



DGM News

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISTRICT GOVERNOR SUE MULRANEY

SEPTEMBER 2024 EDITION

FROM THE DG

Welcome to the September Newsletter,

I cannot believe that we are a quarter of the way through our Rotary Year.

September has been a month of both celebration and reflection. The Rotary Club of Nambour marked a significant milestone, celebrating 75 years of service. Shortly after, we bid farewell to Past Rotary International President Glen Kinross AO, a cherished member of the Rotary Club of Hamilton, remembered fondly as a friend and mentor to many Rotarians in our district. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends.

Nambour was also the home of Past International President Sir Clem Renouf, who initiated the End Polio Now Campaign. We need your help to continue his legacy and eradicate polio from the world. Although we started the year with single-digit cases, we now have 19 recorded cases in Afghanistan and 21 in Pakistan. We must give a final push to consign polio to the history books forever. Rotary has also committed US\$500,000 to support a two-round polio vaccination campaign that began in Gaza on September 1st.

We need your support.

October 24th is World Polio Day – a time for Rotary members, public health advocates, and everyone who envisions a polio-free world to come together, recognise our progress, and discuss the actions needed to end polio for good.

Have a club event, promote this Rotary initiative, we are close, so close, but cannot afford to be complacent.

The final push needs to be the biggest push!

What is your club doing?

RI President Stephanie Urchick has chosen "The Magic of Rotary" as this year's theme.

As John and I have travelled around the district, we have witnessed the magic created by the clubs and Rotarians within our district. Each club is unique, and this diversity is what makes us special and our projects impactful.



Continue to work your 'magic.'

I also encourage Club Leaders to update their goals in Rotary Club Central and for members to check in on progress. It would be wonderful to see every club achieve a Club Excellence Award at the end of the year, recognising the hard work and dedication of every member.

Charter Date	CLUB	Anniversary
24/09/1949	Nambour	75

Congratulations to Nambour Club with their significant anniversary celebrating 75 years.



I would also like to thank the following dedicated Rotarians whose commitment has been far reaching.

YEARS	NAME	CLUB	DATE JOINED
30	James Curtis	Toowoomba City	01-Sep-1994
35	David Kearney	Kenmore	04-Sep-1989
25	Gerry Taylor	Cleveland	07-Sep-1999
20	Rosemary Worthington	Caboolture	13-Sep-2004
25	Ross Badcock	Jindalee	14-Sep-1999
25	Leslie Ann Smith	Paddington	23-Sep-1999
25	Mike Darbyshire	Toowoomba North	29-Sep-1999

We have a couple of vacancies for enthusiastic volunteers to assist at our District Level:

1. **Bookkeeper:** Assist our Finance Director. A strong knowledge of MYOB is required.
2. **Public Image Coordinator:**
 - o Help Rotarians tell Rotary's story in a compelling way.
 - o Show district and club leaders how to use Rotary's online public image resources to increase brand awareness.
 - o Publicise the role of Rotary and Rotarians in polio eradication.

If you are interested in serving as a leader or a committee member, in the above positions or have an interest in any of the other portfolios, please let me know.

Finally, I invite you to join us at our District Conference 28th-30th March in Toowoomba. We have a very hard-working Conference Committee led by PDG Chris Wright, with our plans and preparations are well under way. We have recently been advised that this weekend is also Toowoomba Show so accommodation may become tight. We have organised some great

discounts at nearby hotels. All the details are being regularly updated on our District Website <https://rotary9620.org/SitePage/district-9620-conference-2025> - so please log on and have a look. We all look forward to sharing the weekend with you.

To each and every Club – have a wonderful and successful October. Our calendars are full of lots of exciting and wonderful opportunities to spread the Magic that is Rotary and have lots of fun while doing it!

DG Sue

In Memory of Glen Kinross OA,
Past Rotary International
President (1937-2024)

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Past Rotary International President Glen Kinross, a visionary leader and a true embodiment of Rotary's values of Service Above Self. Glen's impact on Rotary and the world will be felt for generations to come, not only for his leadership as RI President from 1997-1998 but also for his lifelong dedication to making a difference in communities near and far.



Glen Kinross was a proud Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Hamilton in District 9600, which now forms part of our broader district. His influence extended far beyond his own club, as he worked tirelessly to strengthen Rotary's presence in our region and across the globe. Glen was instrumental in many initiatives that have shaped Rotary's focus on peace, service, and leadership development.

During his year as RI President, Glen championed the theme, "Show Rotary Cares – for your community, for our world, for its people." His leadership helped bring Rotary's humanitarian efforts into sharper focus, inspiring countless Rotarians to deepen their commitment to service and caring for those in need. Under his guidance, Rotary continued its mission of fighting disease, promoting peace, and

improving the quality of life for people everywhere.

