

“The Future Of Rotary Is In Your Hands”

FROM WHERE I SIT; THE MONTH IN REVIEW



D.G. PAUL REID

R.I. PRESIDENT JOHN KENNY

9690 DISTRICT NEWS

Well here we are with this the last of my District Newsletters. When I penned the first way back in July last year I thought what a daunting task to have to do one of these things each month.

But I was very wrong and must confess that I have derived a great deal of satisfaction and joy in being able to communicate to the whole of the District via such a medium.

However it would be extremely remiss of me not to publicly thank Mel Gray from Blacktown City club who has done a magnificent job in putting the newsletter together.

Thanks mate.

As our year as District Governor draws very quickly to its close Julia & I would like to thank each and every one of you for allowing us to have such a wonderful time and providing us with so many memorable experiences.

Being a Kid in a Lolly Shop is an enjoyable experience and we would sincerely recommend it to every Rotarian within the District.

It has been fantastic to be in attendance at the charter nights of our newest Rotary Club, Revesby-Wirrimbirra, the Rotaract Club of Greater Western Sydney and the Interact Club from Granville Boys High School.

My and the Districts thanks to those clubs and dedicated

members who brought these three new clubs into existence.

However we have not done so great in increasing our membership. Even with a new club with 20 members and over 50 new members inducted during the year we have only managed to grow our total numbers in the 10 months to 30 April 2010 by a net 1.

Some clubs do not have a problem in attracting new members but it does show that retention is also very important.

Just imaging if we had been able to retain all of our existing members, the new minimum numbers for District membership would not be the worry that it is.

Having said that, one of the great experiences of being Governor is seeing the tremendous work that you and your clubs carry out within your local communities.

As I have said before and never tire of saying it, Rotarians in District 9690 do make a positive difference and the world would truly be a less fortunate place without all of your efforts.

As the year draws to a close, it is the time traditionally when clubs look at distributing the funds

that have been raised throughout the year.

I sincerely ask that you do not forget our own charity, The Rotary Foundation.

Whilst it is important that we support our local communities and groups. The Rotary Foundation is the vehicle that enables Rotary to continue to make a difference throughout the world.

This is also true for our own communities with 50% of the funds that we give to The Rotary Foundation being returned to our District via the District Designated Funds and such areas as Simplified Grants.

With the end of 2009-10 drawing to a close it is important to remember and ensure that the thrust and commitment to each years theme is not consigned to history.

I doubt that during this year not one of you would have failed to “Make Dreams Real” for those who sought our help and so it is just as relevant as we approach a new Rotary year that “THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS”.

Paul



THE OTHER POINT OF VIEW

What can I say, I ask myself as I sit to write my little bit for our last newsletter? The only thing I can say is the biggest Thank you to the member's, friends and families in Rotary District 9690.

Thank you, for the encouragement and support you gave to me personally.

Thank you, for the Socks for St Jude's and supporting the Raffle at Conference. We were able to send \$1778-00 to the school which has helped them in various areas.

Also to those who indulged my passion, that it is every person's right to be able to read, my Book Buzz account has amounted to around \$5000. Thank you so much.

On a personal note, many of you asked me at the beginning of the year "what I had let myself in for" my standard answer was, I will blink and it will be the end of June;

Sadly I Blinked.

Take care

Julia

Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship – 2011-12

Applications are now being sought for Ambassadorial Scholars and clubs are now invited to seek suitable candidates. Clubs may submit one endorsed scholarship candidate per club and applications will close on August 15 with the Scholarships Committee.

Ambassadorial Scholarships support the overall mission of The Rotary Foundation - to further international understanding and world peace — through the following program objectives:

- Increasing awareness of and respect for cultural differences by sending ambassadors of goodwill to study in another country
- Instilling in scholars the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self through active participation in Rotary service projects
- Encouraging scholars to dedicate their personal and professional lives to improving the quality of life for the people of their home communities and countries
- Developing leaders who can address the humanitarian needs of the world community
- Affecting all areas of the world through a balanced geographical distribution of scholars
- Encouraging Rotarians worldwide to increase the educational opportunities for scholars from low-income countries
- Fostering a lifelong association between Rotary and its scholars

Rotarians support the Ambassadorial Scholarships program not only by contributing to the Foundation but also by giving their time sponsoring and hosting scholars every year. Through this guidance and leadership provided to scholars, the program produces men and women with the compassion and understanding to provide solutions to human needs.

