



Rotary International President
Kalyan Banerjee
asks Rotarians to
**Reach Within to Embrace
Humanity**
during the 2011-12 Rotary year

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Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



Robbie Graduates

D9930 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, Robbie Francis, writes from Tel Aviv celebrating completion of her scholarship. It's hard to sum up the last year in a few words, however I think that the events surrounding my graduation two days ago, reflect my time here - a time of extremes, oxymoron's and irony. My flatmates and I were at home preparing for the festivities. We all had guests arriving for the graduation ceremony so it was a pretty exciting time. Just as we were putting on our dresses and make up, we get the news that terrorist activity had escalated just hours from where we live. Terrorists had entered into Southern Israel through the Egyptian border and opened fire on a public bus with rifles, grenades and explosives just outside of Eilat - a holiday spot I visited in June. When others arrived to help, a suicide bomber detonated his explosive belt killing himself and the bus driver. Simultaneously mortars and qassam rockets were fired from Egypt and Gaza. In response, the IDF fired back, destroying rocket launchers and smuggling tunnels. Casualties included 8 Israelis, terrorists, Egyptian military/police and Gazans, not to mention a 5 year old Gazan boy (this morning). Even now – two days later - as I write this, more rockets are falling in the

Coming up in September:

- 2 Sept** Guest Speaker
Diane Yates
'Waikato Society of Arts'
- 2 Sept** **Sunrise @ Six**
6pm Quadrant Bar
Cnr Alma and Victoria Sts
- 9 Sept** Guest Speaker
Wayne Walford
Waikato Chamber of Commerce
- 15 Sept** Guest Speaker
Linda Robinson
Tomkins Wake
'Intellectual Property'
- 22 Sept** Guest Speaker
Pamela McCarthy and Cherry Davis
Freeset – Rescue work in India
- 30 Sept** Guest Speaker
Mystery Guest
'This is my Life'
- 7 Oct** Guest Speaker
Superintendent Wyn van der Veld
'Policing the Waikato'

Rotary knowledge is important

“It’s every Rotarian’s responsibility to be educated in Rotary”

-- District Training team 2011

Kalyan Banerjee unveiled the Rotary International theme, speaking as President Elect during the opening plenary session of the 2011 International Assembly, a training event for incoming district governors.

He urged participants to harness their inner resolve and strength to achieve success in Rotary. "In order to achieve anything in this world, a person has to use all the resources he can draw on. And the only place to start is with ourselves and within ourselves".

Once Rotarians find their inner strength, he continued, they can accomplish great things in their communities and around the world. "Discover yourself, develop the strengths within you, and then unhesitatingly, unflinchingly, go forth and encircle the world, to embrace humanity".

Banerjee emphasized the family as a starting point in serving others. "The communities we live in are not built of individual people but of families -- families living in homes together, sharing their lives and their resources and their common destinies. Good families lead to good neighborhoods, and good neighborhoods build good communities."

Rotarians can focus on projects that support families, such as those that provide safe housing or improve maternal and child health".

Continuity in Rotary's work, including polio eradication, is also important, Banerjee said. "There are so many things we are indeed good at: working for clean, safe water; spreading literacy; working in so many ways with the New Generations, our youth, in our newest Avenue of Service and assisting them to become the leaders of tomorrow."

Citing Mahatma Gandhi's call to "be the change you wish to see in the world," Banerjee said Rotarians should also focus on change.

"If we wish for peace, we start by living in peace ourselves, in our homes and in our communities," he explained. "If we wish environmental degradation to stop, if we wish to reduce child mortality or to prevent hunger, we must be the instrument of that change -- and recognize that it must start *within* us, with each of us."



It's all go in D9930

At Rotorua West

The Rotorua West Rotary Club just sent a team of six Rotarians to Fiji to build another house in Koroipita. The club has donated \$7,000 towards building the house.

The project is part of "Rotahomes", a vision of Rtn. Peter Drysdale of the Rotary Club of Lautoka (Fiji) who sought to provide basic housing for Fiji's most impoverished citizens. In the past twenty years, over 700 homes have been paid for and built by Rotary volunteers, such as the team from Rotorua West Rotary.



