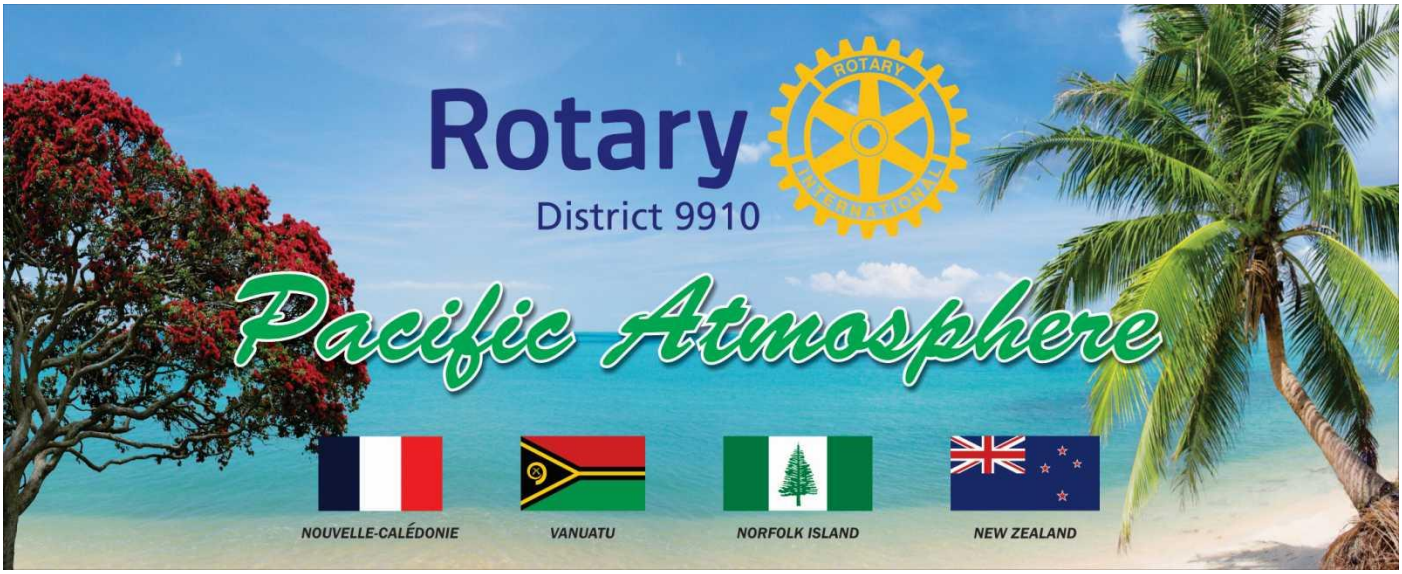


Norfolk Island Cenotaph, Anzac Day 2020
No formal ceremony just a few locals social distancing & paying their respects

Rotary District 9910

From Governor Ian - April 2020

Kia ora koutou - watewieh yorlye - Bonjour à tous – halo evriwan

Greetings Rotarians and friends all,

Thanks to all those who participated in the D9910 Zoom meeting on Sunday 19th April. I was surprised and impressed that over 80 Rotarians from our District joined the information session. Unfortunately, our internet service on Norfolk Island is not quite up to the standard required for large scale video conferencing so I can only participate with audio, and that still has occasional problems with my sound dropping out. Just another small price we pay for living in our Island paradise.

By the time you read this New Zealand will have entered alert level 3 with a modicum of changes to lockdown restrictions. We are following events closely in the hope that we can make a return to New Zealand to wrap up the Rotary year and facilitate an orderly handover to incoming Governor Elaine. The talk of a “travel bubble” between Australia and NZ is encouraging and might provide an opportunity for us to do so.

We would like to congratulate all clubs on the various initiatives that they have undertaken during these difficult times. Aside from engagement through online meetings and activities, it has been amazing to see the ingenuity of clubs to continue to provide service and participate in projects despite lockdown restrictions.

