

# The Timeball

Official Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Williamstown  
Rotary District 9800  
Rotary International Club Number 7208

Rotary Year 2019-20

Date 6 April 2020

## President's Report

Welcome to everyone for our second zoom meeting. Thank you Murray for hosting again. Good to see Des and Paul joining in. Hope DG Grant and Nils and Jan had a good birthday on Saturday. Thanks to Guy for agreeing to do a short presentation tonight. This could be a regular occurrence.

Be good to get a guest speaker on End Trachoma one night. At our last board meeting there was interest in this. (*Murray will speak to Lien Trinh, Project Manager to do this. See Lien's bio in this bulletin. She is our guest speaker on Monday*). Also Gabe Hau, President E-club last year now talking to Clubs about the coming peace building clubs. (*Guest speaker following Monday*)

The Club has nominated Murray to represent District 9800 on the Council on Legislation for the next three years, 2020-2023. The current COL representative PDG Dennis Shore finishes his six year term on June 30. Murray has been his "alternate" for the past three years and more than aptly meets the criteria for this position.

## Guest speaker – Guy Chatain

Guy spoke about his first 6 months in Australia.

50 years ago in Jan 1970 he was just back at uni after the Christmas holiday. A friend in Paris said that the Australian government was paying the trip for anyone who wanted to come to Australia for two years. He and two friends were interested. They were not so familiar with Australia but had heard that the country had kangaroos, bushmen living in jungle, rugby and that English was the spoken language. Australia was keen to get people so their application was moved quickly with approval to come in November.

Found out Australia not too good at building bridges as a large one had just collapsed in Melbourne before it was finished (*West Gate*). His two friends left earlier but Guy stayed back to attend a wedding of a friend in late October. After the function several of them wanted to carry on to a nightclub. But Guy wasn't so interested as he had met a young lady and wanted to get to know her more. In the morning he discovered the nightclub had burnt down, 146 people had died including some of his friends. A real tragedy worldwide, people were even talking about it when he arrived in Australia. (*Editor's note: It was on 31 October - Club Cinq-Sept 2.5 kms from St Laurent du Pont near Grenoble, only 60 survivors from a crowd of 180, mostly young people 18-30. It was reportedly caused by a carelessly discarded match igniting a foam-filled seat cushion on the first floor gallery.*)

After meeting Australian authorities in Paris the migrants were taken to London where they boarded a chartered flight to Australia. The plane was full of mainly British people but also Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and a few French. On route the flight stopped in Karachi and Singapore. They were intrigued to discover the colourful monopoly-like Australian currency.

Landed at Tullamarine airport which had only been open two weeks. No-one else was around. They were surprised to see the young Customs officers looking like hippies in uniform with long hair and unshaven beards. They were very friendly and welcoming but very thorough in inspecting their bags to ensure they were not bringing in any porn. They were put on a bus which separated single women, men and families and they drove down to the hostel at Fishermans Bend. When they arrived they burst out laughing as it looked like a concentration camp with barbed wire fences and Nissen huts. However it was not so bad and quite comfortable. In fact so comfortable that an English family had been living there for two years with no intention of going anywhere since everything was free, three daily meals, etc.

Guy and his friends had come to Australia for adventure and holiday and were not going to stay in a camp, so despite the comforts they moved out after one week. They found accommodation in Elwood close to beach. They were amused to discover they had to use 20 cent coins in a metre to watch TV or for gas heating of the stove.

After discovering that their landlady had the tendency to go through their items when they were not at home, they moved out to Brighton. Had no idea it was a posh area - to them it was just another suburb. They lived in a semi-detached house, people they met were so welcome. Introduced them to BBQ's where people brought their own meat and drinks, a novelty to the French! To them it seemed so unsophisticated but nevertheless they loved it all.

Got a job at Wills Tobacco factory in East Bentleigh, making cigarettes on a production line. After a few weeks he was sent to the warehouse where tobacco was stored. Started at 8.15 but by 9.30-10am the job was finished, so the boss told them to 'hide' until 4pm when they could go home. They were saving money like mad to go to up north to the Tropics so they decided to get a second job. With such a 'cushy' job at the factory Guy decided to apply for a fulltime position and became Cleaner Extraordinaire at the ABC in Elsternwick. Worked from 10pm til 7am. Then back to work at the factory. Worked a couple of hours then took a nap on the tobacco bales until home time at 4pm. His friends would wake him at 9.30pm then he returned to the ABC for his night job. This routine continued for a few weeks.

One morning he arrived at work at the factory and found semi-trailers bringing a stock of tobacco, which meant they had to work 8 hours non-stop. It was very hard work and combined with working at the ABC at night, he got so tired he couldn't sleep any more. He was like a walking zombie.

In the 3-4 weeks at the factory he earned \$51 week and 3 packets Benson and Hedges. The six nights a week at the ABC earned him \$65 a week, so he decided to keep this job and gave up working at the factory.

With their savings Guy and his friends bought a Land Rover for \$4500 in Footscray (just 500 metres from his present home). In a shop in Flinders Street they purchased a shotgun and two Winchester rifles, bullets and cartridges. Carried them home on train to Brighton, no-one minding, all seemed so normal. Later friends suggested at the end of the Brighton line was a place called Frankston which was worth checking out. So at the weekend they drove south taking their tent and rifles. Erected tent on beach. Beautiful day except place was full of flies, they hadn't heard about Aerogard then. However in the evening the flies and crowds left and they decided to practise their shooting skills using empty beer bottles placed on rocks. No-one bothered them – wonderful Australia!

