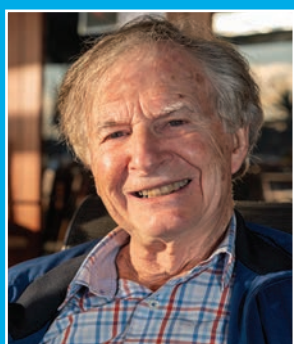


MALARIA VACCINE PROJECT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE



PDG Sandy Doumany OAM
Chair



Gerard Brennan OAM
Committee Member



Laraine Brennan
Committee Member



Nina Kristensen
Advancement Manager
Institute for Glycomics

In 2015 Sam & PDG Sandy Doumany attended a Rotary Against Malaria Conference, with Dr Danielle Stanisic as the Guest Speaker on Research for a Malaria Vaccine. She mentioned that the Laboratory needed a piece of equipment to help with production of the malaria vaccine which would cost \$8000.

Sam took that on board and approached PDG Graham Jones to see if we could raise the money required. Within a week, Graham, Sam & other Rotarians had raised the funds.

The Griffith Rotary Satellite Club was in the formation period and the cheque was presented to Dr Danielle Stanisic (a prospective member) at the next meeting. We all felt this sent a message to the new members "THIS IS THE POWER OF ROTARY".

In 2016 Gerard Brennan had discussions with the Governor General's Office in Canberra which led to the Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, launching the Malaria Vaccine Project at a function in the Institute for Glycomics on 27 March 2017.

In 2019 the Australian Government awarded a Research Grant of \$500,000 to the Project, matching the amount raised by Rotarians to that time.

On learning more about the journey for Professor Michael Good and Dr Danielle Stanisic with their research, there was a core of Rotarians who developed a passion to be part of the quest to save the lives of so many men, women and children and eliminate malaria from the world.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Committee Chair | PDG Graham Jones AM |
| Committee | Neil Jones (Treasurer) |
| | Laraine Brennan (Secretary) |
| | Gerard Brennan OAM |
| | Hon Sam Doumany AM |
| | PDG Sandy Doumany OAM |
| | Teresa Dawson |
| | Karin Kolenko |
| | Mervyn Powell |
| | PDG Ross Smith |
| | PDG Dai Mason |
| | Mr Bruce Howlett |

Rotary



District 9640

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE 'CHALLENGE 22'

Driven by the momentum from its 5th Anniversary on March 23, the Malaria Vaccine Project is having a very exciting year in 2022. It was a pleasure to have Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove as our special guests for the Anniversary and as on previous occasions, he inspired us to charge forward with our support for PlasProtecT® and the creation of a malaria-free world.

Sir Peter's challenge was ignited by Vice Chancellor Carolyn Evans' generous offer "to match any donations given on the anniversary day". The generous support from Rotarians and friends was magnificent to behold and as a result, nearly \$100,000 was donated. What a way to start Challenge 22: our goal to raise \$300,000 this year so that there are sufficient funds to complete all the preliminary studies on the field-deployable form of PlasProtecT®.

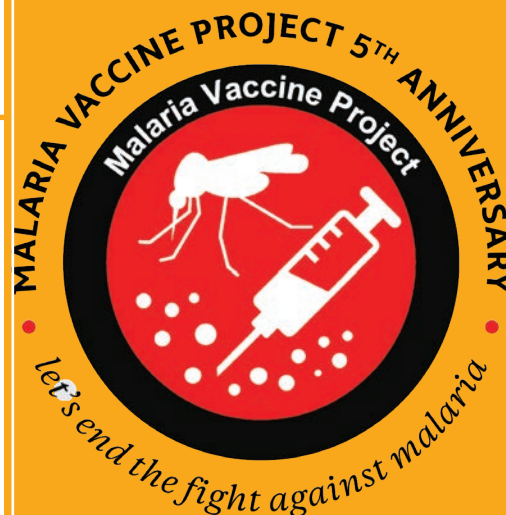
I am delighted to say that, thanks to your ongoing kindness, we have nearly \$140,000 for Challenge 22. The most creative donation in this period has come from the Rotary Club of Mermaid Beach via Colin Welch's epic journey down the Murray River. Colin, a member of Mermaid Beach Club, kayaked 2,350 km down the Murray and raised \$7,200 for the Malaria Vaccine Project. The donations for Col's journey came from Rotary clubs and friends on the way and an e-raffle conducted by his Mermaid Beach Club. With others from our Committee, I was very privileged to attend a meeting of their Club on June 1 where Col described memorable moments of his kayak adventure and the Club presented to me its donation. Col, what a wonderful way to keep fit and save children's lives!

