



Peter & Reo Smith
Rotary Club of
Whangarei City

District Governor's NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2016



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D9910 2016 — 2017

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DISTRICT DIARY EVENTS:

OCTOBER

1 Oct Rotary International Service
Above Self Awards
9-15 Oct ..Rotary Alumni Reconnect
Week

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

18 Nov.....Red Nose Day
26 Nov ...DMMtg (incl. DAC)
18 Nov - 17 Dec:
IYE South Island Tour (inbounds)

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**October is
VOCATIONAL
SERVICE
Month**



November is



**ROTARY
FOUNDATION
Month**



Club Visit Schedule update

After 12,000 kms on the Road, a few nights away and two Island Visits, Reo and I have only one NZ Club left on the list to call on. The Work, Life, Rotary Balance gets a little distorted at this stage, but, when you see all the good work that Rotarians are doing to make this world a better place it pales into insignificance.

Each Club visit has been unique in that it is the individual Rotarians that combine their efforts to create their own Club Culture. There is no "One Rule Suits All" apart from the 4-way Test that applies to us all. A copy of my Objectives can be found within this Newsletter.

Glenfield will be presented with their Charter towards the end of November and Mahurangi Sunrise will receive their Satellite Charter about the same time. Massey High School received their Interact Charter last week. Other Club Charters are being worked on.

All this is a big help in contributing to the increase in our Membership. As stated in the previous Newsletter, it will be the nett gain from ALL Clubs that will solidify the much needed outcome.

The Winds of Change are beginning to pick up ... check out the extract from Director Noel Trevaskis' Newsletter .

The District Conference Committee will have the Web page for the Conference populated very soon so that you can see what to expect. With a Theme of **"Opportunities"** and Speakers including Dr Lance O'Sullivan, Dr Shane Reti, Sarah Brown (CEO of Purple House, Alice Springs) and other Inspirational deliveries you wont be disappointed .

**Remember,
the Worlds biggest Oak Tree
once slept inside an acorn.**



Rutherford Rede
www.rutherfordrede.co.nz

**Our new sponsors for our
Rotary year**



Forrest Funeral Services
www.forrests.co.nz



Club Visits Calendar

OCTOBER

03 Oct.....Devonport
04 Oct.....Browns Bay (Breakfast)
06 Oct.....Whangaparaoa
11 Oct.....Norfolk Is
17 Oct.....Takapuna North
18 Oct.....Auckland Korean
19 Oct.....Hillsborough/Lynfield/Mt Roskill

NOVEMBER

02 Nov Western Springs
23 Nov Whangarei City

D9910 TRAINING DATES 2016

At Te Puna Hauora, Northcote

30 Oct AGETS

06 Nov.....RLI

27 Nov.....PETS 1 at Te Puna Hauora, Northcote

04 Dec.....PETS 1 at People Potential Whangarei

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR

Board, District Management (including DAC) meetings

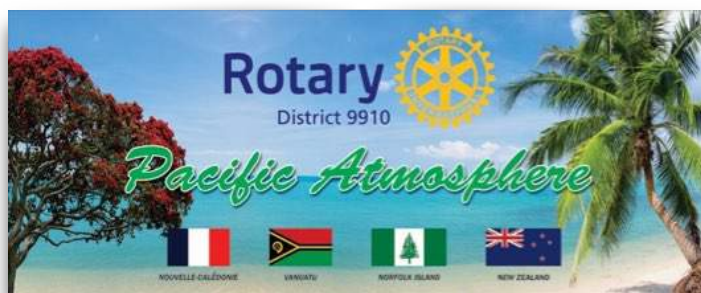
Our next Board, District Management (including DAC) Meetings have been moved to avoid a clash of dates in the Governor's programme

The meetings are now scheduled for

Date: Saturday 26 November 2016

Venue: Te Puna Hauora, Northcote

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



OBJECTIVES 2016—2017 ROTARY YEAR

ENCOURAGE EVERY CLUB TO

SCRUTINISE

THEIR "COST OF ROTARY" WITH A

VIEW TO MAKING ROTARY MORE

ATTRACTIVE TO YOUNGER MEMBERS.



ENCOURAGE EVERY CLUB TO

INCLUDE AN ELEMENT OF

MEMBERSHIP IN EACH PROJECT OR

ACTIVITY.



CONTINUE EXCELLENT WORK

THUS FAR ON VANUATU GLOBAL

PROJECTS.



ENCOURAGE **EVERY** ROTARIAN TO

CONTRIBUTE AT LEAST \$26:50 TO THE

ROTARY FOUNDATION IN THIS

CENTENNIAL YEAR.



ACTIVELY PROMOTE

YOUTH PROGRAMMES.





An Island with Character

Once again this was another purposeful offshore visit for Governor Peter and his total entourage of three, Reo, Area 1 Assistant Governor Glenys and her husband Cam.

President David Pegman and club members made sure that the Governor and his entourage were engaged the moment they stepped onto the Norfolk Island airport tarmac.

One of the highlights of the visit was the well organised fundraiser at the S & H Show Day where the "hands on" quick service and sale of hot chips, steak sandwiches and burgers left the buyer standing in the queue for their goodies no longer than 23 seconds - truly.



Club members worked like "well oiled mean machines" non stop with only one minor hiccup - a Kiwi at the till working out the size and value of Aussie \$2 and \$1 coins- "it's a big job" you know!

A fantastic day and a rewarding experience where almost the entire population on the Island were in attendance for this special day. Another was the visit to the local school, the only one on the Island, where the Rotary Club School Textiles Project provided sewing machines and an embroidery sewing machine. The embroidery machine will be used in the construction of soft books for children.

The visit to the Textile classroom was exciting for us to see the enthusiastic students designing with the help of the devices also sponsored by the Rotary Club, and practicing their sewing skills.

Students who do not have regular access to sewing machines will be provided with the opportunity to undertake their own interest project and hopefully create an item for Island events such as 'Wearable Arts'.



A huge thanks of appreciation to the Norfolk Island Rotary Club for their hospitality, travel and accommodation arrangements and social events enabling us all to enjoy the Island, its history and beauty.

Update Norfolk Island School Sewing Machine Project

Dear District Governor Peter,

Thank you for the opportunity to follow up after your visit to Norfolk Island Central School. You saw the Year 7 and 8 class in action using the machines to achieve their sewing licence as part of their Year 7 and Year 8 Technology Mandatory course. They are enjoying one machine each and improving their sewing skills.

The sewing of the Boomerang bags has begun, as has the feminine hygiene "Days for Girls" sewing program. We are committing a large amount of time from week 6 until the end of term to support these ventures and contribute to the community programs.

We are also expecting the HSC major works to return during November after which the students will attend a Rotary Meeting to display the works and describe what was possible with the donation of Machines from Rotary.

I have also seen students begin their entries for wearable arts and the machines make this possible.

Thank you again for all your assistance.

Sally Johnson
HT Teaching and Learning

Deb Johnston
TAS Teaching

The following is an excerpt from Browns Bay Bulletin

Club
News

A ROTARY MINUTE FROM MURRAY ALLISON



INNOVATIVE ROTARY — Above are the Rotary 6 areas of focus World wide for all members.

