



## District Governor David's Report

Rotary International President Ravi Ravindran this year asked us all to ***"Be a Gift to the World"***. What an inspired theme for 35,000 Rotary clubs around the world to base their service projects upon. President Ravi also asked us to maintain the fight to eradicate polio. We as a movement are all so proud that the fight to eradicate polio is now almost complete.

The end of each Rotary year provides a time of reflection. Personally I have been inspired by the leadership of our International President Ravi. He is a humble, intelligent and highly strategic leader and we should all thank him for his dedication to the task.

In our District we too have much of which to be proud. In their own way every club has delivered their gifts to the world. Every club has made a positive difference to the lives of others. In partnership with our Rotary Foundation our clubs have been able to deliver all kinds of humanitarian assistance to communities that are better off for our support.

The unprecedented level of District Foundation Grants, made possible through such strong financial support of the Foundation in our District three years ago, have enabled clubs to extend or enhance their gift giving.

Clubs are confidently facing the challenges of the future of Rotary. The recent enactments of the Council on Legislation will give clubs greater flexibility in how they position their own club to meet the demands of future sustainability. Regrettably, the future within our district will have three less clubs: Aspendale; Braeside and the "e" Club of Greater Melbourne, have all resolved to return their Charter and cease operating.

Whilst we are sad to lose these clubs we acknowledge with gratitude the contribution that each of these clubs made to the humanitarian programs of Rotary during their existence.



During this year I asked clubs to concentrate on a few areas of community engagement. The major area was domestic violence, or as it is now more correctly termed, Family Violence. It has been most pleasing to see such positive community awareness programs in elevating this issue. Many clubs, or clusters of clubs, have taken this theme on board and the programs which have been undertaken will continue into future years.

An extension of family violence is the issue of elder abuse and I believe that with the assistance of Rotary that the awareness level within our communities will be raised on this most serious issue.

Another serious issue of concern to our communities that our clubs addressed was young driver road safety. Again it is most pleasing to see an increased number of clubs becoming involved with their local secondary schools in undertaking the program offered by Road Safety Education. Again, this is an area where continuing activity can be undertaken further strengthening our relationships with our local schools.

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A challenge was issued for clubs within our District to raise sufficient funds to be able to send an Interplast Team to a needy part of the Pacific to carry out their extraordinary restorative surgical magic whilst at the same time leaving a sustainable legacy by training the local medical folk in the latest techniques.

I am so proud of our clubs that we did better than fund one team: we will send a fully funded team to Fiji in 2017 and have enabled a team to Samoa in late '16 by providing the 50% shortfall that was preventing the team's program. Well done and thanks to all clubs and individuals that contributed to this outcome.

During my round of official visits I made an emphasis on building our connections with Rotaract and extending the existing network of clubs.

Additionally I also encouraged clubs to look at the prospect of starting Interact Clubs at their local schools. It is pleasing to see the groundwork has now been laid for the potential chartering of new Rotaract Clubs and several possible new Interact Clubs. A strong and effective network of Rotaract clubs is an essential strategy for the future of Rotary.

The recent Council on Legislation has smoothed the way for our two organisations to work together in much greater harmony by allowing dual membership for our Rotaractors.

Each organisation must see the value in helping each other in their pursuits and the dividend will be mutual membership growth. The relationship at District level between our two organisations is both effective and strong.

Rotary is a dynamic organisation: it should not and does not stand still. The annual cycle brings forward opportunities for positive reflection and ambitious expectation.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all those club and District leaders that have contributed their time, talents, attributes and passion to deliver such positive outcomes.

We must now of course look forward with enthusiasm to enhance our offering to ensure that our communities will say that ***Rotary is Serving Humanity***.

Alison and I wish Carol Lawton and her team every encouragement to pursue this ideal under the leadership of Incoming RI President John Germ. There is much to look forward to. Next year we will all celebrate the centenary of The Rotary Foundation and acknowledge the wonderful history of success

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This is the final edition of the DG's Newsletter for DG David Tolstrup in 2015-16. I trust you have all found the Newsletters to be interesting and informative.

