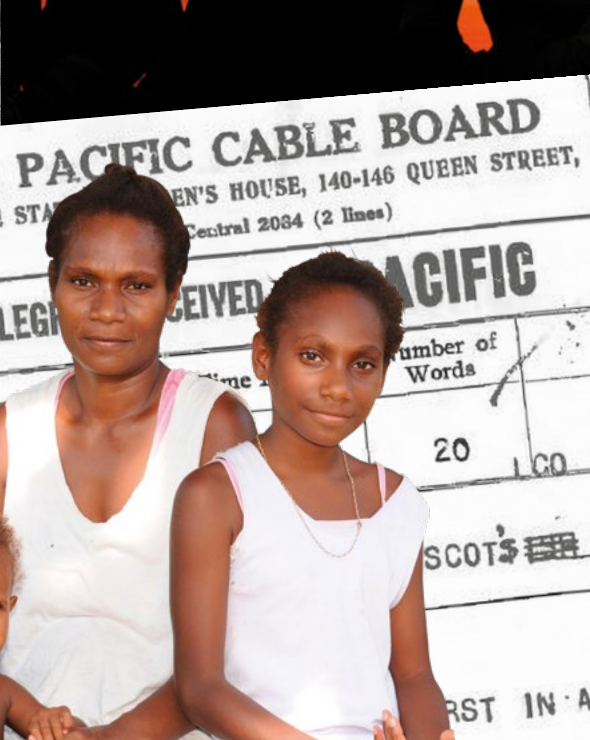
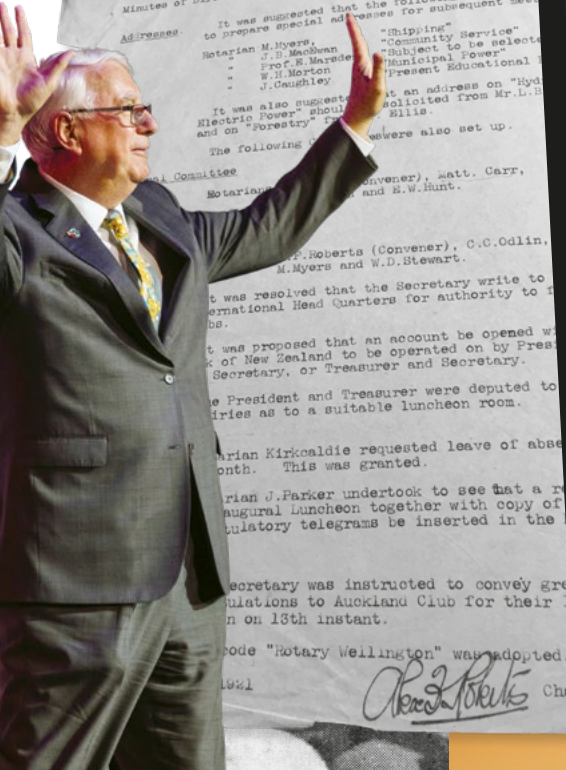




#ROTARY100DOWNUNDER HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE?

Rotary “Down Under” will mark an epic milestone in April 2021, when districts, clubs and Rotarians from across our regions celebrate 100 years of doing good in the community, both at home and abroad. But don’t wait until then to join in the festivities! Many centenary projects are already underway, and the R100 team is calling on all Australian, New Zealand and Pacific Island Rotarians to add their own local flavour to these joint celebrations. How will you commemorate our past 100 years of achievement and kick-off a bright new era for Rotary into the future?





PICTURED: Australia's fifth Rotary International president Ian Riseley addresses the audience at the opening ceremony of the 2018 RI Convention in Toronto, Canada. (Photo: Alyce Henson/Rotary International)



By Hugh Bucknall,
Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic

Something special is happening in 2021, when we mark the centenary of Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the South West Pacific. Together, we have spent 100 years making a difference to the lives and destinies of generations; an extraordinary milestone deserving of reflection, celebration and immense pride.

Nation-building projects, international transformations and overcoming local disadvantage is our legacy. The story for the 38,000 Rotarians spread across our combined nations continues; perpetually making the world close to home and abroad a better place.

But it is a time for more than just a grand celebration. Our job is not yet done. At this special time, special effort is warranted to create new projects that will propel us into the next century of community service.

Major centenary projects are underway right now, already making



PICTURED:
The Rotary Give Every Child a Future project aims to vaccinate 100,000 children in nine Pacific Island countries against three diseases over the next three years.

