

the networker

February 2016 - Issue 13

rotarydistrict9800.com.au

Peace is its own reward

Mahatma Ghandi

INSIDE

**Violence Free Families
Ambassador to Louisiana**

**DGE Neville is our San
Diego correspondent**

Mulching Up The Mess

Rotary

District 9800



DG Julie Mason's Message



February Area of Focus: Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution



Peace cannot be kept by force, it can only be achieved by understanding. - Albert Einstein

It seems that in the world today the role of Rotary to take a position of facilitation for peace is just so important. But how will this happen? Several District and club signature programs could in fact be seen as precursors for world peace.

Our District has an unbroken record of providing participants in the **Rotary World Peace Fellows Program**. At this time Peace Scholar Ellen Maynes is currently in Thailand and is participating in classes at the Rotary Peace Centre at Chulalongkorn University. The Rotary Peace Centre is a fantastic facility with the university a lush oasis compared to the chaos of Bangkok traffic and high-rise buildings. There are twenty other students participating in the program this year from around the globe - all have very diverse experience and credentials. Ellen has met her Host Counsellor from a local Thai Rotary Club and will get an opportunity to speak at hopefully several meetings. She has made contact with the Australian Embassy in Bangkok and has shared information about the peace program. In late January she was to visit the Mae Sot Refugee Camp on the Thai/Myanmar border and in March will travel to Nepal. It will be interesting to follow Ellen's adventures and to see just how much her life changes as a result of the District 9800 commitment to the Rotary World Peace Fellows program.



The **Rotary International Convention** is another great opportunity to immerse yourself in the diversity of cultures in Rotary. I am attending the Convention in Seoul and I would love to have your company. I, along with some twenty one Rotarians and partners who have registered, will have the chance to mingle in harmony, with an expected 50,000 people from all continents and learn more about the fabric of our organisation that embodies peaceful solution to significant world problems. I will be participating in three kilometre **Walk for Peace** down the main street of Seoul and will proudly wave the Australian flag.



Our District has four remarkable younger Rotarians attending the **Youth Summit in Seoul**. Amanda Wendt and Nicole Lake from Melbourne Park Rotary, Himanshu Kaushik from Essendon North Rotary and Robert Foran from Echuca Moama Rotary will be attending a program for future Rotary Leaders prior to the start of the Convention. They will then take on a Volunteer role and participate in the Convention and be involved in a service project.

They are sponsored by District 9800, hosted whilst in Korea, and I have asked them to bring back an idea to implement in our District.

I do believe that our ongoing commitment to the **Rotary Youth Exchange Program**

is also significant in contributing to world understanding and future peaceful world.

Each year approximately thirty young people spend a year in another country, with fifteen leaving our District and others arriving from several different countries, to increase their understanding of the wider world in which we live. Every time a family provides a home for these young people lives are enriched and life-long relationships are formed. Just by engaging in this important program you are a positive factor in creating the understanding needed to add to **world peace**.

Maybe this lovely quote from Dr Seuss sums up the power and potential you as a Rotarian have to influence positive changes to secure a peaceful world for my grandchildren:

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.

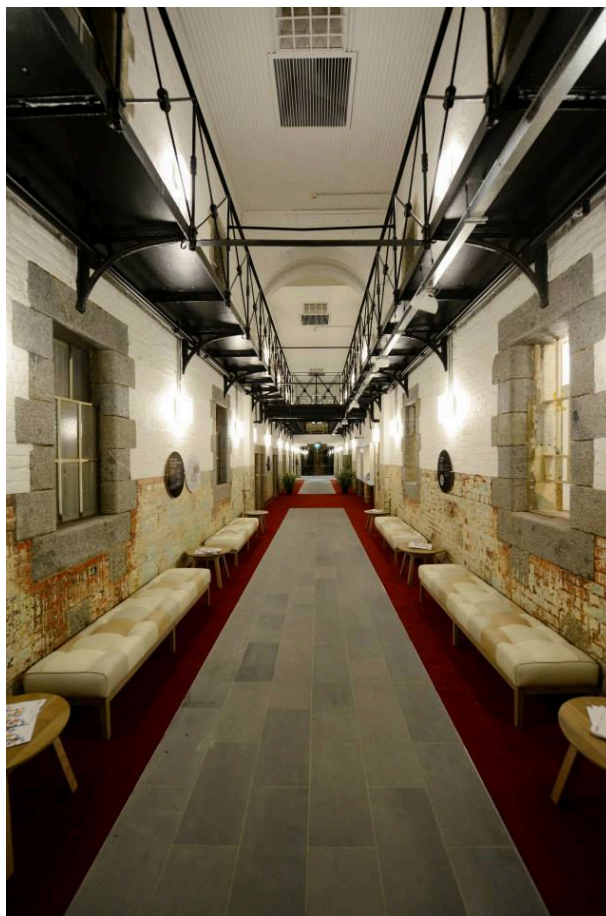
Dr Seuss, Oh, The Places You'll Go!

