



May 2026 Edition

Dear Rotarians and Rotaractors from District 9510,

The changeover invitations have started and I cannot believe that we are into the pointy end of this Rotary year. April has been a month of new member inductions.

The month of April commenced with a good initiative that highlights the essence of Uniting for Good. We have to listen to our community to understand what the community needs and how as Rotarians we can work with the community to make it a better society for all us. Rotary club of Adelaide Parks invited Hutt street businesses, resident group leaders and city councillors to interact with an idea of working together to make the Hutt street community better. RC Adelaide Parks has its regular meetings in the heart of Hutt Street and hence it is a good initiative with potential for long term club and community engagement.

On the 12th of April, we had a third voyage of One and All departing this Rotary year. This is the first time we had two voyages from Port Adelaide plus an extra voyage from Port Lincoln. 24 students were very excited/nervous and from all the reports, it looks like they had a great time. 15th of April, we had 2 new members being inducted into the Rotary club of Glenelg. On the 21st of April, 5 new members were inducted into Rotary Club of Magill. I had the pleasure of joining both these inductions and as with any new member induction it was good to see the excitement and a sense of pride in the new members. Every new member induction takes me back on a nostalgic trip to the day I was inducted into Rotary and the impact that Rotary had on my life.

One of the significant Rotary events of April 2026 was our discussions on redistricting in our Rotary Zone. DGN Damian Leach is a member of the Zone 8 taskforce, he helped develop a proposal to consolidate 19 districts into 10 for long-term sustainability. Our district is proposed to expand significantly, covering South Australia, the Northern Territory, Timor-Leste, and areas including Mildura and Broken Hill. This shift offers growth opportunities but presents logistical challenges. Before the proposal is released broadly, it is important that we are aware of this transition while supporting our members and clubs. Though there is no significant change for our district in terms of loss of clubs or loss of identity, it is still a challenge to add new clubs and expand the geographic footprint. I request you all to keep in touch with your club leadership so that you can get the latest updates about the redistricting that will come into effect from 1st July 2028.

It is exactly 18 days for Priya's partner project fundraising event on the 31st of May, and the excitement is building! This Graded Pairs bridge congress offers a fantastic opportunity to earn red masterpoints while enjoying a day filled with spirited competition and warm fellowship. Every shuffle and deal supports the critical global mission to End Polio, turning your passion for the game into life-changing progress. Not a bridge player yet? No problem! You are warmly invited to our "mini bridge sampler," designed to introduce newcomers to the game in a lively, interactive, and pressure-free setting. Whether you are a seasoned grandmaster or a curious beginner, there is a place for you at the table. Check the classifieds today for full registration details—let's play for a purpose! Additionally, clubs can decide to donate to this partner project by contacting me and I will send you the details.

Keep Uniting for Good while serving above self.

Thank you

Kind regards

Rajeev Kamineni

District Governor 2025-26

+61431202045



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Send your classifieds to classifieds@rotary9510.org by 7th of the Month

UNITE FOR GOOD

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026



Register for Taipei

FOUNDATION MOMENTS

Quick insights into your charity — The Rotary Foundation



DRIVING EFFECTIVE DDF DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Starting 30 June 2026, unused District Designated Funds (DDF) older than five years will be reallocated by the district to approved Rotary programs. Now it is a great time to review your DDF reports and actively plan to use older funds. Districts must notify The Rotary Foundation by that date regarding unspent funds from the 30 June 2021 rollover.

Alternatively, districts are encouraged to support Global Grant applications using their rollover DDF.



Please consider making a donation to The Rotary Foundation before 30 June. Let's make every dollar count for meaningful change in our communities!

< Visit my.rotary.org/donate



ROTARY 9510 DG Partner Project FUND RAISER **Sun 31 May**

ROTARY PAIRS BRIDGE CONGRESS (RED MPS) - 10 AM to 5 PM

Bridge players are invited to register for our Red master point Graded Pairs Bridge Congress. Registration includes barbecue lunch & drinks.

MINI BRIDGE TASTER - 10.30 AM to 2.00 PM

Never played bridge before? Try our Mini Bridge Session to see what it's like to learn bridge. Discover a world of fun, friendship, and a great way to keep your mind active. Includes barbecue lunch & drinks.