“IT IS MY HOPE THAT EVERY ROTARY, ROTARACT AND INTERACT CLUB IN OUR REGION WILL IN SOME WAY MARK OUR CENTENARY BY COLLABORATING IN AN EXISTING EFFORT OR CREATING A NEW ONE ALL THEIR OWN. THIS IS A CHANCE TO HELP GET ROTARY READY FOR A NEW CENTURY.”



Join the party

Join the campaign by following our Facebook page [Rotary100downunder](#).

Toolkits can be downloaded from www.Rotary100downunder.com. Don't forget to register your project on the Centenary Honour Board.

BELOW:

EndTrachoma by 2020 is a #Rotary100DownUnder initiative working with communities affected by or at risk of trachoma to support facial cleanliness and environmental improvements.



Rotary100DownUnder Website

The Rotary100DownUnder website has loads of material to explore.

Need ideas? There are lots of thought-starters for new projects and a Centenary Project Honour Board, with a list of projects in development eager for support. Plus, there are downloadable resources to share on social media and beyond, a live calendar, summary catalogues and more.

www.Rotary100downunder.com

ABOVE:

The Rotary Safe Families program will assist Rotarians to be part of the solution and to spread the 'NO' to Family Violence message across their communities.

“NEW ZEALAND ROTARIANS WILL PLANT ONE MILLION TREES, HARNESSING THE SPIRIT AND ENERGY OF CLUBS NATIONWIDE TO BENEFIT FUTURE GENERATIONS.”



a difference and creating a legacy for the next century:

- The Rotary Give Every Child a Future project, a collaboration led by Australia and New Zealand’s four founding Rotary clubs – Melbourne, Vic, Sydney, NSW, Auckland, NZ, and Wellington, NZ – will work with UNICEF to vaccinate 100,000 children against three common and deadly diseases. (See page 20)
- Across New Zealand, Rotarians will plant one million trees, harnessing the spirit and energy of clubs nationwide to benefit future generations. (See page 23)
- Australia is the world’s last developed country where trachoma, an infectious eye disease, persists. Rotary’s End Trachoma by 2020 project is making inroads to closing the gap. Aimed at Indigenous communities where there is overcrowding, poor hygiene and poor sanitation, Rotary is providing mobile washing machines and sanitation programs to help break the cycle of disadvantage. (See page 24)
- One hundred schools will be invited by 100 Rotary clubs to visit the Canberra Peace Bell in the ACT, where they will be given a Peace Pole to take back to their



PICTURED: One hundred schools will be invited by 100 Rotary clubs to visit the Canberra Peace Bell in the ACT, where they will be given a Peace Pole to take back to their hometowns to plant.

hometowns to plant. Younger generations make up 20 per cent of our population, but they are 100 per cent of our future – let’s work towards creating a peaceful one. (See page 30)

- Gala events are also planned to foster classic Rotary fellowship. Let’s be proud and celebrate 100 years of achievement.

These are just some of the centenary projects in the works. It is my hope that every Rotary, Rotaract and Interact club in our region will in some way mark our centenary by collaborating in an existing effort or creating a new one all their own. This is a chance to help get Rotary ready for a new century.

We can energise existing members and provide a magnet for new ones with ground-breaking new projects, and find new partners by working together to create something special in our centenary year. We can also raise Rotary’s profile by telling media outlets what we have been doing for the past 100 years, and the new stories we have to tell.

This is a once in a lifetime chance to make your mark on history!



Sir John Monash
(Photo: AWM: A02697)

Beginnings

In February 1921, two special commissioners were appointed to introduce Rotary to Australia and New Zealand. They were Canadians James Davidson of Calgary and Layton Ralston of Halifax. At the time, Rotary had about 80,000 members in Canada, Britain and the United States.

In Melbourne, Vic, they met Sir John Monash, administrator of the Victorian State Electricity Development Authority. One of Australia's most famous war heroes, Sir John agreed to accept charter membership of the proposed Rotary club, became its second president, and remained involved at club and district level.

Further meetings were held in Sydney, NSW, Wellington and Auckland, NZ, soon after. Many other city and regional clubs were established within a short period. The rest is history!

The Canadians are Coming

What better way to celebrate Canada's contribution to the evolution of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand than a return visit? To mark the 100th anniversary of the first Rotary meeting Down Under – the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, held on April 21, 1921 – a re-enactment is planned for April 21, 2021, to be held at the Melbourne Convention Bureau. This will be combined with a special golf tournament, with a trophy named in honour of the two Canadian Commissioners, James

Davidson and Layton Ralston. Our Canadian colleagues have further committed financial support to the Rotary Give Every Child a Future project as a nod to their essential support of Rotary Down Under a century ago. History lives on!





