



Rotary

South Pacific and Philippines Office

Quarterly Regional Bulletin August 2024

Welcome to our first quarterly issue for Rotary year 2024-2025.

Writing this article has been a challenge as I needed to dig deep into myself for inspiration. It is quite hard to shift from focusing on the day-to-day operations, finance and management to stepping back and thinking creatively to put thoughts down on paper.

I realise that digging deep is something a lot of us have been doing – we do it as we get drained by the pressures of work and life in general. We dig deep for energy, understanding, compassion, hope, inspiration, perseverance and even possibly acceptance that we have to just try again another time.

The Olympics has always been an opportunity to see the best of the best competing for the gold. Stories of struggles to get where they are now, have always been a source of inspiration. On the other extreme, there are stories too of athletes that did not demonstrate sportsmanship in facing defeat, and integrity to compete fairly.

In the background there are those who did not get through to qualifying, or having gotten qualified, did not end up becoming a medalist. And so, they go back to training again mustering enough energy to train harder for another four years hopeful of a better outcome. These are often the stories that never really get much coverage but can be a source of inspiration, nonetheless.

Is there a limit to digging deeper? Some things are finite – budgets, resources, time, energy. Digging deeper into intangibles though is limitless. Aren't challenges meant to be overcome with the right frame of mind?

The right frame of mind is crucial. Sometimes when we feel we have dug deep enough, perhaps we just have to pause, reflect, learn from and accept past mistakes, realise certain limitations and try again. Perhaps it is just not the right time yet. Perhaps we can do better next time. And when we end up overcoming it, imagine how much sweeter it will be.

Best Regards,

Grace

Grace Ramirez

Manager, International Office and Financial Services

FINANCE

CLUB INVOICES FOR JULY-DECEMBER 2024

Officers can view their Club Invoices on MyRotary - Under Manage, click on Club Administration. Club Finances is at the top of the list. Click on Club Invoice.

Officers will then be directed to the **Account Overview** page. Click on the **View Current Invoice** hyperlink to view the July 2023 invoice.

Invoices are expressed in local currency. **There is no need to convert.** The amounts on the invoices will be fixed for the whole semester using the exchange rate at the time of invoice issuance in July.

From this same page, Australian and New Zealand Club officers can use their personal credit cards to pay for their club dues AUD and NZD respectively. This is the easiest method of payment. The payment confirmation page can then be printed and used as supporting document for club reimbursement.

This facility is currently not available to Philippine Rotary clubs.

Should this option not be ideal, we've developed helpful guidelines to easily identify the appropriate Rotary International account to remit funds to. Please note that the remittance account is dependent on the currency in which your invoice was issued.

| Invoice Currency | Guidelines |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Australian/New Zealand/US Dollar | How To Pay Club Dues |
| Philippine Peso | BPI Payment Guidelines |

PHILIPPINE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATES OF EXISTENCE OF PROGRAM/ACTIVITY

Thank you to districts 3780, 3830, 3860 and 3870 for submitting your Certificates of Existence of Program/Activity in compliance with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)'s requirement as prescribed in [Securities Regulation Code 68](#) requiring Foundations to produce their certificates in their annual reporting to the SEC.

Approved district and global grant applications from these districts will be paid promptly.

To the rest of the Philippine districts, the status of these COEPs is below:

Outstanding Certificates

| District | Grants paid from July 2023 to May 2024 with COEPs due 30th June | Grants paid in June 2024 with COEPs due 31st July | Total |
|--------------|---|---|-----------|
| 3770 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 3790 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 3800 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 3810 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| 3820 | 12 | 1 | 13 |
| 3850 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 27 | 4 | 31 |

Grants that have been approved for these districts cannot be paid until these districts are fully compliant. If you have any questions, please contact [Catherine Bedona](#).

RI EXCHANGE RATES

| August 2024 | | USD |
|-------------|--|-------|
| AUD | | 1.53 |
| NZD | | 1.70 |
| PHP | | 59.00 |

Communication on the monthly RI Exchange Rates now being directed to District Finance Chairs and District Rotary Foundation Chairs. Please ensure that this information is circulated through your normal communication channels.

DONATIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Below are some helpful links on the various ways to support The Rotary Foundation:

Australian Clubs & Rotarians:

[Australian Bank Transfer Instructions \(also posted on Rotary Foundation Australia's My Foundation Page\)](#)

If the donor is a Member, Individual or Business (or Clubs that need a tax-deductible receipt including Clubs donating on behalf of their club members, so they get their own tax deductible receipts), transfers need to be made to the following account:

Acct Name: The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 663499001

If the donor is the Club or District, transfer to:

Acct Name: The Rotary Foundation
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 523370001

IMPORTANT: Please always email risppo.finance@rotary.org the contribution form or donation instructions including the bank receipt/OSKO receipt BEFORE or ON THE DAY of the bank transfer.

NZ Clubs & Rotarians:

Please deposit funds to ANZ Bank Account Number: 06-0193-0905286-30. Please provide a reference of either Surname or Member ID for individuals or Club Name or Rotary Club ID for clubs. Kindly email nzrcct@rotaryoceania.zone the details of the remittance.

Philippine Clubs & Rotarians:

Please provide your clubs with the following link: [BPI Payment Guidelines for The Rotary Foundation](#). This will enable us to process your contributions promptly. There is a huge amount of emails coming through to Catherine Bedona, Financial Accountant for the Philippines. Please DO NOT send duplicate emails or follow ups. This causes more delays in getting through tasks at hand. Rest assured that these will be processed in due course.

For Rotary and Rotaract clubs, your multiple donor contributions are best deposited in one transaction. Once deposited, kindly email the deposit slips and use our [excel template](#) to allocate the breakdown of contributions appropriately.

We strongly encourage you to cut and paste the appropriate information provided on the text box above into communications and publications going out to your clubs and members. Widely circulating this information allows greater efficiency in accounting for and reporting your donations on our database.

FOUNDATION



PHILANTHROPY AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 – PROMOTING THE ROTARY FOUNDATION TO THE PHILANTHROPIC SECTOR ACROSS AUSTRALIA!

The Philanthropy Australia Conference is the pre-eminent gathering of the philanthropic and not-for-profit sectors for learning, networking, storytelling, and celebrating achievements. This year, the biannual Conference was held on 5-7 August in Adelaide. With the theme '**Shifting Perspectives, Shifting Practice**', the Adelaide Convention Centre saw the biggest-ever turnout of over 1,000 attendees in person and more than 100 joining online. The Conference also has 6 sub-themes: shared power, shared capital, shared stories, shared futures, shared knowledge, and shared place.

SA Premier The Hon Peter Malinauskas MP opened the event on the first morning. Over the course of the three days, we heard from more than 170 speakers across 21 concurrent sessions, in 12 Masterclasses, with 24 side events - presenting countless opportunities for knowledge sharing and engagement, encouraging the use of different lenses in viewing projects, programs and issues, and embracing a diversity of viewpoints. The program offered something for everyone – from early career to highly knowledgeable practitioners and from people starting out on their philanthropic journeys to very experienced philanthropists. The lineup featured First Nations leaders, international speakers, individuals with lived experience, and people of various abilities, genders, and ethnicities. 20 scholarships ensured that a wide range of people were able to attend the event.

A highlight was the session **Moonshot Philanthropy with James Chen: Addressing risks to achieve the impossible**. James reflected on his journey in philanthropy over two decades with the Chen Yet-Sen Family Foundation and the profound impact that strong leadership can have on global issues. He talked about spending the majority of his life focused on two critical areas: early childhood literacy and vision correction – and why he has approached each with what he calls 'Moonshot Philanthropy'. In 1962, US President John F Kennedy famously said: "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." Seven years later, the US successfully had a man step foot on the moon and return safely to Earth. This mission has since become synonymous with ambition, not least because the success of this endeavour was never guaranteed. James applied this

thinking to his philanthropy which formed the genesis of Moonshot Philanthropy. It is not just about giving: it's about envisioning a better world and taking bold steps to make that vision a reality and achieve the extraordinary.



Segal Family Foundation's Executive Director Andy Bryant from the US gave the keynote address on Day 2: Shared Futures – Embracing trust and local leadership to shift perspectives in international giving.



Philanthropy Australia CEO Maree Sidee observed that we have seen and heard a real ambition and appetite for progress in our philanthropy sector. People are keen to be involved in significant and meaningful giving of time, talent, treasure, ties and testimony, because they want to get directly involved in our communities – physically, intellectually and emotionally. Building deep and meaningful relationships and connections with each other is how we have always built and will continue to build a robust civil society.

As we face immense challenges, philanthropy cannot merely be a pastime for the privileged; it is a vital component of a strong democracy and a crucial force for social good. The true measure of our collective success should be in our collective efforts to grow giving, with the aim of fostering a thriving place of belonging.



