



Rotary District 9455
District Governors
Newsletter



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DG's Newsletter – December 2015

Sent to All District 9455 Rotarians on email

Firstly, Kerry and I would like to wish all of you – Rotarians, partners and families a very safe and peaceful Christmas and a great New Year. We thank each and every one of you for all that you do to help those in our local and global communities that need your support so desperately. Enjoy the short break and we will all be back to do more in 2016.

The terrible bushfires in the Esperance area have left so much damage and destruction. Many people have asked what can be done to help. The Esperance Rotary Clubs are looking to set up a fund for ongoing counselling and support. If your Club wants to help, please contact the District 9465 Governor, Melodie Kevan – melodie.kevan@inet.net.au. Our sincere thanks go to Sheryl Bryan and the members of the Moora Rotary Club who have donated \$ 5,000 to the Esperance Clubs.

Our heartfelt condolences go to Past District Governor Don Hopkins and his family at the sad passing of Don's beloved wife Barbara. Barbara passed away last week.

Rotary's 111th Birthday will be in February 2016. To celebrate this event we are holding a "Million Dollar Dinner" to help raise much needed funds for our Charity of choice – The Rotary Foundation. This will be held at the Parmelia Hilton on Friday 26th February 2016. The hope is that 100 Rotarians, or partners and friends will make a bequest to the Rotary Foundation of \$ 10,000 US or above. The keynote speaker is Past RI President Bill Boyd from New Zealand. Bill is a magical storyteller, very worthwhile listening to.

We stress that ALL Rotarians and your partners are welcome to come to this dinner – the cost is \$ 125 per head. This is a Bi-District event supporting the Foundation and there are only 250 seats available. It is very pleasing to note that recently in the USA, The Rotary Foundation was listed in the top 10 Charities at No 5 – based on transparency, governance, financial management, and, of course, the fact that the money you donate all goes to support the needy in the world.

The Membership Forum was very successful, and our thanks go to PDG Angus Buchanan, Peter Durrant, to our AG's who were there to help out, also to DGE Patricia Canning & DGN Lindsay Dry. The results and a video have been sent out to all our Clubs, through the Club President, Secretary and Membership Chair. Please remember that the membership teams are available to help you and your Club.

From the ideas that came out of this forum there are many opportunities for your Club to not only grow your membership, but also by ensuring that your members are all engaged, involved and enjoying Rotary, then they will stay as members, helping your Club to remain or become strong.

Your response to the call to action for Trainers and facilitators has been excellent, thank you. Our Director for Succession Planning, Peter Durrant will be in touch with all the volunteers very soon. We are also seeking your help to form a "Communicating Rotary WA" team where you can express your thoughts about how we get the message out there as to who we are, what we do, how we make a difference, and why people should join with us.

We have recently produced a Booklet describing ALL the Youth programmes that our District offers. This was circulated to your Club President, Secretary and Youth Service Chairs. The booklet was compiled by AG Jane O'Leary and PDG Hank de Smit. It is available electronically and we have 500 printed copies also. The idea being to show all our young alumni, and their parents, the clear, logical, attractive pathway that Rotary offers with all our programmes. The goal is to keep more young people within the Rotary "family", and converting more of them into Rotaractors and Rotarians. Hopefully the parents also will realise the great work that you do, and want to join your Club.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that we received 7 nominations from young people to attend the Young Leaders Summit in Seoul, Korea as part of the next International Convention. We had originally agreed to part sponsor 5 delegates, but then we decided to nominate all 7 delegates. The successful nominees are – Rotarians Biju Anthony (Balcatta RC), Daniel Mitchell (Osborne Park RC), Gia Le and Sri Kesavarapu (Bayview Claremont RC), our Rotaract District Representative – Stephanie Webb, Katharine McKenzie who is helping the Scarborough RC with a new membership initiative and is a past Youth Exchange Student and Group Study Exchange team member, as well as Laura Kuiper, a past Youth Exchange student from Kununurra who helps the club there immensely.

Stephen Innouye, a Rotarian in the Perth RC has nominated to go to the Rotary Gallipoli Peace forum initiative to be held in Turkey in April 2016. This forum is the first in a series of three, covering different aspects of peace. I'm sure that you will join me in congratulating Stephen on his commitment and we look forward to hearing from Stephen and the Young Leaders in Seoul on their return.

Rotarian Sylvia Shrubsall from the Matilda Bay RC has also been accepted as a Rotary Cadre member, congratulations Sylvia, and again thank you for your dedication.

President David Brockway (Mundaring RC) has sent us this link showing how the Shelterbox relief effort is being used in Syria, where this sort of help is so desperately needed. David assures us that if you request that the boxes go to Syria, this is guaranteed. Your district has decided to allocate \$ 5,000 from the District Disaster Fund to assist in Syria. Some recent 'flickr' photos about Shelterbox in Syria – <https://www.flickr.com/photos/shelterboxuk/sets/72157661984849975>

Has your Club considered nominating a suitable candidate for a Rotary Peace Fellowship or any of the other programmes offered by our Foundation, e.g. Scholars, Vocational Training Teams? All details can be found on Rotary.org – here is the link to the Peace Fellowship, for example - [Rotary Peace Fellowship](#)

Donations in kind is a vital part of the Rotary Australia World Community Service programme. As the title suggests used equipment for Hospitals, Schools and so on are collected, stored and then transported overseas to help communities that need the equipment. Many Clubs are already involved in this programme and we are very grateful to you for that support.

Trevor Canning (Scarborough RC) is the coordinator and is seeking your help. We have run out of storage space and equipment is being stored at many different locations in the Metro area. If you know of somewhere where there is spare space, we need about 1,000 square metres, please let Trevor know. There may be a kind business owner with some spare space available. Alternatively, if your Club is considering a Men's Shed in the near future, please consider factoring in some space for DIK.

A letter has gone to all your Club Presidents asking you to seriously consider nominating a suitable Rotarian to be our District Governor for 2018 – 2019. Nominations close at the end of January 2016. It is a role that brings so much enjoyment of Rotary as we meet all of you dedicated, wonderful people.

You are all truly an inspiration in all that you do to help our Community, whilst enjoying Rotary at the same time. I look forward to meeting everyone in 2016 again.

Very best wishes to you and your families - Jerry Pilcher