

AUGUST 2020

# BRUCE'S BULLETIN

The Official Newsletter of Rotary District 9790 Inc

WHAT THIS ISSUE CONTAINS  
:(AMONG LOTS OF OTHER THINGS)

2021 District Conference

District Resource Network

Royce and Jean Abbey Award and Scholarship

Youth News

Face Masks

A new type of Rotary club



## BRUCE'S COLUMN

Written by District Governor Bruce Anderson

Welcome to the second DG's Newsletter for the 2020 – 2021 Rotary Year, the year when “Rotary Opens Opportunities”. At the time of writing (Monday August 3rd) we are now in our Stage 4 COVID-19 lockdown and curfew so we are even more restricted than we were at the start of the Rotary year and may be living with restrictions for months into the future. We will be doing visits and activities by Zoom for some time to come. In terms of District Governor visits to clubs Marilyn and I will be at the half-way mark by the end of August (by Zoom) but hope there will be opportunities later in the Rotary Year for us to visit at least some of the clubs in person. (continues on page 5)



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## Calendar of events

Event	Location	Date(s)	Contact
50th reunion Shepparton Rotaract, Chartered 25th August 1970	Shepparton, venue TBA	22-23 August	Malcolm Watt on 0439 158 274 or <a href="mailto:awatt.malc@gmail.com">awatt.malc@gmail.com</a>
District Conference	Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre,	18-21 March 2021	<a href="http://www.rotary9790.org.au">www.rotary9790.org.au</a>
RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) 2021	Lake Nillahcootie Camp, 3937 Midland Highway, Barjarg between Benalla and Mansfield about 15 km south of Swanpool.	26-28 March 2021	Linda Gidlund on 0418 173 279 or <a href="mailto:lleegidlund@gmail.com">lleegidlund@gmail.com</a>

## District/club deadlines

Peter Toomey Police Officer of the Year	Annual award for NSW and/or Victorian police officer(s) for service to their community	Friday 15 January 2021 for nominations	David Redfearn on 0448 852 747 or <a href="mailto:dredfearn@vtown.com.au">dredfearn@vtown.com.au</a>
Rotary Citation for Rotary Clubs Award nominations		30 June 2021	2020-21 Club Presidents

## August 2020 Membership and New Club Development Month



## Annual Calendar

Visit this calendar throughout the year to find award nomination due dates and convention and event information. Develop meeting agendas, projects, or public image campaigns based on these special occasions. All dates are subject to change.

### August 2020

Membership and New Club Development Month

### September 2020

Basic Education and Literacy Month

### October 2020

Economic and Community Development Month

5-11 October – Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week

24 October – World Polio Day

### November 2020

Rotary Foundation Month

2-8 November – World Interact Week

### December 2020

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

15 December – Last day for early registration discount for the 2021 Rotary Convention

### January 2021

Vocational Service Month

### February 2021

Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

7-11 February – International Assembly, Orlando, Florida, USA

23 February – Rotary's anniversary

### March 2021

Water and Sanitation Month

8-14 March – World Rotaract Week

31 March – Preregistration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention

### April 2021

Maternal and Child Health Month

30 April – Rotary International Convention registrations and ticket cancellations are due

### May 2021

Youth Service Month

### June 2021

Rotary Fellowships Month

11-12 June – Rotaract Preconvention, Taipei, Taiwan

11-12 June – Youth Exchange Officers Preconvention, Taipei, Taiwan

12-16 June – Rotary International Convention, Taipei, Taiwan

Source: <https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/calendar>



## District Governor's page

I spent my first full day as District Governor on July 2nd touring the bush fire ravaged areas around Corryong with AG Marg Crisp who had organised a full schedule of appointments with the Man From Snowy River office, Mental Wellbeing at Corryong Health, President Peter Humphrey from RC Corryong, Blaze Aid, the Recovery Hub at Corryong, the Acres and Acres Project and the United Church Fencing Team on the job at Towong. The Bushfire Recovery Committee led by PDG Bernie Bott is a very important component of our overall district program and I wanted to see firsthand the extent of the damage, the recovery achievements to date, and the challenges that remain so that I am informed sufficiently to support the Bushfire committee. A big vote of thanks to AG Marg for putting everything together for my visit.

