



# ***Let's*** **SAVE** **THE WORLD**

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## **GLOBAL** **WARNING**

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Rotary clubs on both sides of the Tasman are using different methods to educate people about common environmental issues.







# ROTARY BRINGS PHOTO EXHIBITION TO AUCKLAND

**THE** World Press Photo Exhibition, capturing the very best of global photojournalism, will again return to Auckland's Smith and Caughey's Gallery Space, thanks to the Rotary Club of Auckland, NZ.

The contest honours the incredible talents of press photographers, who show great skill and creativity in capturing an event or issue of great journalistic importance from the past year. In 2018, 4548 photographers from 125 countries submitted 73,044 images; the jury awarded prizes in eight categories to 42 photographers.

As well as celebrating the

photographers' skills, the exhibition draws attention to humanitarian, political and environmental issues affecting our world. First prize in the Nature category this year focuses on the struggle of elephants in Kenya to survive human disruption of their homelands and poaching – and the progress made as locals embrace their cause.

The Rotary Club of Auckland is proudly bringing this respected exhibition to Auckland, from June 30 – July 29 at Smith and Caughey's, Level 6, 253-261 Queen Street. All profits from the event will go towards the club's supported charities. •

First Prize images in the 'Nature – Stories' section: *Warriors Who Once Feared Elephants Now Protect Them* (© Ami Vitale, for *National Geographic*)

**OPENING IMAGE:** Mary Lengees, one of the first female keepers at the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary in northern Kenya, caresses Suyian, the sanctuary's first resident, who was rescued in 2016, when she was just four weeks old. Women at Reteti are seen as bringing important nurturing skills into the workforce.

**ABOVE:** A rescued baby elephant is tended at the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary, in northern Kenya.



# TELLING THE BIODIVERSITY STORY

**QUEENSLAND'S** Gold Coast is located within an ancient shield volcano, known as Australia's Green Cauldron, and is one of Australia's 11 biodiversity "hotspots". The region is blessed with a rich diversity of geological features and ecological zones – spreading from the dunes of the coastline to the rainforests of the mountains. The city includes amazing natural assets, located in national parks, nature reserves, conservation areas and in the World Heritage-listed Gondwana Rainforest, as well as internationally recognised Ramsar Sites, all within its boundaries.

The flora of the region and the ecosystems they inhabit are represented in the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens. The Botanic Gardens are designed to preserve and present the many rare, vulnerable and endangered species as a living collection. There is a compelling story to be told about the region's geological evolution, its diverse ecologies, flora and fauna and the rich resources used by its indigenous peoples and European settlers.

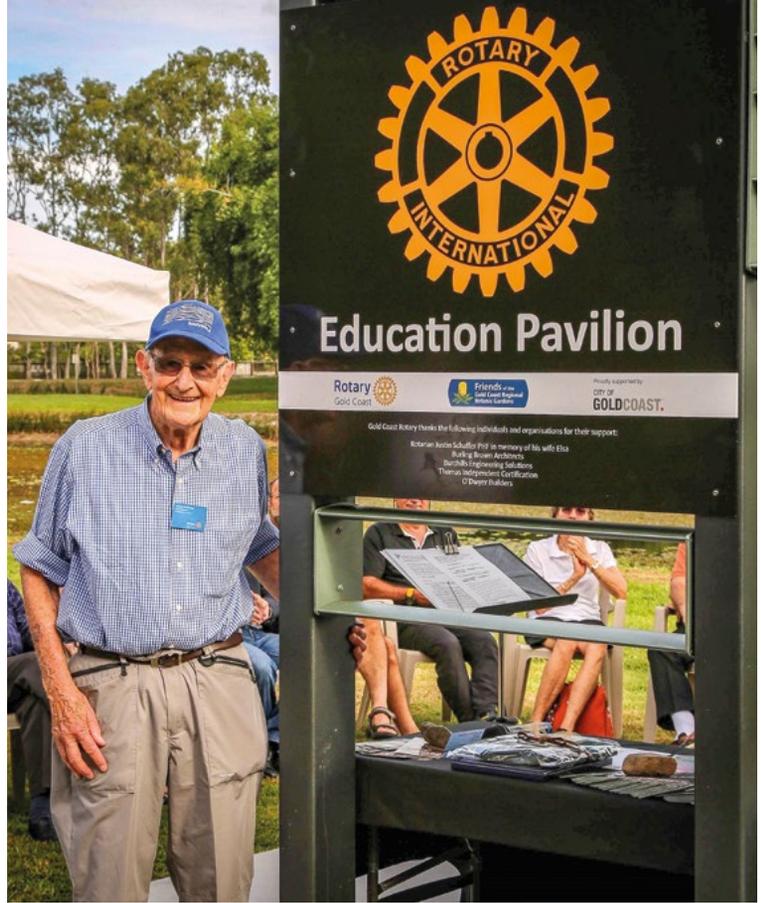
Education in the Botanic Gardens is provided in several ways:

- Provision of interpretive signage to allow visitors to gain knowledge as they wander through the living collections;
- Structured lessons for primary, secondary and tertiary student classes covering conservation, biodiversity, sustainability and indigenous perspectives;
- Guided walks and talks for visitors.

The Rotary Club of Gold Coast – assisted by funds donated by Rotarian Justin Schaffer, to be used for "education programs that extended or catered for subjects not covered by the school curricula" – committed to supporting the development of educational facilities and delivery of environmental education

**RIGHT:** Rotarian Justin Schaffer at the opening of the Rotary Education Pavilion at the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens.

**BELOW:** The pavilion provides a learning space for students studying conservation, biodiversity, sustainability and indigenous perspectives.



programs for children at the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens.

This was initially focused on the delivery of a sheltered outdoor teaching space. The Rotary Education Pavilion provides a focal point for these education programs and enables teachers and volunteers to deliver better outcomes. In addition, the pavilion provides an outdoor space for practical demonstrations to secondary and tertiary horticulture groups attending other programs in the gardens.

The interpretative display boards

provide information about the amazing world of plants and the importance of biodiversity to all visitors to the gardens.

The success of this project has inspired the Rotary Club of Gold Coast and other Rotary clubs to provide funding for additional interpretative signage about the birdlife, endangered species and indigenous use of plants.

An indigenous plant-use trail now enables visitors to the gardens to better appreciate the deep understanding, connection and sustainable use of plants by the Aboriginal people. •