Anke with Rotarian Simon Martin, Rotary Club of Sydney, and Vanessa Fielding, CEO Blackwood Foundation

CLUB AND DISTRICT SUPPORT

ROTARY CITATION – NOW CALLED – CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

The RI Awards Team has processed the 2023-24 Rotary Citation and have sent the notification to the IPDGs. The IPDGs will work with the DGs and clubs to arrange for the recognition to be presented. Last years club presidents will also receive notice of their award on the 21st August. This gives districts the opportunity to present clubs with their certificates, while also ensuring clubs can access them on their own if needed. Exception requests can be sent to riawards@rotary.org.

MISSING CLUB OFFICER DATA

We need your help! Please see attached a report outlining the large number of clubs failing to report club officer positions. This lack of reporting negatively impacts the ability of effective communication to key positions, from membership opportunities/webinars and events, to public image assets made available right through to club invoices not being paid because club treasures are not getting a copy of the invoice.

[Click here to see your district, with a list of clubs](#). Please follow up and help them update the missing information.

NEW ROTARACT BENEFIT UNLOCKED

Rotaract members now have access to Rotary Club Central — Rotary's free and easy-to-use goal planning and tracking platform. Club leaders can use the tool to add and track goals, while club members can track their club's progress. Rotaract clubs can also earn this year's Rotaract Club Excellence Award (formerly the Rotary Citation) by entering their goals directly into Rotary Club Central.

It's not too late to start planning your club's future. Determine what your club wants to achieve and then go to Rotary Club Central to set annual goals that can help your club reach its vision.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

With the Governor-elect and Governor-nominee Learning Seminar (GELS/GNLS) planning well underway for Queenstown NZ in October, now is the time to dedicate your attention to the learning center to complete your pre course work.

[District Governor Basics](#)

[District Governor Intermediate](#)

[District Governor Advanced](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

EVENT TEMPLATE

[Six new templates](#) have **just** been added to the Brand Center – to create event promotions for Rotary, Rotaract and Interact – two for each type -a flyer (letter or A4 size) and for a social media post. These templates are available in all Rotary languages.

When you open the template, you'll see that is space include a photo (either from the user's photo library or a Rotary stock photo), add text to describe the event, to include up to four partner or sponsor logos along with the option to include a QR code.

UPDATED RADIO ADS

Planning to promote Rotary through your local press? To cater to our media markets, Rotary has produced adverts with Australian accents that can be sent as public service announcements (PSA). You can access through the brand center and a direct link [here](#).

MY WORK SCHEDULE

Please note that I work a four-day week. I'm in the office on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

MEMBERSHIP

HAPPY MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH!

Membership and New Club Development month in August is a time to celebrate and reflect on Rotary's foundations: our members and clubs.

Our members are at the heart of everything that we do, and clubs are primarily where we experience Rotary. We know from the research that members join and stay because of five main elements making up the [club experience](#): meaningful service; connections with others; personal growth opportunities; strong leadership and fun!

August is an ideal time to listen to our current and prospective members and focus on creating a meaningful Rotary experience. You can do this by using the [member interest survey](#) or the [member satisfaction survey](#) (with its [online version](#)). Think about designing a [new member orientation program](#) if you don't have one already. Consider learning about [best practices for engaging members](#). Ultimately, our clubs should be [welcoming and inclusive](#), so that members feel they belong.

New clubs are an opportunity for us to expand our reach and increase our participant engagement. Opportunities to start new clubs are all around us, just like we see in the [Anytown video](#). The possibilities are endless, whether they are a type of [Rotary](#), [Rotaract](#) or [satellite club](#) (sometimes called companion clubs), or whether they operate as a traditional, [passport](#), cause based, corporate, interest-based, or any other type of [club model](#).

I hope that in August and throughout the coming year you'll join President Stephanie Urchick in making the Rotary experience 'simply irresistible'. Thank you for everything that you do! Our members – you! – are our greatest asset!

NOMINATE FELLOW MEMBERS FOR ADVANCING WOMEN IN ROTARY

The Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award honours one Rotary member each year – regardless of gender and Rotary tenure – for actively working to advance women in Rotary. The award, originally established by a group of Rotarians in 2017, is named after [Dr Sylvia Whitlock](#), the first female Rotary club president who went on to lead change for women around the world through Rotary. Any member can [nominate another member](#) in good standing for this award between 1-31 August each year. Don't miss your chance to recognise the amazing work being done to advance women in Rotary in your area.

