

## URGENT AND CRITICAL INFORMATION THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Dear Club Presidents & Foundation Chairs,

With the disappointing but necessary cancellation of this year's **District 9800 Conference**, we have lost a valuable opportunity to not only promote the Rotary Foundation, but to accept donations and pledges to our Foundation from clubs and individuals.

Traditionally, these generous acts at the conference begin the process of the club contribution program which culminates with the final contributions from clubs being received before the end of June. Last year, 59 of our 63 clubs donated a total of \$US397,779 to the Annual Fund. We are still hoping to improve on that figure this year.

Suggested **guidelines for club contributions** to the Foundation are to donate an equivalent of at least A\$150 for every club member, or to donate 10-15% of the club's annual fund raising.

However, this year, the later a contribution is received in the Rotary year, the less valuable it will be. Currently, Rotary International's March exchange rate is USD1.00 equals AUD1.52 (or AUD 1.00 = US 66 cents). The RI exchange rates are based on the prevailing market rate as of the first of each month. With the falling Australian dollar these figures will be much less favourable from April 1 onwards. For example, today's market value is USD1: AUD1.7. **I'm therefore urging clubs and individuals to make their donations to the Rotary Foundation before the end of March.**

Remember your club needs to contribute USD1000 to recognize someone as a **Paul Harris Fellow**. Currently this will cost you AUD1520 but from April on it could be AUD1700 or even more.

I'm also recommending that **Paul Harris Society members**, who pay USD1000 annually, do so now, rather than leave it until the end of the year. Those who pay by monthly direct debit will almost certainly need to increase their monthly contributions to maintain their PHS membership.

**Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) / Centurion** contributors will find their AUD100 donation is currently worth only USD66 but will be worth even less after April 1.



Peace and conflict  
prevention/resolution



Disease prevention  
and treatment



Water and  
sanitation



Maternal and  
child health



Basic Education  
and literacy



Economic and  
community  
development



At the bottom of this letter are several links to click on to expedite your donations to the Foundation. Please share them with your members.

Feel free to call or email me, if you would like to discuss club or personal donations to the Rotary Foundation. Alternatively, you may contact our **Chair of Annual Giving, PDG Dennis Shore** ([djshore@bigpond.net.au](mailto:djshore@bigpond.net.au) , telephone 0412 332 226), **Chair of the Paul Harris Society, PDG Julie Mason** ([Mason.Julie.M@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Mason.Julie.M@edumail.vic.gov.au) , telephone 0402 324 093) or our **EREY / Centurion Chair, Gabe Hau** ([ghau@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ghau@optusnet.com.au), telephone 0411338989).

Remember, the Rotary Foundation transforms our gifts into service projects that change lives close to home and around the world. By giving to our Foundation, you make these life changing projects possible so that together we can continue Doing Good in the World.

Yours in Rotary

**PDG Murray Verso**  
Rotary International District.9800  
Foundation Committee Chair 2019-2022  
Email: [verson@netspace.net.au](mailto:verson@netspace.net.au)  
Mobile: 0417 595 217

### Some useful resources:

- [Australian Rotary Foundation Trust Donation Form](#)
- [ARFT Ways to Give](#)
- [Club & Personal Giving Bank Details](#)
- [Understanding Paul Harris Recognition Points](#)
- [Paul Harris Society Commitment Form](#)
- [Royce Abbey Award Nomination Form](#)
- [End Polio Donations](#)



Peace and conflict  
prevention/resolution



Disease prevention  
and treatment



Water and  
sanitation



Maternal and  
child health



Basic Education  
and literacy



Economic and  
community  
development