A key message from incoming Rotary International President Holger is for districts to be actively at work creating new, innovative club models. The "G" Train (DG Bruce, DGE Anne and DGN David) together with District Membership Chair Ruth Byers spent last weekend in six hours of Zoom meetings for Membership training across Australia and New Zealand. Topics included Building Vibrant Clubs, Innovative Club Models, Using Data to find Opportunities for Growth, Cultivating Relationships with Potential, Prospective and New Members, amongst others. It suffices to say that the "traditional" way of doing things in Rotary has likely reached a "Use by Date" in some communities and we need to do some things differently into the future.

The COVID-19 crisis has forced us out of our comfort zone of traditional meetings and has led clubs to find new ways to meet and operate, mostly on-line, to keep Rotary alive and relevant until the crisis is over.

I am hoping clubs do not automatically revert to the "old" way of meeting when the restrictions are lifted,

but think about perhaps a combination of face to face meetings for fun and fellowship interspersed by on-line meetings to get through the procedural business and discussions.

Elsewhere in this edition you will find details of a new initiative with Rotary Australia and New Zealand to provide recognition to Clubs for their contributions to The Rotary Foundation. The new initiative is to supplement and augment the existing scheme to recognise contributions from individuals. Despite the issues with fund-raising caused by COVID-19 I am hoping to be in the position to announce as many clubs as possible reaching Club Annual Donor status or Club Major Donor status.

In the DG visits conducted to date I have been pressing clubs, with support from AGs, to strive to achieve the Rotary International President Citation for this year. The basic requirement is for clubs to choose 13 goals (from a list of 25) in Rotary Club Central, achieve the goals, report back in Rotary Club Central and wait for celebrations to begin – too easy! I am looking forward to seeing almost every club in our District achieve their goals and earn the citation.

At this stage our Conference Committee is pushing ahead hoping for a big party in Wangaratta in March next year so registrations are now open (see details and links elsewhere in this issue) but the committee is mindful of the challenges emerging from the COVID-19 crisis and has drawn up contingency plans – we just have to wait and see how things develop over coming months.

Stay home, stay safe!

**DG Bruce, August 3, 2020**



## 2021 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

### Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

## Registrations Now Open

**Go to the District Website**

**[www.rotary9790.org.au](http://www.rotary9790.org.au)**

**and select District Conference page**

- **Please register online if possible and as soon as you can.**
- **No pricing yet for social events; please indicate your interest.**
- **Should the Conference be cancelled a full refund will be made.**
- **If social distancing still applies then, which means less people can be accommodated at venue, we will allocate seats in the order that registrations are received.**
- **It is highly likely that we will have dial-in attendance option (such as Zoom) in the event that numbers are restricted.**
- **Finally, book your accommodation now. Credit card holds booking.**

*Your committee knows that many of us will not have been to a District Conference for the past two years so we want to make this one super special to enhance our role as Rotarians for the future.*



## A Word from the Editor

*I love going to places near and far, meeting people and taking pictures. This is me wandering around with my camera in Osaka, Japan three years ago meeting some "colourful" local characters!*

*We may not be able to wander too far at the moment in our locked down world but we all still have a wealth of stories to tell about places and people we have encountered as Rotarians when we were out and about doing Rotary things. We have done so much in so many places whether it is a great project in your own community or in a remote far flung corner of the globe.*

*Whatever the case, we are all in need of some inspiration as we slowly grind towards that world beyond the COVID-19 so why not motivate us all by sharing some of your inspiring work?*

*This bulletin is yours, it is for your stories and your achievements so let's hear about them no matter how grand or how modest they may seem.*

*Don't be shy about sending me material. I will do my best to include it and all the better if it is accompanied by graphics and high resolution pictures of course.*

*The deadline is the 20th of each month and my contact details are: [dredfearn@vtown.com.au](mailto:dredfearn@vtown.com.au) or 0448 852 747*

*Yours in Rotary, David Redfearn, Bulletin Editor*

*PS: I am forced to confess that I am not actually on Rotary business in this picture but it did grab your attention, didn't it?*



**Bruce's Bulletin is the official newsletter of Rotary District 9790 Inc.**

**Publisher/Editor:** David Redfearn **Art Director:** David Redfearn **Advertising:** David Redfearn **Other duties as required:** David Redfearn

**NOTE:** All photographs/images submitted must include detailed captions i.e. names of people, event locations etc. It is presumed that the supplier of the photograph/image has approval of the owner of said copyright to reproduce the photograph/image

**Closing date is by 20 August 2020**

**Note:** The views expressed in this publication represent those of the contributor/s and are not necessarily those of or shared by the District, the Committee, any Club, the Members or the magazine

## Rotarians and their news

### Queen's Birthday Honour



Ms Josie Crisara was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division 'for services to education and to professional associations'. Josie is from the Rotary Club of Greenvale and is the club's current Youth Services person. In her professional life she is the Principal of Aitken College in Greenvale. Congratulations Josie!

