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## "YOUNGER ROTARIANS – HAVE YOUR SAY"

Article by RC PDG Jessie Harman



Younger Rotarians are encouraged to have their say about the future of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand at the upcoming 'Youth Summit' in Canberra in September.

The Youth Summit will run as part of the National Membership Success Conference to be held in Canberra on 5 and 6 September 2015. Younger Rotarians are invited to contribute their ideas about the future shape of Rotary, and to provide advice and guidance about strategies to make Rotary more attractive to younger people. Outcomes from the Youth Summit will be collated into a formal communique which will be provided to the General Secretary of Rotary International, as well as Governors and Club Presidents in our zones. It is hoped that this year's Youth Summit will have real impact on the future of Rotary in our region.

According to Rotary International data, young people under 40 currently comprise around 1.2% of Rotary's membership in Australia and New Zealand. And whilst their overall numbers may be comparatively small, there can be little doubt that these younger Rotarians represent the future of Rotary.

Participants at the Youth Summit will also hear from keynote speakers at the National Membership Success conference. Immediate Past RI Director Mary Beth Growney Selene has a keen interest in Rotary's younger members, and spearheaded the recent Young Rotarians' Forum held in Evanston, USA. Andrew McLeod is a noted humanitarian, author, sportsperson and businessman. Amongst his many achievements, Andrew was a member of the Steering Committee of the World Economic Forum 'Future of Civil Society' project.

Younger Rotarians aged 40 and under are encouraged to register for the National Membership Success Conference & Youth Summit via the website:

<http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/success-conference.html>.

Additional information is available from Jessie Harman at

[j.harman@ballarat.edu.au](mailto:j.harman@ballarat.edu.au) or Damian Leach at [damianleach@gmail.com](mailto:damianleach@gmail.com).

5TH - 6TH SEPTEMBER  
HELLENIC CLUB - CANBERRA

## AUSTRALIAN ROTARY SUMMIT & ROTARY YOUTH SUMMIT

# CANBERRA

# 2015




For more information click [HERE](#),  
and click [HERE](#) for registration.

# "ROTARY MEMBERSHIP NOT AN ISSUE FOR THIS YOUNG FAMILY"

Article by Annelisa Corboy, *The Rotary Club of Milawa Oxley*, submitted by ARC PDG Tim Moore

When we (Annelisa and Martin Corboy) considered joining Rotary about three years ago we did so initially thinking it was "a big people's thing". Dad and Mum were going to join and hopefully Rotary could occasionally cope with our brood of four little boys that would follow along. We quickly learned that the whole family were genuinely welcome and impressively there was an actual structure for "Tots" (Rota -Bubs), "Kids" (Rota-Kids) and "Teens" (Rota-Youth).

The present members were very welcoming, understanding and encouraging for our four, then five and soon to be six, Rota-Kids and Rota-Bubs to be involved and contribute their efforts where they can. I think the motto "Many little hands can help make light work" rather apt for BBQs, wood collections, markets, carols nights, and bonfire nights just to name a few events our Rota-Kids have been involved with. Rota-Kids have great fun participating and engaging in the experience, feel valued as genuine contributors, and benefit from learning many 'incidental' things along the way regarding various aspects of being members of society and proud members of our community.

It's great when we all get together and the Rota-Kids - proudly displaying their very own badges - just like mum and dad's, are brimming with youthful enthusiasm and excitement, as only children can, ready and raring to get involved in the day/event/evenings activities. Eager to be a part of Rotary. All the Rota-Kids are greeted with smiles, patience, and great interest in their 'little snippets of news' of the day or week. They share these things cheerfully and willingly because they feel they have real friends in "Our Rotary Hall".

Clubs who actively promote and embrace this, occasionally challenging but rewarding, membership group are to be congratulated for opening their doors. We have also enjoyed sharing the benefits of Rotary with a number of other young growing families joining our Club, the more the merrier we say! Our contribution is not limited because we are at the "wrong stage in our life" etc. We are on our life's journey and we want to share that journey with our children.

Rotary don't just "allow" the kids to come along or quietly 'tolerate them' they encourage their attendance, support their contribution, and delight in their successes. That's where the real success lies, it is not "your commitment" or "my Rotary such and such" it is 'Our club'. And as you can see from the profiles below they have great fun, aren't too hard to please, all it takes every now and again is a chocolate cake, a bonfire night, and a game of hide and seek.