Additional program information can be found at www.rotary.org and you can download the application form at www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_doc/139en.doc. Other enquiries can be directed to PDG Harley Tarrant, PDG Jennifer Scott or PDG Warwick Tester.

Why I Am a Rotarian

I am a Rotarian because a dear old primary school headmaster sought me out as a young country newspaper editor and invited me to join the Rotary Club of Parkes, NSW, Australia, many years ago.

I have remained a Rotarian for 35 years because it did not take me long to realize that this unique vocationally based service organization provided the opportunity for ONE person to be part of an amazing humanitarian army doing special things in our world. We heal the sick, care for the poor, provide basic literacy and numeracy skills, provide food and fresh water for the hungry, and - in recent times - provide educational resources for a new breed of 'peace fighters' playing a major role in conflict resolution around our world.

I have great pride in Rotary's ongoing mentoring of young people and dedication to lifting ethics in business, and I draw daily inspiration from the knowledge that Rotary International impacts 33,000 communities throughout our world EVERY DAY!

PDG Bob Aitken AM



Can Rotary Make a Difference?

ROTARY MAGNETISES MENTAL HEALTH

Crisis to Recovery

Over 100 people from the local community attended the recent Mental Health Forum held by the Rotary Club of Revesby Warrimbirra at Revesby Workers Club.

The forum was opened by Mayor Tania Mihailuk who spoke of Bankstown Council's commitment to destigmatising mental illness. Gavin Douglas, Vice President and Youth Director of Revesby Warrimbirra Rotary, introduced the panelists and speakers for the night.

Margaret Hughes, a clinical nurse consultant with Sydney south West Area Health Service gave her perspective coming from 40 years experience in the field. Inspector Mark Smith, Mental Health Police Liaison Officer from Bankstown discussed the changes in police management when called to a crisis. Julie Sengstock told of how she was born into the role of a carer for her schizophrenic mother and how she had to fight the system to get answers and solutions. Fay Jackson, on the other hand, spoke as a consumer, and how she dealt with the day-to-day management of her illness. Fay now manages her own business Mind vision which runs mental health first aid courses.

Tables were manned by the support groups, ARAFMI, AFFORD, Bankstown Anxiety Clinic, Carers Assist, GROW,

MHAS (Legal Aid NSW), Serenity, Speranza and Transcultural Mental Health. Rotarians greeted locals at the door and presented them with an emerald green ribbon to wear in support of those with mental illness.

Sharon Bond, President of Revesby Warrimbirra Rotary, commented, "the most outstanding aspect of the night was the open forum where people spoke positively and optimistically concerning their issues. The greatest need is knowing what to do and who to call when a crisis occurs. The internet and pamphlets often hinder rather than help when people need guidance and direction."

The Rotary Club of Revesby Warrimbirra took these comments on board and has approached Bankstown Council to take part in a joint project where support groups and local health services are consulted as to what are the best contact numbers to call in an emergency. These contacts and phone numbers would then be put on a magnet and sent out to Bankstown ratepayers.

The Rotary Club of Revesby Warrimbirra would like to acknowledge the support received from the Mental Health Council of Australia, Rotary Foundation and Australian Rotary Health. Following the success of this forum, the Club hopes to organise yearly mental health forums perhaps with different themes and would be open to suggestions from the local community. The Rotary Club of Revesby Warrimbirra can be contacted through their website www.revesbywarrimbirrarotary.org

DISTRICT CHANGEOVER

Members, partners and guests of all clubs in District 9690 are welcomed to the changeover from District Governor Paul to District Governor Elect Marilyn on Sunday 11th July from noon.

