



*Giving Light to the World*  
**CANADIAN EYESIGHT GLOBAL**

[www.CanadianEyesight.org](http://www.CanadianEyesight.org) Canada Ph: 604-582-0579 Email: [info@CanadianEyesight.org](mailto:info@CanadianEyesight.org)  
**SUPPORTED BY ROTARY CLUBS OF SURREY, BURNABY & NEW WESTMINSTER**

**CANADIAN EYESIGHT GLOBAL FREE EYE CLINIC IN RAYYA, AMRITSAR**  
**IN HONOR OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 2019-20 MARK DANIEL MALONEY**  
 Organized by Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Mata Sulakhani Eye Hospital Society, Amritsar  
 Supported by Rotary Club of Amritsar South-East & Rotary Club of Surrey, BC, Canada

**OCTOBER 2019**



**People patiently waiting for their turn**



*Giving Light to the World*

**NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020**



**ROTARY  
CONNECTS  
THE WORLD**



# **10 FREE EYE CAMPS - 500 IOL SURGERIES IN INDIA IN HONOUR OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT (2019-2020) MARK DANIEL MALONEY**

*in partnership with*

**ROTARY CLUB OF DELHI SOUTH METROPOLITAN (DISTRICT 3011, INDIA)**

**SUPPORTED BY ROTARY CLUB OF SURREY, DISTRICT 5050 (USA-CANADA) AND  
SRI GURU SINGH SABHA, PANCHAYAN, FARIDABAD, HARYANA, PUNJAB, INDIA**

**CANADIAN EYESIGHT GLOBAL FREE EYE CLINIC IN RAYYA, AMRITSAR - OCTOBER 2019**



**WE'RE  
COMMITTED**

We are continuously in touch with our sponsors and partners in India and Canada. It is our commitment to continue our charity work after we are all free of the Covid-19 pandemic. We thank our beneficiaries for their patience and understanding. We reassure you that we will continue the Free Eye Camps and Eye Clinics as planned when the respective governments have lifted the restrictions.

# Canadian Eyesight Global Donated Food to Senior's Home, Amritsar. Punjab, supported by Rotary Club of Amritsar South East. R.I.Dist.3070, India, and dedicated volunteers.





## It's a Grand-daughter!

Proud Grandma and Grandpa - Isabelle and I are announcing the arrival of our eighth Grandchild, a precious beautiful baby girl!

Cataleya Marie Hayer Drake, arrived on October 5, 2020 @ 9:21am weighing in at 7 lbs 4 ozs and 19.88 inches in length, born at the Abbotsford Regional Hospital.

Baby Cataleya Marie Hayer Drake's mother is Katrina Hayer Drake, Father Jordon Drake.

Very proud Grand-parents are Dave & Isabelle Martinez Hayer and Barry & Mary Drake!.

**Congratulations to the proud family from Anup Singh Jubbal, CEO-President (Founder) and Board of Directors of Canadian Eyesight Global.**

**Isabel and Dave are supporters of Canadian Eyesight Global.**



“

*Thanks for sharing the September Newsletter which as always contained some significant reports and pictures on what is being accomplished.*

Best Wishes

**Wilfrid (Wilf) Wilkinson**  
Rotary International  
Past President (2007-2008)

”



When the Rotary Club of Hamburg was chartered on 8 October 1927 it became the first club in Germany. This photo from Rotary's archives shows the charter night event attended by Rotary members from across Europe.

# OUR ROTARY SUPPORTERS IN CANADA

## ROTARY CLUB OF SURREY

Since 2003 Rotary Club of Surrey Guildford (now Rotary Club of Surrey) has provided annual financial support to this very needed program.

Members of the Club pose for a picture with the 2019 donation.



## ROTARY CLUB OF BURNABY

On October 8th, Rotary Club of Burnaby President Samantha Kwong presented a cheque for over \$5000, while adapting to social distance restrictions. These funds will go towards financing life saving equipment for a planned hospital extension, allowing for additional support for the needs of BC's growing population and dealing with events such as COVID.

While many of us only see glimpses of a hospital's war against COVID and other maladies, we are grateful to BC's nurses, doctor, and other hospital staff for their dedication and stewardship towards the sickest and most vulnerable!

## ROTARY CLUB OF NEW WESTMINSTER

### ROTARY TOWER 25 CLUTE STREET NEW WESTMINSTER

**ROTARY TOWER** is a retirement home, located in New Westminister, British Columbia at 25 Clute Street. It offers residents independent living options as well as a variety of amenities and services.

Rotary Tower is a not for profit rental building. The mandate is to house low income seniors who are over 55 and capable of independent living.



