



# Rotary Matters

April 2021 DG Newsletter



Dear fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

The District 9510 Conference is happening very soon! I can't believe how quickly it has arrived. The Conference Committee has put in a massive effort to plan an exciting, informative and fun Conference at Westminster. You still have time to register if you want to come along and catch up with Rotary friends.

Lyn and I have continued visiting clubs within our District travelling to Peterborough, Broken Hill and then touching base with the 6 clubs in Sunraysia. There were also many great projects happening which we have been fortunate to attend. These include International Women's Day breakfast, The Longest Lunch in Mildura, Murray Bridge Golf Day, the Goolwa Art and Photographic Exhibition (open until Monday 5th April), Rotaract Club of Adelaide Uni 11th Birthday, and the 10-year celebration of Clare's Rotary Shed. There were other events we could not make due to commitments including Campbelltown's Classics in the Park and Onkaparinga's Rotary Lego Expo. It is great that many events are resuming after a tough 12 months with COVID restrictions. Congratulations to these clubs. Lyn and I thank you for giving us the opportunity to be a part of your events.



The Longest Lunch has been a project of Mildura Deakin for the past 20 years. This annual event has taken place at several locations over the years including the riverbank and railway station. Its home is now along the vine covered walkway outside the Mildura Grand Hotel heading up Langtree Avenue and caters for 150 guests. Last year it was cancelled with 2 days' notice due to COVID-19 so this year was well patronised and enjoyed by all including Lyn and myself. Entertainment was provided by talented AG Gary Klippel.

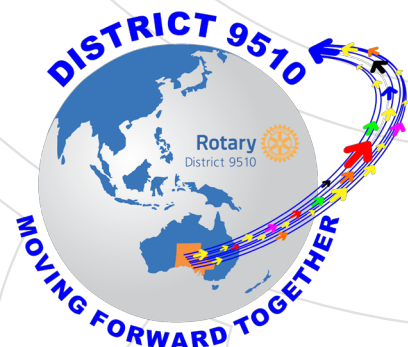
Thanks Mildura Deakin, a great day. If you want to see photos and follow our movements in more detail follow us on D9510 Facebook.

**LAST CHANCE - REGISTRATIONS CLOSE Monday 5th APRIL (in 4 days)**

Don't miss this great opportunity for learning and fellowship.

The Conference Dinner will be held at the Convention Centre and includes a 3-hour drink package.

The Gala Dinner will be a celebration of the Centenary of Rotary in Australia



*continued over ...*

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE 16th-18th APRIL 2021

### Friday's Program 16th April

Registrations - Forder Centre from 9am  
Opening Plenary Session begins at 1:30pm

### Saturday's Program 17th April

Optional Foundation Breakfast 6.45am - 8am  
Plenary Sessions Resume 9am -12:30pm  
Lunch  
Plenary Sessions Resume 1:25pm -3:45pm

### Gala Dinner

*Centenary of Fashion Gala Dinner 7pm*

- Convention Centre – Panorama Room
- 3 hour drink package included
- Music from the band The Embers
- Celebrate 100 years of Rotary Downunder

### Sunday's Program 18th April

Plenary Sessions Resume 9am - 12:45pm  
Farewell lunch

**REGISTER  
TODAY**



please note Registrations close on Monday 5th April

## April: **MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH** Month



Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger.

We expand access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. An estimated 5.9 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation — all of which can be prevented.

Rotary provides education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV

transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from disease.

## **ROTARY GIVE EVERY CHILD A FUTURE**

The Rotary Give Every Child A Future project will celebrate 100 years of Rotary service in Australia and New Zealand and in collaboration with UNICEF, plan to vaccinate the most disadvantaged children and adolescent girls across the Pacific. Currently 1 in 16 children die before their 5th birthday because they are not vaccinated. Districts across Zone 8 have pledged support for this project through contributions from District Foundation funding. Across 9 Pacific nations, we will help introduce 3 lifesaving vaccinations to prevent diseases like cervical cancer, severe diarrhea, pneumonia, blood infection and meningitis. Rotary's support will also help sustain the local health system for the sustainable delivery of vaccinations so that future generations will continue to benefit in the long term. A truly inspiring Rotary legacy. District 9510 has pledged \$15,000 for this year which matches the combined contribution by D9500 & D9520 last year. Clubs are encouraged individually to contribute to this project.