**Xavier (age 9), William (7), Dominic (6) and Edward (4) answers to questions put to them:**

**What does participating in Rotary mean to you?**

X: I think Rotary is a nice and helpful place. We help people with their lives, one of those ways is through fundraising for the poor and less fortunate.

W: Helping people with their lives, and finding things out - like last night, when Patti couldn't see the camouflaged frog on the rock. (DG Patti Bulluss, Guest speaker from Parks Vic)

D: Being nice to people and using my manners. I ask Daddy if I can do all the fun things I want to do (at Rotary).

**I'm proud to wear my Rotary shirt in the community because:**

X: We get to do special things, such as our great performance at the end of District Conference in Shepparton last year. It was great fun!

W: My example shows people Rotary is good for everyone.

D: It makes me feel very special.

E: My rotary shirt means "I go for" Rotary. (Footy household here!)

**My favourite thing at Rotary:**

X: Games nights!

W: Raffles, Playing the coconut shine, and my #1 is our Annual Bonfire Night!!

D: Melissa's Chocolate cake with strawberries on top!

E: Playing Hide and seek.



**Mum Annelisa, with baby Nicholas, Bridget, William, Xavier, Edward and Dominic, RotaKids, proudly wearing their Conference t-shirts at the 2015 D9790 Conference**

# "PHILIP ARCHER'S NEW ROLE"

**Article supplied by PDG RIDE Noel Trevaskis**

Philip Archer has been the Rotary Public Image Coordinator (RPIC) for Australia for the last three years. He has completed his role on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Philip has been appointed to the role of one of the Co Project Leads of the Regional Membership Development Plan for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. He joins Noel Trevaskis, Jessie Harman and Malcolm Lindquist in this critical role across the region.

The role of the RPIC plays a major part in the development of membership in the region. Philip has been involved in all areas of membership and has contributed enormously to the success of the membership plan for the region. It will be good for the region to still have Philip actively involved in membership as a Co Project Lead.



Wendy Gaborit has taken over from Philip as the Regional Public Image Coordinator.

# "RI PUBLIC IMAGE COORDINATOR 2015-16 WENDY GABORIT"

**Profile by Wendy Gaborit.**

Wendy was District 9520 Governor in 2013-14 and has been appointed Rotary Zone Coordinator for Public Image 2015-16. She is currently the Public Officer, Chair of Emergency Management and Community Service Committees for D9520.



Wendy has been an enthusiastic member of Rotary for 12 years. Joining the Rotary Club of Mobilong in 2004-05 and remains active within the club as administrator of the club's web page, [social media](#) and convenor of the combined clubs of Mobilong & Murray Bridge Rotary Art Show. The Club has awarded her with a Paul Harris and she remains committed to supporting the Foundation as a member of the Paul Harris Society.

Wendy has served at District level being the Chair of RYLA and RYPEN, Assistant Governor Group 3 and Convenor for the International Women's Day Breakfast committee a joint initiative of D9500 and 9520 now in its third year.

Wendy says Rotary has afforded her the opportunity to step back from the demands of career to connect with community. The journey has seen her discover and be enthralled by the programs and projects of Rotary and inspired by the stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things. She and John have been offered and enjoyed the friendship and fellowship of Rotarians across the globe and had their share of fun.

Adelaide born, Wendy holds qualifications in Social Group Work, Social Work and Business Administration. She is a career public servant having worked as a social group worker, social planner, administrator and regional manager. She and John moved to Murray Bridge in the 1990s John to fulfil a dream as a beef grazier and Wendy joined Housing SA. She is currently the Operations Manager for Hills Murray.

As Public Image Coordinator – Wendy is looking to build on the success of the Conversations to Action campaign, to further develop the concept of local champions and to tell the story of Rotary at work in our community.

She will look to work with District Leaders and clubs to:

- promote the benefits of and build the take up of My Rotary by Rotarians and Rotaractors.
- increase the reporting of club and district projects listed on Rotary Club Central
- increase the social media profile of Rotarians, clubs and districts showcasing Rotary at work in our community – Tell Your Rotary Story - Put your Face on Rotary
- inform, train, motivate and give voice to our Rotary stories.

