



Edition 4

February 2015

District Governor's Message

While we welcome in the new year, it's worthwhile reflecting that summer typically brings with it events that require the response of Rotary Clubs. Whether it be fire, floods or some other natural disaster, it typically occurs around this time of year.

If you haven't already done so, it's probably worth having the debate in your club about how you might respond to such events.

For example, if you had to run a fundraiser on short notice, would you be prepared?

How well connected are you to the corporate sponsors and philanthropists in your community?

Have you hosted them at an event recently to build relationships?

On the topic of tragic events, one can't help but be stunned by recent terrorism-inspired events globally. Now more than ever, Rotarians need to stand up and be counted in our communities as the voice of reason.

One of our core values is the promotion of peace and understanding, so let's take this opportunity to reach out to those in our community who may be feeling vulnerable or threatened.

On a happier note, it was very inspiring to hear Rotary International President Elect Ravi Ravindran launch of next year's theme "Be a gift to the world".

We look forward to hearing more about that from District Governor Elect David Tolstrup.

We're rapidly entering the final countdown to this year's District Conference, to be held in Ballarat on 13-15 March.

We have an outstanding cast of speakers for you, including past Rotary International President, Bill Boyd.

Themed around the Rotary Foundation's six areas of focus, the conference is designed to leave you with a smorgasbord of ideas on how your club can engage in each area of focus – our "Eureka Moments".

On the day prior to the Conference – Thursday 12th March – we're holding a Future Leaders Seminar, designed to help inspired Rotarians find ways to engage their club with their community. Don't miss this exciting opportunity.

On Australia Day I was very privileged to be awarded the 2015 Citizen of the Year for the City of Manningham.

The award was presented for my involvement in community service activities, both within and outside Rotary.

The award comes with an expectation that I will appear and speak on behalf of the various causes I represent at various events around our local community during the year.

I share this with you as one of many examples of how Rotarians can advocate for their communities.

We don't always have to serve our communities and bring change by writing cheques.

I encourage you to think about how your club engages with your local community.

Kathy and I wish you all a very successful 2015.

Tony Monley

2014-15 Governor,

Rotary District 9810, Victoria, Australia

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Editor Geoff Limmer rotary@airportbus.com.au

A NEW YEAR, A NEW MONTH

ROTARY ON THE JOB AT 8:00am DAY 1.

So what were you doing at 8am on New Year's Day? Having a "sleep in" was probably a priority for most of us!

Not so for the Rotarians from Box Hill Central - they were called in at short notice to do a Bunnings BBQ when another community group pulled out. A quick email to members and a bit of chasing around to get supplies and we were all sizzling.

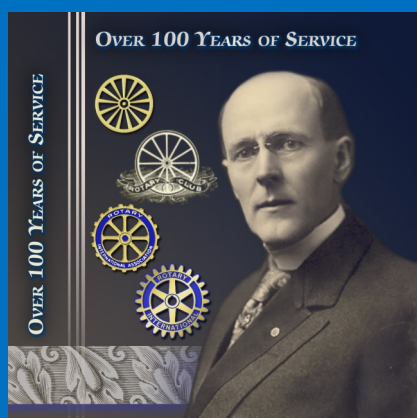
Predictably, the clients were thin on the ground for the first hour, with some of the earliest being groups of wide-eyed "youngsters" on the way home from the previous night's rave!

As the sales picked up, there was an air of "*bonhomie*" with all the customers, and "*keep the change*" was heard on a number of occasions, with one gentleman walking over, refusing a hot dog, but handing us \$10 and congratulating Rotary for all the hard work we do!

On the social side we all had a good time and the trade picked up markedly by mid-day and we were soon off buying more supplies!

Our hard work for the day will pay for three cleft operations and we thank Bunnings for their generosity in setting up the BBQ facilities for community groups to use.