Explore more at <https://everychildafuture.com> [See Video Click here](#)

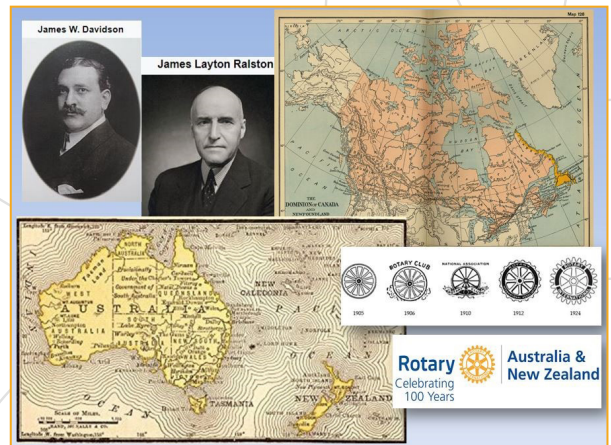


## CENTENARY OF ROTARY

*The Argus, Melbourne Saturday 26th March 1921:*

"Lieut.-Colonel J L Ralston, CMG, DSO, KC, and Mr. James W Davidson are visiting Australia as commissioners for the extension among professional and businessmen of the 'Rotary Club' movement which claims about 80,000 members in Canada, the British Isles and the United States.

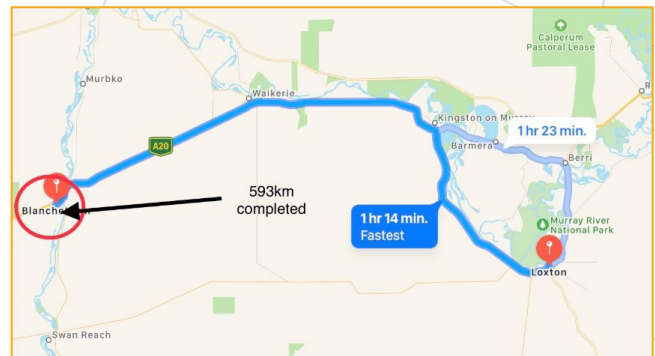
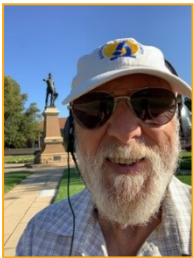
The Rotary Club movement had its beginning in 1905 and has for its slogan 'He profits most who serves best'. In each club there can only be one representative of each line of business and each profession. Its aim is to encourage and foster high ethical standards in business and profession." Ralston and Davidson only met in Los Angeles on their trip to Australia and New Zealand. But from their endeavours, within weeks, the first Rotary meetings were conducted in Melbourne, Sydney, Wellington, and Auckland.



From there, our history Down Under began!!

**21st April 2021 Rotary Club of Melbourne celebrates its 100th anniversary.**

## Russell Green from RC Regency Park continuing his Virtual Ride to Conference



Broken Hill - Mildura - Renmark - Berri - Loxton - Nuriootpa - Gawler - Adelaide – Conference - total distance of 750km. Two weeks ago Russell suffered a bout Bursitis in the shoulder causing pain when he rode, so he took a course of cortisone injections. During this time, rather than ride, Russell decided to walk for a few days completing 10km on 23rd March which bought him closer to Renmark and 400km completed. Russell is back in the saddle and on task with his latest ride seeing him complete 593km and is now near Blanchetown.

Russell is raising money for Australian Rotary Health's research into Mental Illness. You or your club can sponsor Russell by [clicking here](#).

You can also ride with Russell or create your own challenge to gain sponsorship using the same link.

