



100 Peace Poles – 100 Years

Celebrating the Centenary of the Rotary Club of Adelaide and Rotary in South Australia 2023-2024



A Century of Service Since 1924

100 PEACE POLES ~ 100 YEARS OF ROTARY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Peace Pole program had its beginnings in 1955. You can now find Peace Poles in close to 200 countries with more than 200,000 placed around the world.

To recognise the centenary of Rotary in South Australia, Rotary Clubs and Rotary members are aiming to donate 100 Peace Poles to schools, community groups and not for profit organisations.

Peace Poles are set into the earth, with the Universal Peace Message 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' written on each side in four languages. They symbolise our common wish for a world at peace. They stand as a silent vigil, reminding us to think and act in the spirit of peace.

In Australia, the Rotary Peace Pole project began with an idea of Rotary member Michael Rabey and the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin. The idea was one of several initiatives to celebrate the centenary of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand in 2020-2021. The Rotary Club of Adelaide is continuing this legacy by inviting schools, Rotary Clubs, community organisations and businesses in South Australia to join together and celebrate the 100 years of Rotary in South Australia (2023-2024). Importantly the aim is help spread the message of peace across our state and throughout the world. It is a reminder that peace begins in our hearts, our homes and our communities.

100 WORLD PEACE DAY CEREMONIES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Once the Peace Pole is installed then you are invited to participate in Peace Pole ceremony. We suggest a short ceremony at the Peace Pole where Rotary Clubs could send members to deliver a peace message to students, the organisation or community group. In addition, the Universal message 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' could be recited in each of the four languages selected to go on the Peace Pole. An example of a Peace Pole ceremony for schools and organisations can be found on page 7 of this handbook.

The words of the Chinese Philosopher Laozi could also be recited. The words were used by the Rotary International President Herb Brown in 1995/96 as part of his theme on peace. The Words of Laozi are included on the next page.

Words of Laozi

If there is to be Peace in the world,
there must be Peace between nations.

If there is to be Peace between nations
there must be Peace between cities.

If there must be Peace between cities,
there must be Peace between neighbours.

If there must be Peace between neighbours,
there must be Peace in the home.

If there must be in the home,
there must be Peace in the heart.

Yearly ceremony at the Peace Pole

Each year the United Nations [International Day of Peace](#) is observed around the world on 21 September. A special message is made available by the United Nations Secretary-General leading up this day of observance. A Rotary member could be invited to recite this peace message at the Peace Pole each year.



JOIN THE PEACE ROUTE

By joining the Rotary South Australia Centenary Peace project you will automatically become part of a planned Peace Pole trail across the city centre and extending out to all other Rotary Peace Pole locations across the state.



This Peace Pole is located at a yoga studio in the Adelaide Hills

ORDERING AND COST

The Peace Poles are ordered through the Rotary Club of Adelaide and come complete with bespoke inscribed plaques attached. Each pole is numbered 1 to 100 with a plaque to recognise the 100 years of Rotary in South Australia. The donor Rotary Club's name is also included.

The poles are 90x90mm x 2400mm in length and are white. They are made of 90% recyclable PVC or hollow aluminium.

The 4 languages chosen are often based on the cultural heritage of the owner or group or focussed on the historical or current conflict regions of the world.

If a timber pole is preferred, you can buy your own cypress poles at a timber or hardware store. The inscribed plaques are then ordered through Rotary Adelaide. To complete the timber Peace Pole the top is to be cut on a 45 - degree angle on each side. The pole should be stained with marine varnish and then the plaques attached to the pole. This work

could be done by Rotary members or by a school woodwork class or volunteers.

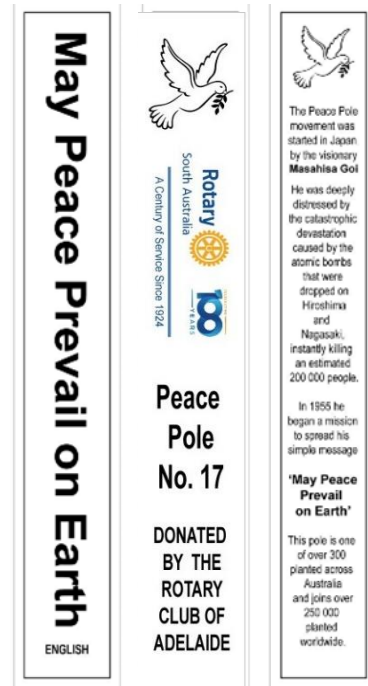
The completed PVC Rotary Peace Pole cost is around \$200 plus GST plus delivery. Aluminium Peace Poles are about \$320 plus GST plus delivery.

The Peace Pole comes with 4 plaques in 4 languages plus a Rotary SA Centenary and donor plaque. A peace pole explanation decal is also attached. See example images to the right.

PLACING AN ORDER

To order a Rotary Peace Pole(s) or to make an enquiry please email secretary@adelaiderotary.com.au

When ready to order, please include the 4 languages you would like the words May Peace Prevail on Earth to be on your Peace Pole, 1 being English.



We aim to have your Peace Pole delivered within 2 weeks from order.

