

Foundation News

Rotary International District 9800



FOUNDATION CHAIR - JOHN DAVIS

foundation@rotarydistrict9800.org

Show Rotary Cares

The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's charitable organization.

The motto of the Rotary Foundation is:

"Doing Good in the World"

Over the past two decades Rotarians have increasingly relied on the Rotary Foundation to help them address humanitarian, educational and cultural needs locally and abroad.

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Designed and published as a service to Rotary by Dr Barry Mullen



"Show Rotary Cares" was the international theme of Rotary in 1997-8, the year that PRIP Glen Kinross was the President of Rotary International. Many of you would have met Glen at the District Conference in Shepparton in 2008.

Over the last 5 months in particular we have seen a dramatic reversal in climatic conditions, after 12 years of wide spread drought. These climate changes have caused much suffering to the people of Australia through fires, floods and the latest destructive force, Cyclone Yasi in Northern Queensland.

Rotary clubs around Australia are responding to the effects of these natural disasters in many ways, both with hands on assistance in the areas affected and by providing funding to rebuild not only the infrastructure of communities but also to assist in the rebuilding of lives that have been devastated by these natural disasters.

There have been many appeals opened so that Rotarians and people of good heart can provide funding to assist those in need. Our District alone has opened up two appeal streams.

1. The Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund Rotary District Flood appeal; for those requiring tax deductibility; and
2. District 9800 Australian Flood Disaster Appeal.

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Foundation Office Bearers 2010-2011

PDG John Davis cmadavis@iinet.net.au 0408 391 343	District Rotary Committee Foundation Chair
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Sub-Chairs of The Foundation Committee

PP Linda Scott lscott@wehi.edu.au 0421 154 882	Administrator/Secretary District Foundation Committee
PP Chris Don chrisd9@bigpond.com 0413 434 503	Annual Program Fund/PHS/ EREY
PDG Jim Studebaker jimstude@bigpond.net.au 0413 304 864	Chair Humanitarian Grants Committee
PP Trevor Mackay tm.bm.@bigpond.com 0408 285 382	Administrator Every Rotarian Every Year
PP Gabriel Hau Gabriel.hau@rotary.to 0411 338 989	Administrator Paul Harris Society
PP Adrian Nelson adrian@nelsonbros.com.au 0411 550 708	Group Study Exchange
Bob Fels - Rotary Peace Centre Committee - Corresponding member rfels@satlink.com.au 5989 2455	Chair Rotary Peace Scholars Committee
PP David Gorman david.gorman@dgcgconsulting.com.au 0411 806 140	Chair Ambassadorial Scholars Program
PDG Don Jago donjago@cressey.com.au 0418 380 023	Royce and Jean Abbey Endowment Fund & Polio Plus
PP Roger Leask rleask1@tgp.com.au 0412 706 566	Chair Royce & Jean Abbey Awards Program
PP Andrew Hunter andrewh@comcall.com.au 0418 540 086	Speakers and Promotion
PDG Ian Knight isknight@westnet.com.au 0417 538 874	Special Projects Chair
PP Philip Archer parcher@archwaygroup.com.au 0448 999 555	District Trainer & Marketing

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The District has also established under the chairmanship of PDG John Wigley a Disaster Relief Committee which will oversee the disbursement of funds donated.

Rotarians will also be assisting in devastated areas by the disaster levy on incomes.

So Rotarians in Australia are demonstrating clearly that Rotary Cares in assisting our fellow Australians who are now trying to resurrect their lives after the damage done to their properties and their inner well-being after the last few months of turmoil.

There has been some discussion in the media in recent times that Australia should discontinue its foreign aid program for an indefinite time and divert these funds to rebuilding the infrastructure in communities that have been affected around Australia by the recent events.

In the 2007-8 Rotary year the theme was Rotary Shares and if we look at our Rotary pin it does not name any of the 200 countries within Rotary International. It simply states International.

Australia is a developed and wealthy nation when we compare it to many of those countries within the 200 countries making up Rotary International. It does have the wealth and mature people who can look further than just local issues. We do have the resources to assist those that are less fortunate than ourselves even when we consider the turmoil that has occurred in the lives of many Australians through the occurrence of natural disasters. We do have an obligation as Rotarians to break the poverty cycle of people who are malnourished, illiterate and are dying due to polluted water and poor sanitation with minimal or no health care.

As Rotarians we should not just focus our efforts on a narrow section of people or communities, our motto is Service above Self and we join Rotary so that we can be of service to others. We therefore seek out opportunities to help the needy both young and old no matter where they be.