## OUR CORPORATE SPONSOR

**FOR MORE THAN A DECADE**, Cenovus Energy, Cenovus Employee Foundation, Calgary, Alberta, provides annual funding of \$15,000~ towards our free eye camps in India.

Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Harbir and Monica Chhina and members of Chhina family, Calgary, Alberta.

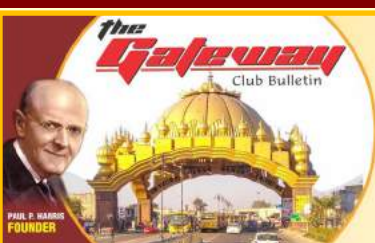
# Rotary Club of Surrey ships container of Medical Supplies to Ethiopia.

On October 17th 2020, Rotary Club of Surrey was honored to ship a container of much need Medical Supplies to Ethiopia. This was done in partnership with Dan Gallant and his team at Rotary World Help for the medical Supplies and the Ethiopian Community lead by Kebede Abate, Solomson Guta and Kagnew Asaye that raised the funds for the shipment.

This was not possible without John Edwards (Past President) and Charlie Molnar who organized the project from the start and overcame all the challenges leading to completion, Bryce McElroy (Club Treasurer) for the excellent management. Thanks to Rotary Club of Surrey members Paul Sandhu, Art Claxton, Lynn Spence, Parveen Goel, Garry Sass, Bryce McElroy, John Edwards, Charlie Molnar Lal Baniya, Dean Gurney and Pavan Sangha along with countless volunteers that helped load the container for shipment. Canadian Eyesight Global awarded Appreciation Certificates, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Surrey to the following recipients.

- Orion Mengistu • Kagnew Asaye • Kebede Abate
- Charles Molnar • Dan Gallant





Club No: 15217

Chartered on April 8, 1983

# ROTARY CLUB AMRITSAR MIDTOWN



## Weekly Musings

Meeting no. 1938(Zoom) was held on Friday, 9th October, 2020 at 7.30 pm. Meeting was addressed by Mrs. Kiran Walia, Principal, Kamla Nehru College, Phagwara. She spoke on New Education Policy and New Generations. She detailed salient provisions of New Education Policy and how it would affect the new generations. The policy makes landmark changes and is now more vocation oriented. It has envisioned 5+3+4+3 curriculum which will come into effect from year 2022. The way it is implemented shall determine the success or otherwise of the policy. Mrs. Walia said that these revolutionary changes shall surely help the new generations who may like to study and work here than going abroad after 10+2 or graduation. The worthy speaker was introduced by Rtn. Dr. R K Bedi while vote of thanks was proposed by Rtn. PP Ashwani Babbar.



## Vol. XXXIX No. 13 Economic & Community Development Month FRIDAY, 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2020

Desperate, Anand masquerades as a Tamilian, Anand Kumaraswamy, and finds a place to stay with a Tamilian family. There, he meets Janaki (Vyjayantimala), the daughter of the South Indian Cultural Association Head. The romance develops, but Anand is unable to reveal his true identity to her. Daulatram Khanna (Nazir Hussain), Anand's father and Janaki's father, Subramanyam's (Nana Palsikar) superior, gets transferred to Delhi. Anand's sister Nikki (Jabeen) comes close to Anand's friend, Ashok Banerjee, a Bengali painter who teaches her art. Anand makes his Tamilian servant Kumaraswamy (Dhoomal) masquerade as his father and they even meet Janaki's father to discuss the marriage. But soon they are found out and Daulatram opposes the marriage. Daulatram also faces opposition from his community who come to discuss Nikki's marriage within the community. Subramanyam too turns against his daughter, who tries to kill herself. She is saved by a kindly shop owner (Radhakrishnan) and passed off as his Punjabi niece, Mohini. Both Subramanyam and Anand are kept in the dark and are convinced Janaki is no more. Subramanyam realizes his mistake, but sadly he thinks it is too late. Thinking Mohini to be a good Punjabi girl, Anand's family readily agrees to his marriage with her. Daulatram returns home to find Ashok consoling Nikki, and throws him out. Nikki's marriage is almost called off when the boy's father demands a huge dowry. Ashok offers his family jewels to Daulatram so that Nikki's marriage can take place. Daulatram's eyes open and he calls off the wedding and marries Nikki to Ashok. The truth about Janaki/Mohini also comes out and now that both groups have shed their prejudices Anand marries Janaki. The movie is a telling commentary on rifts due to regionalism. It is a light hearted comedy with excellent numbers by Shankar Jaikishan including O, Nakhrewali. Kishore Kumar is in full form and carries the film on his shoulders. His comic timing is spot on and he is as energetic as ever. The traditional concept of a comedian has always been one of lowly stature, that of a sidekick. It was Kishore Kumar who successfully became Hindi cinema's comic hero whose popularity relied primarily on his comic talents. Add to that his phenomenal acting talent and amazing singing voice and you have a performer who bordered on the genius. Dances by Vyjayantimala are dazzling. It is a nice watch.

