

19 February 2021

A roundup of Rotary news



## How Africa achieved wild polio-free certification

In August 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) certified the African region free of wild poliovirus. It was the culmination of a decades-long effort involving millions of Rotary members, health workers, government officials, traditional and religious leaders, and parents. Since 1996, a year when wild polio paralyzed an estimated 75,000 children across Africa, health workers have given more than 9 billion doses of the polio vaccine, preventing 1.8 million wild polio cases. Read more of this monumental effort in [The Rotary magazine](#)

## This week's stories

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### Walking the walk on COVID-19 vaccinations

Anne Marie Kimball, a physician and member of the Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island, is a member of an RI task force exploring the role Rotarians should play as we continue our progress toward polio eradication in the time of COVID-19. In a [blog post for Rotary Voices](#), Kimball outline the role that concepts like global to local and whole society, truth telling, and our compassion play in stopping the spread of the virus and assisting in the roll out of COVID-19 vaccines. Share your efforts on [Rotary Showcase](#).



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### Peacebuilding crosses divides

A former trial lawyer, Randall Butler abandoned the courtroom to focus on using mediation to resolve disputes and training others in the use of mediation as founder and CEO of the Institute for Sustainable Peace. After a seminar in 2018, Butler became a member of the Rotary Club of Boulder, Colorado, USA, chairing the club's peacebuilding committee. The 101-year-old club is dedicating its second century to peace and reminds members that projects that help to build Positive Peace involve collaborations at the community level, even across traditional divides. [Read more](#)



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### Changes to the funding model

To better support the growth of global grants, The Rotary Foundation Trustees recently approved policy changes to help balance financial resources with program demands. Changes take effect 1 July 2021. [Learn more](#)

### Celebrate Rotary's anniversary

In honor of the first Rotary club meeting 23 February, 1905, take a virtual tour of Rotary World Headquarters, including a replica of Room 711, site of that first meeting. [Learn more](#)

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