They prepared for their journey north to the Tropics and were asked which way they were going – along the coast or inland. They chose to travel inland as it was shorter. They took off on 12 June but got lost in the Blue Mountains, not such a comfortable experience in the middle of winter sleeping in their tent out in the open around the campfire. After Sydney they reached Brisbane and then Rockhampton. They picked up two women hitch-hiking who had a map, first time they had seen one. Dropped the women 65 kms north of Rockhampton in the middle of nowhere and they continued their adventure including driving along dirt roads for the first time. *(to be continued in next episode .....*)

Guy and his friends enjoyed their introduction to Australia and found the country and people very friendly and relaxed. Mini-skirts were the fashion at the time but here they were much more mini than back at home. They didn't even cover the girls' navels and while sitting on the trams they could check out the colour of the girls' underwear in front. They didn't have tattoos back in France then so seeing them on the guys' arms and legs was another unusual discovery. Another amusement was seeing the businessmen looking like boy scouts in white shirts, blue shorts, long white socks and black shoes.

It was a great experience and he is still here 50 years later. The only thing is that at BBQs everyone insisted on burning the meat and it was impossible to get it rare! Another thing that stayed in his mind is that wherever they went was the pervading smell of mutton which he thought was horrible.

## **Murray**

Thank you Guy – that was fantastic, a great story. It would be good if someone could do this every week, to tell a story from their life, or about their hobby.

If you want to watch the full funeral there are two videos, the full funeral and the photographic presentation. You can go to Nelson Bros website or the link on our FB page. Grant has also put a tribute on the webpage and in the District Newsletter and a few other clubs have also made tributes. She is certainly being missed by many people in the Rotary world.

## **Hazel**

I attended Yvonne's funeral and so grateful I was given this chance given that there could only be a small amount of people in attendance. It was very special in the circumstances. If you have seen the video you will see that everything was done amazingly. Going along the Esplanade, there were the Songbirds, a group she was part of, and these women were singing in the street, we arrived at Avington, everyone had the teal coloured bows, they were lining the street where she lived, dressed in bling, drinking champagne. It was beautiful.

## **Murray**

It is worth seeing the video if you haven't. Greg Ross did a magnificent job as celebrant reading out the tributes. The Bike Riders at the end following her out of the funeral parlour and down the road. And many of the Club members on the service road outside the funeral parlour to say goodbye. (*See tribute from a RoCan cyclist in this Bulletin*).

## **Daniel.**

I thought it was really interesting when Guy spoke. Great way to get to know one another if we have little segments each time from members and maybe some relevant club related topics too. Although I've been around a few years I'm still reasonably hungry for that sort of information.

## **Murray.**

I thought that one week I could show everyone the Rotary Learning Centre with lots of useful information which you can do at your leisure. Many people are happy to come online and talk about their causes. Also I'm quite happy for someone else to chair the meetings once I set it up. We can be flexible about this on the way forward.

I want also to let you know that Daniel made a donation to the Foundation in honour of Yvonne. Really lovely touch, most appreciated.

Congratulations to Jo for excellent Bulletin put out this week. Really important now that we are isolated to keep in touch through the Bulletin.

*One of the RoCan cyclists, Branco Marcina, who rode in the funeral procession made a 22 minute video as he followed the hearse from Nelson Bros to Avington. It can be seen on Yvonne's FB page or on this link.*

<https://www.rocan.com.au/yvonne-tribute>.

*Below is an edited version of his tribute to Yvonne.*

Here I was sitting in my Lycra at Nelson Brothers funerals in Williamstown in the room next to Yvonne's funeral service. COVID-19 pandemic meant only 10 people were allowed to attend the funeral of Yvonne Moon.

A few days earlier Fred had called to ask if I'd like to be part of a small number of riders that would accompany the hearse as it left Nelson Brothers. Of course I would! I would have loved it more if all the RoCan riders past and present could have ridden along as well. Whilst disappointed it couldn't be that, I understood why it had to be this way, and felt very honoured I was asked to be a part of it.

I'm able to hear the service being officiated by Greg Ross next door. I know it's being videotaped to be uploaded shortly after, but I wanted to sit there and listen and sort of be part of it. Greg was doing such a fantastic job and I identified with a lot of what was being said about Yvonne.

My first RoCan ride was in 2017, a newcomer compared to many that had served it so well for many years. Whilst there are many great memories of Yvonne as part of the RoCan ride, as I sit there, the strong memory I have is for a non-cycling event Yvonne put together in 2019.

Let me set the scene. There were many events Yvonne ran, including dinners, golf days, concerts and the like. These all complemented the annual RoCan cycling event. Being a cyclist I fit in neatly into that event. I was asked to join the organising committee. Who could say no to Yvonne? Each person in the committee had their own contribution. I work in IT, so a lot of mine were to do with communications, streamlining the fundraising, sharing photos and bike videos. I was in my element.