Rotary Give Every Child a Future

The Rotary Give Every Child a Future (RGECAF) project is the only #Rotary100DownUnder project covering all of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

Over the next three years, the project aims to vaccinate 100,000 children in nine Pacific Island countries against three diseases:

- Rotavirus, a leading cause of death from diarrhoea in under-five-year-olds;
- Pneumococcal disease, a major cause of meningitis, pneumonia and blood poisoning in young children; and
- Human papillomavirus, the cause of cervical cancer, which kills disproportionate numbers of women in the Pacific compared to Australia and New Zealand.

To do this, Rotary has partnered with UNICEF across the three regions. UNICEF and Rotary have a long history of partnership, most notably through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary's primary role in RGECAF is to raise funds and awareness for the project, while UNICEF is responsible for delivering the vaccines.

While the project planning is led by UNICEF and the four founding clubs of Rotary Australasia – Melbourne, Vic, Sydney, NSW, Auckland, NZ, and

Wellington, NZ – it cannot succeed without support from clubs across the entire region. RGECAF gives every Rotary club the opportunity to really make a difference in our own backyard; to save the lives of children and mothers in the South West Pacific. Applications for global grants made by the project mean that money raised will be matched to further increase the effectiveness of fundraising.

Work is underway to provide Rotarians the opportunity to participate in the community engagement phase of the project. Interested Rotarians, and those wanting to learn more, are invited to visit www.everychildafuture.com

With governments committing to fund the vaccine programs on completion of the project, Rotary Give Every Child a Future will continue saving lives across the Pacific for generations.

In addition, the project will provide every club the opportunity to demonstrate to their communities the power of Rotary in 2021: how, when like-minded and determined people come together, they can achieve amazing things. Please encourage your Rotary, Rotaract or Interact club to share in the RGECAF journey.

A toolkit of resources is available to Rotarians for their fundraising events at www.everychildafuture.com.





“ROTARY GIVE EVERY CHILD A FUTURE GIVES EVERY ROTARY CLUB THE OPPORTUNITY TO REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR OWN BACKYARD; TO SAVE THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND MOTHERS IN THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC.”



New Zealand's Governor-General launches Rotary 100

By John Bishop

Rotary Club of Port Nicholson, NZ
(Photos: Brady Dyer Photography)

Rotary's past, present and future were equally celebrated at a #Rotary100DownUnder event hosted by New Zealand's Head of State in late June.

Governor-General Her Excellency Dame Patsy Reedy hosted the reception at Government House in Wellington for 260 guests, which included Rotary leaders from New Zealand and the Pacific, representatives of the Diplomatic Corps, Armed Services and the community.

Three projects were officially launched at the event – one focussed on the past, one on the present and one on the future.

The "past" project is a book entitled *Mana Tangata – People of Action*; the official history of Rotary in New Zealand, detailing the growth and contribution of Rotary from its inception in 1921. Written by professional historian Dr Stephen Clarke and featuring contributions from many of New Zealand's 261 Rotary clubs, it is to be ready for the centennial celebrations in 2021. (See page 29)

The "present" project is Rotary Give

PICTURED:
Her Excellency
Dame Patsy
Reedy addressing
the audience
at Government
House.



Every Child a Future, initiated by the first four Rotary clubs in Australia and New Zealand, who are joining forces with fellow Rotary clubs from Australia and New Zealand and partnering with UNICEF to inoculate 100,000 children in nine Pacific countries against a range of diseases (see page 20). One in six deaths of children in the Pacific is due to pneumonia arising from weak defences in undernourished and unprotected bodies.

UNICEF's representative from Fiji, Vathinee Jitjaturunt, said that through this vaccination program, "Rotary and UNICEF will change the lives of people across the Pacific".

The "future" project, called Trees Trees Trees, is about history, environment and conservation into the future. One million trees are to be planted across New Zealand using staff and volunteers from the New Zealand Defence Force and its cadets, the Returned and Services Association, Fire and Emergency, Scouts, the Conservation Corps and Rotary clubs across the country.

"Not many New Zealanders' lives have not been touched in some way by what Rotary has done," Dame Patsy said in her address, noting that the idea of service at the heart of Rotary is "part of the cultural ethos of New Zealand".

Governors and Governors-General of New Zealand had all been honorary members of Rotary since

the first club was formed, and then Governor Viscount Lord Jellicoe was made an honorary member in 1921, Dame Patsy said.

A young *harakeke* (flax plant) representing the wisdom of the ancestors was symbolically passed from Tanemahuta Gray – Lord of the Forest in Māori mythology – to 11-year-old New Zealand-born Samoan Eva Lagolago, who has been designated the Face of the Future. Guests each received a baby manuka plant to mark the occasion.