Handwashing with Soap, and is endorsed by a wide array of governments, international institutions, civil society organizations, NGOs, companies and individuals around the globe. The current COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical role hand hygiene plays in disease transmission. The theme reminds us of the need to take immediate action on hand hygiene across all public and private settings to respond and control the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand hygiene must become everybody's business. It also reminds us of the need to build on the current momentum to make hand hygiene a mainstay in public health interventions beyond the pandemic and create a culture of hand hygiene. Governments around the world are taking action to promote handwashing with soap on Global Handwashing Day and throughout the year. In India, GHD has been integrated into its cleanliness campaign to promote handwashing in schools, Anganwadis and communities. Millions have been reached with the message of handwashing with soap through these initiatives. We as Rotarians in India have taken a pledge to support "Swachh Bharat Mission" and have been engaged various activities to promote the cause of WASH with a focus on hygiene in our communities through WASH in schools, healthcare facilities and community projects where behavioral change communication activities (BCC), hygiene education and promotion of handwashing with soap form an integral part of Rotary WASH projects. Every Rotary Club & District is encouraged to celebrate the Global Handwashing day on 15th October or during this week. Rtn. Ramesh Aggarwal Chair, WinS India Recognition Committee



## New Delhi (1956) - A telling movie

New Delhi is a 1956 Indian Hindi-language Black-and-white romantic comedy film written by Radhakrishnan with **Indir Raj Anand**. The film starred Vyjayantimala and Kishore Kumar in the lead, with Jabeen Jilil, Nana Palsikar, Nazir Hussain, Prabhu Dayal, Dhimal, and Radhakrishnan as the ensemble cast. The film was produced and directed by Mohan Segal. Musical score was composed by Shankar Jaikishan and lyrics by Hasrat Jaipuri and Shailendra. Anand (Kishore Kumar), a Punjabi boy comes from Jalandhar to Delhi, but is unable to find a place to stay, as everywhere he goes people want to give room only to a person of their region.

## GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY

Global Handwashing Day (GHD), celebrated on 15th October every year, is a global advocacy day dedicated to increasing awareness about the importance of hand hygiene, especially through handwashing with soap, and triggering lasting change from the policy-level to community-driven action. The 2020 GHD theme is 'Hand Hygiene for All', a call to action to make hand hygiene a reality for all. GHD was initiated in 2008 by the Global Public Private Partnership for

**NEXT MEETING NOTICE**

**DAY & DATE :**  
Friday 23rd October, 2020

**SPEAKER:**  
Mrs. Meenakshi Mehra, Motivational Speaker  
Writer and Counsellor of 20 years experience

**TOPIC:**  
Human Engineering (Badalry Bishtey)

**TIME: 7.30 pm**

**Meeting no. 1940(ZOOM)**

Please do attend with your gracious spouse



CA Davinder Singh, District Governor 2020-21 (R.I. District 3070) pictured with his wife Dolly, Rotary International President Holger Knaack and his wife Susanne.

# The joy of doing good

by Rtn CA. Davinder Singh-District Governor

I am reminded of a quote often attributed to Martin Luther King Jr: "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way." King, of course, did both

Let us think of one such thing that we can do in a great way. Our clubs is a place where people in their everyday roles can be leaders, and we, rotarians embrace this as both a privilege and a responsibility. So let us pick one small thing; talk about it with any of our fellow rotarian; make a shared commitment to action. Because change is not about the path of least resistance but about the road less traveled, one small but great step at a time!

Lets us help each other to do more good in the world!



Canadian Eyesight Global and Rotary Clubs of Amritsar Midtown and Amritsar South East have been partners in a number of projects in India. Recently we have reached an agreement to share their newsletters to speak about all good things we do!

- This page: Newsletter of Rotary Club of Amritsar Midtown.
- Next page: Newsletter of Rotary Club of Amritsar South East.

