18 deaths and 132 cases of permanent paralysis are reported.

**1908**

Two physicians in Vienna, Karl Landsteiner and Erwin Popper, discover that polio is caused by a virus.

**1929**

Philip Drinker and Harvard University's Louis Agassiz Shaw Jr. invent an artificial respirator for patients suffering from paralytic polio – the iron lung.

**1905**

Swedish physician Ivar Wickman suggests that polio is a contagious disease that can spread from person to person, and also recognises that polio could be present in people who show no symptoms.

**1916**

A major polio outbreak in New York City kills more than 2,000 people. Across the United States, polio takes the lives of about 6,000 people, and paralyses thousands more.

**1955**

A vaccine developed by Dr Jonas Salk is declared "safe and effective".

**2024**

Only two countries remain endemic for the wild poliovirus – Afghanistan and Pakistan.

**2020**

The World Health Organisation certifies the African region wild polio-free.

**2014**

India goes three full years without a new case caused by the wild poliovirus, and the World Health Organisation certifies the South-East Asia region polio-free. Polio cases are down over 99 per cent since 1988.

**2022**

The global community, including Rotary, collectively pledges US\$2.6 billion towards fully implementing the strategic plan at the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Pledging Moment.

**2019**

Nigeria goes 3 full years without a new case caused by the wild poliovirus.

**2012**

Polio remains endemic in just three countries. Rotary surpasses its \$200 Million Challenge fundraising goal more than five months earlier than expected.



# PolioPlus contributions for Australia, New Zealand & Philippines 2013-2023

Country	Cash Contributions for 2022 - 2023	DDF for 2022 - 2023	Cash Contributions 2013 - 2023	Total DDF 2013 - 2023	Total Contributions 2013 - 2023
Australia	\$867,907	\$178,287	\$10,638,522	\$2,482,636	\$13,121,159
New Zealand	\$117,954	\$28,302	\$5,040,725	\$428,600	\$5,469,325
Philippines	\$857,622	\$262,814	\$3,696,976	\$1,528,535	\$5,225,511
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,843,483</b>	<b>\$469,402</b>	<b>\$19,376,223</b>	<b>\$4,439,771</b>	<b>\$23,815,994</b>

**1960**

The US government licenses the oral polio vaccine developed by Dr Albert Sabin.

**1985**

Rotary International launches PolioPlus, the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative, with an initial fundraising target of US\$120 million.

**1994**

The International Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication announces that polio has been eliminated from the Americas.

**1979**

Rotary International begins its fight against polio with a multi-year project to immunise six million children in the Philippines.

**1988**

Rotary International and the World Health Organisation launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. There are an estimated 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries.

**1995**

Health workers and volunteers immunise 165 million children in China and India in one week. Rotary launches the PolioPlus Partners program.

**2011**

Rotary welcomes celebrities and other major public figures into a new public awareness campaign and ambassador program called "This Close" to ending polio. Rotary's funding for polio eradication exceeds \$1 billion.

**2006**

The number of polio-endemic countries drops to four – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

**2003**

Rotary's total contribution to polio eradication exceeds \$500 million. Six countries remain polio-endemic – Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria and Pakistan.

**2000**

A record 550 million children – almost 10 per cent of the world's population – receive the oral polio vaccine. The Western Pacific region, spanning from Australia to China, is declared polio-free.

**2009**

Rotary's overall contribution to the eradication effort nears \$800 million. In January, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledges \$355 million and issues Rotary a challenge grant of \$200 million. This announcement will result in a combined \$555 million in support of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

**2004**

In Africa, synchronised National Immunisation Days in 23 countries target 80 million children, the largest coordinated polio immunisation effort on the continent.

# End Polio Now by numbers



Since 1988, three billion children have received the oral polio vaccine.



It costs an average of US\$3 to fully protect a child against polio, including the cost of the vaccine and activities required to deliver the vaccine such as transportation costs, vaccinator stipends, vaccine carriers, chalk to mark houses after each visit, and dye to paint children's fingers purple to indicate they have been vaccinated. A child must receive multiple doses of polio vaccine to be fully protected and therefore must be reached multiple times.



Donations will be matched 2:1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, up to US\$50 million.



More than 20 million people are walking today because of Rotary's effort and that of our polio eradication partners.

## Murray Verso



After taking on the role of End Polio Now Coordinator in July 2022, PDG Murray Verso has campaigned tirelessly to encourage every club and individual Rotarian in Zone 8 to contribute to the *End Polio Now* campaign.

"With the eradication of poliomyelitis now in sight, I want every club and Rotarian to contribute so they can take genuine pride in being part of this historic milestone," Murray says.

Throughout his term so far, Murray says that the relationships he has built with District PolioPlus Chairs and District Rotary Foundation Chairs have been invaluable.

"Getting to know each other enables us to learn from each other and to share ideas."

Despite the challenges of an unfavourable exchange rate and club contributions declining, Murray is delighted that fundraising for *End Polio Now* in 2022-23 was better than expected.

"The total raised was US\$1.2 million, consisting of cash and District Designated Funds. With World Fund and the Gates Foundation matching funds this became US\$3.9 million from our zone. The goal in 2023-24 is to raise more than \$4 million."

However, despite the eradication of polio being Rotary's number one humanitarian priority, only 62 per cent of our clubs contributed to the cause. Seventeen of our 21 districts donated designated funds.

"It would be wonderful if the level of clubs and districts contributing was closer to 100 per cent," says Murray.

"The term 'polio fatigue' is often bandied around in Rotary circles, but I have been pleasantly surprised that this does not seem to be the case in practice. The vast majority of Rotary members are still committed to the cause of complete eradication globally and want to play a part in reaching this historic milestone."



Murray points out the *PolioPlus* Society program as a way for clubs and districts to increase their contributions to polio eradication. In October 2022, the RI Trustees endorsed *PolioPlus* Societies as a club and district led program. Each society can develop its own donor recognition program, but most districts use US\$100 per year as their membership requirement.

"Since then, the uptake of the PPS in Zone 8 has steadily increased," says Murray.