All donations are most timely as Professor Good and his team are about to commence the toxicology study with an independent agency. Once this has been successfully navigated, the vaccine will undergo a human trial to test that the field-deployable form is safe and activates the immune system. This study is critical and completing it depends on our successfully achieving Challenge 22. We can meet that challenge if everyone who has donated to this project over the last five years makes another donation this year. A number of people have already done this, please join them.



PDG Graham Jones AM

Google: malariavaccineproject.com®



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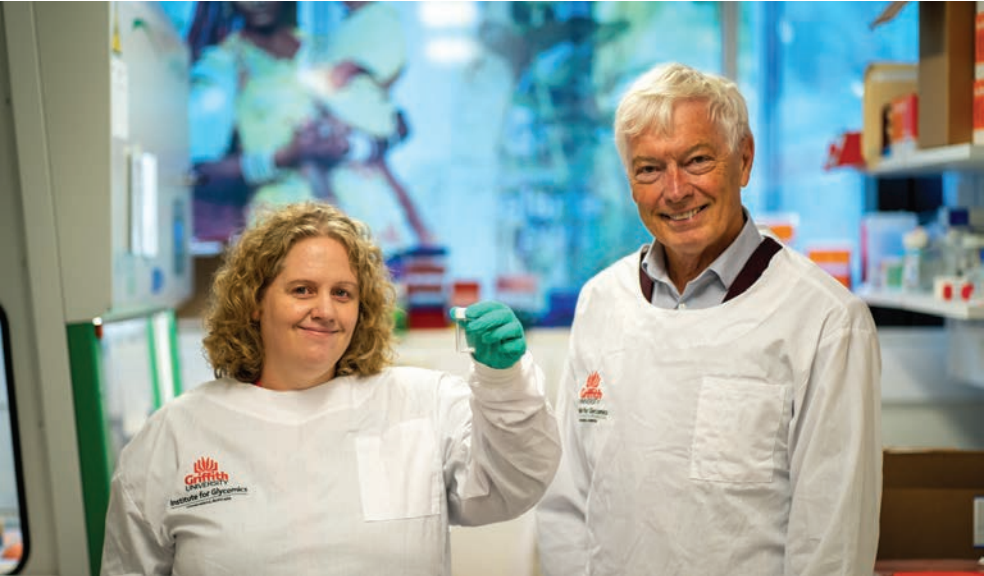
EOFY Fundraising Update

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MALARIA VACCINE PROJECT UPDATE

PROFESSOR MICHAEL GOOD AO



I am delighted to say that, thanks to the great generosity of Rotary and other philanthropic donors, we are now in a position to plan for our Phase I vaccine trial to demonstrate safety and immunogenicity of the whole parasite malaria vaccine.

It has been a long road to this point as, although we have shown that a freshly made whole parasite vaccine can induce protection in both laboratory animals and human volunteers, we have now developed the technology that enables us to freeze the vaccine or dry it to a powder, without loss of potency. This involves preparing the vaccine in a lipid formulation. This is an important development as ultimately the vaccine will need to be deployed in tropical remote parts of the world where it would be impossible to use a freshly made product.

Furthermore, our latest research has identified a way to prevent the vaccine from inducing antibodies to the red cells in which the parasite is grown. Our next step is to undertake formal 'toxicology' studies with the vaccine. This is a standard practice for all new vaccines.