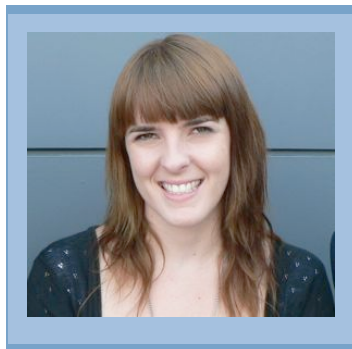
What is a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship?

The Ambassadorial Scholarship is the Rotary Foundation's oldest program. It has two outstanding features:

- it enables outstanding students, at a very high level, to continue their research or development
- by sending the awardees overseas, under Rotary auspices, it automatically ensures further International understanding in both the host country and in the student's own country.

The scholarships contribute to the Rotary Foundation's mission by offering opportunities to individuals to learn about life in another country through study abroad. Foundation Scholars must be non-Rotarians, and not directly related to a Rotarian. They are expected to be ambassadors of goodwill and must actively strive to contribute to world understanding. The applicants may be either graduates or undergraduates and the Scholarships can be in any field of study.

The Scholarships cover the cost of all academic fees up to a max US\$25000, room and board, as well as travel to and from the study country of the awardee's choice. As such, they are enormously valuable to the individual and much sought after.



Once there was an elderly man who awoke at dawn every day to walk along the beach and watch the sun rise. One day as the man strolled along the sand he noticed a young boy standing on the shoreline throwing something into the sea. The older man stopped and asked the young boy "What are you doing?". The young boy replied "I'm throwing the starfish back into the sea". The old man could see that the tide had brought in thousands of tiny starfish onto the sand that would perish as soon as the sun rose. "Why would you do that?" the older man asked, "can you not see there are thousands and thousands of starfish all over the beach? What difference are you ever going to make?". The young boy paused, and with a smile, leaned over, picked up a starfish and threw it back into the sea. "Well," he said, "I made a difference in that starfish's life didn't I?"

South, one of which just hit Beer Sheva, a city my Mother and I visited and I presented to the Rotary there.

So, we arrived at the graduation venue with mixed emotions. Here we are celebrating a **degree in conflict resolution** and hours away people are dying, violence is escalating and the Egyptian/Israeli peace treaty is being violated, and we ask ourselves "what good is our degree? How can we ever help in such a volatile situation? What is our role in this conflict? "

It quickly became clear, however, that asking such questions can be limiting and dangerous, as was highlighted by the speakers at the ceremony. It is times like these that the degree of my colleagues and I are more important than ever. We *can* and *will* make a difference. To doubt ourselves is to discredit a year of hard work and, even though we are young, we are the workings of a more peaceful future. This was eloquently put by the students who, during the graduation, planted a pomegranate tree on the university campus as a legacy for our cohort. As my Palestinian classmate

said, while we might not be around to eat it's fruit or sit in it's shade, we are planting a seed for future generations who will. In much the same way, while we might not have a direct influence on the tragic terrorist attacks in the South today, we, as resolutionists, mediators and negotiators, are the workings behind a more peaceful future.

I have grown so much over the last year. I've had my eyes opened to both the horrors of international conflict and violence, but also to the most beautiful advancements towards international peace. My heart has broken over the racism and violence, which plagues the Middle East, but I have also been encouraged and blessed by some of the most kind hearted, open and inspiring people I have ever met.

First and foremost my thanks go to God who allowed my life journey to take the course it has. Then, had it not been for Rotary - and all the Rotarians who stood behind me and supported me in both New Zealand and Israel - I would never have made

it to the Middle East. And finally, to my whanau and friends, thank you for all the messages, facebook comments, care packages, letters, visits, prayers and love - you got me through the every day trials, tests and challenges of living so far from home.

I would like to finish with a story I've shared at my Rotary presentations in Israel, which I feel has come to represent the life lesson I have learned this year (see above).

I'm not trying to 'save the lives of all the starfish on the beach' - to attempt to do so would be overwhelming and impossible. But I will stand on the beach and throw back starfish one at a time. And you know what, I truly believe that when we stand together on the beach as Rotarian's, family and friends, there is no telling what difference we can make.