Register online using the QR code or link below

Please indicate dietary restrictions when you register.

ENTERTAINMENT

- **Raffles**
- **Wine wall**
- **Silent auction**



Make a donation

<https://bit.ly/rotarypairs>
(Select Get tickets - Donation)

Donations can also be transferred to the Rotary Club of Morialta To avoid booking fees.





END POLIO NOW

Every voice. Every dollar. Every child.

We are in the final stretch – but polio is a zero-sum game.

As long as the virus exists anywhere, children everywhere remain at risk.

- If eradication efforts stop now, up to **200,000 new cases every year** could return within a decade.
- Just **one infected traveller** can reintroduce polio to a polio-free country.
- **1 in 200 infections** causes irreversible paralysis.

By vaccinating **2.5 billion children**, Rotary and its partners have prevented more than **20 million cases of paralysis**.

If we succeed, polio will become only the **second human disease ever eradicated** – after smallpox.

Join us. Help finish the fight.

Every donation funds the vaccines, transport and frontline support needed to protect children.

Right now, every \$1 donated is matched 2:1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – tripling your impact.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

When: Sunday 31st May

Where: SA Bridge Association - 243 Young St., Unley

Events: **Graded Pairs (Red Masterpoints)** OR **Mini Bridge**

Cost: \$40 per person (Lunch Included)



Register online

<https://bit.ly/rotarypairs>

Questions? Contact Adel on 0402 433 674
aabelha@icloud.com





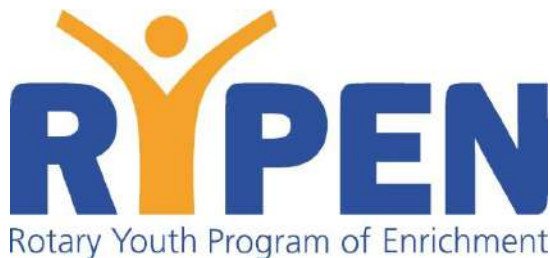
2026 DATES

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE:
15/8/26

PROGRAM DATES:
3rd - 9th October 2026

GRADUATION DINNER:
Thursday 8/10/26
@Marche Club, Paradise

Contact: ryla@rotary9510.org



2026 DATES

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE:
01/06/26

PROGRAM DATES:
3rd -5th July 2026

Contact:
rypen@rotary9510.org

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

RYLA Registrar

Position Description

A requirement for this position is to have a current Working With Children check and submit a Rotary Volunteer Declaration form to the District Protection Officer for verification.

The role involves monitoring and processing the online applications received via the RYLA9510.org website.

Attend the monthly committee meeting in person or via zoom and report on progress of applications.

Duties include:

- Acknowledging the receipt of each application and checking against the criteria for the program (i.e. age, location)
- To engage with the applicant to collect extra details via email/text/etc.
- Create an applicant details form to be forwarded to a potential sponsor club.
- To find a suitable Rotary Club to sponsor the applicant and liaise for the club to interview them.
- Advise applicants of the results.
- Follow up successful applicants to complete their health and dietary information sheets.
- To supply the program leadership team with applicant information for them to take over engagement with the applicant.
- Attending the first day of program to manage registrations and follow up any non attendees.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT: FLORIAN PLOECKL**
ryla@rotary9510.org



Every Rotary Member Has a Story

Behind every membership number is a personal journey — of service, change and connection.

Every Rotarian has a beginning story.

Someone invited them to a meeting.

They attended a project.

They met people who shared their desire to make a difference.

Membership numbers are often discussed across the district, but behind every number is a story like that.

This year in District 9510 we have welcomed over 100 new members into Rotary, while overall membership has moved from 1,773 members at the start of the Rotary year to 1,758 today — a net change of 15 members.

At first glance, a small decline can attract attention. But when we look more closely, the story becomes clearer.

Many of the changes in our membership reflect the natural rhythms of life. So far this year, 21 Rotarians across the district have sadly passed away, leaving behind decades of service, leadership and fellowship within their clubs and communities.