His connection to our Rotary District remains strong. Glen always valued the partnerships and friendships formed through Rotary, and he was an unwavering supporter of projects that brought lasting change to our region. He was a mentor, a friend, and a source of inspiration to many of us.

As we reflect on Glen's life and legacy, let us honour his memory by continuing to serve with the passion, integrity, and kindness that he exemplified throughout his life. He has left an indelible mark on our Rotary family, and his contributions to our community and Rotary International will forever be remembered.

Our deepest condolences go out to his family, friends, and the entire Rotary community. Let us continue to carry forward his legacy of service in all that we do.

DG Sue Mulraney

[Protection Guide](#) and completing the [Protecting Youth Program Participants](#) course in the Learning Centre.

Follow the guidance in the [Electronic and Online Safety Considerations](#) flyer to responsibly and safely engage with young leaders in digital settings.

END POLIO CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE



Following up on The Partner's Project for this Rotary year in District 9620, The District Foundation Committee is offering two Challenges to support the End Polio Campaign further –

One Challenge for the Clubs and

Another Challenge for individual Rotarians

Rotary Club Challenge

The **first ten clubs** in District 9620 to donate US\$1,000 or more to the End Polio Campaign will have that commitment matched by a District contribution of US\$1,000.

As Clubs know, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation matches donations to the End Polio Campaign on a 2:1 basis. This means your Club's donation of US\$1,000 plus the District's contribution will mean US\$6,000 will be contributed to the End Polio Campaign.

The Club donation will also count towards Paul Harris Fellow points.

Please inform Bruce McNaught (bruce@brucemcnaught.com) when your Club has made this donation.

Rotarian Challenge and the Polio Plus Society

The **first one hundred** Rotarians to commit at least A\$100 to the End Polio Campaign in 2024-



Enhance your commitment to youth protection

Rotary is committed to fostering environments that are safe and positive for young people and free from discrimination and physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. To empower Rotary members and volunteers to safeguard the young leaders who participate in Rotary activities, Rotary offers a variety of youth protection resources.

Enhance your commitment to youth protection:

- Visit our [Youth Protection page](#) to get resources, [report a youth protection concern](#), and quickly find answers to common questions.
- Refresh your understanding of our policies by reviewing the [Rotary Youth](#)



25 Rotary Year will have their contribution matched by a District contribution of A\$100.

As Rotarians know, donations to the End Polio Campaign are matched on a 2:1 basis by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This means your A\$100 plus the District's contribution will mean A\$600 will be contributed to the End Polio Campaign.

This contribution will mean that the Rotarian will be recognised as a member of the Polio Plus Society.

Please complete the Policy Plus Society commitment form and return it to Bruce McNaught (bruce@brucemcnaught.com).

Will you take up the Challenge to support the eradication of Polio?

For further information, please contact Ian Hope (District 9620 Foundation Co-ordinator)

hian@bigpond.com or 0457 388 757

*Ian Hope
District 9620 Foundation Co-ordinator*

Grow your membership with these updated resources

Clubs and districts can take many approaches to membership growth. Rotary research tells us the most important factor is a club experience that attracts prospective members and engages current ones. A strong identity can help your club offer that kind of experience.



The recently updated [Club Types, Formats, and Models resource](#) describes the many combinations of experiences that Rotary and Rotaract clubs worldwide are adopting as their club identities. One type of club is a satellite club,

which can be started by fewer members and supported by another club. You can learn more about satellite clubs in the updated [Guide to Satellite Clubs](#). Further strategies for membership growth are outlined in the new [Strengthening Your Membership](#) guide. The newly updated presentation on The State of Membership covers the latest membership trends and offers sustainable growth ideas.

Membership growth also requires us to tell others about Rotary. During Membership and New Club Development Month in August, several experts shared advice on crafting compelling Rotary stories. [Read more on the Rotary Voices blog](#)



Important changes to presidential messaging

As part of Rotary's ongoing commitment to adaptability and increasing our impact, the annual presidential theme is evolving into a strategic presidential message tied directly to our Action Plan. This change will take effect 1 July 2025. The RI president will still promote an annual message.

What will be different:

- A presidential message aligned with the Action Plan
- New approval process with a broader group of stakeholders, led by the Executive Committee of the Board
- No separate presidential logo
- Message of future president-nominees previously determined by the Board

What will stay the same:

- The big annual reveal at the International Assembly by the president-elect
- Presidential materials: year colours, scarves, ties, and more

- The president's inspirational message for Rotary members each year

The Board of Directors unanimously approved three years' worth of messaging at their May 2024 meeting. President-elect Mário César Martins de Camargo will unveil the first of these messages at the 2025 International Assembly. If you have any questions, please write to ri.comms@rotary.org

DG Sue Mulraney

EUMUNDI VOICE 100+ EDITIONS OLD

Eumundi Voice is a major fundraising project of the Rotary Club of Eumundi. Funds are donated to local charities to support their work. *Eumundi Voice* raises the community support profile of Rotary as a service club and its involvement in a wide range of fundraising activities and community projects.

