

Rotary



District 9465

CONNECTIONS

GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 • JANUARY 2020



DG Wayne and Suzanne

As we have finished the Holiday season I hope everyone has enjoyed a happy and peaceful time with family and friends.

Unfortunately, during this time our country has and continues to experience devastating bush fires. Rotary members and clubs in our District and in Districts across Australia have rallied and raised significant funds to help the bush fire victims as and when they start to recover from the disasters.

As District Governor, I have been in regular touch with District Governors across Australia and have sent two emails to Club Presidents updating them as information comes to hand. Please be assured that as the situation develops I will continue to keep our Presidents informed.

An event that is planned for the 29th February 2020 is to have a World record attempt at a National Nut Bush Dance. The idea is to have members of Rotary, family, friends and members of the community all do the Nut Bush dance across Australia at the same time; 8 am

WST. The aim is to break a world record and also to raise funds for the Bush Fire Appeal with a \$5 entry charge.

Because we are a large District in terms of distance, the ability to have one central position would be unworkable, so to this end I am seeking co-coordinators to assist in running local events. We have arranged for a National Booking agent to book tickets to the event around the country which requires details of locations so members, family, friends, and the public can book. As previously mentioned the cost is \$5 per person, donated to the Bush fire appeal and the booking agent has waived all booking fees.

If any member or club in our District would like to assist in co-coordinating the event then please forward your details to me. I also see this as a great opportunity to promote Rotary to our communities.

I understand the timeline is short, but if there is a will there is always a way. Please advise me by Tuesday, 28th January, of your interest.

FEBRUARY IS PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH

Conflict and violence displaced more than 68 million people in the past year, and half of those are children.

We refuse to accept conflict as a way of life. Rotary projects provide training that fosters understanding and provides communities with the skills to resolve conflicts.

HOW ROTARY MAKES HELP HAPPEN

Through our service projects, peace fellowships, and scholarships, our members are taking action to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

District Conference 2020

Tickets for the District Conference 20th to 22nd March 2020 in Rockingham are now on sale.

The Trybooking link is <https://www.trybooking.com/562113>

Tickets are all inclusive of event and dinner and cost \$295

The District Conference team is hard at work to provide an informative and enjoyable Conference experience for all Members of Rotary, their families and interested members of our community. Conference sessions will be held at the Gary Holland Centre with Saturday Night Beach Party Dinner Dance also held at the same venue. Morning teas and lunch will be at the Clipper Hotel. The Clipper Hotel will also hold our Rotary Exhibition, which will be open to the public.



District 9465 Conference 2020

20 March 2020 - 22 March 2020

ROCKINGHAM WA



CLUB CHARTER ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY
22 Bridgetown

FEBRUARY
17 Margaret River
25 Manjimup
26 Ascot
29 E-WA

Information Day ***Rotary Youth Exchange***

for all interested High School students and families wishing to find out more about Rotary Youth Exchange and the countries that are our exchange partners.

Sunday 23 FEBRUARY 2020

1.30pm – 3.30pm

Information presentation at 2pm by Rotary and past exchange students.

**Venue: John McGrath Pavilion
97 Hensman Street, South Perth**

Applications close 31 March 2020 for exchanges in 2021



Contact Linda Bilney
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Regional Bulletin January 2020

Australia has been in the global news with the bushfires that have destroyed vast areas in New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. Friends and colleagues from all over the world have reached out to ask about our safety. Thank you very much for your thoughts and prayers.

Just recently, Taal Volcano in the Philippines started erupting, causing destruction to nearby towns and causing havoc due to constant ash fall. We pray for everyone's continued safety.

Rotary as we know, is not actively into First Response projects. Its focus is more on the long-term and sustainable means of helping communities rebuild in the aftermath.

The team here in SPPO have been brainstorming on ways that we can help. We are already discussing with the Australian governors of the districts concerned for possible membership dues exemptions of clubs that are heavily affected. We will also be reaching out to the Philippine DGs with regard to those affected by the Taal Volcanic eruption.

We have also reached out to our Grants team in Evanston to provide ideas for projects that have been conceptualised and implemented elsewhere in the world that can be put forward and replicated by local clubs here. If these match needs that are identified by their own community needs assessments, then we would have done them a favor by providing a starting point on how they can help their communities get back on their feet.

We will also be providing information on unallocated district designated funds that you can use toward these projects 3-6 months down the track. It would also provide current DGEs ideas for projects they can support once they step into their roles in July.

Another way we can provide support is facilitating partnerships with districts around the world through the other Regional offices. Please let us know if you need help on this matter.

It is a humble effort that we are putting together and we all have a part to play. Rotary has tremendous strength to be an agent for long-term recovery. This office is here to support you in this endeavor.

Best Regards,

Grace

Grace Ramirez

Grace Ramirez

Manager, International Office and Financial Services



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S RESPONSE TO DISASTER

A national disaster such as the current Australian bushfire emergency provides an opportunity to take stock of The Rotary Foundation's role:

- the reality is that Rotary is not ideally positioned to act as a *first responder* (that's where organisations like the volunteer fire services, State Emergency Services and the Salvation Army are so wonderfully effective);
- we are however exceedingly well positioned to play a very strong part in the *rebuilding phase* after disasters occur in our communities.

And while it can be tempting to send funds to the first responder charities, there is a very strong argument that our resources are far better directed to **high-impact Rotary projects** – especially as the first responder charities are already attracting such strong public support.