Looking at the longer-term picture reinforces this pattern. Between 2020 and 2025, District 9510 recorded 1,326 membership departures, including 97 Rotarians who passed away and 143 who relocated to another area.

Relocation in particular tells an important story.

When someone moves, they often leave their Rotary club — but that doesn't mean they need to leave Rotary.

For many members, this moment becomes what might be called a “sliding doors moment” in their Rotary journey.

One door closes — but another can open.

With a simple introduction between clubs, a member who might otherwise drift away from Rotary can instead find a new club, new friendships and new opportunities to serve in their new community.

Because when someone leaves a club, it doesn't have to mean they leave Rotary.

Another insight from the data is that sometimes we simply don't know why members leave.

A number of departures are recorded as “None Given.” Wherever possible, it helps clubs to record the reason when a member moves on. Understanding these reasons helps clubs strengthen the Rotary experience and respond to the changing realities of modern volunteering.

Rotary has always reflected the changing stages of people's lives — new members joining, long-serving members completing remarkable journeys of service, and others relocating and continuing their Rotary story elsewhere.

Membership is not simply about numbers.

It is about people, connections and continuity.

Every new Rotarian brings fresh ideas, fresh energy and new opportunities to serve. Every invitation, every conversation and every introduction to another club helps keep that story moving forward.

And I can see that across District 9510, that story continues to unfold — one member, one connection and one opportunity to serve at a time.



Rotary Promotional Ute

Do you need a ute to promote
a Rotary event?



Rotary 
District 9510

Contact David Fenton to learn more about opportunities to promote your event.

Christmas parades, annual shows, fundraisers, art shows, the opportunities are endless.

Drive it and promote the work of Rotary.

Email David - promoute@rotary9510.org



Vehicle supplied by Paradise Mazda





CLOSING SOON

Global Grant Scholarships

To all Rotarians

Do you know of any post-graduate student who is looking to further their education at an overseas university?

Did you know that each year District 9510 supports at least one person through an application to The Rotary Foundation for a scholarship grant of up to \$US30,000 for study at an overseas university.

Prospective scholars should be planning to pursue a career in one of The Rotary Foundation's seven areas of focus, therefore, the prospective post graduate degree should reflect this.

Applications for study this year in August, September or August are now open and will need to be submitted by mid-May.

Click on the links below to find out more:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/scholarships>

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050025/en-ca/files/homepage/rotarys-areas-of-focus-brochure/Rotary-s-Areas-of-Focus-Brochure.pdf>

Please spread the word...

Further details can be obtained from Maureen Phillips.

maureen.phillips18@gmail.com

0430 405 137



We are all leaders in Rotary and as such

You are invited to

join other Rotary members at the

CLUB LEADERS LEARNING SEMINAR

*formerly known as District Assembly
to connect, learn and workshop*

KEY NOTE SPEAKER
Peter Natrass from RAA

Principal Advisor Energy and Future Mobility



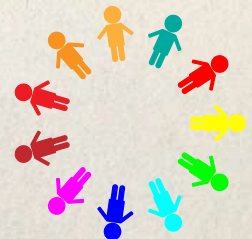
between: 9am - 3.30pm

on Sunday, 31st May

at: St Michael's College

15 Mitton Ave

Henley Beach SA 5022



Come and explore how we can

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Please register at the link below or QR code here:



<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50352/Events/pels-club-leaders-learning-seminar-registrati>





Next Sailing Challenge: **27 Sept - 1 October 2026**



Do you, or someone connected to your club know a young person aged 15 to 18 years that would benefit from facing the life-changing challenges experienced from learning to safely sail a tall ship at sea? Would your club sponsor them?

Cost to club : \$1290

**For more information visit www.youthsailing.com.au
or contact:**

David Binks 0438 221 937 or Don Will 0414 645 402

Check out our video at <https://vimeo.com/828257288>





2026 Rotary Leadership Institute courses

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

We, in District 9510 are invited to access the RLI courses offered virtually by District 9685, with the facilitators based in Sydney. Please consider taking up these excellent, cost effective learning opportunities.