Whoop, whoop, the 100th issue of Eumundi Voice is here! As we celebrate Eumundi Voice's 100th issue, we would like to reflect on the reasons behind the success of our publication over the past 4 years, read all about it on pages 1&3.

The celebrations continue Inside with pages 16, 17 and 18 full of wonderful achievements and memories. Here's to the next 100 issues.

What's on, Community, Business news, Out and about, plus hot buttered toast, Mr Squiggle, the Olympics, art and so much more. This issue's Down Memory Lane piece looks at the changing streets of Eumundi, a timely read with the streetscaping project now underway.

Read your copy online here: https://issuu.com/eumundivoice/docs/eumundi_voice_issue_100

A special celebratory event was held at Dick Caplick Park on 25 August to celebrate the achievements and efforts of Eumundi Voice's volunteer writers, deliverers, proofreaders, and board members. The event was hosted by Eumundi Rotary Initiatives Ltd (ERIL) which provides oversight and direction to Eumundi Voice.

Guests and officials gathered for a picnic in the park, enjoying the unseasonal warmer weather. A traditional [Eumundi Rotary Club](#) sausage sizzle was the order of the day with sausages and

bread kindly donated by [Eumundi Meats](#) and [The BakeHouse](#) at Eumundi.



ERIL chairperson Tania Broadbent warmly welcomed volunteers, Rotarians, and official guests which included [Dan Purdie MP](#), @101102334703973, [Cr Maria Suarez, Division 9](#), Past District Governor Eric Wood and [Eumundi Chamber of Commerce Inc](#) Cindy Suters.



Tania thanked the volunteers for their tremendous contribution, as without them [Eumundi Voice](#) would not exist. "I can't begin to calculate the number of volunteer hours that have gone into producing 100 issues.

"Eumundi Voice started during Covid as a way of keeping our community connected. Our aim is to ensure we continue to collaborate with the community, businesses, and organisations to maintain connection whilst providing a voice for our community," said Tania.

Dan Purdie MP, Cr Law, and Cr Suarez all shared their congratulations and spoke of their support

and the importance of locally produced, community-based publications. Cr Suarez said, "It is important to have publications like Eumundi Voice in our region as these play an important role connecting our community while also creating a historical record of the issues and triumphs of the community."

Tania thanked the advertisers for their continued support which has enabled ERIL to donate \$44,000 after expenses back to the community over the past four years. ERIL will be seeking applications for further donations in November 2024. Eumundi Chamber of Commerce President Cindy Suters expressed her gratitude on behalf of the business community.

Robyn Simpson, founder of the [#KindCommunities](#) Project was also invited to speak about how we can create kinder, more connected communities, with Eumundi recently setting a global precedent by becoming the world's first Certifying Kind Community. The Kind Community Certifying status for Eumundi represents a significant commitment to integrating kindness into everyday interactions across various facets of community life, including homes, schools, workplaces, and public spaces.



To conclude the festivities, a delicious sponge cake donated by Dan Purdie MP was shared.

Photos and information from Eumundi Voice and its Facebook page

CLUB ANNUAL DONOR RECOGNITION



We would like to recognise the below clubs who have qualified for their recognition for the support of The Rotary Foundation.

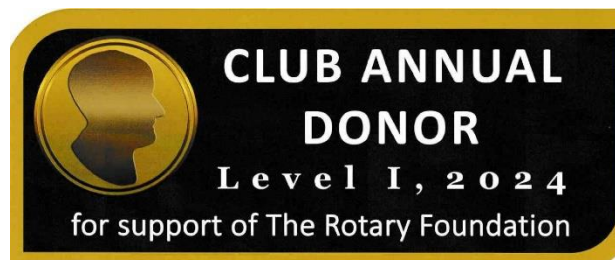
- **The Club Annual Donor** program recognises giving during the last Rotary year. To ensure that it is open to clubs of all sizes, the program works on a per-member basis.

This program recognises all aspects of a clubs Foundation giving – to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, Disaster Response, Global Grants, and the Endowment. (Note this program does not consider the giving of club members and others – just the club's own giving.