Browns Bay Rotary has specifically been involved in many of these:

Disease – help for Vanuatu children to have surgery here who otherwise would have no future,

Water & Sanitation – again in Vanuatu & a couple of wells in Cambodia a few years back.

Maternal & Child Health – Maddy our cerebral palsy girl needing surgery in the United States.

Literacy – annually we buy illustrated dictionaries for low decile schools in the north plus send them to Vanuatu schools.

Economic Development – as an example we have supplied a toilet facility for a farming development project in Tanzania. So in some way we as a Club have contributed hugely either here around our area, or nationally or in a global sense to the Rotary areas of focus.

The biggest challenge for us is still to eradicate Polio from the World – the poliovirus invades the nervous system & can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours. In 1985 Rotary launched its Polioplus programme to tackle global polio eradication through the mass immunization of children.

Rotary has contributed more than 1.5 billion dollars to immunize more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. Now & since 1988 our Rotary partnership involves the World Health organisation, UNICEF, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation & a necessary big help from world governments.

Today there are only two countries where polio has the transmission of the wild virus – Afghanistan and Pakistan. Less than 75 polio cases were confirmed last year, India is completely cleared and Nigeria is very close. The Gates Foundation matches our dollar with 2 more right through to 2018 up to a maximum of 35 million so Rotary is very close to a major world milestone.

STOP PRESS!

From John Germ's latest newsletter:

'We launched our PolioPlus campaign 31 years ago in a worldwide effort to rid the world of this paralyzing disease.

Last July, we celebrated a milestone: Nigeria had gone one year without a new case of polio. But only a year later, three new cases of wild polio have been reported in that country and Nigeria has been reclassified as polio endemic.'





The following is from the ROTARY CLUBS of

Henderson, Waitakere, Kumeu and New Lynn

The Rotary Clubs of Henderson, Waitakere, Kumeu and New Lynn are pleased to **invite all District 9910 Rotarians** to our event to celebrate **100 years of the Rotary Foundation**.

We have **Evan Burrell** - Rotarian aka Rotaryman as our guest speaker and it should be a great night.

**The cost is \$40.00
and includes dinner
and wine on the table.**

Friday 11th November

7pm

**Lincoln Green
Conference Centre,
159 Lincoln Road,
Henderson**

Ticket sales

Contact Ian Foster (Stan Clear)
at email: ian@fostersignsltd.co.nz
to secure your tickets.

DON'T MISS

IS IT A BIRD? IS IT A PLANE?

NO! It's ROTARYMAN

THE MOST ACTIVE ROTARIAN ON THE PLANET

 **CELEBRATING
THE 100 YEARS OF
ROTARY FOUNDATION**

LINCOLN GREEN

FRIDAY NOV 11th 7PM
MEET AT 6:30pm

**PRESENTED BY:
WAITAKERE - NEW LYNN - KUMEU - HENDERSON**

The following are excerpts from Westhaven's Bulletin

Club News

Edible School Garden Project Grows Funding and Sponsors

New sponsors and support were the extra bonus of our recent Westhaven Rotary project aimed at providing local Primary School Students with attractive and productive edible gardens.

"Not only did we achieve a significant upgrade to the School's edible gardens that the students will enjoy for years to come, we also attracted major sponsors, including Bunnings and Countdown, who then engaged more sponsors on our behalf," says Rex Billington, President of Westhaven Rotary.

The project aimed to bring new life to the School Gardens that had fallen into disuse by refilling the existing planter boxes, creating an all-weather path around the garden and filling the boxes with edible plants that the students could eat.

Westhaven Rotary contacted the St Joseph's new Principal Regina Smuga and Parent Teacher Chair, who in turn brought in project partners Bunnings and Countdown, both keen to help community projects.

Bunnings very generously donated gardening tools as well as the garden and growing mix. A variety of Bunnings suppliers came on board, including Daltons, Dulux and ES Plastics, and Bunnings team members also volunteered their time.

Their generous assistance has seen the gardens transformed from an unused space to an active garden.

Countdown have offered assistance once the gardens are ready to harvest with their Garden to Table programme, which



aims to get children learning how to harvest, prepare and share fresh, seasonal food.

The result of these partnerships and their generosity saw the original budget more than tripling in dollar value, and developed an ideal partnership for the School far beyond Westhaven Rotary's original expectations. Rotarians Tom and Trevor were the main driving force with this project. A great success all around.

Economic and Community Development Month

What's that mean?

The investment by Rotary in people so that they can create economic improvement in their lives and communities.

Some of the areas include

- Helping to create leadership in communities through tools such as microloans.
- Developing opportunities for decent and productive work.
- Reducing poverty in under- served communities
- Supporting studies related to economic and community development.



Clare's Nepal project is a great example which we look forward to supporting. Plans are underway to install a water pump, which will make a huge difference to the village life.

The following is an excerpt from Whangarei South Inc Bulletin

Club
News

The Rotary Club of Whangarei South Inc got one of their Rotary Alumni members, Heidi Harrison, to share their Rotary experience story during Rotary Reconnect week (9-15 October) #rotaryalumni Ranzse - District 9930 Rotary Australia New Zealand Student Exchange Rotary Youth Exchange

Heidi Harrison (nee Wrack) – Rotary Alumni and Rotarian

Rotary Alumni and Whangarei South Rotary member, Heidi Harrison spoke to her club during Rotary Reconnect week about her Rotary background.

Heidi is a 4th Generation Rotarian. Her childhood memories of Rotary were when her Dad (Colin Wrack – another Whangarei South Rotary member) was a Director and would hold 'fireside' meetings. Her mum would slave over delicious nibbles in the kitchen that they couldn't eat, a series of cars would arrive and Club Members would take over the lounge and the family were banished to the other end of the house. Back then Heidi thought the meetings were very serious and business-like and wondered what they talked about – now she has first-hand experience of these meetings.



When Heidi was 14 she was a Rotary Twin exchange with the Rotary Australia New Zealand Student Exchange (RANZSE) programme. She lived in North Haven, Adelaide with Alison Rudkin for 3 months before Alison returned to NZ with Heidi for 3 months. Life in Adelaide was completely different, attending an all-girls Catholic School compared to attending her own co-ed Kamo High School.

1996 : Heidi and Alison picking grapes in the Barossa Valley, Adelaide

In her 6th Form year her family hosted an American exchange student – Deena. She was similar in age and spent her first 3 months with 'The Wracks'. Although Heidi had to be persuaded (lots of perseverance from her Dad) for the family to host Deena they became great friends and even to this day joke about how Deena was the 'unwanted' exchange student that became Heidi's best friend and Maid of Honour at her wedding. Heidi attended NZ College of Early Childhood Education in Christchurch after finishing school & graduated with a National Nanny Certificate, an English recognised Nursery Nurse Diploma and a Diploma in Early Childhood Education. She then moved to Hamilton and attended Waikato University to upgrade to a Bachelor of Teaching Early Childhood Education. The next move north was Auckland where she landed her first job as a teacher at Marlborough Kindergarten in Glenfield, North Shore. She completed her 2 years of Teachers Registration and met her now husband, Bevan. Like all young Kiwis she did the "big OE" (overseas experience), spending 10 months away and visiting 24 countries before coming home. Finally she moved back to Whangarei and did day to day relieving before applying for a permanent position at Tikipunga Kindergarten where she has been ever since, becoming Head Teacher six years ago.