PICTURED:

Tanemahuta Gray presented a flax plant to 11-year-old Samoan girl Eva Lagolago at New Zealand's #Rotary100DownUnder launch event. The tree-gifting ceremony represented the drawing together of New Zealand's Rotary history, the Rotary Give Every Child a Future project and tree-planting projects, within a story told by Tanemahuta to young Eva, representing the better future Rotary is committed to creating. As a young Pacific Island girl, Eva was symbolic of the positive outcomes from the Pacific project and also the changing face of Aotearoa/New Zealand.





The charter meeting of the Rotary Club of Wellington, NZ, on June 7, 1921: The Māori warrior at back – standing between charter president Alexander Roberts (to his left) and Special Commissioner Colonel Layton Ralston (to his right) – holds a pounamu/greenstone mere, which was presented to Canadian Rotarian Layton Ralston, one of the two special commissioners appointed to introduce Rotary to Australia and New Zealand.



Trees, Trees, Trees

The Rotary centenary trees project aims to create a fully sustainable Aotearoa New Zealand, to fight climate change by planting native ecosystems, in perpetuity, in every community in the country.

By harnessing the power of communities and volunteers, millions of native plants will be planted over the next few years. The program builds on a century of success from many organisations, including the Rotary Auckland Trees for Survival program, which plants 200,000 trees a year, and Forest at the Heart of Wellington, which aims to plant 100,000 trees on Mount Victoria by 2021.

The Labour Coalition Government, through Te Uru Rākau (Forestry New Zealand), has provided the catalyst for the community movement with its One Billion Trees Program. The Government is funding half of the Forest at the Heart of Wellington program and providing support as the project is launched at national level.

Rotary has already received commitments from many like-minded organisations, including:

- 280 Rotary clubs;
- 181 Returned and Services clubs;
- 650 volunteer rural fire stations;
- The New Zealand Defence Force, through mobilising its 99 Cadet Forces units;
- Scouting New Zealand, through its 400 community-based units, comprising over 20,000 members;
- Corrections have also agreed in principle to support the program.
- Conservation Volunteers New Zealand will partner in coordinating planting, training, education, health and safety.

To support the project, a multi-organisation trust fund is currently being established.

If you can help mobilise a community to plant native areas, in perpetuity, register your support at treestrestrees.nz.



EndTrachoma 2020



The World Health Organisation has a global goal to eliminate trachoma worldwide by 2020. Australia is the last developed country in the world where this infectious eye disease persists, affecting remote Aboriginal communities experiencing overcrowding, poor hygiene and poor sanitation.

It is a disease with potentially serious consequences, capable of causing permanent blindness.

While the work of the Australian Government, Fred Hollows Foundation and Indigenous Eye Health to treat trachoma infections has seen rates reduce substantially, we now need to ensure that hygiene practices and community environments are improved to eliminate the disease completely.

EndTrachoma by 2020 is a #Rotary100DownUnder initiative working with affected and at-risk communities to support facial

cleanliness and environmental improvements.

Rotary has so far funded a variety of important education programs and facilities in remote communities. Pilot programs for hygiene in schools, water-saving taps, and portable washing machines have been introduced, as well as support for innovation and development of important water infrastructure suitable for remote communities. Over 1300 mirrors have also been provided to remote homes, an important tool for self-pride and self-care.

Mobile face-washing stations designed for use by Indigenous children in remote communities is another part of Rotary's initiative to eliminate trachoma. A pilot water station was developed by engineering students at Monash University and funded by the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, and corporate sponsors. This face-washing and interactive water games station is mounted on a trailer and deployed in Central Australian Indigenous communities for use at sporting events and other community occasions.

EndTrachoma by 2020 is currently developing mobile water tanks for Nganampa Health, designed to hold potable water for drinking, face and hand washing. Work to provide




Drink Wine: End Trachoma

Could there be a tastier way to do good? Purchase your next drink, gift, raffle prize or event beverages at The Wateryard and help EndTrachoma by 2020.

The Wateryard is a new social enterprise, established in 2017 as a result of the vision of founder Dominic Monckton.

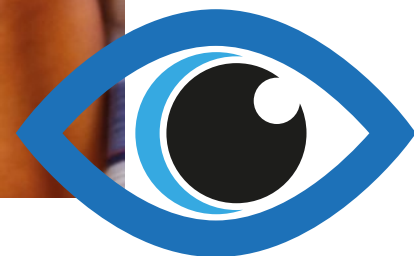
The idea was simple; utilise our world-leading wine industry as an instrument to fund impactful social projects in remote Australia.