**Geoff Limmer - Editor DG's Newsletter**

delivered in those 100 years. And of course in 2017-18 the prospect of having the Rotary International President as a member of a club within our District is one which fills us all with pride.

We all wish Ian and Juliet Riseley safe travels as they undertake this most vital role. There will be a strong contingent of D9810 members in Toronto in June '18 to support you both as you chair the International Convention.

In thanking every single Rotarian for their contribution Alison and I would also like to thank you all for your friendship, kindness and hospitality as we moved around the district. You have all certainly ensured that we both enjoyed our special year of service and had a year to remember.

My final word of thanks goes to Geoff Limmer who tirelessly puts these District newsletters together. I firmly believe that the productions have been of an extremely high standard. I know that Geoff would want me to thank Brian Martin for assisting him with the production of this fine publication.

Farewell and may I encourage you all to strive to continue in your pursuit of providing ***Service Above Self***.

**DAVID TOLSTRUP**  
**District Governor 2015-16**

## Awards presented at Changeover Presidential Citations:

These awards are made by RI President Ravi Ravindran made in accordance with the pre-determined criteria and the progressive reporting process carried by each club by virtue of *Rotary Club Central*. There are three levels of award with Gold recognising 100% compliance with the stated goals as set by President Ravi. Silver and Bronze awards are made to clubs who almost fully satisfied the criteria but fell short in one of two areas respectively.

**Gold**– only two in Australia

- Croydon
- Montrose and District

**Silver**

- Forest Hill

**Bronze**

- Box Hill

**Rotaract Award**

- Rotaract Club of Monash

## District Awards:

District Recognitions are presented in three categories to reflect the philosophy of the RI Strategic Plan. The categories are:

Club Building, Club Projects and Club PR and Communications. Should a club receive recognition in all three categories they receive:

Outstanding Rotary Club in 2015-16

The aim of the recognition system is to acknowledge all suitably qualified clubs in each recognition category rather than one winner for each avenue of service. Each category has its own selection criteria which is clearly set out and these criteria form the basis of the following recognitions being presented.

## Outstanding Rotary Clubs

**Croydon**

- Club Building
- Club Projects
- Club PR and Communications

**Emerald and District**

- Club Building
- Club Projects
- Club PR and Communications

## General Awards

**Fern Tree Gully**

- Club Building
- Club Projects

**Box Hill**

- Club Projects
- Club PR and Communications

**Bayswater**

- Club Projects
- Club PR and Communications

**Rowville – Lysterfield**

- Club Projects
- Club PR and Communications

**Boronia**

- Club Projects

**Healesville**

- Club Projects

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## Special Rotary International Award

### Rotarian Spouse/Partner Service Award

- For demonstrating exemplary humanitarian service through Rotary.
- There can be only one recipient per year per District.
- The recipient must not be a Rotarian.

This year's Award goes to **Jill Richards**.



- Jill has met the requirements of this award through:
- Leading role in organising teams to participate in National Immunisation Days.
- Participated in numerous NIDs.
- Inspiration behind the establishment of the provision of sanitation facilities in Moradabad, India, encouraging various other clubs to support the Foundation Grant project.
- Organised funding for a bus to complement the work being undertaken by the mobile health clinics in Moradabad, India.
- Staunch supporter of PDG Bob for many years and in last twelve months in particular.

## Schools ANZAC Services

This year five district clubs conducted School ANZAC Services.

The five clubs were:

- Dingley
- Hampton
- Monash
- Ringwood
- Templestowe  
(excelled with over 900 Students attending).

Over the past 10 years District Governors have encouraged clubs to arrange these services so that School Students are able to participate and be aware of the importance of ANZAC Day which commemorates the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops on the shores of Gallipoli at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915 in present day Turkey.

The Australian and New Zealand soldiers were part of a largely British force that also contained troops from France, India, and Newfoundland. ANZAC stands for Australia New Zealand Army Corps.

The RC Templestowe is to be commended on its efforts in arranging over 900 students to attend their event.

Meanwhile RC Hampton managed to achieve a turnout of over 300 students from Bayside Schools.