Thanks especially to all the clubs who have contributed towards our Vanuatu Cyclone Harold appeal.

Our District Facebook page has many photographs, videos and articles posted highlighting the devastation wrought by Cyclone Harold. The need is great and will be on-going for some time.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict9910/

We are about to undertake our first large District Training event online via Zoom. Governor Elect Elaine and Training lead Georgina have been working hard to arrange the Club Leaders Seminar on Saturday 16th May. This will be a new experience for facilitators and participants, and I hope that incoming Club Leaders take full advantage of the opportunity to prepare for the new Rotary year.

From our bubble to yours, Jasmine and I send best wishes to all. Stay safe, stay well.

Governor Ian & Jasmine

Rotary

ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD

The Rotary Foundation

Doing Good In The World

With only two months left of the current Rotary year I hope all clubs are considering their final project budgets and expenditure, particularly Rotary Foundation and Polio contributions. I appreciate that there has been heavy demand on Club funds of late, but it is important to remember that TRF contributions from our District form the basis of funding for our District Grants.

If your club is considering contributing to The Rotary Foundation, please do not leave it to the last minute. To ensure that your clubs' contribution is included in this year's giving total, please remit payment by the end of May.

Please encourage continued support for both the Polio Fund and the Annual Fund.

The polio program remains our number one priority and contributions to the Annual Fund are the source of funding for both global grants and our future district grants. With bushfires, floods, viruses, cyclones and other crises, we understand that the demands on clubs has been heavy. However, it is during such crises that the world is in greatest need of Rotary and the generosity of those of us who are in a position to step up to the challenge.

Mark Anderson

Senior Coordinator,
Fund Development for The Rotary Foundation
Rotary South Pacific & Philippines Office

An additional avenue available to Clubs for TRF giving is the Disaster Response Fund. Immediately following the Cyclone Harold disaster our District Applied for a grant from this fund for Vanuatu. Unfortunately, we were informed that the fund had been exhausted and our application was one of about 100 in the queue. Grants are being allocated in the order they are received as more funds become available. Not surprisingly, there has been a high level of demand for *Disaster Response Grants* to address the impact of COVID-19. Over US$4 million has been awarded. This has been funded by the transfer of $3 million from the World Fund, with the balance coming from districts, clubs, individuals and other TRF funds.

A recent update has highlighted the extent of Rotary's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Worldwide, The Rotary Foundation has provided over US$13 million in Grant funding.

Grant type	Number of grants	Total funding
Global grants (new applications)	92	$8,642,032
Global grants (repurposed funds within existing grants)	35	$372,334
Disaster response grants	163	$4,046,539

Northland's Frank Geddes celebrates 100th Birthday with lockdown Zoom party

Northlander Frank Geddes wasn't going to let a Covid-19 lockdown stop him celebrating his 100th birthday with family. So, on Thursday - despite the lockdown and no visitors being allowed at Whangārei's Jane Mander Retirement Village, where he lives - he still had plenty of family to celebrate with, only via online video communication service Zoom.

The staff at Jane Mander also made sure it was done in style, with a big cake to accompany his cards from the Queen and Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern.
Frank is a survivor, and thriver, daughter Alison Geddes reckons. He survived the Spanish flu pandemic (which ran from January 1918 to December 1920), the Great Depression, World War II - where he served as a lieutenant in the British Navy - and now the global Covid-19 pandemic.

Frank was born in Whangape in the Far North, spent most of his young life in Whangape, Omapere and Kaitaia, and went to Kaitaia District High School. He was farmer on a remote property on the Whangape Harbour and has been on the Mangonui County Council, Bay of Islands Power Board and various other public bodies and has been a Rotary member for more than 50 years. He has also been an active member in the Community Arts Society in Kaitaia and directed several plays for the Kaitaia dramatic society. Alison said her Dad was also very involved in sheep dog trials in the 1950s and 19060s and had two NZ champion dogs.