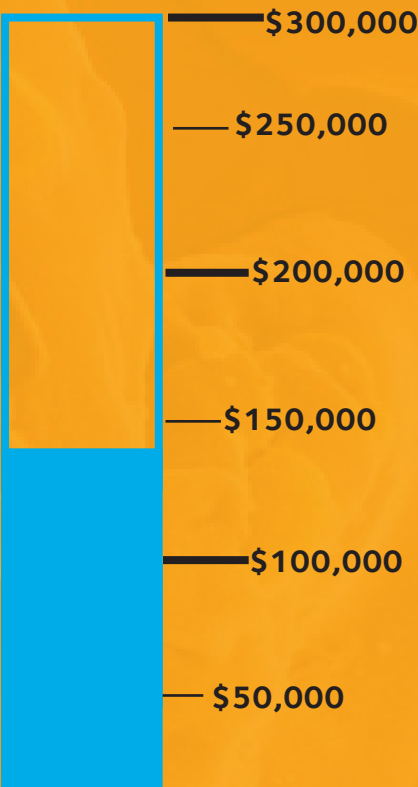
We have identified an experienced clinical research organisation who will undertake this independent toxicology study to demonstrate that the vaccine does not induce any untoward side effects in animals prior to being given to human volunteers. We expect to commence the human trial by early 2023.

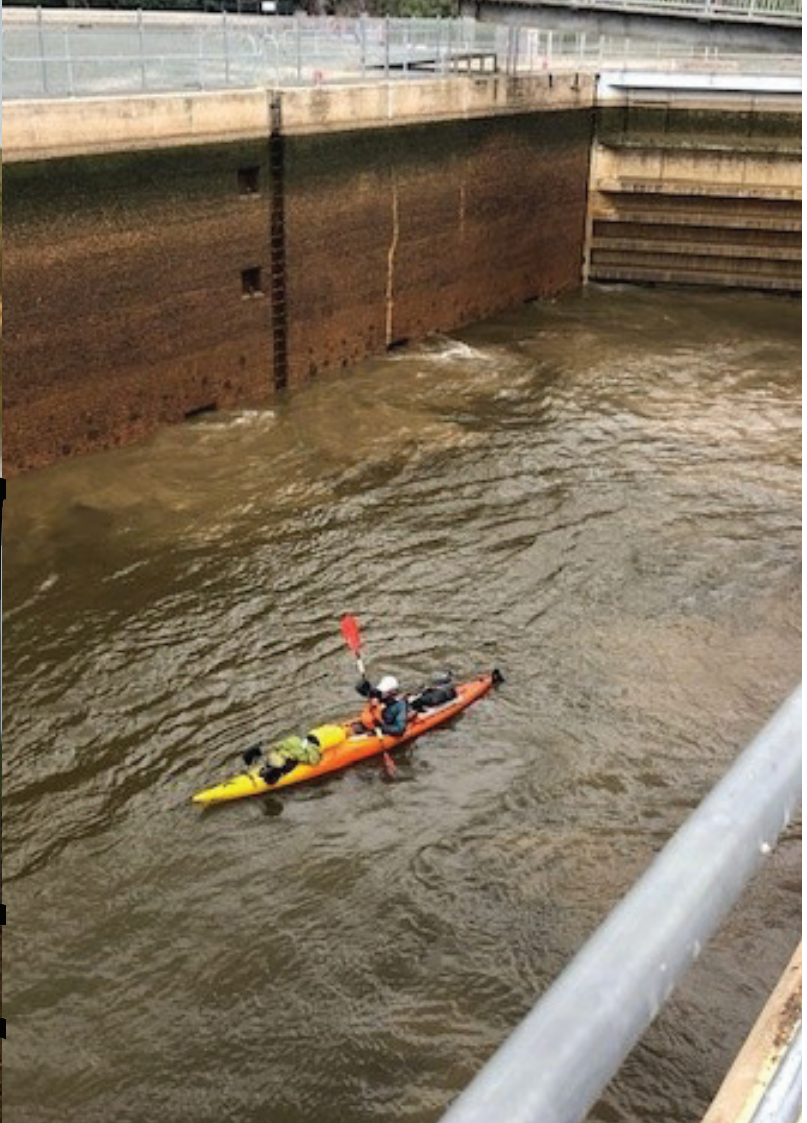
It is 6 years that the Malaria Vaccine Committee has been working with us to achieve our vision, and my gratitude continues to increase. On behalf of all the scientists and research scholars in my laboratory, I thank the Committee and the many Rotarians who have stood with us as we all strive to achieve a malaria-free world.

