



DISTRICT 9800 NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023

From District Rotary Foundation Chair Grant Hocking

It has been a busy first 6 months of the Rotary year in the Foundation space with lots of activity. The purpose of this D9800 Foundation newsletter is to keep Rotarians informed of these activities by providing a summary of these activities and an update of what is important in the coming months.

The District Foundation Personnel

The District Foundation Committee

May I introduce the team of wonderful dedicated Rotarians who make up the District Foundation Committee working beyond the club at the district level. The committee meets every 2 months and has a full agenda with everyone contributing and ensuring Foundation activities and goals are met.

Position	
District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC)	PDG Grant Hocking
Deputy Chair	Murray Verso
Communications / Administration Coordination	Jane Pennington
Humanitarian Grants - District and Global	Richard Blakeman
Foundation Stewardship	Frank Warner
Fundraising Chair	PDG Philip Archer
Annual Giving Program	PDG Dennis Shore
Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) - Centurion	Amrit Singh
Endowment Fund Programs	PDG Ian Knight OAM
Paul Harris Society and Major Donors	PDG Julie Mason AM
Paul Harris Society Deputy Chair	Peter Shepheard
PolioPlus Program	Catherine O'Connor
Polio Plus Society	Jane Pennington
End Polio Film Club Coordinator	Peter Shepheard
Rotary Peace Fellows Program	PDG Dennis Shore
TRF Post Graduate Global Grant Scholarships	David Gorman
TRF Post Graduate Global Grant Scholarships Deputy Chair	PDG Keith Ryall
VTT (Vocational Training Teams)	PDG Julie Mason
The Royce & Jean Abbey Vocational Scholarships and Awards Program	David Abbey
Peace Building Program	Gabe Hau
Foundation Alumni	PDG Keith Ryall

The Foundation Grants Committee

Additionally the members of the **Foundation Grants Committee** meet every month and deal with applications on line as needed. This committee is lead by Richard Blakeman and includes Frank Warner, myself and the DGEN (DG Amanda, DGE Ron and DGN Michael) as able.

Please contact Foundation Grants Chair, Richard Blakeman to discuss your club projects that may qualify for a Foundation grant. Email: Foundation.Grants@rotary9800.org

You will find more information about our grant guidelines, application forms and all contact details on the District Foundation website. <https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/foundation>

Foundation Humanitarian Grants

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) has changed the rules regarding the expenditure/rolling over of unused DDF. Going forward, after 5 years unused DDF will automatically revert to the world fund and districts will lose it. Prior to money reverting to the world fund, districts will be invited to expend the funds on items such as polio or the peace centres. It is highly unlikely that D9800 be in this position as our DDF will be tracked very carefully and if not utilised by clubs will be donated to RI projects.

The D9800 **Annual Fund Share** this year was \$158,302 (= 50% of funds donated to TRF by D9800 individuals and clubs 3 years ago). The **Annual Fund Share** is then allocated to the following 2 areas.

1. The amount we will use for District Grants (Local and International) which is called the **Block Grant**. The Block Grant are the funds to be used for Local and International Grants and our Year 11-12 school scholarships. This year the block grant amount of US\$65k has been approved by TRF.
2. The remaining funds are used for Global Grants and RI projects. The following amounts have been allocated for the 22-23 Rotary Year
 - VTT Timor Leste D9560 \$5000
 - GECAF Rotavirus Kiribati \$10,000
 - Global Scholars (Hannah Gandy and Antonia Kent) - \$34,000
 - Polio Plus \$25,000
 - Peace centres (Peace Builder District) \$25,000
 - RAM Indonesia- \$7500
 - GECAF HPV Kiribati \$7500

Applications for grants remain a little slow compared to pre-pandemic numbers but are an improvement on last year so we expect clubs to increase their requests in the final 6 months of this 22-23 Rotary year. The Year 11-12 school scholarships have once again been well supported and fully expended again this year.

The Rotary Foundation's Status

The Rotary Foundation again achieved Charity Navigator's highest rating of 4 stars, making this the 14th consecutive year The Rotary Foundation has achieved this rating. 91% of donations received goes to projects, making The Rotary Foundation one of the best value propositions for any donations one can make.

When making individual donations to charities each year please **Think Foundation First**.