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...2 The Rotary Foundation through its local and international programs makes all these opportunities possible.

Our Rotary clubs are under increasing pressure to financially support an ever-growing number of worthwhile causes but let us not forget that the financial muscle behind Rotary International is the Rotary Foundation, our charity. If Rotary international is to continue to be a force for good in a troubled world, it can only do this with ongoing and regular financial support from Rotarians and its member clubs.

We would therefore ask you and our member clubs to show this year again that:-

ROTARY CARES

- For your Community
- For our World
- And For its People



People from Mandatane, India, work together with Rotarians to build a retaining wall. The rain water harvesting technique keeps the wells from going dry so they can yield all year. The Rotary club of Bombay Metro and Rotary Club of Palo Alto, California used an RI Matching Grant to facilitate the project.

Picture - Rotary Images

By making a financial commitment to The Rotary Foundation before the end of this Rotary year.

PDG John Davis
Foundation Chair

District Grants

Don't miss out in 2011-12!

Foundation Chairs - how are your plans progressing for either a local or international project in the 2011-12 Rotary year? As you are aware under the Future Vision pilot program of the Rotary Foundation we need to bid for a percentage of our District Designated fund to support District grants to clubs in our District in the 2011-12 year. In order to bid for sufficient funds to cover envisaged grants we need to submit an outline of possible district grants in the 2011-12 Rotary year. Each Rotary year the total funds vary as under the SHARE system funds raised in one rotary year are invested for 3 years then are available to that district under a pre-determined formula. This means the funds available in the 2011-12 year were the Foundation contributions raised in our District in the 2008-9 Rotary year.

On reviewing our existing commitments in the 2011-12 year the uncommitted funds will be lower in 2011-12 than in 2010-11. It is envisaged that the maximum District grant payable in 2011-12 from district will be \$4,000 based on a 1:1 contribution from a club; however applications for larger grant payments will be assessed on their merits by the full grants committee.

If you have a potential project that requires a District grant in the 2011-12 year and it has been approved in principle by the club's Board we would like to receive an outline of the project and the value of the grant you would be requesting from our District. We can then add this information to our application for our draft spending plan 2011-12. While this gives no guarantee that the formal application will be approved by the grants committee at a later date, it does register the grant with District and puts it a head of applications that may be submitted after the start of the 2011-12 Rotary year.

The draft spending plan for our District in 2011-12 will be submitted late April this year.

If you have a project that you believe will qualify for a District grant you should send an outline of the grant plus the envisaged grant required from District to the District Foundation Chair John Davis with a cc to the District Grant Sub Chair Jim Studebaker by the 29th April 2011.

We still have a limited amount of funds remaining in our block grant this year, we therefore are able to continue to take applications for a District grant up until the 8th April as long as the final report on the grant can be received and the grant can be paid prior to the 27th May 2011.

IDENTIFYING A UNIVERSITY TO PARTNER THE NEXT ROTARY PEACE CENTER

TIPS FOR FINDING ROTARY PEACE APPLICANTS

Bob Fels is leading the International Task Force responsible for identifying the next university, somewhere in the world to be our partner in a Rotary Peace Center. That is not a spelling error – that is how the US and therefore Evanston spell it. The 50 Expressions of Interest has been reduced in planned stages to 5 finalists which are now receiving site visits from a team of 3. In the early February they visited Uppsala University in Sweden. Starting 22 February, they visit University of Notre Dame in Indiana, George Mason University near Washington D.C., Brandeis University in Boston and University of San Diego in California. The evaluation is thorough so as to pick one university from amongst these which have very strong programs of world standing in Peace and Conflict Resolution. The universities are keen to be selected having put considerable effort into their proposals including some special additions to match our expectations of what we think produces graduates ready to work in the field. The universities are expected to impart a balance of theory and applied application skills so that Rotary Peace Fellows have K.S. A. - Knowledge, Skills and Ability.