In 2019, Yvonne fulfilled a dream to run a fashion show as a RoCan fundraiser. She asked me if I'd like to be part of it, together with my much better-looking son Adam. A fashion show was not something I aspired to. My wife Jackie will attest to this, fashion is not my strong point. Being part of a fashion show was certainly not in my wheelhouse, but who could say no to Yvonne? I'm glad Adam said yes because it would mean there were two of us well out of our comfort zone. The only clothes we tried on before the event were some dinner suits when we met Yvonne one lunchtime at the suit hire shop.

The fashion parade was held at the Italia Club in Sunshine near the Ring road. Jackie and I attended as well as Adam of course. From the time we got there to the time it finished for me was total confusion. I told Adam we just had to go with the flow and enjoy the mayhem. On one side of the hall were all the donated goods that would be auctioned off. A lot of it! How does Yvonne do it? In amongst all of this was Yvonne running around the place getting things going. I had so many questions, what order do we wear out clothes in? What to wear each time. Where are the clothes? Why are they all different sizes to us? We got Yvonne's attention for short periods of time, where she pointed us to someone and gave some of the answers. She'll be right was the Aussie saying that came to mind. Typical Yvonne, this was being organised on the fly and in the meantime there was mayhem. Next thing Adam and I are getting descriptions for all the goods and writing them down and working out a reserve price. We were now part of the auction team. How did that happen? Just go with the flow.

But you know what, it worked. The night was a great success. Everyone had a good time and importantly money was raised for the charity. There was an opera singer, an MC that had beaten cancer and also a giant cheque from Bendigo Bank to name a few. That is a day I'll remember for a long time. Only someone like Yvonne could have made that a success. All those there loved Yvonne and that's a big part of why it worked. At many times before the night, and perhaps during, she could have said you know what, this is really too hard and let's not go ahead. Yvonne's idea was to give it a go and had the courage to do it. If it works great, if not so be it. More often than not, it worked for Yvonne. She wasn't afraid of failure. She achieved so much with this attitude that you just marvel at, and ask the question how did Yvonne do that? In all these things, Yvonne was able to get people to help her. It didn't matter if you knew anything about what she was asking. She was always very appreciative of the help regardless of when, where and how well it was done. She really did appreciate it.

So as the service was ending, I went outside and met with the other riders, Gus and Regis Garnsworthy and Phil Purdy, the who's who of RoCan. We were to escort Yvonne along Kororoit Creek Road. Fred had told me earlier that the hearse would continue straight on Kororoit Creek Road after Millers Road and we could ride with it until then. I planned to do that and that would be my goodbye to Yvonne, and then ride along on my own to be in my own space, perhaps riding to Avington in Saltwater Promenade where Yvonne and Fred's home is.

When we turned out from Nelson Brothers, I was amazed at the number of people lining the street. I can't imagine how many people there would have been at the service if this pandemic wasn't on.

I managed to continue on all the way to Avington where a few other RoCan riders would be waiting to escort Yvonne around the estate. As I rode, I thought about the fact that I was slipstreaming a hearse. Not something I'd ever done before. Yvonne certainly would have seen the funny side of that. When doing such riding, you need to concentrate a lot to ensure you don't crash into the back of the hearse. Another laugh for Yvonne no doubt.

At Avington Peter 'Hollywood' Laing, Andrew Rothfield, Thelma Hutchinson and Denis O'Brien greeted us. More great people I've met as being part of this RoCan charity. The familiar Mercedes Vito Van in its RoCan charity livery led us around. This van dubbed the Danny DeVito was the support vehicle during the RoCan rides. Its distinctive looks were a welcome sight out on the open road and it was often Fred driving with Yvonne riding shotgun to give us whatever support we needed. Fred now asked me to lead the other riders around the estate. Again I couldn't believe how many were out to see Yvonne off, a lot of them dressed like they were going to a cocktail party. Truly emotional.

We stopped at Yvonne's and Fred's home where Fred said his last goodbye. He asked me to escort the hearse out of the estate. I kept riding until I could no longer see Yvonne.

I've written this as a tribute to Yvonne. Also, a lot of what I've written here is for the RoCan riders who weren't able to be part of this ride, which I really wish they could have been. Likewise, the video is for their benefit also. I've kept the video as raw as possible with minimal editing. Finally, Fred, this video is also for you to see some of Yvonne's journey after your goodbye.

Bye Yvonne,  
Love Branco

## Guest speaker Easter Monday on End Trachoma

### *Lien Trinh*



Lien wants to live in a world where avoidable forms of vision impairment don't exist, where individuals are empowered, and human diversity is celebrated.

She is one of 6 children; her parents were refugees who fled Vietnam by boat in the early 80s and founded a new life in Australia.

Lien holds a Bachelor of Optometry from the University of Melbourne and Master of Optometry from the University of NSW.

She has experience working in low-income settings internationally (Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea) as well as throughout Australia, providing eye-care services and building local eye personnel capacity through teaching, research and evaluation.

In 2013 she was awarded the inaugural D9800 Global Grant from the Rotary Foundation to study a Master of Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

She has since worked at Indigenous Eye Health (University of Melbourne), and now manages 2 delightful tots as well as our Project EndTrachoma by 2020.

As Rotary's End trachoma Project Coordinator, Lien is working to identify, develop and support effective public health interventions that will contribute to ending trachoma, a potentially blinding infectious eye disease, from Australia by 2020. The project focuses on raising the living standards of some of our poorest Australians, aiming to empower and enable improved hygiene and living practices, and promote stronger health and wellbeing.