Don Sweeney RC Box Hill Central



THE BOYS OF 1905

THE HISTORY OF ROTARY

To view the "ROTARY VIDEO THE BOYS OF 1905" click on the picture above.

Note: this will link you to a YouTube website.



ROTARIANS HELPING TO END CHILD SLAVERY

On Wednesday 19th November, 80 members and partners from the Whitehorse Cluster of Rotary Clubs and the Whitehorse and Monash Rotaract clubs gathered together with District Governor Tony Monley and Kathy, Assistant Governor Paul Mee and Adele and other guests to hear a presentation from Dr Gillian Yudelman on the topic of “Ending Child Slavery”.



The Whitehorse Clubs hosted the evening which was facilitated by the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central and Monash Rotaract under the auspices of The Rotarian Action Group against Child Slavery (RACSRAG).

Dr Yudelman outlined the nature and scope of modern day slavery, and spoke of her experiences with *Maiti Nepal*, an anti-slavery organization which works to fight against trafficking of Nepali girls and young women into the sex industry.

As well as rescuing trafficked victims, *Maiti* is helping educate the local people about the risks of being tricked into parting with their children on the promise of a better life through being moved to other cities and across borders, and is offering a new hope to the returned victims through rehabilitation, education and training.

Dr Yudelman, who is the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Bay View Claremont in District 9455, WA, is *Maiti Nepal*'s representative in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. She has supported a RAWCS project in Nepal to assist with the interception of trafficked women and children at the border and has been instrumental in achieving two matching grants for *Maiti Nepal*.

As a result of the evening, a donation of \$2,000.00 was made to *Maiti Nepal* on behalf of the Cluster Clubs.

The Rotarian Action Group against Child Slavery was initiated in 2009 by concerned Rotarians in UK and US. It gained formal recognition by the Board of RI in January 2013 and now has representatives in all Australian States as well as many countries around the world.

The Action Group held a breakout session at the Sydney RI Convention, which was attended by an estimated 300 people, as well as hosting a site in the House of Friendship. Its key objectives are to create awareness, especially among Rotarians, of the plight of children caught up in slavery, and to support, work with and promote anti-slavery bodies and activities worldwide with programs, campaigns and projects that help to protect children from slavery and its consequences.

The Global Slavery index published by Andrew Forrest's Walk Free Foundation estimates there are about 35.8 million people in slavery globally, including some 9 million children who are ill-treated and denied their basic rights of a childhood and an education.

More information about the Rotarian Action Group can be found on their website at www.racsrag.org or by contacting Tony Stokes, the Victorian Action Group Representative, at tony@racsrag.org.

Tony Stokes
Coordinator, Victoria
Rotarian Action Group against Child Slavery

MIDWIFERY TRAINING IN TIMOR LESTE

A 2011-12 JOINT DISTRICT PROJECT

An update from District 9810 PDG Partner, TRF Trustee, Ian Riseley and District 9820 PDG Partner Jill Hobby

Thanks to the generosity of many Rotary Clubs in Districts 9810 and 9820, individuals, and Inner Wheel Clubs, we are delighted to give you all this latest news on the progress and success of our Midwifery students in Timor Leste.

“Our girls” are currently in the second year of their nursing/midwifery course, and their academic and practical reports are very pleasing.

This program is fulfilling its aim from every aspect by hopefully contributing to the reduction of the maternal mortality rate, particularly in the remote villages of Timor Leste – our students’ “home territory”.

Our fund is servicing this project and we greatly appreciate the diligence of PDG James Webb (D9820) as its manager.

We warmly thank all those clubs and individuals who so generously contributed to this fund; but as we always say, the greatest thanks comes from the mothers and babies of Timor Leste.

For your interest, we are proud to show you some recent photographs of our students in action.

Jill and Ian



From The Editor's Desk



PDG Brian Martin's article in the last edition of the District Governor's Newsletter prompted considerable response through phone calls and brief comments on emails, along with a comprehensive note from PP Geoff Tickner from the RC of Hampton.