A photo shows the seriousness with which Uppsala treated the site visit. The Vice Chancellor hosted a dinner for the Task Force which was also attended by senior Swedish Rotarians to show that their District is fully behind the bid. (pictured left to right are: Bob Fels, Vice Chancellor Professor Anders Halberg, Brad Lauman (Manager, Rotary Peace Centers, Evanston), Carolyn Jones (Past trustee, Rotary Foundation), Suzanne Brenning (District Governor Elect) and Ann-Brit Asebol M.P. and Director Nominee, Rotary International)

Uppsala weather is the opposite of ours. Bob's grand daughter asked him to get a photo of him with a snow ball. It has an academic touch because the building in the background is one of the university's 13 libraries. The photo was taken at 4.30 pm. The sun sets early in the Swedish winters. **BOB FELS - 14 Feb 2011**



FELLOWSHIPS ARE WORTH UP \$US 65,000

It is time to start looking for Rotary Peace Applicants for the Peace Fellowships. Your immediate response is – I don't know any people working in the peace business so I will pass it by. Think laterally. Many Rotarians are in the same boat. But, what we do

have is extensive networks with employers of peace workers. Ask your members who they know in humanitarian organizations like World Vision, Red Cross, Oxfam, Caritas, AusAid, the armed forces, the police – both Vic Police and Federal Police, Care Australia or do they know some one who is with the UN, WHO, Unesco. The more people Rotarians talk to in those organizations, the better the chances of good applicants. Rotary is offering free career development to these organizations - a strong selling story. Our District has successfully nominated more peace Fellows than any other District in the world. What will you and your Club members do to keep us at the top of the world ladder?

Applicants must have at least 3 years relevant experience in peace and conflict resolution. The field of experience is diverse – journalists, social workers, lawyers, teachers peace keeping armed services and police, diplomatic service, foreign aid workers, public health, engineers involved in post war reconstruction, etc.

You might think the closing date of 15 May is a long way off. Our experience is it takes about 6 weeks for applicants to research which universities they want to go to and prepare their application. We can help them with any questions. It is time to start now.

The Rotary Peace Studies program is remarkably successful. There are people out in the community who will benefit from it. Go tell them.

BOB FELS - Chair, District 9800 - Rotary Peace Fellows Committee.



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO CHANGE THE WORLD

**APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR OUR 2012-13 ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS
COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST REACH DISTRICT CHAIRMAN RWPF BOB FELS
BY MAY 15TH 2011**



There is a growing demand for well trained men and women around the globe to build national and international cooperation, demonstrate peace and justice throughout their lives, their careers and in service activities. The challenges of the 21st century require people skilled in conflict analysis and resolution, mediation, human rights and diplomacy. The Rotary Peace Fellowship program, now in its 10th year, was developed specifically to meet this very need.

Rotary is seeking non-Rotarian professionals who are keen to expand their knowledge in peace studies, conflict resolution, human rights, international relations, public administration, sustainable development, public health or a related field. Each year, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellowships (50 master's degree fellowships and 50 professional development fellowships) are offered on a competitive basis at Rotary Peace Centers in 7 prestigious universities around the world

Participants in the master's degree program gain access to:

Up to 2 years of fully funded graduate study at one of our Rotary Peace Centers in the US, the UK, Argentina, Japan or Australia;

Theoretical and practical learning experiences in the root causes of conflict, theories of international relations, and effective models of cooperation, conflict resolution and negotiation including a 3 month Applied Field Experience – AFE;

A growing linked network of committed alumni employed around the world in government, N.G.Os, diplomatic or foreign service, aid and private organizations;

Funding for round trip travel, tuition and fees, room and board and other limited expenses including AFE averages \$US70,000.

Mid-career professionals already working in the field of peace and conflict resolution may opt for the **three month professional development certificate** program at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. Both programs require, at minimum, a bachelor's degree in a related field, 3 years of relevant work experience for the MA program and 5 years for the professional development certificate.

In addition to excellent leadership skills, candidates must demonstrate a commitment to peace and international understanding through their professional and academic achievements and/or personal and community service activities.

Rotarians: Use your networks to urge employers to tell potential candidates of these generous opportunities for career development: such as non government humanitarian organizations, government departments, religious and service institutions, local universities, police and armed services. Those employers will know how to contact people working both for them and with them.

Further details, eligibility and application information are available at: www.rotary.org/rotarycenters

Enquiries may be made to these Rotarians:

Bob Fels at rfels@satlink.com.au or phone (03) 5989 2455

Lin Hughes at linhughes@aol.com.au or phone (03)9504 4911

Chris Don at chris9@bigpond.com or phone (03) 8669 0249

David Gorman at david.gorman@dcgconsulting.com.au or phone (03) 9348 1799

Richard Pope at richope22@bigpond.com or phone (03) 9787 0061

Rotary District 9800 (Melbourne and rural areas) with 14 candidates selected in the 10 years of the program is the leading District in the world. Please do your bit to maintain our leadership. The candidates are out there but they do not know about this outstandingly successful program. We need **you** to get the message out and find them. Applications must be made through a Rotary Club. The Rotarians listed above can also help candidates in other countries find a suitable Rotary Club.