**Email:** [lien@endtrachoma2020.org.au](mailto:lien@endtrachoma2020.org.au)

**Website:** [www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au)

## District Governor Grant Hocking

Hello Rotarians

I started the year and continued at club meetings quoting Rotary founder Paul Harris and it seems very appropriate to restate it at this time.

**This is a changing world; we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again.”**  
(Rotary founder Paul Harris in 1935)

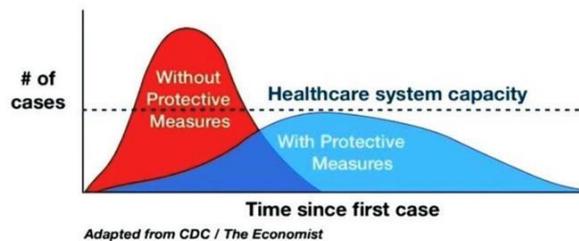


Following the last edition there has been a lot of activity and some vital information that needs to be communicated.

### COVID-19 (Corona Virus) IMPACT

There is no doubt that we are and will be feeling the impact of the COVID-19 virus for many months to come. The authorities are now focussed on a process of 'social or physical distancing' in an effort to reduce the speed of spread of the virus. The effect of this process is to ensure our health services are not overwhelmed. It will mean that the virus is around longer but we will be able to manage it better.

**This may be a shock to some people but current government modelling with the physical distancing being practiced puts the peak at late June which means that we have around 6 months before restrictions are lifted.** So we need to adapt quickly and maintain this for several months.



We have proven abilities to reach out and collaborate to offer immediate help to people in need at a rapid pace. These are precisely the skills needed all over the world today.

Be wary of comments on social media as they are most often incorrect or at worst contain malicious programs that can harm your computer. Unfortunately some people use any opportunity to damage and scam others.

I urge all Rotarians to only get their advice and information on managing COVID-19 from official sources as shown below.

**The Australian Academy of Science** (<https://www.youtube.com/user/ScienceAcademyAu>) has some excellent short videos although the information dates very quickly as Covid-19 evolves.

**The Federal Department of Health** ([Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) health alert](#)) has lots of practical advice and is updated daily.

**The Victorian Department of Health** (<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>)

### District Conference cancellation refunds

The committee continues to unpack the arrangements and to determine the financial implication to the District.

**All registrants should have received full refunds at this time or very soon.**

Since alerting registrants and the broader District, we have received many responses of support and confirmation that we had a great program. I thank everyone who provided positive feedback as it really does mean a lot to those of us working hard and making decisions.

**I am working with our conference speakers to support our twice weekly Zoom meetings – see details below.**

### Time for Innovation

Whilst the current limitations on our meetings and events can be disheartening for many Rotarians there are things we can do to ensure our communication, meetings, actions and decisions continue to support our communities and our members. **Seize the opportunity to innovate and improve in other areas.**

Check out more information on the [District website](#) at the new **'Staying Connected'** TAB

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/staying-connected>



Start using **Video Conferencing** programs. It's easy and free options are available.

The district uses Zoom. All you need to do is click on the link provided on the zoom invitation.

You don't need to have your own account. If clubs or clusters want to run meetings an account is necessary. Information has been sent to clubs for 20% discounts via **MyRotary Global Rewards**.

To ensure we stay connected at this difficult time the District has organised a twice weekly Zoom meeting. These are open to any Rotarian in District 9800 who wishes to join. The meetings will occur **every Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6pm**. Your computer or phone can be used with a camera and microphone.

To join the D9800 Zoom Meeting use this link <https://zoom.us/j/103410322>

As referenced above I am arranging for some of our conference guest speakers to present at our Zoom meetings, This will provide an opportunity for you to experience what would have happened at the conference.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Jeremy Forbes from HALT (Hope Assistance Local Tradies)**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Emergency Services Commissioner Andrew Crisp**

More speakers are being organised so keep an eye on the website and Facebook pages.

### District Recognitions

We will be arranging another opportunity to present these to the successful clubs and announcing these in the coming weeks. This is a good way **for District 9800 to thank you** for all your dedication to changing lives for the better and to congratulate Clubs on their commitment to serve others.

### Peace Builder Clubs

Promoting Peace is a key 'Area of Focus' for Rotary International. All Rotarians are, fundamentally, Peacebuilders. Whatever your club projects are, they are all different ways of creating positive peace in our communities and Rotarians are Peacebuilders in the truest sense.



**The District 9800 Peacebuilding Committee** is tasked to promote better understanding of peace within our District, to provide support on peace projects and other initiatives, to show how peace projects can benefit clubs and to connect clubs with partners to peace.

**One of the things your club can do during these changed times is to complete the following activities.**

**Encourage all your members to learn about peace** by going to <https://positivepeace.academy/> and completing the course. This gives you an excellent overview about peace and why what Rotary does is so important for peace

**Get your Rotary Club to become a Peacebuilder Club.**

It is easy to do and opens up a lot of opportunities for projects.

Put your Club on the Peace Map!

You can find out about Peacebuilder Clubs here:

<https://www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org/peacebuilder-clubs-2/>



**Contact the District 9800 Peacebuilding Committee.**

We can provide information about peace, make suggestions for projects, connect you and your club to external partners and more.

Email Gabe Hau at [ghau@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ghau@optusnet.com.au) to start the conversation.