CHALLENGE 22 UPDATE

After a wonderful start of nearly \$100,000 at the 5th Anniversary where donations were generously matched by Griffith University's Vice Chancellor, we have now built on this momentum and reached \$140,000 with donations from Rotary clubs, friends, private donors and Colin Welch's kayak marathon per kind favour of Mermaid Beach Rotary.

Please help us to reach our critical goal of \$300,000.





PADDLE TO WATER - COMPLETING AN EPIC KAYAK DOWN THE MURRAY

Colin Welch

The clock struck twelve noon on Sunday the 10th of April 2022 as I kayaked into the Aquatic Club marina at Goolwa South Australia. This marked my solo journey of approximately 2,350 kms down the Murray River, complete.

Now that the job is done, it's easy to have a positive outlook to the challenges that go with a journey of this nature, however, what I quickly discovered along the way was that the mental challenges far outweighed the physical... even for a 70 year-old. Preparation is everything, like in life itself and I was fully aware of the encounters that lay ahead.

MENTAL – The Challenges

- Virtually every aspect of the journey could have lead to a mental test.
- The pain or soreness in your arms, shoulders, back and backside.
- Weather conditions – Rain, storms, heat and the wind.
- Isolation - often going days without encountering another human.
- Limited access to quality food - powdered milk is very ordinary.
- **Setting up camp each night - only exceeded by trying to find a suitable camp spot.**
- Packing up each morning - sleeping bags never go back in their covers as easily as they were initially packed.
- The knowledge that during the day ahead more pain would be encountered.
- **The mud, lack of river flow, sunburn, locks and toilet facilities with the bears.** With high water levels in the lakes you are often kayaking over what would normally be farmland.

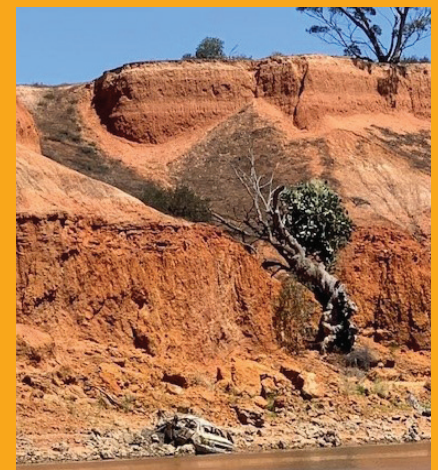
I knew that all of the challenges mentioned above, could be in play at some stage of the journey. It was my job to accept everything because let's face it, none of it was a surprise. Challenges are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

The Murray River landscapes change as you venture downstream, initially very picturesque bush settings and farmland at Corryong, to dense heavily timbered forests around Barmah, rounding to the massive clay & rock cliffs in South Australia. At night I shared the riverbanks with cattle, kangaroos, goannas, brumbies, snakes, wild pigs and goats, with the occasional fellow caravaners.

On the nights that I did camp near other travellers, I was overwhelmed by their generosity and kindness, being invited to share in their evening meals and beverages; the humanity was appreciated.

Statistically, I was paddling on the river for 49 days, 11 of which were half days. Factoring this in, I paddled 43.5 days, averaging around 53.9 kms per day. The most travelled in one day was 71kms. Of the 49 days, I camped on riverbanks for 33 nights, spent 8 nights in caravan park cabins and 8 nights at the homes of friends that lived on the Murray.