"Approximately one third of our districts now have one or are planning to launch one. The largest is in District 9800, with 70 members and still growing. This means that this district has raised US\$7,000 that it would not

have raised without a PPS."

Murray says the highlight of his term to date was working with D9810 Foundation Chair David Alexander on the End Polio Walk, held in conjunction with the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne in May.

"Four hundred enthusiastic *End Polio Now* supporters did the walk, and it was fabulous to walk with happy, like-minded people from all around the world, including then RI President-elect Gordon McInally and International *PolioPlus* Committee Chair Mike McGovern."

Following a few inspirational words of encouragement from then RI President Jennifer Jones, the walkers, many wearing red

*End Polio Now* shirts, travelled 2.5kms from Federation Square along St Kilda Road to the Rotary Peace Park next to the Royal Botanical Gardens.

Looking to the future, Murray says he would like to see more clubs embracing World Polio Day in October 2024 with special dinners or other events, using polio experts or survivors as guest speakers, and promoting Rotary's polio eradication story through local media outlets.

"If clubs don't have anything planned, I would urge them to take part in one of the excellent WPD district events." RDU



# Rotary Associate Foundations

Rotary Foundation Australia is one of nine Associate Foundations of The Rotary Foundation around the world. These Associate Foundations primarily exist to provide tax-deductibility for those wishing to support the work of The Rotary Foundation.



**By Maurie Stack**  
**Chair, Rotary Foundation**  
**Australia**

**THE** Australian Rotary Foundation Trust was established by Australian Rotarians (led by former RI President Clem Renouf) in the 1990s and tax

deductibility was obtained for donations to this trust, provided the proceeds were used to support humanitarian projects in developing countries approved by the Australian government.

The trust had individual trustees, but in 2017 a

corporate trustee was established known as Rotary Foundation Australia Ltd – a company limited by guarantee with only one member, The Rotary Foundation.

This arrangement worked fine, but it always had this limit – funds donated could only be used to support projects in developing countries. That did not present an obstacle to Rotarian donors, and it did not stop The Rotary Foundation from funding projects in Australia – it just couldn't use the funds of the trust.

However, when we made the decision to also seek funding from corporate Australia, the limits of our existing structure became apparent. Companies naturally want to use their philanthropy to boost their image among existing and prospective customers. Australian companies therefore naturally want to donate to a fund where the proceeds are used to support projects within Australia.

In late 2020, we established a second company Rotary Foundation Australia (PBI) Ltd and had it approved as a Public Benevolent Institution by the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) and then approved by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as a Class I Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR 1). This enables us to provide tax-deductibility and use the funds to support projects within or outside Australia provided they “relieve the sickness, suffering, misfortune or poverty of people in need”. RDU



To find out more and to obtain your links to Rotary documents and Rotary connections, visit [www.rotaryfoundationaustralia.org.au](http://www.rotaryfoundationaustralia.org.au).



The Rotary Foundation Australia not only relies on the generosity of Rotary clubs in Australia and their members, but can now also seek the generosity of corporate Australia.

**By Maurie Stack**  
**Chair, The Rotary**  
**Foundation Australia**

**SINCE** the approval of our Public Benevolent Institution, The Rotary Foundation Australia has been able to approach corporate Australia, and their donations can be targeted to projects within Australia by means of a directed gift, provided the amount is at least US\$30,000 – for simplicity we seek AU\$50,000. However, the individual projects still must be approved as grants, even if no matching Rotary funds are required. This can take time, and in practice has proved to be an obstacle to working with companies.

In India, large companies are required by law to donate a percentage of their earnings to charity each year. To tap into this market, The Rotary Foundation established Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) grants in India. Last year we applied to the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation, chaired by our own Rotary International Past President Ian Riseley,

to permit us to make these grants in Australia. In January this year the Trustees approved a trial of CSR grants in Australia and Brazil.

This is a game-changer for The Rotary Foundation Australia, and indeed for Rotarians throughout Australia with corporate contacts. The most important difference between projects based on directed gifts and CSR grants is that the former must be approved in Evanston as global grants, whereas the latter are approved by staff in Norwest, Sydney, with criteria similar to those required for district grants – with much simpler requirements.

CSR grants – unlike global grants – do not have to comply with the Areas of Focus Policy Statements, which are quite strict and focused. They simply have to align with one of the areas of focus, like district grants.

CSR grants – unlike global grants (with some exceptions) – can be used for building work.

CSR grants have a minimum of US\$21,000 – for simplicity AU\$35,000 – compared to direct grants, which have an effective minimum of AU\$50,000.

CSR grants will not attract contributions from District Designated Funds or The World Fund. RDU

“CSR grants – unlike global grants – do not have to comply with the Areas of Focus Policy Statements, which are quite strict and focused. They simply have to align with one of the areas of focus, like district grants.”



# Maurie Stack

When it comes to The Rotary Foundation  
Down Under, Maurie's the man!



Since joining the Rotary Club of Taree on Manning, NSW, in 2000, Maurie has served as club President, District Governor, and is currently Chair of The Rotary Foundation Australia, Chair of the Election Review Committee of Rotary International and a member of both the Arch Klumph

Society and Bequest Society.

With a world of knowledge, many Rotarians look to Maurie for encouragement and assistance with their grant applications. Maurie remains a dedicated Rotarian as he believes he can achieve a lot for his community with the support and credibility Rotary holds.

"I have gained a lot of satisfaction from leading local Rotary projects assisting victims of bushfires, plus bushfire prevention, and international projects helping to build better health systems and infrastructure," Maurie said.

His passion for music and entertainment is also reflected through Maurie's Rotary work, with many projects supporting the Manning Music Program of the Australian Children's Music Foundation. With the help of local partners, the Rotary Club of Taree on Manning built the Manning River Stage on the river foreshore, which has become a significant centrepiece for the community, hosting concerts and an award-winning annual Australia Day event with significant Indigenous involvement. Maurie also chaired the fundraising committee for the magnificent Manning Entertainment Centre.