Club ID 73299

Charter Date: 7th June, 2006

# ROTARY CLUB AMRITSAR SOUTH EAST



FRAGRANCE COMES FROM THE HANDS WHICH DISTRIBUTE FLOWERS



Rotary Open Opportunities



Dr. Gaurav Sharma  
Rtn. CA Davinder Singh



President 2020-21  
Rtn. S. P. Singh



Secretary 2020-21  
Rtn. P. S. S. Naraina



President 2019-20  
Rtn. P. K. S. Bhillon



President 2018  
Rtn. P. S. S. Naraina



President 2017  
Rtn. P. K. S. Bhillon

BE PUNCTUAL - MAKE IT A HABIT

SAVE WATER SAVE FUTURE

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Monday, 5 Oct., 2020

SENIOR CITIZENS HONOURED ON WORLD ELDERLY DAY

WEAR LAPEL PIN WITH PRIDE

ELIMINATE DRUGS FROM SOCIETY

## REPORT

### MEETING NO. 705

Zoom Meeting was organized by the club on World Heart Day. Dr. H.P. Singh was the guest speaker. He talked about the Heart Diseases & Precautions be taken to prevent Disease. He told that we should take care of heart at very early stage of life. We should follow healthy dietary habits and do exercise regularly.

The talk was very knowledgeable and members took keen interest in the deliberations. Periodical Medical Check Up should be done right from the age of 25. The meeting was joined by seven other Clubs of Amritsar.

### MEETING NO. 706

## REPORT

Senior Citizens Day was celebrated on 1st October by 9 Rotary Clubs of Amritsar East and Batala hosted by Rotary Clubs of Amritsar South East and West. Rtn. PP Dr. Jaspreet Singh Grover welcomed & Rtn. Neeru Issar coordinated the virtual meet. Rtn. DG CA Davinder Singh congratulated the organizers in his opening remarks and also congratulated Rotary West specially Rtn. Neeru Issar Interact Club sponsored by Rotary Club Amritsar West has received Charter from R.I. He also appreciated the efforts of Rtn. PP Raminder Grover for promoting the signature project of Rotary i.e. Survival Cancer. Rtn. PP Dr. P.S. Grover initiated and moderated the deliberations on the subject "To Win the Game, how to play second innings". He elaborated on the subject with the help of slides and touched all the aspect, like Physical Exercise, Mental Work, intelligent diet etc.

Words of Wisdom were added by Rtn. PDG Arun Kapoor, Rtn. PDG Retd Justice Narinder Sud and Rtn. PDG Mohan Sachdeva. Life Time Achievement Awards were given to Six Senior Citizens.

Concluding Remarks were given by Rtn. DGE Dr. Upinder Ghai, Rtn. DGN Dr. Dushyant Choudhary, Rtn. PDG Gurjit Sekhon, Rtn. PDG Harinder Singh.

Vote of Thanks was presented by Rtn. Pres. Er Pushpinder Singh Grover. He expressed that it is not important, you are playing first or second inning but it is important how long you stay on the crease. So keep yourself in high spirit, and enjoy the company of persons who admire you. Avoid Detractors.

Special words were spoken by Rtn. Pres. Varun Aggarwal Batala. Meeting was adjourned by Rtn. Pres. Manmohan Singh.



Old Age Home Bhar Kahna Ji, Ghee, Sugar, Oil, Harpic etc Bhai Ghamiya Ji Bird Asharam, Ghee

## BIO DATA OF RTN. PP DD VIBHAKAR SHARMA

Born on 15th August 1947 Rtn. PP Dr. Vibhakar Sharma retired from Lakmi Ayurvedic College, Amritsar as Vice Principal. He is Rotarian for the last 40 years and always ready to contribute for the cause of service projects of the community. He is Multi Paul Harris Fellow. Happily married with Rtn. Parneeta Sharma and is blessed to with two sons, Rtn. Gaurav Sharma & Rtn. Pankaj Sharma & one daughter.



## BIO DATA OF RTN. PP BALDEV PRASHAR

Born on 5th January 1945 at small village Dhainpur, Near Batala Rtn. PP Baldev Prashar. He was served in Indian Air force for 12 years and was awarded with various awards in his service. After his retirement he started with business in food grains. He is founder member of Senior Citizen Welfare Society, Batala many projects for Welfare of Senior Citizens has been financed and executed by him.



## BIO DATA OF RTN. PP SURJIT SINGH ARORA

Born on 10th December 1940 Business: Plastic Packing Material for the last 55 years. Social Activities: Member Rotary since 1976. Secretary Charter 2005-06 of R.C. Asr South East President 2010-11 Doing social work along with Canadian Eye Sight Global and doing Free Eye Operation and Check Up Camp continuing from 2010-11 Trustee of C.E.S. Global Trustee Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Mata Sulakhani Eye Hospital. Three Daughters & one son CKD well established. School Incharge Nathu Pura.