All responses were most positive.

The Rotary Club of Box Hill are to be congratulated on their splendid efforts in achieving such a high standard Project, as well as the way in which they promoted it to their Community.

The article has prompted PP Geoff Tickner to document and share his feelings and thoughts about his involvement in Rotary.

His article is printed in full below.

My Rotary Statement PP Geoff Tickner

Community Service was a discipline and pleasure enthusiastically undertaken by my father which in turn impressed me. Being a Cub Scout Leader and President of a Little Athletics Club was my introduction to community service. With my children becoming independent, I desired further interests and challenges.

I had to decline the first invitation to join a Rotary Club from a long time Rotary friend as its meeting times did not fit in with my busy work schedule. A second invitation from the same Rotary friend to join a new Club whose arrangements did meet my needs, saw me become a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Hampton. My Rotary journey had commenced.

In a new Club, everyone learned Rotary protocols. Information was shared. Support of each other was mandatory if we were to survive.

Our first project was small and community based but exceedingly successful. Other Clubs, both District and beyond, adopted it with enormous benefits far and wide. This one small project showed the strength and power of Rotary in its endeavours to assist those who are less fortunate, be it locally or abroad. One becomes aware of the multitude and scope of projects being undertaken by Clubs from a small Club project benefitting a few to the all-embracing Rotary International Project of eradicating polio in the world where all Rotarians assist in a variety of ways.

Looking for further challenges after completing my Presidential Year, I joined the District Group Study Exchange Committee where we sought young professionals wishing to expand their chosen career knowledge elsewhere in the world by visiting overseas countries and utilising the skills and business links of Rotarians there.

My greatest challenge and a project which gave me enormous satisfaction was to become the District representative for ShelterBox. My role with this magnificent project was to raise funds from clubs, Rotarians, organisations and the public by making presentations about how ShelterBox provided emergency shelter and basic living tools to those who had lost everything as a result of a natural disaster. For 5 years I lived and breathed this project. I was so committed to its success. Unfortunately, the success of the project also became its undoing when a power struggle at an international level saw major disagreements among Rotarians.

Being devastated with the situation I resigned from the project and put my efforts into projects controlled by the Rotary Club of Hampton.

Rotary has expanded my knowledge of wonderful and successful projects benefitting mankind anywhere in the world. It has introduced me to some outstanding people, many of whom remain friends today. I am delighted to be able to say that they like me are committed to the concept of service to those in need.

PP Geoffrey Tickner

Rotary Club of Hampton

January 2015

The Editor would welcome letters/emails from club members within District 9810.

SOAP AID AND THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHELSEA

PP KEVIN HARRISON

Approximately 2 years ago PP Kevin Harrison was approached by the CEO of SOAP AID asking what assistance Rotary could provide in source used soap, transporting and reprocessing the product and the subsequent delivery of the product to developing countries.

Kevin took the proposal to his club, the RC of Chelsea, and the club chose to come on board and make it a major club project.

Details of the project are set out below.



Why Soap Aid exists?

- Every day, thousands of hotels across the globe discard millions of pieces of soap that may have been used only once or twice.
- This soap often ends up in overflowing landfills and contaminates fragile groundwater systems.
- Soap Aid was born from a Melbourne family's 25 year involvement in the hotel amenities supply business and their own consciousness about their commercial impact on the environment and their desire to protect the global community from preventable hygiene related disease.

Soap Aid's mission

- There are two pillars underlying Soap Aid's mission:
 - (i) to save and improve the lives of children in disadvantaged communities throughout the world via the facilitation of improved hygiene practices around the use of soap; and
 - (ii) to contribute to a reduction in environmental degradation in Australia through soap recycling.
- Soap Aid is the only organisation who has this mission and conducts this work in Australia.

What's happening around our world today?

