



Grant and Sarah Smith



**SERVE TO  
CHANGE LIVES**

## DISTRICT 9910 NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022

### Governor Introduction

Greetings fellow Rotarians,

Welcome to the December / January issue of the Governor's Newsletter.

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month in Rotary. The global pandemic has demonstrated to us all the toll that disease can take on our communities. But fighting disease is something that Rotarians around the world have been doing for decades. In fact, it is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus.

COVID-19 has made us much more aware of the way diseases can be transmitted and wearing masks and maintaining social distance has become the norm. But it has also shown us all the role we can play in keeping others safe.

Over the last week it is great to see clubs starting to reconnect with face-to-face meetings and for many clubs getting together for the first time in four months! Having attended a number of meetings over the past week, it is wonderful to see the delight on Rotarians faces when they see their fellow Rotary friends in person.

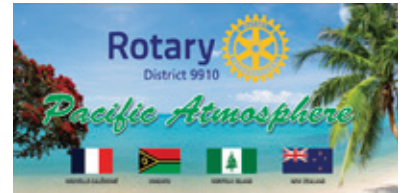
Most clubs are now entering the summer holiday period, and this is a great time to reflect on our achievements over the past 6 months and recharge our batteries as we prepare for the next six months ahead. This will be an exciting time as many projects and fundraising activities have been planned, and Sarah and I look forward to attending as many of these as we can.

A gentle reminder to book now your accommodation for our Rotary District 9910 Conference which will be held in Tauranga from 8-10 April 2022. Our reserved rooms will start to be released at the end of January, so make sure you don't miss out, and remember to register for the Conference at the same time! All the information you need is at [www.rotaryconference9910.org.nz](http://www.rotaryconference9910.org.nz).

To close, we wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and relaxing holiday. We look forward to seeing you in 2022!

*Governor Grant  
and Sarah Smith*

Governor - District 9910  
2021-2022



[www.readypress.co.nz](http://www.readypress.co.nz)

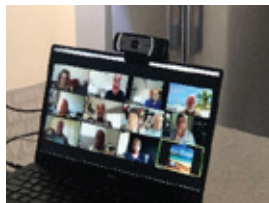
# Out and About with Governor Grant



25 November – DG Visit Warkworth – outside under Covid restrictions



25 November – DG Visit Warkworth – outside under Covid restrictions



10 December Christmas Drinks with Governor Grant



12 December – Rotary Warkworth Strategy Workshop



12 December Warkworth Rotary Town festival



12 December – Rotary and Lions working together!



13 December – Rotary Kaipatiki Christmas Meeting



13 December – Centenarian Ron Taylor celebrating Christmas



14 December Albany Rotary Christmas Party



14 December Governor Grant receiving his Ruby PHF from President Brian



16 December Henderson Rotary Christmas Party



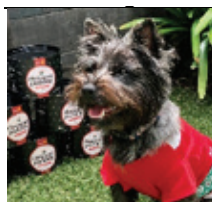
20 Dec Onehunga One Tree Hill Christmas Gathering



Governor Grant and Sarah wishing you all a Merry Christmas



*Merry Christmas*



Luna Smith getting ready to deliver Rotary Christmas Puddings

## District Diary

28 December Rotary Waipapa birthday (chartered 1994)  
15 January RDU copy deadline for next month's magazine  
16-20 January International Assembly  
22 January Rotary BOI - Paihia Beach Dig  
23 January Auckland Marathon

25 January Rotary Orewa birthday (chartered 1964)  
29 January Rotary BOI - Paihia Beach Sandcastle competition  
30 January Rotary Mangawhai - Sand Sculpture  
5 February Rotary Maungaturoto - North Kaipara A&P Show  
23 February Deadline for content to Governor Newsletter Editor

## Events

Events in the district can be found on the district website at the following link [District 9910 Diary](#)  
- clubs who want their events here should send information/flyers to District Administrator, [district9910@gmail.com](mailto:district9910@gmail.com)

# Fun and Games with Korean Club

The Rotary Club of Auckland Korean

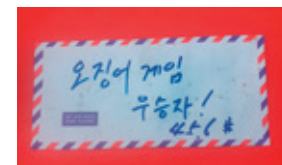
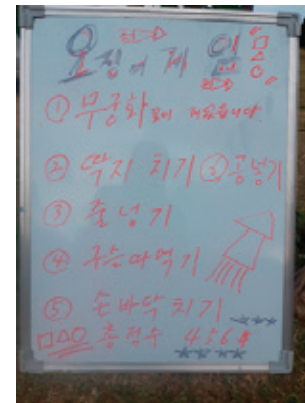
Our club had this year's last meeting on 9th December at Joon Ho Choi's house who is our secretary.