He was a Justice of the Peace and marriage celebrant, a role that he really enjoyed. He was deeply involved with the National Party and was the Hobson Electorate chairman for many years.
He went to teachers' college where he met his wife, Lorna Tregoweth, one of the Tregoweth twins who were known for their striking chestnut red hair. They married just as the war began and he went overseas soon after.

On returning, he taught for a while in Wellington, where Lorna was a PE lecturer at Wellington Teachers' Training College, before deciding to move to the family farm on Whangape Harbour. Lorna died in 2006.
Frank is an Honorary Member of Whangarei Rotary Club and daughter Alison is a member of Whangarei South Rotary Club. ***By:*** ***Mike Dinsdale is Northern Advocate Deputy Editor***

Rotary

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

But just what is Rotary?
AND WHY DOES ROTARY CARE?

We work hard to give back.

We want to create a better future and make a difference. We know we can't do it alone, so we get our support and strength from other Rotarians both in our community and across the world.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary Zone 8

unicef

Give Every Child A Future - Our Australasian Centenary Project

Rotary Grants

provide a major boost to Pacific vaccination project

Rotary Give Every Child A Future, is Rotary Australasia's centennial project to introduce three vaccines into nine Pacific Island countries. It has just reached a significant milestone with the approval of NINE Global Grants by The Rotary Foundation. These grants, one for each country for the first year of the project, have a combined value of US$1.3 million. Global grants are made up of Rotary club fundraising and Rotary District Designated Funds which are then matched by The Rotary Foundation's World Fund.
RGECAF can now move to the implementation phase of this major public health initiative in the Pacific. Through our collaboration with UNICEF, 100,000 women and children will benefit individually, saving lives and saving families.
In addition, the project will significantly strengthen health systems in each of the nine countries, providing a sustainable legacy of improved healthcare.

While these grants provide a huge boost to the project, RGECAF's success remains dependent on continued fundraising over the next three years.

Right now, we need your help to meet our targets for 2019-20. Despite the impact of Covid-19 we ask *all* Rotary clubs to consider making a contribution to RGECAF *before the end of this Rotary year*. **Can you find at least $15/member to make this happen?**

Club payment can be made either:

1. Via Rotary New Zealand World Community Service.
   Account number: 03-1702-0192208-01.
   Reference: No 419 (Give Every Child A Future) and your club's name

2. Via Rotary Oceania Operations (ROZOPS) Ltd.

Account Number: 12-3026-0272331-56.
Reference: Ref RGECAF and your club's name

Personal donations can be made:
To the above accounts (please provide your name)
RGECAF website
RNZWCS website

Please ensure that all contributions clearly indicate who is making the payment and/or which Rotary club they are from so that Rotary Foundation recognition points can be correctly attributed. As with all personal Rotary Foundation donations, the individual accrues recognition points and the amount counts towards the club's Foundation-giving goals.

Rotary Give Every Child A Future was launched across Australasia to celebrate the100th anniversary, in 2021, of Rotary International in the region. For three years, Rotary will fund the introduction of rotavirus, pneumococcal and human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines for Pacific Island children in Kiribati, the Cook Islands, Tokelau, Niue and Nauru, and support the introduction of these vaccines in Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Implementing new vaccines into a country's immunisation programme is very expensive. It is this phase that RGECAF is supporting. With commitments from governments to continue funding these vaccine after three years, this project will see children protected from life-threatening diseases, and families protected from the loss of a mother to cervical cancer, for generations to come.

For more information, or to donate, please go to everychildafuture.com.

