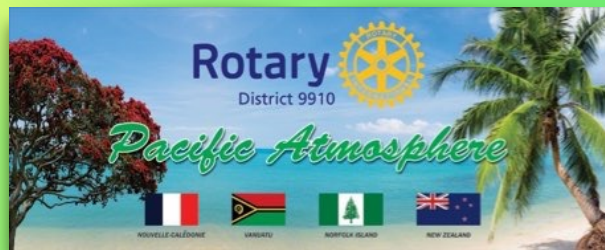




Peter & Reo Smith
Rotary Club of
Whangarei City

District Governor's NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017



PETER C. SMITH GOVERNOR
D9910 2016 — 2017

Res 09 435 1391

Bus 09 430 3186

Mob 021 430 316

pcsmith.rotary@gmail.com

PO Box 1357,
Whangarei 0140 NZ

DISTRICT DIARY EVENTS:

9910 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

21-23 April (See Flyer page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Governors Report
- 9910 District Conference Flyer
- Club News
- Rotary International
New Voices:
International Youth Exchange
- Director's News

FEBRUARY is



WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

Newsletter items
for MARCH
DG Newsletter
to Margaret Cebalo
cebalo.bam@extra.co.nz
by 25th MAR 2017



As Reo and I move around the Clubs to hear from the IYE Students

that have recently returned or the participants in the Summer Science School it is very apparent that anything (time and money) spent on our Youth is not a cost but a prudent Investment in our future.

All have expressed their gratitude to Rotary and their sponsor Club for believing in them and giving them an opportunity of a lifetime to pursue and consolidate their dream.

Long may the input from Rotary continue.

Registrations for our District Conference are expected to pick up significantly in the next few weeks.

The whole Programme is coming together nicely under the Chairmanship of Kevin Salmon. The T shirts and Water have been sourced for "Al's Walk", catering for the entire weekend sorted, accomodation and transport for the IYE Students and chaperones finalised. Travel arrangements and accomodation for our RI Rep have also been completed. The District Trophies are being collected, engraved and polished ready for presentation. Entertainment segments have also been filled.

Of course all guest speakers are ready to go and give us their view on "Opportunities" as they see it in our Area.

The Agenda for the Sunday morning AGM is also under construction.

All that is needed is for you to go to:
<http://rotaryconference9910.org.nz>
and register.

Following on from a discussion with the Philippine Consulate at New Lynn's wonderful Fundraising event at Sky City

last week, it is exciting to see that talks around adopting the MUNA programme and taking it to Manila are progressing well. It will be a case of "watch this space".

Reminders:

Foundation Giving:

Because your Club Foundation giving amount takes time to progress through the Rotary system, it is imperative that this is completed sooner rather than later to make a difference in this Rotary year.

Membership Plans:

As we set our sights on the next critical measuring point, it is imperative that all effort is focussed on both recruitment and retention. If each Club improved their numbers by 1 nett (yes only 1) then we would be in far more calmer waters. Currently we sit at 1118 which is +25 from July. Lets give it our best shot.

RIYE Hosting:

We have 3 Students in already and the IYE Committee are now seeking 9 more Clubs to host the new applicants from Europe whose papers are starting to arrive.

It would be most appreciated if you were able to approach any of the IYE Committee with an offer to partake in the programme. Remember, as there must be a balance of zero, the more Inbounds our District can host then the more Outbounds we are able to offer this life changing opportunity to.

Opportunity doesn't come, it has always been there,—the label on the door to opportunity reads "Push".

**Cheers,
PC & Reo**



Rutherford Rede
www.rutherfordrede.co.nz

**Our sponsors for our
Rotary year**



Forrest Funeral Services
www.forrests.co.nz



D9910 Training Dates 2017

3 - 5 March

**SPPETS at Waipuna
Lodge Auckland**

19 March

**RLI at People Potential
Whangarei**

"When wifi went down for five minutes I had to talk to my family - they seemed like nice people."