Will work with District Leaders to deliver a video suitable for TV use – as a membership and public image tool for Districts and clubs, particularly those in rural TV areas.

Will work in collaboration with Philip Archer in the roll out of the "Connecting with Your Community" project. Philip will also continue to be Rotary's primary liaison person with our major sponsors. A collaboration that will continue to see Rotary benefit from Philip's industry knowledge, experience and contacts.

In one sentence our aim – Let's get Rotary in the News.

# "RI ANNOUNCES NEW INNOVATION AND FLEXIBILITY PILOT CLUBS"

Article by **RC PDG Jessie Harman**

Rotary International has announced the names of clubs who have been selected to participate in the expanded 'Innovation and Flexibility' Pilot Initiative.

The announcement sees the number of Rotary clubs participating in the pilot to almost double. In our zones, the following Rotary clubs have been selected:

Pakuranga	9920	New Zealand	Blacktown City	9675	Australia
Waikato Sunrise	9930	New Zealand	Sydney Darling Harbour	9675	Australia
Wanganui South	9940	New Zealand	Canberra City	9710	Australia
Timaru	9980	New Zealand	Tuggeranong	9710	Australia
Applecross	9465	Australia	Maryborough	9780	Australia
Ascot	9465	Australia	Albury North	9790	Australia
Yamba	9640	Australia	Bendigo-Sandhurst	9800	Australia
Raymond Terrace	9670	Australia	Bendigo South	9800	Australia

Under the pilot program, clubs are able to make changes to the Standard Rotary Club constitution and their Rotary By-laws in areas other than membership dues. Clubs can self-determine their operations to fit better with the needs of their members and their community. They can try out different meeting logistics and designs, improve club leadership and oversight, and develop relevant and creative membership qualifications and requirements. Some clubs will also use the pilot initiative to shift their focus from attendance to engagement.

The original 'Flexibility and Innovation' pilot initiative was introduced by Rotary International to respond to feedback from members and prospective members that they want more flexibility to become or remain involved with a Rotary club. Clubs participating in the pilot will be implementing new arrangements with a view to increasing club membership by at least one percent.

The pilot program will run from 1 July 2015 to 30 July 2017.

# "TINY CLUB RUNS MASSIVE DRIVER PROJECT"

Article by **Tony Thomas, Secretary RC Central Melbourne Sunrise.**

The [Rotary Club of Rochester](#), with only eight members, runs a \$380,000 driver safety school for students. The club, 190km north of Melbourne, set up and financed the school three years ago.



It uses five cars donated by members and police to train about 350 Year 10-12 student drivers a year from five surrounding colleges, in batches of up to 24. The training is on dedicated closed roads with traffic lights and various road surfaces.

The club's RoDEC centre at nearby Elmore does not teach students how to get their P-plates but how to stay alive once they've got them.



**Roundabout**

RoDEC chair Graeme Nelson, 74, says that all too often, a teenager's excitement at getting a licence becomes a family tragedy as inexperience causes a crash. Victoria's north-east is the State's worst district for road fatalities.

"The first months of youngsters' driving are the most dangerous of their entire life. They don't have judgement and skills about hazards. They're four times likelier to crash than an over-26 driver.

"Nearly half of all young Australian deaths are from crashes. For hospitalisations, half are young drivers and a quarter are their passengers."

The paid and qualified instructors teach about peripheral vision, observation and concentration, cornering, hazards, crash evasion, in-car distractions, the "right-of-way myth", the "science of adrenalin" and night and defensive driving. Class work can be confronting – highway patrol officers take students through scenarios such as arriving at homes to notify that a youngster has been in a fatal crash.

Rotary District 9800 – which extends to Echuca - is now working to bring in other Rotary clubs to expand the program to new schools.