Take Rotary from the Inside Out

What a wonderful organisation we chose to join when we became a Rotarian by saying “yes” to some wise person who invited us to come along to a Club and find out what happens in the name of Rotary. So do we actually celebrate what Rotary does and stands for? I suspect in the business of life we don’t always find time to stop, reflect and celebrate our achievements. How about in the week of the **23rd of February**, at your usual meeting, a special celebration of Rotary is included. This could involve a reflection of special club achievements and members with possible new members attending. It could **Take Rotary from the Inside Out!** How about you arrange for your meeting to be out and visible for any passing people to actually see your gathering in action. For Clubs who meet in city venues with pavement tables, how wonderful would it be for the passing parade of people to see the Rotary Banners and you celebrating “being a



Rotarian”? Is it possible to meet at a venue where you are visible to the public? Now I know that Rotarians are resourceful, fun loving people who are proud of what they do for their community, so how about we let others know this in and around Rotary’s Birthday!



The Ulumbarra Theatre and Old Bendigo Gaol

Conference

Thank so much to over 800 people who have registered to attend the District Conference in Bendigo. I guess I can no longer say to them.....You’ll Never Never Know if you Never Bendigo!! It is not too late for you to Register but be quick!

Enjoy Rotary as you are..... a Gift to the World.

Ubuntu: I am, because you are.

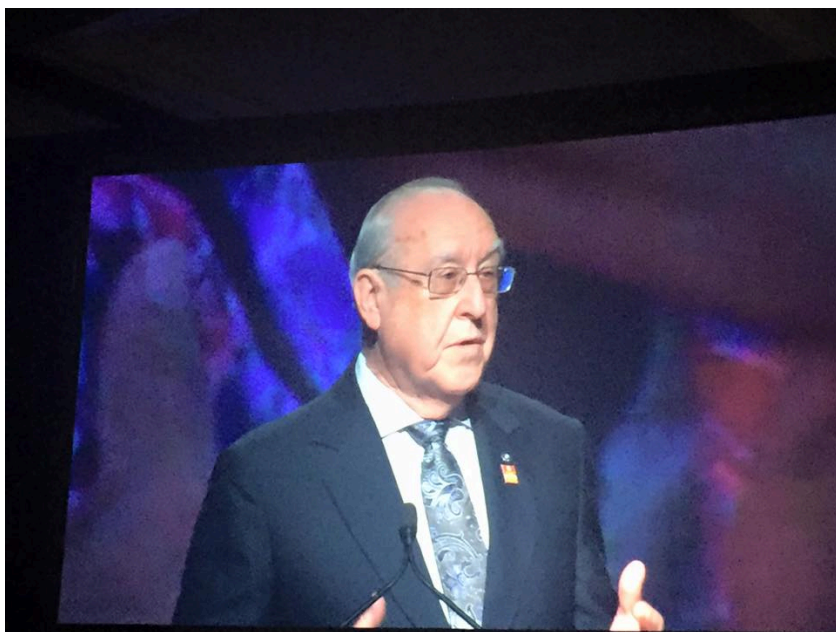
Julie Mason

District Governor

Live from Rotary International Assembly

By DGE Neville John, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

Every year Rotary International holds an Assembly for District Governor's Elect and their spouses, in San Diego California USA. The Assembly is a weeklong motivational training meeting where approximately 530 DG'S E from all over the world come together to prepare for the coming year.



Because every governor-elect will attend, it is an opportunity to exchange ideas and connect with Rotarians from around the world. The connections often become partnerships for service projects and cultural exchanges.



The program for Governor's Elect comprises both general plenary sessions and small group sessions. The general sessions include inspirational speeches from people such as the RI president-elect, The Rotary Foundation trustee chair-elect, and Rotary's general secretary. The small group sessions provide an opportunity to go over our respective plans for the upcoming year and discover new ideas and strategies from other participants. Although the International Assembly program varies from year to year, common topics include The Rotary Foundation, public image and membership.

Separate breakout sessions are also held for spouses and partners where they discuss a variety of topics related to Rotary service projects, the Rotary Foundation and how it serves humanity. Rebecca is very much part of the Governor journey and along the way has expressed her amazement at the breadth of the humanitarian work done by Rotary clubs.

RIPE John Germ also announced the theme for the next Rotary year, 'Rotary Serving Humanity'. Well done John on choosing another robust statement of what Rotary is all about. As we have much more to do this year to 'Be a Gift to the World', I will be limiting my discussions on next year's theme for now to the upcoming President's Elect training sessions.

Paul Harris once described Rotary as a being like a 'huge, powerful machine', and that is even more evident to me at events like these. You and I should be proud to be members of this amazing organisation. Perhaps a great gift you could give someone is to sponsor them as a member too.