Click on the following links for
Presidential Citation
Resources and Help Guide
[Achievement Guide](#)
[Citation how-to video](#)

Rotary District 9910 CONFERENCE WHANGAREI LOVE IT HERE!

21 - 23 April 2017

Cost per person \$200

ONLINE REGISTRATION

[\(click here\)](#)

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Friday evening and Saturday Morning

Late Registrations and Online Registration pack "pick-ups"

Saturday Morning

Official Opening
Powhiri/Cultural Performance
Mayoral Address Rotary International Rep -
Jennifer Coburn
Presentations
Guest Speaker - Lindsay Ford

Morning Tea

Guest Speaker Sarah Brown
Presentations
Key Note Speaker Shane Reti

Lunch

Town Basin Loop walk for Alzheimers
(bus available to and from starting point)

Dinner - Ticket Entry

Evening dinner and entertainment

Sunday Morning

Conference Formalities
Presentations

Morning Tea

Rotary Moments
Key Note Speaker Dr Lance O'Sullivan
Rotary International Representative -
Jennifer Coburn
Wrap Up

Full Programme Info

[\(click here\)](#)

Guest / Key Note Speakers Info

[\(click here\)](#)

Accommodation Information

[\(click here\)](#)

and Local Accommodation Options

[\(click here\)](#)

The following is an excerpt from Milford Bulletin

**Club
News**



We were privileged to attend the Formal Dinner of the National Science Forum. Again... the sheer quality of the event and the enthusiasm of the students just blows one away. A great night for Peter and Trish Best....and they were well thanked and appreciated by the students and the fellow members of the Trust that now control the event.

It was fantastic though to hear the praise heaped upon The Milford Club and we can be proud of all our players in this game. Rob Fullerton, Tony C, Weston and Louise, Murray Allison, Raewyn & Mike Jesson, Bruce Rasmussen, Garry and Barbara, Ben & Sue Storck and I'm sure I've forgotten some, but truly fellows and Ladies we can be proud. We must not lose touch with this event.



It was particularly touching that Peter made mention of Norm Winterbottom and his efforts in starting what is now for sure the Premium Youth Event in the Rotary Year in New Zealand. I'm pretty sure that there are other Clubs out there that will greatly covet this event.



Rotary Youth Exchange gave me hope for peace

by Rotary International

**Rotary
Voices**

By Kate Roff, a former Rotary Youth Exchange student



Being lost in the middle of the bustling, hazy, city of Bangkok, Thailand, is not ideal for a 17-year-old Australian girl. But, it was a moment that changed my life.

I was on Rotary Youth Exchange and despite excellent instructions from my caring host-family; I had no idea how the intricate bus system worked, and hadn't mastered the language yet to ask. After boarding the wrong bus for the third time, a young student calmly stood up, took me by the arm and walked me miles down the road to the right stop. She spoke little English, but waited patiently until my bus arrived and told the driver my destination. It must have added a full hour to her day, and she wanted nothing in return – just to help a stranger.

I was shocked. I had never encountered such kindness. That was one of many moments I was humbled by the generosity of the [Thai people](#) during my exchange year, and something that I hold up as proof of genuine compassion in the world.

Today, I am the founding editor of [Peace News](#) – a new media platform that provides alternative news stories from conflict zones. While mainstream war reporting focuses on violence, explosions, and hatred, we focus on telling stories of peace-builders. Wars need to be covered, but we aim to provide balance to the reporting – in every conflict zone there are people taking risks for peace, and we want to show that side as well.



A bustling hazy, street scene in Bangkok, Thailand.
Photo by Joe Powers



Peace News provides alternative news stories from conflict zones.

In my line of work I see, and hear about, horrific violence, and it's often difficult to keep faith in humanity. I believe it's a growing fear for many people today, and sensationalist media representations of how 'bad the world is becoming' don't help. We often need reminding that there are still great people out there, that there are inspiring examples of tolerance and empathy still going on.