End Polio Now update



As you would be aware Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 35 years, and we have made incredible progress in the fight to rid the world of it forever. As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has helped to reduced polio cases by more than 99.9% since the mid-1980s. It is crucial to eradicate polio from the last two countries where it remains endemic and to keep other countries polio-free.

If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyse as many as 200,000 children each year. **No place is safe until polio has been eradicated everywhere.**

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is a public-private partnership led by national governments with six core partners - the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Its goal is to eradicate polio worldwide.

WHO Wild Polio Virus Summary

At the end of 2022 there were 30 **Wild Polio Virus** cases with 2 in Afghanistan, 20 in Pakistan, and 8 in Mozambique.

- The total number of wild polio cases in 2021 were 6. There was 1 in Pakistan, 1 in Malawi, and 4 in Afghanistan.
- The total number of wild polio cases in 2020 were 140. There were 84 in Pakistan and 56 in Afghanistan

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) cases

- The total global cVDPV cases in 2022: 581
- Total global cVDPV cases in 2021: 698

There are 2 strains of Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV1 and cVDPV2) with **most cases are caused by the Type 2 strain in the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV)**. There has been recent developments to help combat this occurrence- see below for more details.

nOPV2 rollout (NEW!)

Novel oral polio vaccine, to combat the Type 2 strain of the vaccine derived polio (nOPV2) has been in use since 2021. Approximately 525 million doses of nOPV2 have been administered across 25 countries. An additional 15 countries have met the requirements for nOPV2 use in the event of an outbreak. For more information on nOPV2, visit: www.polioeradication.org/nOPV2

Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-26

In exciting news more than 3000 scientists and health experts from 115 countries met at the World Health summit in Berlin during October 2022 to discuss and validate plans for the eradication of Polio by 2026.

At this World Health Summit, USD 2.6 billion was pledged by various countries and philanthropic organizations to support the Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-26. Key donors included the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (USD 1.2 billion), Rotary International (150 million) and the Australian Government (AUD 43.55 million).

The funding will support global efforts to overcome the final hurdles to polio eradication, vaccinate 370 million children annually over the next five years and continue disease surveillance across 50 countries.



- 1) **Goal One:** To permanently interrupt transmission of all poliovirus in Afghanistan and Pakistan by end of 2023 and certify them as polio free by end of 2026.
- 2) **Goal Two:** To stop transmission of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 by end of 2023 and to prevent outbreaks in polio-free regions.

Rotary Walk with Us End Polio

During the month of October, we once again held the Rotary Walk with Us to End Polio and for the third year had another successful campaign. Individuals and Teams walked over the entire month accumulating kilometres and raising funds for the End Polio Now campaign.

The overall result of \$55,511 was down on the previous 2 years but **the total over the 3 years is approximately \$300,000** (\$900,000 with the 2:1 match from the Gates Foundation).

There are also the added health benefits to those joining the campaign and raising awareness of Rotary efforts to eradicate Polio. There were 146 walkers and 26 teams. The 2022 leader board (top 12) for individual and team fundraising shows a diversity of Rotarians and clubs from across Australia and the world.

Teams		Individuals	
Rotary Brighton North	\$5148	Robert Fisher	\$6250
The Rotary Club of Maywood Proviso	\$4805	Kate Strain	\$3686
Southbank All Stars	\$4374	Jessie Harman	\$3292
E-Clubbers 22	\$4256	Philip Archer	\$3130
The Carlton Crew	\$4030	Gabe Hau	\$3081
Rotaboars North Balwyn	\$3055	Casey J Tan	\$2126
Rotary Club of Hawthorn Hawkers Walkers	\$2802	Jane Pennington	\$2090
Team Torquay Rotary	\$2249	Murray Verso	\$1614
ROTARY PORT FAIRY	\$1275	Grant Hocking	\$1546
Whidbey Westside Walkers	\$1131	Peter Shepheard	\$1533
Rotary Passport Melbourne Team 2022	\$891	Eric Wood	\$1518
Bendigo South Lassies	\$883	David Pisterman	\$1100

Special congratulations to Robert Fisher (Melbourne) who led the individual fundraising with \$6250 and the North Brighton Rotary team led by Mark Stephens who topped the Team fundraising table with \$5148.