We played squid games and fundraised for supporting Reconnect as we did every year. [www.reconnect.nz](http://www.reconnect.nz)

Here are some photos.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
See you next year

Yuni Won  
President (2021-2022)  
The Rotary Club of Auckland Korean  
Email: [president.koreanrotarynz@gmail.com](mailto:president.koreanrotarynz@gmail.com)



## Hampers by Rotary Kumeu

Rotary Kumeu had a major fundraiser in June 2021 at Markovina Vineyards with a long lunch and this raised funds for our annual gifting of hampers.

50 Hampers were donated this year and given to police, Kindred Services (central hub for referrals from agencies and schools to support local communities) and Massey High School. These are then distributed to people in our communities.

This has been a major event for us and I would like to acknowledge our wonderful Rotarians who have supported this endeavour, especially Craig Walker and his team.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry and safe Christmas.

Monique Fredatovich - President Rotary Kumeu.  
[Monique@vinovum.nz](mailto:Monique@vinovum.nz)



## Christmas Cracker Saturdays

The Browns Bay Christmas Parade was a casualty of Covid again this year as were the carol service and the Christmas tree lighting celebration, but Rotary Browns Bay teamed up with the Business Association to bring some Christmas cheer to the town.

For 3 Saturdays in December, Rotarians, joined by fairies, clowns, elves and a stilt walker hit the streets with goody bags dishing out treats to children. A Santa gazebo was set up in the Plaza, bands were booked and children who had pre-booked on line came at their allotted time to meet a socially-distanced Santa.

A large turn out of Rotarians ensured there was no queuing, masks were in place and everyone was kept safe. Donations were collected for the Salvation Army's Christmas appeal and a great time had by all.





At the end of the 1980s, more than 350,000 children were paralyzed by polio every year. Today, Rotary and its partners have reduced the incidence of polio by 99.9 percent. However, until we see the last of the poliovirus, eradication efforts need additional funding to:

### IMMUNIZE

more than 400 million children against polio every year

### IMPROVE

disease surveillance systems to detect any poliovirus in a person or the environment

### HIRE

more than 150,000 health workers to go door to door to find every child

## CONTRIBUTIONS

.On line payments for Annual Giving and Polio Plus:

District Rotary Foundation Account # 01-0125-0146572-00

.On line Payments for Centurion:

District Centurion Account # 01-0125-0146572-02

If you deposit Funds directly into either of these Accounts please ensure you:

1. Clearly Identify the Club or Individuals Name which relates to the Donation, and  
2. Send an Email to the District Treasurer (Details below) stating what the deposit was for, how much and when it was deposited.

District Foundation Treasurer: Bronwyn Ellison

PO Box 8, Orewa, Auckland 0946

W: 09 4264640 M: 0273891824

Email: bronwyn@otsl.co.nz

# 5 REASONS WHY WE MUST ERADICATE POLIO

## 1 YOUR GIFT WILL IMPROVE LIVES.

Today, 19 million people who would otherwise be paralyzed by polio are walking, and 1.5 million people who would otherwise have died are alive.

## 2 YOUR GIFT WILL INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year. A polio-free world will be a healthier world for children everywhere.

## 3 YOUR GIFT WILL IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH.

Polio surveillance networks and vaccination campaigns also monitor children for other health problems, like vitamin deficiency and measles, so we can address them sooner.

## 4 YOUR GIFT WILL LOWER HEALTH CARE COSTS.

The global effort to eradicate polio has already saved more than \$27 billion in health care costs since 1988, and expects to save \$14 billion more by 2050.