Outside of Rotary, Maurie has practised as a lawyer in Taree since 1970 and is the Chair of Stacks Law Group, which provides services to the many offices of Stacks Law Firm throughout NSW and Queensland. In 2002, Maurie was awarded the OAM for services to the law, local government, and the community. In 2018, he was appointed Australia Day Ambassador by the Mid Coast Council. Maurie is married to Deidre, and the proud father of Louise, Fiona, Tammy and Ben, and prouder grandfather of Callum, Lucas and Hamish Webster, Louis and Jack Wilson and Julian, Toby and Edward Stack.





## Rotaractors...

# How can you make the Foundation work for you?

**By Eeshwar Rajagopalan**  
*Rotaract Australia Chair*  
 2023-24

**THE** Rotary Foundation is a little bit like a piggy bank. Each year, some of the money put into it is taken out and spent by clubs all around the world so they can do amazing things to help their communities. And, as a Rotaract club, you can benefit from this as well!

Do you have a great project that you want to do in your local community, but need a bit of extra funding to make it a reality? Northern Gold Coast Rotaract did. They applied for a district grant, netting them \$1,000 in extra funding to run a program encouraging Interactors in District 9640 to deliver their own wonderful projects. Not only has this grant brought in financial support, but the district is partnering with the club to provide additional expertise. Now they are on their way towards facilitating a host of community projects and growing the next generation of volunteers.

The money is there, but how can you get it? Each year, districts will ask clubs to submit a grant application, usually between February and May. They will also run



a grants seminar to help you put in the best application possible. Once these have been reviewed, successful clubs will receive some or all of the funding requested in the following financial year. Then, you run your project like you would normally, but better! To wrap up, you let the district know what it is that you achieved and by the time you're done, it'll be time to put in another application for your next impactful project.

But where did that money come from in the first place? From Rotary and Rotaract clubs, just like yours, donating into The Rotary Foundation's Annual

Fund. The Foundation invests that money for three years and then returns half to the districts, so you can spend it on your local community. To make sure we can keep doing this into the future, we'll also need to help in topping up that piggy bank. Any donation helps, but if you think your club can aim to become a Centurion by donating \$100 per member, you get a sweet pin out of it too.

To find out more about how your club can benefit from The Rotary Foundation and how you can help support the wonderful work it does, reach out to your District Foundation Chair! RDU

# What is the NZRCCT and how does it relate to The Rotary Foundation?

**THE** New Zealand Rotary Clubs Charitable Trust (NZRCCT) was founded on February 27, 1986. The Trustee is the Perpetual Guardian Trust, which is also the sole shareholder. The Trust also holds a Schedule 32, which permits it to transfer monies overseas.

The NZRCCT is the vehicle used to remit donations made by New Zealand tax residents to The Rotary Foundation and issue charitable receipts to the donors.

From July 1, 2020, Perpetual Guardian Trust entered into a management agreement with ROZops Ltd (Rotary Oceania Zone Operations Ltd), also known as Rotary Oceania, to undertake all the operational activities associated with reporting, audit, collecting, receiving, and remitting Rotary Foundation donations. This management agreement is specifically provided for within the 1986 Deed. Perpetual Guardian will continue to provide

Trustee oversight of the Rotary Oceania operations. Rotary Oceania is presently establishing a fully online payment and transaction facility and will continue to communicate with New Zealand Rotarians about further new operating processes. Tax receipts will be issued by ROZops on behalf of NZRCCT and the Trustee, Perpetual Guardian. All this administration work is undertaken by Rotary Oceania Operations Manager Kirsten Hawke.

As stated, the Trustee is Perpetual Guardian, with the Advisory Trustees being the district governor trains of the five districts of New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

The current chair of the Advisory Trustees is District 9920 Governor Elect Jocelyn Hogg, who will be chair until June 2025. Jocelyn will be the district governor for D9940 for 2024-25.

She joined the Rotary Club of Levin in 2014, served as president in 2018-19 and 2019-2020 and was an area governor for Kapiti Horowhenua in 2020-2021. She is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Mana Tangata. Jocelyn is also the DGE representative on the RDU Board from July 2023-25.

Jocelyn joined Rotary to create opportunities for herself, to do something for others, and to make a difference in her community.

She is looking forward to the changes and challenges that chairing the NZRCCT will bring.

"We have a great advisory team of DGs, DGEs and DGNs along with the trustee, Perpetual Guardian," said Jocelyn. RDU





# Jennie Herring

Jennie Herring took on the role of Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands in December 2022.

Based in New Zealand, Jennie is well-known throughout the zone.



Jennie has held numerous positions at club, district and national level, including District 9920 Governor (2015-16), Assistant Rotary Coordinator, District 9920 Foundation Chair, and is currently in the last year of a six-year term as Director for RDU representing New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Jennie is also the Chair of Rotary Oceania.

According to Past Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Ian Riseley, Jennie is ideally suited to the role of Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor (EMGA).

"Jennie has a deep knowledge and understanding of The Rotary Foundation and its programs. She is a very capable communicator and her networks across our zone are impressive," Ian said. "I am delighted she accepted our invitation and am confident she will make a wonderful contribution in the role."

As EMGA, Jennie is responsible for working with members of district and zone Foundation teams to encourage, support and recognise financial giving to the Foundation, with a particular focus on major gifts. She is also a valuable resource for districts seeking ideas and information about fundraising and major giving. Jennie's four main roles are fundraising, event organising, resource and education.

Jennie works with Mark Anderson from the Rotary International South Pacific and Philippines Office in Sydney. Mark is Jennie's assigned 'staffer' and they both work together to progress donations and/or contributions to The Rotary Foundation.

To this end, Jennie and Mark have organised four Rotary Foundation dinners to be held in November in New Zealand and Australia to recognise Rotarians who have given to The Rotary Foundation, either with a direct donation (Major Donor) or by leaving a contribution in their will (Bequest). Chair of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, Barry Rassin, will be the keynote speaker at all four events.

Planning such events is not an easy task and there are many District Endowments/Major Gift Chairs facilitating these events, whose endeavours should be recognised. Planning is also underway for the 2024 recognition events.

Jennie has completed multiple tours of the districts in New Zealand, the last one being District 9930, where she presented to several clubs and special donor events organised by the district Foundation team. This proved very successful, and is a formula Jennie wishes to continue in other districts within the zone, with tentative dates to visit Tasmania in March 2024.