Over many years, the Foundation has developed **strategies to maximize the impact of the projects we support**. We have:

1. *tightened our focus* to six areas where we know we can deliver great results;
2. minimised the risk of delivering outcomes that are not valued by beneficiaries, by *working with communities* from the beginning, to clearly assess their needs, through a Community Needs Assessment;
3. *extended* the period of impact by ensuring that projects are sustainable.

Each of these three strategies is hugely significant following a disaster:

1. based on previous disasters that TRF has supported, Areas of Focus that have proved particularly relevant include:
 - **Community Economic Development**, such as fencing restoration projects, recovery of the bee industry, and possibly whole new industries in a community,
 - **mental health projects**, to address the enormous trauma of survivors,
 - **environmental projects** (an area the Trustees added last year) to address issues such as habitat loss and wildlife impacts,
 - one of the Foundation's 'Purposes and Goals' is *Developing and supporting community-based **basic emergency preparedness services** to improve economic resilience*;
2. the bushfires have affected communities right around the country and Rotary is possibly unique in that ***we have clubs in or near all those disaster zones*** – with members who can fully appreciate the human impact of the disaster and ***the needs that arise***;
3. and a project that provides **sustainable benefits** continues to remind locals of the value that the club delivered during their community's hour of need.

The Foundation is very conscious of the difference we can make in the aftermath of this disaster and we're keen to work with you to deliver projects that will help your communities recover from the fires. One way to do this is through the recently-established **Disaster Response Fund**, which provides grants of up to US\$25,000. This fund has been extremely well utilised for disasters around the world, and available funds fluctuate considerably, but some funds may be available for bushfire grants.

One final comment is that the Australian bushfires create an opportunity for clubs and districts to create projects that deliver more impact by working with both the Foundation and **Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS)**. Give us a call if you would like to discuss how to pursue this option.



4 Questions about Programs of Scale Grants

with K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran
Chair-elect, Trustees of The Rotary Foundation

1. What are the key elements of programs of scale grants?

This is a new type of grant intended to provide measurable and sustainable solutions to issues affecting many people in a large geographic area. Every year, The Rotary Foundation will award a \$2 million grant to one project that aligns with one or more of Rotary's areas of focus. The grant will support project activities for three to five years.

These grants do not require an international Rotary partner. However, applicants are expected to work with partners outside Rotary, such as nongovernmental organizations, government entities, and private-sector institutions. These partners may assist Rotarians at any stage of program development, and we encourage them to contribute funding. While Rotary is required to have a leadership role, our partners must have "skin in the game."

Finally, proposals for this grant type must demonstrate that similar projects have been successfully implemented. In turn, it should be possible to replicate the grant-supported project in other communities with similar needs.

2. Why did Rotary create this new grant type?

We wanted to complement the existing grant types with one that would benefit a much larger community. Programs of scale grants challenge Rotarians to think big and to work with other organizations to find comprehensive solutions to large-scale issues. As we've learned from the PolioPlus program, if you want to make a significant impact, you need to have partners who are willing to jump in with you.

For example, in Sri Lanka, we have been working on a project to eliminate cervical cancer. My club, the Rotary Club of Colombo, had set up a cancer detection center. We then partnered with the Rotary Club of Birmingham, Alabama, on a global grant that funded HPV (human papillomavirus) testing machines. In addition, we brought in the University of Alabama at Birmingham to train staff, a leading telecom company to fund the construction of a new facility, and the Sri Lankan government to cover the cost of vaccines. In 2018, the project ensured that 83 percent of all 10-year-old girls in the country were vaccinated.

The power of Rotary is much greater when we partner with like-minded organizations. This project involves multiple partners at a national and international level that are working together to prevent disease on a massive scale. Programs of scale grants give Rotarians the opportunity to replicate achievements like this one.

3. How does the application process work?

Rotary clubs and districts are invited to submit a proposal for a fully developed program, including proof of concept, baseline data from a community assessment, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation plans. Proposals are due 1 March. Those with the strongest proposals will then be invited to submit an application by 30 June.

Proposals and applications will be reviewed by a committee that includes members of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers and other subject-matter and grants experts. The Trustees will then consider the recommendations of the selection committee and will make the final award determination at their October meeting.

4. How will we measure the success of these grants?

The fundamental thing is that anything we do must benefit the community. Success will be measured in the ultimate impact of these grants on recipient communities. It will also be measured in Rotary's ability to position itself as a leader in implementing solutions to long-standing development issues, especially in partnership with other organizations that represent the values and aspirations of Rotarians.

— JOHN M. CUNNINGHAM

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- Interested in applying for a programs of scale grant? Go to my.rotary.org/programs-scale-grants.
 - Illustration by Viktor Miller Gausa
 - This story will originally appear in the February 2020 issue of [*The Rotarian*](#) magazine

Courtesy: eFlash RotaryKalamassery

- Photos by rotary.org



WHAT'S NEXT?

February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

- 1 Last day for Rotaractors to [nominate](#) a project for the Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards
- 8 Last day for district governors to [nominate](#) a Rotarian for the Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award
- 23 Rotary's Anniversary: World Understanding and Peace Day

Source: [Rotary Leader](#), January 2020



CONNECTIONS

Governor's Monthly Newsletter

Wayne Milnes, District Governor
District 9465 Western Australia



To submit an article, please email
Newsletter Editor [Giovanna McKay](#) short stories and photos
(no more than three) of new members and/or club projects
undertaken.

For upcoming events, please email eDigest Editor [Bob Phipps](#)