## 5 YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE HISTORY.

Polio eradication will be one of history's greatest public health achievements, with polio following smallpox to become only the second human disease eradicated from the world.

November YTD

**Polio Plus Per District**

|                      | 20-21           | 21/22           | ↑↓              |               |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Philippines          | \$23,615        | \$34,616        | +\$11,001       | +46.6%        |
| Australia            | \$12,356        | \$12,969        | +\$613          | +5.0%         |
| NZ/Pacific           | \$5,470         | \$6,311         | +\$841          | +15.4%        |
| <b>AVERAGE</b>       | <b>\$14,516</b> | <b>\$18,318</b> | <b>+\$3,802</b> | <b>+26.2%</b> |
| <b>District 9910</b> | <b>\$8,565</b>  | <b>\$3,449</b>  | <b>-\$5,116</b> | <b>-59.7%</b> |

# Pt Chevalier Beach and Coyle Park Cleanup

Westhaven Rotary Beach Clean-up goes ahead at Pt Chevalier Beach and Coyle Park ....

Well we finally made it before the wet weather set in again, apparently for days now!!

Thanks to all who donned the tee-shirts and hi-vis jackets to pick up rubbish from these 2 areas.

Also to members Peter Garnett (Rotary East Coast Bays), Emily, Norma, Lucy and Rosa (Rotary Hillsborough, Lynfield and Mt Roskill).

Special thanks to Elaine Mead-Rotary for having to organise this twice and Judy Lawley and Cameron Wylie McGregor for being our on-site co-ordinators.

The highlight of course was the being able to all retire to the Pt Chev Beach Cafe for a drink and some serious 'face to face' socialising!!



## Sandsational Fundraiser

Mangawhai Satellite and S.A.M. (Sand Art Mangawhai) are joining forces to organise a fundraising event on Sunday 30th January 2022 at the Mangawhai Heads surf beach from 10am to 4pm.

- 10 am start: Drop The Golf Ball competition - \$500 First Prize
- 11 am start: Fancy Dressed Dog & Owner competition - \$500 First Prize
- 12 noon start: Sand Sculpture competition
- \$1,000 First Prize
- 2nd prizes in each competition: \$300 (Sand Competition \$500)
- 3rd prizes in each competition: \$200

Entry tickets for all competitions are \$5 each and can be purchased from the Mangawhai Community Markets (Pub & School) and outside the Four Square store Wood street, on Saturday mornings throughout January. Tickets can also be purchased on the day at the beach.

There will be a free bus shuttle service from the Domain in the village where there will be ample parking, to the surf beach (limited parking) with some pick up/drop off stops along the way, and return trips running every hour throughout the day.

Big thanks to our sponsors: The REAL Team Real Estate, Stormcloud Water Delivery, Bachcare NZ and Mangawhai Four Square Store.

Make a date, don't be late, for a fun filled family day out at one of the best beaches in New Zealand.

For more information, please call the event Hot Line 021 0808 7933

Cheers  
Dennis

[mangawhai.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:mangawhai.rotary@gmail.com)

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**SANDSATIONAL**  
**- A Fun Filled Family Day Out**

**SUNDAY 30TH JANUARY 2022**  
**10 am to 4 pm Mangawhai Heads Surf Beach**

- Sand Sculpture Competition
- Drop the Golf Ball Competition
- Fancy Dressed Dog & Owner Competition

**TOTAL SPONSORED PRIZE POOL OF \$3,800**  
**All proceeds going to Mangawhai Rotary**

**ORGANISED BY SAND ART MANGAWHAI**  
**(The Real Team Real Estate)**  
**Ph : 021 0808 7933 or 027 443 3600**  
**In Conjunction with Mangawhai Rotary**

**Tickets Available at the**  
**Mangawhai Markets & Outside Four Square**

**bachcare** THE HOLIDAY HOME CO. **4 FOUR SQUARE** MANGAWHAI HEADS **TR The Real Team Real Estate** **RAINCLOUD** WATER DELIVERY