The 2022 campaign concluded with an inclusive group walk on Sunday 30th October following the Zone 8 Conference where 90 people walked all or part of a 6km route along Lake Burley Griffin. This event was made possible with the support of the conference organisers and Zone Director Jessie Harman. Hopefully this exposure will mean increased awareness and participation across Australia and New Zealand in future years.



The inclusion of this event at future Zone conferences will be explored with the goal of making it a regular feature on the conference program. Incoming RI President Gordon McInally was also there for the start of the walk.



A very special mention to the team of Kitty O'Connor, Stephen Sennett, Murray Verso, Melissa McIntosh and yours truly who ensured the campaign ran smoothly once again.

Next year Jane Pennington is coming in as the District End Polio chair and has plans in place to ensure the campaign continues successfully.

I would like to thank Kitty who has been the chair for the past few years but is stepping down due to exciting work opportunities and other commitments.

Thanks to everyone who walked, fundraised, and donated money to the campaign. We hope to see you and many more Rotarians involved in 2023.

Polio Plus Society (NEW!)

The PolioPlus Society (PPS) is a new fundraising and recognition program that specifically supports PolioPlus. PPS encourages Rotary members and others to pledge at least US\$100 per year to the PolioPlus Fund until polio is eradicated from the face of the earth. Contributions will count toward Paul Harris Fellow recognition and Major Donor status and will be matched 2-to-1 by the Gates Foundation.

Rotary members and their friends who join the Society will be honoured with a distinctive lapel pin and a certificate, which will be presented at a special ceremony. The Society will be managed within D9800 by Jane Pennington.



Take Action to Join:

First you need to complete the PolioPlus Society Commitment Form available on the District website and send it to Jane (Jane.Pennington@rotary9800.org)

Make your contribution to the “Polio Fund” on the RI website: <https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>

- Log in to My Rotary using your individual username and password.
- Select the details for your donation:
 - Type: Polio Fund
 - Country: Australia
 - Currency: Australian Dollars
 - Type: Recurring Donation
 - Frequency: Your choice as to what suits best
 - Amount: Select “other”
 - An annual donation needs to be AUD160.
 - A monthly donation needs to be AUD15.

Enter your credit card details and submit. This will set up a recurring payment. When contributing in AUD the site will show the amount in USD directly below.

Peace Bells for Melbourne (NEW!)



Progress is being made on the installation of Peace Bells at Rotary Park Melbourne to coincide with the 2023 RI Convention in Melbourne. This project being led by Rob McGuirk for Melbourne Rotary and District 9800 and is also a legacy project for the RI Convention.

Promoting Peace is one of Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus and a cornerstone of Rotary's mission. The Peace Bells installation is designed to create a reflective, interactive, and informative experience to promote the importance of peace in all aspects of our lives.

The installation will consist of four bells designed and built by Assoc Prof Neil McLachlan who designed the Federation Bells (see <http://federationbells.com.au>) at Birrarung Marr, Melbourne.

Located adjacent to gate D of the Botanical Gardens in Rotary Park, each of the four bells would represent four steps everyone can take for peacebuilding.



- 1) To be at peace within themselves
- 2) To talk of the importance of peace for all people including First Nations peoples
- 3) To write messages of peace
- 4) To celebrate peace and International Day of Peace

The estimated budget for the bells and stands is \$120,000. Rotary International Convention committee and Rotary Melbourne have already committed \$30,000 each as well as contributions from D9800 and a few other Victorian Rotary Districts and other Rotary clubs.

Your club can also be part of history- Donations are now being sought from all Rotary clubs and Rotarians from across Australia to assist in the creation of this significant legacy of the 2023 International Convention. Supporting organisations along with individual, Rotary club or corporate donations of \$1000 or more will be recognised on the Peace Bells website.

- 1) Platinum sponsor > \$10,000
- 2) Gold sponsor \$5,000-\$9,999
- 3) Silver sponsor \$3,000- \$4999
- 4) Bronze sponsor \$1000- \$2999

Please make contact to find out how your club can donate to the project and become part of history. For more Information contact Rob McGuirk (Rotary Melbourne) (rmcguirk@ozemail.com.au)

Peace Fellow program

Sadia Bibi from Pakistan has been confirmed for the Masters program at Upsala University in Sweden commencing 2023. This maintains D9800s perfect record of having one or more successful Peace fellows in every year of the program.