In addition, you view past recipients here at the Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award Gallery:
<https://www.rotary.org/en/sylvia-whitlock-leadership-award-gallery>

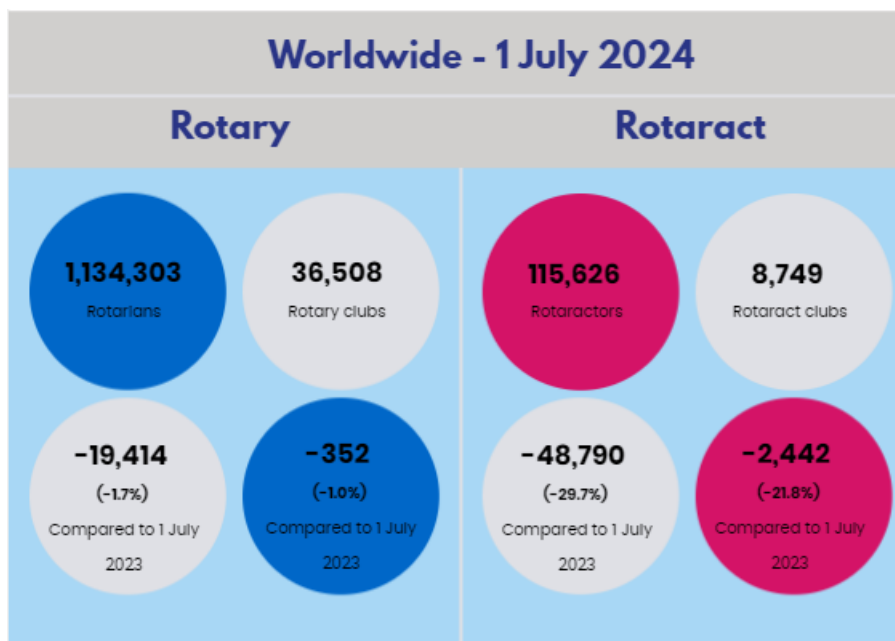


Dr. Sylvia Whitlock is a Rotary pioneer, an educator, a humanitarian, and a longtime advocate for women in Rotary.



OFFICIAL 1 JULY 2024 FIGURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Official 1 July 2024 figures were recently released. Membership champions were sent an [email from Brian King](#), Director of Membership Development, Rotary International (staff) with instructions about how to access club and district statistics via [Rotary Club Central](#).



For 1 July 2024 Rotary Pacific (Zone 8) and Philippines (Zone 10A) summaries, please click here:



REGISTER TO RECEIVE A RECORDING OF *THE STATE OF MEMBERSHIP* WEBINAR

Register now for the upcoming webinar *The State of Membership* held on Thursday, 29 August at 11am Chicago time. During this 45-minute webinar, we will review the current state of our worldwide membership as of 1 July 2024, discuss the recent research findings from the all-member surveys, and share ideas about how club and district leaders (YOU!) are improving the club experience for members.



Unfortunately, the webinar will not be held at a convenient time for our time zones, but everyone who registers will be automatically receive a recording and any ideas shared. https://bit.ly/RIStateofMembership_2024

UPDATED ROTARY INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES

Rotary International staff have been busy updating membership resources so that they remain relevant and provide you with the latest information and research on membership related topics.

| | |
|---|---|
| Discover various club experiences and learn about their benefits | |
| <p>Rotary research tells us that clubs that have a strong identity attract more members. While all Rotary and Rotaract clubs share Rotary values and engage in service, each offers a unique experience. Ensuring your club fits the needs of your community and the club's prospective or current members will help it thrive.</p> <p>This resource describes various options for your club, whether you're starting a new one or making some changes to an existing one. Read articles about clubs with different models and formats and learn more about the various club experiences clubs are offering. You may discover ones you didn't know about!</p> | <p>Club Types, Formats, and Models resource</p> |
| Opportunities abound with satellite clubs | |
| <p>Satellite clubs are a great way for a small group to form their ideal Rotary experience. Whether a group of Rotary members want to try something new, or some prospective members prefer something different, forming a satellite club can offer an easy and affordable solution, since they need fewer members to start and have the support of a sponsor club.</p> | <p>Guide to Satellite Clubs</p> |
| Strengthen Your Club's Membership – Create Your Club's Membership Plan | |
| <p>Great clubs have a strong, thriving membership – and this doesn't happen by chance. It takes planning, effort, and input from all club members to create a vibrant club. This guide answers questions to frequently asked questions about membership challenges, covering ways clubs can get started, attract new members, offer value to existing members, and start and nurture new clubs.</p> | <p>Strengthening Your Membership</p> |
| Club Experience Concierge | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Need assistance in improving your club experience? This interactive guide offers ideas and recommendations specific to your club's biggest challenges. You'll find ideas to try that range from easy, to moderate, to ambitious.</p> | <p>Club Experience Concierge</p> |
| <p>Video Meeting Content – Now available in the Brand Centre</p> | |
| <p>Whether your speaker canceled, or you want to try something new, watching a video together with your club and discussing it is a great way to learn more about Rotary and get inspired. Visit the Brand Centre and use the videos to supplement your club meetings. Videos are available on a variety of topics and range from 10-25 minutes.</p> | <p>Meeting Content in the Brand Center</p> |