This program offers five levels of recognition:

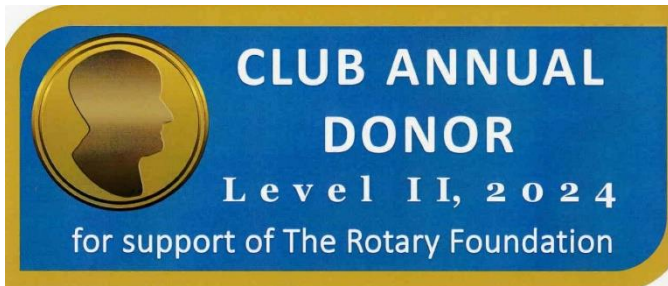
- **Level 1** US\$100+ / member
- **Level 2** US\$250+ / member
- **Level 3** US\$500+ / member
- **Level 4** US\$750+ / member
- **Level 5** US\$1,000+ / member

This year we recognise the following clubs:

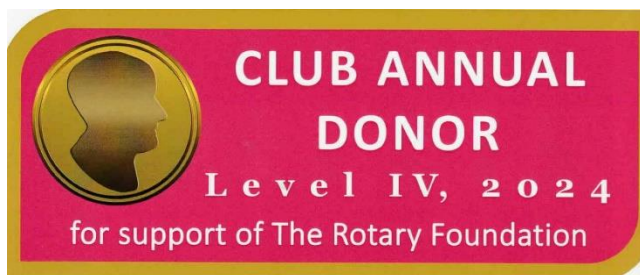


- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| • Alexandra Headland | • Brisbane |
| • Brisbane Inner North | • Caboolture |
| • Caloundra Pacific | • Forest Lake |
| • Greater Springfield | • Kingaroy |
| • Loganholme | • Mooloolaba |
| • Mt Gravatt | • Nambour |

- Redlands Bayside
- Sunnybank Hills
- Toowoomba North



- Balmoral
- Dalby
- Ipswich City
- Karana Bellbowrie
- Noosa Heads
- Nundah
- Paddington
- Redland Sunrise
- St George



- Woombye Palmwoods

Sincere thanks from The Rotary Foundation for your generous support

DG Sue Mulraney

Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills Celebrates Local Heroes at Pride in Workmanship Dinner

The Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills recently hosted a remarkable evening celebrating the exceptional contributions of local community members at the Pride in Workmanship Dinner. This event, held as part of the 2024 Stretton Small Business Awards, was an incredible success, with 13 deserving recipients being recognised for their dedication and hard work. A total of 94 attendees gathered to honour these

individuals at a Gala Dinner hosted by Past District Governor Chris Wright.



The Pride in Workmanship Awards stemmed from the vision of Rotary Club President Ralph Prager, who believed in recognising not just the businesses that form the backbone of our community, but also the individuals whose daily efforts and commitment contribute significantly to its growth and vitality.

“It has always been my dream to shine a spotlight on the people who are the grassroots of our community. They are the unsung heroes whose hard work and dedication often go unnoticed,” said President Prager during his opening remarks.

In partnership with James Martin MP, the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills worked tirelessly to bring this vision to life. The awards aimed to highlight the outstanding community members who embody the spirit of service and commitment in their respective fields. The partnership between the Rotary Club and James Martin MP underscores a shared commitment to recognising the invaluable contributions of individuals who make a difference within our community every day.



The awards night was not just about recognition but also about celebrating the sense of community and the spirit of giving back that defines the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills mission. It provided a platform for members of the community to come together, share stories, and inspire one another through their collective achievements.



President Ralph Prager commented that Pride in Workmanship Awards serve as a reminder of the importance of recognising those who contribute so much to the fabric of our society.

PDG Chris Wright

**Miles Tyre and Battery
Management and Staff support
Rotary Australia, New Zealand,
and the Pacific Islands in the
fight against Domestic Violence.**

The following highlights the exposure that the smaller country towns are providing by getting behind the DV campaign.

“Say NO to Domestic Violence and YES to Respectful Relationships”

One Domestic Violence case is one too many.



Nickolas and his staff at Miles Tyre and Battery

The aim of the **“Say No to Domestic Violence and Yes to Respectful Relationships”** campaign is to raise awareness of this scourge on our society, to raise funds, and to change behaviour to promote Respectful Relationships. This campaign was initiated by the Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond and has since spread across Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands.

The Message is simple but powerful: **“Say NO to Domestic and Family Violence and YES to Respectful Relationships”** which essentially, urges us **“to be Kind”** to one another.

Rotary International has been operating in Australia for over 100 years serving local and world communities, helping to make a better life for those in need. In addition to its many projects, Rotary in Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands now seeks to make a massive difference by reducing the incidence of Domestic Violence that destroys lives, and families.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is defined as behaviour or actions that are aimed at preventing or controlling a person’s behaviour, causing them emotional harm. This behaviour is characterised in nature by their intent to manipulate, control, isolate, or intimidate the person they are aimed at. They are generally repeated behaviours and include psychological, social, and verbal abuse.

The Effect on the Children

Abuse and violence devastate a child’s sense of self and safety and limits their choices and freedom. Their family and homes are no longer a ‘safe haven’.