District 9800, Rotary Foundation Future Vision District, pioneers Maternal and Child Health Vocational Training Team (VTT) project in Timor Leste, D. 9550 – one of the first in the Rotary world.

Following the visit to Timor Leste of our planning group, lead by PDG Ian Knight and PP Chris Don, PP Frank Leigh and Professor Jeremy Oats, between 22-30 August, 2010, where the group met with key personnel and organisations involved in the provision of Maternal and Child Health services in Timor Leste, when we were advised 1 in 35 women die in childbirth.

The VTT will develop a refresher and up skilling training program, to assist midwives and medical practitioners providing maternity care in Timor Leste. This will be centred in the Baucau district where Rotary already has an established presence through the success of the Rotary Club of Melbourne steel rolling mill, and their micro credit project.

The Rotary Foundation has given approval for this proposal. Total cost will be US\$113,630, which will fund 5 visits, including equipment, over 3 Rotary years.

We invited all Clubs in the District the opportunity to be involved. The following Clubs accepted this

opportunity, and are financially contributing to this project.

They are – Albert Park, Camberwell, Central Melbourne Sunrise, Chadstone East/Malvern, Essendon, Glen Eira, Hoppers Crossing, Melbourne, North Balwyn, Richmond, Toorak and Werribee. A big thank you to these Clubs.

District 9550 Governor, Allan Church is very grateful for our District initiated project, and he has agreed to partner with us by contributing US\$5,000 from their DDE.

The Team has now been selected, and is planned to visit from 18th May, 2011:

- Team Leader is Professor Jeremy Oats, a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Chair Victorian Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity Medical Co-Director Northern Territory Integrated Maternity Services, Professorial Fellow Dept. Obstetrics and Gynaecology University of Melbourne

- Professor Susan McDonald, a member of the Rotary Club of North Balwyn, is at the Mercy Hospital for Women, and Professor

of Midwifery at LaTrobe University.

- Professor Caroline Homer, Director Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health, University of Technology Sydney.

- Doctor Fiona Cullinane, a Consultant Obstetrician, Royal Womens' Hospital, Melbourne.

- Doctor Ingrid Bucens, Paediatrician, currently in Dili, Timor Leste.

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All details and C.V's for this application have now been electronically lodged with The Rotary Foundation in Evanston, U.S.A.. We are now waiting final funding approval for this Matching Grant. We believe we will get this approval.

Rotary Foundation Chairman, Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar mentioned this project in his monthly newsletter in the February Rotary Down Under and the Rotarian.

“As February is World Understanding Month it could be a good time to think of the international service provided by Rotarians, clubs and Districts in light of the Future Vision pilot. District 9800 (Australia) has allocated an amount of its District grant funds to send a medical team to Timor-Leste to implement a training program for midwives to help reduce the mortality rate of mothers and infants during childbirth”.

This Rotary Foundation Future Vision Vocational Training Team will up skill midwives and doctors, and contribute to saving lives and have long term sustainability, and clearly meets the mission and motto of our Rotary Foundation of - “DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD”, “BUILDING COMMUNITIES – BRIDGING CONTINENTS” through “SERVICE ABOVE SELF”.

**PDG Ian Knight
D.9800 Rotary Foundation Special Projects Chair (VTT)**



EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

What is EREY?

Every Rotarian Every Year, more commonly known in our District as the Centurion recognition is the fundraising vehicle for individual Rotarians to support The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International by annually contributing a minimum of A\$100

Educating Rotarians about the work of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is one the most effective tools for gaining & broadening support for our Annual Programs Fund & the Every Rotarian Every Year (Centurion) effort.

Club Bulletin Editors are encouraged to include in their weekly bulletins “THE WEEKLY ROTARY THOUGHTS. These are designed to inform members of the many ways that Rotary does good in the world.

These thoughts are available from www.rotary.org (keyword search: Foundation thoughts)

Member Access at www.rotary.org offers Rotarians a variety of online services specific to their affiliation with Rotary International & The Rotary Foundation, including: Viewing your personal contribution/recognition history.