Apart from the Bequests and Major Donor recognitions, which will be presented at the November meeting, New Zealand now has its second Arch Klump Society member, a member of the Rotary Club of Pukekohe in District 9920. All donated funds will go to the *End Polio Now* campaign.

Since joining Rotary, Jennie has attended 14 Rotary International Conventions, which she considers the highlight of Rotary membership, as they provide an opportunity to meet with friends from all over the world.

"It is by attending these events that Rotarians begin to really understand the internationality of the Rotary family," says Jennie. RDU



# Donor Recognitions

**DONATIONS** of all sizes can have a collective impact and are essential to securing and growing Rotary programs throughout the world. That's why Rotary International offers a wide range of recognition opportunities to keep donors and clubs both motivated and engaged.

Several donor recognition items are named after

individuals who were vital to Rotary's beginnings. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary established the recognition in 1957 to encourage and show appreciation for substantial

contributions to what was then the Foundation's only program, Rotary Foundation Fellowships for Advanced Study, the precursor to Ambassadorial Scholarships.

Early Paul Harris Fellows received a certificate of recognition. In 1969, the Foundation unveiled the first Paul Harris Fellow medallion at the Rotary Convention

## Honouring excellence: Rotary clubs making a difference

**A LESSON** we all learn early is the importance of saying thank you.

Commending the tireless dedication and transformative impact of Rotary clubs, our recognition programs in Zone 8 recognise clubs that contribute funds to The Rotary Foundation, raised through their fundraising activities.

In the financial year 2022-23, the Foundation team was excited to present a Diamond Club Major Donor Award – the highest level of recognition in the program – to the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, and the Silver Club Major Donor Award to the Rotary Club of Balwyn, Vic.

This club recognition award was initiated in 2020 by the districts of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands as a way of saying thank you to clubs with a proud history of strong support for the Foundation.

The districts also created a program to recognise more recent giving by clubs. Called the Club Annual Donor program, it recognises a club's per-member giving to the Foundation during the previous 12-month period. This allows smaller and newer clubs to receive the recognition they deserve.

Both programs have five levels of recognition and recognise contributions to all Foundation funds, including PolioPlus, the Annual Fund, the Endowment and Disaster Response, as well as global grants.

Clubs are encouraged to promote these awards on their webpages, social media, newsletters, and other club collateral.

The Club Major Donor recognition is awarded to qualifying clubs twice-yearly:

- at District Assemblies and at Foundation Month events,
- for contribution balances at December 31 and June 30.

*For further information, visit [www.bit.ly/Club-Recognition](http://www.bit.ly/Club-Recognition)*





in Honolulu, Hawaii, US. Japanese metal artist Fiju Tsuda created the piece under the direction of former Foundation Trustee Kyoza Yuasa. Today, Paul Harris Fellows receive a certificate and pin. The medallion is now no longer available due to lack of demand.

Rotarians have a tradition of supporting the Foundation by honouring others. Ida LeTulle Taylor became a Paul Harris Fellow in 1978 when her husband, Vann Taylor, who was serving as a district governor, made a donation in her name in honour of their 34th wedding anniversary. The gift also made her the 25,000th Paul Harris Fellow.

At the International Assembly in 1979, incoming RI President James Bomar challenged each Rotary club to make one non-Rotarian a Paul Harris Fellow. The Rotary Club of Pikesville, US, responded by making a donation in the name of Mother Teresa in 1980. The entertainer Pearl Bailey also became a Paul Harris Fellow through a joint effort of the Rotary clubs in Cape Cod, US.

Many other notable figures have been named Paul Harris Fellows, including US President Jimmy Carter, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, US astronaut James Lovell, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and polio vaccine developer Jonas Salk.

The number of Paul Harris Fellows reached the one million mark in 2006.

Beyond the Paul Harris Recognition are Major Donor, Bequest Society, Arch Klumph Society (named after 'the father of The Rotary Foundation') and Legacy Society. As per the Paul Harris Pin, they are all tied to the value of the contribution.

### Individual Recognition

When you contribute to The Rotary Foundation your gifts are credited to your account. As your giving grows, you become eligible for multiple individual recognition opportunities including becoming a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member, Benefactor, Paul Harris Fellow, and a Major Donor. You can also become a member of the Paul Harris Society, Bequest Society, Arch Klumph Society, and Legacy Society based on your level of giving.

### Club Recognition

When your club engages with donations to our Foundation, they too are eligible for distinctive club recognition opportunities. Club recognition opportunities include 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club, 100% Paul Harris Society Club, 100% Foundation Giving Club, Rotary's Promise Club, Every Rotarian, Every Year Club, Top Three Per Capita in Annual Fund Giving, and the Rotaract Giving Certificate.

You can learn more about our individual and club recognition opportunities by visiting [www.rotary.org/en/donate/recognition](http://www.rotary.org/en/donate/recognition). <sup>RDU</sup>

## Which starfish will you save?

**By Neil McWhannell JP GAICD  
Endowment/Major Gifts  
Subcommittee Chair  
District 9685**

**Rotary** International President Gordon McNally recently highlighted the huge number of issues, needs and potential Rotary projects within the world. He likened these to a beach covered in dying starfish and stressed that we cannot save them all – but we can save some!

As Rotarians, we have the potential to have a lasting impact on the world by leaving a bequest to The Rotary Foundation. You will make a tangible difference to the lives of those in need. The more we donate, the more we can achieve.

I encourage all Rotarians to leave a small amount of their estate to The Rotary Foundation. By doing so, you will have a lasting and positive impact on the world.

Please contact me for assistance or if you would like me to give a short presentation to your club. Email [nmcw1958@gmail.com](mailto:nmcw1958@gmail.com) or phone 0435 719 625. We have sample wills and codicils available.

Districts 9685 and 9675 look forward to acknowledging all donors at the Foundation Recognition Dinner on Monday, November 6. Register at <https://bit.ly/48Toliy>.