The risk factors of mental health problems, and financial stress is being repeated in families. There are programs in place to tackle each of these issues, but first and foremost **the safety of children must be considered.** We firmly

advocate for the importance of maintaining strong family units.

Psychological Trauma

Emotional and Psychological trauma is the result of extraordinarily stressful events that shatter your sense of security, making you feel helpless in a dangerous world. Psychological trauma can leave you struggling with upsetting emotions, memories, and anxiety that won't go away. It can also leave you unable to trust other people.

Traumatic experiences often involve a threat to life or safety, but any situation that leaves you feeling overwhelmed and isolated can result in trauma, even if it does not involve physical harm. It's not the objective circumstances that determine whether an event is traumatic, but your subjective emotional experience of the event.



Greg and his grandson Nickolas

Greg Hale Past President Rotary Club of Nambour



MORE PEACE POLES INSTALLED

Sunnybank Rotary Club & Sunnybank State School Unveil Peace Pole in Moving Ceremony

The **Sunnybank Rotary Club**, in partnership with **Sunnybank State School**, recently unveiled a Peace Pole on the school grounds, marking a significant milestone in their shared commitment to promoting global peace and understanding. **President Shane Li** said this collaborative effort has brought the global Peace Pole project to life in our local community, further strengthening the bonds between the school, the Sunnybank Rotary Club, and the broader community.

The Peace Pole, inscribed with the message "**May Peace Prevail on Earth,**" serves as a universal symbol of peace, transcending language, culture, and borders. This simple yet profound statement encapsulates the Rotary Club's mission of fostering international understanding and goodwill. It also aligns with the core values of Sunnybank State School, where respect, empathy, and inclusivity are integral to the students' education.



During the unveiling ceremony, representatives from both the **Sunnybank Rotary Club** and the school spoke passionately about the importance of the Peace Pole. They emphasised its role as a visual reminder of our collective responsibility to strive for a more harmonious world.

For the students at Sunnybank State School, the Peace Pole is more than just a monument. It is a source of inspiration, encouraging them to embody the principles of peace, understanding, and respect in their interactions with others.

ANOTHER PEACE POLE FOR ROTARY E-CLUB OF AUSTRALIA NOMADS

President Shane Li said, Sunnybank Rotary Club is honoured to have played a role in this project, which aligns perfectly with its mission to promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, and grow local economies.

By partnering with Sunnybank State School, the Rotary Club has helped to create a lasting symbol of peace that will benefit not only the students but the entire community.

As we celebrate the unveiling of this Peace Pole, we are reminded that peace begins with each of us. The Sunnybank Rotary Club encourages all members of the community to take the message of the Peace Pole to heart and strive to make peace a part of their daily lives. Whether through small acts of kindness or larger initiatives, every effort counts in the pursuit of a more peaceful world.

The Peace Pole stands as a beacon of hope, a symbol of our shared aspirations for a better future. It challenges us to reflect on our actions and their impact on others and to work together towards a world where peace prevails.



In the words of **President Shane Li**, "The Peace Pole is not just a monument; it is a call to action. Let it inspire us all to be agents of peace in our communities and beyond."

PDG Chris Wright

On Friday, September 20th, we celebrated our long-awaited "Peace Pole" ceremony in partnership with the Rotary E-Club of Australia Nomads, the Rotary Club of Glen Waverley and Special Volunteers from Waverley Antique Bazaar. This event marked a beautiful gathering of the Glenallen School community and the Rotarians, united in our shared commitment to promoting world peace.

Earlier in the year, the Peace Poles were installed in the Senior School playground, with Rotary Club members and Volunteers of Waverley Antique Bazaar (my sister Jan's business) providing the cement mixer and equipment hire costs on-site to assist in the project. The ceremony itself was conducted by the dedicated staff and students, featuring heartfelt speeches from Rotarians Don McQueen, Don Kerley, and Ted Keene, who provided insights into the significance of the Peace Poles initiative across Australia.

The atmosphere was filled with respect and hope in the community as they concluded the indoor ceremony and took a reflective walk past the Peace Poles. These poles now hold a place of pride in their playground, serving as a constant reminder for students and the community to reflect on the importance of world peace and the wonderful partnership we have forged with the Rotarians.



Volunteer Christian mixing a batch of cement and a Rotarian supporting the pole

Rob Curtis, Rotary E-Club of Australia Nomads

SENATOR PAUL SCARR COMMENDS ROTARY CLUB OF ARCHERFIELD

The following is part of the speech that the Senator delivered recently in the Senate regarding the Rotary Club of Archerfield annual dinner and charity night. You can watch his speech on YouTube in the link below:

<https://youtu.be/ZluLxVmNujE>

'I would like to pay my deep respects to the Rotary Club of Archerfield, of which I am an honorary member, for their very successful annual dinner and charity night at Gambaro's. This is an absolute institution. They raised funds on the night for a wonderful charity called Interplast. During my time as company secretary of a great Queensland company called PanAust Ltd, we worked very closely with Interplast, who assist in facial reconstructions, especially for children in need of those treatments in developing countries. We assisted that charity in Laos and also in PNG. So, I'm very familiar with the work of Interplast.

