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ROTARY GIVE EVERY CHILD A FUTURE NEWSLETTER

June 2021

LET THE CELEBRATIONS BEGIN

After many years of planning, R100 projects are at last coming to fruition. Not least for our own Rotary Give Every Child A Future. In this edition we share a flavour of these celebrations and catch up with fundraisers across New Zealand and Australia. The Rotary clubs' of Melbourne, Sydney, Wellington and Auckland birthday celebrations will feature in a special newsletter coming soon.

At Rotary Give Every Child A Future team meetings we are currently focused on the next stage of fundraising to sustain the project after the Centenary celebrations. We continue to look for corporate sponsors and would welcome any suggestions from our readers and supporters. Do you know a company or organisation that would be interested in challenging their staff to support Rotary to save lives in the Pacific through vaccination? If so, please let us know.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our project timelines and RGECAF vaccine delivery is now expected to commence August 2021. See reports inside for more.

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AUSSIE PEACE WALK SUCCESS

The inaugural Rotary Aussie Peace Walk was held in Canberra on 27-28 March 2021 amid COVID restrictions. The event was initiated and directed by Chris Edwards (RC Hall, ACT).

The weekend began with an opening ceremony, attended by dignitaries, at the Canberra World Peace Bell. An indigenous smoking ceremony and Māori haka preceded the ceremonial ringing of the bell six times to signify the opening of the first Rotary Aussie Peace Walk weekend.

This was followed by a Centenary Peace Dinner and indigenous art auction at the National Museum of Australia, attended by representatives from each of the nine island nations that are beneficiaries of the Rotary Give Every Child a Future project. The weekend's marathon walk started at 7am on Saturday, the first of the seven walking events.

The Peace Walk attracted 473 entrants with 111 volunteers from Rotary, Rotaract, Interact and Zonta clubs providing volunteer support.

Almost A\$25,000 was raised for Rotary Give Every Child A Future.

Many thanks, and congratulations to Chris Edwards and his team for a wonderful event, and an extremely generous contribution to Rotary Give Every Child a Future. [Click here](#) to read more.

Save the date 26-27 March 2022

Planning has begun for the 2022 Aussie Peace Walk. Hopefully COVID restrictions will have been lifted and it can include participants from across the Ditch, and beyond.



DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

The implementation of this important project proceeds, albeit with some delays as governments in the Pacific manage the introduction of the COVID-19 vaccines. In the meantime we are celebrating the Centenary of Rotary across Australia and New Zealand, and our fundraising efforts continue.

We have once again received support from the Rotary Foundation with the approval of seven additional global grants. These will provide funding for the second phase of project totalling approximately US\$550,000 bringing the total raised so far to over US\$1.8 million.

This is a great effort and everyone who has been involved can feel justly proud of what has been achieved to date. Thank you.

Of course, this is a 3-4 year project and we need to stay the course. The Centenary celebrations will soon be over but there remains much to be done. For this program to be sustainable into the future, we need to complete the expensive implementation phase and then allow the governments of each of these countries to pick up the responsibility for the programmes, as indeed they have committed to do.

This program will save many lives amongst our near neighbours. It will provide immunisation protection that we take for granted in Australia and New Zealand. It deserves our on-going support. For more information and to donate please go to everychildafuture.com.



Give Every Child A Future - Our Australasian Centenary Project

Rotary Wanaka quiz night for RGECAF

The Rotary Club of Wanaka annual quiz night, held in May, raised NZ\$10,000 of which over \$8,000 will be donated to Rotary Give Every Child A Future.

“We are delighted to be able to make a contribution to the project.” said Rotary Club of Wanaka president Mike Elliot. “We had such good community support, and the event was sold out. It was a fun night made better by the fact that we can help save lives”.

“Funds were raised from team registrations and many generously donated gifts auctioned on the night. One prize, a Fiordland Discovery adventure, sold for \$2,850” said Nicola Brown, co-organiser and RC Wanaka Foundation director.



John and Jenny Milburn could not resist bidding on this huge block of Toblerone chocolate

- *** IMPORTANT INFORMATION ***
- **NEW ZEALAND CLUB DONATIONS**

Club donations to RGECAF should be paid to Rotary New Zealand World Community Service, account number 03-1702-0192208-01 quoting Ref No 419 (Give Every Child A Future). Please include your club's name to ensure Foundation giving recognition points.