# "CENTRAL BLUE MOUNTAINS ROTARY INCREASED MEMBERSHIP"

*Rotary success stories - New Zealand and SW Pacific Blog, 1 May 2015 and RDU June 2015 edition  
Article by Peter Hartley, RC of Central Blue Mountains*

Membership has been, and probably will remain, a challenge for Rotary clubs throughout the world. However, there is a solution. Tired Rotary clubs can be enlivened and revitalised through the introduction of people of all ages, and of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

The [Rotary Club of Central Blue Mountains](#) at Wentworth Falls, NSW took on the membership challenge a couple of years ago. A goal was to induct one new member a month over 12 months. Membership went from 22 to 34 members in a year. The club now boasts 38 members, and those newer people all have a task and are enjoying their Rotary experience.

How was the membership plan achieved?

First, it was necessary to invest in people. Looking after existing members and catering for their needs was most important. There is no point in gaining some only to lose others through lack of communication or dissatisfaction. Also, members had to be willing to accept change.

Meetings were streamlined. The sergeant-at-arms was stripped of his fines session, Rotary formalities were eliminated, business at meetings was cut to a minimum, good guest speakers and an à la carte menu were introduced, and one long dining table was used at meetings, helping to break up cliques. Social activities assisted in assimilating the new people, each of whom had a mentor until they became familiar with our organisation.



*Central Blue Mountains Rotary meetup*

It was also essential to have a high profile and be extremely active within the community. Successful Rotary information nights were arranged. Invitations were sent to local people who had shown an interest in Rotary and to those who would be suitable Rotarians.

Social media and handheld devices have rewritten the rules, so it was necessary to embrace Facebook, Twitter and the internet to interact with members and the community. People became connected. The weekly newsletter was expanded as an information source, not just for members, but for Rotarians and interested people across [District 9685](#).

Publicity was increased, with the club being referred to as "Central Blue Mountains" or "CBM Rotary". Use of the word "club" in publicity was discouraged. A large catering trailer at local events and Sunday markets helped to build an excellent public image through improved visibility.

The introduction of new people with their respective skills stimulated the original members, producing a happier, brighter and enthusiastic outcome to weekly meetings and activities. In other words, Central Blue Mountains, as a group of determined Rotarians became enterprising and proactive in more ways than one.

## "HUANG BIDS FAREWELL"

*From RI Weekly, 12 June 2015, By Ryan Hyland Rotary News*

2014-15 RI President Gary C.K. Huang told RI convention goers, on 9 June in São Paulo Brazil, that it was an honor to serve them as Rotary president, he talked about the projects he visited all over the world during his term, and how much they inspired him.

"Each time I witnessed projects, I always wondered: How many lives could we change for the better by bringing more people into Rotary?" We know great things don't happen by themselves. We have to constantly challenge ourselves and others, and push the boundaries. **Sometimes, all it takes is to ask someone to join Rotary.**

"Rotary has shaped and changed my life," he added. "I want to use my story to urge Rotarians to continue to welcome promising young people in your communities and to take care of those who need a little push from us. Someday, those we have helped might become a future president of Rotary International, or a successful businessperson, a mayor, or the president of a country. Within Rotary, anything is possible."

# "RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS CAN BE EASY"

Article, from RDU June 2015 edition, by Judy Ford, Rotary Club of Yass, D9710, NSW



In an ideal world recruiting a new Rotarian would be a simple matter. You would simply ask the person if he or she would like to join Rotary. Unfortunately, it is not as easy as that. There is always the fear that the person might say no and the feeling of rejection and humiliation can be as strong as the feeling of jubilation should the person say yes.

Certainly there are people who have no problem asking a friend, colleague or acquaintance straight out, but those people are a rare breed.

Many clubs hold Rotary membership nights, but even that requires a face-to-face ask.

Over the past few years the Rotary Club of Yass, NSW, has come up with a formula for such an evening which, if followed exactly, guarantees new members, without having to personally ask.

We follow the idea of an information night, but there are certain steps we take that make the whole process much easier for everyone.

Our tips:

- Ask members to submit names and addresses of anyone they think would make a good Rotarian.
- Send an invitation from the president by mail (not email).
- Keep the evening informal, cocktail party rather than a meal, and NO GUEST SPEAKER (they have come to hear about Rotary)!
- Organise three or four Rotarians to tell their Rotary stories in a few minutes each. Have varied topics such as what happens at meetings, club projects, Polio Plus, overseas opportunities, etc.
- As the guests leave give them something to take away (e.g. a brochure on the club).
- FOLLOW UP! Have someone contact them the next day to invite them to the next normal meeting.