OUR ACTION PLAN IN ACTION

**By incoming RI Director PDG Jennifer Scott
Member of RC of Upper Blue Mountains, D9685 – Sydney, Australia**

My understanding of Rotary, who we are and what we do, is so different now to when I first joined my club in 1996. I had previously been a member of Interact and Rotaract where I participated in small local projects. I felt like I was making a difference in my community. When I joined my local Rotary club, it had a similar vibe.

It wasn't until I attended a district assembly and heard about Rotary's mission to eradicate polio, did I really understand the reach of Rotary globally. It wasn't until my club undertook a club visioning exercise that we realised we had to increase our ability to assess and plan for high impact and sustainable projects.

As there are four clubs in the upper Blue Mountains, we also decided to work Together to achieve more. In recent years we have learnt to partner with other community groups and businesses, such as chamber of commerce, the local Bendigo Bank, local council, schools, Scouts and other youth groups. Together, we are increasing our impact and expanding our reach in the community.



We are now actively involved in worthwhile local projects such as dementia support, food insecurity and mental health. This has led to increased interest from prospective members and sponsors to join and/or volunteer with us.

Our international work has garnered wonderful support from other Rotary clubs around Australia as well as community members, because they can see the amazing change in the communities supported by Rotary. We are actively involved by visiting, assessing, auditing and training.

The lesson we have learnt is that we need to adapt what we do, how we volunteer and engage with our community. We don't simply hand over cheques or fundraise for others, we volunteer our time and skills.

Our club has also recently created a flexible membership option for people who wish to be involved but do not want to do so in a traditional club format.

To have thriving clubs that attract a diverse membership, we need a plan. Rotary's Action Plan (rotary.org/actionplan) is a great tool, with its four strategic priorities around impact, reach, engagement and adaptability. The challenge is to take the time and make the effort to plan and then take action.

GRANTS

Welcome to the new Rotary Year and the season for new District Grants. This year consider upscaling some of your club and district projects so they can have a greater impact on your local community. Larger projects can provide more help and reach more people and raise the profile of Rotary.

CSR grants are a fantastic opportunity to engage with local businesses to fund these larger projects and together impact your local community for good. You can find out more information about CSR Grants [here](#).

Feeling confused which grant to use - District Grant, Global Grant, Disaster Response Grant, CSR grant? [This](#) table shows some of the key differences between the various grants. If you have any questions, please contact Kym Schwarz – risppo.grants@rotary.org.

Important reporting change

Starting 1 July, both the host and international sponsors of global grants will be responsible for grant reporting compliance. The Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation Global Grants will be updated accordingly. And remember that the Foundation won't approve new grant applications from sponsors that have any overdue reports for any Foundation grant.

You are encouraged to build a relationship with the international sponsor of your global grants to ensure that reports are submitted on time.

Here are a few tips that can help you as you plan a cancer-related project.

1. Focus. Cancer encompasses various subcategories of the disease, which have diverse screening protocols and treatments. For maximum impact, focus on one type of cancer, and be specific in your approach to it.
2. Goals. When performing a community assessment and talking with participants, consider the national government's recommendations for the type of cancer you're targeting and build your project accordingly. Have a clear idea of the change you want the project to achieve.
3. Treatment. We all know that it's important to detect cancer early. But patients also need quick and easy access to treatment. If your project offers cancer screening, make sure it can also direct people who are diagnosed to treatment or offer other significant support. For treatment projects, make sure your plan anticipates the diverse needs of the patients and is not limited to one-time interventions.
4. Measures. Consider how you might measure the project's impact on people's lives, not just the number of screening sessions, access to equipment, or patients treated. Could you measure the number of deaths from a certain type of cancer in the area before and after your project?