Photos show RI President Elect John Germ's welcoming address, and DGE Neville John and Rebecca in an informal moment.

Mulching Up the Xmas Tree Mess

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

In my street in Ascot Vale, one neighbor has tossed his Christmas Tree – now brown and dead – onto the street verge. Opposite, a neighbor has stuffed his dead tree into the council's wheelie bin, which the council refuses to empty. But another neighbor told me, "They ought to do what we do – get a Rotary tree before Christmas, and they take it away and mulch it in January."

I checked up and this clever club turned out to be Essendon North. It makes Christmas Trees its main fund-raiser, selling during four weeks from late November.

President Himanshu Kaushik won't say how much the club earns because it's competing with many commercial outlets for the trees. But nearly all the 26 members are on the project, from marketing to logistics, sales and January disposals.

Member Barry Harvey takes his truck to a Daylesford tree farm each Friday. Customers (many pre-ordering) then collect the trees from a local motel and from the Essendon Keilor College car park.

Four to six members do half day to full day shifts on Saturday and Sunday for three weekends in December.

January 3 was mulching day, with a council mulcher at Essendon Keilor College, and four club members helping. The trees are bulky items, some well over 2 metres. They sell for \$55 plus \$35 for the stand. Local delivery and mulching is charged at \$10 each.

The main beneficiary from the fundraisers are local charities group and Rotary youth programs. Last year the club built the Mens' Shed in Strathmore, with two nearby Rotary clubs and Moonee Valley Council.

Club president Himanshu points to the two-way benefits of clubs working with community groups. His club has supported the college and the college provides the car park sales point. Club volunteers had also supported the Moonee Valley Colour Run along the Maribyrnong for several years each March, after which the council handed the whole organizing and fund-raising to the club.

Runner numbers on that project have leapt from 300 two years ago to an expected 1000 this March.

Proceeds go to local charities and the Yatra Foundation for severely under-privileged school children in India. The foundation has so far given 750 children a new start in life through schooling and computer training.

Contact: himanshu.latrobe@gmail.com



Happy customers - big and little- for a Rotary Christmas tree.

Violence Free Family Ambassador

By PDG Murray Verso, RC Williamstown

Police Superintendent Matthew Ryan has been selected to represent District 9800 on a vocational exchange of experts in family violence being arranged between our Rotary District and District 6840, centred on New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.



Matthew is the sole superintendent in the Victoria Police Family Violence Command established in March 2015. He leads a team of 50 staff working collaboratively to prevent and reduce the harm caused by child abuse, sexual assault, and family violence.

Superintendent Ryan will travel to the United States for two weeks in late March. He will be hosted there by local Rotarians and will study the work of police and other agencies involved with domestic violence. He will also speak at the District 6840 Conference being held at the Island View Casino & Resort in Gulfport, Louisiana.

District 6840 is about to select an expert in the field to spend two weeks in Victoria looking at ways the various agencies here tackle the growing problem of family violence. That person will speak at the District 9800 Conference in Bendigo on 12th March.

This exchange of vocational leaders in the field grew out of the very successful Group Study Exchange (GSE) run between Districts 9800 and 6840 in March and April 2015. At the time of that GSE, the team leaders, DGN Peter Frueh (9800) and

Carl Michel (6840) agreed that domestic violence was a major issue in both communities and that by having a vocational exchange of this sort the relationship between our two Rotary Districts would be enhanced in a meaningful way. It is intended that the exchange will be hosted by each District for two weeks each year for three years.

Superintendent Matthew Ryan says that *"This exchange will inspire me to be innovative in the way I lead police to combat family violence in Victoria. I feel privileged to be selected and am very grateful to Rotary for allowing me to represent Victoria in this way."* He is keen to create positive lasting links with family violence professionals in the USA.

Prior to establishing the Family Violence Command, Matthew was the Superintendent in charge of the Victoria Police State Emergency Response Division. He was the Police Commander for the Murrindindi and Mitchell Shires for three months during and after the 2009 Black Saturday fires. He has worked in metropolitan and rural Victoria as a police operative, detective, supervisor and manager. From 2001, he spent five years planning and delivering the security overlay for the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games.

In 2008, Matthew was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chadstone – East Malvern as a participant in the first Rotary Victoria Police Leadership Mentoring Program. He is an accomplished speaker and has spoken at Rotary Clubs, police conferences and various community forums.

Matthew has been married for 29 years. He and his wife have four sons.