Rotary is committed to ensuring that your personal information remains confidential, & Member Access offers a secure, password-protected environment

Contributions Forms for EREY (Centurions) are available from: The District Chairman of Contributions to The Rotary Foundation – Chris Don
chrisd9@bigpond.com Mobile 0413434503



The Rotary clubs of Calcutta Metropolitan, West Bengal, India, and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, used a US\$300,000 Foundation grant to bring health care, education, sanitation, clean water, vocational training, and microcredit loans to more than 50,000 villagers in rural India. To see the video, click on the following link:

<http://vimeo.com/17165881>



ROTARY DISTRICT 5840 GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE TEAM TO ROTARY DISTRICT 9800, AUSTRALIA – 2011

TEAM LEADER - JOHN DIERKSEN



John has been a member of the Rotary Club of New Braunfels since 1974, with 36 plus years of perfect attendance. John was President of his Rotary Club in 1978- 1979. He has been very active in the District 5840 Rotary Youth Exchange program for over 20 years, chairing or co-chairing the District 5840 Youth Exchange Committee for three years. John is a Paul Harris Fellow with Four Sapphire Recognition.

John is a practicing attorney, concentrating in real estate, business transactions and utility law. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children and four grandchildren. John and Kathy have hosted 21 exchange students, and that experience has given them an extended Rotary family all over the world.

TEAM MEMBERS:

MILES EARWOOD – SPONSORED BY THE ALAMO HEIGHTS ROTARY CLUB

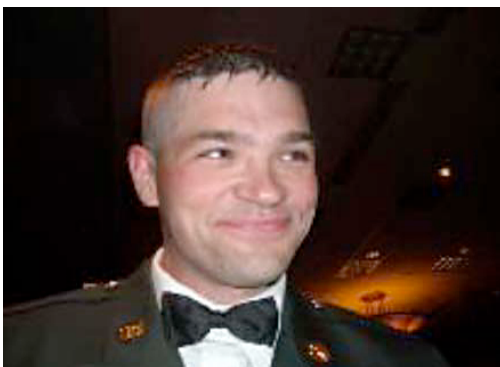


Miles is 31 years old and has been married for 6 years. Miles has two sons ages four and two years old. Miles lives in Spring Branch which is approximately 30 miles north of San Antonio.

Miles' interests include physical fitness, listening to audio books, music, movies, and computers. Most of Miles' time outside of work is spent with his family and friends.

Miles has been a police officer for ten years to include two years at the Bexar County Sheriff Office and eight years with the San Antonio Police Department. Miles has a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice. Miles is currently a Patrol Sergeant, which is the first line supervisor for officers and investigators. Prior to being a sergeant Miles was a Detective investigating homicides, criminal street gangs, and sex crimes. Miles is also involved with large scale emergency management in the southeast region of Texas.

JOHN M. BUOL, JR. – SPONSORED BY THE SAN ANTONIO EVENING ROTARY CLUB



John was born in Belleville, Wisconsin in 1973 on a family-operated dairy farm with two younger brothers. After completed High School, John enlisted in the US Army and completed his Bachelor's of Science at UW-Whitewater, majoring in Management Computer Systems with a minor in Military Science.

Pursuing his interests in marksmanship and small arms training, John was signed to the US Army Reserve Small Arms Readiness Group and mobilized as a full time active duty instructor from 2003 to 2010. During this time he assisted with training over 25,000 Soldiers and Marines, 300 new small arms instructors and earned a slot on the USAR Shooting Team. He was won at a number of NATO-sponsored military shooting competitions, including three individual championships at All Army,

multiple team wins at AFSAM (Armed Forces Skill at Arms Meeting), holds a Distinguished Rifleman and Distinguished Pistol Shot rating and several nationally-recognized skill classifications at the master level.

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...8 John has returned to a reserve status and relocated to San Antonio, Texas, where he continues to serve with the USAR Shooting Team and in a public affairs position with the Army Reserve Careers Division. On the civilian side, John is the Editor of American Gunsmith magazine and a regular contributor to InterMedia Outdoors and Harris Publications magazine. He is also works with law enforcement as an adjunct firearms instructor for the Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy.

Not surprisingly, John's hobbies include shooting sports competition. He also stays current in the computer science field and is working on several side programming projects. For his future involvement in Rotary he is planning a series of fund raisers in the San Antonio area.

SUZANNE WILLIAMS – SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW BRAUNFELS



Suzanne Williams was born in North Platte, Nebraska in 1975 and is the oldest of one sister and one brother. She now lives in New Braunfels, Texas, a small German town located on the I-35 corridor between Austin and San Antonio.