The President of the Hampton RSL, Peter Lanigan said: *"The outcome for this Anzac Day project will benefit local schools, students and the community and we look forward to it being an ongoing feature in the local calendar."*



# Vuni Primary School

Cyclone Winston devastated Fiji in February 2016.

The facts: - 9,173 houses were completely destroyed  
16,757 houses were damaged 29,000 more were partially damaged. 62 schools were destroyed 288 schools were damaged. Cost to Fiji 2 Billion Dollars.



The Rotary Club of Boronia, District 9810 reports that they wish to add their support to the Rotary Club of Deloraine District 9830 and Vunikavikaloa School. Big plans are underway to return their school to normal.



Temporary classrooms are crowded and hot and sticky. This is not a good learning environment in the heat and wet of Fiji. The children need their classrooms and toilets back.



Even though living in tents the children come to school in clean uniforms.



Below are members of the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji. They are on their way to repairing the school Andra Lazarescu ( the project initiator front row second from the right ) was also the supplier of those much enjoyed icy poles.



**Project Costs – Phase 1** - Temporary Roofing Work has started on site – 9/5/2016 Materials \$2015.00 FJD Labour \$ 589.00 FJD Transportation \$ 400.00 FJD Site Works \$ 150.00 FJD Total for Phase 1 \$3154.00 FJD or \$2200.00 AUD Money has been raised to start Phase 1.

**Project Costs – Phase 2** - Complete Rebuild Fundraising is continuing Materials \$70,900.00 FJD Labour \$11,250.00 FJD Transportation \$ 400.00 FJD Site Works \$ 150.00 FJD Total for Phase 2 \$82,700.00 FJD or **\$54,000.00 AUD**

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# Vuni Primary School

# District Changeover 2016



Financial Assistance is desperately needed. No overheads are charged – 100% of all money goes to the people. Tax Deductibility for Donations is available via Rotary Australia World Community Service - RAWCS RAWCS Web Site project 46-2015-16

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/Default.aspx?ProjectID=928>

Include the words "Please allocate my donation to The Vunikavikaloa Arya School - Fiji Restoration Project" in your donation to ensure the funds go to this project. The Children of Vunikavikaloa Arya School and the People of Fiji wish to thank all who assist with this project which commenced March 2016.



# Big Red Kidney Bus revs up

The Big Red Kidney Bus, is a mobile dialysis unit which visits holiday spots across Victoria and hopes to expand.

The Services of Kidney Health Australia (KHA) are in high demand.



Recently representatives from the Rotary Club of Croydon went to Dysons Bus Lines in Bundoora.

They were to be introduced to their Big Red Kidney Bus. They were expecting a retired school bus. They stopped at the coach in the picture. It was a 2003 Volvo/Denning bus. Had Dysons made a mistake? There was no mistake.



Funding necessary for this project was **\$152,100** These funds for the bus were raised by a variety of contributors including:

BusVictoria with Dysons, Monash Health Renal Nurses and Technicians, KHA staff who take the bookings, and the driver who drives the BRKB. Rotary Foundation World Fund \$63,600 District Distributed Funds of \$38,700 Rotary Club of Doncaster \$10,000 Rotary Club of Subang D3300, DDF from D9810, D3300 Malaysia and D4470 in Brazil US \$1,000.

Plans were drawn up to fit out the bus and dimensions taken for wheelchair lift placement etc.

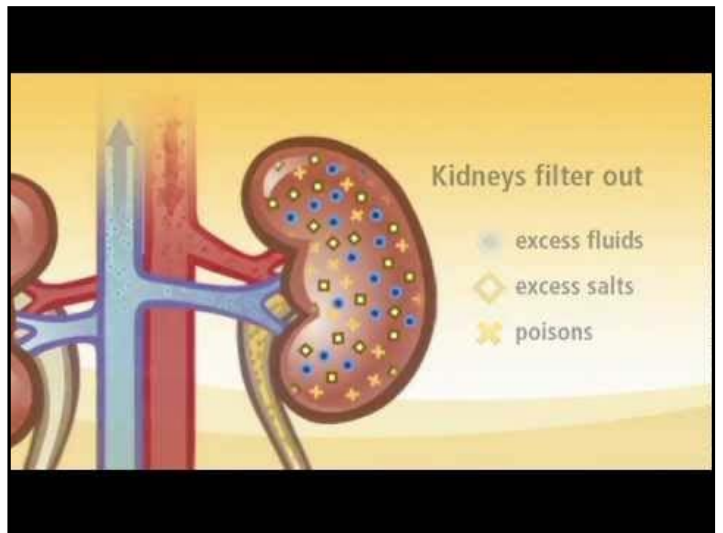
Planned layout of inside of bus.