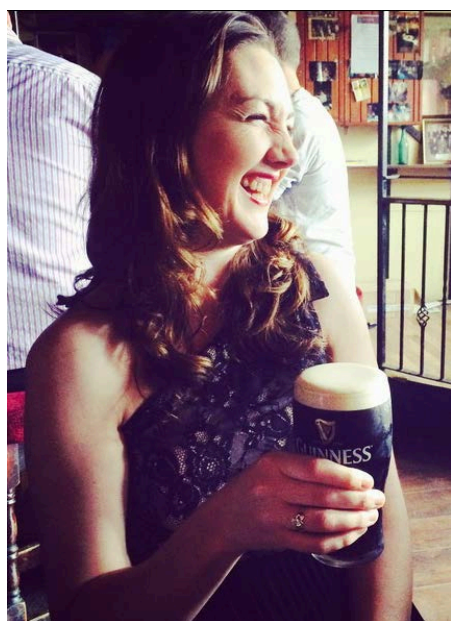
His trip has been made possible by a travel grant from the Rotary Club of Balwyn. The leadership of District 9800 is very appreciative of the Balwyn Club's generous support of this new vocational exchange and wishes to place on record its grateful thanks to the club.

Where are you from?

By Ellen Maynes, Rotary Peace Fellow

Sometimes the question 'where are you from?' is one of the hardest to answer. There are 21 Peace Fellows in class 20 and due to the nature of our work, many of us have lived in and travelled to many countries around the world. Where we were born is not necessarily where we live. Where we call home is not necessarily where we live, where we work or where we were born. It reminds me of a [TED talk by Taiye Selasi](#) on being multi-local. Her idea is that where we are 'local', the places we call home, are a function of our relationships (where are our most important relationships – the people we speak to regularly?), rituals (the cultural practices we have and observe), and restrictions (where do we have permission to live).

I was born in Melbourne, Australia and have travelled the world to around 75 countries. I have an Australian passport and my immediate family live in Melbourne. Like most Melbournians, no matter where in the world I am, I practise the Melbourne appreciation of great coffee, food, and sport. I have not always lived in Melbourne. As a university student I lived in Toronto, Canada. More recently I lived and worked in Dublin, Ireland for five years. I identify with the Irish love of storytelling, music, and 'the craic'. I have also attended Irish weddings and funerals and connect with their concept of family and festival.



Peace Fellow Ellen Maynes loves a Guinness and a giggle.

Back in Australia, my parents have a home at Cape Paterson on the coast of Victoria and here I also have a strong sense of place. I have swum in the surf and observed the brilliant sunsets innumerable times. Here we greet the neighbours by name and share unhurried conversations about the latest developments at the surf life saving club or the whale spotted off the coast.

For me home is Melbourne, Dublin, and Cape Paterson. Yet I currently live in Bangkok.

My classmate Asmara holds passports for Lebanon, Brazil, and France. Yet she lives in Berlin. As a child, she used to call home the last place she lived. The place that she missed the most was home. Today when you ask, 'where are you from?', Asmara will tell you about her passports, but she is probably more likely to tell you that home is wherever her husband and daughter are.

Another classmate, Jackie, was born in Port Moresby, educated in Papua New Guinea, London, and Brisbane. For Jackie, home is more a feeling than a geographical place. It's the sense she has when she gets off the plane each time she flies into Brisbane, it's the Papua New Guinea coffee beans which go into her coffee – no matter where she is.

How does this relate to peacebuilding? Internationally more than 60 million people are displaced from their country of origin – the most since World War II. Many will never return to their place of origin, the place where they were born. The world is becoming increasingly multi-local and this presents both opportunity and challenge for peacebuilders. This diversity can bring challenges to our peaceful existence. Differences in culture, religion, and practices can breed fear, which can in turn escalate into conflict. However, the benefits of this diversity include a richness of new skills, knowledge, and variety and this creates multicultural communities with the capacity to better understand other perspectives and peaceful co-existence.

Where are you from? No matter where home is for you, one thing that runs strong throughout this group of Rotary Peace Fellows is that our identity is something that is within, that travels with us. Home does not have to be a physical place. It's not about passport or birth. Home is deep within us, where the heart is.

So next time you meet a Rotary Peace Fellow, don't ask them where they are from, ask them where is home.

Atrocity against Polio Workers in Quetta

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

A Taliban or allied suicide bomber caused devastation at a polio hub in Quetta, Pakistan, on January 13, killing a vanload of guards who had just arrived as escorts for vaccination workers. They were planning to get all under-5s in one district vaccinated that day. Fifteen guards and bystanders died and 25 were wounded.

“Rotary News” described the attack as “horrific” and a stark reminder of the dangers faced by Rotary, its health allies, and field staff working against polio. It applauded the Pakistan Government’s determination to continue the fight against polio. The Rotary statement said, “Even as we absorb the horror of this bombing, we are redoubling our efforts to educate families and build confidence in the safety of polio vaccines, and to engage community and religious leaders to support our campaign.” It urged Rotarians never to forget the sacrifices of those who lost their lives in the polio campaign.