Dr Emma Leslie

Stephen Killelea



Ian Riseley Gareth Evans and Ali Moore

PEACE LEADERSHIP FORUM SUCCESS

Rotary Give Every Child A Future will receive approximately A\$4,500 from the Rotary Peace Leadership Symposium, organised by the RC Melbourne and held online over two days in April. The forum, part of the R100 Centenary celebrations, highlighted the work Rotary does to promote peace, and illustrated the key influence that Rotary, as an independent volunteer-based organisation, has in world forums.

There were superb presentations by Nobel Laureates, Rotary Peace Fellows, Rotary dignitaries and other peace makers. Each of the plenary speakers was outstanding. From **Tilman Ruff** calmly but chillingly informing of the real threat of nuclear weapons, to **Dr Jose Ramos-Horta** outlining his journey as a peacemaker in Timor-Leste and around the world. The engaging **Emma Leslie** told of the 6 C's of peacemaking and **Natascha Hryckrow** spoke about her impactful work for the UN in Somalia and elsewhere.

There were interactive sessions on Indigenous Reconciliation, Family Violence, Economics and Peace, Humanitarian Action, Business and Human Rights and 'What you can do for Peace?'

The final session, chaired by the ABC's Ali Moore, featured an outstanding panel comprising; **Professor the Hon. Gareth Evans AC**, **Dr Emma Leslie AM**, **Stephen Killelea AM** and **Past RI President Ian Riseley OAM**. They conducted an engaging and thought provoking discussion addressing significant global issues threatening peace today, but ending on an optimistic note for the future.

Recordings from the symposium are available on the conference website [The future of PEACE LEADERSHIP](#).

UNICEF UPDATE: ROTARY AND UNICEF TRAINING HEALTHCARE HEROES ACROSS THE PACIFIC

The Rotary Give Every Child A Future project is training health workers across the Pacific to protect the next generation of children from rotavirus and pneumococcal disease, and women from cervical cancer. To roll out these vaccines, it is important that our health workers have the training to administer the vaccines and can communicate accurate information to communities to build their trust. Over the last month, UNICEF and its government partners have completed training in Tuvalu and Tonga. The remaining countries plan to complete their training by August. This education program is complementing the COVID-19 vaccine roll out which is of vital importance as we see the number of cases starting to grow in the region. Once all training is complete the pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines will be delivered in communities, followed by the HPV vaccine later this year.



Training workshops were held for health care workers in Tonga on the introduction of PCV and rotavirus vaccines in March 2021. This forms part of broader health system strengthening program to support immunisation service delivery. © UNICEF



Training workshops were held for Tuvalu health workers in April 2021 on the pneumococcal conjugate and rotavirus vaccines. The session covered correct vaccine administration, hygiene and effective communication with caregivers. © UNICEF

Rotary Club of Melbourne celebrates!



Full centenary luncheon story coming soon.

Pedal for the Pacific

A cycle trail + a good cause = one fun day! Christchurch South Rotary was joined by Rotarians from across District 9970 to celebrate Rotary's Centenary in Australasia with a charity bike ride. We are delighted that the 56 riders raised over \$10,000 for Rotary Give Every Child A Future. Special thanks to Simon Mortimer and Joey Chamberlain for topping the fundraising leader-board, and to the organisers and participants. For more [click here](#).



Still on cycling...



Pictured Lt-Rt: DG Grant Spackman, RGECAF Champion Michelle Tanner, President Frank Hauser, Alan White and (Grant's wife) Wendy Mildon

Cyclist Alan White and President Frank Hauser (Rotary Club of Greenmeadows) presented District 9930's District Governor Grant Spackman and wife Wendy with \$20,000 for Rotary Give Every Child A Future at his District Conference in Hastings last month. Alan, a new Rotarian, was inspired to cycle the length of New Zealand in support of RGECAF after hearing Grant promote the project at his club visit. Alan's story is featured [here](#).

Rotary Club of Sydney Centenary luncheon

For full photo gallery [click here](#)



DON'T FORGET, LOOK OUT FOR AN EXTRA SPECIAL ISSUE IN JULY FEATURING OUR FOUR FOUNDING CLUBS CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS