



LIGHT UP
ROTARY

District
9520



Jerry Casburn.
District Governor

District Governor's NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Bulletin of District 9520

Issue: 2 - August 2014

Jerry's Jottings ...

The past month has been amazing, full of enthusiasm and energy from all the clubs we have visited this far. It never ceases to amaze Briony and I that all of the friends we make in Rotary are such nice people. If there is one thing we should capitalise on, it is this, we really do have good people doing great things in the world.

The District changeover went well, our only regret that there was not enough room to house all of those who wanted to come. Unfortunately we were up against the barrier of the numbers that the Kooyonga Golf club were licensed to have there. The room was a "buzz", lots of happiness and good fellowship. It was a great opportunity to thank Wendy Gaborit and her team for their year and a chance to introduce our team and some of the goals for the coming year.



The Leadership Team

I am fortunate to have an equally efficient team at District level which has hit the ground running. There are lots of exciting things on the boil.

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**HAVE FUN,
ENJOY ROTARY**

By the time this Newsletter is published Membership will have held "Illuminate", this was a not to be missed opportunity to hear how we can better use social media and how we can encourage more women to join the conversation. I hope you did not miss it. We also held a special Membership Forum, in Loxton, for the Riverland clubs. This was well attended by all the Riverland clubs and featured presentations from Philip Archer our Zone Public Relations Coordinator, Steve Hayter, from Kent Town club on Social Media and another great presentation from Mark on Strengthening Rotary. My thanks go to Jenny Mills, Loxton President, and Mark Huddleston, Membership and PR Chair, for putting this together.

The team are also working on a Schools presentation designed to get our youth programmes front of mind in schools across the District, watch this space and the Herald for further updates. There is also a group working on Rotary Days, an initiative of RI President Gary Huang, to create a showcase for Rotary activity while enjoying a family fun day. Our Foundation team have been very busy working on receiving applications from clubs across the District for grants from District Designated Funds. Applications closed at the end of July and we look forward to seeing which projects will benefit from the generous allocation we have this year. This thanks to PDG Bruce Richardson who had a successful year as DG, raising funds for the Foundation. We hope to match his success this year.

Early days yet and there is still a lot of work to be done on evaluating a joint Vocational Team Project with District 9550 in East Timor. The plan is a two way exchange with Timor Leste of teaching staff to help improve the education system in that country. Chandra Sluggett has joined the District Team chairing the committee exploring and planning this opportunity.

We have also held our first District Management meeting at Calperum. This was a chance for the team and their partners to get to know each other better and share status on key programmes this year. A great meeting with lots of discussion and planning for the coming year. We also had a chance to join members of Renmark Rotary club for an evening meal on the Saturday. In the meantime make sure you send Jan Vade, DG Newsletter editor, input for what has happened in the District for our next Newsletter and Peter Hammond, District Secretary, information on what is coming and needs promoting across the District.

Have Fun, Enjoy Rotary!

Governor's Travels Into Several Remote Parts of the District



Youth and Exuberance at Robinvale Euston and the Wise Men at Noarlunga East



The Bonfire and Bonding



At Kooyonga



Carry on, Barmera!

Meet: AG Bob Cooper



Bob Cooper was a member of Jaycees International from 1979 to 1986 and was Awarded life Membership a JCI Senator in 1985 after being a Chapter President in 1981, Regional President in 1983 and State President in 1985.

He was elected 4 times as a Councillor for the City of Burnside from 1987 to 1995 being appointed as chairman of various committees over the 8 years as being an elected member of Council.

In 1996 Bob was invited to the Rotary Club of Glen Osmond and held various Committee Director positions and was Club President in 1999-2000 and 2007-2008. Both years the Club was recognised with a Rotary Presidential Citation Award. Bob was recognised by the Club in 2006 as the Paul Harris Fellow.

The Rotary Club of Glen Osmond returned its Charter in 2009 and Bob was invited to join the Rotary Club of Burnside and he brought two projects which he had co-ordinated over the past in the Rotary Club of Glen Osmond to the Rotary Club of Burnside. They were the National Parks Ranger of the Year and Volunteers of the Parks Awards presented annually and the City of Burnside elderly Citizens Christmas luncheon that still continue each year.

Bob was the President of the Rotary Club of Burnside in 2012-2013 when the Club was recognised by District 9520 being awarded the Membership Improvement Trophy, inducting 8 new members in that year. Also, the Club was recognised with a Rotary Presidential Citation Award. This year Bob was elected as the District 9520 Assistant Governor for Group 6 Clubs.

Bob worked for ETSA and AGL for 38 years in a variety of roles ending up as National Account Executive in the Industrial and Commercial Sales area concluding in 2007. He then was appointed to the Sales and Operations Manager position for the Tasmanian Aurora Energy looking after the SA business until 2012.

Bob is married to Marilyn and they have three children and three grandchildren. They own a Farm in the Adelaide Hills where they breed Angus cattle and have an Award winning garden which keeps both of them busy.



Briony's Blog



Visiting country towns on a holiday is fun, but having our Rotary family greet us at each town is even more fun!

These country clubs are full of vibrant people who carry the Rotary Banner with pride. They are concerned about membership and keeping their clubs going, and are still prepared to do what they have to do, till they can't.

This is where the responsibility of the District Team is to support these clubs and give these clubs the tools to make their club a success. It's all very well to tell Clubs what they need, it is far better to offer solutions rather than demands. And I believe Jerry's presentation does this.

He and the District Team have great plans and I say plans, not just ideas, as ideas don't always come to fruition, to help the clubs to a great year ahead. The re-assurance that Country

Clubs are only separated by distance, that they are part of the Big picture to get the Big jobs done is uplifting and appreciated by these people. So this last two weeks, we have been sung to by Robinvale's St Mary's school Choir (one kiddie telling his parents the Prime Minister was coming) we have had home cooked meals, unexpected gifts of appreciation, praises, conversations, shared experiences, laughter, idea swapping, numbers exchanged, hugs, kisses and even an offer to have Jerry's shirt washed after a spill. I couldn't be prouder of my family and I am more than happy to let the world know.

Group 2 Membership Seminar



On Sunday, July 27th each of the Group 2 clubs were represented at a membership seminar hosted by the Rotary Club of Loxton at the Loxton Hotel. In addition to our Riverland Rotarians, we were joined by DG Jerry & Briony, District Trainer Damian Leach, DGN Sam Camporeale, AG Mike Woosnam and AG Lesley Mitchell and Neville.

Our special guest speaker was Zone Public Image Co-ordinator Philip Archer, who had previously participated in the District Leadership weekend at Calperum Station. Philip talked about the Zone PR Campaign, and how all districts across Australia have contributed PR grants to support consistent branding and promotional campaigns across Australia, the essence of Rotary, knowing our Rotary story, and inviting like-minded people to “Join the Conversation”. It was a rare treat to have Philip speak to our District Leadership Team over the weekend, to share his insights and participate in some valuable brainstorming – and of course to join us for this seminar in Loxton.

This was followed by a snappy presentation on effectively promoting our Rotary stories on social media by PP Steve Hayter, RC Kent Town. Steve is a recent addition to the district membership committee, with a great track record of building membership in his own club by creating “buzz”, and is a master of not only using social media effectively, but conveying these concepts in a simple and easy to understand manner. Thanks Steve for your enthusiasm and passion.

Following afternoon tea, yours truly gave a presentation that covered topics including our recent membership trends both locally and internationally, the need to balance our recruitment initiatives with retention concerns, and a few insights from various breakout sessions at the recent International Convention in Sydney. I hope this was a valuable presentation and that the participants now have some ideas and are revved up about Rotary! A big thanks to AG Mike Woosnam and RC Loxton President Jenny Mills for their hard work in making this happen, and also the members of RC Loxton who put on a terrific BBQ after the event. We had a broad range of participants in attendance, one being a cheeky little one year old delegate, and a few in their 80s – thanks for your enthusiasm. I am hoping to replicate this event and run it in all groups across our district – so if you like the sound of this, please speak to your AG. Plans are already in place for something similar in Mildura.

I'd like to explain a little about an exercise I conducted on analyzing the needs of our members, which, I think, proved quite effective.

Our motto of Service Above Self has served us well, and I would never suggest that we should forget this mantra. But volunteers have needs to, and in Rotary we don't tend to spend much time discussing them. An employer can use money to pay and motivate workers, but as volunteers, we need to understand that just because we don't get paid, we still need to get something out of our membership. I have designed a simple, one page questionnaire which can be completed in 10 minutes, which looks at what we place most importance on, and then seeks to discover how our Rotary experience provides for those needs. I'd really like the opportunity to discuss this with your club, in the hope that simple measures can help us keep our members happy and engaged in our clubs. Because happy and engaged Rotarians tend to stay in Rotary! Give me a call if you're interested on 0402 346 994 or email mark@sugarfreezone.com.au



Calperum Station

By Briony Casburn



For a city chick, getting out into the country is as they say “like a breath of fresh air”. It was an easy drive, only 2½ hours from the big smoke, to reach Renmark and only 9klms further on from there. Of course, along the way is the traditional stop at Truro Bakery for a coffee, sandwich and a share of a curry sausage roll (with tomato sauce of course).

Normally to go to Calperum would be an easy pack, but for it being The District Training weekend we had to take all the gear needed for presentations, bedding for Phillip Archer and so on, on the Friday. We shopped for the wine / cheese supper and the ingredients for homemade scones for Sunday morning in Renmark and then onto Calperum, where Rotary house was waiting for us like an old friend.

Not being sure of the weather we set up the chairs for the meetings, in the sun room. Rotarians started arriving lunch time Saturday and the Renmark Club dazzled us with a yummy fresh lunch (Including homemade cakes). David Crouch had organised with fellow Rotarian Nick Panayiaris, to pick fresh fruit from their orchards, pack them into “Australian Rotary Health “ bags and sold at \$10 a bag, they raised \$160 over the weekend.

Lesley and Neville Mitchell from the Irymple Club were good enough to pick up Philip Archer, who had been in Melbourne and caught a flight to Mildura that morning. All gathered together, we were given wonderful insight to the Advertising and Promotion that the zone has planned for us, this coming year.

Grant Whiteman who is the Manager of Calperum, with his wit and good humour entertained us with how the property was managed. With the sun setting, we walked as a group over to the Nursery to see how it was run and for questions and answers.

Family members, who had joined us, explored the property during the day.

For dinner we pooled cars and drove into Renmark and met the Renmark club, at the Renmark Hotel. A great night was had by all and there, first thing in the morning, the Club greeted us with a hot cooked breakfast. You should have seen everyone looking at Renmark's Barbeque Trailer. Other people would marvel over sports cars, fast bikes, but not Rotarians ... it was all about how good is that Barbeque Trailer!



The morning session, involved the members of the District leadership Team. Ably chaired by Peter Hammond, the team avoided reading reports and went on to discuss opportunities for the District and helped each other to find solutions to the few issues that members of the team found. Minutes of the meetings are available if anyone wants to see them. The famous scones for morning tea were produced, followed by more sessions and then onto a homemade lunch, also supplied by Renmark club.

Many left to go home and the rest went to Loxton for a membership Forum with group two clubs. This was a stunner afternoon with Philip Archer on Public Relations, Mark Huddleston on membership and Steve Hayter on Social Media. It was a wonderful opportunity for the country clubs to get these great speakers and there was a great turnout. Then you guessed it, a barbeque tea, set up for the travellers and Club members.

Thank you to all who were involved to make this weekend such a success. We achieved what we set out to do, cover the District's business and provide a place where the team could bond for the coming year. So much so, that we not only got a breath of fresh air, but the ideas that were rallied around were fresh and will “Light Up Rotary”.

I love Rotary





Illuminate !

By Penni Hamilton Smith

Hello there rockin' Rotarians (did you know that Rotarians rock?). I have been asked to write a report about the d9520 (and some very welcome attendees from 9500) Membership Training session held at Flinders Uni on Saturday 2nd August, so here goes: In case you weren't able to make it- no one understands better than a Rotarian John Lennon's famous saying, "Life is something that gets in the way when you've made other plans" I will do my best to let you know what you missed.

Firstly, thanks to the big man himself, Mark Huddleston and his committee for organising said event and to Mark's wife Deb for feeding us and to various other generous and committed Rotarians for wine donations etc. etc.

When we arrived to register we were given a glow in the dark wrist bracelet so that we could "Light Up Rotary" together. (A few Rotarians with very thick wrists were seen to be wearing them on their button holes!) After a good Rotarian chat, when the starting bell rang we entered our rooms for two face book sessions- Beginners and Advanced. I was booked into the advanced group and although not entirely convinced that I was, sat down in the very comfortable lecture theatre (provided by Flinders Uni by the way for FREE- that is Zilch!)



Here we met for the first time that wonderful Rotarian Ellissa Nolan, the then Marketing and Digital Manager of Rotary Down Under, who had flown down from Sydney especially to train us all and yes, she is as good looking as she appeared in her photo and she is indeed as clever as her CV promised). Elissa had prepared for us a document entitled "Rotary Down Under, Social Network." So find out who in your club attended this session and get a copy of it from them as the information therein is invaluable. Here are some highlights of what Elissa shared with us.

Did You Know?

That Rotary Down Under is standing by to receive your 300 word article about your club's project. Include a good picture.

What is a good picture?

One of faces, belonging to happy and busy people. Don't use the photo if it's not telling the visual story you want. Ask permission to use the photo at the time you take it. If you are in a school ask "Does this student have a media release?" Most of them do. Images of children work extremely well on Facebook. So if you have a youth exchange student put them in the photograph. Take colourful photos of community engagement and development.

When writing your 300 words:

Describe your project: don't just say that you had it but say who it was for? Who did it help? Be proud of what we do.

Did you know?

That the most popular news cycle for readers is from 6-8 am so make sure they wake up with Rotary in the morning.
Combine with others to have a greater impact
Websites need to be set up for mobile phones as that's where most readers are getting their news
Keep in mind:
Who are we? Humanitarians and fundraisers
Who do we help? Community groups
People respond to emotional content on Facebook i.e. something sad or something engaging
Social media is real time talk-marketing in action
Engage and share
When planning what to share start with the end user and work back from there.
People love success stories so share them
It's all about storing information. So, connect to Rotary Down Under and to each other just by liking A "like" is a connection



Nolan, Casburn & Kornhauser



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Build your online community-How?

Every council has a community page. Import your local council. Import your federal and your local Member of Parliament. Get our information onto their page. Send it every month. Utilise the non- profit fundraising community. It's top of the page on the Rotary Down Under website. The more you do the more likes you'll get. Share 3 posts per week. Make them quality posts. Your goal is visibility and staying in the minds of those we connect with. Make something look pretty. Inspire people. Fill their need. Know that your community is made up of non-Rotarians. Don't sell hard. Like something and then share it. Ensure you have permission to use an internet image as some of them are copyright. Does your club embed RDU's on line news on your website? This avoids duplication. Tweet back to other clubs sharing images and messages from key note speakers

Did you know?

There is a regional map of Australia which RDU can provide with the embedded codes. TINT which is what you will use to embed is FREE. There is a YOUTUBE video called "How to create custom tabs on your Facebook page" by (Tina L.) Look it up. You can advertise on Facebook for as little as \$50. A 50\$ ad reached 60000 people with the bridge climb at the RI convention. Anyone can apply for small business training with Facebook. In the first week of Elissa's training after applying what she had learnt, RDU picked up 1000 new followers. She chose 4 images and then chose the one with the greatest response. The one of the child being given vaccination drops was the one which worked best. Red and yellow work well. It's about trial and error. There are no gurus. You should choose what works for you. To reach more people you can target which people you want.

You can choose over 40 year olds with an altruistic background. You are given a list of choices. Gender, city, country - narrow the choice down to relevance. E.g. 35 + with an interest in volunteering, business, humanitarian issues and peace.

If you have a little win and find out how to do something you should share it. What did you learn about social media this week?

Some Facebook stock images are free. RC Kent Town going well. Ask them how?

You need to connect with everyone in your district.

People are window shopping online every day. Share with them how wonderful Rotary is.

RDU has a speakers' database.

RDU's District Directory and How to Find a Club are the most popular.

There is a Rotary on Social Network Fellowship. Look for it on this website

www.rosnf.net They have user guides to help Rotarians on all social media. There is a guide on Twitter- how to set up a twitter account

Twitter is for global engagement

About Humanitarians Online

HOOTSUITE is FREE. With it, you can manage your tweets and Facebook posts in advance. Elissa posts Twitter messages 5 days in advance. It's best to use Facebook post for fb and HOOTSUITE for twitter.

6% of all fundraising is done online.

The more you share your Facebook the more you are able to share. FUNKY will organise your images. Grab any images you like and FUNKY will do it for you.

It's better to have a page than a community group. If you have been set up as a community group migrate to a page. Set up the page. Make it look pretty. Start communicating with people in the group.

Groups are just for talking to your members. Pages are for talking to the community.

It is better to have 3 or 4 administrators on the account.

What to do?

In times of crisis, promote Shelterbox or whatever projects you support.

Press facebook's "Like" and "Share" button.

Support each other by liking and sharing each other's content.

Bring across your fundraising online.

Take any Rotary myths and bust them in a fun way.

Use hash tags. They're for people who aren't talking about Rotary.

Put your project on Rotary.org

Showcase.