**See why people are donating  
at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmR3cSnAYIQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmR3cSnAYIQ)**



# Legacy Society

Legacy Society members are individuals and/or couples who substantiate a commitment of \$1 million or more to The Rotary Foundation. Benefits include all Bequest Society benefits, unique tokens of appreciation from the Trustees and special invitations, registration and seating at Rotary events.

LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER PP JENNY HORTON

## Jenny Horton



Currently a member of the Rotary Club of Paddington, Qld, it was through the “gift” of Youth Exchange that Jenny Horton first came to Rotary.

“I am a very ordinary person who was given a tremendous gift, a gift that has not only enriched my life but that of many around me,” says Jenny. “That gift, if I may call it that, was my year as a Youth Exchange student.”

Coincidentally, or perhaps not, it was also through Youth Exchange that Jenny later became involved in PolioPlus. The seed was planted in 1986, on a trip back to Oklahoma, US, to visit her Exchange families.

“My ‘dad’, Past District Governor Jim Loftis, shared with me the program to eradicate polio from the world. I remember the deep empathy with which he spoke of this and proudly showed me a bronze statue awarded to him for his work





with PolioPlus. He was truly inspired by this program."

After becoming a Rotarian in her own right in 1999, that seed, sown some 13 years earlier, began to take root. With the assistance of Past RI Director Brian Knowles and PolioPlus Manager Carol Pandak, Jenny jumped on a plane to India to participate in her first National Immunisation Day.

It was the beginning of a life of service dedicated to the eradication of this debilitating disease.

Through the Stop the Transmission of Polio (STOP) program, which places volunteer medical professionals in developing countries, Jenny put her skills as a registered nurse to good use, living and working in remote parts of Ethiopia, Botswana and Pakistan.

While in Pakistan, she was offered a position with the World Health Organisation as a technical consultant for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, where she worked for the next 16 years in various developing countries around the globe, including India, Kenya, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

"Within those countries I was posted to areas that had numerous health issues, including polio and measles outbreaks," says Jenny. "These were usually underserved communities where tourists and locals did not visit."

Security was an issue during her time in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria

"Planning to reach children with polio vaccine



in areas of insecurity, while limiting the exposure of polio teams, required a lot of interaction and was so different to anything I had ever experienced. Sadly, we did have polio team members killed in bombings and shootings, which was devastating. When I heard the sound of a bomb it sent fear throughout my body."

Jenny says that her work in developing countries opened her eyes to the incredible difference The Rotary Foundation makes in the lives of so many.

"I've seen some amazing things done through The Rotary Foundation and I'd like to continue supporting that. In India, together with local Rotarians, we built a low-cost shelter in a very poor community, toilet blocks in girls' schools, provided knitting machines

for ladies to knit jumpers for school children and other projects."

"With polio eradication being the forethought of Rotary International Past President Sir Clem Renouf, from the Rotary Club of Nambour, Qld, it made this even more significant for me. During my polio service I became close to Clem, visiting him each time I came home so to discuss field activities. If only we could have eradicated polio before he passed."

Jenny says she feels honoured to have served in Foundation projects and to have seen first-hand how life has been improved for so many.

"Contributing to The Rotary Foundation and the Legacy Society is my small way of continuing to assist humanity." RDU

**ABOVE:** Legacy Society member Jenny Horton delivering life-saving polio vaccine in Ethiopia.

**OPPOSITE:** Jenny administering polio vaccine during a National Immunisation Day in Karachi, Pakistan, in June 2007.



# Arch Klumph Society

**NAMED** after the sixth president of Rotary, the Arch Klumph Society recognises The Rotary Foundation's highest tier of donors – those who have contributed \$250,000 or more during their lifetime.

Membership in the Arch Klumph Society is lifelong. Each member has the opportunity to have his or her portrait placed in the Arch Klumph Society Gallery, located on the 17th floor of Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, US. Portraits are etched on glass plaques to create a stunning display of our Foundation's most valued supporters. Members will also have their profiles included in an interactive display, plus receive pins, pendants, and several other benefits commensurate with their generosity. RDU

## Arch Klumph Society recognition levels

**\$250,000-\$499,999**  
Trustees Circle

**\$500,000-\$999,999**  
Chair's Circle

**\$1,000,000-\$2,499,999**  
Foundation Circle

**\$2,500,000-\$4,999,999**  
Platinum  
Trustees Circle

**\$5,000,000-\$9,999,999**  
Platinum  
Chair's Circle

**\$10,000,000+**  
Platinum  
Foundation Circle



# Greg Marlow

Acting Mayor of Tennant Creek PDG Greg Marlow became a member of the Arch Klumph Society in 2022, after contributing more than US\$250,000 to The Rotary Foundation over his lifetime.



Greg's Rotary journey began in February 1987, when his housemate invited him along to a Rotaract meeting in Kalgoorlie, WA. After moving to the Northern Territory in 1993, he joined the Rotary Club of Tennant Creek (now the E-Club of Outback

Australia), where he has served six terms as president over his 30-year membership. He has also served as District Governor in 2018-19, as District Foundation Chair 2013-16, and will serve another term as District Governor in 2025-26.

Greg says that while polio eradication was his first passion within Rotary, he didn't start contributing to The Rotary Foundation until 16 years after becoming a Rotarian, when he started contributing \$100 a year for the Every Rotarian, Every Year campaign.

In 2019, he was approached by Mark Anderson from The Rotary Foundation during a Foundation training seminar, to which Greg signed a five-year pledge to contribute \$125,000. A named Endowed Fund worth \$100,000 was established, with the earnings going back to the district to be spent on global grants. He has now set up a second Endowment Fund of \$100,000, which will fund an annual seminar at the University of Queensland Peace Centre.

Greg says what makes The Rotary Foundation unique is that it is one of the few charities where the money comes back to you to be spent on causes of your choosing.

"From a Rotarian's point of view, contributing to The Rotary Foundation is a benefit to us. The money comes back to us in three years' time, after it's been invested, and we get to choose what we spend it on.

"And because of Rotary's areas of focus, we can target contributions to be spent on those causes, which makes it attractive to potential donors. If you are talking to someone, you can say, 'Well, what's your passion in helping out the world?' If it's education, or vaccinations, or they want to be hands-on and go build a dam, because we have the areas of focus, we can target the contributions to their interests."