Heidi joined Rotaract in 2008, unfortunately the club folded and in 2010 she moved to Whangarei South Rotary along with fellow Rotaractor Toni Morris.

"The RANZSE experience at the young age of 14, gave me an opportunity to step outside my comfort zone of not only being in a different country, but also living with a host family for 3 months and attending high school. I learnt a lot about myself and found I personally grew from the experience. From joining Rotaract, I enjoyed the opportunity of meeting like-minded young people who wanted to make a difference within their local community."

2014 : Heidi with her Paul Harris Fellow recognition

Adapted from Whangarei South Bulletin 6 October 2016



Club News

The following is an excerpt from
the Whangarei Chronicle

Annual Northland Secondary School Speech Contest

President Shirley welcomed everyone to the Finals of the Speech Contest.

This year's finalists were:

Whangarei Girls High School	Dani Kirby	"Humanitarian Services"
Dargaville High School	Morgan Foster	"Small town Big Opportunity"
Otamatea High School	Blake Sims	"Male Suicide"
Kaitaia College	Odette Jennings	"If Music is the Food of Life"

Our Judges were:

Pat Carrol (Head Judge), Rex Morris, Hannah King (WRMK Lawyers)

Another great evening with a wide range of topics. The impromptu topic was "Real Learning Doesn't Occur in the Classroom". Once again the impromptu speech stretched the abilities of the students. All argued for the affirmative which surprised the Judges.

\$1000 went to Dani Kirby, \$500 to Odette Jennings and \$100 to the other two finalists.

A special THANKS to WRMK Lawyers for the sponsorship, however, sadly this is the last year they will be involved so we need to get another partner on board.

President Shirley thanked everyone for attending and especially the students for entering the contest.



*SPEECH CONTESTANT
WINNER **Dani Kirby**
with Governor PC Smith*

Newsletter items for DG Newsletter
to Margaret Cebalo cebalo.bam@xtra.co.nz
by the 25th of each month



Area 2 Clubs

"Popping-Up"

to Increase Membership

the Pop-Up Shop



FOR 7 DAYS THE FOUR ROTARY CLUBS IN WHANGAREI
commandeered a vacant shop to set up shop for a **Pop-Up Shop** in the heart of the Whangarei City, joint club initiatives to show the public what Rotary does.

Rostered volunteer members of the **Whangarei, Whangarei City, Whangarei South and Whangarei Sunrise clubs** were on a mission to draw members of the public into the Shop of colourful, attractive wall and poster pamphlets, wall displays, pop-up banners and visuals.

An added draw card was the **FREE RAFFLE** sponsored by **Red Dining and Love Mussel** which was very popular. All Joe Public had to do was give their name and contact number and nominate a Rotary Club in the area that they might like to visit.



This combined effort was a simple way of selling Rotary to the public and to present a much younger face of Rotary.



An invitation to attend the **Sculpture on Shore Rotary Gala Night**

Join us for this fabulous opportunity to enjoy a unique twilight event with your friends and family in support of **NZ women's Refuge**.

Great food and wine will be available at The Officers' Mess licensed cafe or bring a picnic (sorry no BYOG). [Learn more](#)

For queries:

Rowan Renouf rowanandjenny@xtra.co.nz

Colin Cannon thecannons9@gmail.com



Thursday 10th November

5 pm to 8.30 pm

**Fort Takapuna Reserve
Devonport**

**Curator led tours of
the sculptures start at
The Officers Mess at 6:15 pm**

Tickets \$20

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE

<https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2016/nov/nz-sculpture-onshore>

Select **ROTARY GALA NIGHT** (password rotary2016)

President Elect

The President Elects Training is scheduled for

Sunday 27 November 2016 in Auckland

and

Sunday 4 December 2016 in Whangarei.

There are a number of Clubs yet to notify District of their **PRESIDENT ELECT** and it would be appreciated if you could undertake to **have your Club appoint their President Elect for 2017-2018 as soon as possible and notify me with the details** also enter the details in 'My Rotary.'

Thank you for your co-operation.
Yours in Rotary,

David Oliphant

**David Oliphant
Governor 2017–2018
+64 27 607 3835**

**PO Box 21402, Henderson,
Auckland, New Zealand 0650**



Youth Exchange Marae Weekend

14-16 October 2016

Strengthens Friendships and Understanding

We have just returned from Marae Weekend, the annual gathering of Inbound and Outbound 9910 students for immersion in Maori culture. The event is one of the highlights of the exchange year and this year was no exception. Naturally we expected the inbound students to be interested and excited, but a real highlight of the weekend was the response from the Kiwi Outbound students. It was a weekend of 'firsts' for many of them - first time to Waitangi, first time on a marae, first hongi. They haven't officially started their Rotary exchange yet, but already they have a wider and deeper understanding of their world and they are filled with enthusiasm to represent their nation to the world.



Waitangi Treaty House

We were warmly welcomed onto Pehiaweri Marae on Friday evening with the traditional Powhiri, which was replied to by Hineira Tipene-Komene, our 2017 outbound to Switzerland. The reply to the official welcome was given in fluent Maori by Aotea Parata, who is outbound to Brazil in 2017. Each student introduced themselves to our hosts first in their native language, then in English. One of the elders commented on the close ties between the Maori Battalion of WWII and the people of France and Belgium. Later that evening the students learned Kapa haka and stayed up late playing games and getting to know each other.

Throughout the weekend, both the inbound and the outbound students had opportunities to give votes of thanks or to say grace before each meal, help with the washing up and even peel vegetables for the hangi. The Outbounds gave speeches in their new languages and the Inbounds gave updates on their year so far.



Saturday we were up early and off to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds. Here was a chance for the students to deepen their understanding of New Zealand's unique history. We enjoyed both the guided tour and the Maori cultural show in the Whare. The new Museum was a truly awe inspiring experience with the various sound and light displays. We even found time for an impromptu game of cricket on the lawn. Sebastian Holthausen, our inbound student from Norway, gave the welcome speech in Norwegian on behalf of our 'tribe'. The highlight came after the show when all the Rotary students began to sing 'Tutira mai nga iwi'. The performers joined in and other tourists grabbed for their cameras to capture the moment. The looks on their faces said it all.



*Practicing their Waiata —
"Tutira mai nga iwi"*

This was Rotary in action.



Learning Tī Rākau

continued ...

Youth Exchange Marae Weekend continued . . .

Sunday turned on gorgeous weather, just in time for our Waka Ama at Kowharewa Bay Tutukaka. Led by Kristen Edge from the Whangarei City club, the students received basic training in paddling techniques before hitting the water for some friendly competition. Tola Sorn, our inbound student from Phnom Penh, Cambodia said 'I really enjoyed the Waka races because I had never done something like that before. I found out I'm pretty good at that and I could see that my team was very good also.'

After a hangi banquet it was time to say farewell, which is always the hardest part, and the bus was late in getting away because the hugs and thanks just kept coming. Several people commented during the weekend at the camaraderie and co-operation among the students. Everyone pulled their weight and looked after each other.