Yours in Rotary  
*DG David Jones*





# Notice Board

Presented by The Rotary Club of Goolwa



## 2021 Goolwa Art & Photographic EXHIBITION

Incorporating the Alexandrina Art Prize

Saturday 27th March to Monday 5th April  
(includes Easter)



**SIGNAL POINT GALLERY**  
Wharf Precinct, Goolwa



Send your Rotary Classified to  
[secretary20-22@rotary9510.org](mailto:secretary20-22@rotary9510.org)

by 7th of the month

### Newsletter Editor

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## Drought relief gift cards

Our Rotary clubs have been distributing gift cards valued at \$175,000 to farming families who have been affected by the Drought in South Australia in the past three weeks. This is part of the Federal Government Drought Communities Outreach Program, [DCOP] in conjunction with RAWCS, with gift cards to the value of \$500 each. Rotary District 9510, led by PDG Bob Cooper, has already underwritten 45 Drought Relief projects to the value of \$225,000.

Over 100 Farmers who received hay from Rotary were also sent \$500 gift cards. This amounted to over \$50,000.

The other gift cards were distributed through a cluster of events in five towns, Cowell, Cleve, Elliston, Wudinna and Kimba on Eyre Peninsula. Amount distributed \$75,500. The Rotary Clubs of **Pt Lincoln, Whyalla and Whyalla Norrie** provided free BBQ meals and drinks for over 300 attendees at the events.



'We were so lucky to have the wonderful Mary O'Brien on tour with us, spreading the important health and wellbeing message "are you Boggled mate" across Eyre Peninsula', PDG Bob said.



Also, at a cluster of events at Quorn, Wilmington, Peterborough, Burra, Robertstown, Eudunda and Waikerie, \$48,000 Gift Cards distributed. The Rotary Clubs of **Port Augusta, Clare, Kapunda and Waikerie** also provided free BBQ meals and drinks for more than 200 attendees.

The final group of DCOP events were at Pinnaroo, Karoonda, Tailem Bend and Keith. Over \$50,000 worth \$500 gift cards application forms were distributed to farming families. The Rotary Clubs of **Loxton, Murray**

**Bridge, Tailem Bend and Bordertown (D9780)** provided free BBQ meals and drinks for over 200 attendees.

The following message was received from the Prime Minister and Cabinet office -

*'The DCOP Coordinator General is travelling through regional South Australia where they have received a little rain but are struggling with the worst drought conditions for 90 years.'*

*Rotary has been doing some great work over here arranging hay drops and supporting communities, everybody has been extremely complimentary of the work you have all been doing'.*





## CALPERUM'S NEW SET OF WHEELS

**Rotary Club of Mitcham** member and Calperum volunteer, David Gooley, saw a need for a better vehicle than the old ATV, (a Quad Bike) being used in 2019 at Calperum Station for watering, restoration and vegetation work across the vast Mallee and river flats area. After discussion with Calperum staff and a few Rotarians knowledgeable in these vehicles, David raised a project in July 2019, backed by the Mitcham Club to supply a RTV, a better designed and safer vehicle.

The project cost was \$21,340, for the vehicle and an optional roof.



*Picture: David Gooley inspecting the new Kubota RTV X900 utility vehicle*

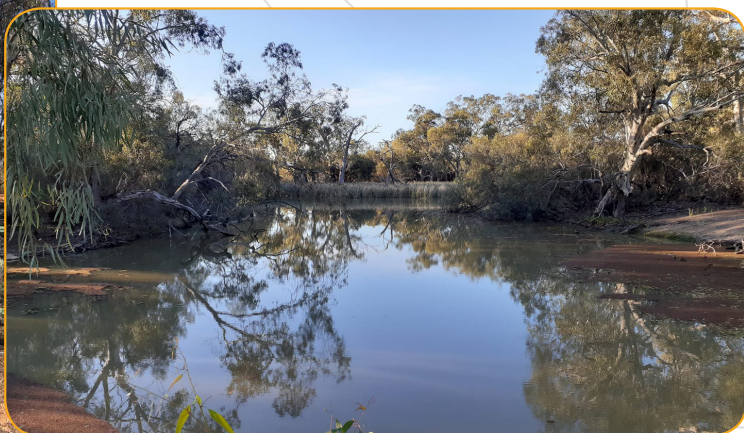
Initial support was slow in coming. In February 2020, David heavily advertised the project by writing to Clubs in both Districts. Donations were received during February and March, including a District Grant, amounting to \$19,000. Confidence of reaching the target was high. Unfortunately COVID 19 and its restrictions stepped in and two donations were cancelled and the District Grant was halved reducing the amount raised to \$14,000.