RLI courses offer development opportunities for all Rotary members, newcomers to seasoned leaders seeking to refresh their skills to amplify their impact.

LEVEL ONE: RLI New Member Orientation Program

Supporting clubs to help orientate new members to Rotary, we are offering a 4-hour program which will help new members to begin to understand Rotary International with some hands-on tips on how to navigate the vastness that is Rotary.

Cost is only \$15

Level 1 Schedule

❖ via Zoom: SUNDAY 17th May 2026 9am – 1pm

❖ **DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SUNDAY!**

These courses are delivered by a team of district 9685 facilitators with all support materials provided.

visit - <https://rotarydistrict9685.org.au/sitepage/resources/rotary-leadership-institute> or connect with me.

Di Clements

(m) 0412305660



FOUNDATION MOMENTS

Quick insights into your charity — the Rotary Foundation

How Does The Rotary Foundation Recognize Rotary Clubs?

Donations to the Foundation are essential to securing and expanding our programs throughout the world. We recognize with gratitude clubs that make extraordinary contributions.

- **100% Paul Harris Fellow Club:** All members are Paul Harris Fellows (one-time banner)
- **100% Foundation Giving Club:** \$200+ per capita annually; each member gives \$25+ to Rotary funds.
- **Every Rotarian, Every Year Club:** \$100+ per capita annually; each member gives \$25+ to the Annual Fund.
- **Top Three Per Capita in Annual Fund Giving:** Sponsors in top three clubs in each district with the highest per capita Annual Fund giving.
- **100% Paul Harris Society Club:** Banner is awarded to clubs in which every member contributes at least \$1,000+ annually to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved global grant.
- **100% Rotary's Promise Club:** All members commit \$1,000 or more to the Endowment via gifts or estate plan. These clubs receive a certificate upon request.

 Will you help your club be recognized by the Foundation this year?

< Visit my.rotary.org/donate

The Rotary Foundation 




An Appreciation

Here is a list of donors to the fund sent to Graham Fussen's family in appreciation of the outstanding contribution he made to Rotary.

Lindsay Cook	Jenny Miller
David Egan	Angela Ellis
Marie-Louise Lees	Ian Renshaw
Bruce Richardson	Eric Russell
Derek Stow EMIB	Joanne Richardson
Rajeev Kamineni	Chris Knight



The total sent was \$2310, and on behalf of Diane and the rest of Graham's family the RC of D9510 online thanks all donors for their generous recognition of his contribution throughout the District, and indeed, throughout the Zone.



Global Grant call-out for assistance

Does your Club have an appetite to engage in a Global Grant project opportunity in Ethiopia addressing Education, Clean Water & Sport??

We have a call-out from the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa seeking an interested Club to partner with them.

For more information on their proposed project please click on this link [MORE INFORMATION](#)

To engage or get even more info please contact the District Foundation Chair, Peter Schaefer foundationchair@rotary9510.org

DISTRICT GRANTS

ACQUITTAL REMINDER

Reminder from the District Foundation Team to Club Presidents & Grant Controllers.

If you received a District Grant in September last year, you are reminded that acquittal of that grant is now due.

Many thanks to those who have already done so and for your cooperation.

For more information, please contact Grants Chair Julie Irwin Julie j.irwin011@gmail.com



Shelterbags for the Homeless Sleeping Rough in South Australia

New Season Shelterbags Arriving Soon!

By the time you read this our new shipment of Shelterbags should have arrived in SA and will soon be ready for collection.

Additional stock available at \$100/bag.

An advance order for 100 Shelterbags has also been placed for delivery mid-2026, to boost our stock level.

Thank you to all our project partner clubs who have already paid in full for their current order.



Any feedback on the project from our partner clubs would be most welcome.

Has your community outreach organisation had any Shelterbags returned to them, and have they been able to reuse them?