**This is Rotary Youth Exchange –
changing the World one student at a time.**

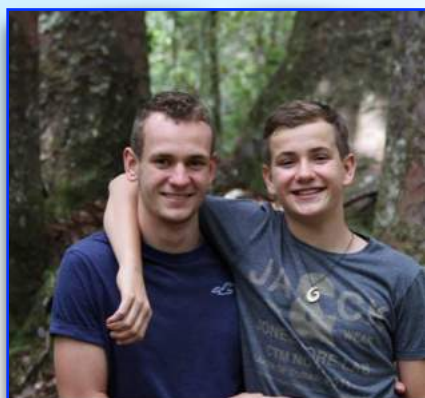
Article written by Monica Webb IYE Committee



ROTARY CLUB OF KERIKERI Rotary Reconnect Week of 10th October 2016

As part of Rotary Reconnect week, Kerikeri Rotary Club invited past IYE students to send an update of what they have been doing since their time with them here in NZ. Kerikeri club members were really interested to hear their progress and many still keep in touch on personal level with these amazing young people.

Max Lehner IYE Student 2014-2015



I've been quite busy at school because it is my last year there. At the end of the school year I will have a very big and important exam. I've torn my cruciate ligament while playing football/soccer. So I won't be doing any sports for a few months so now I have more time to study.

At the moment we are hosting a Rotary Exchange Student from Wisconsin, USA. She will be staying with us for at least half a year, maybe even the whole year. I wish I could go on exchange again.

Right now autumn is coming and it's getting colder we might get some snow soon.

I really miss New Zealand, especially Kerikeri and the whole Rotary Club. I hope I can visit again soon.

Max

ROTARY CLUB OF KERIKERI – Rotary Reconnect continued . . .

Olivia Solmon
IYE Student 2010-2011



It's already been more than six years since I started my great Kiwi-adventure, it feels like yesterday. I see the impact of my exchange year every day, it made me more self-confident and adventurous, and I know I can do almost anything because I did a year in Kerikeri, New Zealand when I was just 17.

My exchange year has also strongly influenced the choices I made after I returned back to Sweden, the path that I have chosen is definitely because of my exchange. I chose to study for an international high school diploma when I came back to be able to use the skills I gained in NZ although my class mates had a hard time understanding my kiwi accent.

I became more involved in Guiding and Scouting when I returned home, taking up a leadership position in my local district and also taking part of a leadership exchange with the small East African country Burundi. I am still very involved in Guiding and Scouting in Sweden and internationally, last year I participated in leadership training in Pune in India. Going to India all on my own without anyone is definitely something I wouldn't have done if it wasn't for my exchange in New Zealand. I know that I could do it and in comparison to New Zealand, India is close to Sweden.

Returning home from New Zealand I didn't want to lose the connection to Rotary because Rotary had been such an important and great part of my life in New Zealand so when the opportunity to be part of a newly formed Rotex- group in my district came up I was very happy. Rotex is a group for returned Rotary exchange students that aim to help new exchange student have a good exchange. My group did activities for the students coming into our district, helped prepare the outgoing students and talked about the impact of RYE with clubs and districts. We also had the great opportunity to go to an international Rotex conference in Brussels, Belgium. It was great to meet so many others with similar experiences to ours.

After graduating I started studying for a degree in Political Science with a specialisation in African Studies at Lund University in really southern Sweden, it is 30 minutes from Denmark so it is very far down south. I am really enjoying university life, it is great to be able to focus on what really interests you. At the moment I am studying in Vienna, Austria as part of my degree, it is very nice to once again get the chance to live and study in another country although it is a bit closer to Sweden this time.

Thank you for all being such a big part of my life changing year as a youth exchange student. I think very fondly of Kerikeri and hope to be able to come back soon.

Lots of love,
Livi

ROTARY CLUB OF KERIKERI – Rotary Reconnect continued . . .

Julie Gronlund

IYE Student 2015-2016



Kia ora Kiwi's! Remember me? I hope everything's well! It's been three months since I left you and I have been terrible in keeping in touch. So finally here is a small update on what I have been up to back here in Denmark.

Although I have been missing NZ heaps, it's been easy to settle back into my daily life. Apart from getting used to speaking Danish again...that took me a while.

I returned during the school holidays and got to enjoy the Danish "summer" that was somewhat decent this year. Was out on the water most of the time. Then school started, and I haven't had a quiet day since. I started 2nd grade (year 12-ish), which supposedly

is the hardest year of school. I also work 3 times a week, I've joined a women's senior soccer team, I'm taking diving lessons and been hanging out with my family and friends. So I have kept myself pretty busy, but it's all good stuff.

Two weeks ago I did the final presentation for my Rotary Club and it was awesome to share my experience. I've also presented my time in NZ, to a few classes at my old school and tried to convince the students that a youth exchange is the best thing they can do for themselves at this point in life. So yeah, I'm doing good, but of course think about NZ all the time. I will try hard not to get jealous as you're approaching summer, while it's getting darker and colder here every day.

Take care aye — Much love from **Julie**

Emilia Niinisaar

IYE Student 2013-2014



After coming back from my exchange I've been thinking NZ every single day, even it has been about two and half years since I came back.

Something always reminds me of NZ. And when I came back home I knew that I'm going to save money to be able to go back to my second home, New Zealand.

So after coming back I had two more years of high school. I graduated beginning of June and then worked whole summer to save money for my travels.

Now I am in Australia, little closer to NZ. I'm here with a working holiday visa and planning to stay here about 8 months in total. I stayed one month in Cairns but last week left and went for a road trip with my new friends I made here. I think I'm travelling with them to Townsville and then I'm not

sure if I look for a farm job to get my secondary visa or just travel the east coast down with a friend from Finland to Brisbane and try to get a job there.

After high school I didn't want to go straight to university as I wanted to see the world first and after study. So here I am – on the other side of the world again – gaining for more experiences. And I will be back soon in my second home too!

I'm planning to travel to NZ in February to see you all again. Can't wait! So see you soon!

Much love **Emilia** xxx

An Extract from November 2016 Issue of "the Rotarian"

Looking back at the momentous 1917 Rotary Convention in Atlanta, it is difficult to see what could have been contentious about the words of then President Arch C. Klumph: "It seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world." Yet, at the time, support for the idea was far from unanimous. Some thought an endowment fund would create more trouble than it was worth. But Klumph's idea received the support it most needed in the form of an initial donation of \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Mo.

Nearly 100 years later, we recognise Klumph's idea as not only visionary, but revolutionary: It set in place the mechanism that allowed Rotary to become the vast force for "doing good in the world" that it is today.

In many ways, our Rotary Foundation is the foundation of Rotary as we know it. It has created a mechanism for cooperation and partnership among clubs and between Rotary and other organisations; it has enabled us to be more ambitious in our work and to reach goals of historic proportions, such as the eradication of Polio. It is impossible to quantify the good that has been done over the last century as a result of The Rotary Foundation. All we know for sure is that Arch Klumph, if he could see it, would be proud.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our international convention in Atlanta: the city where our foundation was born. I hope a record number of Rotarians will be there to celebrate the Centennial of our Foundation. In the meantime, there are plenty of other ways to celebrate! I encourage you to read more about the Foundation centennial at centennial.rotary.org. There you'll learn about the history of our Foundation and find ideas for events and projects in your clubs and your community.