Greg says one benefit of The Rotary Foundation's recognition programs, like the Arch Klumph Society, is that you don't need to make one lump sum contribution, it can be built up over a period of time.

"Like me, it's taken 14 or 15 years in contributions to get to Arch Klumph Society level. And the other side of that is that it actually gets cheaper over time, with the rate of inflation and with our wages increasing. That amount of money won't feel like that amount of money in the future.

"When Rotary established the Paul Harris Fellow recognition in 1957, with a contribution of US\$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation, that was probably four- or five-month's wage. It is still US\$1,000, but \$1,000 today can be less than one week's wage.

"When I first joined Rotary I never dreamt of being a part of the Arch Klumph Society – it's an achievement I'm really proud of – but there will be more and more of us in the future because it will actually be cheaper." ROU



# Peter Garnett

As the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for New Zealand, PDG Peter Garnett's journey has been an inspiring testament to the profound impact of The Rotary Foundation.

**P**

eter's term as Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator has been marked by numerous highlights and achievements.

"It is difficult to choose just one," he humbly acknowledges, "as there have been many."

Among these highlights he emphasises the unwavering support he has received from Past Rotary International President Ian Riseley and 2021-23 RI Director Jessie Harmon, who have been instrumental in promoting Foundation events and activities in the region.

This year's RI Convention in Melbourne, Vic, proved another highlight, when RI President Gordon McNally took to the stage and shone a spotlight on a global grant project from New Zealand – the District 9910 Te Tai Tokerau Tamiriki mental health project. Peter says his role as Regional Foundation Coordinator has allowed him to delve deep into the heart of many impactful Rotary projects like these.

He has also found it inspiring to witness a growth in giving to the Annual Fund for 2022-23, despite a declining membership and adverse exchange rates for Australia and New Zealand, and is proud that all districts in Zone 8 participated in the district grants program.

Likewise, he has enjoyed working with other regional leaders to introduce annual combined learning and development workshops for their assistant coordinators.

In terms of promoting The Rotary Foundation, Peter says its importance cannot be overstated.

"If I could only influence the Rotary International Global Training Team to accept the importance of the role our Foundation plays and introduce The Rotary Foundation to the learning and development syllabus for Global Networking Training Seminars (GNTS) and increase the time and emphasis provided during the annual Governor-elect Training Seminar (GETS) program."

He would also like to encourage district leaders to take advantage of and utilise the knowledge and development capability available from the Regional Foundation team for district conferences and training assemblies.

As for his 2024 successor, Peter offers some valuable advice.

"Continue to work collaboratively with the other Regional Coordinators and hold face-to-face learning and development events for the Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinators and District Rotary Foundation Chairs.

"It is incredibly important that The Rotary Foundation Regional team continues to work hard to ensure that individual and club support for The Rotary Foundation and its activities continues unabated throughout the Regionalisation Pilot and beyond."

As his term as Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator draws to a close, Peter would like to acknowledge the unwavering support he has received from the small but dedicated team at the Rotary International South Pacific and Philippines Office (RISPPPO). In particular, Foundation team members Mark Anderson, Rob Byrne (now retired), and in recent times Avneet Bhasin.

"Their continued support and service to the regional team and to everyone in the region goes well beyond expectations." ROU





# Dennis Shore

With a passion for education and giving community members the opportunity to be the best they can be, Dennis believes The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's engine room, giving power to Rotary so it can deliver amazing programs.



As a chemical engineer, Dennis has spent his working career in the pulp, paper and packaging industry, most recently as a consultant to the industry. He has lived and worked extensively abroad associated with his work.

Dennis was in Apex for nearly 10 years before being invited to join the Rotary Club of Aspley, Qld, in 1980. He was subsequently a member of the Rotary Club of Traralgon in country Victoria before joining the Rotary Club of Hawthorn, Vic, in 1984. He served in numerous positions at club level and was president in 2002-03.

Dennis was District Governor in 2012-13 and an Assistant Governor prior to that. He has served as District Foundation Chair and District Council on Legislation & Resolutions Representative for two terms. Dennis has also served as District Secretary, District Governance Director, District Finance Committee Chair (twice), Global Grant Scholar Committee Chair, Club Vision Chair and District Chair for Leader Training. He was Vice Chair of the Melbourne RI Convention Host Organising Committee and Promotions Director. Dennis was Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor for Zone 8 from 2019 to 2022 and is a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation from 2023 to 2027. He is also Vice Chair of Rotary Foundation Australia and a recipient of The Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award.

Dennis may have a long and impressive Rotary résumé, but he believes at the end of the day we are all human, and being Rotary members allows us to make a difference to a person's life, a community or to the world.

Outside of Rotary Dennis has served in a number of community and industry roles associated with Monash University for more than 25 years and was honoured to receive the university's Sir John Monash Medal for distinguished service to engineering education.

Dennis's passion for education has been reinforced by the experience of his wife, Lynda, who worked as an integration aid for kids who have physical or mental disabilities. Dennis has witnessed the challenges people face and has put his effort behind making an impact in education and giving people the best shot in life. He feels fortunate that Rotary has provided him that platform.

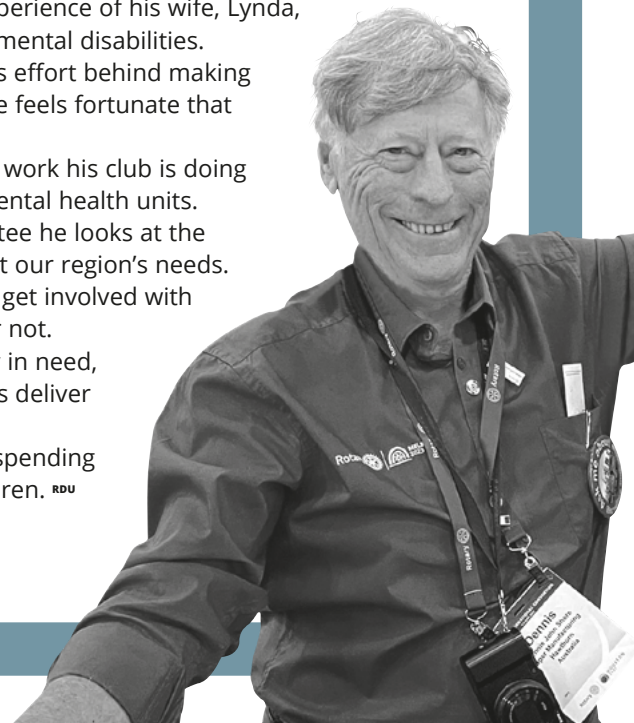
He also supports mental health initiatives and is proud of the work his club is doing through a recent project providing comfort packs for hospital mental health units.