A decision was made to seek a second hand vehicle but couldn't be sourced.

Rotary International came to the project's aid. The time for the completion of projects was extended to April 2021 to give Clubs a good chance of completing them. Clubs that showed interest in but did not donate were written to again and presentations were made to others, hoping they may reconsider making a donation. 3 Clubs donated \$4,000 between them, leaving a requirement of \$1000 which Austland Services at Calperum donated. The roof was cancelled.

In November 2020, the supplier Grower Services at Renmark were contacted again, advising them we were ready to purchase. They had agreed to hold the August 2019 quoted price. Unfortunately there were no examples of the Kubota model available in Australia. Together with Kubota Aust, Grower Services offered an example of the next model higher in the range. This was gratefully accepted and delivery occurred in December.

Thanks to all the contributors who were the Rotary Clubs of **Adelaide, St. Peters, Mitcham, West Lakes, Barossa Districts, Waikerie, Prospect, Mt. Barker and Clare** plus a donation from the **Calperum and the Environment committee (CATE)**, Austland Services and the District Grant.





## Cudlee Creek Bushfire Fencing Project extended

The **Rotary Club of Onkaparinga** is facing the closure of the Government funded Lobethal Bushfire Recovery Centre at the end of March 2021. However there are still many outstanding requests for fencing to be filled and the club's fencing group expects to continue for another year. Blaze Aid left months ago and many of its members have now joined the club as volunteers.

The work all started in Jan 2020. An average of seven fencing crews, club members and volunteers, are out each week over three days – Tuesdays to Thursdays. Jobs might be started but cannot be completed in a "simple start to finish" process as there are many compounding issues: damaged fence-line clearing, removal of obstacles including trees, debris left after the bushfire, availability of required materials, property owners settling agreements with neighbours regarding costs and type of fencing, and contractors' time schedules (used for fence-line clearing and driving in posts).



*Kenton Valley - Straining the other end of a section*

The ever increasing number of jobs still on the books is an added challenge. As property owners come to terms with their situation and the Recovery Centre closes, we are receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance each day.

There are significant issues affecting operations. Financial challenges are ever present. The club gets funds from the RAWCS Disaster Fund, government grants, community organizations and ad hoc donors. Submissions have to be written for each one. There have been bushfires in other parts of the State this season (Lucindale and Cherry Gardens) which is restricting supplies. Volunteers are wearing out. Some weeks there are only enough for one team.

Property owners come in all shapes and sizes. Some are farmers of longstanding and would normally do any fencing themselves and poke along when time permitted, others are farmers who are now well into their seventies and eighties and have lost houses, woolsheds and much loved machinery collected over a lifetime as well as stock. There are hobby farmers who have jobs in the city and attend to their blocks only at odd times. There are people who are new to owning land and have little idea about fencing and costs of fencing. Every single person that we do fencing for is deeply grateful. Many people will thank the volunteers perhaps twenty or thirty times in the last hour of work. Some will work alongside the volunteers all day while others come and go during the day and some just leave for the day. Most will offer food – smoko of cake and coffee, sometimes a home-cooked lunch or a sausage sizzle, and often property owners will buy slabs of beer for Thursday afternoon drinks back at the shed to finish the week. Many are still emotionally traumatized and very fragile and overwhelmed at the amount of work that can be done by one or more fencing teams in a day. A few strong men and women have teared up.

The Fencing Group is aware that insurance for fencing is a fraught thing. Farmers can and do insure for fencing but hobby farmers are an in-between group and many find that fences were not included. We are aware that at the beginning of the fencing program contract fencers in The Hills were charging about \$20 000 per km. Over the course of last year and this year some contractors are now charging \$80 000 per km. Our fencers enjoy the camaraderie of working together - many of the former Blaze-Aid fencers have worked together with Rotarians for over a year – and all enjoy being out in some beautiful locations. We are well recognised in the community as doing an amazing job. There are lots of laughs as we live to the Rotary motto of Service Above Self.

