

# 社長文告

親愛的扶輪社友及各位扶輪家人：

數十年來扶輪長期、持續對抗小兒麻痺一直是本組織最具代表性的行動。我們有權以我們這些年來達成的豐碩成果為榮。

我們的進展既實際且引人關注。1988 年，小兒麻痺流行於 125 個國家，每年全世界有超過 35 萬個新病例。迄今，扶輪及我們的全球根除小兒麻痺提案的夥伴已經讓小兒麻痺的病例銳減 99.9%，讓超過 25 億名兒童服用對抗小兒麻痺病毒的疫苗，防止 1,800 萬件造成麻痺的病例。這些年來，扶輪協助一個又一個的國家達到無小兒麻痺。這包括印度，不久前還有些人認為這是不可能的事。在 3 種小兒麻痺病毒當中，第二型已經根除，第三型很快將獲證實為根除。奈及利亞三年來不曾通報過任何小兒麻痺病例。如果這個趨勢能延續，我們將只在全世界的某一個區域——阿富汗及巴基斯坦——剩下一個類型的小兒麻痺病毒。


這個區域面臨艱鉅的挑戰，可是我們必須保持樂觀。看看我們到目前為止已經獲致的成果。我們沒有時間沮喪或認為這是不可能的事。我們將徹底根除小兒麻痺，但前提是我們必須保持堅定及警覺。世界小兒麻痺日是全世界扶輪社員共聚一堂，頌揚我們對抗小兒麻痺的成果，並規劃我們要終結小兒麻痺所必須採取的行動。關鍵字就是行動，因為我們仍然有重要的工作有待完成。

今年，我想要看到世界各地有盡可能最多的扶輪社舉辦世界小兒麻痺日活動。需要構想嗎？舉辦一個觀賞會邀請朋友及社員觀看扶輪「線上全球最新情報」(Online Global Update) 如何？你也可以將某一次例會的主題設定為世界小兒麻痺日，或辦理一項募款活動。要記住，所募得的每一塊錢都會獲得蓋茲基金會以 2 比 1 的比例捐出配合款。

在你舉辦過活動後，到 [endpolio.org/register-your-event](http://endpolio.org/register-your-event) 登錄。然後用可以在 [endpolio.org/world-polio-day](http://endpolio.org/world-polio-day) 的世界小兒麻痺日工具組來宣傳。

請在行事曆安排於 10 月 24 日觀賞扶輪的世界小兒麻痺日線上全球最新情報。今年，我們會於世界各地多個時區在臉書直播我們的節目。請到國際扶輪的臉書去登記回應你所在區域的節目。且請不要忘記在社群媒體追蹤這項活動，並在你的人際網絡分享。

當我們達成我們的目標，小兒麻痺會成為第二個自地球根除的人類疾病，扶輪也將獲得國際的讚揚。可是最重要的是孩童將再也不必面對這個可怕、致人殘廢的病毒。扶輪必須持續在根除小兒麻痺的行動中串連世界。讓我們把這個工作圓滿完成。



梅隆尼 Mark Daniel Maloney  
國際扶輪社長



馬克及蓋依·梅隆尼夫婦連同國際扶輪根除小兒麻痺等疾病計畫主委卡蘿·潘達克 Carol Pandak 一起參加扶輪創紀錄的攀爬雪梨港灣大橋活動。此活動為根除小兒麻痺募款，並打破兩項世界記錄（當時）：一座橋梁上有最多旗幟飄揚（278 面旗）及同時有最多人攀登上雪梨港灣大橋（340 人）。

# President's message

Dear fellow Rotarians and members of the family of Rotary,

Rotary's long-term, sustained battle against polio has defined our organization for decades. We have a right to be proud of all that we have accomplished through the years.

Our progress is real and noteworthy. In 1988, polio was endemic in 125 countries, with more than 350,000 new cases a year worldwide. Since then, Rotary and our Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners have reduced the incidence of polio by more than 99.9 percent, vaccinated more than 2.5 billion children against the virus, and prevented 18 million cases of paralysis. Over the years, Rotary has helped country after country move into the polio-free column. This includes India, which some considered impossible not long ago. Of the three types of poliovirus, type 2 has been eradicated and type 3 could soon be certified as eradicated. Nigeria has not reported a case of wild poliovirus in nearly three years. If this trend holds, we will be down to just one type of wild poliovirus in only one section of the world, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

There are major challenges in that region. But it is crucial that we remain optimistic. Look at all that we have accomplished so far. This is no time to get discouraged or to think that the task is impossible. We will end polio forever, but only if we remain steadfast and vigilant. World Polio Day is a time for Rotarians from all over the globe to come together, recognize the progress we have made in our fight against polio, and plan the action we must take to end polio forever. The key word is action, because we still have important work to do.

This year, we want to see as many Rotary clubs as possible holding World Polio Day events around the world. Need some ideas? How about organizing a viewing party for friends and club members to watch Rotary's Online Global Update? You could also dedicate a club meeting to World Polio Day or create a fundraising event. Remember, every dollar raised is matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

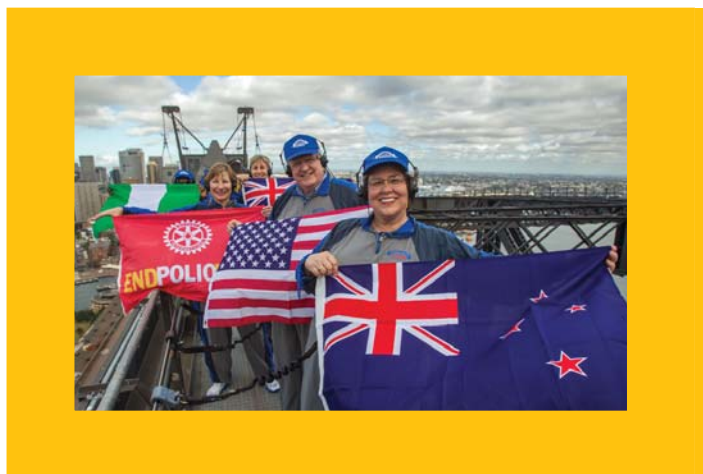
Once you have created an event, register it at [endpolio.org/register-your-event](http://endpolio.org/register-your-event). Then promote it using the World Polio Day toolkit, available at [endpolio.org/world-polio-day](http://endpolio.org/world-polio-day).

Mark your calendar to tune in to Rotary's World Polio Day Online Global Update on 24 October. This year we will stream our program on Facebook in multiple time zones around the world. Visit the Rotary International Facebook page to RSVP to your region's program. And do not forget to follow the event on social media and share it with your network.

When we reach our goal, polio will become only the second human disease eradicated on the planet, and Rotary will receive international acclaim. But what matters most is the children who will never again have to face this terrible, disabling virus. Rotary must continue to connect the world in the effort toward polio eradication. It is up to us. Let us finish the job.



**MARK DANIEL MALONEY**  
President, Rotary International



*Mark and Gay Maloney along with RI director of PolioPlus Carol Pandak during Rotary's record-breaking Sydney Harbour Bridge climb. The climb raised money for polio eradication and broke two world records (at the time): the most flags flown on a bridge (278 flags) and the largest number of climbers on the Sydney Harbour Bridge at one time (340 people).*