My year as an exchange student showed me that there is good reason to have hope, and provided me with a platform to direct my career. Through the endless examples of kindness from a host country, and also exposure to many cultures through other exchange students, I saw enormous capacity for a global community. Rotary taught me to appreciate and respect diversity – a hot topic today with global immigration debates.

I have no idea who that student was who stopped to direct a confused foreigner all those years ago, but her act reminds me daily of what one moment of empathy can do. She taught me to have a little trust in the world we are so often trying furiously to change – and to always travel with a bus map.

Learn more about [Rotary Youth Exchange](#)

A larger than life youth exchange experience

by Rotary International

By Joel Dzuba,
Rotary Exchange Student from Ontario,
Canada, to Lower Saxony, Germany



Youth Exchange Students take part in a year-end European Tour

**Rotary
Voices**

It would be impossible to pick a favourite memory from my exchange in Germany due to the sheer number of opportunities I had and dreams I lived. From sailing in the Baltic Sea, to walking in the North Sea, to swimming in the Mediterranean, there are simply too many experiences to pick a favourite.

Birthday on a beach

One of the many stories that I do love to share, however, was when I was celebrating my 18th birthday during our year-end European Tour. All the exchange students had gathered on the beach at night to watch the stars in the little town of Portofino, Italy, and eventually I found myself sitting back to back on a rock with a Brazilian student, a Russian student, and a Taiwanese student. In all of my life, no other moment has ever made me feel so paradoxical as that night.

On the one hand, I felt so incredibly small when I realized where I was sitting and with whom I was sitting; as I was just a boy from Ontario who suddenly found himself halfway across the world, with people who would maybe only have a one in a billion chance of meeting together in any other circumstance. And yet, on the other hand I had never felt so large in comparison to the vastness of the world, and the borders as I had pictured them. The world suddenly felt like it had shrunk, and that there was nowhere that was out of my reach anymore.



Joel Dzuba in Germany.

Larger than life

If I had to try to make a metaphor that could explain the experience, I would say that it gave me a feeling of being “Larger than Life” while still humbling me with the realization of the sheer amount of opportunity that had been given to me by the kindness of others; as without everyone back home in the Rotary club supporting me, I could have only dreamed of being where I was that night.

Out of all my life experiences, I would say that my exchange year played a fundamental role in forming and shaping the person I am today. It has shaped my world view; given me the courage to break out of my shell; and has given me the experience of living in an interconnected and continually shrinking world.

It has also inspired me to seek an international career, as I am currently studying in International Affairs and Policy due to the inspiration I received from my exchange year to continue living an international lifestyle.

Learn more about [Rotary Youth Exchange](#)

DIRECTOR'S NEWS

Rotary International Zones 7A, 7B & 8

Volume 1 Issue 5: February 2017

Noel's Message

G'day,

The RI Board meeting in January accepted the proposed new rezoning for Rotary Districts and countries around the world.

Australia and New Zealand will become one Zone - as a result of falling membership across the two countries. Another positive decision is that New Zealand will not be sectioned separately to Australia in future which means that all Past Officers of Rotary International in both countries will be able to nominate every four years for the position of Rotary International Director. I believe this decision opens the door to true bipartisanship and should result in the selection of the BEST candidate, regardless of nationality.

Global Rezoning will see the USA lose two Zones, whilst growth area India will gain two Zones. Africa will become its very own Zone which should encourage growth in that challenged country. Growth areas for Rotary membership at this time are Asia, India and Africa.

The most disappointing aspect of Rotary membership in the last year is that worldwide we inducted a record of 150,000 new Rotarians. However, we also lost around 150,000 members in the same period! We are good at recruiting new members but we struggle to keep them. The message from this experience is that **EVERY Club, District and district leader MUST be involved in overcoming the challenge of poor retention.**

ATTEND PRESIDENTIAL PEACE CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA

Join us 9-10 June for the Presidential Peace Conference at the Georgia World Congress Center. We'll celebrate our work on the underlying causes of conflict and our successes in making peace a priority, while also looking ahead to opportunities to continue our commitment.

