



Hullo Rotarians



Welcome to 2014/15 in District 9455 when we as Rotarians light up Rotary.

The baton has been passed (quite literally) and therefore I would like to thank PDG Hank de Smit and his team for a successful year. I would like to introduce my team for 2014-15 including DGE Jerry Pilcher, DGN Patricia Canning and the assistant governors. You can read their profiles starting from p.8 in your 2014-15 District Directory; my thanks and best wishes to them and to all other District officers. Best wishes to club presidents and all Rotarians in D2014-15 for a successful Rotary year.

As part of District training this year I will emphasise the idea of TEAM – together everyone achieves more. This concept also applies in our clubs and of course for Rotary International. We achieve so much as part of our amazing worldwide organisation and together – as a team – we can achieve more.

Grace and I are thrilled to be embarking on this wonderful journey of a new Rotary year.

It was a humbling, proud and exciting moment to address the District change-over dinner on June 28, when (again, literally) we did light up Rotary. I wish you well this year in your service in Rotary.

Our theme this year – Light up Rotary – is the inspiration of Rotary International President Gary Huang and based on the teachings of the Chinese Philosopher Confucius who said: "It is better to light a single candle than to sit and curse the darkness."

President Gary asks every Rotarian to Light up Rotary.

"The Rotary way is to light a candle. I light one, you light one, 1.2 million Rotarians light one. Together we light up the world," he said in launching the 2014-15 theme.

This year I will continue to challenge all clubs to ensure that they are healthy and hold an active vision for our future. We all need to make sure that we are thinking about not only what we are doing today but what will our clubs be like in 5, 10 and 20 years. How do we plan for a positive and strong future? There is little doubt that in 20 years your service in undertaking Rotary's current work in our community will still be needed and relevant. We cannot foretell what will be Rotary's future work but we must be open and ready for whatever it is. Therefore we need to keep planning, grasp opportunities and continue to build the future that awaits us.

That is why I have set the theme of this year's March conference as, Looking Forward: a 2020 Vision.

It's time to have the courageous conversations about our future. It's time for Rotary to engage, lead, and innovate both within itself and the wider community. It's time that we continue to embrace challenges, explore new ideas as something positive even, at times, deal with the discomfort that change creates.

We all have a responsibility to ensure the future of our amazing organisation. Within the next few months the District will launch a new strategic plan for the coming three years that will make a positive statement about the future of Rotary, embracing the challenges before us and the opportunities to increase the relevancy and strength of our work.

While there are genuine concerns regarding current levels of membership in some clubs, I remain confident that Rotary's brand will be strong and relevant in 20 years. But we must all accept, and embrace, the dynamic nature of our society as an asset and engage with the next generations of Rotarians positively to ensure a forward-looking vision and the capacity to make it happen.

President Gary Huang asks that we Rotarians continue to place emphasis on three important areas.

First is Polio Plus. While the final push remains a significant challenge, Rotarians can be proud of their commitment to finish the task of eradicating polio from the world. It will happen. When Rotary starts something, we finish it. Rotarians, you are part of this; please continue to contribute generously to Polio Plus.

Secondly, as a membership-based organisation we need to keep our focus on membership. Just think; if every Rotarian introduced a new member this year we would double our membership. But realistically let's limit that target to 20% - just 1 Rotarian in 5 to sponsor a new member. Let's be proud of what Rotary does, what it is and

what it offers. Invite a person to join your club. Remember, the more Rotarians there are in the world the more good we can achieve.

Lastly, President Gary asks you to actively promote Rotary by holding Rotary Days. I am looking forward to participating in club events throughout the year that showcase the work and outcomes of Rotary. Our District will place increased emphasis on public relations and promotions, including the ongoing development of the website and contemporary communications.

I wish you and your club a successful year as together we Light Up Rotary.

Angus Buchanan
District Governor
RI District 9455

Latest News..

Admission to the fair is by gold coin donation and proceeds made by the Rotary Club through entry & the sale of bays will go towards community projects.

Non-stop entertainment including local school bands, choirs, dance troupes, gymnasts, martial art displays and much more; plus a large number of craft and food stalls are expected to attract a crowd on the day.

Venue: Ballajura Community College Soccer Oval
Corner of Illawarra Cres & Cassowary Drv
Ballajura W.A.

Times: 10am to 3.30pm

Contact: Clint 0423 226 898
Email: fair@ballajurarotary.info

Have you ever wondered why the Rotary year begins on 1 July? Find out here!

The District Conference will be held on 13th (evening) and 14th March 2015. It is shaping up to be a great event so save the date now. Registrations will open on August 1. It will be great value with full registration costing \$195 which includes the Friday night reception, the Conference on Saturday and the District Gala Ball at the Hyatt on the Saturday night. Seating at the Conference will be limited so don't miss out! Watch our promotional video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPLBAP5qr6o>

District Grants are for smaller local community or international projects which address at least one of the Areas of Focus. They require active Rotarian participation and requires a partner (Rotary District, a Rotary Club or a third party) if an international project is undertaken. The Rotary club is accountable for the management of grant funds in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The minimum grant is \$1,000 with matching club contributions dollar for dollar. Interested – contact Geoff Russell 0418924775 or PDG Geoff Simpson 0408 925423.

The Club is meeting on Tuesday evening at the Ellenbrook Library, Main Street Ellenbrook 6.30 pm. For further information please contact Norm de Grussa 0411 043889

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