Photo: Suicide attack on a polio vaccination centre Quetta, in southwestern Pakistan kills more than a dozen people

In the past three years well over 60 vaccinators and guards have been murdered in Pakistan. Teams have been kidnapped and killed; vaccinators (mainly women) have been gunned down by assassins on motorbikes; and some women field workers have been tortured and set on fire. They continue to risk their lives partly for their income of about USD5 a day – sometimes not paid reliably. Progress continues, with the 306 cases in 2014 falling to about 50 last year. In the tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, security has improved to the extent that inaccessible children have declined from 300,000 to only 35,000 last year.

The Taliban has long claimed that the vaccines are Western plots to sterilize children, and other fantasies. It also claims vaccinators are spies getting data for drone strikes. It directs parents to use religious charms against polio. The Taliban campaign gained ground in 2011 when the CIA mis-used a local doctor Shakil Afridi at Abbottabad to run a genuine Hep B vaccination campaign but with the aim of positively identifying Osama bin Laden from his children’s DNA. (The breakthrough actually came from a vaccinator obtaining the mobile number of bin Laden’s special guard. The US has since pledged never to misuse vaccinators).

The killings by the Taliban halted the vaccinations in 2012 but the government responded with massive use of guards. The Taliban in turn used roadside bombs against polio convoys. Clinics have been bombed and burnt. The vaccinations are now re-badged as “Justice for Health” and polio goes unmentioned.

Polio campaigns have run in Pakistan (pop 180m) for two decades but never achieved total coverage. In contrast, India with seven times the population has been polio-free since 2011, after some drives vaccinated more than 100m children in a single day. Lately Pakistan jihadis and migrant workers have been taking the virus into other countries, including Syria. Even Islamic State supports the vaccinations.

A four-part series on polio and Pakistan by National Geographic last year suggested the Taliban’s anti-polio campaign is more political than religious, and aimed at gaining agreement for the US to end drone strikes in tribal areas. It said Taliban leaders did allow their own children to be vaccinated

Rotary has released a further USD35m in polio grants for 2016. - see below



\$35 MILLION BOOST TO POLIO ERADICATION

From "Rotary Weekly"

Rotary is releasing \$35 million in grants to support polio immunization activities and research in nine countries, including Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The funds will build on last year's historic achievement of stopping the transmission of the wild poliovirus in Nigeria and all of Africa.

"We are closer than ever to achieving a polio-free world," says Michael K. McGovern, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. "To ensure that no child ever again suffers the devastating effects of this disease, we must all ensure that the necessary funds and political will are firmly in place in 2016."

The funds announced this week include \$11.4 million in Pakistan and \$6 million in Afghanistan, the two remaining polio-endemic countries. Funding will also support immunization activities in several countries still at-risk, including Nigeria (\$5.5 million), Ethiopia (\$4.1 million), Chad (\$2 million), Somalia (\$1.8 million), Cameroon (\$1.6 million), Iraq (\$1.6 million), and India (\$618,000). An additional \$355,000 will be allocated to polio research.

[Learn how you can help us eradicate polio](#)

[Give to end polio](#)



Welcome New Members

Hans Carlborg is a long-standing Rotarian, formerly of RC Pittwater, NSW.

Our photo shows Hans (right) with his sponsor, PDG Dennis Shore, (left) as he was inducted to Hawthorn Rotary by President Lawrence Reddaway.



Rotary Serving Humanity

From "Rotary Weekly"

Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, believed that serving humanity is "the most worthwhile thing a person can do," RI President-elect John F. Germ said, and that being a part of Rotary is a "great opportunity" to make that happen.



Germ unveiled the 2016-17 presidential theme, *Rotary Serving Humanity*, to incoming district governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary's service to humanity," said Germ.

Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, encouraged attendees to return to their clubs and communities and spread the word about Rotary's role in the fight for a polio-free world.

"People who want to do good will see that Rotary is a place where they can change the world. Every Rotary club needs to be ready to give them that opportunity," Germ said.

Enhancing Rotary's image isn't the only way to boost membership. "We need clubs that are flexible, so our service will be more attractive to younger members, recent retirees, and working people."

He added: "We need more willing hands, more caring hearts, and more bright minds to move our work forward."

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/news-media/news-features/germ-reveals-rotary-serving-humanity-2016-17-presidential-theme>



DGE Neville John and Rebecca were spotted roughing it (on your behalf) at the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego. They attended Rotary's International Assembly, which ran from 17th to 23rd January 2016.

You can follow their adventures on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/neville.john.10?fref=ts>



MUNA - OPPORTUNITIES TO BE INVOLVED

By Neville Page, MUNA Chair

Three opportunities are available to be involved in MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly). One is for a club and the others are for individuals.

HOST CLUB

The club opportunity is to host the event this year. MUNA is an event focussing on year 11 Students and is held in the last weekend in May at Camp Getaway. The role of the host club is actually quite simple and most clubs should be able to handle it as all organizing is done by the MUNA Committee.