- 2.6 billion people are living without access to adequate sanitation. (Ref: World Health Organisation)
- More than half of the world's population is suffering from one of the many diseases related to poor sanitation. (Ref: UNICEF)
- 1.8 million children under the age of 5 die every year due to preventable hygiene related disease.
- Diarrhoea alone kills more children every year than AID's, Malaria and Measles combined.
- Millions of tonnes of waste soap from hotels is being tossed into landfills all over the world.



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- Rotary Club of Chelsea is supporting the Soap Aid program by assisting with the collection of waste soap from hotels across Melbourne, which is then dropped off at the Soap Aid re-processing facilities.
- That facility then recycles the soap into new re-usable bars, which are then distributed to families in need to help save lives from preventable hygiene disease.
- To accompany the delivery of the soap, appropriate educational materials regarding good hygiene and correct hand washing practices are required for the communities in need.
- Additionally, selected Rotary clubs in India have also partnered with the program to assist with the soap distribution and hygiene education in targeted communities in critical need.

In summary, Rotary's involvement and contribution to Soap Aid will include:

- Provision of information to Soap Aid in relation to the practical, logistical and cultural considerations critical to the success of the project.
- Overseeing the distribution of soap and education materials; establishing buy-in and engagement from those communities.
- Ensuring that the educational programs are implemented and practised.
- Arranging for safe and secure storage facilities in India.

WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS CELEBRATES

The big news is that 2015 will mark the production of our 30,000th wheelchair, which will mean that we have changed the lives of 30,000 children in more than 70 countries in our region of the world. The children are the primary beneficiaries but also the lives of all of their other family members, their siblings and their parents are changed giving them all new found freedom.

This is great news for the clubs within District 9810 that support Wheelchairs for Kids.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

How is your club progressing with new members?

Don't be caught out!

One Club is inducting 3 members in February!

With 5 months of the Rotary Year remaining would you like to be the only Club that didn't induct one or two new members.

Remember the words of Hawthorn Coach John Kennedy SNR.

DO SOMETHING!

PROBUS

Similarly to Rotary's District Assembly, Probus has training days for the purpose of providing management committee officers with valuable information relating to Probus matters to assist their club together with explaining the relationship between Rotary and Probus. Separate breakout sessions are arranged on the day to specifically address key committee positions. The day is essentially to impart information to their incoming management committee representatives.

Awards

In order to encourage member participation, Probus offers awards for various areas of expertise. These range from a National photographic competition, a holiday trip for two to New Zealand based upon a travel wish submission and a literary award.

The latter literary award has been named in honour of **Rotary International Past District Governor (District 9685) Paul Henningham, OAM**, who is the editor of numerous publications associated with Rotary and Probus. Paul Henningham was the first editor of *Probus News* and was also represented on the original Probus Information Centre committee and remains a member of Probus South Pacific Limited to date. He was also the founding editor of *Probus News*. The Paul Henningham Award recognises the role that Paul played in the establishment and development of *Probus News*.

This year a Victorian, Joyce Suto, was named the winner of the Paul Henningham Literary Award for a poem titled *Red Daisies*.

Joyce is a member of the Mitcham Orchards Probus Club and the award was presented to her at the Club's regular meeting by the Rotary District 9810 Probus Chairman, Robert Renshaw.



Koorie Academy of Excellence

District Governor's Partner's Special Project Update

Firstly, now that the Club Visits are complete, let me thank you all for your very kind donations.

So far, we've raised approximately \$15,150.

Remember, that you can still make donations and still contribute to the project by collecting used stamps.

In addition, we will be holding a fundraising event in the coming months.

Just to remind you, KAE is an organization established to help Victorian indigenous youth successfully complete secondary school and transition into tertiary and vocational education. With the funds we raise, we are establishing a scholarship fund targeted at helping these young people make it through their critical first year of post-secondary study.

We're currently working with KAE on the details, with a view to awarding the first scholarships at the beginning of the 2015 academic year.