If your club is interested in joining as a partner club, or to find out more – contact:

Jenny Leadbeater M. 0404 247 803 or Richard Tucker (Project Manager) M. 0429 339 879

Or use our new Shelterbag email address: shelterbags@gawlerlightrotary.org



Murray Bridge
Rotary
Art Show



MURRAY
BRIDGE
REGIONAL
GALLERY

ART 2026 SHOW

ORIGINAL 2D - 3D & PHOTOGRAPHY
ALL WORKS ARE

FOR SALE

MURRAY BRIDGE REGIONAL GALLERY
SIXTH STREET MURRAY BRIDGE
HOSTED BY THE ROTARY CLUBS OF
MOBILONG & MURRAY BRIDGE
WWW.MURRAYBRIDGEARTSHOW.COM.AU

APRIL
SUN 26
MAY
SUN 24

CHECK GALLERY FOR HOURS





2025 First Prize Winner
Second Prize Three Falls Montacute
by Chloë Bower

CAMPBELLTOWN ART SHOW AND SALE

**9-16 May
2026**

Campbelltown Function Centre
172 Montacute Road, Rostrevor

\$5 entry includes program

Open daily, 10 am to 4 pm*

***Sunday 10 May, 10 am to 2 pm**

www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/artshow



CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF THE AFGHAN CAMELEERS



Tuesday June 9th 2026 CAPRI THEATRE ,GOODWOOD

THREE FILMS

Echos - Director: Ahmad Ebrahimi, 2024. In "Echoes," Lena, a resilient immigrant, navigates the challenges of displacement in a tent. Inside her tent, she grapples with the scars of her past, revealing the resilience and determination of those living on the margins of society.

Afghan Cameleer Documentary dircted by Fahim Hashimy Tells the story of the arrival & life of the cameleers

And I still Sang -an award-winning feature documentary directed by Afghan-Canadian filmmaker Fazila its raw "on-the-ground" look at the abrupt transition of power and its impact on Afghan artists and women.

TICKETS \$25

Includes: Film, drink & traditional Afghan Snack Bag



<https://tinyurl.com/mrnr46zm>

RAISING FUNDS TO EMPOWER WOMEN & GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN



**Afghan Cameleer Historian:
Pamela Rajkowski**



Rotary Peace Education Series (ROPES)

26-28 June 2026

Delivered by the Rotary Peace Centre, School of Political Science and International Studies at The University of Queensland, St Lucia (Australia)



You are invited to join the inaugural Rotary Peace Education Series at The University of Queensland, from 26-28 June 2026. This three-day, in-person program is tailored for Rotarians, their families, friends, and staff interested in enhancing their understanding of conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Led by experts from the Rotary Peace Centre and Rotary International, participants will explore current research on global conflicts, emerging peace challenges, and the role of gender and youth in these areas.

For more details, visit: [Rotary Peace Education Series | UQ Short Courses](#)





A CHRISTMAS IN JULY GALA



CELEBRATE THE SEASON AND GIVE BACK.
PROCEEDS GO THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE &
MURRAY BRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

MURRAY BRIDGE GOLF CLUB

JULY 25TH, 2026 4.30PM - 11.00PM APPROX.