# Rotarian Ron Taylor Celebrates 100 years

Rotary Kaipātiki, D9910, has had good reason to celebrate not only a century of Rotary in New Zealand, but also 100 years of one of the Club's Honorary and colourful members - Ronald Taylor. Ron was born in rural South Taranaki, New Zealand, in October 1921 – the middle son of 5 children. He did his primary and intermediate schooling in rural schools and attended New Plymouth Boys High School as a boarder. In 1938 he moved to Wellington to work for the National Dairy Association as a lab assistant in the chemical division, starting on £1 -10 shillings per week. 40+ years later he was the Company Secretary,

He married Lola in 1950. They moved from Wellington to Auckland in 1975 and Ron joined the Glenfield Rotary Club in D9910. He was President of the Club in 1992-93 and earned a Mayoral Civic Award for his role in exchanges between schools with Japan. He was awarded a Paul Harris fellow by Glenfield Rotary Club on his 70th birthday and a sapphire pin in his 100th year by Rotary Kaipātiki.

Still a regular attendee of the Club's meetings and social events, he has also been an active member of the Rotary Caravan Fellowship for 43 years.

But Ron's contribution to his country does not stop with Rotary and the local community. In 1941 he was called up to the NZ armed forces and in 1943 travelled by sea to Egypt after the end of the North African campaign, before joining an advanced guard of the 2nd NZ Division that moved up through Italy to drive out the German occupation, landing in the allied held port of Taranto in October 1943.

The NZ forces were part of the British 8th Army but were a fully self-contained, battle-hardened unit refreshed with a large number of new troops that included Ron and his younger brother. Being from a farm background, Ron had obtained a driver's licence at an early age and his skills were used by the army to provide transport for men and munitions as they moved from Taranto to Bari on the Adriatic coast.

Italy is divided by the rugged mountain range through its centre. The 8th British Army and its NZ allies were to move up the east coast while the Americans cleaned up the west coast. When the Americans struck problems at Cassino, Ron had to drive through the night over the Italian Alps carrying NZ forces and equipment to help the US army out. He recalls seeing Mt Vesuvius bellowing steam in the star-lit evening. He was present at the capture of

Florence, Venice and Trieste, where he witnessed the final surrender of Germany in Italy in May 1945. The army gave long deserved leave to its men and Ron was part of the organising group to get soldiers from Trieste for a break in the United Kingdom. He returned to duty in Trieste after several weeks in the UK and finally returned home in January 1946.

A sequel to this amazing story is that over 60 years later, Ron was part of a contingent from those who had been at the surrender in Trieste, invited to return to be given a civic welcome by the local officials and given freedom of the City to acknowledge their efforts all those years ago.

Ron has always been very active - he has been a keen golfer since 1933, and member of the North Shore Golf Club for 40 years where he played down to an 8 handicap. Up to last year he played twilight golf with his Rotary mates, more often than not, winning the round with his shrewd play down the centre of the fairway. He had been heard to remark that he was not enjoying golf at his Club as much, as his group preferred to use golf carts while he preferred to walk the fairways.

Wife Lola passed away 10 years ago. Today Ron is living in a retirement village on the North Shore in Auckland. He has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. He can be proud of his remarkable life of service.



*Troops arriving in Taranto 1943*



## Masks as a Gift

In this photo the president of the RC NOUMEA, Yvan Jezequel and Betty Levanque, the president of the Food Bank of New Caledonia (BANC) wear one of the 440 washable masks offered by the club to the BANC.

BANC is a recent private initiative of volunteers who, every day collect food products that local businesses have left over, that are due to be destroyed as they are close to their expiration date. There are several tons of food recovered each month, and redistributed to the needy from a room made available by the city of Nouméa.

This initiative has, and is, such a success, the RC Nouméa awarded a PHF to its president Betty last June at the evening of 60 years of the club.