Croydon's dream at the start of this Rotary year has become a reality. There has also been a large amount of community interest in the project. The accord between Rotary, KHA and Monash Health is a fantastic example of community working together.

The launch of the bus is planned for September at Parliament House.

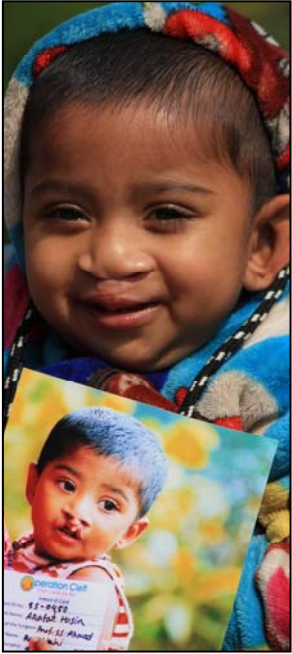
Our club is very happy and wish to thank everyone involved in making the Big red kidney bus possible.





## RC Box Hill Central's international project completes 10,275 cleft repairs

The RC of Box Hill Central is very active internationally and one of its major international projects is *Operation Cleft* that provides cleft repair surgery to disadvantaged children in Bangladesh.



The project, which is managed entirely by the club, has now funded over 10,275 cleft repair procedures using experienced in-country surgeons. Operation Cleft is supported by other Rotary clubs throughout Australia and overseas, and business and community organisations and private donors. This project has had a turnover of AUD \$2.38 million since inception.

Most district clubs would be aware of the project, but not many would know that it has completed so many cleft repairs.

Cleft repairs are carried out by local surgeons in Bangladesh and the cost of each operation is around AUD\$300. Personal and Corporate Gifts to the Fund are Tax Deductible. Also the club would welcome Financial Support from other clubs who see the benefit in changing the life of a needy child with the infliction of a cleft palate. Details of the club's project which is officially known as Operation Cleft Australia can be found on the Foundation's Website:

<http://www.operationcleft.org.au>

Operation Cleft is recognised as a Rotary Australia World Community Services partner and RAWCS as a registered OAGDS (Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme) is the partner through which we transfer project funds to Bangladesh.

### **Operation Cleft Australia has DGR Status (Deductible Gift Recipient)**

Operation Cleft Australia - ABN 36 063 471 446 is a public ancillary fund with DGR (item2) status. Private ancillary funds wishing to donate to Operation Cleft may do so via the RAWCS website at:

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/Default.aspx?ProjectID=4&ReturnTo=4>



**Before**



**After**

Rotary clubs have a commitment to International Service. Supporting Operation Cleft is a great way for clubs to honour that commitment no matter how small the club is.

Why not make Operation Cleft your international project? Any contribution, no matter how small, will make a huge impact on the life of an underprivileged child in Bangladesh.

**AUD\$300 will pay for surgery for 1 child.**

2 children – AUD\$600

4 children AUD\$1,200



## DISTRICT GOVERNOR PARTNER'S PROJECT Food Security for Indigenous Schoolchildren in the Kimberley Area

Thanks to the wonderful support of all the clubs in the District and other individuals, these indigenous children will have a future assured of the benefits of better nutrition.

Funds have been boosted recently by the generosity of District Conference poster purchasers, the Dingley Village Jewellery ladies, club end of year donations and further individual donations.

I am truly humbled and extremely appreciative of every donation and absolutely amazed at the total received.

I again say a huge Thank You to our whole District.

The total now stands at the whopping figure of \$28,000.

With the inclusion of the commitment from the Lindsay Cousens Trust of \$15,000 for the school garden for 2017, the value of the project is \$42,000 over a 2 year period.