One of the most important ways we are celebrating the Foundation Centennial is with a fundraising goal of \$300 million. Your gift to your Foundation is the best way of ensuring a strong second century for Rotarians Doing Good in the World and for *Rotary Serving Humanity*.

JOHN F. GERM
President, Rotary International



The following is an excerpt from

RI South Pacific & Philippines Office Regional Bulletin

G

OVERNING DOCUMENTS

Over the past few months' numerous clubs have contacted CDS with questions surrounding the changes following the COL and the impact on their clubs Constitution and Bylaws.

These changes have come about from the desire of clubs/Rotarians for change, that have been supported by the Board, for greater flexibility in the way clubs can operate. These flexibilities include attendance requirements, meeting frequency, method of attending meetings, membership types and others.

It's an exciting time for clubs to consider flexibility in terms of membership and meeting frequency. If your club is considering adopting changes, they firstly need to be discussed at a club level. If your club does decide to adopt some or all of these changes, they must be reflected in your governance documents. Clubs who have made said changes in their operation without updating the governing documents are in breach of their own documents and may be called to order by club members.

The *SRCC, (Standard Rotary Club Constitution)* now has provisions for exceptions on meetings, attendance, and membership (refer Article 7 and 9). However, as you will see in these articles, these exceptions must be reported in the bylaws. The bylaws may include rules or requirements that are not in accordance with the SRCC. This means that, as previously, the SRCC must remain intact. Clubs are not able to simply amend articles which they do not agree with, without consent from the RI board in extenuating circumstances. For incorporated clubs, RI requires a number of additional articles that need to be added to the end of the SRCC. We also understand that local legislation may require additional articles. These articles can be added, but they need to go at the end of the SRCC and not interspersed within it

If your club chooses not to offer meeting flexibilities or other changes, you do not have too, but the ability to simply amend, change or remove words or specific Articles from the Constitution is not permissible.

This is not a new policy, but it appears there are some clubs that are taking this course of action. If your club is in the process of amending their documents, please ensure that the SRCC that can be downloaded from the Governance Documents on MyRotary is used but that is not amended to remove words, paragraphs or Articles that the club does not agree with. (Incorporated clubs please contact CDS for a copy of SRCC and Bylaws).

This is also an opportune time to look at updating these documents as many Australian States and Territories have amended their Incorporation Association Laws as of 2016. As always, please ensure you are following the guidelines set by National, State, and Territory Laws with provisions of your Incorporation.

This timing may also prove valuable to reference your Locality Description, removing the extended and very descriptive localities that some clubs still have. There is now the ability to have a description simply of; "Sherbangabang' and surrounding area." This process is easy to complete and the application form can be provided by CDS.

If you have any questions or concerns, we are more than happy to help you through the process. Thank you for your due diligence and consistency when dealing with our governing documents.

Andrew Best
Club & District Support Supervisor



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

As at 30 September 2016

	As at 1 July 2016	As at 30 September 2016	Variance	% Variance	As at 30 September 2016	As at 30 September 2016
	Rotarians	Rotarians	From 1.7.16	From 1.7.16	Districts	Clubs
Worldwide	1,207,913	1,227,217	19,304	1.60%	540	35,521
Australia	29,194	29,359	165	0.57%	21	1,114
New Zealand & Pacific Islands	8,457	8,519	62	0.73%	6	266
Philippines	23,109	24,348	1,239	5.36%	10	891
Total SPPO	60,760	62,226	1,466	2.41%	37	2,271

THE REGION IN REVIEW

District	Clubs 1 July 2016	Clubs 30 Sept 2016	Variance	Members 1 July 2016	Members 30 Sept 2016	Variance	% Variance
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PHILIPPINES DISTRICTS - ZONE 7A (Part)

3770	76	76	0	1,993	2,055	62	3.1%
3780	103	104	1	2,386	2,574	188	7.9%
3790	103	103	0	2,612	2,725	113	4.3%
3800	97	97	0	2,358	2,440	82	3.5%
3810	114	117	3	3,038	3,288	250	8.2%
3820	107	108	1	3,001	3,139	138	4.6%
3830	89	90	1	2,701	2,914	213	7.9%
3850	53	53	0	1,283	1,352	69	5.4%
3860	99	99	0	2,484	2,578	94	3.8%
3870	44	44	0	1,253	1,283	30	2.4%
Total	885	891	6	23,109	24,348	1,239	5.4%

NEW ZEALAND DISTRICTS - ZONE 7B (Part)

District	Clubs 1 July 2016	Clubs 30 Sept 2016	Variance	Members 1 July 2016	Members 30 Sept 2016	Variance	% Variance
9910	41	41	0	1,093	1,112	19	1.7%
9920	54	54	0	1,507	1,523	16	1.1%
9930	54	54	0	1,678	1,689	11	0.7%
9940	55	55	0	1,750	1,752	2	0.1%
9970	33	33	0	1,199	1,209	10	0.8%
9980	29	29	0	1,230	1,234	4	0.3%
Total	266	266	0	8,457	8,519	62	0.7%

(Cont'd next page)

THE REGION IN REVIEW

District	Clubs 1 July 2016	Clubs 30 Sept 2016	Vari- ance	Members 1 July 2016	Members 30 Sept 2016	Variance	% Variance
AUSTRALIAN DISTRICTS - ZONE 8							
9455	48	48	0	1,204	1,214	10	0.8%
9465	48	48	0	1,273	1,301	28	2.2%
9500	44	44	0	1,105	1,108	3	0.3%
9520	50	50	0	1,278	1,291	13	1.0%
9550	45	45	0	995	1021	26	2.6%
9570	48	49	1	1,074	1,095	21	2.0%
9600	65	65	0	1,469	1,477	8	0.5%
9630	50	50	0	1,127	1,141	14	1.2%
9640	52	52	0	1,247	1,260	13	1.0%
9650	56	56	0	1,522	1,527	5	0.3%
9670	50	50	0	1,189	1,186	-3	-0.3%
9675	65	65	0	1,565	1,560	-5	-0.3%
9685	74	74	0	2,009	2,004	-5	-0.2%
9700	40	40	0	1,066	1,074	8	0.8%
9710	47	47	0	1,324	1,339	15	1.1%
9780	59	59	0	1,778	1,773	-5	-0.3%
9790	64	64	0	1,732	1,704	-28	-1.6%
9800	67	67	0	2,418	2,440	22	0.9%
9810	44	44	0	1,141	1,155	14	1.2%
9820	49	50	1	1,375	1,393	18	1.3%
9830	47	47	0	1,303	1,296	-7	-0.5%
Total	1112	1114	2	29,194	29,359	165	0.6%

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

This year's Presidential Citation has a Foundation Giving component (along with five other components plus two mandatory activities) and the time might be right to draw attention to this. There are six Foundation options of which three must be achieved:

Support our Foundation with a contribution of at least US\$536.

Support our Foundation with a contribution of at least US\$26.50 from each member.

Attain at least US\$2,650 in total giving to PolioPlus in honour of The Rotary Foundation Centennial.

Attain a minimum Annual Fund contribution of US\$100 per capita.

