



The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



## **District 9999 Rotary Foundation Update – November 2023**

It's been a busy month since my last Foundation bulletin. I presented at PEDS in Dunedin on October 28<sup>th</sup>, PEDS in Christchurch on November 11<sup>th</sup>, we had the Foundation Recognition Dinner in Christchurch on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the famous Waimate Club Auction on November 16<sup>th</sup>!

It was a pleasure to see so many interested and engaged Presidents-Elect at both sets of training, and there were lots of intelligent questions. Any questions not answered on the day can be addressed to me any time, details at the bottom of this document.

### **Celebrating US\$2.2m raised at recognition dinners with Guest of Honour Rotary Foundation Chair Barry Rassin**

Article by PDG Jennie Herring (Endowment/Major Gifts Advisor) and Anke Timm (Philanthropy Supervisor, RISPPPO Sydney).

“ November is Foundation Month and what better moment to celebrate our newest Major Donors and Bequest Society members! The dinners, held in early November at Christchurch, Auckland, Sydney and Brisbane, raised USD 2.2million in Major Gifts and Bequests for the Rotary Foundation.

Trustee Chair Barry Rassin joined us in Christchurch for the first stop on his week-long visit to New Zealand and Australia and the first of four Celebration Dinners in recognition of our most recent donors to the Rotary Foundation. In 2010, Barry led the Rotary rebuilding effort in the immediate aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, to

provide emergency humanitarian aid to the affected people, including the coordination of 105 individual projects. He was therefore particularly interested in how the Christchurch community came together after the 2011 major earthquake, supported by Rotary members and clubs. Barry visited Quake City Museum and Garden City at Westlake Reserve, before joining 40 Rotarians at the Commodore Hotel for a heart-warming and joyful dinner.”

At the Christchurch dinner, District 9999 was presented with the prestigious New Zealand Rotary Foundation Shield for total District Giving to Foundation, and at the Auckland dinner, District 9910 was presented with the New Zealand Rotary Foundation Cup for annual per capita Foundation giving for 2022-23.

District 9980 has often won this trophy in the past, so let’s try to make sure that D9999 wins at least one of these awards again for this current year!

Photo L-R: PRIP Barry Rassin; D9999DRFC Joan Kiernan; TRF Trustee Denis Shore; DG Phil Gully.



### **District Grants:**

### **Nepal Project – Building On Blocks For A Healthier Community: The Thaplung Women, Children’s And Community Health Project In March 2024**

Jess Hewitson of Timaru Rotary invites you to read about a very worthwhile International project which she and fellow Rotarians have developed and will deliver in 2024 with the assistance of a \$6,000 2023-24 District Grant. (Details in attachment). There is an opportunity for your Rotary Club to be involved too. Please read the very informative outline of the project which details the context, planning and outcomes. If your Rotary Club is in a position to assist with the Project, please get in touch with them via their Project Leader, Rotarian Jess Hewitson, email: [nepalmarch2024@gmail.com](mailto:nepalmarch2024@gmail.com) cell: 021 886 812, or via our Project Facebook Page The Thaplung Women, Children’s and Community Health Project, Nepal’.

## **Global Grants:**

Our Malawi application has been re-submitted and it appears that the Host Club is not up to date with their reporting on a previous Global Grant, so have to wait for them to catch up! If your club would like to learn how to be involved in a Global Grant, please contact [Joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net](mailto:Joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net)

## **Fundraising:**

Waimate Club ran their very well-established auction on November 16<sup>th</sup>. A fun evening was had by all, and the Club raised about \$20,000 which will be allocated between Foundation, Shelterbox and other overseas projects.

Queenstown Club ran a quiz night for Polio Plus which raised about \$1,000 and was won by the Hubbard Brains Trust – pictured right! L-R Laurel Hubbard, Vivienne Hunt, Diana and Dick Hubbard, Bryce Hool.



Thanks also to the Hornby, Riccarton, Nelson, Ashburton and Blenheim Clubs for contributions this month.

## **Incoming Scholarship Student update from Jodie Wiltse**

Jodie is an incoming Global Grant Scholar. Her area of focus is Supporting the Environment, and she intends to study at Lincoln University in pursuit a Master of International Nature Conservation degree during the 2024 academic year.

Here is a note from Jodie....

“ I thought I should share a bit about myself and what has led to my desire to complete this program. Growing up my family spent most of our weekends hiking, camping, and/or fishing around British Columbia. These experiences inspired my passion for biology and outdoor recreation. When I finished high school, I pursued a Bachelor of Biology and Earth Science at University of Victoria. Throughout the program, I completed many work terms in invasive plant management, at-risk species conservation,

and vegetation ecology research. During these experiences I developed a particular interest in entomology and plant-insect interactions.

Following my degree, I took a break from science and completed a working holiday in New Zealand. I absolutely loved New Zealand and decided I wanted to return for school. This led to my discovery of the Master of International Nature Conservation.

Currently, I am back home working as a research technician in two agricultural science labs. In both positions I assist with research on management of crop pests and invasive species. Thank you all again for the support. I look forward to meeting the Lincoln Rotary Club in January. "

### **Polio Plus:**

Up to end November 2023, there have been six cases of wild polio (WPV) in Afghanistan, and five in Pakistan. "Intensified efforts continue to be implemented in Pakistan, particularly in the southern area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, to urgently stop remaining WPV1 transmission. Permanently stopping transmission in this province, and in Afghanistan's East region – the remaining endemic zones and the source of all WPV1 detected outside of these areas – is a top priority." GPEI November 2023

For more information on Polio Plus, contact Polio Plus Chair John Driscoll  
[jadriscoll@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jadriscoll@xtra.co.nz)

Comments or questions about the Rotary Foundation welcome, to District Rotary Foundation Chair Joan Kiernan at [joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net](mailto:joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net) or on 021 356 265. If you would like a personal visit or a Zoom call to your Club to talk about the Foundation, just let us know – there are suitably qualified people throughout the District who will be happy to oblige.