For more information on this topic and a sample of the president's letter, please copy and paste in your web browser this link <http://www.yassrotary.org/#!membership-recruitment/c9s2>

## "MEET ARC PDG JODIE SPARKS"

Jodie's involvement with Rotary began in the early 1990s when she attended Handicamp, a District 9470 Youth program. On the conclusion of the program Jodie joined Rotaract and enjoyed over seven years as a Rotaractor before being asked to join Rotary in 2000.



In her Rotary club, Jodie has held most Board positions, and was President in 2006-07. Jodie was awarded her club's inaugural Rotarian of the Year in 2009, and was honoured with Paul Harris Fellow recognition by her club in 2006, and the District in 2010 and 2011.

At District level Jodie served as an Assistant Governor for two years, on the District Handicamp committee for nine years – including three years as chair; PR chair in 2009-10; Membership Chair in 2012-13; District Trainer in 2014-15; RYPEN/RYLA committee member 2014-15 and on the District Foundation committee 2013-15.

Jodie was District Governor in 2011-12 – one of the highlights of her time in Rotary. She has volunteered her professional skills to work on the District Newsletter, Website and Directory over the past six years. In addition to the Training portfolio, Jodie is looking forward to chairing the District RYLA committee in 2015-16. Jodie is a Rotary Leadership Institute trainer and is a trained Club Vision Facilitator, serving as part of the District 9465 Visioning Team in 2014-15.

Jodie currently manages the Western Australian Motor Industry Foundation, a WA charity that operates two programs in Western Australia providing specialised vehicles to families with disabilities.

Jodie is married to Colin, a former Rotaractor and Rotarian, who is a great supporter of Jodie and Rotary, and they live with their spoilt fur babies Chalky and Hamlin in Burswood. In any spare time they enjoy travelling, good wine and spending time with family and friends.

### SHARE YOUR CLUB OR DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT AND MEMBERSHIP BEST PRACTICES.

We would like to hear from Clubs or Districts telling us what they have done. Please include a summary, contact details, and a couple of photos, and email to [Issa Shalhoub](mailto:Issa.Shalhoub@rotary.org.au), this Newsletter's editor.

We also would like readers to share their experiences and stories on Best Practices in their Clubs and what has worked for their Clubs in gaining new members and also what has helped in keeping members.

# "IT'S NOT ONLY ABOUT THE MONEY!"

**Article by 9710 IPDG Rowley Tompsett**

For the first time in a number of years, District 9710 (ACT and SE NSW) is experiencing an increase in membership of the family of Rotary; in Rotary Clubs, a new Rotaract Club and several new Interact Clubs. IPDG Rowley Tompsett makes some personal observations ...



We are moving ahead, at the end of March, we had increased our membership by 39, or 2.9%. This makes us the second biggest improver in Australia. We only need another nine new members to reach the District Goal of one new member per Club. Another eight will take us back to 1,400 members; a number we last achieved sometime in 2013.

Why has this happened? What has changed?

From my travels around the District, visiting those clubs where large increases in membership have been achieved, a number of things stand out. **Consider ...**

**What makes a good Rotarian?** I have a simple definition. Good Rotarians pay their fees and contribute as they are able. Growing Clubs accept that pressures on peoples' lives mean their ability to contribute will change from time to time. Growing Clubs accept members for what they are able to contribute; not for how often they are able to attend meetings.

**Attendance versus Service.** At PETS last year, I spoke to the Presidents Elect and advised them that I would not collect information on meeting attendance. My reasoning was that we attend meeting for our own benefit; we do service for our communities benefit. While our Rotary attendance is important to us, we don't need to measure it; what is important is the time we put into doing good in our communities. Growing Clubs understand this and are focussing outwardly, not inwardly. Growing Clubs have fun in service.

**Community involvement.** I am often concerned when I hear comments in Clubs concerning the 'economic value' of doing certain projects. While raising funds is important for us to do much of our work, more important is the need for us to become part of the fabric of our community.

Recently I was at Bungendore Rotary, where their emphasis has been on assisting other organisations in the area to raise funds for their community projects. As a result, the Club is becoming well-known as good community citizens and, this year, they've increased their membership from 16 to 25 ... with more to come.

