



社 長 文 告



扶輪改善世界

親愛的扶輪社友，

60 年來，挑選主題對每位即將就任的社長來說一向是個殊榮，但有時也是個挑戰。回顧過去的主題，得以一窺每位領導人的思想及願景——他們如何看待扶輪，他們看到扶輪在當時世界上所處的情境，以及他們希望扶輪達成的事物。

輪到我挑選主題時，我並沒有猶豫。我立刻知道我 2017-18 年度的主題會是「扶輪改善世界」。對我來說，這一個簡短的句子不僅描述我們現在的作為，還道出我們熱切希望去做的事。我們想要改善世界。我們努力幫助、發揮影響，讓世界變得更好一點。

過去兩年來，我見到扶輪用許多方式做這些事。在美國加州，在去年野火肆虐之後，我看到扶輪社員對於失去一切的那些人實踐「扶輪改善」的舉動。在瓜地馬拉，我看到簡單的木柴爐子如何改善原本露天生火烹煮的婦女的生活：她們煮飯時不必再吸入灰煙，她們撿拾柴火的時間減少，她們還可利用這些爐子做小生意。在以色列，我參觀扶輪支持的一家高壓氧治療中心正幫助腦部受傷及中風患者重拾健康與有意義的人生。在世界各地的社區，扶輪社員正在「改善世界」，無論是安置難民、讓兒童獲得免疫、確保安全供血管道，或是幫助年輕人學習及成長。

在世界各地，我也參與扶輪種樹的行動。在這期《英文扶輪月刊》付梓時，我們仍在等待種植多少棵樹木的最後統計數字，可是我在此可以高興地宣佈我們已經遠遠超過我們原來 120 萬棵樹——每位扶輪社員種一棵——的目標。而且，在世界各地，扶輪正繼續為根除小兒麻痺宣導、募款、支持。去年，全球只有 2 個國家發生 22 件野生株小兒麻痺病例。我有信心不久之後這個數字會成為零，我們將在根除行動的時間表上展開一個新的階段：從小兒麻痺病毒的最後跡象到證實沒有小兒麻痺世界至少 3 年的倒數期。

當我和茱麗葉返回澳洲的家時，我們將帶著溫馨的記憶：我們參觀過的地方、結識的朋友、親眼見過的服務。為了您們進行龐大而美好的工作，我感謝您們所有的人，它的確是，「透過扶輪，改善世界」。

Ian H.S. Riseley 萊斯禮
國際扶輪社長



P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E



Dear fellow Rotarians,

For 60 years, choosing a theme has been the privilege, and sometimes the challenge, of each incoming president. Looking back on those past themes opens a small window into the thinking and the vision of each leader – how they saw Rotary, the place they saw for Rotary in the world, and what they hoped Rotary would achieve.

When my turn came to choose a theme, I did not hesitate. I knew immediately that our theme in 2017-18 would be *Rotary: Making a Difference*. For me, that small phrase describes not only what we do now, but what we aspire to do. We want to make a difference. We strive to help, to have an impact, to make the world a bit better.

Over the past two years, I have seen so many ways that Rotary is doing just that. In California, after the devastating wildfires last year, I saw Rotarians *Making a Difference* to those who had lost everything. In Guatemala, I saw the difference that simple wood stoves are making in the lives of women who had been cooking on open fires: They no longer breathe smoke when they cook, they spend less time gathering firewood, and they are using their stoves to start small businesses. In Israel, I visited a Rotary-supported hyperbaric center that is helping brain injury and stroke patients return to healthy, productive lives. In communities around the world, Rotarians are *Making a Difference* by resettling refugees, immunizing children, ensuring a safe blood supply, and helping young people learn and thrive.

All over the world, I have been a part of Rotarians' commitment to planting trees. As this issue of *The Rotarian* goes to press, we are still awaiting the final count of trees planted, but I am delighted to announce that we have already far surpassed our original goal of 1.2 million trees, one new tree per Rotarian. And, all over the world, Rotary is continuing its advocacy, fundraising, and support for polio eradication. Last year, wild poliovirus caused only 22 cases of paralysis in only two countries. I am confident that soon that number will be zero, and we will begin a new phase in the timeline of eradication: counting down at least three years from the last sign of wild virus to the certification of a polio-free world.

As Juliet and I return home to Australia, we will bring warm memories of the places we have visited, the friends we have made, and the service we have seen. Thank you, all of you, for the tremendous work you are doing, through *Rotary: Making a Difference*.

IAN H.S. RISELEY

President, Rotary International