## Welcome / Haere Mai / Bienvenue / Welkam

At the half-way point of our Rotary year 2021-2022, Governor Grant would like to welcome the following new Rotarians to the global family of Rotary.



|                    |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| James Hwang        | Auckland Korean                  |
| Grace Chan         | Bay of Islands                   |
| Adrianne Leslie    | Birkenhead                       |
| Lilli-unna King    | Norfolk Island                   |
| Manuel Berthier    | Nouméa Ouen Toro                 |
| Cat Levine         | Onehunga One Tree Hill           |
| Graham Law         | Orewa-Millwater                  |
| Cornelia Wyllie    | Port Vila                        |
| Mitesh Khatri      | Port Vila                        |
| Linda Trenkner     | Port Vila                        |
| Mathias Bulewak    | Port Vila                        |
| Jean Tiome         | Santo                            |
| Errol Boyd         | Whangaparaoa                     |
| Ashleigh Butler    | Whangarei City                   |
| Paul Tattersall    | Whangarei Sunrise                |
| Melissa Clark      | Henderson-Rotalite satellite     |
| Jay Thompson-Milne | Maungaturoto-Mangawhai satellite |

|                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mijin Kim         | Auckland Korean                  |
| Richard Robbins   | Bay of Islands                   |
| Andrew Love       | Milford                          |
| Stuart Friend     | Norfolk Island                   |
| Patrice Miot      | Nouméa Ouen Toro                 |
| Gary Bromley      | Onehunga One Tree Hill           |
| Gaylene Roundill  | Orewa-Millwater                  |
| Losalini Cacau    | Port Vila                        |
| Divina Mikkelsen  | Port Vila                        |
| Robert Agius      | Port Vila                        |
| Merly Yocogan     | Port Vila                        |
| Catherine Skudder | Westhaven                        |
| Richard Dobbinson | Whangarei                        |
| Walaas Saweirs    | Whangarei City                   |
| Kerryn Clark      | Henderson-Rotalite satellite     |
| Mark Bygrave      | Maungaturoto-Mangawhai satellite |
| Charles Stedman   | Maungaturoto-Mangawhai satellite |

These people have transferred between clubs or are returnees to Rotary or District 9910

| NAME                | CURRENT CLUB           | PREVIOUS CLUB                                |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Byunghak Lim        | Auckland Korean        | ex-Rotary Auckland Korean                    |
| Caroline Campbell   | East Coast Bays        | Returned to ECB from Rotary Fielding         |
| Yvonne Cunningham   | Norfolk Island         | ex-Rotary Bundaberg                          |
| Tony Rayner         | Onehunga One Tree Hill | ex-Rotary Honiara, Solomon Islands           |
| Brian Williams      | Onehunga One Tree Hill | ex-Rotary Epsom                              |
| David Taylor        | Onehunga One Tree Hill | ex-Rotary Epsom                              |
| Robert Lyons        | Onehunga One Tree Hill | ex-Rotary Epsom                              |
| Derek Atkinson      | Onehunga One Tree Hill | ex-Rotary Whangarei South                    |
| Cianell Navarro     | Orewa-Millwater        | ex-Rotary Hillsborough, Lynfield, Mt Roskill |
| Murray Brown        | Orewa-Millwater        | ex-Rotary Blenheim                           |
| Bronwyn Bae         | Takapuna               | ex-Rotary Takapuna                           |
| Glenda Hinton       | Whangaparaoa           | ex-Rotary Matamata                           |
| PDG Sandra McKersey | Whangarei South        | Status change from Honorary to Active        |

Names as at 17 December 2021 recorded in the RI database for those who have joined Rotary District 9910 since 1 July 2021.

# Membership Assessment Tools

So here we are at another milestone in the year. Christmas marks the end of a busy calendar year and for Rotary, a half-way point. In the Southern Hemisphere, the big summer break is a time to gather, connect, reflect and share.

I would lay a sure bet Christmas now has changed from that of your childhood, even your adolescence. Not only in the presents and the format of the Christmas meal but also in the people gathered around you. It may feel the same – the same Christmas spirit, values and even some traditions, but things have changed to move with the times.



Auckland Libraries  
Heritage Collections  
1269-K0205-11



*Can you say the same for your club?*



During the summer break you will see family, friends and meet new people. Waiting for the fish to take the bait; gathered around a BBQ; strolling the golf course; enjoying a 'sun over the yardarm' bevy in the campground or local pub. Take the opportunity to include Rotary in your conversation. You could share something you've learnt through Rotary, or a project in which you participated. Tell them how the End Polio Now campaign network is helping in the fight against COVID and this year only 5 wild virus polio cases have been recorded in the last two remaining polio-infected countries. You may have a Rotary Exchange student story or someone in your group was an exchange student themselves.