Image kindly provided by Aitken College, Greenvale

### Face Masks



*The current flare up of the COVID-19 pandemic in Victoria has seen the wearing of face masks outside our homes made compulsory across the whole of Victoria. One club has seen this as an opportunity to provide a valuable community service while also raising funds for a very worthy cause.*

These masks were made by Greta, the daughter of the Rotary Club Southern Mitchell's Pasquale De Cesare as a gesture to the Rotary Club. Greta is only covering her expenses and **\$4.00 for every mask will go to the Rotary Foundation**. They look fantastic and every purchase supports a most worthy cause!



President Elect Steve Ansell of the Rotary Club of Southern Mitchell is pictured modelling the Club face mask.

For more information, contact the **Rotary Club of Southern Mitchell** on **0419 890015**.

***Currently wearing a face mask outdoors is compulsory for all adults in Victoria due to COVID-19 restrictions. For more information, go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>***



## District Resource Network

“Rotary International recommended that all Districts develop a District Resource Network”, Kerry Kirk District International Chair said today. The Network or database is a collection of the projects, skills and knowledge available to District Clubs and Rotarians. “The idea is that you will “ not have to reinvent the wheel” if you can draw on the expertise and skill of another club or Rotarian who has “been there and done that”, Kerry went on to say.

This will prevent much heartache as Rotarians struggle with the “how to of a new project”. Hopefully it will reduce the incidence of costly mistakes and wasted time, if Rotarians can draw on such a database.

The District Governor Bruce Anderson is encouraging all Clubs to participate in this project, firstly by using the database in researching a potential project, or looking for an idea of what to do about something. And secondly by offering your expertise in a particular area of your clubs to be included in the database. District Governor Bruce said today “he strongly supported the concept and looked forward to its development and use by the District”. He further stated if you put your name forward as a contact person, “we would only expect that enquiries would be “only a couple of telephone meetings”

The District Resource Network will be managed and coordinated by its Coordinator Kerry Davies. The project will fall into the International Portfolio. Kerry will be contacting all Clubs through Club Secretary’s and Assistant District Governors over the next 6 months to seek your participation. Kerry said it would be very likely that this will only take about 30 minutes of a Club Secretary’s time, and the project will be flexible enough to have varying response strategies, by email, post or verbally.



If you would like further information please contact **Kerry Davies** on 0428965146 (or **Kerry Kirk** on 0408346175)



**PAYING IT FORWARD** is a youth project run by RC Albury Hume that aims to introduce students to volunteering and the importance of always paying it forward. The last four years we have been working in Fiji and have taken over 115 school students. And in 2021 we are running a yr 8-10 group to Fiji, yr 11-12 group to Thailand and yr 12+ group to assist in our clubs kindergarten project in Tanzania.

Students live and work in remote local communities, learning to immerse themselves in the culture and landscape. They spend the week working on a community project such as repairing, painting, education etc as well as learning skills in leadership, empathy, team building and how to become a global citizen.

We have had students participate from all over the district, not just Albury and the project fills very quickly. Our aim is to see this program adopted by Rotary clubs and run as their own youth program - any questions please call **Kellie Kadaoui on 0422 165 271** or [kellie@wildlimemarketing.com.au](mailto:kellie@wildlimemarketing.com.au) <https://www.facebook.com/rotarypayingitforward/>

## Rotaract

# Rotaract



Stepping from then to now!

Past Members of the Rotaract Club of Shepparton, Chartered 25th August 1970, are planning a 50th reunion for 22/23rd August 2020, if able to go ahead or a catch-up on the 25th August....

If there are any past members involved with Rotary in our District and are interested in the events, please **contact PP Malcolm Watt on 0439 158 274 or** [watt.malc@gmail.com](mailto:watt.malc@gmail.com). Address: 207/65 Channel Road, Shepparton, 3630.

## Interact

# Interact



The Kilmore International School Interact is setting club goals to focus on the new Rotary area of focus: supporting the environmental. KIS Interactor members took action to get stated this term. Go Kilmore International School Interact!

