



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
VICTORIA

## **ROTARY VICTORIAN 2021 MULTI-DISTRICT VIRTUAL CONFERENCE April 2021**

It is a pleasure for me to join you at this Virtual Conference, to celebrate 100 years of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand.

You – the many thousands of Rotarians in both nations, as well as your global network – are people of action. You are great doers. You are invaluable contributors.

Through the diverse perspectives, connections, energy and goodwill that you bring to this organisation, you have helped to deliver substantial, long-term solutions to some of the world's most persistent issues.

Thankfully, despite your achievements across a century now, you and the wider Rotary family show no sign of slowing down.

You are still working hard to prevent and treat diseases, augment literacy, improve maternal and child health, provide wide access to clean water and to reduce poverty and conflict.

Worldwide, your work to eradicate polio is legendary.

Your collaboration with UNICEF, to provide life-saving vaccines to children and women in the Pacific, is impressive.

As is your dedication to ending the infectious eye disease, trachoma, in Australia.

Here in Victoria, I know that Rotary has raised significant funding for medical research, and contributed to Victoria's reputation for medical advances, particularly in cancer research.

Rotarians have helped to develop future leaders, helped boost the sciences which are so important to our future, assisted drought affected families, and helped communities, following natural disasters.

And so much more.

And that dedication and success is replicated in the other jurisdictions from which you hail.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to thank each one of you for the funds that you help to raise.

Thank you for the hours you contribute to volunteering.

Thank you for how you mobilise your business and community connections.

And thank you for modelling to others – and in particular the next generation – just how to make our local and global community stronger and better.

Enjoy your conference.