Suzanne earned her Masters Degree in Geography with a specialization in Environmental and Resource Management and is fortunate to have the opportunity to utilize her degree in her career at New Braunfels Utilities (NBU). NBU is a municipal utility provider for electricity, water, and wastewater and Suzanne is their Business Development Manager. As part of her responsibilities, she is tasked with expanding the environmental direction of the company and its customers.

In addition to the environmental aspect of Suzanne's career, she also works in the field of Easements and Right-of-Way, New Construction, and Key Accounts where she acts as a liaison between NBU and some of its unique commercial customers that may have additional needs.

Suzanne is an avid runner and enjoys racing in local 5Ks up to marathons and one day would like to qualify for the Boston marathon. When she is not running, Suzanne is working in her yard, reading, playing with her two cats, or relaxing with friends, and on Sunday mornings, Suzanne teaches first grade Sunday school.

MICHELLE MARTINEZ – SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO



Michelle was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. She attended undergraduate school at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas where she received a Bachelor of Science in Journalism with an emphasis in public relations and agriculture. Michelle is currently attending Texas A&M in San Antonio where she is working towards a Masters of Business Administration.

Upon graduation Michelle served as Outreach Coordinator for the Honorable Henry Cuellar, a member of Congress representing the 28th Congressional District of Texas. Michelle traveled through Congressman Cuellar's respective counties, and initiated and developed community involvement. Michelle also coordinated and managed congressional nominations the five US Service Academies and oversaw the National Art Competition.

Michelle is currently the Public Information Manager for the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, an entity in San Antonio responsible for improving mobility by accelerating needed transportation projects to deliver congestion relief and enhance economic vitality of the region. Michelle is responsible for coordinating media and community involvement.

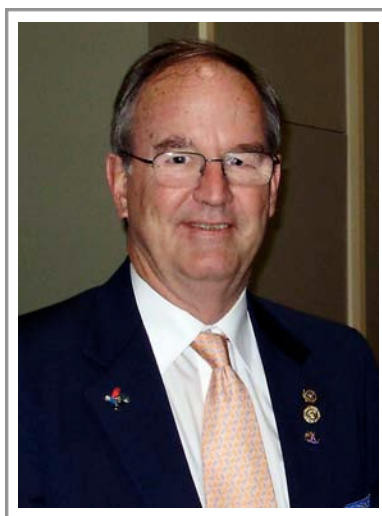
Michelle enjoys spending time with family and friends. She loves to travel, bake, read, shop and outdoor activities. She is part of a coed softball team and just ran her first half marathon. Michelle loves to eat sweets and is currently working on a blog to share her sweet tooth with friends and family.

From the District Foundation Grants Subcommittee . . .

Your District Foundation Grants Subcommittee has been busy this year with five Global Grants being submitted to The Rotary Foundation and eight District Grants being awarded for worthy projects instigated by District and Rotary clubs.

So far this Rotary Year, District Grants have been awarded to:

District 9800 Vocational Training Team (VTT). An investigatory tour by a team of Rotarians, led by Professor Jeremy Oats from RC Melbourne and funded through a District Grant, to visit East Timor to research and plan for five subsequent VTT visits by teams of doctors and midwives over the next three years. The VTT teams will be instructing doctors and midwives in East Timor on antenatal and obstetric emergency care. These VTT tours will be funded through several participating Rotary Clubs, Foundation District Designated Funds (DDF) and a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation.



The Rotary Club of North Balwyn was awarded a grant to investigate possible humanitarian projects in Minh Hac, Vietnam. The club is now considering what projects will have the best chance of success in improving the lives of the people of that area of Vietnam.

The Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook received a grant to help fund the travel and accommodation expenses of a group of teachers from Papua New Guinea. The teachers visited numerous schools as well as the Department of Education to learn modern teaching methods. The PNG teachers have now returned home and will no doubt be implementing the teaching methods they learned on their study tour in Victoria.

The Rotary Club of Keilor East was awarded a grant to purchase and install solar panels and lighting into

six family homes on the remote Island of Panakulisimi, Papua New Guinea. All six houses now have solar lighting and these six families have minimised their reliance on expensive and potentially dangerous kerosene or oil lanterns.

The Rotary Club of Bendigo is using District Grant funds to send an investigative team to Samoa. The team will visit four to ten villages requiring assistance. Whilst in Samoa the team will gather the information needed to design and cost the work to be undertaken in each of the villages in subsequent RAWCS projects.

The Rotary Club of Camberwell received a grant to construct and install two environmentally sustainable toilet facilities on the Kokoda Trail, PNG. One of the toilets will be built adjacent to Alola Village and the other at another stop over point on the Kokoda Trail. These toilets are needed because there were not enough toilet facilities for the increasing tourist use of the track and there is an increasing risk of disease and environmental degradation.