For more information and to help "solve thirst world problems... one drop at a time" order your next drop from www.thewateryard.com.

sustainable sanitation infrastructure in communities is also underway.

For more information, visit www.endtrachoma2020.org.au or email info@endtrachoma2020.org.au.





“ENDTRACHOMA BY 2020 IS A #ROTARY100DOWNUNDER INITIATIVE WORKING WITH AFFECTED AND AT-RISK COMMUNITIES TO SUPPORT FACIAL CLEANLINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS.”

Get involved!

#Rotary100DownUnder is a great opportunity for all Rotary clubs in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific to celebrate 100 years of Rotary and become a part of our history.

Consider planning a project you would like to do as a club, or in collaboration with another club, to mark this very special anniversary. What big ideas do you have to celebrate our centenary and what projects will launch us into the next century of community service?

This is a unique chance to engage with your community and in so doing bring others along on this great journey.

Join in, lead the way and let's make the next century just as special.



R100 Baton Relay

The R100 Baton Relay aims to connect all Rotary clubs across Australia and New Zealand with their communities. It is hoped the relay will run throughout both countries, state by state, district by district, club by club.

With a vision to have every club participate and involve their communities, clubs are encouraged to create a specific celebration of 100 years of Rotary Down Under by planning an event – a dinner, a fundraiser, a walk through town, or maybe a Fun Run. Get your community involved in the planning, engage community groups and local businesses, and reach out to media to get the message out.

Bringing local colour and culture to centenary celebrations, the event is a fun way to build your networks, increase fellowship and diversify engagement.

Imagine Rotarians, local personalities, Councillors, community leaders, community groups, and everyday people around Australia and New Zealand carrying the baton of service, and passing it forward.

Be Proud. Be Bold. Be Involved. Be *People of Action*.

For more about this #Rotary100DownUnder initiative, contact Linda Humphries via R100@District9820.org



ABOVE: Paul Harris and president of the Rotary Club of Auckland, NZ, GL Taylor. (Photo: Courtesy of Rotary International)

RIGHT: Paul and Jean Harris on the steps of a building in Christchurch, NZ. (Photo: Courtesy of Rotary International)

BELOW: Paul and Jean Harris with club members around a tree dedicated to the Rotary Club of Bendigo, Vic. (Photo: Courtesy of Rotary International)



1935: Paul Harris Down Under

In 1935, Rotary founder Paul Harris and wife Jean toured Australia and New Zealand. Brisbane, Qld, was their first stop, where they were greeted by local Rotarians, the public and local dignitaries.

Paul Harris wrote in his journal: "The civic reception ceremony was repeated in practically every city we visited in Australia and New Zealand. Though I was at times somewhat weary, I appreciated them more than I can express in words."

Paul and Jean further attended the Australian Rotary Conference held in Melbourne, host to nearly 1000 Rotarians from across the nation.



Rotary Safe Families

The Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, has commenced rolling out another of its #Rotary100DownUnder celebration projects; Rotary Safe Families.

The initiative was created in response to the alarming statistics that, on average, one woman a week is murdered by her partner or ex-partner in Australia, while police are called to a domestic violence incident every two minutes – that's 657 times a day!

The preventative workshop program, created by Rotary Club of Melbourne members Dorothy Gilmour and Mary Barry (former CEO of Our Watch), aims to provide participating Rotarians with the tools to identify, safely "call out", and/or refer a victim of family violence or elder abuse to one of the many appropriate support agencies in Australia.

"It is our responsibility as Rotarians and Australian citizens to be informed and to be part of the solution to end family violence in our communities," Dorothy said. "We must not avoid this topic because we feel helpless or believe that it doesn't happen in our street or to people we know.

"The Rotary Safe Families program will assist Rotarians to be part of the solution and to spread the 'NO' to Family Violence message across their community, their club and throughout Australia. We must work together to provide a better model for our children so they may enjoy healthy, respectful relationships in their lifetime and stop the terrible cycle of family violence and elder abuse."

Rotarians and clubs can become "champions" of the Rotary Safe Families program in their area. A special information pack has been developed along with facilitator notes, a comprehensive manual, wallet cards, overheads and videos.

To find out more and have Rotary Safe Families as your club's #Rotary100DownUnder project, contact Dorothy via gilmour.dorothy@gmail.com. Many Rotary clubs are already putting up their hands to champion Rotary Safe Families in their district. You can too!

An idea that changed the world

When unassuming accountant Clem Renouf joined the Rotary Club of Nambour, Qld, over six decades ago, he had little idea to changing the world.