There was unfortunate news for our other candidates for the Certificate program at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand with RI advising that due to the changes in the program the University had chosen not to run the program this year.

Royce Abbey Awards

At the official DG visit with Calder cluster, Martin and Di Taurins did what they've always done, champion the fight against MS. Whilst their incredible donation of \$36,000 to Australian Rotary Health was a highlight, both also received well deserved Royce Abbey Awards from Calder cluster and D9800 for decades of dedication to the MS awareness and PHD scholarships.



Rotary Foundation Month events (2022)

Paul Harris Breakfast

The 30th ANNUAL PAUL HARRIS BREAKFAST on 22nd November included a presentation by yours truly providing an update on the Foundation and District 9800s progress in raising over US\$500,000 last financial year, enabling us to "take action to create change" and to "do good in the world".



Guest Speaker for the event was Jeroen Weimar on "A Journey of Leadership and Self Transformation". It was an engaging and personal reflection of his leadership experience with a frankness and humility that made his presentation that much more interesting and relevant.

Congratulations Dennis

A highlight of the breakfast was the presentation by DG Amanda and PDG Murray Verso of The Rotary Foundation's highest individual award, **the Distinguished Service Award, to PDG Dennis Shore**. Around the world, only 38 individuals were presented with this award this year.



It was also announced that **PDG Dennis Shore was appointed as a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation** and commences in July 2023. This is great honour recognising the valuable contribution Dennis has made to Rotary in various roles over many years. Congratulations Dennis.

Goldfields Cluster Foundation Dinner



Thanks to the Bendigo and Bendigo Sandhurst for organising the Goldfields cluster Foundation dinner at the Bendigo club on 23rd November.

A very informative presentation on Polio by PDG Murray Verso for 90 people present with many comments at the event and following that it was the best and most informative presentation on Polio they had ever heard. With this level of endorsement and his background as a GP and Hobson Bay Council vaccination officer it's no wonder Murray is the current Zone End Polio Coordinator.

Paul Harris Society luncheon

Thank you to PDG Julie Mason and Peter Shephard for organising a very enjoyable lunch for the Paul Harris Society on Sunday 29th November. Prof Sue McDonald (North Balwyn) gave a superb talk on the Foundation funded Midwifery VTT that she and Prof Jeremy Oats have run in Timor Leste for the past 10 years.



Sue was then inducted as a new member of the Society along with Elaine Saunders (Woodend), Liz Bannon (Bendigo) and Pascal Ochi (Wyndham), each of them committing USD\$1000 annually to the Rotary Foundation. Updates on the Foundation and Polio Plus rounded out an informative and enjoyable lunch.

End Polio Movie events

End Polio Movie events screening *The Lost King* were held in Bendigo, Camberwell and Yarraville during the first week of December. It was another very enjoyable and interesting movie. Profits from these events will go towards the Rotary End Polio Now funds. Thanks everyone who helped organise the events.



Peace Essay Competition

The now annual Peace Essay Competition run by the Rotary Club of Wyndham Harbour culminated at the Peace Essay Awards Evening on Tuesday 6th December, 2022. Held online it was an inspiring and enjoyable evening, and was well attended by over 40 people - children, parents, teachers, Rotarians, and guests.



The highlight of the evening was the children's recitation of their essays, full of fresh ideas, insight, and wisdom. Thanks to Swati Baidur-Hudson and everyone involved in organising this event. A special mention also to Steve Andrews who performed the songs *A Real Love* and *Communication* and *Butterfly In My Beard* which kept everyone entertained. The list of winners and shortlisted entrants can be accessed [here](#).

Essays are displayed turn by turn on: <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryPeaceEssay>
For enquiries about the competition, email: peace@rotaryclubofwyndhamharbour.org.au

Foundation Presentations to D9800 Clubs

During November Rotary Foundation month, I completed a series of club visits where some clubs provided donations to The Rotary Foundation and the End Polio campaign. There was great interest in the wonderful work of the Rotary Foundation with projects instigated, designed, managed, and completed by Rotarians.

I and members of the Foundation Committee are available for presentations at clubs any time during the year. Please just contact me and I am only too happy to arrange a visit your club.

Thank you so much for your interest in The Foundation and your ongoing support for its wonderful work. Please do contact me at any time if you would like more information about The Foundation or have any questions that I can assist with. Grant