



September 2020 Bulletin

Dear Rotarians,

Hope everyone is some what pleased with the Premier's announcement. It was best to keep expectations low after all that we have been through these past couple of months. What's even strange is that the rest of the world has only sadly begun its journey with the second wave. I have seen several videos on social media platforms where people have talked about mental wellbeing and rightly so. As an extrovert (sometime introvert) myself, I truly miss seeing people, the hug, smile and occasional 'what is that person wearing' glare! With masks now as part of our day to day lives, I have realised that the people whose faces we actually end up seeing are the ones we live with, meet through virtual platforms and ofcourse the television. It has become even more important to find creative ways to say hello when crossing someone in the park who has their earplugs on, a simple nod or a wave of the hand goes a long way. I have been doing this for the past two weeks and I know people are smiling behind the masks, I know I am :)

We have included a new section to the Bulletin celebrating birthdays of our members. Please ensure your details are up to date with Rodney, we wouldn't want to miss wishing someone a Happy Birthday!

Hope you enjoy reading the September edition. My special moment was when Florisse said she joined our Zoom meeting after reading a post on Facebook that I was presenting. The world is now smaller and we are closer than ever before.

Pragya

Editor

Important Letter from RI President Holger Knaack

Dear Rotarians/ International PolioPlus Committee members/ Directors and Trustees,

It is with great pride that we inform you that one of our own has been named one of TIME's "[100 Most Influential People in the World](#)." Just a few moments ago, Dr. Tunji Funsho, Rotary's Nigeria National PolioPlus Chair was named to the TIME 100 list for his critical leadership in working with Rotary members and our partners to achieve a wild polio-free Nigeria and eradicate the wild poliovirus in the African region. He is the first Rotary member to receive this honor for our work to eradicate polio.

[You can view Dr. Funsho's profile on the TIME website here.](#)

Dr. Funsho is a member of the Rotary Club of Lekki in Lagos, Nigeria and is Past District Governor of District 9110 and member of the International PolioPlus Committee. Dr. Funsho is a cardiologist with a lifelong commitment to building a healthier world. As Nigeria National PolioPlus Chair since 2013, he has built on the work of his predecessors by leading PolioPlus efforts in Nigeria. Working alongside his fellow Rotarians, Dr. Funsho has built awareness for the importance of polio immunization, encouraged governments and public figures to support polio eradication, and served as a vocal leader and advocate for Rotary and our fight to end polio.

The TIME 100 list recognizes the activism, innovation and achievement of the world's most influential individuals. Dr. Funsho joins the list with some of the most important and well-known public figures in the world who have been past recipients of the honor: heads of state such as Angela Merkel, religious figures like the Dalai Lama and Pope Francis, celebrities like Oprah Winfrey and Bono, philanthropists like Bill Gates, and activists such as Malala Yousafzai.

Dr. Funsho stands on the shoulders of the countless women and men of Rotary who have dedicated their lives, their time, and their money to Rotary's top priority of eradicating polio. This honor is not just a testament to his work, it is acknowledgment that Rotary members make a difference in the world—one that is worthy of international recognition among the world's most distinguished leaders.

Every Rotarian can be a leader in the fight to eradicate polio. We hope you'll use this recognition of Dr. Funsho and Rotary as an opportunity to put renewed energy and focus into creating a world where no child ever again has to be paralyzed by the poliovirus. We've come so far into our fight to eradicate polio, and we've made incredible progress in the face of enormous challenges. As we join in congratulation to Dr. Funsho, let's join together and deliver upon our promise to [End Polio Now](#).

Sincerely,

Holger Knaack, President, Rotary International

Gordon Street Little Pantry

Gordon Street Little Pantry is a new community initiative based at 252 Gordon St in Footscray, Melbourne, Australia.

It is based on trust and the Footscray community spirit of goodwill. It stocks basic food and sanitary items and is open 24/7 for collection or donation during these extraordinary times.

It is located at 252 Gordon Street Footscray out the front of Footscray Church of Christ.

Items are free for anyone in genuine need and can be collected at any time.

Donations can be made by anyone. To donate just place items in the pantry. Please only non perishable food items (tins, pasta, noodles, rice) and sanitary items.

And please no clothing, out of date items or damaged goods.

If you have any questions please get in touch with us.

Women's Health West

Tweddle Australia

Sons of the West

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)

cohealth Footscray

Angliss Neighbourhood House

#westfootscray #wefo

September Zoom meetings

The Club organised two zoom meetings in September with special guests Ms. Pragya Kapil, Person Behind the Badge and Mr Andy Moutray-Read, CEO of Inner West Community Enterprises. Dr Catherine (Kitty) O'Connor will be the speaker for the upcoming meeting scheduled for Thursday October 1st at 6.45 for 7pm start.

Pragya presented about her early experience of volunteering for Rotaract Club of Chandigarh, RID 3080 in India. She showed a colourful presentation using images of her experience volunteering from providing polio drops in heavy traffic, bringing smiles to children with special needs, planting numerous trees, running around looking for scholarships for many fund raising projects including but not limited to large scale concerts (Heartline) and dance workshops (End Polio Campaign), maintaining books as the Club Treasurer to leading a group of 100 volunteers from the tricity as the Club President in her third year of under graduate degree. She shared that the presentation preparation at Rotary Club Footscray's meeting brought back fond memories of how much work went into contributing to community projects. Pragya credits her public speaking, organisation, interpersonal and event management skills to Rotary International and is very honoured to be a part of the Footscray Club as a Rotarian.