The host club needs to have 4 people in attendance at all times over the weekend from Friday evening to Sunday Afternoon and they don't have to be the same people for the whole weekend. The duties include general supervision of the students and assisting with the adjudication of the winners. All catering is done separately by a Bendigo Rotary Club.

There are clubs that have shown interest but none have specifically put their hand up yet so if your club is interested then please contact Neville Page on 0414 673611 or email page@ghp.biz. There is definitely no cost to the host club and all clubs that have done it in the past have always enjoyed the experience. It is a great opportunity for a smaller club to be able to Host a District event.

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The 1st opportunity for an individual is a very rare one that does not come up very often. Indeed it is probably the 1st time this century. That is to take on the role of Secretary General of the United Nations during the MUNA Assembly commencing in May 2017.

It involves being present for the whole Assembly and sitting up on the rostrum with the United Nations President and basically taking charge of all the debating sessions.

The current Secretary General is Brett LeFebvre of the Kyneton Rotary Club and he has taken on this role basically for the last 15 years. He has advised that this will be his last year. Our District owes a great debt to Brett for his great service over all these years and I have no doubt he has been greatly responsible for the success of the whole program.

Now someone else has the chance to put their stamp on this very significant District event. The role requires the skill of a teacher to control the students and engage with them during the debates and have a good general knowledge particularly in international political events.

Anyone interested should contact Neville Page on 0414 673611 or email page@ghp.biz and be willing to be present for at least part of this year's MUNA at the end of May to witness what is involved in the role.

COMMITTEE PERSON

The MUNA Assembly is currently chaired by myself, Neville Page, with some assistance. There is an opportunity for some individuals to have an involvement in his event by assisting with the organization at a committee level. As this event only occurs once a year it would not be an onerous commitment. Anyone interested should contact me on 0414 673611 or email page@ghp.biz



MUNA participants, in the national costume of the country they represent.

Do you Know Someone who Wants to Change the World?

By Rob Helme, D9800 World Peace Fellows Chairman

Rotary is now accepting applications for the world competitive Rotary Peace Fellowships program. The application deadline for submissions through local rotary clubs in District 9800 is to the me by May 15, 2016.



Never has there been such an obvious need for well trained committed personnel to foster the cause of world peace. Rotary International has been committed to this program for 15 years and has trained over 900 graduates who work in the fields of peace, conflict resolution, human rights, international relations, public administration, sustainable development, public health or a related field. Up to 100 fellowships are awarded annually (50 master's degree fellowships and 50 professional development fellowships) at



Peace Fellow Stephanie Woolard, gallantly escorted by Bob Fels and PDG Jim Studebaker.

Rotary Peace Centers in 6 prestigious universities around the world. Australia has an outstanding track record in supporting and mentoring successful applicants.

Two year Master degree

Up to two years of fully funded graduate study at an internationally recognised program in the US, Sweden, UK, or Japan. Australian applicants are unable to apply to the Rotary supported Centre in Australia. The program includes a 3 month Applied Field Experience. Funding also covers travel, tuition, fees, and board. Approximate costs covered are US\$80,000. This course requires a bachelor's degree in a related field, and 3 years relevant experience.

Three month professional development course

Designed for mid-career professionals already working in the field of peace and conflict resolution. This fully funded course offers a mix of theory and practical skills in both a classroom environment at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and in the field. It requires a bachelor's degree or equivalent in a related field and 5 years of related work experience.



For further details visit : <https://www.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowships>

Speak: to a Rotarian you know.

Contact: Rob Helme at rhelme@bigpond.net.au or 0402 299 492

Bob Fels at rfels@satlink.com.au or (03) 5989 2455

District 9800 is the leading district worldwide in attracting and mentoring applicants to this, the premier international education program of Rotary International.

How many Rotary Recycling Projects are there?

By David Dippie, RC Keilor



How many can you think of? I doubt that there is a more sophisticated operation than “**Rotary Recycling**” but we rarely think of ourselves this way. It’s an area of interest that is very important to the younger generation that we want to become more involved in Rotary, but we seldom promote this aspect of Rotary. The Government encourages everyone to recycle, but have we ever told them about our work in this area, or given them the opportunity to support us? It’s also important for Members who have goods to donate, to think about the big picture when considering which project to offer them to. While there is some overlap, the projects work together for the greater good.