He was elected as president of Rotary International in 1978, the second Australian to hold the role. Clem thought it was time for Rotary clubs to band together to tackle a big-picture problem that would leave an enduring mark on society. He realised that Rotary's network, which spanned the globe, could be put to work to reach people in almost every country on earth.

He spoke to Rotarian Dr John Dever, who was head of diseases at the National Institute of Health in Washington DC, US, asking if there was another disease that could be eliminated? John pinpointed polio; crippling 1000 people a day at the time, despite the fact it could be prevented entirely through an oral vaccine costing only about 10 cents a dose.

Clem had experience with polio eradication, having supported a 1979 project to immunise six million children in the Philippines, ultimately eradicating polio in that country. Clem helped create the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988, combining the strengths of Rotary, UNICEF, the World Health Organisation (WHO), the US Centres for Disease Control and later the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with the ambitious mission to wipe out polio in every corner of the globe.

"At that point, polio was endemic in 125 countries and more than 350,000 people – primarily children under the age of five – were affected by polio each year. Today, polio is 99.9 per cent eradicated and only three countries remain polio-endemic: Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan," past Rotary International president Ian Riseley said. "This means 15 million people are walking today, who would have otherwise been paralysed for life. These achievements are unprecedented, marking the single biggest internationally coordinated public health project the world has ever known."

"A lot of people say I spearheaded the eradication of polio campaign, but that's not right. I just happened to know the right person to talk to," the ever-modest Clem said. "I had no idea where that simple question would lead us – others would build on it, none more so than John Severs, whose commitment to the goal of eradication has not wavered for more than 30 years."



PICTURED: Australia's first Rotary club, the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, was chartered on May 1, 1921, with the first meeting (pictured) held on April 21. The club now has over 250 members and is proud to have many women as very active members in the club.



CENTENARY OF ROTARY IN AUSTRALIA: 1921-2021

A representative committee of the Rotary International Zone 8 Australia Institute is currently researching and preparing a hard copy volume titled *Centenary of Rotary in Australia: 1921-2021*.

Under the chairmanship of former long-serving *Rotary Down Under* editor PDG Bob Aitken AM, the History and Archives Committee also includes:

- PDG Harry Durey, of the Rotary Club of Armidale North, NSW – researching Districts 9670, 9650, 9640 and 9750, along with Rotary Australia World Community

Service and Rotarians Against Malaria projects;

- PDG Marilyn Barton, of the Rotary Club of Melville, WA – researching Districts 9455, 9465, 9500 and 9520, along with ShelterBox and Disaster Aid;
- PDG Ted Richey, of the Rotary Club of Devonport, Tas, researching Districts 9830 9820, 9810, 9800 and 9790, along with Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children;
- PDG Susan Wakefield OAM, of the Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountains, NSW – researching

Districts 9780, 9710, 9700 and 9685, along with Interplast and the Youth Exchange Program.

PDG Jennifer Scott, of the Rotary Club of Central Blue Mountains, NSW, has been co-opted for her legal expertise, and Janet Lawrence, of the Rotary Club of Brisbane Planetarium, Qld, has been co-opted for her book editorial expertise. Janet is researching Districts 9600, 9570 and 9630, along with senior leaders and Probus. Jennifer is researching The Rotary Foundation.

The Institute business session in Hobart, Tas, approved a budget of \$75,000 for the production and distribution of the book. Negotiations led by past Rotary International director Noel Trevaskis saw \$25,000 of that allocation passed on to New Zealand districts to fund production of their own volume.

Committee members are now collecting material from all Australian-based districts to ensure no significant project or achievement is overlooked. Rotarians with information to share are encouraged to contact the committee representatives serving their district – as outlined above.

“However, because of the enormity of the project, space will only be available for those very special, unique historical achievements and projects,” Bob said.

Historical photographs are also sought and must be carefully packed to avoid damage. Electronic photographs may be emailed and should be sent as high-resolution JPG files. Such images must NOT be embedded in email text.



LEFT: The Oceania region's first Rotary International president (1948-49) Sir Angus Mitchell, with close friends and Rotary leaders Down Under at the time (L-R): Maurice Lloyd, Australia, R Merrett Wilkinson, NZ; Harold Thomas, NZ (RI president 1959-60); Roy Blake, Australia; Alfred Wynne, Australia; ODA Oberg, Australia; and William Gordon, NZ.

BELOW: Three famous Australian Rotary International presidents (L-R): Glen Kinross (1997-98), Sir Clem Renouf (1978-79) and Royce Abbey (1988-89).