So, this is me signing out of the Middle East. Shalom, salaam, peace to you all. Robbie

Group Study Exchange team selected

A dynamic team of four young professionals has been selected to visit District 3050 Rajasthan India with team leader, Libby Gairdner, for 5 weeks, 21 Dec 2011 to 27 Jan 2012. Introducing:



Mohammed Atiq, Trainee Detective, NZ Police

Mo, 33 yrs, lives in Hamilton with his wife, Shima, and 6yr old daughter Aisha. Born in Fiji, he moved to NZ in 1997. Mo was recommended for selection by the Rotary Club of Waikato Sunrise.



Lucy Southall, Constable, Family Violence Team, NZ Police

Lucy, 28 yrs, lives in Hamilton. Her partner, Haydon, is also a police officer, currently based in Tauranga, and moving to Hamilton later in the year. She entered the police force after completing a Bachelor of Arts (major in Criminology, minor in Sociology) at Victoria University. Lucy was also recommended for selection by the Rotary Club of Waikato Sunrise.



Andrew Harwood, Radio Announcer and Programmer

Andy, 28 yrs, lives in Tairua on the Coromandel Peninsular, and works for **Coromandel FM** based in Thames. His partner, Sophie, is a Doctor at Auckland's North Shore Hospital. Andy was recommended for selection by the Rotary Club of Thames.



Wende Bennetti, Lawyer, McCaw Lewis

Wende, lives in Hamilton, and works in the areas of relationship property and employment law. She holds a double degree in Law and Social Science (major in psychology). Wende was recommended for selection by the Rotary Club of Hamilton East.

What is Group Study Exchange?

Group Study Exchange (GSE) is the Rotary Foundation's reciprocal program for a group of four or five outstanding non-Rotary persons to visit another country for up to five weeks under the guidance of a Rotarian Leader. In addition to benefitting the individual, the exchange is an ambassadorial exercise based on cultural understanding and goodwill. Team members are given opportunities to see their vocation in practice in the host country, and hosted by Rotarians. The Rotary Foundation pays for travel between districts, and the host District meets the cost of the tour within the District.

"When I started to think about GSE for my year as District Governor, I knew I wanted the team to visit a country very different to New Zealand ... and where they could see Rotary in action, changing lives and communities. I also wanted to exchange with a country that we had never exchanged with before.

When I thought back on my own experience as a GSE team member in District 1600 in Holland, I recall meeting the then World President Rajendra Saboo from India, and I still remember him talking about how Rotary changed the lives of people in India. So this year, when Rotary again has a World President from India, it was the first country I thought of to exchange GSE teams with.

I was delighted when District Governor Ratnesh Kashnap from District 3050 agreed to pair up with us, because of its diversity. I understand that while his district in the northwest of India (including Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh) is beautiful and bountiful, it also has poverty and poor living conditions, and Rotary has played its part in changing the lives of the people in these areas. I know the team will get to see Rotary in action there - hopefully including the opportunity to participate in a Polio National Immunisation Day - and will benefit from the wonderful hospitality of Indian Rotarians as they show off their country."

- Raewyn Kirkman

Membership News



Congratulations
to member
Phyllis Huitema and
Stuart Glass
on their engagement.

Introducing Phil Shannon:



Phil recently transferred Rotary membership to Waikato Sunrise. Before relocating to Hamilton last year, Phil was a member of the Rotary Club of Port Nicholson. During his membership there, he participated in a good range of service and fellowship activities including on the Youth Committee 2006/2007/2008 and was the Director in 2009/10. He originally joined Rotary in 1995 as a charter member of the Rotary Club of Kapi Mana, which merged with Porirua in 2002/03. At Kapi Mana club he served as President in 2000/2001.

At Tompkins Wake, Phil is a Partner of the firm and Team Leader of the Local Government Commercial, Property and Governance Sub-Team, which gives advice on Local Government Law to Councils throughout the Waikato region, which is his specialty. He is also a Director of New Zealand Law Society Continuing Legal Education Limited, which company provides educational material and seminars for the NZ Lawyers.

Phil is married to Jacquelyn (Jacqui) and between them they have five sons, Edward, Patrick, Daniel, Alistair and William.

At Waikato Sunrise, Phil would like to participate in making a difference to worthy causes, particularly in Hamilton, as he is a great believer that "charity begins at home". *Welcome Phil. We look forward to your contributions to Rotary.*

Rotary in Action in our community



Photo above: Members Sharyn Bell, Marg Jenkins and Colleen Kaelin braving the cold with other volunteers to serve at the Rugby.