Most importantly the adventure raised \$7,500 for the Malaria Vaccine Program. I am so pleased to contribute to supporting the wonderful work done by Professor Michael Good AO, Dr Danielle Stanisic and the team.



Do you have a question about the malaria vaccine project?

We have compiled a list of frequently asked questions from rotarians, supporters and our community about the malaria vaccine project.

A select few will be featured in each issue moving forward with responses from our Malaria Vaccine Project committee and researchers.

Some examples :

- Why does Rotary consider the Malaria Vaccine Project to be important to fundraise for?
- What is included in pre-clinical and clinical studies of vaccine development?
- What is the process to commence a trial in an endemic country?
- What makes Professor Good's vaccine candidate so different?

Do you have a question you would like answered?

Send them to: Sandy Doumany - srmd@bigpond.net.au

Q&A WITH PDG ROSS SMITH

Can you manage the mosquito rather than the infection?

Submitted by RC The Granite Belt

Yes, Timor Leste has done exactly this successfully. This has been a collaborative undertaking with ongoing, concerted government effort and well trained mothers in every community. RAM has been a long term partner with this approach in many communities. The impregnated bed net program, with well-educated mothers (in effective net use), together with government spraying of house interiors (behind doors and under furniture) and immediate removal of casual water lying around villages is working. However, any one error with a consistent response in each of these areas will allow the mosquito to breed.

Could the effective distribution of the medicines we use, as visitors to malaria endemic countries, work to manage this infection?

Submitted by RC Wynnum Manly

The medicine available to be taken before, during and after such a visit is basically an antibiotic. This is not an effective long term response in any community.

Wouldn't there be plenty of financial support available from the government to assist with vital international aid work, such as this?

Submitted by Rotaract Club The Scenic Rim

It seems that many such proposed developments have not been successful in the long term. Governments have become shy of an early commitment in this regard. Generally, once a project like this has established a proven record, especially with published peer review, the government will potentially be more receptive in their support.





SPOTLIGHT ON NEIL JONES

Treasurer - Malaria Vaccine Project Committee

I was born in Dwellingup, a small country south of Perth and spent my early life in nearby Banksiadale, later inundated by the South Dandalup dam.

Leaving school at age 15 I joined the Bank of NSW (later to become Westpac) at Pinjarra, a rural town 85 km south of Perth.

During my early years in the bank I studied by correspondence/night school to complete my matriculation. Over subsequent years I completed a Diploma in Banking & Finance and took every opportunity available for further education and personal development. As well as many internal learning experiences I was fortunate to attend residential courses at the Australian Administrative Staff College, the Graduate School of Management at the University of Melbourne and the Darden Business School at the University of Virginia in the USA.

While serving in Pinjarra I met my future wife Christine and we were married in 1969. Our two sons were born in Perth in 1972 and 1976.

Being an educator, Christine was the driving force behind the completion of my studies. Having reached management level in my early thirties and in accordance with the bank's then executive training plan, I was transferred to the Sydney Head Office in the period leading up to the establishment of Westpac. We subsequently moved to Adelaide in 1985, Darwin in 1989, Sydney in 1991, Melbourne in 1993, Adelaide in 1995 and our all expenses paid tour of Australia was completed in 1996 when we moved to Brisbane. In 2001 after a banking career of almost 40 years I entered early retirement and we moved to the Gold Coast.

My Rotary experience began when I was invited to join the Rotary Club of Unley in Adelaide in 1986 and continues today with the Rotary Club of Broadbeach (one of the sponsor clubs of the Malaria Vaccine Project) which I joined in 2001. As well as serving my club in most roles including President, Secretary and Treasurer (7 times), I have been fortunate to serve District 9640 in numerous roles including Assistant Governor (3 years) and Rotary Foundation Committee Chair (5 years).

My involvement with the Malaria Vaccine Project since its inception has been a highlight. My late father contracted malaria while serving in PNG during World War 11 and I well remember his regular suffering through many years of my childhood. My late brother also contracted malaria while serving with the RAAF.