The Age, Saturday, April 23, 1921:

"The 'Rotary' movement has invaded Melbourne. On Thursday, the first luncheon of the newly formed Rotary club was held and was attended by a large gathering of members. The function was marked by the fun and good humour which supporters of the movement cultivate – for Rotary has a special creed of its own. Mr HB Lee, who holds the office of "sergeant at arms", was presented with a boomerang by Sir John Monash as a mark of office."



Rotary International presidents from Australia and New Zealand

- Angus Mitchell (1948-49), Melbourne, Vic
- Harold Thomas (1959-60), Auckland, NZ
- Clem Renouf (1978-79), Buderim, Qld
- Royce Abbey (1988-89), Melbourne, Vic
- Glen Kinross (1997-98), Brisbane, Qld
- Bill Boyd – 2006-07 – Pakuranga, NZ
- Ian Riseley (2017-18) Sandringham, Vic

Mana Tangata – People of Action

Mana Tangata – People of Action, the official history of Rotary in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, is being written by professional historian Dr Stephen Clarke. Stephen has been given a two-year contract and, with the assistance of research assistant Hamish Dick, a student from Victoria University, has already completed the first three chapters.

Stephen is keen to collect more historical records, photographs and memorabilia from clubs, which can be forwarded to research@rotaryoceania.zone. The forthcoming centenary is also a great opportunity for individual clubs to collect and organise material for their own histories.

Stephen's major body of work has been on New Zealand's military history from 1870 through to the present day. He is a much sought after commentator at ANZAC Day services and has led tours to the battlefields of Gallipoli and the Western Front. His early tertiary education was at the University of Otago, NZ, while he gained his doctorate at the University of New South Wales in Australia.

Rotary in New Zealand has had a major win, with Penguin Books NZ contracted to publish the history. Penguin Books NZ is the country's largest publisher and will take responsibility for editing, designing and publishing the work. Marketing and distribution in the main will still be undertaken by Rotary, to take full advantage of district and club communication networks.

Mana Tangata – People of Action will be integrated into Rotaryoceania Wiki, an online encyclopaedia and archive being set up in conjunction with the published history. All clubs are encouraged to register and add their own stories and projects.

PICTURED: The Polish Peace Pole unveiling.



100 Peace Poles for 100 years

To mark #Rotary100DownUnder, the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin, ACT, will plant 100 Peace Poles for 100 years of Rotary, through collaboration with schools and Rotary clubs around Australia.

The Peace Pole program had its beginnings in 1955, developed by World Peace Prayer Society Founder

Masahisa Goi. Now, more than 200,000 Peace Poles stand in close to 200 countries around the globe, symbolising the common wish for a world at peace. Peace Poles are marked with the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in four languages, standing in silent vigil for peace and acting as a reminder to think and act in the spirit of peace to all.

Schools from around Australia can become involved through invitation by a Rotary club.

“To qualify for one of the 100 Peace Poles, schools need to first take a tour to

the Canberra Rotary Peace Bell during their Canberra School excursions,” Michael Rabey, coordinator of the Canberra Rotary Peace Bell for the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin, said. “While there, each child will be given the opportunity to ring the Peace Bell during a short ceremony. The local Rotary club then donates a Peace Pole to the school on their return from Canberra.”

Schools will receive a Peace Pole to install on their return to their hometown. Once the pole is in place, they can participate in United Nations

Five generations of Rotary in NZ

Sir George Fowlds established firm roots in Rotary, not only for his own Rotary Club of Auckland (RCA) and many other clubs throughout New Zealand during his time as special commissioner for New Zealand (1922-25), but also within his own family.

Sir George was the charter president of RCA 1921-23 and his eldest son, Matthew, was also a charter member. Another son, Bill, was still a member when the club celebrated its golden jubilee in 1971.

Rotary was a real family affair, with Sir George’s son-in-law, Arthur Bailey, joining in 1922. In turn, Arthur Bailey’s son-in-law, John Horrocks, joined in 1961.

Current RCA member Craig Horrocks, the grandson of Arthur Bailey and son of John Horrocks, will be District 9920 governor in 2020-21 during the centenary of the club and Rotary in New Zealand.

Craig’s daughters Hope and Liberty have both been members too, with Hope re-joining after returning to New Zealand from Melbourne, Vic – the fifth generation of the family in Rotary in 100 years.

Well done Sir George!

PICTURED: Craig Horrocks with his daughter Hope – fourth and fifth generation Rotarians and great-grandson and great-granddaughter respectively of Sir George Fowlds.





The Father of Rotary in New Zealand — Sir George Fowlds

Although of humble origins, as a self-made businessman and social-minded reformer, former cabinet minister and community leader George Fowlds had the right stuff to ensure the establishment of Rotary in New Zealand.