Your challenge – should you choose to accept it – is to respond to questions about Rotary without mentioning weekly meetings, meals, speakers. Share your experience of Rotary. What has Rotary given you?

Enjoy the Christmas festivities with family and friends and see you all in 2022.

A very merry Christmas  
And a happy New Year

He Kirihirote harikoa  
Me te hari nui mo te Tau Hou

Un très Joyeux Noël  
Et une bonne année

Mi wishim yufala one gud Merri Christmas  
Mo one hapi niu yia

Elaine Mead, District Membership Lead [elainemead.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:elainemead.rotary@gmail.com)

**Secretaries** - the Christmas break is often a good time for 'tidy up' tasks and you can do the same with club and member data.

- Check your member data in [My Rotary](#) and update it where required (learn how to [add](#) or [manage](#) a member);
- Update your [club meeting information](#) (time; place; meeting language; and whether your club meets in person, online, or both) so other clubs, fellow Rotary members and prospective members can easily find you;
- Now the club has had the AGM, you can add the [incoming club officers](#)



## "It Starts With Us"

Come and join us in the beautiful Bay of Plenty for a weekend away to remember!

Reconnect and reflect with other Rotarians and friends of Rotary, experience inspirational moments, and enjoy fellowship and fun!

We look forward to welcoming all Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, Alumni, Friends of Rotary, prospective members and their partners to the most exciting event on the 2021/2022 Rotary calendar – the District 9910 Conference.

The Conference will be held from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th April 2022 at the urban waterfront retreat Trinity Wharf Hotel in Tauranga.

Trinity Wharf is a premium over-water hotel, restaurant, and conference venue. The hotel is built on three piers that stretch out over the water's edge and is conveniently located on the cusp of the Tauranga CBD and is just 10 minutes from the Tauranga airport which is regularly serviced with flights from Auckland.

The Conference theme of "It Starts With Us" promises attendees a fabulous line up of inspirational speakers, as we celebrate the successes we have made during this Rotary Year and the impact we have made to serve to change lives. Come prepared to be informed, entertained and inspired!

The conference commences on Friday evening with welcome drinks, and the conference proper starts on Saturday morning. There will be free time on Saturday afternoon for you to explore the local surroundings and activities. Pack your glad rags for the Saturday dinner as the theme will be "Glitz and Glamour". Sunday will wrap up at lunchtime, for your safe travel home.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### Accommodation

Accommodation for the conference will be at Trinity Wharf Tauranga, a superior over-water hotel in the heart of Tauranga, a flat ten-minute walk to nearby bars, restaurants, and shops, and a ten-minute drive to Mt Maunganui and the airport. Free parking onsite.

Trinity Wharf Tauranga offers two accommodation categories –

- Urban or Harbour

Each category has a slightly different view and floor plans may differ; however, they all boast king beds, four-point bathrooms, heated floor tiles and complimentary Wi-Fi.

Further information regarding room categories can be found here:

[Urban](#)

[Harbour](#)

### Room Prices:

- Urban King (1x King Bed) - \$175 per room per night
- Urban Twin (2x Single Beds) - \$175 per room per night
- Urban Balcony - \$195 per room per night
- Urban Balcony Premium - \$215 per room per night
- Harbour King - \$235 per room per night
- Harbour Deluxe Spa - \$265 per room per night

Room Prices include GST but do not include breakfast.

In house buffet breakfast is available for \$24.00 including GST per person (can be charged to your room account).

To book your accommodation please complete the Accommodation Booking Form by clicking the link below:

<https://bit.ly/3zajfD>

Once you have completed the booking form, the hotel will receive an email indicating your booking and will then confirm your booking directly with you.