Attain a five-year high in total club giving to The Foundation (combined giving by club and members to any fund) with a minimum of US\$26.50 per member.

Increase the total number of Benefactors and Bequest Society members in the club by at least one. Clubs will all think differently about these options but the main thing is to ensure they choose three and achieve them. This is just one part of the Presidential Citation process but success in this area will ensure the funding is there for The Rotary Foundation to continue its good work well into the future.

ANNUAL FUND CONTINUES TO STRUGGLE

The September results were not kind to us although there are signs that things are on the move. Overall, the September month was 37% less than the same month last year and while not entirely unexpected, it's still a hard state of affairs to accept. A few comments on each region follow:

Australia – A poor start to the year whichever way you look at it. However, talking to many of our District Governors and Foundation Chairs, we get the sense that big plans are in hand to make November something very special to commemorate The Foundation's Centennial. With only five of the 21 districts in front of last year's YTD September mark it will be good to see the charge. The objective should be to at least draw level with YTD December 2015 by the end of this calendar year and that means an average of US\$180,000 for each of those three months. The Australian monthly average so far this year has been US\$110,000 per month.

Philippines – They had an exceptional September last year so we expected a drop in YTD performance. They averaged just under \$200,000 a month so far this year and the \$267,000 in September proves they are still on their game. District 3800 is having an outstanding year but great performances also from districts 3870, 3770 and 3960.

Indonesia – Excellent overall result with a 259% increase over last YTD. Big move from district 3420 and strong start for district 3410.

New Zealand – Fantastic work from our friends in New Zealand. A 36% YTD increase is a great way to start the year and more to come. Just one of the six districts behind last year but that will change for the better come November.

Still time to make up lost ground in October!

PDG BRUCE ALLEN

ANNUAL FUND - YTD SEPTEMBER 2016			
AUSTRALIA			
DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INC
9455	\$ 26,057	\$ 21,156	-18.8%
9465	\$ 11,396	\$ 4,291	-62.3%
9500	\$ 13,643	\$ 10,950	-19.7%
9520	\$ 16,509	\$ 8,093	-51.0%
9550	\$ 26,337	\$ 12,107	-54.0%
9570	\$ 7,335	\$ 8,231	12.2%
9600	\$ 15,152	\$ 20,755	37.0%
9630	\$ 25,249	\$ 18,441	-27.0%
9640	\$ 14,929	\$ 9,904	-33.7%
9650	\$ 13,281	\$ 13,064	-1.6%
9670	\$ 14,817	\$ 17,814	20.2%
9675	\$ 17,825	\$ 28,139	57.9%
9685	\$ 33,278	\$ 23,531	-29.3%
9700	\$ 20,652	\$ 10,120	-51.0%
9710	\$ 18,322	\$ 15,867	-13.4%
9780	\$ 45,876	\$ 8,918	-80.6%
9790	\$ 24,816	\$ 23,800	-4.1%
9800	\$ 56,503	\$ 40,779	-27.8%
9810	\$ 25,645	\$ 16,567	-35.4%
9820	\$ 9,229	\$ 14,272	54.6%
9830	\$ 4,888	\$ 4,325	-11.5%
TOTAL	\$ 441,741	\$ 331,122	-25.0%
NEW ZEALAND & PACIFIC ISLANDS			
DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INC.
9910	\$ 12,624	\$ 17,432	38.1%
9920	\$ 3,227	\$ 14,373	345.4%
9930	\$ 20,478	\$ 24,328	18.8%
9940	\$ 15,782	\$ 9,021	-42.8%
9970	\$ 5,903	\$ 11,892	101.4%
9980	\$ -	\$ 2,160	N/A
TOTAL	\$ 58,015	\$ 79,206	36.5%
PHILIPPINES			
DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INC.
3770	\$ 4,180	\$ 42,822	924.4%
3780	\$ 104,588	\$ 29,326	-72.0%
3790	\$ 86,374	\$ 48,430	-43.9%
3800	\$ 39,905	\$ 244,315	512.2%
3810	\$ 212,810	\$ 67,107	-68.5%
3820	\$ 83,068	\$ 49,877	-40.0%
3830	\$ 117,487	\$ 43,819	-62.7%
3850	\$ 31,019	\$ 28,284	-8.8%
3860	\$ 29,883	\$ 55,149	84.5%
3870	\$ 6,200	\$ 47,301	662.9%
TOTAL	\$ 715,513	\$ 656,429	-8.3%
INDONESIA			
DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INC.
3410	\$ 6,297	\$ 9,730	54.5%
3420	\$ 3,520	\$ 25,521	625.0%
TOTAL	\$ 9,817	\$ 35,251	259.1%
REGION	\$ 1,225,086	\$ 1,102,008	-10.0%

PER CAPITA CUPS KEEN COMPETITION

The overall position on Annual Fund Per Capita is reasonable for this time of the year and competition for the top spot is being strongly contested. Our region sits at \$17.49 against a 'par' of \$25.00 and while this is a touch down on where we'd like to be, it's a comfortable position at this stage of the year.

Philippines and Indonesia – Strong start at \$28.41 and much of this is due to the dynamic performance from district 3800. With \$103.61 on the board already they look pretty determined to take out the prize, but there are plenty of other districts committed to making sure that doesn't happen. District 3870 is sitting on a hard-fought \$37.75 (they were \$4.86 at this time last year), followed by five other district above \$20. It should be a very exciting race this year in the Philippines and Indonesia. I also like the look of district 3420's result coming from \$2.17 last year up to \$22.97 this year.

Australia – A pretty low figure of \$11.34 which is well down on last year's \$14.75. This is pretty much in line with the Annual Fund drop but the pleasing thing to note is that the top four are all locked in a pretty good battle, and they are closely followed by another four or five. When the District Foundation Chairs look at these numbers, don't neglect to evaluate the comparison against last year. Some very interesting swings!

New Zealand and Pacific Islands – Good growth all round sees the country figure coming out 37% better than at this stage last year. District 9910 has started with a wonderful performance and sits on top at \$15.95 but district 9930 is not far behind on \$14.50. Good growth from districts 9970 and 9920. Surely this must be New Zealand's time to exceed the \$100 mark for the entire year?

PDG BRUCE ALLEN



PER CAPITA YTD SEPTEMBER 2016

AUSTRALIA

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16
9675	\$10.67	\$17.98
9455	\$20.73	\$17.57
9800	\$23.56	\$16.86
9630	\$22.19	\$16.36
9670	\$12.04	\$14.98
9810	\$21.62	\$14.52
9600	\$9.94	\$14.13
9790	\$13.93	\$13.74
9550	\$26.71	\$12.17
9710	\$13.42	\$11.98
9685	\$16.21	\$11.71
9820	\$6.65	\$10.38
9500	\$11.69	\$9.91
9700	\$18.13	\$9.49
9650	\$8.63	\$8.58
9640	\$12.27	\$7.94
9570	\$6.53	\$7.66
9520	\$12.55	\$6.33
9780	\$24.68	\$5.02
9465	\$9.04	\$3.37
9830	\$3.63	\$3.32
TOTAL	\$14.75	\$11.34