[Learn more about the event](#)

[Register for the conference](#)



Board Room at RI Headquarters, Evanston

In This Issue

- Noel's Message
- Rotary Backs End Trachoma by 2020 Campaign
- What is Trachoma?
- Rotary Peace Conference
- Media Guru to address Institute

Redistricting across Australia and New Zealand has been progressing well with many stimulating discussions held with district leaders. Follow up meetings will take place in March and April, with the final submissions going to the RI Districting Committee in May.

Our District Governors Elect and partners have returned from the International Assembly in San Diego where RIPE Ian Riseley presented his theme for his year - "Rotary - Making a Difference". Ian's presentation was well received and the theme will provide excellent motivation for his team in 2017/18. PRID Stuart Heal of New Zealand was the Moderator for the International Assembly and introduced several changes, including no singing, no exercise sessions, and more involvement of RI staff in announcements. Jessie Harman of Australia was the Lead Trainer of the Trainers along with Gayle Knueppfer of the US.

It is now up to the Governors Elect and partners to inspire and motivate their Districts as they lead them through the vital PETS and District Assemblies training and education process.

The Directors of ROMAC, RDU, ARH and RAWCS are all meeting together in Melbourne in April for training on governance and their roles as Directors of 'not for profit' organizations. AON, national insurer for Rotary in Australia, has also organised a training day in March for all District Insurance officers. I am happy to report that all districts will be represented at this training day. These two initiatives are positive moves to ensure leaders of our major project organisations and Districts are compliant and have an understanding of legal requirements when holding the position of Director of a 'not for profit' organisation or as insurance officer for a district.

The Rotary Club of Melbourne is leading the special project to make Australia trachoma free by 2020.

This disease is easily preventable with good hygiene. Unfortunately, Australia does not have a good record with trachoma.

Polio Eradication will of course remain the number one programme externally for Rotary until we have finally eradicated the disease - and that historic day is now getting very close!

Fundraising remains the key to success in the final stages of the Polio program - especially in light of the generous support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation with their 'two for one' dollar offer this year and next Rotary year.

All District Governors recently received a 'call to action' on Polio giving from RI END POLIO NOW Zone Coordinator Bob Aitken in which he reminded everyone of RI President John Germ's special request for 2016/17 - for each District around the world to strive for donation of 20% of available DDF to the END POLIO NOW campaign.

We were also reminded of the request to Rotary clubs and Rotarians to support the fund raising campaign with special giving of \$2,650 and \$26.50 respectively - in this landmark year of The Rotary Foundation's 100th anniversary.

With the International Convention coming up in Atlanta, we have TWO opportunities to show our support for incoming President Ian Riseley and Juliet -

- First, the 'Down Under Breakfast' at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel on June 13, for which you can register at www.rotary9830.aug.au/DownUnderBreakfast. See advertisement on page 10 of the February issue of Rotary Down Under. RIPE Ian Riseley will be guest speaker at the breakfast.
- Second, I would like everyone going to the Atlanta Convention to purchase a specially designed 'Down Under' Convention theme

shirt from RDU supplies. We plan to arrange a common seating area for all those from 'Down Under' on the day of Ian's acceptance speech and create a "sea of blue" as support for Ian and Juliet. Let's make both Convention events memorable experiences for the Riseleys.

Finally, I would like to invite all of you to the Zone Institutes this year - Darwin on September 1-3 and Auckland the following week, September 7-10. RIPE Sam Owori and General Secretary John Hewko and their wives will be joining us at both Institutes.