ROTARY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

While we continue to practice social distancing to ensure the health and well-being of our families and communities, it's important to ensure our members stay engaged in Rotary during this extraordinary time. Here are some highlights of how clubs and districts are keeping members engaged and providing service:

- Members from Rotary Club of Central Melbourne decided to go camping for Easter, as 'normal', with one variation – they put the tents up in their backyards! Social drinks were held in backyards and out by the BBQ. Everyone had a wine and a few nibbles and partners joined in as well.
- D9820 organised a webinar with Australian Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt, also a Rotarian, talking about caring for our communities at this time. It was attended by over 500 Rotarians and non-Rotarians. Watch the recording here.
- Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri from D9670, in conjunction with the Kurri Kurri Community Centre, have been cooking up a storm and providing meals, free of charge to the elderly and vulnerable within their community. So far they have cooked and delivered over 1200 meals!
- Instead of cancelling the Knox Art Show, a collaboration between the Rotary Clubs of Rowville-Lysterfield and Bayswater, the combined boards agreed to hold a virtual art show instead. Sponsors supported this new format and artists were very pleased with the outcome. More than 5000 people have visited the virtual art show website so far - that's five times as many visitors compared to last few years at the art gallery. Check out the show here.
- Rotary Satellite Club of Orewa-Millwater in D9910, New Zealand set up the Gulf Harbour Army Bay support group, made up of approximately fifty local community members, volunteering to pick up shopping for the aged and vulnerable in the area. One recipient thanked the group saying 'that because of Rotary we are safe'. They also received a $2000 donation from another recipient.
- Watch this excellent presentation by Rtn Rebecca Fry about service while social distancing. It's filled with a whole load of simple, effective ideas for building connections at this time. The presentation was an initiative of D9570 in Central Queensland, Australia.
- In this Q&A, Membership Committee Chair and RI Director 2021-2022 - 2022-2023 Jessie Harman discusses how she sees COVID-19 effecting the Rotary landscape and urges us to lead with compassion, care and urgency.

GOVERNOR PARTNER PROJECT ROMAC Fundraiser UPDATE - from Jasmine Kiernan

The ROMAC Mosaic fundraising project has raised just under $7,000 to date.

On offer by silent auction during March & April has been 4 mosaiced decorative rocks with a "Garden Critter" theme.

BLUE SPOTTED LADYBIRD & RED LADYBIRD

BEE

GREEN GECKO & MOTH

At the time of writing this update, several bids have been received for the garden rocks, and successful bidders will be notified at the end early May. Thank you to those who have placed bids in support of the Garden Critter mosaics ROMAC fundraiser.

As advised in the March newsletter, due to the Covid 19 outbreak, Ian and I have returned to, and will for the indefinite future, remain home on Norfolk Island. Being at home in lockdown has been no hardship for me. I have very much been enjoying pottering around home. For the first time in many years, I have had the time to put in a vegetable garden. It is coming along nicely, and I am looking forward to being able to harvest and put lovely fresh home-grown vegetables on the table.

As

well as time spent in the garden, I have been able to indulge my love of making beautiful things in mosaics, and have had 3 mosaic artworks on the go, including the May ROMAC fundraiser silent auction offering which is a 30cm square shaped curved metal dish/shallow bowl which I have mosaiced with Koru designs. As with all my other mosaics, this is an original one off artwork.

Anyone interested in putting in a bid for this dish, with all proceeds going to the ROMAC Training Program, please email your bid to: jasminedawn1960@gmail.com

Bids to start at $80.00 and the highest bid received by midnight on Sunday 31st May will win the auction.

Stay safe and be good to one another!

Jasmine

PolioPlus Responding to the Covid-19 Challenge

A program begun by Rotary is employing thousands of health workers to address the Covid-19 pandemic. The program is the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) which includes Rotary's PolioPlus program.

From the earliest days of polio eradication in the Philippines, the generosity and advocacy of Rotarians and our partners has nearly stopped polio, stopped Ebola from becoming an epidemic in Nigeria and now responds to Covid-19.

Over the next four to six months the polio program is offering its tools, workforce and extensive surveillance network to support countries as they respond. Globally, the polio surveillance network is being trained on Covid case detection, contact tracing, laboratory testing and data management. GPEI is deploying its coordination mechanisms such as emergency operations centers and sharing physical assets like vehicles, computers and mobile phones to combat the pandemic.