**Remember we are all in this together so stay healthy, eat well, be kind and support each other.**

**Look after your fellow Rotarians and club members.**

Melissa and I look forward to seeing you on line in the short term and then in person once the restrictions are lifted.

Grant and Melissa

Grant Hocking ASM (Melissa)

Woodend Rotary

**District 9800**

**District Governor 2019-2020**

Email: [granhocking64@gmail.com](mailto:granhocking64@gmail.com)

Phone: 0429 802 722



Protect yourself and your family - wash your hands regularly



## INTRODUCTION

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to support the Rotary Clubs of District 9800 in their efforts to maintain engagement during times when many clubs have reduced face to face meetings, projects or social events. This guide has been compiled with ideas and strategies for Clubs to consider. The following is an offering of support, not a requirement. Club Leaders are encouraged to consult with their boards to assess and determine which strategies will be useful on the local level.

None of these strategies is a replacement for timely, transparent and regular communication with your members about your plans to continue modified operations throughout this time. Be sure that all committee and office leaders in your club are equipped with consistent messaging to minimize confusion to your members and to streamline communications about changes as they arise. Consider sending brief weekly updates to your members or provide a timeline for when decisions will be reviewed and modified if necessary.



*Do you have a great strategy that's working for your Club or any suggestions for other Clubs?*

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## HOSTING WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE GATHERINGS ON THE INTERNET



### HIT THE MUTE BUTTON IF YOU'RE NOT TALKING

This gives whoever is speaking the space to be heard. It also means you can say 'ooh big stretch!' when your dog wakes up from their nap... and no one will hear it.



### WAVE AT PEOPLE AS THEY ENTER THE CHAT

A friendly wave and a smile is a non-interruptive but welcoming way to greet people as they enter the video chat, especially if someone else is already speaking!



### BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER

This one probably seems a bit obvious, but it's important to recognise that some people are more confident with technology than others and for some, your gathering may be their very first. Be patient, gentle and kind. But probably don't blow kisses.



### TAP YOUR EAR IF YOU CAN'T HEAR SOMEONE

There's a high chance that someone might forget they've muted themselves at some stage, so a gentle, non-intrusive way to remind them that they're muted is to tap your ears. Hopefully they won't think you're initiating a game of Charades.



### RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK

If there are quite a few of you on a video chat and the conversation is booming, it might be handy ('scuse the pun) to raise your hand when you have something to say. A bit like an invisible talking stick.



### PROP YOUR SCREEN UP IN ONE SPOT

The last thing you want to do is cause your fellow video-buddies some sea-sickness by moving around too much. We recommend propping up your phone or laptop in one spot so you reduce the amount of motion and hopefully avoid seeing these kinds of faces looking back at you.

## **POLIO ERADICATION STAFF SUPPORT COVID-19 RESPONSE.**

*Using the vast infrastructure developed to identify the poliovirus and deliver vaccination campaigns, the polio eradication program is pitching in to protect the vulnerable from COVID-19, especially in polio-endemic countries. From Pakistan to Nigeria, the program is drawing on years of experience fighting outbreaks to support governments as they respond to the new virus.*

### **Pakistan**

Few health programs have as much practice tracking virus or reaching out to communities as the Pakistan polio eradication program. This means the polio team is in a strong position to support the Government of Pakistan in COVID-19 preparedness and response.

Currently, the polio team is providing assistance across the entire country, with a special focus on strengthening surveillance and awareness raising. Working side-by-side with the Government of Pakistan, within three weeks the team has managed to train over 280 surveillance officers in COVID-19 surveillance. It has also supported the development of a new data system that's fully integrated with existing data management system for polio. All polio surveillance staff are now doubling up and supporting disease surveillance for COVID-19. Through cascade trainings, they have sensitized over 6,260 health professionals on COVID-19, alongside their polio duties, in light of the national emergency. These efforts will continue unabated as the virus continues to spread.

Adding to the capacity of the government and WHO Emergency team, the polio team are also engaged in COVID-19 contact tracing and improving testing in six reference laboratories. They have been trained to support and supplement the current efforts, preparing for a sudden surge in cases and responding to the increase in travelers that need to be traced as a result of the rise in cases. The regional reference laboratory for polio in Islamabad is also providing technical support to COVID-19 testing and has been evolving to cater to the increased demands.

As this is a new disease, polio staff are lending their skills as health risk communicators – providing accurate information and listening to people's concerns. The government of Pakistan extended a national help line originally used for polio-related calls to now cater to the public's need for information on COVID-19. The help line was quickly adapted by the polio communication team once the first COVID-19 case was announced. The polio communications team is using strategies routinely used to promote polio vaccines to disseminate information about the COVID-19 virus, including working with Facebook, to ensure accurate information sharing, and airing television adverts. As time goes on, the teams will train more and more people ensuring the provision of positive health practices messages that can curb the transmission of the virus.

### **Afghanistan**

Currently, community volunteers who work for the polio program to report children with acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) are delivering messages on handwashing to reduce spread of COVID-19, in addition to polio. UNICEF is similarly using its Immunization Communication Network to disseminate information on personal hygiene.

Field staff have taken the initiative of using their routine visits to health facilities, during which they check for children with AFP, to check for and report people who may have COVID-19. Meanwhile, program staff are building the capacity of health workers to respond to the novel coronavirus.