Mr. Andy Moutray shared about the community-based organisation, which is owned by local shareholders. The enterprises they are involved in running or partnering with include:

Seddon Community Bank as a branch of Bendigo Bank. Profits from the bank, are returned to the community and to-date around \$800,000 has been fed back into the community. (see Community Pitch)

Community pitch is an annual event which offers the opportunity for local projects / non-profit organisations to present a 3 minute "pitch" in appealing for funds ranging from \$500-4000 from local businesses, Rotary Clubs and Seddon Community Bank. It is truly a fantastic evening where you see a wide variety of the community work being done by local volunteers. A feel good night.

Westsider newspaper currently around 6000 copies per month are distributed to local cafes, libraries, waiting rooms, etc. They now have an online version. Initially provided opportunities for "work for the dole". Guaranteed income from local business and advertising. Aim of newspaper is to inform local community of local activities and issues.

Mad Youth Inc. Helping youth undertake small local projects and get young people involved and active in the community. They ran a coffee stand at the local footy to help raise funds for their own projects.

Community Bike Hub - partnership with Footscray Rotary Last year the new improved Bike Hub provided 900 services and repairs, 280 sales of second-hand bikes and refurbished 386 bike donations for lucky western suburb refugees and locals alike.

The Bike Hub now employs 4 staff, and was expanded last years when Andy applied for funding from Victorian Gov't via "Pick my project" grants. Over next 12 months they aim to raise \$20,000 to purchase a transport vehicle to collect bikes and provide a mobile repair service. We are hoping that Rotary will be able to contribute to the cause, and match the IWCE donation of \$5,000.

IWCE are also working with VU to develop a program to deliver financial literacy training to kids and young adults.

As always Andy says that Seddon Community Bank is happy to assist our members if they would like to become part of a local bank doing great things in our own community.

The Rotary Hoppers Crossing Story

It wasn't exactly 'tumbleweeds blowing down the main street', but 60 years ago the area known as Hoppers Crossing was different—mainly paddocks, stone fences, thistles, rabbits and a snake or two. Infrastructure was scant and scattered and 'going into town' meant a trip to Werribee.

But love came to the rescue!

In the late 1960s the first wave of baby boomers was marrying, and market conditions for purchasing land and building a family home had never been more attractive. Banks and builders were 'on board' and the fields of 'Hoppers' were transformed. Proximity to older areas like Williamstown, Footscray, Altona and Yarraville meant strong and consistent demand. As importantly, many of the couples were school friends, and so a sense of community and inclusion was immediate.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/the-rotary-hoppers-crossing-story/>

Rotary now has sustainability as a new area of focus

Rob Edwards, a member of the Corrimal Rotary Club, Australia, has just launched Sustainable Social to help businesses such as resorts, cafés, and hotels market their green practices and services via social media, catching the eye of customers who care about the environment.
<https://sustainablesocial.org/pages/inforotary>

Rotary Clubs can join and attract new members by publicizing their environmental projects. The site has a [fun video](#) pitch to inspire clubs to start an environmental project.

3 things your club can do to immediately deliver on the new area of focus:

1. Have a club member be your sustainability representative and give a short monthly report sharing examples of Rotary sustainability activities.
2. Sponsor a member to join **ESRAG** (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group) - it's only \$US30. Their newsletter keeps your club up to date.
3. Two or more members meet at 8:00 AM on the 1st Saturday of each month and go for an hour walk to pick up some plastics. Two is a start - it will grow. Invite the community and likely you will gain new members. The key is to keep it simple and inviting.

Zone 8 (Australia and NZ) Virtual Conference

The Rotary Zone 8: Virtually Alice Springs Conference was organised on the 19th and 20th of September 2020 with great participation from members from Australia and New Zealand.

The following is the video shown at the recent Rotary Alice Springs Virtual Regional Conference showcasing some of the activities within the New Zealand and Pacific region. Enjoy!

<https://rotaryoceania.zone/Stories/fantastic-presentation-on-recent-and-current-nz-pacific-projects>

Get ready for Reconnect Week

October 5, 2020, 12:00 am to October 11, 2020, 12:00 am

During Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week, 5-11 October, Rotary members and alumni will gather to share their experiences, network, and exchange ideas for staying involved in Rotary. Join the action! Create a post on social media and tag it #RotaryReconnect. Hold a virtual meeting with alumni to share ideas. Invite an alum to speak at your online club meeting. Read inspiring profiles of alumni who are making a difference. And visit our [Reconnect Week](#) page for even more ideas.



[Read More...](#)

Rotary in Harmony - Lift the Lid on Mental Health

As a gift of music to our fellow Rotarians, families and communities, please join us at some or all of these events.

In this year 2020 when many have found themselves in trying times, the value of the enjoyment of music on one's mental health has prompted a group of Rotarians to gather vocalists and musicians together for a series of afternoons to uplift the soul.

These concerts are free but you are encouraged to donate to Australian Rotary Health as part of your booking if you wish.

Between Sunday 11 October 2020 3:00 PM and Sunday 22 November 2020 3:00 PM

LOCATION

The link to the online event to be provided by the event organiser.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=662366&>

Rotary Business Leaders Breakfast

October 28, 2020, 7:00 am to October 28, 2020, 8:30 am

An invitation to Rotary District 9800 Zoom Breakfast

Organisational Culture and Spirit

Guest Speaker: David Landgren

MC: District Governor Elect Dale Hoy

Introduction: District Governor Nominee Amanda Wendt

Book now: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=644397&>



[Read More...](#)

October Birthdays!

Celebrating Rotary Club Of Footscray October Birthdays

John Granger 3rd

Rodney Johnstone 4th

Suzanne Zammit 18th

If you no longer wish to receive messages from Rotary Club of Footscary,