Their suffering was insignificant compared to the enormous annual mortality rate that continues today but I am inspired by the work of Professor Michael Good, Dr Danielle Staniscic and their team and fervently hope that their efforts are successful and culminate with an effective vaccine.

I am proud to be making a small contribution to the Malaria Vaccine Project.

SANCTUARY COVE BOAT SHOW

Fundraising for the Malaria Vaccine Project

PDG Sandy Doumany OAM



The Southern Hemisphere's premier marine event was back for another year (its 33rd year to be exact), 19 - 22 May 2022, showcasing the biggest display and exciting experiences that the boating lifestyle offers. With 300 exhibitors, 600 boats and 1,000 marine products, attendees had their four days overflowing with things to see and do.

The annual Sanctuary Cove Boat Show, is a spectacular platform for Rotary Club of Hope Island to pop the tent and flags up, turn the heat high on the bbq and create an opportunity for attendees to grab a quick, easy snack of a snag on bread, hamburgers, steak burgers and the very popular morning bacon and egg burgers as they continued to peruse the wonders of the marine lifestyle. With the malaria vaccine project once again, being a beneficiary of the fundraising efforts, it was heartwarming to see the support from local community and those that had travelled from further afield for the festivities.

Whilst the weather remained ideal for the first two days, the rain clouds rolled in and the heavens opened up for the final two days. A bit of rain wasn't going to stop the enthusiasts from turning out for the heavily anticipated event but numbers did significantly drop. The overall outcome still showed a successful fundraising event, regardless of reduced attendee numbers.

Over \$12,000 was raised with \$1,900 directly injected into the Malaria Vaccine Project. We sincerely thank all that helped out across the four days, turning sausages, cutting onions, serving the masses and so generously giving up their time to have a laugh and raise money for a very worthy cause.

We look forward to a bigger event for the 34th Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show and have already started the sun dance; willing the blue skies, warm days and crowds of people.





INSPIRATIONAL SUPPORTER

Kevin Hales - Rotary Club of Goolwa

The Rotary Club of Goolwa became involved in the Malaria Vaccine Project (MVP) through its fundraising activity with the Foreign Money Collection Project. This Coin Project is coordinated by the Rotary Club of Hornsby that is also a strong supporter of MVP. The Coin Project encompasses the collection of foreign coins and notes that regular banks are unable to exchange into Australian currency.

The Rotary Club of Goolwa was already involved in the Foreign Collection Project when I transferred to it from a Rotary Club in Adelaide. I became interested in the Coin Project through a casual phone conversation with Geoff Sell who has championed the project for the Hornsby Rotary Club over many years.

While on a holiday in 2016, my wife and I attended a meeting at the Hornsby Club. We met up with Geoff Sell and Stephen Bruce and I have been hooked on the Collection Project and the need to eliminate malaria ever since that day

When I commenced with the Coin Project, Goolwa Club had about 20 collection boxes in place in Metropolitan Adelaide and in our own Regional area on the Fleurieu Peninsular. Today we have 56 collection boxes in financial institutions across Adelaide and a wide range of country communities in South Australia. Each of these boxes is opened for distribution annually. The money is packed and sent to the Rotary Club of Hornsby where their team sorts it into country of origin and then negotiates with money changing organisations across Sydney to convert it into Australian dollars.

The Board of the Rotary Club of Goolwa has agreed that 100% of our collected money will be contributed towards the Malaria Vaccine Project and I am delighted to say that we have now donated almost \$20,000 to this promising vaccine development.

Colin Welch's epic journey down the Murray was a highlight for me and the Club. We arranged a barbecue for Colin's arrival near Lake Alexandrina and our President Wendy Lippett, International Director Tony McWhinney and I presented him with a cheque for \$500 towards the Malaria Vaccine Project. It was a very special day for us all.



AMBASSADOR PROGRAM REPORT

PDG Ross Smith & Mr Bruce Howlett

To date, several clubs have been visited and we have more upcoming presentations. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the malaria vaccine project and the progress that is being made across this vital research and the fundraising.