'There was a considerable amount of money—tens of thousands of dollars—raised on Saturday night by Archerfield Rotary for the charity. That will go to providing treatment in the Asia-Pacific region, which is a wonderful thing. Special thanks to Lester Drew and Ray Deen, both dear friends of mine, for their work in bringing the event together. To all the attendees of the event: thank you so much for your contribution to what was just a wonderful evening. Thank you to Archerfield Rotary and the broader Archerfield Rotary community for everything that you do for the community.'

Lester Drew, RC of Archerfield

Interplast brings smiles and illuminating futures in Kiribati

Interplast has been sending programs to Kiribati since 1986. In June, our volunteer team returned for the first time since 2019 to provide life-changing surgery to patients and learning opportunities to local staff.

Overcoming challenges before arrival

Before the program begins, our local partners in Kiribati prepare a list of patients who would benefit from consultations with the Interplast team. Director of Health Services, Dr Tekeua Uriam Kabiri, and surgeon, Dr Uriam Salomia, pour through potential patients and arrange for them to be at Tungaru Central Hospital to meet the team.

However, the first thing to arrive in Kiribati is the essential medical equipment and supplies needed for treatment.

Did you know that the cost of transporting the essential equipment our team need is one of the highest costs of providing life-changing care? Many of our partner countries have limited supplies and rely on Interplast to provide specialist materials. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic drastically increased shipping costs, which has significantly increased the burden on our programs.

Getting all personnel and equipment to arrive in-country is often a feat in itself!



Beia with Interplast volunteer Dr Mark Strahan, after successful surgery to address a burn on his arm. Not slowed down for a moment, he was back trying to make his mother laugh the morning after his surgery.

Delivering outstanding care

No hour is wasted. The week was made-up of long operating days, lectures, demonstrations and evenings with the Australian High Commission and Rotary Club of Tarawa.

All the hard work pays off in a big way. Together, our team delivered:

- 20 surgical procedures
- 15 allied health treatments
- 111 training opportunities.

Patients were of all ages: 18 adults and 15 children.

You are able to follow Interplast's inspiring stories by signing up for their regular newsletters or by following them in social media.

Rowarn Luder, D9620 Interplast representative

EXCEPTIONALLY BUSY WEEK AT RARE

Eight pantechnicon loads of school furniture were all heading for landfill, until the asset manager made contact with RARE with volumes of furniture being shifted during the recent school holidays. The old furniture was still in excellent condition with many decades of service life remaining.



An enormous THANKS TO THE ROTARY CLUB of CLEVELAND for stepping up on extremely short notice to cope with the massive task of managing this furniture!



Much of this furniture went straight into containers that will be sent to Pacific Islands.



The many helpers have all assisted to create much hope in our receiving countries, as each school desk will provide years of education for many students.

*Phil Saxby Deputy Manager
RAWCS Northern Region RARE*



Youth Programmes, Dates, Locations, Cost and Co-ordinator Contacts are as follows:

RYTS

8-14 December 2024

Perseverance

\$1 100

Arch Downie admin@ryts9620.org.au

RYLA

2-8th Feb 2025

Lake Cooby

\$1 100

Colleen Caruana ryla@rotary9620.org

RYPEN

Looking for suitable venue around Toowoomba area

Jane Hillyard rypen@rotary9620.org

DG Sue Mulraney

DISTRICT 9620 FOUNDATION COLUMN

The 2022 Ipswich Flood Disaster

This month I will be describing how three of the local Ipswich Clubs banded together because of a natural disaster. The clubs involved were my club Ipswich City, Ipswich, and Greater Springfield, with a much appreciated \$5,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Mitchell. This collaboration demonstrates that we can greatly expand Rotary's effectiveness by clubs working together and looking at multiple sources of funding.



A major flood event occurred in February 2022 in the Ipswich region, which inundated almost 600 homes and 300 businesses across Ipswich, before another wave of flooding inundated our community again in May 2022.

The White Goods Program: After a combined club meeting it was decided that to provide a greater single impact to the flood affected households, the grant money and club funds would provide a large piece of white goods to each household. This was their choice of a fridge, freezer, washing machine or dryer. The DG (Paul Roger) and I did a survey of local white goods suppliers, and Harvey Norman, Booval was the eventual choice.