1 RITTER STREET, MURRAY BRIDGE

LIMITED SEATS RSVP BY JULY 17TH, 2026

\$60 PER PERSON
CONTINUOUS RAFFLES, MAIN RAFFLES,
PRIZE FOR BEST CHRISTMAS DRESS
CASH BAR AND MORE

Murray Bridge
Rotary
Club



**STAY TUNED FOR A
NIGHT OF**



**FUN AND FRIVOLITY
LAUGHTER AND LUCK**



**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY 8 AUGUST, 2026**

MUSICAL



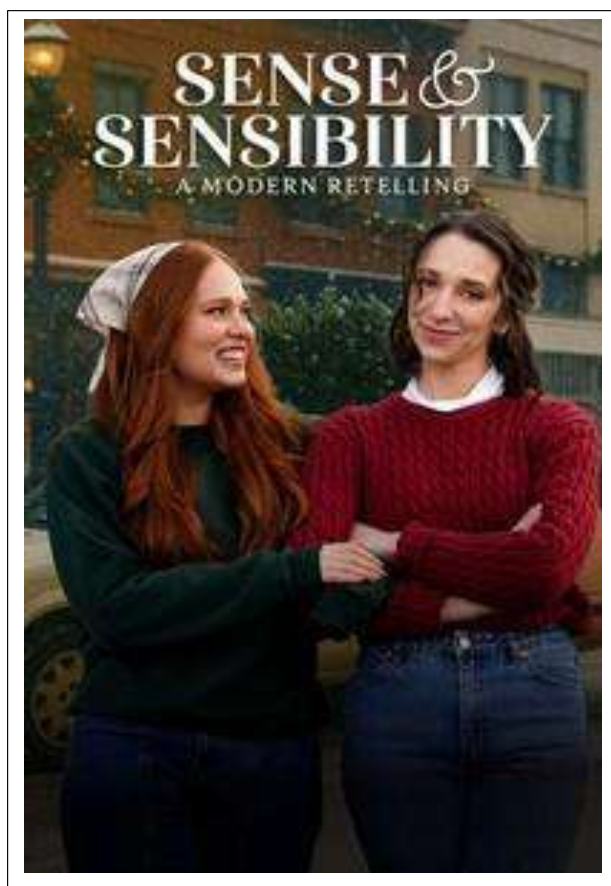
**GROUPS 1 & 3 FUNDRAISER
FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH
HOLDING A ROTARY EXHIBIT AT
THE ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW**



Australian Rotary Health movie fundraiser

Sunday 13th September 2026

SAVE the DATE



Sense and Sensibility is an upcoming film directed by [Georgia Oakley](#) and adapted by Diana Reid from [Jane Austen's](#) [novel](#). It stars [Daisy Edgar-Jones](#), [Esmé Creed-Miles](#), [Caitriona Balfe](#), [Frank Dillane](#), [Herbert Nordrum](#), [Bodhi Rae](#), [Breathnach](#), [George MacKay](#), and [Fiona Shaw](#).

After losing their father, sisters Elle and Mare return home to face grief-and each other. Elle is steady, responsible, and cautious, while Mare is impulsive, free-spirited, and quick to follow her heart. Their differences lead them down very different paths: Elle slowly opens up to a kind coworker, Eddie, while Mare throws herself into a whirlwind romance with musician Will. When both relationships face unexpected trials, the sisters' assumptions about love, life, and each other are tested.

All funds raised will be donated to

Australian Rotary Health mental health research





“HEALTH OF THE RIVER” 2026 ROTARY YOUTH FORUM

MONDAY 14th – FRIDAY 18th September, 2026

CALPERUM STATION, Renmark, South Australia

OPEN TO YEAR 9 and 10 STUDENTS

Are you curious about the Natural World ?

Are you interested in Ecology and the Environment?

Are you interested in protecting the Environment?



This 5 day forum provides hands on learning and mentoring from specialist ecologists and researchers on a working conservation and research property, with an emphasis on “River Health”

Supported by Rotary Clubs, the forum provides transport, accommodation, meals and exceptional learning experiences.

Activities will include a focus on sustainable water management and irrigation practices, salinity issues and environmental flows, conservation, land degradation and rehabilitation and more.

<https://rotary9510.org/sitepage/youth/health-of-the-river-forum>

Cost for local Rotary Club: \$800

Additional fee from student (family): \$50

Enquiries: Registrar Mary-Anne Hannay Ph: 0402 247 462

Email: healthoftheriver@rotary9510.org

Date: 11 March 2026



MAINTAINING TIMOR LESTE MALARIA-FREE STATUS

Why Talking with Our Neighbours Matters

In 2024, malaria affected an estimated 282 million people worldwide, causing approximately 610,000 deaths. After years of progress, recent increases—driven in part by reduced funding—highlight that the fight is far from over.

For Rotary, this is a call to action.

Australian Rotarians Against Malaria (ARAM) continues to play a vital role in reducing malaria across our region, working in partnership with communities in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Timor-Leste.

A Milestone Worth Celebrating

In July 2025, Timor-Leste was officially declared malaria-free by the World Health Organization—a remarkable achievement.

- Over 223,000 cases in 2006
- Zero locally transmitted cases by 2021
- No malaria-related deaths since 2015

This success reflects years of sustained collaboration between governments, health workers, NGOs, and Rotary-supported initiatives. ARAM has been proud to contribute to this life-changing outcome.

