

Zoom ...

Online meetings proving to be a real success story.....
GLOBALLY!

Fear not my fellow Rotarian's, online meetings are turning out to be rather easy and very interesting.

Forced online due to lockdown and following the lead of other clubs, pioneered by our own district eClub Francophone, **Pukekohe Rotary** is now meeting online for the foreseeable future. Given our average age, much of the membership will be the last of the community who should risk coming

out of their bubble. **Ross Beal** has been working hard to set up a format that we can use as long as we need to. This includes a hand out that gives all the instruction necessary, plus we have a few experts in our team who can help you out.

See you all online next week

What's HAPPENING in ROTARY?

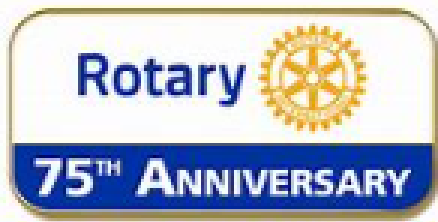
THANK YOU so much to the clubs who have sent in about their activities during this time of crisis. If you have activities underway or yet to come, please let me know by reply email so that I can give you deserved publicity. This includes online events that you would like others to connect into. One query that has come up is that Rotarians are hungry for news on what is happening in Rotary. The best place is the Rotary Oceania Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rotaryoceania (and also the District 9920 Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rotarydistrict9920) where a variety of interesting and informative posts are added on a daily basis.

There are also some good ideas for club activities. Can you please let your club members know about these quick-read pages. The attached graphic would be excellent in your next bulletin. Feel free to copy and post any items of interest into your Bulletins to add interest.

Many thanks for your support and send your news to
Colin Robinson cs.bg.robinson@xtra.co.nz

Be up-to-date for 5 minutes a day on your phone or PC

Club News & Projects



Due to Covid-19 plans for our **75th Birthday** celebration need to be postponed for a while.

The safety of our members, family and guests is paramount so a new date will not be set until our venue is in operation again and that it is safe for those who are most at risk to break their bubble.

We are asking all Past Presidents to pick a great project from their year and post a summary of this and a photo to **Stuart Searle**.



Without a certain end date to the disruptions of Covid-19, our annual **Counties Cycle Classic** has also needed to be postponed.

We still have a solid plan for the next event and when conditions for the Club, our Sponsors & Suppliers, plus of course the hundreds of people who join us on the day improve, we will be ready to plan a new start date.

Until then, ride safely and get yourself, family, friends and work colleagues training so they are fit and ready for the new start date.



Two other key annual events also have had their dates directly land in the path of Covid-19

Our **Book Sale** with the team @ Pukekohe Intermediate has been placed on hold. A real shame as many books had been delivered already in anticipation of another great event. A new date will be set when it is safe to do so.

Our annual **Golf Tournament** also has been placed on hold. A new date for this is also TBC.

Trust News

Pukekohe Community Action (PCA) is the recipient of a **\$5000 donation** to assist with Food Parcels. Due to the lockdown and risks associated with leaving our bubbles, many in our community are not working or can't leave their home to shop for food.

PCA has been working in concert with the local Salvation Army Chapter (who only operate limited days) to distribute food parcels. We must also acknowledge the local supermarkets who are also assisting.



Cyclone Harold hit the islands pretty hard and Rotary has responded with an issue of our world class Emergency Response Kits (ERK's). These provide basic equipment and necessities to get families re-started over the first 72 hours following a disaster.

But with massive crop destruction, food is becoming a problem. Fiji local Rotarian **Bob Niranjan** has underwritten an urgent purchase for food parcels and has asked NZ Rotary Clubs to assist. Our Trust once again is stepping up and donating **\$500**. To leverage this, **Alan Eyes** suggested that if 10 Rotarians could donate the \$25 they would have spent on meals this month, then we could double this to **\$1000**. Details on the Trust bank account to make this donation will be sent soon.

District 9920 News

Copied from <https://rotarydistrict9920.org/>

Rotary Youth Exchange Inbounds - Locked Down but not Out

Going into a four-week lock-down due to a world pandemic is not something any of us would ever have imagined doing, least of all our group of seven Inbound RYE students. But heck are we proud of the way these young ambassadors have conducted themselves during this challenging time.

D9920 is currently hosting seven delightful young ambassadors, two from France and one each from the Netherlands, Denmark, Chile, Austria and Germany. Weighting up the pros and cons of "should I stay, or should I do?" and in constant consultation with their families and Rotary advisors here and at home, our Awesome Inbounds have all elected (for now) to stay here.

The RYE D9920 Committee have been working hard in the wings to ensure all seven of our Inbound RYE students have clear communication on the continually changing situation and are safe. But we would like to extend profuse thanks to all our Inbound hosting Rotary Clubs: Pakurunga, Papakura, Waiheke Island, Tuakau, [Pukekohe](#), Newmarket and Drury. Each of these clubs has reiterated their commitment to supporting their student and ensured all current host families are happy to continue hosting, despite these very unusual circumstances. Rotary at its very best, in action, right here in our District!

To their credit, our Inbounds have remained incredibly positive about the complete change to their everyday “norm”. They are currently keeping on their toes with twice-weekly Zoom meetings combining connection, fun and a bit of Rotary-refinement as they take turns to deliver their Presentations, for practise and peer critique.

If your club would like to feature some great online speakers – please consider booking one or a pair of our Awesome Inbounds to present to you. They can present their PowerPoint presentations showing where they are from and are always keen to share their experience on exchange so far, answers questions and chat!

Cyclone Harold cause significant devastation in the Pacific including remote areas of Fiji. Rotary Clubs in Fiji 15 April handed over F\$280,000 worth of assistance for the people of Fiji residing in the Western and Central Divisions who had their houses destroyed during Tropical Cyclone Harold. The provision of the ERKs on Monday and today's handover bring Rotary's assistance towards TC Harold to over F\$0.5 million.

This is a coordinated response led by Rotarians in Fiji, working closely with RNZWCS, NDMO New Zealand Government's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) through its High Commission in Suva and Aquabox Australia.

Rotary Fiji have provided the following items today:

- **216 Rotary Emergency Response Kits (ERK's)** to the Commissioner Western's Office in Lautoka for damages in the Yasawa Group of islands, Malolo Island and rest of the Western division. We await breakdown for our audit purposes.
- **63 more Rotary Emergency Response Kits (ERK's)** to the NDMO Office in Suva for use in the Central division. Of the 73 ERK's provided on Monday 13th April, 62 were sent to Vatulele and Beqa today. This 63 will be transported from Commissioner Western's yard to Suva on Saturday (as per our telephone discussion



- **110 Aquabox 'Family'** (these are very similar to ERKs packed and distributed by Aquabox Australia, a project of the Rotary Club of Eltham in Victoria, Australia. These have been handed over to NDMO Office in Suva. A list of contents is attached. We await breakdown of distribution for our audit purposes.
- **12 Aquabox '30'** containing water purification aid items, each box capable of supporting 150 people for 110 days. These also have been handed over to NDMO Office in Suva. A list of contents is attached. We await breakdown of distribution for our audit purposes

RNZWCS co-ordinator Stuart Batty and District 9920 Governor Gary Langford based in New Zealand are in regular communication with Rotary Fiji for reports on damage, needs assessment to be able to provide humanitarian assistance required following TC Harold.

Rotary Fiji and RNZWCS based in Christchurch, have been providing humanitarian assistance to communities in Fiji over the last 15 years.

There is an Appeal for funds to help the immediate support needed in the Pacific and to replenish ERKs at www.rnzwcs.org



WE ARE - PEOPLE OF ACTION

Nukualofa Rotary distributes 148 ERKs following Cyclone Harold





Kiwanis International, Lions Clubs International, Optimist International, and Rotary International

Woven through the fabric of virtually every community on earth, service clubs of Kiwanis International, Lions Clubs International, Optimist International, and **Rotary International** are working safely and diligently to maintain connections with each other and our neighbors so that we can cope with and overcome the effects of COVID-19. We are leveraging the strength of our combined networks of 3.2 million members to provide comfort and hope to those feeling the effects of isolation and fear. And we are focusing our collective skills, resources and ideas to support frontline health workers and first responders as they battle this disease and save lives.

In these times of uncertainty, your local service clubs remain committed to meeting the challenge of finding innovative ways to take action together to help communities around the globe heal and thrive – and become more united than ever.

“The global effort against COVID-19 depends on actions taken in every country. As people of action, this is our time to connect with each other to offer immediate help to people in need.” – **Mark Daniel Maloney, Rotary International President, 2019-2020.**

“The scale and magnitude of this global pandemic requires our world’s citizenry to heed the advice and cautions of the experts. **Optimist International President, 2019-2020.**

The work and plans of our collective members and volunteers must not cease! Our immediate response after the crisis will be necessary to support local Governments respond to the many social and economic challenges that will ensue in its aftermath.” – **Adrian Elcock,**

“Great challenges test us, but they also bring us together. Lions are finding new ways to safely serve. Our Lions Clubs International Foundation has granted over one million dollars to help communities facing extreme rates of COVID-19, and additional grant requests are being received daily. Our communities depend on service clubs, and we will be there, supporting and strengthening them just as we always have together.” – **Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, Lions Clubs International President, 2019-2020.**

“During these difficult times, we’re seeing everyday heroism across the globe. I encourage us all to recognize the health and safety professionals who are putting their own health at risk for the greater good. To the educators, grocery workers, delivery drivers and the countless professionals who can’t stay home, the Kiwanis family thanks you. We all play an important role in keeping our friends and neighbors safe. Please follow the advice of the World Health Organization, your local health agencies and the instructions given by your Government. Please, stay safe.” – **Daniel Vigneron, Kiwanis International President, 2019-2020**

Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation extending fundraising partnership to eradicate polio



Partnership will infuse an additional US\$450 million into global polio eradication effort

EVANSTON, IL. (January 22, 2020) – Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are renewing their longstanding partnership to end polio, announcing a joint commitment of up to \$450 million to support the global polio eradication effort.

“Because of the efforts of Rotary and its partners, almost 19 million people are walking today who would have otherwise been paralyzed,” said John Germ, Past President of Rotary International who leads Rotary’s polio fundraising efforts. “By partnering with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we’re ensuring that children in polio-affected countries get the lifesaving vaccines they need to be protected from polio for life. As the first organization to envision a polio-free world, Rotary is more committed than ever to delivering on our promise that one day, no child will ever again be paralyzed by polio.”

To an audience of Rotary volunteer leaders from around the world, Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation delivered a video message announcing the extension of a funding partnership forged more than a decade ago. Rotary is committed to raising \$50 million per year over the next three years, with every dollar to be matched with two additional dollars from the Gates Foundation. This expanded agreement will translate into up to \$450 million for polio eradication activities.

“The Gates Foundation’s longstanding partnership with Rotary has been vital to fighting polio,” said Mr. Gates in today’s message to Rotary volunteers. “That’s why we’re extending our funding match, so every dollar that Rotary raises is met with two more. I believe that together, we can make eradication a reality.”

Read the entire article @

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-and-bill-melinda-gates-foundation-extending-fundraising-partnership-eradicate-polio>