To coordinate approaches, the WHO Afghanistan polio team has a designated focal point connecting with the wider COVID-19 operation led by the Government of Afghanistan. The polio eradication teams at regional and provincial levels are working closely with the Ministry of Public Health, non-governmental organizations delivering Afghanistan's Basic Package of Health Services and other partners to enhance Afghanistan's preparedness.

## **Nigeria**

"In the field, when there is an emergency, WHO's first call for support to the state governments is the polio personnel," says Fiona Braka, WHO polio team lead in Nigeria.

In Ogun and Lagos states, where two cases of COVID-19 have been detected, over 50 WHO polio program medical staff are working flat out to mitigate further spread, using lessons learnt from their years battling the poliovirus. Staff are engaged in integrated disease surveillance, contact tracing, and data collection and analysis. Public health experts working for the Stop Transmission of Polio program, supported by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are using their skills to undertake COVID-19 case investigations.

The WHO Field Offices -which are usually used for polio eradication coordination- are doubling up as coordination hubs for WHO teams supporting the COVID-19 response. The program is also lending phones, vehicles and administrative support to the COVID-19 effort.

In states where no cases of COVID-19 have been reported, polio staff are supporting preparedness activities. At a local level, polio program infrastructure is being used to strengthen disease surveillance. Polio staff are working closely with government counterparts and facilitating capacity building on COVID-19 response protocols and are working to build awareness of the virus in the community. Special efforts are being undertaken to train frontline workers as they are at high risk of contagion.

## **Beyond polio-endemic countries**

Trained specialists in the [STOP program](#), part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, are actively supporting preparations or response to COVID-19 in 13 countries worldwide. The WHO Regional Office for Africa's Rapid Response Team, who usually respond to polio outbreaks, are aiding COVID-19 preparedness in countries including Angola, Cameroon and the Central African Republic. Meanwhile, polio staff in other offices are ready to lend support, or are already lending support, to colleagues working to mitigate and respond to the new virus.

In our work to end polio, the program sees the devastating impact that communicable diseases have. With this in mind, we are fully committed to supporting national health systems by engaging our expertise and assets to help mitigate and contain the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside continuing concerted efforts to eradicate polio.

*Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Mar 13, 2020*

## Use this opportunity for ALL Club Members to have a Facebook Account

### IF A MEMBER IS NOT A FACEBOOK MEMBER

- Go to Facebook using this link <https://www.facebook.com/> and create an account. Note: signup only requires your name, email and date of birth. (*birthday is published but not DOB*) You must sign-up to view unobstructed.
- Now, open your Web browser and log in to your Facebook page. (*you can do this on your desktop or phone if mobile via the Facebook App*)
- Start using Facebook. Explore other pages through the search function which is the little magnifying glass, Type in what you are looking for.
- Locate and "LIKE" your Club Facebook page and the D9800 People of Action Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/D9800discussion/>). This will keep you up to date of any posts.

## More Information on Engagement through other Social Media Tools

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*Social Media is a great tool for engaging members and the general community every day. Clubs can optimize and concentrate their social media channels as a resource to bolster engagement during the hiatus from in-person contact. Many of these strategies can be used once you return to business as usual, so this may prove to be a pilot for your club.*

**Highly Interactive Tools** - There are many free and paid options for hosting virtual meetings. Chances are *someone* in your club already has a pro version of one of these for their business, but there are also lots of great no-cost options that include basic features. Many of these programs are offering reduced fees and no-cost extended trials during this time.

- Zoom –There is a free version which provides unlimited time for 1 on 1 meetings or 40 minutes limit for group meetings up to 100 participants. There are other priced plans that allow larger groups and more time. Go to the Zoom website <https://zoom.us/> for details on pricing plans, features and resources including tutorials.
- GoTo Meeting – has similar planning and pricing options to Zoom.  
<https://www.gotomeeting.com/en-au>

**Less Interactive** - There are other tools that are still incredibly useful and may be the perfect fit, but don't require that everyone log in at a specific time, which could be the perfect level of flexibility for your club. The links below are to help guides on how to use some of these programs.

Facebook Live | <https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/facebook-live-guide>  
Instagram TV | <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaRxqAW9mUY>

## Rotary International President on Rotaract

Last spring, the Council on Legislation elevated Rotaract in our constitution: Rotary International is now the association of both Rotary clubs and Rotaract clubs. Then in October, the Rotary Board of Directors eliminated the artificial Rotaract age limit and took other steps to break down barriers that were preventing Rotaract from growing in some parts of the world.

These steps were long overdue, because Rotaract is a vision of what Rotary must become. Not only do we need to open our doors to our young colleagues, but we also have to open our ears and minds to the Rotary experience they find most engaging. That is one of the best ways we will meaningfully grow Rotary.

When I say grow Rotary, I mean it in many ways. We need to grow our service and to grow the impact of our projects.

Most importantly, however, we need to grow our membership, so that we can achieve more. Rotaractors provide this opportunity, not only because they can transition to Rotary at the time that is right for them, but also because they understand what it will take to attract others like them.

Business as usual will not work for us anymore. Bringing in more members to replace the ones we lose is not the answer. It is like pouring more water into a bucket full of holes. We need to address the root causes of member loss in many parts of the world: member engagement that is not what it should be, and our member demographic that skews steadily older.