CREATING A PEACEFUL PLACE

We suggest you place your Peace Pole in an area that provides an opportunity for children and adults to reflect and feel at peace. You may like to plant a tree alongside it, such as a native tree with shade, and add seating close by, like a bench or large rock.

You could add a QR code to the pole, which when scanned, will take observers to examples of how you or others are promoting peace. It could link to a Rotary website where everyone can learn about the many humanitarian and peace projects being done across the state and the world. Observers will realise how citizens young and old are actively promoting peace within their communities.

SPONSORSHIP

If you are a Rotary Club, business or individual who would like to sponsor a Peace Pole in your community please get in touch and we can help assist you with this.

BENEFITS

If 100 Rotary clubs, schools, businesses or community organisations get involved, that could mean thousands of South Australians of all ages would receive the peace message.

By partnering with Rotary, you work with people who help solve some of the world's most complex and pressing problems. This takes real commitment and vision. Rotary members believe that we share a responsibility to take action to improve our communities. Together, we can make an even bigger impact.

The 100 Peace Poles centenary project promotes the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace. It provides a unique opportunity for Rotary Clubs to connect with schools, businesses and organisations in their local areas. It offers the opportunity for ongoing engagement and participation with one another such as connecting each year for a peace ceremony on the International Day of Peace on 21 September.

OTHER RESOURCES

Rotary Adelaide and all Rotary Clubs have additional resources to help build peace. Please contact us for further details.



Contact

Rotary Club of Adelaide

Phone: 0427 479 498

Email: secretary@adelaiderotary.com.au

Website: [Rotary Club of Adelaide Inc \(adelaiderotary.com.au\)](http://Rotary Club of Adelaide Inc (adelaiderotary.com.au))

ROTARY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA (DISTRICT 9510)

With over 80 Rotary and Rotaract Club's across our district, there is one near you. Visit the Rotary 9510 District webpage at [Home Page | District 9510 \(rotary9510.org\)](#)

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

[Rotary International](#) is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.



Photo: Peace Pole #1 installed at the Adelaide Oval in June 2023

Peace Pole Ceremony - “May Peace Prevail on Earth”

Suggested for schools and suitable for any community group

Welcome MC

We are gathering today to reaffirm our commitment to Peace locally and globally and especially in our relationship with each other and in our community.

Acknowledgement of Country by student

For thousands of years Aboriginal people have walked this land, on their own country as custodians to their earth mother.

Their unbroken relationship with the land and sea was and remains to be at the centre of their lives.

We acknowledge the ----- people, those of the past, the present and the future, and, with gratitude and respect, we recognize their continued relationship, custodianship and their bond of this land and sea throughout the ages.

Opening comments

Peace Pole Info/ History MC

We will share some Peace Pole information and history.

To mark the Centenary of the Rotary Club of Adelaide and Rotary in South Australia, we have set a goal to spread the message of peace with 100 Peace Poles donated to 100 schools and organisations. This goal has been achieved through collaboration with schools, organisations, businesses and Rotary clubs around South Australia.

Student 1

The Peace Pole program which had its beginnings after the Second World War in 1955, was developed by the World Peace Prayer Society Founder, Masahisa Goi. Now, more than 250,000 Peace Poles stand in approximately 200 countries around the globe, symbolizing the common wish for a world at peace.

Student 2

Peace Poles are marked with the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in at least four languages, standing in silent vigil for peace and acting as a reminder for all to think and act in the spirit of peace.

Student 3

This Peace Pole stands as a constant reminder of the need for peace. Each year we hope that the school will continue to hold this annual ceremony at our Peace Pole. In doing so we join with Rotary and other peace pole schools as messengers of Peace to all of Australia.

Reflection

Student 4: If there is to be peace in the world, there must be peace between nations.

Student 5: If there is to be peace between nations, there must be peace in the cities.

Student 6: If there is to be peace in the cities, there must be peace between neighbours.

Student 7: If there is to be peace between neighbours, there must be peace in the home.

Student 8: If there is to be peace in the home, there must be peace in the heart

Student 9: These words were written by the Chinese philosopher Laozi over 2500 years ago. Laozi teaches that we should live a simple life that is filled with goodness and integrity. Even though he wrote this message thousands of years ago it is one that is very important and still valid for all of us today. These words were also used by the Rotary International President Herb Brown in 1995/1996 as part of his theme of Peace for his presidential year.

Message for the International Day of Peace Ceremony from the Secretary General of the United Nations read by Rotary member

A Rotary Club member could be invited to read the peace message. This message is made available by the United Nations each year leading up to the International Day of Peace which is held on 21 September each year.

The Peace Pole Message “May Peace Prevail on Earth”

Four students each read one side of the Peace Pole, to be read in language as displayed on the Peace Pole

Student 11 Side One Language English

Student 12 Side Two Language

Student 13 Side Three Language

Student 14 Side Four Language

National Anthem

All sing the National Anthem to conclude the Peace Pole ceremony.

MC

Thank you for participating in our ceremony today and a special thanks to <add names>

We are called to remember to always act from a place of Peace and Kindness.

May peace prevail on earth