Darwin is really a special Institute - the first time an Institute has been in the top end of Australia! The decision to take the Institute to Darwin was made as a real show of support Rotary in this remote part of our continent of Australia. Further, those making the trip are urged to make a holiday of their visit and, if possible, plan to attend a local Rotary club meeting and learn a little more about Rotary in the 'top end'.

Regards,
Noel

Register Here

Zone 8 Institute

1-3 September 2017

Darwin Convention

Centre, NT



Help make us Trachoma free

Rotary backs End-Trachoma by 2020 campaign

To mark Australia's centenary of Rotary in 2021, let's help make our country trachoma free by 2020! **This is the message from Rotary International's President-elect Ian Riseley**, from the Sandringham Club in Victoria.

The World Health Organisation has as its goal the global elimination of trachoma by 2020. Last year China, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Morocco, Myanmar and Oman all reported the successful elimination of trachoma. Let's make Australia next!

Trachoma is a preventable eye infection that if left untreated, can lead to permanent blindness. **Australia, to its shame, is the only developed country still with trachoma. It primarily affects young indigenous Australians, living around Central Australia. It is mainly caused by unhygienic living conditions.**

Rotary in Australia is taking up Ian Riseley's challenge. By focusing on better hygiene and environments for these children, Rotary will complement the good work being done by the medical professionals.

Funding has been obtained to support the engagement of a project manager Lien Trinh for the next three years. Lien is a qualified, experienced optometrist/public health worker and was a District 9800 Rotary Global Grant scholar.

The Rotary Club of Melbourne, and Rotarians and other clubs primarily from District 9800 are leading the project. Further information will come from them about the project and how each District can help.

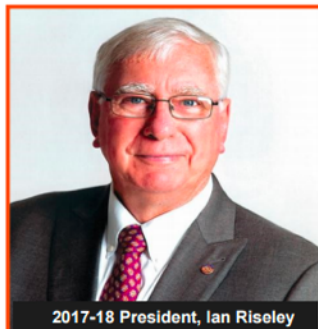
This project will provide the means for all clubs to participate in supporting indigenous Australians and will ensure that we have a great reason to celebrate 100 years of Rotary in Australia in 2021.

Look out for further information on this project and get behind it!



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

2017-18 Theme



2017-18 President, Ian Riseley

What is Trachoma?

- A bacterial eye infection
- Spread from person to person through unwashed hands, shared face-wiping cloths and flies that have been in contact with the discharge from their eyes or nose of an infected person
- Women suffer more frequently and severely than men
- Treatment includes eyelid surgery to correct inverted eyelashes, antibiotics, facewashing and improved sanitation and access to clean water
- **Key to prevention is to help communities emerge from poverty.**

Source: Fred Hollows Foundation website

Media Guru to address Institute

Joe Otin, Vice Chairman, Rotary International Communications Committee, will be a special guest at the Zone 8 Institute in Darwin in September.

Joe is CEO The Collective—Interactive Ad Agency and holds various Board positions in Africa including President of the Pan-African Media Research Organisation. He is an active Rotarian and led the Rotary's Public image Coordinators who cover Africa between 2010-2015.

For the past 24 years Joe has been influential in the advertising and media industry across Africa.

In 2010 he received the distinguished Marketing Society of Kenya Warrior Award.



Joe Otin and RI Director Noel at the International Assembly in January

[Register Here](#)



Waipuna Conference Centre,
Auckland 8-10 September 2017

Zone 7B Symposium 2017
(Incorporating Institute and Future Leaders Seminar)

Rotary

New Zealand & Pacific Islands



Contact Us

The Director's News is the official newsletter of Zones 7A, 7B & 8 Director 2016-2018, Noel Trevaskis

It is produced 6-weekly

Editor: PDG Gina Growden

M: 0412 128 106

E: gina.growden@bigpond.com

Contributions are welcome—please email articles and good quality photos to editor

www.facebook.com/RotarianNoelTrevaskis

To unsubscribe email:

gina.growden@bigpond.com