In Nigeria, an extensive network of polio communication assets including 20,000 volunteer community mobilizers are working across the country to promote handwashing to reduce transmission. In Pakistan, polio staff have sensitized more than 6,000 health workers on Covid-19 and repurposed a helpline originally used for polio related calls to also address Covid questions. The polio surveillance team in Angola is training health care staff on case management of Covid-19. Polio staff in Benin are developing a pandemic preparedness plan for that country.

Each day we hear of more deployments of polio staff to address Covid issues in additional countries.

So what about polio itself? The Polio Oversight Board made the hard decision to pause house to house vaccinations knowing that this may lead to an increase in polio cases. Polio surveillance will continue while also supporting Covid surveillance. The GPEI is working to ensure that once it is safe to do so, countries can be supported to rapidly resume polio immunization campaigns. We will have a message in every country that vaccines, including the polio vaccine, stop viruses from attacking children and adults. We must seize the moment to let every village understand that the polio vaccine saves lives.

For over 40 years, Rotarians have never wavered in fulfilling our commitment to the children of the world to end polio. Today, in contributing to PolioPlus we are also addressing this evil Covid-19 pandemic. The goals this year for contributions to PolioPlus have not changed. The opportunity to do good in the world has only increased. If you or your club have not given to PolioPlus lately, today is the day to do so. All funds donated are matched 2 to 1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

If you want to know more about how Rotary and the GPEI are addressing Covid-19 while not losing focus on eradicating polio, see http://polioeradication.org/ https://www.endpolio.org/

“Covid-19 prompts modification for Innovative Young Minds programme – but we need your help”

“IYM made me consider futures that had never even crossed my mind before by giving me opportunities that I would never get at school. And being alongside other girls with similar interests allowed us to help and encourage each other to explore our interests and turn them into possible careers.” Lucy McCrone, IYM Participant

Lucy was lucky enough to attend an IYM residential programme, and our goal in a COVID-19 world is to offer a different but no less inspiring experience to all the 142 programme applicants in 2020.
In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, our Innovative Young Minds programme will be moving online in July 2020. Like many others, we are in new uncharted territory and need to *think and work differently*. We have chosen to use technology to adapt our programme and create something new and innovative for our young women. It is both exciting and challenging, but our goal is to inspire our young women to think innovatively so it’s only right that we do the same!

The online IYM programme will be free and open to all applicants. One of the advantages of going online is that our reach can expand even further. We want to provide a platform where students can build community with like-minded young women and continue to be encouraged on a STEMM career.

As you can imagine, our funding opportunities have been reduced as businesses and organisations are working hard to stay afloat. Now more than ever, we are looking to Rotary to help us deliver an inspiring, educational and positive opportunity to our applicants. Could your club sponsor this programme?
We would use this sponsorship to invest in online learning platforms that will enable us to deliver a cutting-edge programme and to support our contributors to deliver innovative and inspiring content. After our July online programme, we will use this technology to provide our alumnae with an array of remote online learning opportunities to support what they learn on the online programme. Your sponsorship will benefit hundreds of young women- some of whom may be on the frontier of research that prevents future pandemics such as this.

We will make some of the online learning sessions available on our website so you can see how your sponsorship has been utilised. Our hope is that our July 2021 programme will be business as usual but for now we must adapt.

Moving online is an exciting and challenging new experience for IYM and we would love if you could join us to create an innovative and engaging online programme for our young women. Now more than ever we need your sponsorship, as together, we can create a programme that will inspire and empower our young women at this unprecedented time.

Some Rotary Clubs have agreed to continue their sponsorship – THANK YOU!
If you are yet to sponsor a student, a gift of $500 from you club will ensure these young women like Lucy, can experience IYM and be inspired reach for the stars!

Your $500 gift can be deposited directly into our bank account 02 0528 0418501 000 Please include IYM in the code and your club name in the reference. Please email sue@avison.co.nz to let me know about your club’s gift. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**.