I am also reminded of Jerrabomberra Rotary and their support for the MS Megaswim that raises no money for Rotary, but greatly supports MS sufferers, raising the profile of Jerrabomberra Rotary in Queanbeyan and the District.

On the other hand, Berrima District Rotary harnessed the community for its GaolBreak project in January and netted around \$90,000 in three days ... but you have to inform, involve and share.

Isn't it amazing what we can achieve if no-one cares who gets the credit!

**Active membership program.** There is no doubt the 'Yass Model', championed by District Membership Chair Judy Ford, is having a big impact on recruiting campaigns. Those Clubs that have adopted the model and applied it diligently are reaping great benefits. Cooma, Tumut and Yass provide any testimony that may be needed. I hope others will consider following, check page 6 of this edition. But whatever your program, any growing Club will tell you it's something you need to work constantly towards ... it doesn't just happen.

**Retention.** I have said many times, in Rotary we don't have a recruiting problem; we have a retention problem. The very fact that ten years ago we were an organisation of 1.2 million Rotarians, and today we are still an organisation of 1.2 million people speaks volumes, because during those ten years we have recruited over one million Rotarians ... and lost the same number. Growing Clubs realise that members, especially new members, must be involved and valued. Otherwise, they will quickly become disenchanted and vote with their feet. Growing Clubs regularly survey their membership to see what is required, and act on the results of the responses. Growing Clubs ensure that new members are mentored and involved in the fabric of the Club ... not left to fend for themselves.



***Nothing wrong with a little silliness,  
Parrotheads! Denise and Rowley  
Tompsett***

***continued on next page ...***

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**A final thought.** When Denise and I were in Lisbon at the Rotary Convention a couple of years ago, we got to talking—as you do at Conventions—with a Rotarian from the United Kingdom. She told us of an innovation in her Club designed to involve new members immediately they are inducted.

The Club sets aside £1,000 for each new member (budgeted on previous recruiting experience). On induction, the new Rotarian is offered the £1,000 to support any cause about which they are passionate.

It may be to simply provide a cash donation, but new Rotarians are encouraged to use the funds as seed money for a project in the field of their passion.

They might form a small sub-committee within the Club to initiate and pursue a new project, or they might choose to join an established project and use the funds there.

Whatever their choice, the new Rotarian is immediately involved and knows that Rotary will support them in following their passion; a win-win for both the Club and the Rotarian.

So you see, it's not only about the money ... but sometimes it does help!

## // MEMBER BENEFITS PROGRAM UNVEILED //

**From RI Weekly, 12 June 2015, by Ryan Hyland Rotary News**

RI President K.R. Ravindran introduced a member benefits program at the 9 June closing session of the 2015 RI Convention, saying that many more hands are needed to continue Rotary's work around the world.



The program, **Rotary Global Rewards**, aims to boost membership and enhance member satisfaction. It will debut on 1 July.

"Hundreds of businesses and service providers, from around the world and that number is growing, will offer Rotarians discounts and concessions on the everyday business that you do. And, in many cases, not only will you benefit, but our Foundation will as well, by receiving a contribution with each transaction.

It will be another way to benefit from being a Rotarian and being part of the Rotary network, I urge all of you to become a part of that scheme." said Ravindran.

The program will include discounts on car rentals, hotels, dining, and entertainment. Discounts on more products and services from companies worldwide are expected to be added throughout the year.

**FYI: There is one change in the 2015-16 RC and ARC Team: ARC PDG Jodie Sparks, D9455 and 9465, has replaced PDG Colin Thorniley. Jodie's Bio on page 6.**

**All past editions of the "Rotary on the Move" Newsletter can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#)**

**If you wish to receive an electronic copy of this Newsletter, or you know of someone who would like to receive one, please email the editor; Issa Shalhoub [shalhoubissa@shoal.net.au](mailto:shalhoubissa@shoal.net.au)**

## ROTARY COORDINATOR TEAM

2015 - 16  
Zone 8 and 7B

**Zone 8;** Australia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and Nauru.

**Zone 7B;** New Zealand, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Vanuatu, American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Tonga and Samoa.

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