Rotary Grants: District applied for a \$25,000 US Disaster Grant in support of the flood recovery, and I wrote a combined application for the three clubs in the cluster. We were limited to \$3,000 for each club, with \$9,000 being the combined funding received. District then made available funds through a Disaster Grant from

District Funds. The club cluster received \$6,000 from this. The last funding we received was a District Grant that I applied for on behalf of Ipswich City and Greater Springfield. This District Grant gave us an extra \$7,000. So, the total funds made available through various Rotary Grants was \$22,000.

Fund Raising: The three members of the cluster made available \$16,500 from their club funds. This amount was increased to \$21,500 with a very generous, and much appreciated donation of \$5,000 by the Rotary Club of Mitchell. The Rotary Club of Ipswich had been looking at the "Gathering" as an opportunity to raise funds, and they decided to make this part of the cluster fund raising.

The "Gathering" is an event where all things of a Scottish background are promoted. This of course involved Scottish food, dancing, music, and lots of blokes in skirts. Ipswich took the lead on this with Greater Springfield, Ipswich City plus Rotarians from other clubs from the district helping. The main problem was the rain with around a quarter of the expected attendance. To give an idea of the situation, I was collecting the gold coin donation at the main entrance from the car park and had to keep emptying the water out of the collection bucket. The Gathering ended up raising \$4,786, with a big thank you to the Rotary Club of Ipswich and the main organiser Richard Horne. In total the club money raised was \$26,286.



Summary of the White Goods Program: With the Rotary Grants plus the fund raising and club donations, a total of \$48,286 was raised. It is required that the use of grant funds does not differ from the details laid out in the grant application. The recipients of the White Goods were stipulated to be family households. Through the Goodna club I had an inquiry if the Goodna SES could receive a washing machine. During the floods the Goodna SES members spent long hours wading through muddy water, with the mud and filth adhering to their uniforms. The SES headquarters had no facilities to allow them to wash and dry their uniforms. I requested that District broaden the scope of the recipients of the program to include the Goodna SES, and

this was agreed to. I supplied them with a large washing machine and a similarly sized drier. A little later a similar situation for the Marberg SES was approved by District.

Small Appliance Packages. Many of the households I visited did not qualify for the whitegoods, however they were still struggling. I found that things such as toasters, kettles, vacuum cleaners, and other small household appliances were still missing from these households. There was an agreed amount of club funds to match the Rotary Grants, however there was money above this amount available. With the 3 clubs' agreement I would put together these small appliance packages up to the value of \$350.

Summary of White Goods and Small Appliance Package Programs: The first piece of white goods was delivered on 27/7/22 and concluded on 23/3/23 with 43 households receiving a piece of whitegoods at a total cost of \$39,016. In all 29 small appliance packages were delivered, at a cost of \$8,745.

In the end, I was having difficulty finding households that the white goods program could support, as the floods were well in the past, and most people had replaced their white goods. The other issue was that we had expended almost all the funds available. The DG Paul Roger organised a small barbeque in Goodna, at a cost of \$200, in support the 24 small town houses that had been flooded. Some of the remaining funds were used for this and the remainder was donated to the Rotary Foundation.

Between these two programs I visited around 65 households, with only four cases of people trying to receive support fraudulently.

RAWCS Assistance: After the floods RAWCS allocated \$500 Gift Cards available to the local clubs to distribute to the flood victims. This process involved visiting the affected households, confirming their eligibility, and my emailing a summary of the household's situation. RAWCS would then mail the gift card to the persons nominated. In all 25 \$500 RAWCS gift cards were distributed amongst the local community. **Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) is an Australian non-profit public company controlled the Australian division of Rotary International.**

GIVIT Assistance: Another source of funding was the GIVIT not-for profit organisation. To

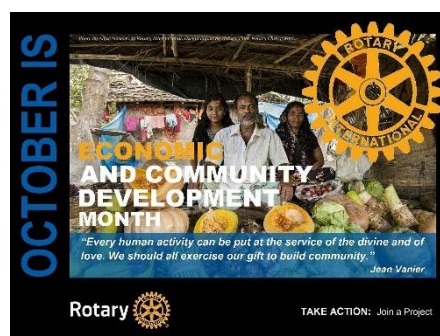
access this funding, you must be registered with GIVIT. I took the approach of working through the Ipswich Council as they were registered, but more importantly they could tell me if people had already accessed this funding. After visiting the household and assessing their needs, I would fill out the paperwork with a brief description of the situation and pass this information to an Ipswich Council employee. I must emphasise the high level of professionalism in the assistance I received from Council staff. The assistance was in the form of Gift Vouchers from local firms. (Woolworths, Coles, The Good Guys, A Mart, K Mart, and Big W) The Gift Vouchers were then sent to me, and I then delivered them to the recipients. The acquittal process involved me getting a signed acknowledgement of the receipt of the gift voucher, and a copy of this was emailed to the Ipswich Council. In summary 24 households received \$34,215, with the amounts distributed ranging from \$100 up to \$2,580. I know \$100 is a small amount, but the elderly lady only wanted a new electric fry pan.