## BIO DATA OF S. MEHAR SINGH

S. Mehar Singh was born in 1922 in village Jadhv District Lahore in Pakistan. At the time of partition, his family shifted to Village Doda Distt. Muktsar Punjab, India. He is Agriculturist. He is blessed with two daughters and two sons Rtn. Er. S.P. Singh Secretary Station Head All India Radio.



## BIO DATA OF S. RAJINDER SINGH MARWAHA

- He is eminent personality of Asr.
- Chairman Trade and Industry Association Border Zone.
- Ex. Member Khalsa College Governing Council.
- Ex. Director Trade Board Punjab Govt. (Excise and Taxation).
- Member Chief Khalsa Diwan.
- Member Sri Guru Singh Sabha (Regd.) in the service last 20 years in the Trade and Industry, Punjab.
- Promoter for the Upliftment of Amritsar Trade and Industry.
- Always Helping Needy and Deprived Persons.
- General Secretary Focal Point Industry Associate.
- Manager Sri Guru Harkrishan International School, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar.



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## BIO DATA OF SH. D.S. PATHANIA

Sh. D.S. Pathania Managing Director D.R. Modern Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar. Qualification: M.A. B.Ed. Running a school for the years. He is also running charity school from nursery to 12th. 180th Students Studying free of cost in area of Kot Khalsa, Amritsar. National Institute of open schooling, New Delhi awarded to him on Teacher's Day 2012.



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Rtn. Sakshinder Bhillon  
(M): 98149-08482

Rtn. P. P. M. S. Bhillon  
(M): 98149-03451

Rtn. Dr. Vibhakar Sharma & Rtn. Parneeta Sharma

# Mother's Pride

see them blossom.

D-35, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar.

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Tel.: 0183-568288, M.: 98151-8544, 97711-6344, 98149-7547

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Rtn. Er. P. S. Grover  
Chairman / C.F.O.  
M: 98143-39059

Rtn. Dr. J. S. Grover  
M. S.  
M: 98140-50059

Fatehgarh Churian Road, Near Rattan Singh Chowk,  
Amritsar (T): 0183-2573141

QUALITY OF CARE  
PATIENT SAFETY & N.A.A.C.P. PRE ACCREDITED





## Canadian Eyesight Global successful Free Eye Camp Raya Village, near Amritsar, Punjab

7 OCTOBER 2019 - A dedicated team of Dr. Rahul Kashyap and members of Rotary Club of Amritsar South East and volunteers participated. Free eye drops were given to the needy people. The patients selected for cataract surgeries were provided implant (IOL) lens surgeries free of charge at the Nirmaljot Eye Hospital, Amritsar, Punjab.



# Rotary

Central Calcutta  
RI District 3291



## 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 marked 100 years of Rotary in India!

In this photo from Rotary's archives, Canadian Rotarian James Davidson and his family visit the Rotary Club of Calcutta (the first in the country) in 1929.

Rotary Club of Calcutta was chartered on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1920.

## OUR PARTNER IN SERVICE Rotary Club of Surrey

- **Starfish Pack**, weekend food program providing 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, and 2 Dinners to 2 local elementary Schools
- **Rotary Cares** provides 450 dictionaries to grade 3 students in 8 elementary Surrey School
- **Rotary youth leadership programs RYLA and YAIL** usually send 2 people to each program
- **Adventures in Citizen ship** sent school students to Ottawa
- **Adventures in Provincial Citizenship** sent High School students to Victoria
- **Whalley Little League Baseball** Team supported
- **Rotary Polio Plus program** yearly support to eliminate Polio in the World
- **Inclusive Employer Awards**, together with other local agencies promoting inclusive employment
- **Canadian Eyesight Global**, supporting "eye camps" in India to provide free cataract surgeries

- **Built a playground** & Playground building for Children
- **Surrey Foodbank** supplied Vans to Surrey Foodbank & Support Annual Breakfast with the Bank fundraiser.
- **Seniors Christmas Dinner**, providing a full Dinner to acknowledge and support residents who cannot get out
- **Student Scholarships** provided to North Surrey Secondary and Kwantlen Polytechnic University with \$60,000 Bursary to Kwantlen Polytech for yearly scholarships
- **Conflict Resolution Camps** for 8 years for Princess Margaret grade 8 Students
- **Rotary World Health** provide used Medical equipment & Hospital beds to Many countries including to Asia, Africa, South America
- **Financial Support to:** Develop Quibble Creek \$140,000, Surrey Hospice Society for Administration centre \$50,000, Fraser Valley Cancer Clinic \$50,000 for reading room, Surrey Memorial Hospital many items of equipment (Incubator, 3 Birthing units) A complete Dental Suite at Surrey Cancer Clinic.
- **Furnished rooms in Surrey Memorial Hospital** in memory of past Presidents
- **Providing an Ambulance in Nepal**, Water Wells in Benin West Africa, supplied sewing machines to Africa to allow women to work & grain mills in Haiti.
- **Salvation Army Kettle Drive** & Helped make building Handicap accessible
- **Earth Day & Salmon** annually release thousands of salmon into Quibble Creek by Surrey Memorial Hospital, support Tynehead Fish Hatchery & support Earth Day
- **Adopt-a Street Clean up Program**
- **Howthorne Rotary Park** project Completed by Rotary Club of Surrey Guildford
- **Surrey Fire Dept House** in learning not to Burn program
- **Air Cadets** Supported
- **Surrey Library & Muffin Program** & Other Programs
- **Christmas Parties for children** & funds Donations for the Centre for Child Development