Donations In Kind is a process that we have adopted as the name for a project, that we tend to think of as International Service. It actually exists to supply goods and equipment for **ALL** Rotary Club Projects. Although the range of goods it offers is strongly influenced by overseas needs, many of the items suit local Projects. *A fair share of goods is available for any official Club Project where they are to be given to someone in need for free.* www.rotarydik.org Laurie Fisher dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com 0428 550 574

Western Emergency Relief Network supplies goods to equip homes. As the name indicates the focus is on people in desperate need of assistance for a range of reasons. WERN mainly works with organizations that support the welfare sector dependant on circumstances. *The goods are available for people in genuine need for free.* Ross Butterworth butterworth.8@bigpond.com 0476 104 736 http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/news/11145/western-emergency-relief-network-wern/?type_fr=4

The **Flemington Op-Shop** is expanding and will soon open a branch in Werribee. Most of us have a good understanding of the type of goods that Op-Shops sell. *Their motivation is to sell goods and use the money raised to help others.* www.rotaryflemington.org.au Allan Bruno allan.bruno@bigpond.com 0487 334 068



We also have a range of specialist projects including, **Computers 4 Communities** which refurbishes computers that are then available for Club projects. They always welcome donation of modern computers especially bulk commercial donations. *They provide computers for the under privileged where ever they are located.* Jack Watson dejewats2@y7mail.com 0433 749 684

Recycled Sound This is the newest venture in our District and is one of the most exciting operations. It is a wonderful project as the goods are readily available if we let people know we want them, easy to transport and very expensive. Hearing aids are vital for growing numbers of people, but for many they are unaffordable. *Their focus is to improve the quality of life for people in our local community.* www.recycledsound.org.au Jan Sigley jan.sig@bigpond.net.au 0419 878 896 - continued over



Rotary Recycling Projects - continued

Medical & Mobility Aids is similar, providing the medical equipment that people need around the home. This is another hidden gem and many Clubs are unaware that members of their community benefit from this service. *Many people can't afford the medical aids that they need and we supply them for free.* The goods are only available to medical professional, often Occupational Therapists who select the goods to suit their client's needs. **Daryl Leonard** dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com 0428 550 574

We provide a wonderful service, lets tell people about it.



Clarice's Comments

Now you are all back at work, I can tell you about a few things from behind the scenes in the Networker office. Our Peripatetic Correspondent, Tony Thomas, always makes me laugh: last week he told me over a coffee about his intriguing article in "The Spectator" on a solar-powered airplane. Like "Trigger warning: a Story not quite true" and most of Tony's scribbblings, it is a bit off-beat, full of controversy, and well worth a read:

<http://www.spectator.co.uk/2016/01/stranded-monster/>



After we published Tony's article on "The New Woodend Advertiser" in the last "Networker", a lovely photo of Woodend Rotarians hard at work arrived. It featured Eb Friedrich, Josephine Falzarano, Di Bender, Grant Hocking and Charlie Bender. Great work Woodend, you are magic!

A special thanks to all those clubs who send us photos of their new members: I think it is a great way to introduce them to Rotarians of other clubs. How many Club Secretaries subscribe to "The Networker" for their new members, when they register them with RI and RDU?

Don't forget to send me your news and photos: clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au

Ta-ta for now - Clarice.

Australia Day Honours List

We add our congratulations to Rotarians in D9800 who received recognition on Australia Day. They include:

Member (AM) in the General Division

Mr Ian CARLISLE, Malvern. (Volunteer Interplast Surgeon) For significant service to medicine in the field of faciomaxillary and reconstructive surgery, to professional organisations, and to the international community.

Medal (OAM) in the General Division

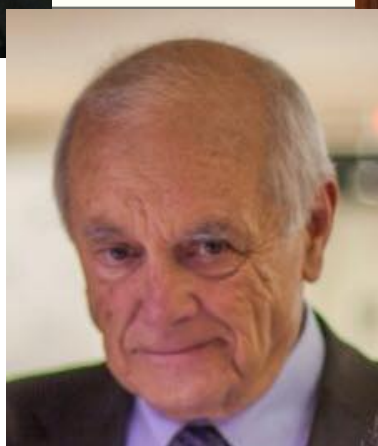
Mr Lawrence Joseph ATLEY, Rye. (Rotary Club of Footscray) For service to the community, particularly through Rotary.

Ms Beverley BROCK, Eltham. (Rotary Club of Melbourne) For service to the community through charitable organisations.

Mrs Margaret Helena DESMYTH, Brighton. (Rotary Club of Brighton Beach) For service to the community of Brighton.



Mr Ian CARLISLE



Mr Lawrence ATLEY



**Ms Beverley BROCK (top) and (below)
Mrs Margaret DESMYTH with Brighton
Beach PP Grant Wisnowsky**

Notices and Events

ALUMNI BBQ LUNCH

D9800 Alumni, their families and friends are invited to an informal BBQ Lunch AT 12 pm-5pm **Sunday 7th February**
Yarraville Gardens, Corner Hyde Street & Somerville Road, Yarraville
BBQ to be hosted by Rotary Club of Footscray, where you can purchase foods and drinks or you can bring your own picnic!
RSVP by 1st February, 2016 PDG Iven Mackay ivenm@bigpond.com 0418380989
PP Ejanul Haque ejanul.haque@rmit.edu.au 0422677944

Are you alumni of D9800? If so contact the alumni committee to join the Facebook closed group (Rotary District 9800 Alumni) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/392231940980119/>



Group Vocational Exchange Farewell Dinner

Milanos Hotel, The Esplanade, Brighton Beach. **Tuesday, 16th February**, 6.30pm for 7.00pm Join us for a great send-off for the GVE Team to the Philippines, and to welcome the incoming team. Cost: \$40/head

The GVE program provides an international exchange in paired areas of different countries for business/professional people aged 25 – 40 years. The visits are normally 4 – 6 weeks duration. Clubs and Clusters are invited to assist in home hosting and arranging suitable vocational visits for the visiting GVE Team members.