GIVIT is a national not-for profit that partners with local charities and organisations to connect those in need with generous donors, ensuring that Australians experiencing hardship receive the essential items and services they need, when they need them most.

Saint Vinnies: I was approached by St Vinnies to help them identify households where they could assist flood victims to rebuild their homes. I was told by the chairman of the body corporate for the 24 Goodna town houses that they all ended up receiving around \$17,000 each. A number of the other people whose names I gave to St Vinnies also received significant assistance.

In summary, we as clubs can extend our good work by banding together in "Cluster Groups". We have seen this happening in the District Grants for 24/25 with a number of clubs coming together to support a larger project.

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FRIENDS CIRCLE EXPANDS SUPPORT IN COMMUNITY

The Rotary Club of Booval has been entrenched in the Ipswich community since 1967 and at the forefront in community events and service to the city.

In September the group came together at the PA Hotel in Booval for a visit from District Governor Sue Mulraney and Area Governor Lester Drew to celebrate and recognise all members of a special Friends of Rotary group.

Friends of Rotary collaborates to serve the community and has delivered repeatedly throughout Ipswich, as Booval Rotary president, Graham Keidge told *Local Ipswich News*.



"We have supplied defib units to two community groups, supported many Shave for a Cure events plus many other activities over time," Mr Keidge said.

"We continue to supply free meals every fortnight to the needy people of Ipswich.

"This costs many dollars plus people give of their time. This year we have worked 981 hours and provided 282 meals.

"We really appreciated the visit from DG Sue for taking the time out of her busy schedule to discuss issues and outline Rotary's vision for the coming year,"

Mr Keidge said the lunch was productive, with discussion around the impact of service projects, expanding Rotary's reach in the community and getting more members of the community engaged in their projects.

The theme for the year 2024-25 is The Magic of Rotary, and Mr Keidge said the positive change

Rotary had throughout the community was clear to see and would only grow into the future.

"We still have a way to go with the eradication of polio in some countries and this will be an ongoing project of Rotary International to achieve this goal," he said.

"Closer to home, we are taking an active role in raising awareness and advocating against domestic and family violence.

"We support all communities and organisations that take a stand against DV."



Mayor Teresa Harding was also in attendance for the special lunch, with Mr Keidge saying the council was a great supporter of Rotary's Footprints in the Park project.

*P Graham Keidge, RC of Booval
From Local Ipswich News September 19-25 2024*

WHAT IS ROTARY?

How do you respond to the question "What is Rotary?" Strengthen your quick explanation - your elevator pitch - with six tips from our friends at Toastmasters International. Read their blog post to make an impression that lasts:

The world moves quickly and you may have less than 60 seconds to make an impression that lasts. Enter the elevator pitch, so named to reflect the short period of time it takes to travel between floors. It's a short and impactful summary that you can use to communicate the most important details about your Rotary club or project and capture the attention of a potential member, supporter, or partner. To ensure you're making the most of every opportunity, check out these six tips from Toastmasters to create and deliver a perfect powerful pitch.

1. Present your club as an opportunity.

An elevator pitch is not intended as an advertisement, nor is it a call for help. Instead, hook your target by framing your pitch as an opportunity. If you'd like someone to engage with you and your club, treat them as a potential partner and offer a compelling case that working together can be mutually beneficial.

2. Keep it simple.

Perhaps more than anything else, the key to a great elevator pitch is ruthless efficiency. Don't get bogged down with extraneous details and technical jargon. Carefully consider every word that you add to your pitch and ensure that it serves a direct purpose. Remember that the end goal is to quickly communicate your vision in less than one minute and inspire a desire to find out more. If they seem interested in your pitch, ask if they would like a ["What's Rotary" wallet card](#) to learn more about Rotary and connect with you later.

3. Remember your enthusiasm.

Your words are essential, but they only represent a small portion of your pitch. A beautifully worded pitch delivered without joy is bound to land with a thud, but kindling enthusiasm and anticipation is a surefire way to keep your message lodged in the front of a potential supporter's mind. Use your pitch as a chance to share your passion. Practice delivering it in a way that conveys your excitement and conviction.

Rotary International Blog (second half - points 4-6 will be featured in October's edition)

WORLD POLIO DAY

World Polio Day is October 24th. Join with Evan Burrell who asked the question "How are you promoting [#WorldPolioDay](#) to your local community?" on Facebook recently.



What are you and your club doing to promote World Polio Day and support Rotary's End Polio Now Campaign?"

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the third edition of the DG News for the 2024-25 Rotary year – where we SHARE YOUR MAGIC!

Please submit articles (interesting and visual) to the DG News Editor, Win Salmon at newsletter@rotary9620.org by 27 October for the (next) fourth edition.



2024-25 sponsors