## An India-Canada Cooperation Project

## ROTARY HISTORY

### CHESLEY R. PERRY

#### Rotary's first General Secretary



Chesley Reynolds Perry, a Spanish-American War veteran and former Chicago Public Library employee, served as Rotary's first secretary and is known as "the builder of Rotary International."

While Rotary's president changes every year, only 12 people have served as general secretary, a role that's equivalent to a chief executive — and at 32 years, Perry served the longest.

In August 1910, the newly formed National Association of Rotary Clubs (now Rotary International) unanimously selected Perry for the role then known as secretary. He accepted the part-time position at \$100 per month, with an agreement that the amount of time he'd devote would remain unspecified. By 1912, the job had evolved into a full-time executive role, and Perry's pay was increased.

Perry's own office on LaSalle Street in Chicago, Illinois, USA, served as the first headquarters of the association. By 1911, Rotary had established an office in the First National Bank Building at the intersection of Dearborn and Monroe in Chicago.

Perry concurrently served as editor and business manager of *The Rotarian* from 1911 to 1928, and he opened Rotary's first international office, in Zurich, Switzerland, in February 1925. He oversaw the expansion of Rotary as it grew during his tenure from 16 clubs in the United States to

more than 5,000 worldwide. His title was officially changed to general secretary in 1941-42, his final year in office.

Perry had announced his plans to retire in 1940, but agreed to remain in his post while the organization trained his successor, Philip C. Lovejoy. A number of clubs sought to nominate Perry for RI president in 1942-43, but he declined, saying, "I am gratefully conscious of the high compliment thereby being paid to me."

After retiring, Perry remained a member of the Rotary Club of Chicago, which he'd joined in 1908. But he wasn't done being a leader, and served as club president in 1944-45. In 1954, Rotary offered him the title "secretary emeritus" to honor his years of service, but he again declined, preferring the role of ordinary Rotarian.

Perry died on 21 February 1960 at the age of 87.

**"If I can in truth be called the architect, Ches can with equal truth be called the builder of Rotary International."**

**Rotary founder Paul P. Harris  
"My Road to Rotary" (1948)**



## People of action around the globe

By: BRAD WEBBER—"THE ROTARIAN"

### United States

The Rotary Club of Yakima Sunrise, Washington, has installed nine pianos in public spots where anyone can sit down and tickle the ivories — and the community. Sites include brewpubs, a shopping mall, and a coffee shop, and more installations are planned soon. The Painted Piano Project also provided stipends of \$300 to artists who decorated the donated instruments.

"People stop to listen to the music or take a moment to examine the beautiful artwork," says Nathan Hull, the club's immediate past president. "The pianists play everything from Mozart to Van Halen, and that has been a lot of fun."

### A Heintzman & Co. piano made of crystal was sold at auction for \$3.2 million.

### United Kingdom

To raise funds for End Polio Now, the Rotary Club of Narberth & Whitland is selling Rotary-themed scarves designed by fashion and textiles student Mia Hewitson-Jones with help from graphics student Sam Stables, both enrolled at Pembroke College. The scarves went on sale in 2019 after the club garnered approval from Rotary International for use of the logo. By April of this year, nearly 100 scarves had been sold and another shipment was on the way, says club member John Hughes. "We have sold a few in America and Canada," adds Hughes. The idea of selling specially designed scarves was conceived by Mary Adams when she was president-elect of the club in 2016.

### Romania

Faced with the coronavirus pandemic, the Rotaract Club of Cluj-Napoca "SAMVS" adapted an online mental health campaign on the club's social media accounts, encouraging people to engage in satisfying activities, such as art. The social media campaign focused on "how to make the best of your #stayhome experience," says club member Loana Vultur. More than 3,000 people have viewed the club's posts on Facebook and Instagram. "No money was necessary," Vultur says. "Our resources were our minds, creativity, and the will to help. In Romania we have the expression, 'Make heaven from what you have.'"