NEW ZEALAND & PACIFIC ISLANDS

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16
9910	\$11.59	\$15.95
9930	\$11.95	\$14.50
9970	\$4.85	\$9.92
9920	\$2.17	\$9.54
9940	\$9.00	\$5.16
9980	\$0.00	\$1.76
TOTAL	\$6.82	\$9.37

PHILIPPINES & INDONESIA

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16
3800	\$16.16	\$103.61
3870	\$4.86	\$37.75
3420	\$3.23	\$22.97
3860	\$12.26	\$22.20
3810	\$80.89	\$22.09
3850	\$24.46	\$22.05
3770	\$2.38	\$21.49
3790	\$31.44	\$18.54
3820	\$29.04	\$16.62
3830	\$41.60	\$16.22
3780	\$48.69	\$12.29
3410	\$4.90	\$8.43
TOTAL	\$28.26	\$28.41

SEPTEMBER TARGET \$25.00

POLIO PROGRESS CONTINUES

The fight to rid the world of polio continues to deliver good news. While Nigeria is back on the list of endemic countries, the overall result is encouraging. There have been 27 cases of onset paralysis so far this calendar year compared to 51 at the same stage last year. Both Nigeria and Pakistan confirmed one case last week but nothing reported in Afghanistan since 11th August.

It's also good to look at the numbers of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases (cVDPV). There have only been three cases reported so far this year against 21 at the same stage last year. Good progress all round.

Our contributions to polio have again risen and our region is generating dollars that are almost 16% higher than the same stage last year. Indonesia leads the way with an 87.5% increase followed by New Zealand (+35%), Philippines (+16%) and Australia (+10%). That's a US\$24,000 increase, and this turns into an increase of US\$72,000 when the Gates grant money is applied.

We still have work to do. Each club is being asked to contribute a minimum of US\$1,500 this year to ensure we play our part in getting the job done. One of the Presidential Citation goals is to make a contribution of US\$2,650 to Polio to honor the Foundation's Centennial Year and club's picking up on that one will probably chose October to make their move. World Polio Day is October 24th and that looks like a fine day to make a difference.

We hear of many planned events that will work in with World Polio Day and these will spread across the entire week. Encourage clubs to do something special that engages their community so that the community can take pride in what their Rotary club has done. Look at the possibility of running a World's Greatest Meal event and invite the public at large.

PDG BRUCE ALLEN



POLIO CHALLENGE - YTD SEPTEMBER 2016

AUSTRALIA

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INCREASE
9455	\$4,889	\$12,104	147.6%
9465	\$3,038	\$1,225	-59.7%
9500	\$2,928	\$4,315	47.4%
9520	\$2,290	\$1,353	-40.9%
9550	\$9,053	\$3,424	-62.2%
9570	\$3,268	\$1,089	-66.7%
9600	\$6,661	\$7,280	9.3%
9630	\$6,296	\$3,904	-38.0%
9640	\$1,383	\$6,248	351.9%
9650	\$2,014	\$6,070	201.4%
9670	\$3,772	\$5,885	56.0%
9675	\$341	\$14,795	4238.0%
9685	\$7,067	\$2,737	-61.3%
9700	\$3,732	\$5,081	36.2%
9710	\$6,022	\$8,595	42.7%
9780	\$5,310	\$2,522	-52.5%
9790	\$6,577	\$4,611	-29.9%
9800	\$3,474	\$3,390	-2.4%
9810	\$12,187	\$12,493	2.5%
9820	\$6,193	\$741	-88.0%
9830	\$1,675	\$30	-98.2%
TOTAL	\$98,170	\$107,891	9.9%

NEW ZEALAND AND PACIFIC ISLANDS

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INCREASE
9910	\$1,544	\$1,128	-26.9%
9920	\$17	\$2,322	13738.3%
9930	\$7,791	\$15,390	97.5%
9940	\$10,688	\$1,604	-85.0%
9970	\$1,850	\$9,074	390.5%
9980	\$0	\$164	N/A
TOTAL	\$21,890	\$29,682	35.6%

PHILIPPINES

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INCREASE
3770	\$1,411	\$0	-100.0%
3780	\$571	\$55	-90.3%
3790	\$1,446	\$2,265	56.7%
3800	\$10,188	\$16,840	65.3%
3810	\$10,150	\$1,322	-87.0%
3820	\$200	\$0	-100.0%
3830	\$4,008	\$1,683	-58.0%
3850	\$220	\$2,080	845.5%
3860	\$513	\$10,111	1869.6%
3870	\$2,771	\$2,302	-16.9%
TOTAL	\$31,477	\$36,658	16.5%

INDONESIA

DISTRICT	YTD SEP 15	YTD SEP 16	INCREASE
3410	\$1,314	\$110	-91.6%
3420	\$200	\$2,729	1264.5%
TOTAL	\$1,514	\$2,839	87.5%
REGION	\$153,051	\$177,070	15.7%



The following is an extract from October

DIRECTOR'S NEWS

Rotary International Zones 7A, 7B & 8

Volume 1 Issue 3: October 2016

Noel's Message

Some of the highlights of the RI Board meeting held in September are included in this Newsletter for your information. The full minutes of the Board meeting will be available by the end of November.

At the September RI Board meeting the RI Districting Committee brought forward the following motion which was passed. "The Board requests the President to appoint Director Trevaskis to work with district leadership to create national redistricting plans for Australia and New Zealand and to provide the Districting Committee with an interim report by January 2017 in order to present a complete plan to the Board at its June 2017 meeting with redistricting to take effect on 1st July 2020.

Australia and New Zealand have both lost numbers over the last few years. As a consequence there will be a reduction in the number of Districts in both Australia and New Zealand which will come into effect from July 1st 2020.

Elections are to proceed in early 2017 for District Governor Nominee (District Governors 2019-2020) in all existing Districts as usual.

I understand and accept that for some people redistricting can be an emotional issue for them but the reality is that redistricting will not be of a real concern to the majority of Rotarians. There will be ongoing dialogue on redistricting, or as would prefer to call it the establishing of new Districts with the current District Leaders of Districts.

While we are redistricting Australia and New Zealand RI is re-zoning the world. This happens every eight years.

What it means for Australia and New Zealand is that because of our dropping membership, it is likely that Australia and New Zealand will become one Zone.

Rotary International's website gives people who are interested in joining Rotary the ability to register their interest. Those contacts are processed by RI staff and sent onto Districts for them to follow up. Over a 12 month period around 100,000 from all parts of the world said they would like to be involved with Rotary. What is disturbing is that only 33% of the people making enquiries about membership of Rotary were followed up. Perhaps not all of them would be suitable for Rotary or want to make a commitment, but there are 65,000 people who expressed an interest in Rotary who were never contacted.

We need to make the most of every opportunity when it comes to membership; I hope that in our Zones that District leaders are following up every enquiry that we receive.

People have asked about getting more information on decisions that were made at the Council on Legislation held in April this year concerning "Meeting Flexibility and Format" and "Membership Types and Attendance Flexibility". Michele Berg the Deputy General Secretary has narrated two videos that will give people answers to their questions that can be accessed through the link below.