### Hotel Contact details:

51 Dive Crescent, Tauranga

Bay of Plenty, 3110

P: 07 577 8981

W: [www.trinitywharf.co.nz](http://www.trinitywharf.co.nz)

E: [groups@trinitywharf.co.nz](mailto:groups@trinitywharf.co.nz)

### Conference Registration

Once you have booked your accommodation, you will need to register for the conference. You can register here: Registration Please complete one registration form for EACH conference attendee from your family/group. A copy of each individual's registration will then be sent to them once it has been completed. Any cancellations must be advised by email to [rasfambc@gmail.com](mailto:rasfambc@gmail.com)

After registration you will be sent an invoice by the Conference Treasurer (which will include bank account details for payment) In the event of COVID disruption or circumstances beyond our control that cause the conference to be cancelled – registrations fees will be refunded in full, less any committed or incurred costs, or a donation can be made on your behalf to The Rotary Foundation. Accommodation cancellation fees will be advised by the provider, these costs are your responsibility.

\$195 Full Conference (Fri 8 - Sun 10 April)

\$150 Full Conference - Rotaractor (Fri 8 - Sun 10 April)

\$100 Full Conference - Interactor/under 18yo (Fri 8 - Sun 10 April)

# ROTARY & INTERPLAST A GOOD NEWS STORY

**Narangerel's story is one of hopelessness turning to hope.**

**Despite living in pain every day for 25 years, 27-year-old Narangerel\* has chosen to dedicate her life to helping others, training as a nurse in Khuvsgul aimag, the northernmost province in Mongolia.**

Badly burnt as a two-year-old when her synthetic clothing melted to her skin following exposure to a hot oven, Narangerel experienced pain every day for the next two decades.

Suffering from burns reaching from her abdomen down to her thighs, the young woman's severe scarring and injuries also left her unable to have children, restricted her day-to-day movement, and meant she was unable to lift heavy objects.

But Narangerel would not let her challenges impede her. She trained as a nurse wanting to provide care to others.

Thanks to her experience in the local hospital, Narangerel was aware of Interplast and in 2018, her role reversed when the healthcare worker became the patient, as she underwent her life-changing surgery.



Narangerel\* after her successful surgery  
\*Not the patient's real name

Following a four-month recovery from the surgery and an even longer wait for the skin on her thighs to fully heal, Narangerel no longer suffers from her childhood injuries.

In an interview in October 2021, Narangerel had tears in her eyes as she described her life before the Interplast team performed her surgery, and her new life afterwards.



Narangerel in October 2021

*"Everyone said I was hopeless. When I was in school, I didn't go to physical education classes at all."*

*"The Interplast doctors have given me a new life and hope in my life. My abdomen is now healed and (I am) without any problems with childbirth. I tell people with burns about this program," she said. "The people at the Interplast program were really great doctors and nurses. They explained the whole process to me. That's why I've come from such a far, remote soum to give this interview."*

*I'm so grateful to the Interplast."*

In addition to providing surgeries like Narangerel's, Interplast is working with partners in Mongolia to reduce the incidence of preventable injuries like the burns Narangerel suffered as a two year old.

Rotary and Interplast - working together to do good in the world since 1983.

For more information please contact your Interplast District Chair or Interplast Rotary Coordinator Janette on [janette.etherington@interplast.org.au](mailto:janette.etherington@interplast.org.au)



**Interplast**

Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives  
in the Asia Pacific region

**Rotary**  
Australia & New Zealand



interplastanz



interplastanz

[www.interplast.org.au](http://www.interplast.org.au)

[www.interplast.org.nz](http://www.interplast.org.nz)

## COVID-19 Vaccination Statement

We see the decision to vaccinate as a civic and humanitarian imperative. Rotary is not a political or religious organization, it is a service organization and this is the lens through which we are advising you of our position.

