



# Rotary Scholars 2021/22 hosted by District 1090

[www.rotaryfoundation1090.org](http://www.rotaryfoundation1090.org)

For this academic year, The Rotary Foundation is funding 29 scholarships for graduate students studying in the Thames Valley.

One graduate is studying in Reading, the others in Oxford.

A quick analysis shows:

- 11 DPhils, 18 Masters
- 11 countries, 4 continents
- 26 D1090 clubs hosting the graduates
- 16 different languages spoken (estimate) incl sign language

All their subjects support at least one of the seven Rotary Areas of Focus .



Peacebuilding and conflict prevention



Disease prevention and treatment



Water, sanitation and hygiene



Maternal and child health



Basic education and literacy



Community economic development



Supporting the environment



**Sammi BENNETT**

**USA**



Sponsor: District 5495 Scottsdale AZ

Host club: Gerrards Cross and Chalfont St Peter

University of Oxford – Green Templeton College  
MPhil Development Studies

Dept of International development



For my thesis I shall study the gender-energy nexus, investigating women's participation in cooperative groups within community and global energy transitions. Conducting participatory research on women's experience of agency in the context of energy access and entrepreneurial roles. To delve into questions of gendered identity and power and how they function within social structures like the home and workplace. Also the space that agroecology offers women in achieving food sovereignty.



**Sam LONI**

**Australia**



Sponsor: District 9800 Albert Park VIC

Host club: Bourne End & Cookham

University of Oxford – Christ Church  
MBA

Saïd Business School



Sustainable development should be the most urgent goal in the World as it offers a more systematic, prosperous, and just approach to social progress and community economic development. The Oxford MBA equips graduates with the knowledge, skills, and networks that enable people to become more effective leaders in supporting the global sustainability transition, which will benefit our communities, our economy, our environment, and future generations.



**Max NATHANSON**

**USA**



Sponsor: District 5450 Denver Northeast CO

Host club: Reading Abbey

University of Oxford – St Antony's College  
DPhil Enterprise + Environment

Smith School of Enterprise and Environment



I shall be exploring the politics of economic development in the USA. One concept is to depoliticise development another to allow power, albeit irrational, to control development. My qualitative research will compare a variety of outcomes, by involving small businesses, labour leaders, community activists at all levels

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of government. The final thesis will help to improve future economic development processes



**Annika THEODOULOU**

**Australia**

Sponsor: District 9520 Murray Bridge SA



Host club: Misbourne Matins

University of Oxford – St Catherine’s Hall

DPhil Evidenced Based Healthcare

Nuffield Dept of Primary Care Health Services



My research interests are focussed on evidence synthesis, and on interventions for smoking cessation and weight management. Through my doctoral research, I am exploring socioeconomic inequalities in smoking cessation behaviours and outcomes. Alongside my studies, I also work as a Systematic Reviewer for the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine and the Cochrane Tobacco Addiction Group at the University of Oxford on research aiming to improve health through behaviour change.