Photos below: Waikato Sunrise Social club event – the Marty McFly Go Kart championship. And the winning team was ... the yellow team!



Would you like to be a 'Friend of Rotary' volunteer?

The Rotary Club of Waikato Sunrise raises significant funds each year for charitable purposes. Through a partnership with Montana Catering, Waikato Sunrise members and Friends of Rotary assist with the hospitality tents at local Rugby games, the V8s, and other major events. We're also involved in active service activities in the community, both locally and internationally. Last year we entered a partnership with ZEAL, to support the development of a Youth Arts and Music Centre in Hamilton – an ongoing project. And we sent a team to Fiji to refurbish a preschool in a remote island village.

Rotary makes a difference in community, and we need all the help we can get for fund raising and active service project.

If you would like to be a 'Friend of Rotary' volunteer, to work alongside our hard working and fun loving Rotarian members, please contact: [Carmen Jacobsen](#)

Geoff's Jaunts: Diary of a District Governor's right hand man

Crikey! Is it that time already? The month flies by when you're the District Governor's partner in crime!

Raewyn and I finished off last month with the International Youth Exchange orientation in Rotorua, involving those students going out next year. So far this month, R has addressed 20 clubs at 12 meetings, plus we've even managed to squeeze in a couple of meetings at our home club, Waikato Sunrise. All of the clubs have been absolutely fantastic, very welcoming, and enthusiastic. But it is nice to come home to our own family now and then. We continue to be amazed at the contribution each club makes to their communities. Just like the Hamilton Clubs with the V8's, clubs in other areas are grouping together to leverage their talents. Rotary has an enviable reputation.

A couple of weeks ago, our sergeants forced me to confess that trying to put on two left footed shoes prior to a breakfast meeting in Gisborne is not a good look and didn't complement my new suit, particularly when the only alternative was a pair of sneakers. R took great delight in relaying that story to the Taupo Clubs. One of the Presidents felt so sorry for me that he publicly kissed me on the cheek. Embarrassing! I hope Joe doesn't try that.

WS member, Bryce Weal and his wife Janet escorted us on the Tauranga Club visit, 10 August. We really appreciated their company, as did Tauranga. The next weekend we selected the GSE team members who will go with Libby to India in December. It was difficult to tell those who were not successful - they were all outstanding applicants. The following weekend I had to catch up with work in the office whilst fellow WS members, Mitch and Tim, went fishing at Turangi. It's a tough life being the DG's partner!

Geoff Tizard

Read this month in Rotary Down Under

P14 'Meet (D9930) District Governor'

P23 'Rotary Basics'

[Your guide to getting involved in Rotary](#)

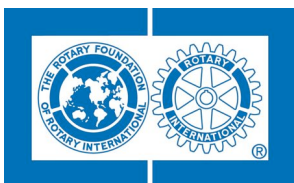


It's all go in D9930

In the Hawkes Bay

The Rotary Pathway Cycle & Walkway project is a regional initiative aimed at linking Hawke's Bay cities and coastal townships by recreational walkways and cycleways. The project was started in 2002 as a combined effort of the Rotary Clubs of Hawkes Bay, so that local people and visitors can get out and enjoy our beautiful local environment.

Photo right: District Governor Raewyn Kirkman visits the Rotary Pathway Cycle & Walkway during her recent visit to the Hawkes Bay Rotary Clubs. See the Pathway [website](#) for more.



The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's own charity, supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and others who share Rotary's vision of a better world. These contributions enable Rotary to fund projects and programmes that improve the lives of people worldwide.

This month's **Foundation Thought** is from 2004-05 RI President Glenn E. Estess Sr:

"Our mission - doing Good in the world - is more than a motto. It is our goal, our mission, and our reminder. It expresses in the clearest terms why we have a Foundation, and it challenges us to reach as far as we can to do the most good possible with everything we have. Our Foundation exists to support the good that we can do through Rotary. It expands our reach, increases our strength, and makes our service more powerful and more effective. Because of our Foundation we can, very simply, do more of our Rotary work"

Want to know more about Rotary?

Check out www.rotary.org and we warmly invite you to visit the Rotary Club of Waikato Sunrise