1. Global vaccination is the path to ending the pandemic and the emergence of new variants. Rotary endorses and strongly encourages vaccination for all individuals including our members who are currently able to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In areas where COVID-19 is surging, communities are facing extreme challenges, health systems are overwhelmed, and contentious rhetoric is dividing us. It is critical that the virus be contained so that the world may begin to heal. To that end, the purpose of this statement is to reinforce Rotary's position.
2. Misinformation has become an "infodemic" that hinders the fight against COVID-19. In line with our Four-Way Test, Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation are committed to providing our members with science-based information.
3. Rotary International staff at One Rotary Center were required to be vaccinated by 10 October 2021, as a criterion for employment after that date. RI's employee vaccination rate stands at over 99 percent.
4. Globally, Rotary is actively engaged in assuring equity in vaccine access to all people. Our efforts have included advocacy with the G-20, and a proof-of-concept program with GAVI/COVAX to leverage our frontline experience with polio eradication to facilitate vaccine delivery in several low- and middle-income countries where Rotarians are active. While we know many clubs are already deeply involved in COVID-19 prevention, we are working on additional strategies to multiply our collective efforts. GAVI/COVAX is a partnership including WHO and UNICEF focused on global access and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines.
5. Those children for whom vaccines are not currently available are at significant risk. Until vaccines are available for all children, the vaccination of adults is the best way to protect children who cannot be vaccinated. Pediatric admissions for COVID-19 are rising precipitously in areas of low vaccination.
6. Rotary salutes health care workers everywhere as they continue to provide lifesaving services. Local recognition of these heroes by each of our clubs can help to encourage them to continue their important work. Rotary abhors any harassment and attacks on healthcare workers.
7. Rotary and Rotaract clubs are encouraged to
  - set good examples by being exemplary role models;
  - redouble their efforts to support COVID-19 treatment, prevention, and vaccination efforts.

8. Vaccines have proven to be one of the greatest advances of modern medicine. The World Health Organization estimates that vaccines save between 2 to 3 million children's lives each year, and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative estimates the polio vaccine has saved more than 19 million children from paralysis. Vaccines are safe, effective and are responsible for eliminating or controlling many other vaccine-preventable diseases such as smallpox, measles, rubella, and Ebola. And now, there is the opportunity to end the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccines.
9. The eradication of polio remains a goal of the highest order for Rotary. We can apply the lessons we have learned in fighting polio to the efforts in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Regards,

Shekhar Mehta  
President, Rotary International

John Germ  
Chair, The Rotary Foundation

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## A Kiwi Night Before Christmas

It was the night before Christmas, and all round the bach  
Not a possum was stirring; not one we could catch.

We left on the table a meat pie and beer,  
In hopes that Santa Claus soon would be here.

We children were snuggled up in our bunk beds,  
While dreams of pavlova danced in our heads;  
And mum in her nightie, and dad in his shorts,  
Had just settled down to watch TV sports.

When outside the bach such a ho-ha arose,  
I woke up at once from my wonderful doze.  
I ran straight to the sliding door, looking about,  
Jumped out on the deck, and let out a shout.

The fairy lights dad had strung up around the door  
Let me see everything down to the shore.  
And what did I see, when I took a peep?  
But a miniature tractor and eight tiny sheep.

With a little old driver, his dog on his knee.  
I knew at once who this joker might be.  
He patted his dog, and in a voice not unkind,  
Cried "Good on ya, boy! Now, get in behind!"

"Now, Flossy! now Fluffy! now Shaun and Shane!  
On, Bossy! on, Buffy on, Jason and Wayne!  
Up that red tree, to the top of the bach!  
But mind you don't trample the vegetable patch."

So up on the roof those sheep quickly flew,  
With the tractor of toys, Santa and his dog too.  
As my sister awoke and I turn around,  
In through the window he came with a bound.

He wore a black singlet and little white shorts,  
And stuck on his feet were gumboots of course;  
A sack full of toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a postie just opening his pack.

His eyes right as paua shell - oh, how they twinkled!  
Like an old tuatara, his skin was all wrinkled!  
He had a wide face and a round, fat tummy,  
That looked like he'd eaten lots that was yummy.

He spoke not a word, but got down on one knee,  
And placed a cricket set under the tree,  
A present for sis, one for dad, one for mum,  
Then he turned and he winked and held up his thumb.

He jumped on his tractor, to his dog gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew, as fast as a missile.  
I called out "thanks," as he flew past the gate.  
He called back: "Kia ora to all, and good on ya, mate."

*The New Zealand version of "The night before Christmas" by Yvonne Morrison*



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