The Challenge: Staying Malaria-Free

Elimination is not the end—it's the beginning of a new phase.

Timor-Leste shares a complex border with West Timor, part of Indonesia, where malaria remains present. While Indonesia is making strong progress towards elimination by 2030, the risk of reintroduction remains real.

Ongoing vigilance is essential.

This includes:

- Strong cross-border cooperation
- Continued surveillance and rapid response
- Sustained community engagement

For Rotarians, this reinforces a simple truth: **health security doesn't stop at borders.**

Rotary in Action

ARAM has recently applied for a new Global Grant to support malaria control efforts in West Timor, with strong backing from Rotary Districts through District Designated Funds (DDF).

This is Rotary at its best—regional collaboration, practical action, and measurable impact.

Looking Ahead

So far, 47 countries have eliminated malaria. Each success brings us closer to a malaria-free world—but only if we maintain momentum.

Timor-Leste's achievement shows what's possible. Now, the focus shifts to protecting that success and supporting neighbouring regions to reach the same goal.

Because in the fight against malaria, we succeed together—or not at all.

And when global eradication is finally achieved, it will be a celebration worthy of Rotary's enduring commitment to service above self.





Falls Among Older Adults: The Silent Daily Crisis



To help call for national action on falls prevention, the Rotary Falls Prevention Project has helped to form the recently launched Falls Prevention Alliance Australia. The Alliance has become a Partner in Service with Rotary South Pacific. In compliment with the Rotary Falls Prevention Project, the Alliance is calling on Rotarians and Rotaractors to become a member of the Alliance and join in its work. Use the QR code below to get more information on how you and your club can contribute.



Every 2.5 minutes an older person presents to an emergency department because of a fall

The science is clear – many falls are preventable. Just as campaigns for seatbelt use or sun safety have saved lives, simple, proven strategies can make a difference:

- Strength and balance exercises
- Safer home environments (good lighting, removing trip hazards)
- Community awareness and education

Experts believe that with the right investment, including a mass media campaign, a third of falls could be prevented within 12 months. That's a huge potential win for public health.

The Rotary South Pacific Falls Prevention Project has been developed in response to this.

The Project team are preparing a comprehensive toolkit to equip Rotary Clubs and community groups with resources to call for a mass media campaign and to share the falls prevention message in their communities. It will include:

- A dedicated website
- Educational videos and flyers
- Guest speakers for awareness campaigns
- Clear steps for local action

Stay tuned, the project will be shared with Clubs in 2026. For more information email RotaryFallsPrevention@gmail.com.

Michael Caton video- Click the link below

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLul4AXv0d4>



AUSTRALIA HAS OFFICIALLY ELIMINATED TRACHOMA: WHAT NEXT?



Milpa (Walpiri for “eye”) the Clever Goanna, a health promotion strategy developed by the University of Melbourne Indigenous Eye Health Unit (Minum Barreng). Photo taken by Rotarian Kerre Willsher at Santa Teresa, NT, March 2019.

On 29 April 2026, Australia became the 30th country to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem—a remarkable milestone driven in large part by the sustained efforts of Rotary across the nation. Through the End Trachoma project, more than 250 Rotary Clubs mobilised volunteers, funding, and community support to tackle this preventable cause of blindness.

Trachoma, an infectious eye disease caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis*, thrives in conditions of overcrowding and poor hygiene, with repeated infections leading to severe pain and blindness. Rotary’s contribution focused strongly on prevention, aligning with the WHO-endorsed S.A.F.E. strategy. Clubs supported the “F” and “E” components—facial cleanliness and environmental improvement—by assembling and distributing toiletry kits, funding community washing machines, and promoting hygiene education in at-risk communities.

Rotarians went beyond fundraising, with many travelling to remote areas of the Northern Territory and Western Australia, advocating within their districts, and building partnerships with Indigenous organisations, health agencies, and NGOs. Their commitment ensured practical, on-the-ground support reached the communities most in need.

Although elimination has been achieved, Rotary recognises that the work is not finished. Ongoing screening and continued attention to social determinants such as housing and access to basic hygiene resources are essential to prevent re-emergence.