\$15,000 will go to the Purnululu Independent Aboriginal Community School to fund a part time worker to maintain their community kitchen garden.

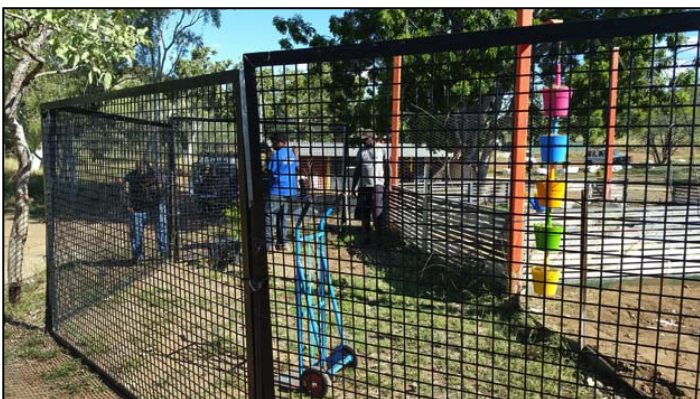
The commitment to fund this amount for a second year provides security of continuity of employment, as well as better ability to plan ahead for 2017.

They are in the process of setting up the garden now that the wet season has passed.

This photo shows yard workers extending the garden to plant fruit trees.

Looks like they have learned a lesson from last year's garden invasion by a cow!

You can follow the progress of the garden (and the school) on Facebook – Purnululu School.



Children eating healthy food produced in the garden

The \$13,000 balance will go to Feed the Little Children in Broome to help fund Healthy Food Fun, a program to teach the oldest child in the family how to provide healthy meals in a cost effective way. This training program is an extension to the emergency food relief FTLC provides. Already data is showing very impressive benefits for the children receiving meals from FTLC in the areas of illness (35% less hospitalisations) and theft (82% decrease). Very noteworthy improvements indeed.

Both recipients are amazed and so grateful for the large contributions we are able to give them. The following came from Corrie, the school Principal, but echoes the sentiments expressed by Feed the Little Children.

*"I am so thrilled you chose to raise funds for us.*

*We feel very lucky and will make the most of this gift from your community".*

These words are so very apt given this year's Rotary Theme of 'Be a gift to the world'.

In supporting this project you have all – *Been a Gift to the World* – I thank you most sincerely for the benefits you have given to these very needy children.

**Alison Tolstrup**

## Membership

Have you done your bit to increase Club Membership?  
Consider inviting a friend or work/business colleague to a club meeting to showcase what it means to be a Rotarian.

# Young Leaders Summit

Korea is a beautiful country, filled with an intriguing contrast of historic and futuristic structures, as well as colourful, bubbly people and a strong sense of pride and dedication.

We were lucky enough to visit Seoul at the end of May for the Young Leaders Summit, Rotaract PreConvention and RI Convention.

“Our Challenge – World Future and Rotary” was the stirring theme of YLS 2016. Aussie Rotaractors and young Rotarians attended in force and took part in the full-day seminar on the 27<sup>th</sup> May, which showcased leaders from around the globe presenting on their solutions to the main challenges facing the world.



It was a great learning experience to see what sustainable and integrative solutions were being implemented to support and empower communities.

Taking part in YLS also included an intensive program that spanned the five days following where we took part in Korean cultural learning, the Welcome Festival and the DMZ Tour.

The experience was like no other and allowed us to meet young leaders from around the world and share ideas with them.

Being amid the plethora of different cultures for Rotaract PreConvention and the RI Convention was exhilarating.

There are not many events on Earth where you can be surrounded by people from different countries who have been united under the common cause of serving humanity.

From the stalls in the House of Friendship to the many, varied break out sessions, there was a vast display of the ways Rotary is making a difference to the world through partnerships, hard work and compassion.

We are so grateful to Rotary District 9810 for supporting us in this adventure.

The experiences we had are beyond words and we look forward to sharing what we've learnt with you.

Aleksei Bodarenko-Edwards (Upper Yarra Rotary)

Tegan McWilliam (Monash Rotaract)

Bianca Lobo (Monash Rotaract)

