

Polio Fundraising Movie Night in Grafton

Grafton Midday president Robert Blanchard is delighted with the *End Polio Now* fundraiser at the Saraton Theatre held on October 31.

“The film was a knock out on the big screen at the Saraton with the sound system living up to the standard produced by Helen Reddy at her best”, Mr Blanchard said.

“Over 200 people enjoyed the film and, coupled with the proceeds from a pre-film dinner at the Clocktower Hotel, generated \$2,100 for Rotary International’s *End Polio Now* program. The proceeds will be matched 2 to 1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation building the film night proceeds to \$6,300. This will ensure that, one day soon we hope, Rotary International will be able to announce that polio is eradicated in Afganistan and Pakistan, the last countries still plagued by the virus.”

“We are so grateful to the management and staff at the Saraton and the Clocktower Hotel, LV Hair & the Roches Hotel Wednesday night Midday Rotary trivia team for their contribution of goods to the raffle for the night.”

“We must also acknowledge our local media for their part in spreading the word about the fundraiser, particularly as it was a one-off opportunity to see ‘I am Woman’, in the superb Saraton theatre, with the approval of film distributor *Stan*.”

Midday Rotary vice president, Lee Taylor said, “As a club, we had great night along with locals and visitors, including Rotary members from down river, who all enjoyed the film. It was especially pleasing to be using the Saraton and the Clocktower Hotel as our community is starting to use venues in our Covid safe world.”