The Rotary Club of Woodend has a District Grant approved to help fund a teacher training program in the Myadgi District of Nepal. The program will help Nepali teachers understand how to teach, not just what to teach. The club has targeted approximately 40 teachers to receive this valuable teacher training. The project also involves over 400 parents being involved in an orientation program on parent engagement in the education process.

The Rotary Club of Canterbury has been awarded a grant to improve and expand a toilet block at St Nino High School which is on the outskirts of Talibon on the island of Bohol, Philippines. The club will also be providing school desks, sporting equipment and text book for the school.

In the next issue we will take a look at the Foundation Global Grants which are presently in progress.

PDG Jim Studebaker

Ambassadorial Scholars

The following inbound Ambassadorial Scholars have recently arrived in Melbourne to begin their year of study. Please make them welcome and invite them to your clubs as guest speakers or to work on projects. Make a point of saying Hello to them at District conference in Adelaide.

Katie Stjernholm was born and raised in Colorado but is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Pacific Palisades District 5280 in Los Angeles, California. Katie graduated from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California with a degree in International Studies and Nonprofit Management. Throughout her undergraduate years, she has committed to various leadership roles, service projects, and athletics.

Her love for exploring new cultures developed after spending a year studying in Florence, Italy and also working with at-risk youth in Ecuador. While her academic focus has been in social policy and nonprofit management, Katie has spent the last two years pursuing an interest in films. After realizing the potential of film to inform, inspire, and empower, she founded and directed a documentary film festival in Los Angeles, dedicated to facilitating social change through the arts and storytelling.

Following graduation, Katie served as the Executive Coordinator at a leading production company founded by screenwriter/director Randall Wallace, where she gained experience in developing national marketing campaigns and post-production for mainstream feature projects. In her spare time, Katie enjoys spending time with her friends and family, being outdoors, and photography.

Katie is pursuing an Executive Master of Arts degree at University of Melbourne, where she will take subjects in project management, civil society, and the arts. This program strives to develop leaders who are passionate about addressing humanitarian needs in our complex and changing world.

She is looking forward to meeting and serving alongside Rotarians, experiencing the arts and culture of Melbourne, and learning more about “footy”. Katie is very appreciative for the hospitality extended by Rotarians & Australians in getting her here and is incredibly grateful for this wonderful opportunity.

Katie is hosted by RC Melbourne. Counsellor Pres. Philip Endersbee.

Contact Information:

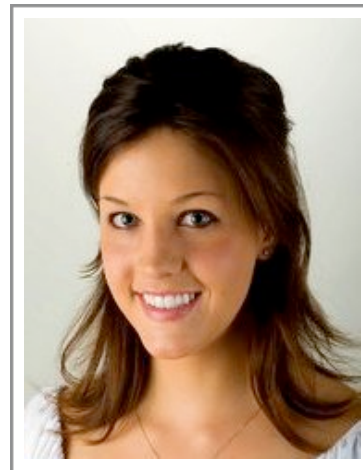
email: katie.stjernholm@gmail.com

mobile: 0434 560 692

blog: www.2011inmelbourne.blogspot.com/

My name is **Sharmila Acharya** and I am very fortunate to be the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from Rotary District 5360 (Rotary Club of Lethbridge Sunrise). I graduated from the University of Calgary with a Chemical Engineering Undergraduate degree in 2006, but am now following a different path in the Environmental Engineering area, specifically Water and Wastewater Treatment. I am here in Melbourne to pursue my Masters of Environmental Engineering with a focus on Water Resources at the University of Melbourne.

My interest in the Rotary Foundation came from its commitment to the community and instilling goodwill to the global environment. I feel that my vision is aligned with Rotary's vision as I have been an active member of the Southern Alberta community from a young age. My most notable



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... 11 commitments include, The Alberta Water Works Association, Green Calgary, United Way, and Toastmasters International. I have used my status as an East Indian Classical dancer to help out many non-profit organizations and support many charitable functions for 5 years. Thank you Rotary for giving me this opportunity to continue doing what I love to do.

Sharmila is hosted by RC Glen Eira. Counsellor PP Adrian Nelson.

Contact Information:

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Ariel Magnes is a 2011 Ambassadorial Scholar enrolled in RMIT University's postgraduate course for Animation and Interactive Media. She is sponsored by the Rotterdam Sunrise club in Rotary District 7190 New York USA.