## Rotary Youth Leadership Award Conference (RYLA)



The RYLA Team is working with Doxa Malmsbury to confirm dates for April 2021. The dates and supporting information will be widely communicated when available. Relevant restrictions always apply so be ready to be flexible along with the team. Stay tuned to all things RYLA - email messages, Facebook, and website **for the up-to-date information: [info@ryla9790.org.au](mailto:info@ryla9790.org.au)** <https://ryla9790.org.au/>

## Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) 2021

RYPEN will run at Lake Nillahcootie Camp on 26th to 28th March 2021 (**see calendar of events on page 3**)

If you would like further information please contact **Linda Gidlund on 0418 173 279 or** [llegidlund@gmail.com](mailto:llegidlund@gmail.com)





## Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) 2020 - Lake Nillahcootie Camp



"...that the young people who attended RYPEN 2020 took some time to get to know all the other participants attending, through the weird and various activities that were on offer for them to so..."

## Rotex District 9790



Encourage your club's Rotary Youth Exchange Students to become involved in Rotex. Leading the next generation of RYE by supporting Inbound, Outbound and Rebounds!

**Contact Rotex by email [rotex9790@gmail.com](mailto:rotex9790@gmail.com) or Facebook - Rotex District 9790 or Instagram - [rotexdistrict9790](https://www.instagram.com/rotexdistrict9790).**

## Gen Connection

How do you connect seniors and youth during a pandemic when face-to-face meetings are not allowed?

"Let's try phone calls to isolated seniors" was the idea from Elizabeth Lang, a teacher at Greater Shepparton Secondary College, for a meaningful project for her students.

As part of their Gen Connection program, Rotarians from the Shepparton South club gave support by enrolling thirty seniors. The students phoned their senior buddy twice a week and gained information about their buddy's life to write a biography that formed part of their VCAL assessment.

David Earle from the Rotary Club of Shepparton South explained, "It's a project of mutual benefit, local seniors gain a new connection with regular phone chats and students gain insights into some amazing life stories". Rotary also teamed with the Shepparton Lighthouse project to monitor the outcomes of the conversations.

Over seven weeks there were a total of 194 conversations over 38 hours and involving 29 students and seniors. The conversations lifted the happiness scores of both the students and the seniors. The students are currently putting the finishing touches to the biography on their senior buddy that will be presented to them soon. The resource material, worksheets, and lesson plan will be uploaded to the [genconnection.org.au](http://genconnection.org.au) website for other schools to access and easily implement.

For more information **contact David Earle** at [davide124@gmail.com](mailto:davide124@gmail.com)

## Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE)

rotary  
youth  
exchange



**This year has been extremely challenging for our Rotary Youth Exchange Students, both here and abroad. This years' Outbound students have recently sent in their six-month reports and we would like to share with you some excerpts which will give you some insight into their year so far:**

**"Effort only fully reveals its reward after a person refuses to quit"**

Six months ago, I knew when I returned to my friends and family in a year, I would see the world in a different light. I didn't expect for the worlds light to be changed before my eyes. 2020 will certainly be a year to be remembered by all. Exchange students across the globe have definitely had their promise of a unique experience fulfilled. I began to question from the moment I landed in Taiwan why I didn't feel different, this experience is supposed to change me after all, right? Two months in I was still asking the same questions...as time went by, I began to realise change isn't instant. It's gradual, and it cements itself in someone. At first, the only change I could see was the added fat to my face, but I can say for sure...we have long term positive change in mental gearing and views on the world. **(Sarah in Taiwan)**





## Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) - more stories

During quarantine, I became quite upset and anxious for most of time, thinking I will never have a "normal" exchange or that I will have to go home. So many times, having doubts about whether to go home. But I am glad I stayed, things are starting to go back to normal, just plus masks.

I'm still worried that Rotary will decide to send us all home, but I'm trying to make the most of the time I have. **(Amber)**



Lots of things have happened since my last report. Things with the coronavirus got worse, school got cancelled, quarantine started. But even with all of the things that have slowed down the progress of my exchange, lots of good things have happened. Especially recently now the confinement rules are starting to ease up and my host family can travel a bit with me. I have gotten to celebrate Easter the way French people do, visit a beautiful beach near where I live, travel to two of the amazing castles of the Loire Valley, visit the award-winning park "Puydu Feu" and even go on my lifelong dream trip to Paris. It was amazing being able to see all of Paris and all of the places that we had visited. As a little kid I had always dreamed of visiting the Eiffel Tower, but I never thought I would have achieved it by 15. **(Millicent in France)**



## Rotarians in Action - Looking after Local Community

### A Good News Story during this time of Pandemic.

A Mansfield Rotarian, Beryl Jolly, called DGE Anne Reid one Tuesday recently asking if someone from Alexandra Rotary could cut some wood for a 94 year old gentleman who had hurt his back cutting wood.