Dennis gives 100 per cent in every role he takes on. As a Trustee he looks at the Foundation from a global perspective but also takes into account our region's needs.

"I want to assist in making it as easy as possible for people to get involved with The Rotary Foundation, whether they are an existing member or not.

"Whether there is a natural disaster or an existing community in need, The Rotary Foundation and its amazing external partners help us deliver fast and effective programs."

Outside of Rotary Dennis enjoys trying to figure out golf and spending time with his two children, their spouses and his four grandchildren. ROU



# The Sherlock Holmes of Rotary

How Rotary keeps your donations safe.

*By Christina Lanzona*

**CHARITY** Navigator has consistently given its highest rating, four stars, to The Rotary Foundation, year after year. In the most recent rating, The Foundation received a perfect score of 100 for financial health, accountability, and transparency – indicating the organisation is using its donations effectively and donors can give with confidence.

One reason for the top-tier marks is that Rotary takes any accusations of fraudulent activity seriously. Rotary has an entire department dedicated to investigating fraud and the misuse of Foundation grant

funds: Rotary's Stewardship Department.

The good news, though, is such issues don't happen often. In fact, most grant funding is used exactly as intended and leads to sustainable outcomes in Rotary's areas of focus.

## What we do

The mission of Rotary's Stewardship Department is to assure Rotary's stakeholders that the funding provided by The Rotary Foundation is properly managed. We operate from the Evanston, US, and South Asia offices, bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to grant oversight, while also assisting clubs and districts develop localised governance processes for grant implementation, financial management, and document retention.

We also oversee reporting for Rotary grants, the district qualification process, and The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers, a group of Rotary volunteer experts who help plan and evaluate Rotary grants.

We're basically the Sherlock Holmes of Rotary, but with more paperwork.

## The investigation begins

We receive allegations from Rotary members and non-members mostly via email, but sometimes the information is reported directly to a Rotary staff member or a district leader. We take every allegation seriously and work closely with grants staff and club and district leaders throughout the process.

Most of what we do is review grant documentation and financial records to confirm or refute the allegations. We may request the district investigate and collect more information. In some cases, an auditor from the Cadre will conduct an on-site verification of physical assets, vendors, and financial records.

The audit evaluation is then submitted to key Rotary staff, who take further action based on the recommendations. If fraud or misuse is confirmed, we may recommend a member, club, or district be suspended from participating in Rotary grants. In most cases, we're able to recover the misused funds.

## Lessons learned

There are varied reasons why grant funding may



If you would like to learn more about the Stewardship Department, email [StewardshipDepartment@rotary.org](mailto:StewardshipDepartment@rotary.org)



be mishandled, but in our experience, these rare instances come down to several common themes:

- A lack of transparency among grant sponsors
- Ineffective communication among grant sponsors
- The project is led by one person or a small group, so there's little to no accountability
- Grant funds are handed over to a cooperating organization, and Rotary members are not managing grant funds or actively participating in project implementation
- Poor record-keeping and document retention

### Best practices

There are many steps that Rotary members can take to ensure that grant funds are responsibly managed:

- Review relevant documentation. If you are planning a global grant, the terms and conditions and the area of focus policy statements are critical documents.
- Conduct a competitive bidding process for any significant purchases.
- Ensure your club or district has a written financial management plan and is following the other stewardship requirements outlined in the club and district qualification memorandum of understanding.
- Use project planning resources, like the Cadre or Rotary Action Groups, to strengthen your application and increase your project's impact.
- Disclose any potential

conflicts of interest to Rotary grants staff.

### A note about conflicts of interest

Rotary members tend to have a lot of connections – with local or regional governments, with schools, churches, hospitals, and leaders in their communities. These connections are great, and they often lead to the development of Rotary grant projects.

Conflicts of interest occur when people are in a position to make or influence a decision about a Rotary grant that could benefit themselves, their family, their business, or an entity for which they serve in a paid

or voluntary leadership or advisory position.

It's important to remember that any link between a Rotary member and an entity involved in a grant must be disclosed to Rotary grants staff during the application process. <sup>ROU</sup>

**Christina Lanzona** is the audit, monitoring, and district support specialist for The Rotary Foundation. She lives in Chicago, US, and has a bachelor's degree in public relations and a master's in business administration.



# Raise for Rotary

**OPPOSITE:** Steve Bennett, of the Rotary E-club of Australia Nomads, raised a total of \$6,650 for the World Fund via his 1,000km Walk for the World.

**WE'VE** all seen fundraisers created on peer-to-peer platforms, but they are not exclusive to Rotary like Raise for Rotary is. Members, donors, and participants use Raise for Rotary to support The Rotary Foundation by creating fundraisers for birthdays, anniversaries, athletic challenges, and events like World Polio Day. It's mobile-friendly, making it easy to post fundraisers and updates on social media to expand support for a favourite Rotary

cause. Fundraisers in your community have already raised more than AU\$65,000 and created 89 fundraisers via the Raise for Rotary platform.

Steve Bennett, of the Rotary E-club of Australia Nomads, raised a total of \$6,650 for the World Fund via his 1,000km Walk for the World. On July 7, 2023, he set out on a pilgrimage from Wimborne Minster in Dorset, England, to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, covering more than 1,300km

in between. He turned 68 during his 61-day adventure.

"The support and donations I received along the way provided that additional motivation to keep going when the going got tough," said Steve.

"I chose the World Fund for donations because it provides flexibility to be used where it is needed most. It is the primary funding source for global grants, which support international and Australian activities with sustainable, measurable outcomes."

