



July 2020 Bulletin Edited

Dear Rotarians,

Hope everyone is taking care and keeping safe. I started University this week and eventhough I am excited to study again, I do have mixed feeling about the online mode of studying. Weekends are dedicated to video calls with friends and family all over the world and looking at past travel pictures.

Sharing with you all the bulletin for the month of July. Biggest highlight was the Changeover ceremony which was organised online due to COVID restrictions being reimposed. The ceremony brought back fond memories of my time in India in 2009 where I volunteered as a Rotaractor for three years with the Rotary Club of Chandigarh RID 3080. Changeover ceremony was one of the highlights of the year and young folk like myself would dress up in our most formal piece of clothing, click many pictures and share precious moments with our family and friends as Rotarians encouraged and cheered for our future.

I hope you enjoy reading the bulletin. I have been trying new formats and resolving some theething problems and much appreciate your patience and encouragement.

Pragya

Editor

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### Changeover Ceremony Highlights

The Changeover Ceremony was reorganised online due to the COVID-19 restrictions being reimposed. Due to family illness President elect Jama Farah was unable to attend the Zoom meeting. However a recorded message of Jama's Presidential address was played.

We were honoured to have in attendance District Governor Phillip Archer, District Governor Elect Dale Hoy and Assistant Governor Michael Donnelly. It was also pleasing to have club honorary member PDG John Davis attend.

The highlight of the meeting was the DG presenting a Paul Harris award to Emanuel Tumino for his service to District 9800's Youth Exchange program over many years. In responding Emanuel commented that everyone's interests can be put to good use in Rotary and for him Youth Exchange provided an opportunity. Retiring President Suzanne Zammit also received a Paul Harris award for her service to the club as president for two years and also to District Youth programs. Many congratulations to both Emanuel and Suzanne on the well deserved recognition of their hard work and contributions to the community.

We also saw a video message from incoming RI President Holger Knaack announcing the theme for 2020-21 **Rotary Creates Opportunities**. During [this video](#) four speakers highlighted areas in which Rotary creates opportunity: caring for children with cancer and heart disease and providing schools with clean water lasting change by vaccination programs providing scholarships leadership.



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### President Jama's Speech

### Club President's Speech

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests. I would like to thank you all for your company on

this occasion as I enter the role of President of the Rotary Club of Footscray District 9800. I consider it an honor that you considered me up to the task of this role. I am grateful to be in this position and I aim to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my abilities. We are living in a strange moment, where it seems that no one really knows what to do next. These are the moments where people look for guidance and leadership to show them the way. This is the moment that as Rotarians we need to stand up and show who we are and what we are about. Our Rotary vision of open opportunities can be the key to overcoming the current situation that we are facing.

During my time as a Rotarian, I have served as the Director of Community and the Director of International Service for the Rotary Club of Footscray District 9800. I have also been involved with and contributed to The Maribyrnong City Council CALD Plan Advisory Committee and the Victorian Multicultural Business Advisory Council. My efforts have been recognised and I have been proud and honoured to receive the Certificate Of Appreciation by Consumer Affairs Victoria in 2012, the African Australian Business of the Year Award in 2014, and the United Nations International Peace Day Power Of Peace Award in 2016. It is this experience that I aim to bring to my new role and which I hope to build on.

We have several projects lined up over the next year. We will continue supporting Inner West Community Bike Hub Inc, which has brought much joy to the community and has proved to be an excellent initiative. We will be sending more containers of much needed supplies and resources to developing communities around the world, which is an initiative that I have personally invested a lot of effort and of which I am immensely proud. We will be holding an Arts show in collaboration with Victoria University, which will showcase some diverse and interesting items for our viewing. We will also be organizing an Annual Golf Day as is our custom, which I am sure will prove to be enjoyable day out for all. We will be celebrating the Centenary of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand, an event that will allow us to both reflect on our proud history and to provide ideas on how to build on this amazing legacy for our future.

It will be our aim over the next year to increase our membership, extending our reach through online and other media platforms. We will be applying for grants to support activities designed for the benefit of the community. We will be distributing awards to encourage young learners, which will be especially important in this time as an encouragement to students to continue their educational journeys despite the obstacles. We will be inviting esteemed and insightful guest speakers, providing interesting and diverse perspectives. We will be promoting youth camps and activities, to engage young people in positive endeavors and to provide guidance and leadership. We also hope to establish a Satellite club to help initiate younger members, bringing forward the next generation of Rotarians who will continue our legacy.

