

社長文告

親愛的扶輪社友及各位扶輪家人：

我熱愛旅行！我甚至很享受從一地到另一地的平凡單調過程。可是去年我和我太太 Gay 經歷了一個會讓最樂天的旅人都很難保持樂觀的體驗。我們發現我們要等待 6 小時，在一個沒有預定前往的機場，在一個我們沒計畫還在路程上的日子，那天早上還在一個前一天晚上之前都不曾聽聞的飯店醒來。這就是那樣的一天。

當我們在紐約市甘迺迪機場等候期間，我到處走走看人。我們從航廈的一端走到另一端再折返，看著每個候機門、每個目的地、每個等待班機的人群。

每個候機門都自成一座人道島嶼。當我們沿著機場大廳走，我們置身紐約，跟著人群的潮水移動。可是當你轉向走到座位區，你便離開人潮，在某座島嶼登陸。你就已經在德里、巴黎、或特拉維夫。

我們剛開始散步時，我心想：「這麼多不同的人，這麼多不同的國家，都匯集在一個地方。這就跟扶輪一樣！」可是當我們走過一個個的登機門，我明白了一件事。這跟扶輪完全不一樣。

因為這人潮中的每個人都朝向島嶼前進，而每座島嶼都自成孤島。要去台北的人可能會跟彼此交談，可是他們不會跟前往開羅或拉哥斯的人說話。

把這點拿來和扶輪比較。扶輪讓我們可以與彼此相互連結，用深刻且有意義的方式，跨越彼此的差異。扶輪讓我們與本來不會相識的人連結，他們跟我們的相似程度可能超過我們的想像。扶輪讓我們與社區連結，連結到專業的機會，連結到需要我們協助的人。

連結就是讓扶輪經驗與在甘迺迪機場大廳散步迥然不同之處。在扶輪，我們沒有人是島嶼。我們大家都一起在扶輪，無論我們是誰，無論我們來自何處，無論我們說哪種語言或依循哪些傳統。我們都與彼此相連結在一起——我們的社區、我們扶輪社員，以及我們都隸屬的地球村的成員。

這種連結就是扶輪經驗的核心所在。那是吸引我們到扶輪的要素。那是我們為何留下來的原因。請與你的扶輪社友一起展開扶輪連結世界這個旅程。



梅隆尼 Mark Daniel Maloney
國際扶輪社長



President's message

Dear fellow Rotarians and members of the family of Rotary,

I love to travel! I even enjoy the mundane process of getting from here to there. But last year, my wife, Gay, and I had one of those experiences that would strain the optimism of even the most cheerful traveler. We found ourselves with six hours to wait, at an airport where we were not scheduled to be, on a day we had not planned still to be traveling, having woken up that morning at a hotel unknown to us the night before. It was one of those days.

As we waited at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, Gay and I took a walk to people watch. We went from one end of the terminal to the other and back, looking at every gate, every destination, every group of people waiting for their flights.

Each gate was its own island of humanity. When we walked down the center of the concourse, we were in New York, moving along with everyone in one river. But when you veered off into those seats, you left that current and landed on an island. You were already in Delhi or Paris or Tel Aviv.

As we started our walk, I thought: "All these different people, all these different countries, all in one place.

This is like Rotary!" But as we walked past gate after gate, I realized something. It was not like Rotary at all. Because everyone in that river was heading for an island. And every island stayed an island. The people heading to Taipei might be talking to one another, but they were not talking to the people heading to Cairo or Lagos.

Contrast that with Rotary. Rotary allows us to connect with one another, in deep and meaningful ways, across our differences. It connects us with people we would never otherwise have met, who are more like us than we ever could have known. It connects us with our communities, to professional opportunities, and to the people who need our help.

Connection is what makes the experience of Rotary so very different from walking along that concourse at JFK Airport. In Rotary, none of us is an island. All of us are in Rotary together, whoever we are, wherever we are from, whatever language we speak or traditions we follow. We are all connected to one another — part of our communities and members not only of our clubs, but also of the global community to which we all belong.

This connection is what lies at the heart of the Rotary experience. It is what brings us to Rotary. It is why we stay. Please join your fellow Rotarians on this journey as *Rotary Connects the World*.



MARK DANIEL MALONEY
President, Rotary International