During COVID lockdowns, members of the Rotary Club of Carlingford, NSW, used Raise for Rotary for The Rotary Foundation's peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities via a Walk for International Day of Peace.

"We refuse to accept conflict as a way of life,"

## HOW IT WORKS

There are endless occasions to raise funds and to donate: personal events, athletic challenges, good resolutions, extraordinary ideas, etc.



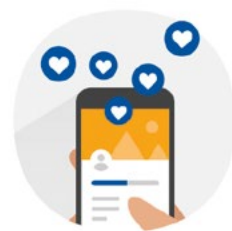
### 1. Choose your occasion

From birthdays to weddings, from climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro to celebrating your new pilot's licence, there's no limit to how your pursuits, celebrations or tributes can transform more lives through The Rotary Foundation.



### 2. Choose what you want to support

Your fundraiser can help us end polio, respond to disasters, fight disease, strengthen peace efforts, provide clean water, support education, and more.



### 3. Inspire your community

Share your fundraiser with friends, colleagues, neighbours, family. Don't be shy! Turn your network into Foundation supporters. Collect donations, and update everyone on your progress!





said club member Trudy Stevenson.

"As a humanitarian organisation, peace is a cornerstone of our mission. We believe that when people work to create peace in their communities, change can have a global effect.

"We had been in lockdown for months, but we could go out and walk each day

and make a donation to The Rotary Foundation for projects that focus on building peace in the world." Raise for Rotary is available worldwide in English and accepts 12 currencies, including Australian dollars. To see how the platform can assist in your club's next fundraising campaign, visit [raise.rotary.org](https://raise.rotary.org). <sup>RDU</sup>

## Support our Foundation on Giving Tuesday

**GIVING** Tuesday is a global movement for charities and individuals to come together for one common purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving. On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, join the community of donors that support Rotary projects around the world by making an online gift to The Rotary Foundation. Online giving is a fast, secure way to help families and communities that need it most.

Plan ahead to make a special gift and share your support on social media. The top clubs in fundraising, participation and online giving will be featured on My Rotary.

In 2022, The Rotary Foundation raised more than \$1,111,000 in support of Giving Tuesday. <sup>RDU</sup>



**10th  
October**

**LIFT THE LID**  
on mental illness

**Rotary**  
Districts of Australia



[www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au](http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au)



### Raise for Rotary Features

- Multiple ways to share with your peers. In addition to social media and email sharing, this fundraising tool allows you to download a unique QR code linked to your fundraising page to include on materials and displays at events.
- Rotary donor credit. Anyone who gives through Raise for Rotary using the email address they use for other Rotary functions, such as their My Rotary account, will receive Rotary giving credit and recognition.
- Less fees. Unlike some external fundraising platforms that have additional processing fees, more of the funds you raise through Raise for Rotary go directly towards *Doing Good in the World*.
- Over the past three years, Raise for Rotary has made an impact with more than 2,200 custom fundraisers, which have generated more than US\$1.6 million for our Foundation including the World Fund, Polio Fund, Disaster Response Fund, and Rotary's areas of focus.

ROTARY AT A GLANCE



**Rotarians:** 1,178,368 in 36,971 clubs in 528 Districts in 221 countries/geographic areas.

**Rotaractors:** 165,686 in 11,203 clubs in 504 districts in 181 countries/geographic areas.

**Interactors:** 326,554 in 14,163 clubs in 486 districts in 144 countries/geographic areas.

**Rotary Community Corps members:** 200,615 in 13,087 clubs in 267 districts in 101 countries/geographic areas.

As at August 31, 2023, there are 22,762 Rotary members in 985 clubs in 15 districts in Australia, and 6,415 Rotary members in 249 clubs in five districts in New Zealand and the Pacific. In addition, there are 723 Rotaract members in 57 clubs in Australia and 297 Rotaract members in 17 clubs in New Zealand and the Pacific. Australian and New Zealand districts include Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, where there are 568 Rotarians in 36 clubs and 224 Rotaractors in 12 clubs.

OBJECT OF ROTARY



*The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:*

- 1 The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- 2 High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- 3 The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;
- 4 The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

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# Dec 1st Domestic & Family Violence Awareness

**PUBLIC GATHERING 11AM - 1PM  
SYDNEY TOWN HALL SQUARE**

Rotary Club of Sydney in partnership with  
NSW Police Force to highlight awareness  
around Domestic and Family Violence



**DAY OF ACTION  
1 DECEMBER 2023**

Clubs take action to raise awareness &  
advocate against Domestic & Family Violence

**STOP the VIOLENCE  
END the SILENCE**

**BE A VOICE FOR CHANGE**

Order your DV shirts  
[www.nationalworkwear.com.au/pages/portal](http://www.nationalworkwear.com.au/pages/portal)  
Enquiries: [districtgovernor@rotary9640.org](mailto:districtgovernor@rotary9640.org)

## Pride of Workmanship Awards



### RECOGNITION

Acknowledge  
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### INVOLVEMENT

A program which  
enables involvement in  
the community.



### OPPORTUNITY

An opportunity for  
connections which can  
lead to new members.



For more info go to [www.pride-of-workmanship.com](http://www.pride-of-workmanship.com) or contact Rotary Club of Pennant Hills

Contact us for a FREE program guide Ph: 0444 565 780 or E: [orders@pride-of-workmanship.com](mailto:orders@pride-of-workmanship.com)



ROTARY SYDNEY PEACE BUILDING GROUP  
*proudly presents*

# UNiTE

TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Join us for an amazing line up of keynote speakers  
and panelists representing policing, domestic  
violence agencies, government, and technology

**NOVEMBER 25TH**

11am - 3pm. Rydges Darling Square. 72 Liverpool St, Sydney NSW



# Australian power to power Australia.

At Red Energy, we're born and bred right here in Australia. But it's as much about what we do, than where we are from, that makes us 100% Australian.

For starters, we're owned by Snowy Hydro - a leader in renewable energy. Our Customer Solutions team is based in Melbourne so our customers benefit from dealing one on one with a locally based award-winning team and the economy benefits from keeping Aussie jobs here.

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