



## 社長文告

親愛的扶輪社友、扶輪青年服務社社員，及各位友人：

此時似乎不是樂觀的時候，可是卻必須如此。早在扶輪成立之前，世界就面臨過考驗人類進步及忍耐能力的重大危機。在扶輪成立後的時代，世界面臨更多災難；然而，我們都存活下來，而且沿途的每一步，扶輪都幫助世界復原。

每個重大挑戰都是一個重生及成長的機會。COVID-19 疫情初期，在聖地牙哥的國際講習會中，我揭露了「扶輪打開機會」的主題，可是這是我多年來深信不疑的話。

扶輪不只是各位加入的社團而已；它是一個進入無止境機會的邀請。我們深信替他人及自己創造機會的價值。我們相信我們的服務行動——不分大小——都能為需要我們協助的人創造機會，扶輪為我們打開機會，讓我們根據我們的核心價值，與世界各地的朋友一起擁有一個更豐富、更有意義的人生。

各政府及組織都越來越瞭解各種公共衛生合作關係的價值，而這正是我們工作的重點。此時人們待在家裡，渴求更多連結，希望能協助他們的社區，便欣然支持我們從創立以來便一直提倡的價值觀。

這一切都是正面的消息，可是就只因為扶輪有比以往更好的成長機會，並不保證我們會成功。世界在快速改變——而且是在這次危機之前便已經如此。人們開始捨棄一般的午餐例會，而傾向

網路集會。早在我們大多數的例會改成以 Zoom 及 Skype 進行之前，友誼便在社群媒體中培養及復甦。年輕世代有強烈的服務渴望——可是已經質疑他們是否可以在扶輪這樣的組織扮演更有意義的角色，或他們是否可能建立不同類型的人脈來發揮更大的影響力。現在正是把一切攤在桌上、測試新的方式，並讓扶輪準備好面對未來的時刻。

COVID-19 危機迫使我们每個人要調整。這是好現象，我們新的「行動計畫」明言敦促我們要改善我們適應的能力。可是光是適應是不夠的。如果我們要迎接新時代的挑戰，提供世界迫切需要的那種扶輪，我們就必須改變，並且大大改變。

這是我們的大挑戰，不只是在明年，還包括長遠的未來。要重新塑造扶輪，適應新時代——全心支持渴望找到實現理想途徑之年輕人的構想、能量，及決心——就取決於我們。我們必須成為一個完全融入數位時代的組織，而不是僅僅尋找網路方式來繼續墨守成規的組織。

此時此刻，世界比以往更需要扶輪。確保扶輪能為未來的世代打開機會，就看我們。

柯納克 Holger Knaack  
國際扶輪社長



## President's message

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends,

**T**his does not seem like a time for great optimism, but it has to be. Long before Rotary was founded, the world dealt with great crises that tested humankind's ability to progress and endure. In the age of Rotary, the world has faced many more catastrophes; however, we have survived, and every step of the way, Rotary has helped the world heal.

Every great challenge is an opportunity for renewal and growth. I revealed the theme of *Rotary Opens Opportunities* at the International Assembly in San Diego just as the COVID-19 crisis was beginning, but these are words that I have believed for many years.

Rotary is not just a club that you join; it is an invitation to endless opportunities. We believe in creating opportunities for others and for ourselves. We believe that our acts of service, large and small, generate opportunities for people who need our help, and that Rotary opens opportunities for us to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on our core values.

Governments and institutions are gaining a greater appreciation for the types of public health partnerships that are critical to our work. People stuck at home, eager for greater connections and hungry to help their communities, are now embracing the values we have promoted since our beginning.

All of this is positive news, but just because there are greater opportunities than ever for Rotary to thrive does not guarantee that we will succeed. The world is changing rapidly — and was doing so even before this crisis. People

were starting to move away from regular lunch meetings and toward online gatherings. Friendships were being cultivated and revived in social media relationships even before most of our meetings moved to Zoom and Skype. Younger generations have a strong desire to serve — but have questioned whether they could play a meaningful role in organizations like Rotary or whether they might make a bigger impact forming different types of connections. Now is the time to put everything on the table, test new approaches, and prepare Rotary for the future.

The COVID-19 crisis has forced all of us to adapt. This is good, and our new Action Plan specifically calls on us to improve our ability to adapt. But adaptation is not enough. We need to change, and change dramatically, if we are to face the challenges of this new age and provide the Rotary that the world so desperately needs.

This is our great challenge, not just in the next year but into the future. It is up to us to remake Rotary for these new times — to wholeheartedly embrace the ideas, energy, and commitment of young people eager to find an outlet for idealism. We must become an organization fully enmeshed in the digital age, not one that simply looks for online ways to keep doing what we have always done.

The world needs Rotary now more than ever. It is up to us to make sure that *Rotary Opens Opportunities* for generations to come.

**HOLGER KNAACK**

President, Rotary International