



RAGAMS Newsletter January, 2021

“Rotarians can make a difference” Together, Rotarians, families and friends, are stronger than MS. Our ultimate goal is to bring the world together to improve the quality of life of everybody affected by MS and to end MS forever.

Hope you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year festivities, Rotary meetings have started again and we are thinking about tasks for the next 6 months.

MS Australia

- We reached out to Professor Trevor Kilpatrick at Florey Institute, Melbourne and discussed MS research progress.
- The Jacob Taurins Memorial top up PhD Scholarship recipient Vivian Li started her research work at Florey Institute and is doing well. We shall set up a Zoom meeting at the Rotary Club of Gisborne so Vivian can share her progress with Rotarians.
- RAGAMS will participate the Victorian MS 5K walk/run event. Also Refer MSIF events.
- MS Researchers asking for direct donations to support their projects
- The Kiss goodbye program is now an International program. Refer MSIF.
- MSA have allocated \$2.9 million for research projects as per social media posts.
- RAGAMS to identify an appropriate Research project.
- Trevor suggested our group members could meet with him to discuss potential research projects.
- Bunnings have started community fundraising Sausage sizzles again and we have requested a booking a date.
- MS Global Dinner will be planned for May, 2021.
- Pending Covid, RAGAMS will be present at D9800 Assembly, Conference etc.

International:

- WWW.rotary-ragmsa.org and Facebook upgraded to comply with Rotary branding.



- Taiwan RI Convention cancelled due to Covid. RAGAMS will participate with a virtual exhibition Booth.
- RAGAMS (India D3190). Status from Shankar below: Dear Martin, “The first half of the year has been very slow due to COVID and various other technical challenges we have in the slowness of making all the back end documentation required for us to operate as a legal establishment. I am positive that we should have a bank account running soon post which we can start working on creating awareness within Rotary circles. As Multiple Sclerosis is a rarer disease in these parts compared to other bigger diseases like Cancer, TB etc. We will have an uphill task first in creating awareness within Rotarians. My primary goal would be to reach as many Rotarians as possible over the next few months through awareness talks”.
- Investigating participation in Africa Virtual Health Fairs Participation. Follow up - PP Lina Lugheresia, Rotaract Club of Ngong Hills D9212 Kenya and Co-ordinator Intarconnect.
- Subject to Covid, consider resumption of fledgling MS Vocational training exchange. Possibly US Virgin Islands, India, Philippines and Kenya Africa,
- Continue pursuing interested Rotary clubs to partner with MS projects with RAGAMS and MSIF www.msif.org.
- Identify more Country managers and invite to Zoom Meetings.