DGE Anne emailed Alexandra's Treasurer, Ian Gibb, to see if he could organise something. Ian responded immediately and called on Bill the next morning and promptly cut some wood for him.

During the afternoon DGE Anne had a message from Beryl thanking us for assisting her friend. Job well done Ian.

**Ian and Rob inspecting wood (Image courtesy of Anne Reid)**



## Royce and Jean Abbey Award and Scholarship

*The Royce Abbey Award and the Royce and Jean Abbey Vocational Training Team Programme (“the Scholarship”) were established in recognition of Royce Abbey’s contribution to Rotary as an inspirational Rotary member and leader since 1954 and his role as President of Rotary International in 1988-89.*

Royce Abbey AO DCM was also a member of the Rotary Club of Essendon in District 9800, Victoria, Australia, from 1954 until his passing in 2014 at age 91.

The earnings of the Fund are used for Humanitarian programmes and in particular to fund individuals and teams from the Asia Pacific Region to undertake practical training in Australia in the areas of food production, forestry, agriculture, environmental research and community development.

The Royce Abbey Award recognises Rotarians who show Enthusiasm and Commitment to the Object of Rotary. The selection is made by the President of the Rotary Club to encourage the Awardee to continue to enjoy his or her Rotary membership and contribution to the local and International Community.

The Award represents a contribution of AUD\$1,000.00 by the Rotary Club to the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowed Fund within the Foundation of Rotary International which provides funding for the locally administered Royce and Jean Abbey Scholarship.

The training is intended to equip the successful candidates to impart the knowledge gained to their own communities. The scholarship covers travel, accommodation, tuition and practical training up to US\$10,000 for each individual team member.

Criteria, timelines and application forms for both the Award and Scholarship can be found on the Royce Abbey Website: <http://www.royceabbey.com/>



Bruce Barber, Past District Governor, is representing D9700 on the Royce and Jean Abbey Scholarship Committee. The Rotary Club of Geelong sponsored Elijah Sarigari from Sariri Village in 2011 as the first scholarship winner from that District. Many clubs have supported the Sariri Project and have met Elijah and the value in the scholarship can be seen in the work Elijah is doing in Sariri at the present time.



Clubs are also involved in many projects in the Asia Pacific Region and it would be great if we could identify a prospective candidate who could meet the scholarship criteria. Scholarship **Applications close on 31 January and 31 July** each year. Please **check the web page** or **contact PDG Richard Luke** at [rotaryrkj@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryrkj@gmail.com) if you would like more information.



## A new type of Rotary Club - Grant Godino

One of the goals that many of our youth alumni set in our programs is to give back to their community. Rotary is one such avenue for that but many have struggled to find a Rotary Club that suits them. We also know that weekly meetings and dinners don't always suit past and existing Rotarians. I want to change that with a new type of club...

I'm hoping people might be interested on joining me on a journey to create a new type of Rotary club. What I hope to establish is a club that:

- occasionally meets either remotely or in person (I'm thinking at least once a month) for a speaker, vocational event or social activity
- is family friendly encourages members to visit and engage with other local clubs where a speaker or service event resonates with them, with an aim to do at least 40 hours of service a year
- is located in the northern corridor of Melbourne promotes diversity in age, ethnicity, race, colour, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
- is focused around social justice and measuring impact
- mainly operates online through an app like Microsoft Teams or Slack

Let me know if you might be interested in coming and joining me to create a new movement in Rotary.

**Email: [grant.godino@rotarylgbt.org](mailto:grant.godino@rotarylgbt.org)**

**Grant Godino**



## Police Awards

The Peter Toomey Memorial Community Police Officer of the Year Award goes to an outstanding Victorian or NSW Police Officer in District 9790 who has demonstrated service above self in his or her community.