It is time to make some fundamental changes. We already know what the barriers are to an engaged and diverse membership. It is time to act on what we know: creating new membership models, opening new paths to Rotary membership, and building new Rotary and Rotaract clubs where the existing clubs do not meet a current need. New club models represent an opportunity to connect with a more diverse group of individuals — particularly those who are unable or unwilling to join our traditional clubs. While new club models have been emerging for some time, it is up to district governors to make them a reality. In January at the International Assembly, our incoming district governors took part in an exercise called Build Your Own Club Model. It was a wonderful experience that put them in the right frame of mind for the work ahead.

Ultimately, however, it will be up to Rotaractors and young Rotarians to create new club models that are most meaningful to the next generation. We may think we know what young people want from Rotary clubs in the future, but I am confident that what young people say will surprise us. It will be our job to support their innovation, for it will help us grow Rotary as *Rotary Connects the World*.

Mark Daniel Moloney  
Rotary International President

<https://www.rotary.org/en/7-things-you-did-not-know-about-rotaract>



## PREPARE FOR YOUR FIRST ZOOM MEETING (PARTICIPANT AND HOST)

### Article prepared Assistant Rotary Coordinator PDG Peter Frueh

Zoom looks a bit different, depending on your device. It works on PCs, laptops, tablets and smart phones. First step is to download the application appropriate for your device from Zoom.US.

Watch this video first. Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time; Fun and Easy Online Connection; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>



This is an 8 min video and shows how it looks on a Windows PC. Similar for Mac, except Zoom is in the Apple store. For IOS (iPhone and iPad) and Android (tablets and phones) Zoom is in their stores.

### Some other aspects to remember as your meeting approaches:

- you will need some natural or room lighting on your face for others to see you
- it is best if you use your phone earphones and microphone plugged into the PC or tablet, as this cuts out feedback and noise, or comfortable headset
- prepare for the meeting, by having your pen, papers and drink nearby
- let others in the household know you will be busy and avoid any distractions such as TV, multitasking, etc
- make sure your PC or Tablet is on power - you don't want your batteries running low during the call
- try and be close enough to the camera so that people can see your facial expressions (you can stop the video at any stage for any reason and you will still be able to hear and speak
- it is good video conference protocol to mute if you are not speaking, as this gives the best audio quality to the speakers, without coughing, etc
- you can click on the top right to alternate between speaker and gallery views (which shows everyone)
- it is possible to share documents if necessary, to the meeting
- you can use the chat function publicly or privately during the meeting and can transfer files in real time if necessary.

Maybe print out these tips for your first time? (add in Club person name and contact details for Zoom support) If you are hosting your first Zoom meeting look at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hI32Xk2Va7M&feature=youtu.be> OR ZOOM PRICING CLICK HERE, to access a discount from Rotary Global Rewards, click on this link: <https://my.rotary.org/en/member-center/rotary-global-rewards/offers?#/offers/featured>

## **Rotary Clubs help fight the COVID-19 pandemic. Members use ingenuity, flexibility to help people affected by Coronavirus and to stay connected.**

As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads uncertainty and hardship around the world, Rotary members and participants are innovating, caring for those affected, and showing that even at a distance, there are ways to help.

As people of action, Rotary members are engaged in their communities — gathering for projects and offering help to those in need. But in many areas, life is changing drastically. Health experts are urging people to maintain distance from others or even isolate themselves in order to slow the spread of the highly contagious virus.

Fighting disease is one of Rotary's main causes, so members already support efforts to promote proper hand washing techniques, teach people other ways to stay healthy, and supply training and vital medical equipment to health care providers. Now they're helping health authorities communicate lifesaving information about COVID-19 and donating protective gear and other supplies to clinics and hospitals that are under strain because of the pandemic.

These are just some of the ways that members are supporting their communities right now:

- In Italy, one of the countries that has been affected most, clubs in District 2080 are raising funds to purchase ventilators and protective gear for overstretched hospitals. And when the worst of the outbreak was raging in China, the district's clubs raised more than \$21,000 for protective masks to prevent spread of the disease there.
- Clubs in District 2041, also in Italy, raised funds online to buy protective gear for health workers who will care for COVID-19 patients at a 400-bed hospital being built at Milan's fairgrounds.
- In Hong Kong, Rotary clubs have raised funds, packed medical supplies, and visited public housing to distribute masks and sanitizers.
- Rotary clubs in Sri Lanka installed thermometers in airport bathrooms and produced posters to raise awareness about the coronavirus for schools across the country.
- The Rotary Club of Karachi Darakhshan, Sind, Pakistan, distributed thousands of masks to people in Karachi.
- Clubs in District 3700 (Korea) have donated \$155,000 to the Red Cross.
- Rotary clubs in Nigeria's Akwa Ibom state conducted a campaign to raise awareness about the threat of the virus. Members shared information about the illness and how to keep safe at two schools and distributed materials about using good hygiene to stay healthy.
- The Rotary club of Metro Bethesda, Maryland, USA, is contacting neighbors who live alone and are quarantined. Volunteers are asked to contact at least five of those people each week to ask how they are and if they need anything. Members are also leaving flowers on their doorsteps.