It has been very exciting to learn that our initiative will become the foundation of a larger scholarship program that KAE are establishing, opening the door for Rotary to have a longer term involvement in this very worthwhile program.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Kathy Monley

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Congratulations to PDG Bob Richards OAM, awarded Medal of the Order of Australia, General Division, in the 2015 Australia Day Honours.

PROFILES OF CLUB MEMBERS WITHIN DISTRICT

A new item in the District Newsletter will be member profiles, especially new members. We are in the process of contacting all new members inducted since July last year.

What we ask of new members is some words of about 100—150 along with a good quality JPEG Photo.

We'd like to have name, club name, career details, family, hobbies, and the reason why they joined their Rotary club.

PROFILE OF JOHNATHEN CHAN



Jonathen Chan graduated from the University of Melbourne with Bachelor of Commerce and is currently studying Master of Professional Accounting in RMIT.

He used to work in HSBC back in Hong Kong as a Wealth Management Manager, now he focuses on relationship management as an Account Manager in IG Markets.

He enjoys going to the gym in his spare time as well as watching a movie and having a sip of good wine.

He joined RC Manningham mainly because of the intention of making new friends and partly due to the smile of Mr. Joady Barnes on Facebook.

PROFILE OF JANINE SCOTT



Janine's association with Rotary goes back to the 1970's when attending University she joined the Heidelberg Rotaract Club and was a member for eight years. It was here she met her husband Lynton and together they have raised three daughters, now adults.

Many weekends and nights were spent supporting a range of community activities, raising funds, liaising with the Rotary Club of Heidelberg, having fun and developing many strong friendships, many of which still exist today.

Janine's father, Noel Colliver, is a former Rotarian being a charter member of the Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale becoming President and a Paul Harris Fellow during his 25 years as a member.

The values of Rotary have always been important to Janine through the many stages of life including raising a family and in her career as an Occupational Therapist.

Janine has worked as a clinician in the area of disability, aged care and community health where she moved into management, fulfilling a range of management positions across many health areas. Janine is currently General Manager, Primary Health Care at Carrington Health (formerly Whitehorse Community Health Service), overseeing a range of allied health and dental services provided to the local community.

Janine's other interests include spending time with her family (she is looking forward to the birth of her first grandchild in March), walking Phoebe her "staffie" each morning, going to the football (a dedicated supporter of the Melbourne Football Club), visiting wineries, travelling and exploring the world with Lynton and good restaurants.

Janine had been considering joining Rotary when a work colleague, Olive Aumann, joined the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. After visiting RCBHC on Olive's invitation, and hearing about the amazing projects the club and its members are involved in, it was an easy decision to make in joining the Club.

Janine was inducted to RCBHC in October 2014 and is looking forward to being an active Club member.

PROFILE OF THOMAS DOCKING

Tom has managed a variety of community development projects during his university and graduate years before taking up a career with BHP Billiton in the Netherlands and then Singapore.



After a number of years in global account management roles in Singapore Tom took a year off, returned to Australia and married Katherine. He then went on to manage the Global BHP Billiton Account for PriceWaterhouseCoopers based in their Melbourne headquarters.

Tom graduated with a double degree - Bachelor of International Business and Bachelor Arts (Italian) from Swinburne University and Treviso University (Italy).

He is currently engaged in a number of business activities, including the establishment of his own consulting practice.

Tom has been involved in many volunteer activities including Youth Leadership and International community development documentaries and projects with aid agencies in Africa.

Tom speaks fluent Italian, He is a musician, who enjoys cycling, surfing, hiking and is a dedicated family man.

Tom is the founder of Dads Group Inc. which was developed in response to the great need that fathers have when becoming a dad. Dads Group Inc. is forming many close relationships with strategic partners including the four Rotary Clubs in the Manningham Cluster, YMCA Australia, Scouts Australia, Federal MPs, Bully Zero Foundation, AFL Victoria, City of Melbourne, City of Ringwood, City of Manningham, and other strategic corporate partners.