Rotarians are invited to come and work alongside a team (8:30 -3:00) or to join the Fencing Group for drinks at the Rotary Shed, in the maintenance section of the old Onkaparinga Mill (now Henstock metal fabrication) in Lobethal from 4-5 every Thursday afternoon.

Gordon Brice

## Citations for Rotarians

### Wendy Gaborit OAM

Wendy Gaborit has been a community leader in the Murraylands for over three decades. She co-founded the Rockleigh Landcare Group and was its inaugural secretary. She introduced Farm Stays and served on the SA Farm Stays Tourism committee. She was elected as a member of the inaugural Mid-Murray District Council and offered herself for pre-selection (the only woman candidate) for the State seat of Hammond. She was also a strong candidate for the Mayoralty of Murray Bridge a year or two later.

Wendy developed Community Lifestyles supporting people with a disability in the Murraylands and continues as one of its trustees. She serves on the Murray Bridge Disaster committee and the Board of the Murraylands Retirement Village. She is currently Operations Manager at Housing SA.

In Rotary, Wendy was D9520's first female District Governor in 2013-14 after joining Rotary at the RC Mobilong on Dec 1 2005. She transferred to RC St Peters on Dec 12 2020. She has been a member of the Rotary International Women's Council and was the RI Zone 8 Public Image Coordinator for 3 years.

With the RC Murray Bridge she established the Murray Bridge Cultural Festival and more recently with that club and RC Tailem Bend, the Murray Bridge Foodhub for which she raised \$100,000 to establish.

Wendy also reactivated the Rotary Art Show in Murray Bridge and established a week long Sculptfest where visiting artists created sculptures on site in parks and gardens around Murray Bridge.



## New project to eliminate malaria in the Solomons

Each year, in the world more than 400,000 people die of malaria – a preventable and treatable disease. An estimated two thirds of deaths are among children under the age of five.

By the end of this calendar year D9510, working in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Honiara and the Solomon Islands National Malaria Control Programme, will conduct household active case detection (ACD) in households in high transmission areas of Honiara.

The selected area of high transmission is along the Mataniko river in Honiara. Teams will be based at the Mataniko Clinic and will visit every household in defined areas. Rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) will be conducted for people who are showing symptoms of a fever. Treatments will be given to positive cases and they will be followed up. The overall objective is to reduce malaria by increasing the diagnosis and treatment of suspected malaria cases as part of an overall malaria control strategy.

If your club would like a guest speaker on the project contact Cherilyn (cherilynf@optusnet.com.au),

Cherilyn Fleming  
Rotarians Against Malaria



**ROTARIANS  
AGAINST MALARIA**



## Citations for Rotarians

### **Peter Rostron OAM**

Peter is a charter member of the RC Tea Tree Gully and was District Governor D9500 in 2002-03. He has achieved 46 years of Service Above Self and has been particularly outstanding for his leadership with water and sanitation projects in developing countries.

Peter has always been enthusiastically involved in community work. This began in his younger days when he was first a cub, then a scout, played tennis and was a gymnast. As a young man he conducted a gymnasium class at Clarence Gardens.

After his marriage when he moved to Tea Tree Gully, he started, with others, the Tea Tree Gully Boys Club. The club expanded to cater for girls and was eventually renamed the Tea Tree Gully Youth Club. Peter also served as President.

He was inaugural President of Banksia Park High School P.T.A. and a member of Banksia Park High School Council, was a netball coach and was an active member of the large Jaycee organisation, eventually becoming State President. He was Chairman of the City of Tea Tree Gully Community Fund Grants Committee.