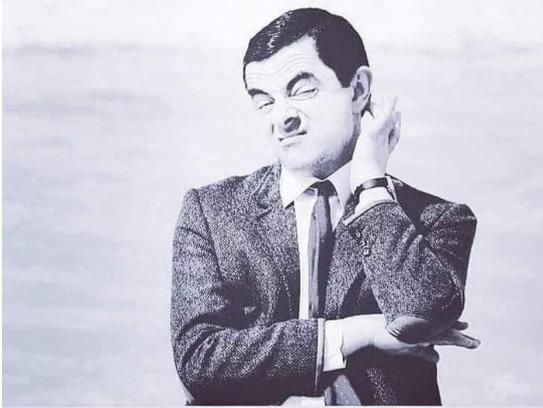
Using technology to address the crisis

- Although clubs and districts are canceling or postponing their in-person meetings and events, they are still finding ways to keep up their fellowship, reimagine their service efforts and respond to the pandemic:
- The Rotary E-Club of Fenice del Tronto invited the public to its 11 March online meeting to raise awareness about the coronavirus. A virologist spoke about the virus, how it spreads, and how to keep safe.

- The Rotary Club of Singapore hosted a webinar in which an epidemiologist and an infectious disease expert addressed questions and concerns about the coronavirus and the pandemic.
- The Rotary Club of East Jefferson County, Washington, USA, used crowdsourcing to create an online listing of area grocery stores, pharmacies, and restaurants that offer home delivery.
- Rotary members in Hereford, England, created a [Facebook group](#) for Rotary members and others to use to link people who need support with people or organizations that can help. More than 6,900 people have joined the group since it was started 14 March.
- Two days before its annual fundraiser, the Rotary Club of Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates, Illinois, USA, moved the event to Facebook. It auctioned more than 100 items and raised more than \$100,000, about the same amount as in previous years. Food set to feed 350 people at the event was delivered to those in need.
- The Rotary E-Club of Silicon Valley, California, USA, held an online meeting for members of other clubs to share advice on using digital tools to remain connected. The club recorded the meeting so members could watch it later and share it with others.
- Rotary clubs in Zone 34 (Georgia and Florida, USA, and the Caribbean) created a guide to help members stay connected online. The Rotary E-Club of the Caribbean 7020 is helping clubs in the zone arrange online meetings.



**I still haven't decided  
where to go for Easter**



**debating between the  
bedroom or the living room**

**Government: work from home  
Lifeguards:**



When artists are in quarantine



A French confectioner has turned his annoyance into art by creating a coronavirus-themed Easter egg. Pastry chef and chocolatier Jean-François Pré says his newest creation was born from frustration with the virus. "I'm a little tired of hearing about it," Pré told French media outlet *Le Telegramme*. "I tried to take it as a joke". The milk chocolate eggs are studded with pieces of almond dyed red to mimic what the virus looks like under a microscope.\



## Calendar of Events

Easter Monday 13 April	RCW Zoom meeting (Guest speaker Lien Trinh, Project Manager End Trachoma)	7pm
Wed 15 April	District 9800 Zoom meeting	6-7.30 online
Thurs 16 April	RCW Board Zoom meeting	7pm
Monday 20 April	RCW Zoom meeting (Guest speaker Gabe Hau, past president of E-Club Melbourne on Rotary's Peace Building Clubs)	7pm
Wed 22 April	District 9800 Zoom meeting	6-7.30 online
Monday 27 April	RCW Zoom meeting	7pm
Wed 29 April	District 9800 Zoom meeting (Guest speaker Andrew Crisp, Emergency Services Commissioner)	6-7.30 online

\*District Zoom meetings – click on <https://zoom.us/j/103410322> .  
(No meeting Easter Monday).

**Next birthday**

23<sup>rd</sup> – Beres Martin



*The Rotary Club of Williamstown, District 9800*

<i>President:</i>	<i>Eddie Knight</i>	<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Nils Oman</i>
<i>Secretary/ Public Officer:</i>	<i>Jo Walker</i>	<i>Foundation:</i>	<i>Chris James</i>
<i>Membership Development:</i>	<i>Damien Hynes</i>	<i>Club Service:</i>	<i>Guy Chatain</i>
<i>Youth:</i>	<i>Damien Hynes</i>		
<i>Marketing/PR &amp;</i>	<i>Brad Saunders</i>		
<i>Protection Officer:</i>	<i>Brad Saunders</i>		
<i>Sergeant at Arms:</i>	<i>Jack Tahj/ Stan Panten</i>		
<i>International Service:</i>	<i>Hazel Ackland</i>		
<i>Community Service:</i>	<i>John Barry</i>		

*President Rotary International  
Mark Daniel Maloney*

*Rotary District 9800 Governor  
Grant Hocking  
<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au>*

*Assistant Governor Hobsons Bay Cluster  
Patrick Docherty-patrick@cfrsolutions.com.au*

*The Rotary Club of Williamstown meets every Monday, 7pm  
Pelicans Landing, 1 Syme St, Williamstown*

*Contact us: Jo Walker- joannagwalker@gmail.com  
Find us on the web at [www.rotarywilliamstown.org.au](http://www.rotarywilliamstown.org.au)  
Rotary District 9800 [www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au)  
Rotary Down Under [www.rotarydownunder.com.au](http://www.rotarydownunder.com.au)*

*Networker District 9800's weekly newsletter [www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/)*

*The Rotary Club of Williamstown is on Facebook – any Facebook user can join the group,  
and we promote the Club's activities and successes on this page*