Tom is another new Member of the Rotary Club of Manningham.

PROFILE OF DR BRUCE WELLS



Bruce Wells, Ph.D, is a **happiness and wellness teacher, coach, and author**. His mission is to show people how they can enjoy happier and more productive lives by focusing on their strengths, adopting a positive outlook, learning to be fully engaged, and by developing more meaningful relationships.

With a doctorate in psychology and degrees in health promotion and physical education Bruce has worked in the stress management and wellness industries for 20 years providing wellness coaching services and speaking at conferences and delivering workshops to elite athletes, corporate clients, university-school teachers and students, and non-profit community organisations.

He recently published the book **Happiness Anywhere Anytime**. He provides the following presentations and workshops to corporate clients, schools, and community groups:

The Secrets of Happiness

6 Steps to Being Happy and Engaged at Work

5 Steps to a Happy Work-Life Balance

Resilience Strategies for Happy People

Preparing for Happiness in Retirement

7 Choices of Happy Thriving Teens

Bruce has three elder sisters and a mother who lives in Brisbane. Most of his primary schooling was spent in Malaysia while his secondary schooling was split between studying at Whitefriars College and boarding at Xavier College.

He has spent the last 25 years teaching across a range of settings and under a variety of conditions including teaching primary school, working as a motivation speaker, conducting week-long safaris through the outback, scuba dive instructing, working with business leaders in China, and teaching health and wellness courses in Saudi Arabia. When not actively teaching my other great passion is outdoor pursuits.

Bruce hopes to trek Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Bruce is one of several new members inducted by the Rotary Club of Doncaster.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE INBOUND STUDENTS 2015



The Rotary youth exchange program continues to provide outstanding personal development opportunities for those who participate each year. This year there are eight inbound students who thanks to their host club and host families are learning what it's like to be an Aussie.

For most it will be their first hot Christmas perhaps taking shade under a gum tree whilst most of the outbounds will be experiencing the opposite with some snow covering the Christmas tree before they return home a couple of weeks later.

The inbound students (pictured) will be attending the District Conference in Ballarat and then participate in the Bike Ride From Conference. Some are already in training for this whilst others are perhaps worrying about whether they will be fit enough.

The bike ride committee always makes sure that this is not a problem and the ride is a highlight of the student's year.

Now is the time for clubs to consider how they will be involved in this enormously rewarding youth development program. The district youth exchange committee is promoting this directly to schools particularly those with a language as part of its curriculum so as they may consider becoming involved directly with a club or clubs. The intent is to assist with host family resources in exchange for one of its students having an exchange to further their language skills.

The support of clubs is important to maximize the opportunity of a lifetime for as many students as possible.

FOREST HILL YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2014

Each year since 1978 the Rotary Club of Forest Hill has presented an 'unsung hero' award to one Year Six student at each of 12 primary schools in the south east of the City of Whitehorse.

The Youth Achievement Award, which is unique to the Club, is given to a student who, instead of standing out academically or in sport, has more likely been a role model to other students in alternate ways.

This award is unofficially called the 'unsung hero' award and since its inauguration 302 awards have been given.

The landmark 300th award went to Christopher Creasey Robinson from Vermont South Special School.

The 36th year awards were made at the Rotary Club of Forest Hill meeting on Monday November 24 at Buccatini's restaurant.

The speakers were Commonwealth Games swimmer Travis Mahoney, and national swimming star Libby Forbes - both members of the Nunawading Swimming Club.

Both Travis and Libby gave excellent presentations on the lives of swimmers competing at an international and domestic level and the commitment needed to become a champion. Their message of refusing to give in to setbacks was a wonderful incentive to the young achievers present.

Libby and Travis congratulated each awardee and presented them with a framed certificate and a \$50 voucher. The awardees' parents and grandparents were also present to share in their achievement.