Some of his significant achievements through Rotary are:

- 1996-97 Chairman of joint District committee which raised \$100,000 for a Rehabilitation Unit at the Adelaide Women's and Children's Hospital
- 1999-2009 Led the Emergency Medical Information Book project with the Rotary Clubs of Tea Tree Gully, Modbury and Golden Grove. He still serves on this committee
- 2002 until 2013 Regional Chair/member of Rotary Australia World Community Service Save Water Save Lives Committee
- Joint District coordinator of a project to supply Solar Water Purifiers to third world countries.
- Member of Gully Assemblers, who undertook the assembling of the Solar Water Purifiers for distribution wherever needed.
- 2004 – 2007 District 9500 Rotary Foundation Chairman
- 2006-2010 Trustee Australian Rotary Foundation Trust
- 2005 – 2011 Australian Coordinator Water and Sanitation
- 2009 - 2011 International Board member Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group (Oceania representative)
- 2009-2011 Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator
- 2011 Recipient of Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service
- In October 2005, Peter represented Safe Water Saves Lives committee at a Project Fair in Ghana, Africa, by taking and displaying a solar water purifier to representatives from various African Nations - Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Togo, Burkina Faso, Benin and Niger. Projects in various States followed.
- 2010 The Australian Coordinator of major Sanitation Project in Philippines, to install a Sanitation Treatment Plant, then install toilets to 400 houses on stilts in the harbor, and in a nearby market place and bus station.
- 2010 – 2013 Australian Coordinator of water projects in Kenya.
- 2015 – 2018 District Coordinator of water projects in Ethiopia
- 2017 – 2019 Coordinator water and sanitation projects in India



## New roof for Ugandan refugee centre

The **University of Adelaide Rotaract Club**, through its sister club Nakivale Rotaract Club, has funded the re-roofing of the sewing centre at the Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda.

The Centre was established in 2018 to empower women in the community. Unfortunately at the end of 2019, strong winds that led to the collapse of many houses in the refugee camp, also destroyed the sewing centre roof.

Wajan Abumustafa  
President (2021)



## Cambodia poultry farmers supported by Gawler Light

The Outgrower project of the **Rotary Club of Gawler Light** aims to raise income levels in rural communities through sustainable poultry microenterprises. Through expert-led training in poultry management, mentoring in running a business, and social investment to set up the shed and equipment, the Outgrower farmers are given all the tools they need to start their own small business and be in control of their income potential.

The project has so far established 6 Outgrower farms in 2 rural communities in Siem Reap province.

Funding is now committed from the club for 2 more. Farmers are achieving 86% survival rates to point-of-sale, earning an average profit from sale of chickens of AUD300 per cycle. Our data shows the potential for Outgrower farmers to increase their annual household income by around 60%, as a result of being on the project. In real life terms, this is the difference between children continuing at school or not.

With encouragement from the Cambodian government, the next step is to expand the project into more households to scale our impact and make a meaningful difference to income at a community level. In order to do this, funding is now needed for 12 more sheds by July 2021. Just AUD3000 gives a farmer everything they need to start their business and change their future.

If other clubs are interested please call Duncan at 0419 472 802. Tax deductible gifts are available.

Duncan Power  
RC Gawler Light





## Goolwa funding backpack beds for the homeless

The **Rotary Club of Goolwa** is providing Backpack Beds (\$440 for 4) this winter for the homeless. In addition it has a pack of 10 sleeping bags for couch surfers and those sleeping in cars.

Tony Clark, the Founder/Chairman of Backpack Beds, was a 1992 Rotary Youth Exchange student to Finland. Rotary Exchange students fundraise to provide Backpack Beds for the homeless.

Goolwa has been working with the Adelaide Day Centre for Homeless (Men). If other clubs are interested Joyce van der Sman is the contact there on 82237393.

Duncan Norris Director Community



**Australia's highest honour**  
– **Best Community Organisation**  
– **Awarded by the Australian Human Rights Commission.**

*Established in Melbourne 2007, national charity Backpack Bed for Homeless (formerly Swags for Homeless) has revolutionised the question of what to do when homeless have no shelter.*

*Founder Tony Clark and his wife Lisa designed the life-saving Backpack Bed emergency bed to give dignity to homeless people without shelter.*

*"With only 3 full time staff – we work incredibly hard. We believe there is no greater gift, than giving someone dignity." Tony & Lisa Clark*

## Meet your neighbours...

### An ongoing series introducing the clubs in the District

Clubs are invited to submit a story about themselves of around 200 words and a photo. We would like to include as many clubs as we can throughout the year so please keep them coming. (The Editor - Euan Miller) email: [euan@gdaysa.com.au](mailto:euan@gdaysa.com.au)