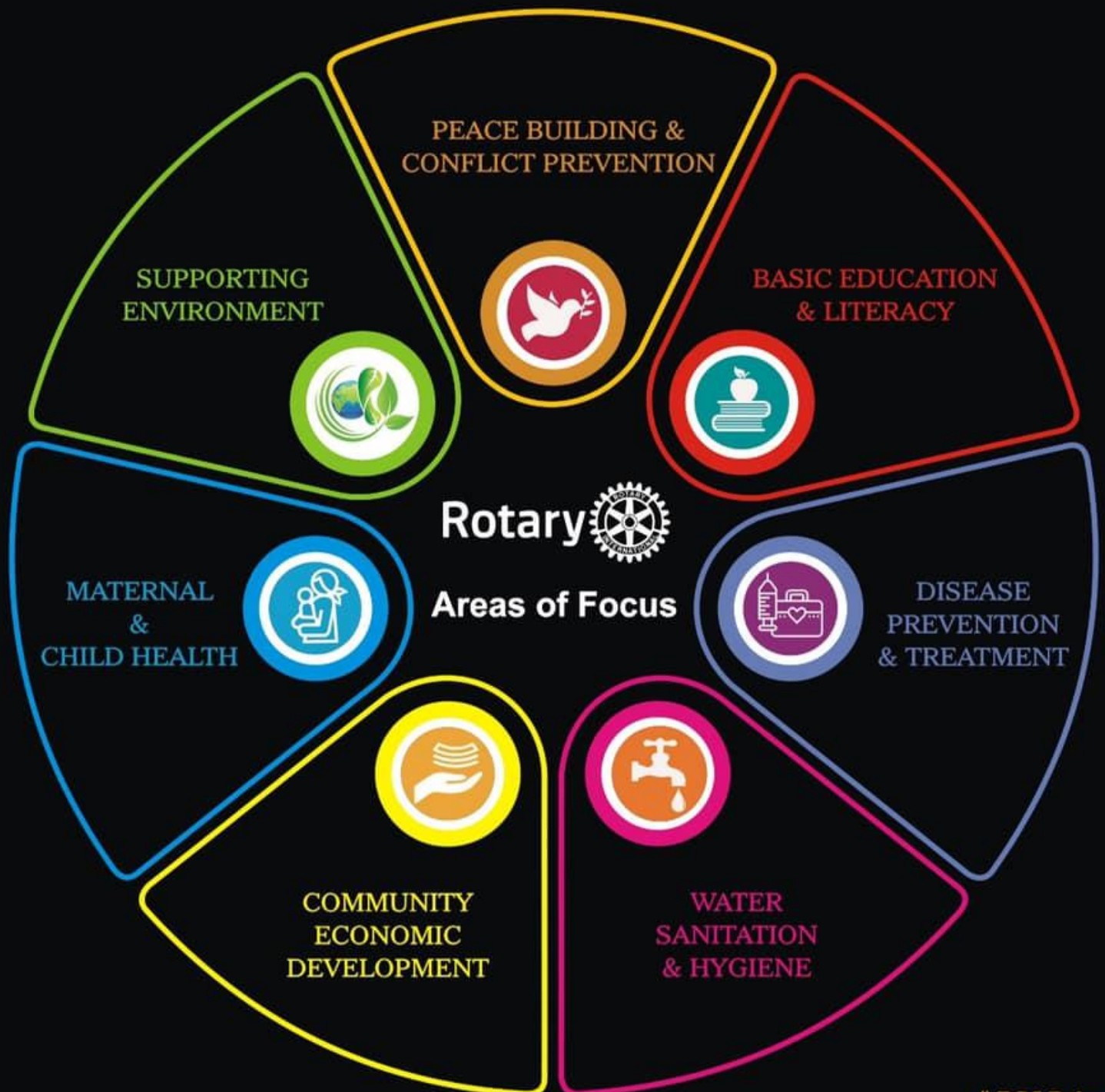
It is a way of encouraging local police officers to become more greatly involved in their local community..Do you know a police officer who has done an outstanding job in your local community? Have you ever recognised the work of this officer? If so, please put them forward for an award (see page 3 for the deadline for nominations).

For further information, please give **Coordinator David Redfearn** a call on **0448 852 747** or by email: [dredfearn@vtown.com.au](mailto:dredfearn@vtown.com.au)





## Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus



# RCJ Dalma  
D 3280



ROTARY  
ISN'T  
CANCELLED

*It's just  
different*

@rotarianevanburrell



**During the pandemic many of us are meeting on line via Zoom or other platforms.**

**Why not join in and go on a virtual journey?**

**To find contact details for meetings around the world, go to:**

**<https://www.rotary9790.org.au/sitepage/online/meetings-around-the-world>**