After a visit to North America in 1920, George took quickly to the Rotary movement, which he believed “had a great opportunity to promote and develop friendship and fellowship, and could do that if members realised their responsibilities one toward others”. He wholeheartedly devoted himself to its establishment in New Zealand, with significant success. George founded and presided over the Rotary Club of Auckland from June 1921 and was appointed special commissioner for New Zealand 1922–25, responsible for the establishment of more than a dozen Rotary clubs, for which he received the personal gratitude of international founder Paul Harris and the attribution as “the father of Rotary in New Zealand”.

Sir George Fowlds, knighted in 1928, died in Auckland in 1934.



World Peace Day ceremonies on the third Tuesday in September each year in its presence, like thousands of others around the world. This will also be an opportunity for Rotary clubs to develop ongoing contact with the school, as Rotarians may also participate annually to speak to the children on peace issues.

At the time of print, 20 schools had booked to take part in the Peace Poles project, leaving 80 places available. To find out how your club can get involved, contact Michael on 0411 367 700 or visit www.canberrapeacebell.org and hit the “Book a Tour” button to send an email.

Building the Karitane Hospital in Wellington

At a cost of \$1.2 million today, the Karitane Hospital in Wellington was the major project of New Zealand’s first Rotary club in the 1920s. It was opened by the Duchess of York in 1927 to cater for newborn babies that failed to thrive at home. With no government funding, the hospital was built by Rotary in conjunction with the Plunket Society, a philanthropic organisation set up to cater for young mothers and their babies.



Inaugural Rotary Australian Walking Festival

In celebration of #Rotary100DownUnder, the inaugural Rotary Australian Walking Festival will be held in Canberra, ACT, March 26-28, 2021.

There has been an international walking festival held in Canberra since 1991, but in 2021 this annual event will become the Rotary Australian Walking Festival.


The festival is a non-competitive weekend of fellowship activities, with great food, entertainment and walks for people of all ages and abilities.

There will be short walks for the young and elderly around the parks and gardens of the city, and longer, more challenging walks through the hillier areas of the Bush Capital, where participants will be treated to spectacular views over the city and surrounding areas.

As part of the #Rotary100DownUnder celebrations, a special participation medal will be struck to commemorate 30 years of the Canberra walk and 100 years of Rotary in Australia.

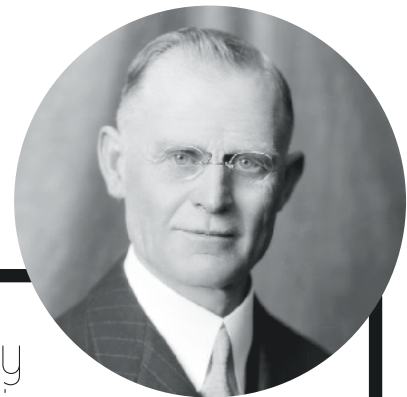
The event will be jointly run by Canberra Rotary clubs and all profits will go to Rotary projects.

To register your interest, fill in your details at bit.ly/walk2021 and more information will be emailed closer to the event. To get involved, contact Chris Edwards via chris@rotary.fitness.



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The benefactor inspired by Rotary — Sir JR McKenzie

Leaving school at 13 to deliver newspapers, John McKenzie became one of New Zealand's wealthiest men and one of its greatest benefactors — the latter he directly attributed to the influence of Rotary.

Born in Melbourne, Vic, John established a "fancy goods" store with his sister in Melbourne in 1905, but transferred his business to New Zealand, with the first McKenzie's store opening in Dunedin in 1910, then Christchurch and Wellington in 1912. McKenzie's eventually had over 70 stores throughout New Zealand before LD Nathan acquired the company in 1980.

John was invited to join the fledgling Rotary Club of Wellington in 1923, and when the family moved to Christchurch in 1927, "JR", as he was known in Rotary circles, joined the Rotary Club of Christchurch. He was later to credit Rotary with having a profound influence on his life, and he made Rotary clubs the main agents for his substantial philanthropy.

In 1938 he established the JR McKenzie Youth Education Fund with a gift of £10,000. Two years later, at the conference of Rotary clubs in Palmerston North in 1940, the JR McKenzie Trust was established with an initial capital base of £300,000 (\$30M today), making it one of the largest philanthropic trusts in the Southern Hemisphere.

Today, the JR McKenzie Trust is the largest philanthropic trust in New Zealand, providing over \$6 million in grants to over 50 organisations each year.

Sir John McKenzie, knighted in 1950 for his contribution to public welfare, died in London in 1955.