Ariel has always had a passion for learning about other cultures. Shortly after earning her B.A. in English literature from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY, she spent a year teaching English language and western culture to teen and adult students in China. One of the greatest benefits of the experience was working in the classroom and coming up with innovative ways to make lessons engaging and educational, sometimes with limited resources. To this end, she found her students to be the best teachers.

She grew more interested in educational media and after returning to the US began working with the nonprofit organization Sesame Workshop, supporting efforts to produce international adaptations of the children's show Sesame Street in diverse countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, and Israel. She also worked as a Manager of External Relations for the nonprofit arm of children's publisher Scholastic Inc., where she supported fundraising and communications efforts. Ariel has also volunteered with the Clinton Global Initiative and for several years with Women in Children's Media, a nonprofit trade organization dedicated to connecting and advancing women working in children's television, music, web and game industries.

After completing her Master's degree, Ariel hopes to design and produce online, mobile and console games that are fun but also educational. She has a special interest in projects that promote learning, problem solving and creative expression. Her interests include travel, cooking, scuba diving, and writing. She looks forward to her upcoming year as an Ambassadorial Scholar in Melbourne, and is immensely grateful for the opportunity and support provided by the Rotary Foundation.

Ariel is hosted by RC Hawthorn. Counsellor Robert Ball.

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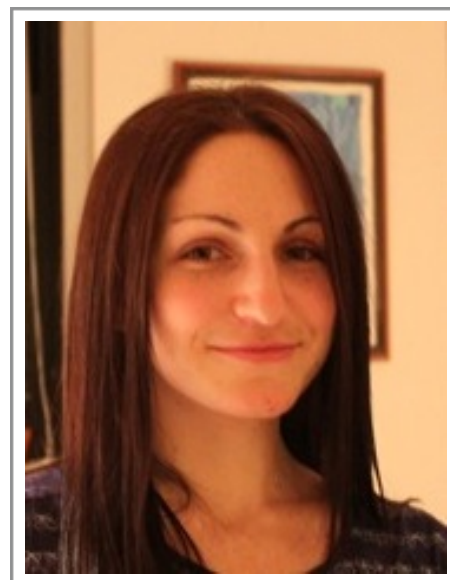
And if you have been inspired by the talents of these amazing you people, don't forget to look around your own neighbourhood. Our own students are ready & waiting to go on similar journeys to study overseas – point them in the direction of the Ambassadorial Scholarship. Applications for 2012-13 are now open. The application form can be downloaded from the Rotary International website, Students and Youth section:

<http://www.rotary.org/EN/STUDENTSANDYOUTH/EDUCATIONALPROGRAMS/AMBASSADORIALSCHOLARSHIPS/Pages/Howtoapply.aspx>

Applications should be submitted by 30th June, 2011 to:

David Gorman RD9800 Ambassadorial Scholars Co-ordinator

Email: david.gorman@dgcconsulting.com.au



PolioPlus Program

New tools, new tactics and increased support from political leaders fueled strong progress in Rotary's effort to eradicate polio worldwide. The new bivalent oral vaccine and mass immunization campaigns aggressively reached children in endemic countries and in those where the virus has been imported.

As of June 2010, Rotary has committed more than \$900 million to global eradication programs, 2009-10 program awards were \$118 million. Efforts were concentrated in Nigeria and Northern India. Incident reductions of 73% and 94% respectively were recorded. In Nigeria, 40 million children were immunized in four days in 2010, this is just one example of the efforts being made.

Rotary's \$200 million Challenge

In response to the grant of \$355 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary's response to date is \$165 million.

As of February 2011, contributions from our Clubs in D9800, including that from DDF, total the commendable amount of \$227,875. However it must be noted that 8 Clubs are still to make any donation, and a further 16 are below the \$1000 per Club as requested by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation. We urge those Clubs to urgently review their budgets and endeavor to support the Challenge prior to 30 June of this year.

PDG Don Jago

Contributors Please Note . . .

. . . that it is important to forward information - text in Word format and photographs separately as JPEG files. Do not include photos in your Word document. But please send photographs - they will enhance your article and your message.

PDG John Davis cmadavis@iinet.net.au and Dr Barry Mullen



Rotaractor Abhishek Choudhary gives a drop of the oral polio vaccine to a child in Bindvasini Village, outside of Birgunj, Nepal, during an April 2008 Subnational Immunization Day.

Source - Rotary Images

This Newsletter is designed and published as a service to Rotary by Dr Barry Mullen