We welcome the opportunity to attend your club in person or virtually, to present. If you would like to take up this invitation, please contact:

Bruce Howlett at b1andk1@outlook.com

Ross Smith at rossatburleigh@gmail.com .

Reflecting on and in the word of our incoming International President Jennifer Jones, IMAGINE a World with no malaria, just IMAGINE.

It is our goal to not just IMAGINE but to end malaria, for good.

EOFY FUNDRAISING WRAP UP

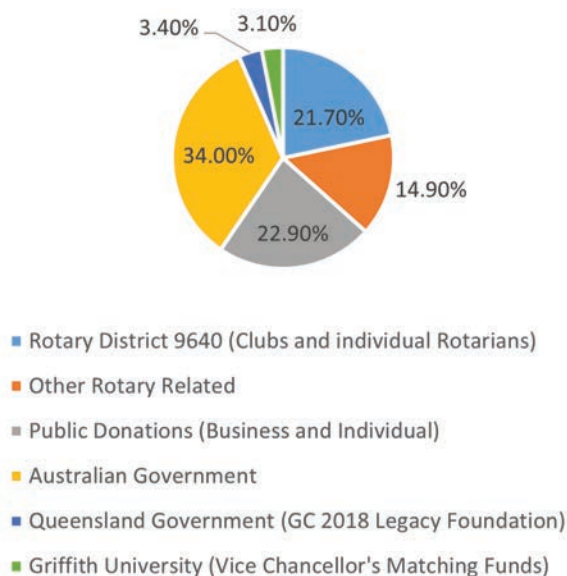
Mr Neil Jones

The 2021/22 financial year began with the pandemic continuing to cause significant impact to daily life across Australia. Closer to home, the beginning of 2022 saw many in our district and much of the Eastern seaboard experience catastrophic floods in our district and along much of the Eastern seaboard. Despite these difficulties, our fundraising has been strong.

As we approach the end of the financial year we have raised \$206,795. This takes total funds raised to \$1,471,218 since the project began.

This is a fantastic outcome in what has been a very challenging year and we extend our congratulations and thanks to all who have contributed in any way.

Total Malaria Vaccine Project Donations



CHALLENGE 22

At the 5th Anniversary, Malaria Vaccine Project Chair, PDG Graham Jones AM, launched "Challenge 22".

The challenge is to raise \$300,000 in 2022 so that Professor Good and his team will have the financial resources they need to complete the preliminary studies with the cryopreserved form during 2022.

As we near the halfway point of the calendar year, we have raised a total of \$138,039 (or 46% of our Challenge target).

Raising an additional \$162,000 in the second half of the year presents a significant challenge but with your continuing support and the power of Rotary, we are confident of reaching our goal and ensuring the wonderful work of Professor Good and his team can continue, uninterrupted.