### Guatemala

More than 100 Guatemalan women have been helped financially by the Interact Club of Hillsdale High School in San Mateo, California; its sponsoring Rotary Club of San Mateo; and the nonprofit group Namaste Direct. Over the years, about 100 Hillsdale Interactors have joined chaperone Rotarians and teachers on trips to Antigua, a city in Guatemala's central highlands, to meet the women who have received grants funded through student-led fundraising events including "penny war" collections and taco dinners.

The site visits are eye-openers for the students, who see how microloans, financial literacy workshops, and mentorship have empowered the women, says Namaste Direct's founder and chief executive, Robert Graham. He cites Namaste's policy of charging lower interest rates than many other nongovernmental organizations (loans range



### Nearly half of all Guatemalans live on less than \$5.50 a day.

from a few hundred dollars to \$4,000), its adherence to Western consulting methodologies, and Rotary involvement as major reasons for the program's success. "Many women have corner convenience stores, while others purchase clothing and household goods in bulk for resale at the local market," Graham says. Other beneficiaries include a nut vendor, a chicken butcher, and a chocolatier.

### India

In the Rotary Club of Vapi's first 20 years, club members oversaw the establishment of a school, a hospital, and a college. "Our club created an entire town worth residing in," says Ketan Patel. In 2011, seeking a way to honor the RI presidency of club member Kalyan Banerjee, the Rotarians embarked on a project to provide free kidney dialysis that continues to this day. Nearly 3,800 patients have received more than 32,000 procedures. "The entire treatment is free of charge," says Patel. The cost of the dialysis project is covered by Rotarian and community contributions, along with club fundraising.

This story originally appeared in the August 2020 issue of *The Rotarian* magazine.



**Shekhar Mehta of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India selected to be 2021-22 Rotary International President**

Shekhar Mehta, of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2021-22.

Mehta acknowledges that current membership trends are a challenge and says that membership development should be Rotary's highest priority. He believes that focusing on regional plans, successfully transitioning Rotaractors

into Rotary clubs, and increasing diversity and female members could yield a 5 percent net growth in membership each year.

"A major brainstorming is needed to find effective solutions suited to different areas of the world," says Mehta. He adds that regional ethos and culture have to be taken into account to find localized solutions, as "one size does not fit all." He believes Rotary can extend to new geographical areas and countries.

As a strong proponent of Rotary's strategic plan, Mehta says he will encourage clubs to use action plans and reinforce the core values of Rotary.

Mehta says Rotary needs to become more contemporary and adaptable by focusing on partnerships with governments and corporations, expanding partnerships with organizations that specialize in Rotary's areas of focus, and investing in technology.

Mehta, an accountant, is chair of the Skyline Group, a real estate development company he founded. He is also a director of Operation Eyesight Universal (India), a Canada-based organization.

Mehta has been actively involved in disaster response and is a trustee of ShelterBox, UK. After the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, he helped build nearly 500 homes for families affected by the disaster.

Mehta pioneered a program that has performed more than 1,500 life-changing heart surgeries in South Asia. He is also the architect of the TEACH Program, which promotes literacy throughout India and has

reached thousands of schools.

A Rotary member since 1984, Mehta has served Rotary as director, member or chair of several committees, zone coordinator, training leader, member of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers, and district governor. He is also the chair of Rotary Foundation (India).

Mehta has received Rotary's Service

Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Awards.

He and his wife, Rashi, are Major Donors and members of the Bequest Society.

To learn more about Mehta, read his [interview](#) and [vision statement](#) outlining his goals for Rotary.

**Rotary**

**First woman confirmed as Rotary president-nominee**

Jennifer Jones, member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, will become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a groundbreaking selection that will make her the first woman to hold that office in the service organization's 115-year existence.

*Heartiest Congratulations!*  
**JENNIFER JONES**

*Its Official Today!*

OCTOBER 1, 2020

**TIME ONE OF THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE OF 2020**



**Dr. Tunji Funsho**  
BY JEFFREY KLUGER  
Editor-at-Large

It's not often an entire continent eradicates a disease, but on Aug. 25, 2020, that happened when Nigeria was declared polio-free, clearing the virus from its last redoubt in all of Africa. The person who did more than any other to drive

polio to continent-wide extinction was Dr. Tunji Funsho, a former cardiologist and now the chair of Rotary International's polio-eradication program in Nigeria.