This achievement stands as a powerful example of Rotary in action—demonstrating how collaboration, persistence, and a shared belief that no one should go blind from a preventable disease can deliver lasting change.





April Classifieds

End Polio - Zone/International update

POLIO IN NUMBERS

Year – Global totals (data @ 24 March 2026)	2026 ytd	2025	2024
Wild Polio Virus (WPV)	1	40	99
circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus (cVDPV)	18	219	463

News

World Immunization
Week 2026

[Visit endpolio.org](https://endpolio.org)

Read the [news feature](#).



Rotary and our partners commemorate World Immunization Week, 24-30 April every year, to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination and highlight the success of our polio eradication efforts.

As an organization that is committed to eradicating polio as well as to **fighting disease** and **improving maternal and child health**, Rotary recognizes World Immunization Week as an ideal opportunity for Rotary and Rotaract clubs to engage in these kinds of activities:

- Invite a local health care worker to speak at your club about the importance of vaccinations.
- Host an event in your community to raise funds for PolioPlus to educate people and raise awareness about Rotary’s work toward eradicating polio.
- Include a End Polio fundraising tin/bucket at all events. Any donation is welcome!



Interplast

You could help change a child's future in just two hours

Right now, children like Risati in Samoa are waiting. At just 3 years old, he has already undergone two surgeries for a cleft lip and palate—and still needs further surgery on his hands to live a full, independent life. Risati's is not an isolated story



Risati with his dad after his cleft lip and palate surgeries

For many of us here in Australia or New Zealand, access to safe surgery is something we rarely think about. But across parts of the Pacific and South-East Asia, conditions that are routinely treated in Australia or New Zealand can leave children and adults facing a lifetime of pain, disability, and stigma.

That's why the work of INTERPLAST matters so deeply.

Since being co-founded by Rotary in 1983, INTERPLAST has helped deliver more than 23,000 life-changing surgeries and trained local clinicians to continue that care within their own communities.

They are the direct result of Rotary clubs quietly working together to create lasting change.

Across 2025 and 2026, Rotary clubs throughout Australia and New Zealand have funded:

- ✦ Surgical and training programs in Bhutan and Tonga
- ✦ Nurse education workshops in Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, and Kiribati
- ✦ Online specialist training for allied health clinicians across the Pacific

The impact reaches far beyond one patient:

- A child can eat, speak, and smile without stigma
- A burns survivor can regain independence
- Local clinicians gain skills that strengthen healthcare for entire communities

But children like Risati are still waiting.

\$1500 from a Rotary club can fund surgery for a child like him: transforming not only their health, but their future.

As we approach the end of the Rotary year, this is a powerful opportunity to make a real difference.

Could your club help change the next life?

For more information about INTERPLAST please go to <https://interplast.org.au> or reach out to Marie-louise 0408 134 36



Rotary Clubs Invited to Support Local Children's Charity

Earlier this year, the Rotary Club of Somerton Park commenced a volunteer partnership with Treasure Boxes, a grassroots charity based in Edwardstown supporting children and families in crisis.

Treasure Boxes provides essential items to ensure no child goes without life's basics. Their work is strengthened by Rotary volunteers, including members of the Rotary Club of Somerton Park, who assist with sorting clothing, packing bags, and preparing supplies for families in need.

The Somerton Park club currently volunteers one Friday each month, with a team of nine registered members. The initiative offers a flexible and rewarding opportunity, with options for both group participation and individual volunteering.

Rotary Clubs seeking a meaningful community project, guest speaker, or partnership opportunity are encouraged to get involved.

For more information, contact Treasure Boxes Partnerships Manager Rajini Vasan at rajini.vasan@treasureboxes.org.au, or Barb Humphries at thehumpies@yahoo.com.au





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WINE FROM
KAESLER WINES

EXCELLENT QUALITY
FROM THE CLARE
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SUPPORTS POLIO
ERADICATION,
SHELTER BOX AND
SUPPLY OF
OVERSEAS MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT

\$160 PER DOZEN

\$80 PER HALF
DOZEN

STIRLING ROTARY CLUB

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