OUR PARTNERS



RAM

Rotarians Against Malaria

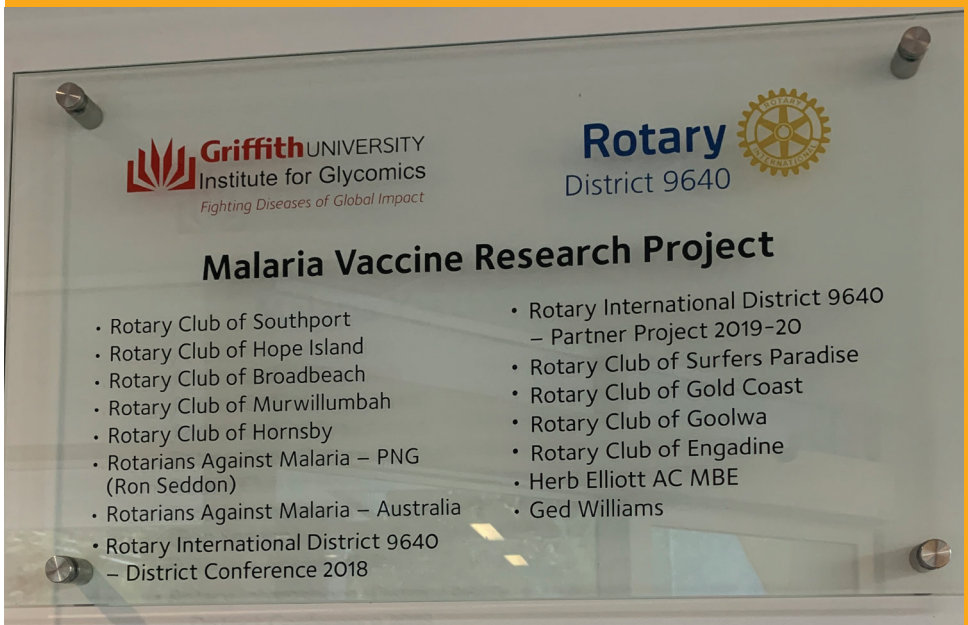
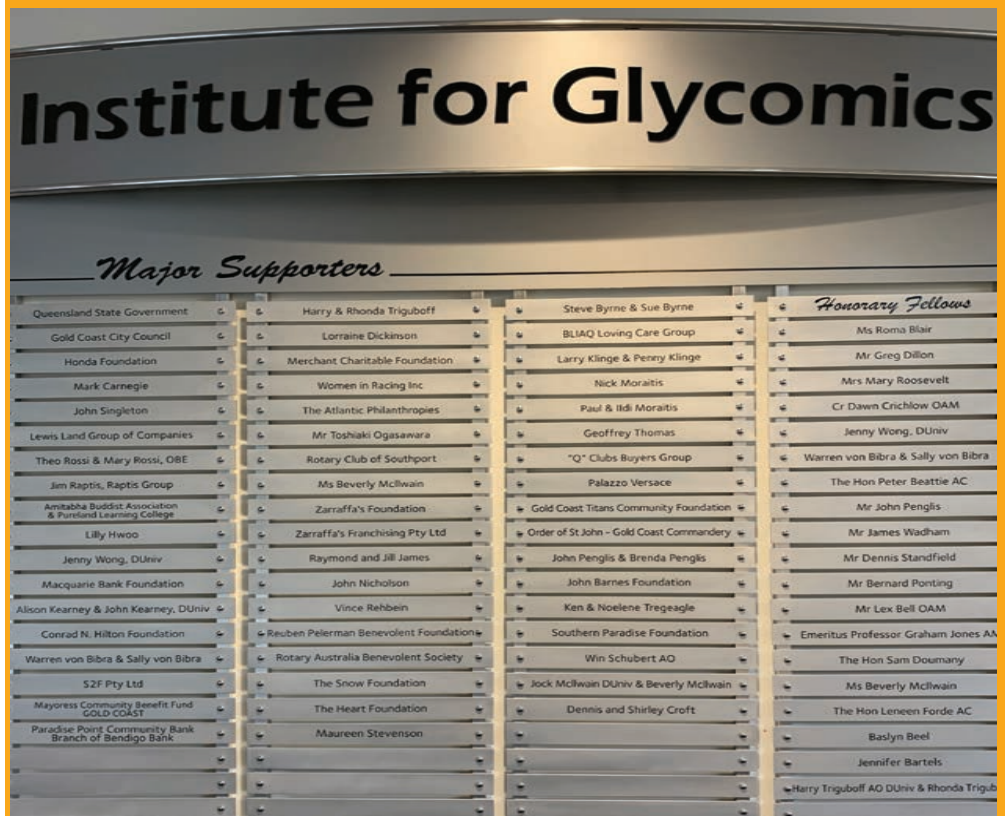


Acknowledging Clubs High Fundraising Achievements

Hope Island: \$73,845
 Surfers Paradise: \$31,679
 Hornsby: \$28,518
 Gold Coast: \$21,638
 Engadine: \$20,000

Acknowledging Districts High Fundraising Achievements

9640: \$318,928
 9710: \$34,650
 9685: \$30,518
 9675: \$26,000
 9560: \$25,090



WE'RE SOCIAL - JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!
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