In short, we have a busy year planned. It will be through the effort of all members working together that I am sure we will do all that we set out to achieve. For my part, I hope I can bring the same distinguished service to my new role as my predecessors before me. The Rotary motto "Service Above Self" will be my guidepost over the next year. I would like to thank you all once again for considering me worthy of such an honourable position.

### ***Jama Farah President 2020/2021***

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#### Trivia Night

#### **Get ready for the best night you'll have in Lockdown 2.0 Melbourne! All proceeds of the night will be donated to Steps Outreach Service**

Touted by PDG Keith Ryall as the "best trivia night I have ever attended", take the opportunity to create a night of memories with fellow Rotarians in Melbourne Lockdown 2.0 at Rotary Northside's second ever trivia event.

Hear from Anne Mitchell, manager of Concern Australia's Youth Homelessness program Steps Outreach Service, and about the support, care and hope young people need to find the life that was meant for them.

Tickle your brain cells and connect with friends. Northside's trivia events are not to be missed!

Thu, August 13, 2020

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM AEST

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northside-trivia-for-youth-homelessness-tickets-114221365178>

Get tickets today!

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Message from the District Governor

## **Youngest President sets record at Rotary Stawell**

You may have seen the story on the ABC News on Wednesday July 22, featuring 18-year-old Taia Hayter, the youngest president to be installed at the Rotary Club of Stawell. The story also featured the ageing and decline of our membership, which was perhaps not the most positive message about Rotary. I would, however, like to reassure everyone that we are working with the ABC and other television networks to present a more attractive image of Rotary. Our aim is to showcase the amazing array of projects in which we are involved and the difference we make in our communities.

Going forward, any national media coverage will be centred on community service. This includes environment, diversity, equity and inclusion, the work of our foundation in the six (soon to be seven) areas of focus, and how RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) efficiently supports our work.

If you have any ideas for stories that could be featured in the national print or TV media, please send them to me with a synopsis of the relevant project.

Whilst it is heartening to see how well clubs and members have taken up communicating through Zoom, we must strive to further engage our members by sharing projects that they can be actively involved in, despite the lockdown. As Rotarians, we all enjoy being People of Action, and knowing that our actions make a difference.

I would like to send out a challenge to all clubs, as well as Avenues of Service Chairs, to allocate time in their Zoom meetings for a lifestyle and learning event. You could discuss projects such as developing a communication link with others in the community, contributing to seed bank collections, building bee hotels, mask making, and researching and learning about international projects. I'm sure you will have many other ideas to share about things we can do at home during lockdown.

**As the saying goes, 'We are all in this together'. Let's take this opportunity to grow and learn.**

Philip Archer, Rotary District 9800 Governor

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### **CLUB CLINIC: Embracing change**

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the ways that many of us experience Rotary. But every challenge also opens opportunities. Clubs are discovering that meeting online gives them more flexibility to adjust meeting times when that's better for members. For some clubs, attendance has increased, and members say they can now participate more and contribute more to their clubs' work. Clubs are also less constrained by geographic distance in pursuing members, inviting inspiring speakers, or partnering with others on service efforts. [Discover some of the innovative ways clubs are adapting on Rotary Voices.](#)

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### **Centenary of Rotary Begins**

Leo Sayer kicked off the event with some of his hits culminating in a toe-tapping rendition of *You Make Me Feel Like Dancing*. Master of Ceremonies David Mann hosted the event remotely - from Melbourne. Rotarians from all around the world joined the 'telecast' to hear His Excellency the Governor General launch the celebrations from Government House Canberra, relating the contribution that Rotary has made and continues to make to the improvement of the world. Although celebrating an incredible contribution over the past 100 years, His Excellency said it is very much about looking forward, not looking back. There will be another 100 years, his Excellency proclaimed, because "big hearts don't stop beating".

**Read the Full article from Rotary Club of Melbourne:**

[https://rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/news/39784/rotary-centenary-baton-launch/?type\\_fr=720](https://rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/news/39784/rotary-centenary-baton-launch/?type_fr=720)

**Watch the recording of the event online:**

<https://www.stagepass.com.au/rotary>

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/new-story-july-16-2020/>

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2021 Rotary International Convention

Feel the energy in Taipei

**Register now** for the 2021 Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan, 12-16 June.

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