- 1) 2016 COL Decisions: Meeting Flexibility and Format (<https://vimeo.com/169728720>)
- 2) 2016 COL Decisions: Membership Types and Attendance Flexibility (<https://vimeo.com/169728997>)
[Click here](#)

District Designated Funds are available for Districts to use for projects in their own districts or other districts. These are funds that have originally come from your district. Last year there was approximately fifty eight million dollars available for use but hadn't been taken advantage of. I would encourage all Districts to make use of the District Designated Funds. I am sure that every District would have any number of projects that the funds can be utilized to do good in a local community.

Our public image is critical for us; Wendy Gaborit as the Rotary Public Image Coordinator has done an excellent job getting a story onto A Current Affair with the help of others. It is hard to put a value on that sort of exposure on national television. Yet when you drive into many towns across Australia Rotary signs at the town entrance or signs on or at the site of many of our projects leave a lot to be desired.) think we can improve our image by updating our signs to the entrance of towns or on our projects. You can access all the branding guidelines on My Rotary.

I am pleased to say that the four Chairs of Australian Rotary Health, Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children, Rotary Down Under and Rotary Australia World Community Service have agreed on having joint training for Directors and Directors Elect on their role and responsibility as Directors. The first training or orientation will be held in April 2017. This training will be ongoing and will give them an understanding of good governance and due diligence as a Director.

The polio situation in Nigeria has been a challenge but Rotary has stepped up and been at the fore- front to get control of this outbreak. Nigeria has shown us that the eradication of polio is a continuing battle and that we cannot relax in our endeavours. We will eradicate polio and we will do it soon!

Regards, Noel

How do you create stronger connections in your community?

**Rotary
Voices**

By Michael Bucca, President of The Central Ocean Rotary Club of Toms River, New Jersey, USA.

Rotary clubs are always looking for ideas on how to increase membership and develop meaningful service projects. Sometimes, the answers lie outside our own club or organization.

Partnering with other local charities, or joining a service project already in progress, are excellent ways of furthering our mission of Service Above Self. Look around for organizations that share similar goals as Rotary. Invite someone from their group to come and speak to your club. In doing so, you develop an immediate contact that can be built into a deeper relationship.

The Central Ocean Rotary Club of Toms River, New Jersey, USA has been doing this long before I was a member. Directors and board members of about two-dozen organizations are on a first name basis with at least one of our members. About half of our club members either run a local non-profit organization or serve on a charity's board. Some of this has evolved organically over time, but this year it has been a focus of our club.

The opportunities for service this has opened up are outstanding. We have plenty of activities to choose from for service. We also participate in about a dozen or more events, which continually puts Rotary front and center in the community at large.

How can you go about creating service connections in your community?

- Contact non-profits in your area about opportunities to serve them. Assign one of your members to create a relationship with a representative from their organization, and invite them to speak to your club.
- Ask your club members to participate as board members for other charities that they feel passionate about. This creates a link between the two organizations and makes the member feel engaged by acting as liaison for Rotary and the other non-profit.
- Co-sponsor a fundraiser or event with a local organization. By sharing the event, the public relations opportunities for Rotary become more far reaching, especially if the charity is widely known.

This is by no means an overnight process. But in time, you will find community leaders coming to your Rotary club looking to get something accomplished. Your Rotary club can become the hub of community activity, maximizing the potential to perform Service Above Self.

Michael Bucca is president of the Central Ocean Rotary Club of Toms River, New Jersey, USA, and co-chair of the District 7500 Public Image Committee. He can be reached at buccam@gmail.com or followed on Twitter @MichaelBucca



Michael Bucca addresses a club about raising its profile in the community.

How to promote your club by not talking about your club

**Rotary
Voices**

By Quentin Wodon, Rotary Club of Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., USA

Sometimes the best way to gain a little attention for your club is to not talk about your club, but about other worthy groups and volunteers you are working with.

Rotary members are becoming more aware of the need to tell their Rotary story. But here's the catch. It may be better to use local blogs or magazines in your community rather than your club or district's own channels. This is because typically, these external sources will have a much larger readership.

But how do you get local blogs or magazine to use your stories?

Once in a while, you may have a great story to tell about your club that the blog or magazine will accept. However, they are not going to want to repeatedly publish stories on so narrow a topic. This is where talking about other organizations comes into play.

As president of my club this year, I have started to write stories about our nonprofit partners, focusing on their work, but also inserting a few lines about our Rotary club in each story.

The main local blog for my club's community in Washington, D.C., is "The Hill Is Home." And the main magazine is Hill Rag, which is published monthly. So I started writing stories for both, again not directly about our club, but about the great work that our nonprofit partners are doing, and how we are working with them. At the bottom of each article or blog post I provide basic information on our club and when we have our regular meetings. So far I have published three articles for Hill Rag and a half dozen blog posts for the Hill Is Home.

It's all about visibility

This approach seems to be worthwhile not only to get our club slightly better know, but more importantly to give visibility to great nonprofits serving those in need. For example, one of the stories focused on Capitol Hill Group Ministry, which organizes teams of volunteers to check on the welfare of homeless, especially during extreme weather.



Volunteers from Capitol Hill Group Ministry assist the homeless.

Photo courtesy Capitol Hill Group Ministry

Our nonprofit partners are grateful when we write about them. They deserve the spotlight as they are truly at the frontline in helping the poor and those who are vulnerable in our communities.

Hopefully, this strategy of writing about our nonprofit partners helps them and promotes volunteering in the community, while also mentioning in passing the role that our club plays in contributing to positive change.

About the author:



Quentin Wodon is a lead economist at the World Bank. He holds PhDs in economics and in theology and religious studies, and has taught at universities in Europe and the U.S. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill, in Washington, D.C., and is involved in several innovative global grants. He is also author of the [Rotarian Economist](#) blog.

How to get more bang out of your bulletin

**Rotary
Voices**



*By Evan Burrell, a member of the
Rotary Club of Turramurra,
New South Wales, Australia*

Every single time you publish your online club bulletin or newsletter and email it to your subscribers, you should be asking yourself, "Have I made it informative AND engaging?"

Basically, your club bulletin could be the best piece of writing ever, but if no one reads it, what is the point? And if they do happen to read it but get absolutely no value out of it, what have you accomplished?

Make sure your club bulletin works for you, and the best way to do that is to make sure you are offering your readers something of real practical value.

Survey says

The original and most common form of engaging your readers is a survey. You could survey your readers about any number of things including how satisfied they are with your club or with a recent event, what they would like to see as future events, or what they think should be a topic for future speaker. You can even get more informal, and ask who they think will win the next big sports championship in your area.



Another way to increase reader interest is a generous use of photos, or even dropping in a video. If you use a photo, add a caption. Image and caption serve as a visual entry point for your readers and break up the monotony of text. As they say "a picture is worth a thousand words." Have you got something funny to share? Maybe you can illustrate it with a few good photos. Or point your readers to a YouTube video. Websites like YouTube make it easy to incorporate multimedia into your online bulletin or newsletter.

Connect it to social media

And make sure whatever you do through your bulletin is integrated with your Facebook page. Ask your bulletin readers if they have anything to share on your club's Facebook page. This not only involves your readers, but also promotes your social media channels.

Put some life into your next bulletin. Move beyond the monotony of text. Give them a reason to look forward to your next newsletter, and a reason to not only read, but be a part of the discussion. You want your subscribers to be active participants, not just passive occasional readers.

Find more advice on [promoting your club](#)