The changeover is to be held at The Richmond Club, on the corner of Francis Street and East Market Street Richmond, commencing at 12 noon.

The cost is \$35 per person where a 2 course dinner will commence at 1.00pm.

The function will also include the Changeover of 9690 District Rotaract.

The changeover is being hosted by the Rotary club of Hawkesbury and you are required to RSVP by 25th June 2010

Enquiries to Treasurer Margaret Fenech, Rotary Club of Hawkesbury PO Box 274, Richmond 2753 or phone 0414-860-991

Foundation exists to support the good we do

In Rotary, we are guided by the three simple words of our motto, Service Above Self. That motto forms an important part of our identity as Rotarians. It reminds us why we are here, why our every action matters, and why we take the time and the initiative to help others wherever and however we can.



Our Rotary Foundation has its own motto: Doing Good in the World.

Doing Good in the World is more than a slogan. It is our goal, our mission, and our reminder. It expresses in the clearest terms why we have a Foundation, and it challenges us to reach as far as we can to do the most good possible with everything we have.

Our Foundation exists to support the good that we can do through Rotary. It expands our reach, increases our strength, and makes our service more powerful and more effective. Because of our Foundation we can, very simply, do more of our Rotary work. In May, I marked a personal milestone: 50 years as a Rotarian. In that time, I have seen so much achieved through Rotary, and seen very clearly how much of Rotary's ability to do good is drawn from our Foundation. Through our Foundation, every one of us has an

opportunity to be a part of all the good that Rotary does.

This month marks the end of my service as trustee chair of our Rotary Foundation.

I am grateful for the opportunity to know so many of you, and I thank you all for your support and encouragement. Please join me in welcoming our incoming trustee chair, Past RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, and in wishing him great success.

Glenn Estess Sr Chairman,

The Rotary Foundation

Article courtesy RDU magazine

**R.I. PRESIDENT JOHN KENNY
D.G. PAUL REID**

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***The Future Of Rotary Is In Your
Hands***

We're on the Web!

www.rotary9690.org.au

CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

Should you have any alterations to the District Directory details could you please send the correction to D.G. Paul or editor Melvin Gray and they will be included in the next issue of the District Newsletter.

A thought for the month

By three methods we may learn wisdom:

First, by reflection, which is noblest;

Second, by imitation, which is easiest;

And third by experience, which is the bitterest.

Confucius



District Membership

CLUB	1-Jul-09	Change	31-May-10
Bankstown	11		11
Blackheath	16		16
Blacktown City	53	6	59
Breakfast Point	27	-1	26
Burwood	43	-5	38
Cabramatta	15	3	18
Central Blue Mount	23	3	26
Chester Hill	13	-2	11
Concord	36	12	48
Granville	20	-2	18
Hawkesbury	17	1	18
Holroyd	35		35
Katoomba	22		22
Kurrajong/Nth Rich	18		18
Liverpool	30	1	31
Liverpool Greenway	32	-4	28
Liverpool West	25	1	26
Lower Blue Mount	56	-3	53
Mount Druitt	18		18
Nepean	27		27
Padstow	43	-4	39
Parramatta	27	-2	25
Parramatta City	31	-2	29
Parramatta Daybreak	15		15
Penrith	34	-1	33
Penrith Valley	45		45
Prospect	8	2	10
Revesby Werrimbirra	0	22	22
Richmond	44	-5	39
Springwood	33		33
St. Mary's	21		21
Strathfield	63	-4	59
Upper Blue Mount Sun	20	3	23
Wallacia/Mulgoa Valley	12	2	14
Wetherill Park	34	-4	30
Windsor	39		39
Total	1006	18	1024

Welcome our latest Rotarians

Congratulations and welcome to each of you. May your membership with your new club be exciting and full of great fellowship.

Dominic Blachon - Revesby Werrimbirra

Thea Davies - Revesby Werrimbirra

Cherie Johnson - Revesby Werrimbirra