Funsho could have retired years ago, but in 2013, with polio still paralyzing children across Nigeria, he decided to step up to lead the Rotarians' effort. Together with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the WHO, the CDC and UNICEF, Funsho and Rotary helped lead National Immunization Days, getting millions of doses of the polio vaccine to children in cities and villages around the nation. They also sponsored health education initiatives at community centers, mosques and even birthday parties. This summer, the country marked four years without a case of wild polio, qualifying it for its polio-free certification, leaving Afghanistan and Pakistan as the only places in the world in which polio remains endemic.

*"Certification will be an achievement," But we're not in a hurry for that. We're in a hurry to make sure no child is paralyzed." In Nigeria and in Africa as a whole, that moment has arrived.*

*Dr. Funsho told TIME in 2018.*



**DR. TUNJI FUNSHO**  
The first Rotary Member to receive this honor for our work to eradicate polio.

During a recent Zoom meeting with Rotarians and Rotaractors, I looked at the smiling faces on my screen and realized how much our organization has changed in a short period. It is clear that there is no going back to the "old normal" in Rotary – and I see that as an exciting opportunity!

Innovation and change are happening at so many levels as we rethink and remake Rotary. Rotary's new flexibility is blending with digital culture to drive change in ways that many of us have never seen before. We can learn a lot from Rotarians like Rebecca Fry – who, at age 31, already has 15 years of Rotary experience.

*I see Rotary as a phenomenal platform to change the world. I believe I can have the greatest influence by empowering others to create the change they wish to see in the world. I've gained leadership insights through my experiences in RYLA and Rotaract, and now, as charter president of the Rotary Social Impact Network, a new e-club.*

*Engaging Rotary program alumni is key in forming new clubs. Our club is proof that Rotaractors and other alumni want to join Rotary – but sometimes they can't find the Rotary club that's right for them. Our club has 31 members, all between the ages of 23 and 41, and almost all of them are alumni of Rotary programs.*

*We need to be able to integrate and align Rotary with the other personal and professional goals we're pursuing. In chartering this club, we set out to design a personalized model of Rotary that is focused on added value for our members. We have also sought to leverage connections – through Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Action Groups, and other international partnerships – in order to elevate our members' experiences beyond the club.*

*Our club meets and manages most of its projects online, using Microsoft Teams to engage 24/7 in topics that interest our members. This also means our club is not geographically bound to any one location: Although many of us are in Australia, we also have members in Germany, Italy, Mexico, Tanzania, and the United States.*

*Also key for our club is measuring the impact of our projects. For*



**Message from  
ROTARY  
INTERNATIONAL  
PRESIDENT 2020-21  
HOLGER KNACK**

**ROTARY CLUB OF  
HERZOGTUM  
LAUENBURG-MÖLLN  
GERMANY**

*Plastic Free July this year, we created an awareness campaign promoting ways that individuals could reduce their use of plastics, and we reached more than 6,000 people. It's a project with a tangible impact that anyone can take part in wherever they are. I'm proud that, through our club, we are bringing people together for a new type of Rotary experience. I am excited for our future.*

All Rotary clubs have the opportunity to be innovative clubs, just like Bec's club. Let's trust those clubs, learn from them, and lend them our support. Change in Rotary happens at the grassroots level, as clubs lead the charge, defining what this new Rotary can be.

Change is constant, and we have more work to do in many areas. It is important that we celebrate the contributions of people of all backgrounds and promote people from underrepresented groups so that they have greater opportunities to participate as members and leaders in Rotary.

The tools to make Rotary more inclusive, more relevant, and more fun for everyone are at our fingertips. Let's use them now, and we will see how *Rotary Opens Opportunities* for ourselves and for those yet to discover us.



### Support the president's initiatives

Knaack is encouraging Rotary members to seize the many opportunities Rotary offers to enrich their lives and the communities they serve.

### President Holger's key messages for clubs

Read more about the 2020-21 presidential theme and download the [theme logo and materials](#).

- The district will be actively at work creating new, innovative club models and will need your support. In addition, you can also help us expand our reach by creating a satellite club and by forming a community-based Rotaract club.
- Every club should host at least one strategic meeting each year at which you ask: What should our club be like in five years and what steps should we take to help achieve that vision? What value do we bring our members? Select someone to lead that effort.
- Select new members carefully. Make sure that they are a good fit with your club and that your club meets their expectations. Engage them and take care of them. There is no wrong age to become a Rotarian.
- Continue your club's efforts to end polio by donating to [End Polio Now](#) and by hosting a World Polio Day event in October. We must fulfill the promise that we made to the children of this world.



**"We believe that our acts of service, big and small, create opportunities for people who need our help.**

**Everything we do opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere."**

### Giving Light to the World



**CANADIAN EYESIGHT GLOBAL**

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