Trees for Survival donation request

The end of your Rotary year is drawing to a close and I trust you have had a great year, albeit acknowledging the challenges and disruptions caused by Covid-19 restrictions.

I know that many fund-raising activities have been curtailed which would have dented your charitable income. However, I would like you to consider a donation to Trees for Survival, should you still have unallocated funds.

Trees for Survival is a Rotary initiated programme that educates school children and local communities through the growing of native plants, about vegetating erosion prone land, improving waterways and increasing biodiversity. Learn more here: What is Trees for Survival?

We have 47 schools on the waiting list for the Trees for Survival programme.

The biggest issue is finding funding for them, particularly in the current business climate where (understandably), some commercial sponsors have pulled their funding.

Many Clubs have already supported their schools this year, and we thank you for that. Any additional donations of any amount will help our programme delivery. If you wish for more specific details, or wish to start sponsoring a school, or can sponsor an additional school, please contact me directly.

On-line donations click: https://www.tfsnz.org.nz/shop/ or Direct credit to TFS bank account 02-0223-0161944-000 (better value for your dollar as no fees). Reference "Donation" and "… *your Club name* …"

All enquiries to Dennis Millard, National Manager, Trees for Survival Charitable Trust
m: 021 66 4141 e: dennis@tfsnz.org.nz www.tfsnz.org.nz - www.facebook.com/treesforsurvival

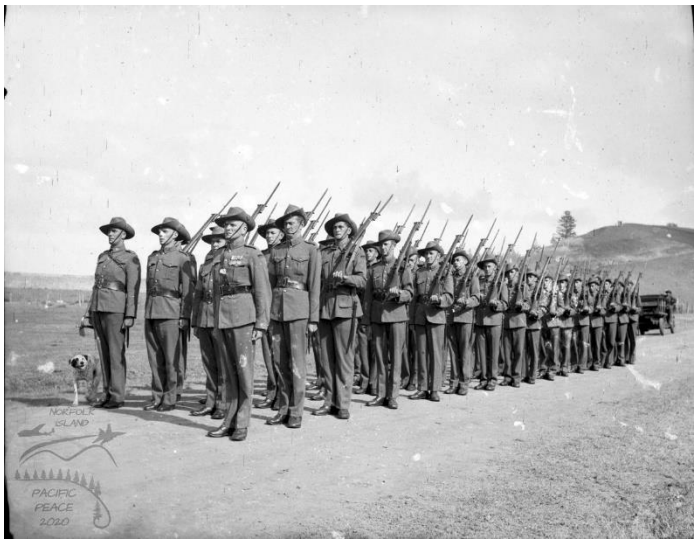
Norfolk Island is home to Myself and Jasmine and we frequently get asked questions about the Island. We thought that we would share some of the more unique aspects of our Island home with you in the Governors Newsletter during the year along with some information on the Islands unique language.

Unique Fact number 10

Norfolk Island had the highest per capita personnel involvement in the Commonwealth nations of the world for both WWI and WWII.

Out of the population of 983 people – 513 males and 470 females – some 280 men and women from Norfolk Island volunteered and joined Australian and New Zealand forces during WWII.

Pictured at right - Norfolk Island Infantry Detachment troops on parade



Lest we forget

Norf'k words and meanings

1. **Pilly-pilly - Stuck together**
2. **Pul-loo - Burley**
3. **Sullun - A person**
4. **Sorlun - Finished**
5. **Suff - Waves (sea)**

Sound out "afraid" without the first letter "a" and you're near-ish to how this word should be pronounced.

"Friedi" can mean dangerous or a little unsafe as in some of the driving characters Norfolk's politely accommodated over the years.

"Friedi" can also mean spooky or uncanny - as in walking through the cemetery at midnight.....freidi just thinking about it.

Kaa (can't or cannot) is another very widely used source word and a very useful negative. Here are just a few examples of its usage: 'kaaduu' (can't do), kaa w'said(don't know where), kaa staan (can't stand to, not game enough to), kaa laan (can't say), and kaa fut (don't know why).