Bookings **must** be prepaid via Trybooking by **13th February**

<http://www.trybooking.com/176125>

Further details Julie Avery 9591 9591 or 0418364191 Julie@brightontravel.com.au



Carlton RC Trivia Night

Saturday, 27 February 7.00 .FOR 7.30 P.M START

Kensington Town Hall, Bellair St, Kensington (Melways 2T,J2) Cost: \$25 per head

Good Prizes! Supper, tea and coffee provided Please bring own nibbles, drinks and glasses Maximum of 8 people per table. Tables can be arranged. *Proceeds from the evening will support the Club's local community projects.*

For tickets contact webmaster@carltonrotary.org.au PH: 9882 5848/0406 495 756



Taste of Kyneton

Taste of Kyneton is a food festival with a difference. Each exhibitor on the day will prepare small tasting dishes that showcase their signature style. 'Green Tics' are the currency of Taste of Kyneton. Green Tics can be purchased on the day for \$5.00. \$1 from each Green Tic will support the Rotary Club of Kyneton. Kyneton Racecourse on **Sunday, February 28th**. Gates open at 11am and close at 3pm.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased through www.tasteofkyneton.com

For more information about Taste of Kyneton 2016, visit www.tasteofkyneton.com

Media enquiries: Amy Cockcroft, 0425 805 316 Event Enquiries: Alan Potter, 0400 266 641



**2016 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
BREAKFAST**
THURSDAY 10TH MARCH 2016

THE PALLADIUM CROWN
SOUTHBANK, MELBOURNE
6:45 FOR 7:00 AM
TO 9:00 AM



2016 Rotary International Convention, Seoul

28th May to 1st June, 2016

It's your chance to connect with Rotary members from around the world. You'll build new relationships and exchange ideas across cultures.

<http://www.riconvention.org>



The Rotary Club of Chadstone-East

Malvern are busy writing the history of their club. They are interested to learn of any clubs who have written a club history.

Please contact Rosemary Johnston 0438 693 597 or

rosemary.johnston82@gmail.com



Rotary Club offers Mentor Training Package

In 2012 Yarra Bend Rotary saw a need to apply some structure and rigor to its Projects that have a mentoring aspect. This led them to develop a training course on the core skills needed for successful mentoring. This involves understanding the mentoring process, setting SMART Goals, active listening skills, questioning techniques and of course appropriate governance arrangements.

These and many other aspects of mentoring, including "matching" mentors to mentee needs are outlined in a six hour training package usually run over two evenings. Since 2013 a number of Rotary Clubs have taken advantage of the training offered by Yarra Bend including Hawthorn, Canterbury, Carlton and Kew resulting in excess of 150 Rotarians having enhanced their mentoring skills and knowledge.

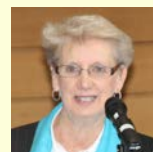
The training sessions are interactive and are offered free of charge to other Rotary Clubs except for the costs of training rooms and minor printing. If you are interested email Yarra Bend's Vocational Service Director at matt.pollard@yarrabendrotary.com.au



Stay informed on Rotary events:

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_future

Our Contributors



District Governor Julie Mason of Wyndham RC writes a lovely column for "The Networker"



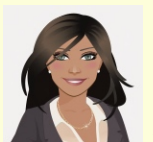
Tony Thomas' recent article in "Quadrant" is "A Story Not Quite True". Four-way test, anyone?



David Dippie of Keilor RC had a break from Donations-in-Kind over the holidays.



Neville Page, North Melbourne RC, is D9800 Chairman of the Model United Nations Assembly.



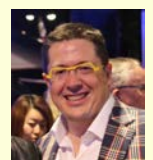
Our Girl Friday Clarice seems to know everybody, and she collects news from the most unlikely sources.



Dr. Murray Verso of RC Williamstown was our DG in 2014-15, and he is still a busy Rotarian.



Matthew Scott sends us regular reports from the Deep North, in between episodes of face-painting.



District Image Guru, Adrian Nelson, has a new image. Check out the new set of specs he got for Christmas.



Prof Rob Helme is Chairman of the D9800 World Peace Fellows Committee.