Among those words and phrases which have tek (take) as its foundation we find 'teket staat' (take him/her and go); tek iin (take in eg visitors, children, etc),tek'waa (take what), and 'tek flai' (take off very fast).

The past month has been like walking on shifting sands for most of us as we find a new normal. While we have all been adjusting as rapidly as we can, it has admittedly been very wearying. The anxiety about the uncertain is real and with no fathomable end in sight to this situation, the sense that everything is just up in the air compounds it even further.

My teenage daughter has pointed out to me the concept of toxic positivity in one of our conversations about life's struggles at the ripe old age of 15. I've seen this a lot in my Facebook feeds since so I'm guessing that the concept is not new. I never thought that always focusing on the positive things would be a fault. I had even been harsh on myself when I was struggling to be more positive.

With this new awareness, I have realised the importance of acknowledging the weight of the challenges we are faced with. The one thing though, that I pointed out to my daughter is that among the many thoughts that run through one's head, there should still be that certainty - that this too shall pass! And that's not being too positive – it is what is true.

Rotary has survived wars, plagues, economic recessions, and every kind of natural calamity. We will get through this pandemic too. In conversations I have had with some of the leaders of this organisation whether they be staff members or volunteers, and reading material that I have come across about people's Rotary moments, it is the sense of purpose to do good, to make a difference, to serve above one's self that ties us all together.

Let's focus our efforts on recovering from this. Let's use this time to reflect and strategise how. Let's take the innovations that we have been pushed to take on and create a new normal that is a better normal – a normal that would have taken us ages to reach if not for the urgency or lack of choice that this virus has pushed us into.

With all the donations of packed food, home-made face masks, and personal protective equipment to front liners, the acts of kindness of buying groceries for a quarantined neighbour, the offer to provide housing for a stranded traveller - these just show that we do *not* have to point out to the world that Rotary *is* still relevant because the answer to that would just be too obvious to even question.

Shelter plays a critical role in prevention, mitigation, and recovery from the pandemic. As emergency shelter experts, Rotary's partner ShelterBox is providing essential aid in the global response to COVID-19. In densely populated settlements and refugee camps, families urgently need emergency shelter to maintain social distance and isolate the most vulnerable.

ShelterBox's role in the global fight:

1. **Enabling social distancing with emergency shelter.** *Our tents and shelter aid helps families move out of cramped collective centres.*
2. **Improving access to good hygiene.** *We are customising our aid packages to include soap and hand washing basins.*
3. **Promoting better health.** *Items like cooking equipment, sleeping mats, water filters help families stay healthy and reduce the spread of infection.*
4. **Modifying distribution practices.** *Our partners are using PPE and handwashing to minimise the spread of COVID-19 during distribution.*

"I cannot buy masks or gloves and I cannot treat my family if they catch the virus. I need a kitchen set just for our family, so that I don't have to borrow and so that the infection does not spread. All I can do is to keep my family away from people and inside the tent."

- Abu, Idlib, Syria

To donate, visit: www.ShelterBox.org.NZ

ShelterBox is a registered charity in New Zealand (CC49035) independent of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation.

Rotary

DISTRICT SPONSORS

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Dairy for life

Air Chathams 44°S

ROTARY CALENDAR

January 2020

Vocational Service Month

February 2020
Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

23 February — Rotary's anniversary

March 2020
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

April 2020
Maternal and Child Health Month
District Conference Vanuatu – 22nd - 26th

May 2020
Youth Service Month

June 2020
Rotary Fellowships Month

5-6 June — Rotaract Preconvention, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

5-6 June — Youth Exchange Officers Preconvention, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

5 June — Rotary and the United Nations: Celebrating a 75-Year Legacy of Humanitarian Cooperation, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

6-10 June — Rotary International Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

30 June — Rotary Citation for Rotary Clubs Award nominations are due