What NOT to do

Never take nitpicking and put it into a public space. This is NOT what it's for. Get on the phone with complaints don't put them into a public space.

You must have:

A community manager who is good and strong.

With our synapses leaping with all this new information we headed into our next session and met with another brilliant Rotarian, the wonderful and dynamic Kerry Kornhauser who is the power behind "Women in Rotary" and who has almost singlehandedly increased the numbers of women members in Victoria from 18% to 23% in just 4 years. And yes, she is just as good looking and clever as Elissa. Thanks to Kerry who flew down from Melbourne just to join us.

We learned :

That putting diversity on the agenda for Rotary will grow your membership.

There is a website to prove it. Here it is. www.humanrights.gov.au/.../it-starts-us-leadership-shadow Look it up.

Women in management improve business performance

We must do all that we can to counter our unconscious bias

That when a prominent musical organisation realised that they were choosing predominantly male musicians they decided to hold Blind Auditions where the auditionees played behind a curtain without being seen. Guess what? That company now has a 50% gender balance.

You will get 35% better performance with a 50% gender mix on any board

Cont on next page ...

We need to find these women with the skills and desire and mentor them

A man will put his hand up for the job when he has 10% of the skills, women won't unless they have 95%

To debunk the perception that Rotary is male based, photos should always include women

Women like to do community work, men generally prefer sports

There is a website. www.rotarywomen.org.au Look it up.

Here's another: [www.facebook.com/Women in Rotary](http://www.facebook.com/Women%20in%20Rotary)

Look that one up too.

You need to talk differently to women. Invite them to a women sensitive project such as the "Collect women's suits" campaign.

Hold a breakfast on International Women's Day

The topic of the first Victorian women's breakfast was "Martians and Venutians in the Workplace"

The second - "Is it all in the Genes?"

The third- "Baby Bliss: Is Having a baby a Woman's Affair?"

There are 5 different clubs on the board for breakfasts

The Billboard has the Rotary logo + the title of the women's breakfast

Year 12 students attend, supported by the club and then return to the club to tell them about it.

There are no rules in Rotary anymore

Rotary is family friendly

Go to clubs whenever you can



So Rotarians go forth and Light Up Rotary through Social Media!

Cheers

Penni Hamilton Smith

Pictures taken at the Illuminate Sessions are available at the District Picasa Site:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/IlluminateSessionD9520>

More Photography?

There are many albums on the District Site. Find your lost photos!

District Changeover 2014: <https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/DistrictChangeover2014>

District Changeover 2013: <https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/D9520Conference2013>

Friday Capers 2013: <https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/D9520FridayCapers>

District Conference 2008: <https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/RotaryDistrict9520ConferenceMtGambier2008>

District Conference 2007: <https://picasaweb.google.com/RotaryDistrict9520/RotaryDistrict9520ConferenceBarossa2007>



What Paul Harris said:

THE POWER OF COMBINED EFFORT KNOWS NO LIMITATION

"Individual efforts when well directed can accomplish much, but the greatest good must necessarily come from the combined efforts of many men. Individual efforts may be turned to individual needs but combined effort should be dedicated to the service of mankind.

The power of combined effort knows no limitationOn no occasion has the cumulative power of all Rotary even been felt.

We shall strike a mighty blow some day and we thenceforth shall know ourselves."

Paul Harris, The Rotarian, July 1917





Lighting up Rotary D9520 Bridging Continents and Building Communities in Nepal

By Malcolm Lindquist

Around 10 years ago a chance conversation between PP Glenda Hedley (at an International Convention) and a Nepalese teacher about the plight of education in Nepal sparked a torch which was so enthusiastically carried by the late David Rusk (PP of the RCs of Blackwood and Brownhill Creek)

Firstly the RC of Blackwood sponsored visits of teachers to Adelaide where they visited many schools and undertook teacher development training.

David and other members of the RC of Blackwood then visited Kathmandu and were motivated to make a difference in the lives of many young people who were being deprived of an education because of their social and economic background. The relationship was strengthened with the establishment of a sister club relationship between the RC of Brownhill Creek and the RC of Dillibazar, in Kathmandu.

How the light has shone!!

By the end of 2013 Rotary and the local community had achieved amazing milestones to assist their Nepalese friends

- Sponsorship of 5 teachers to undergo teacher development in South Australia
- Supported 4 Nepalese schools through donation of materials, assisted by District Grants
- Sponsored over 70 students at \$2-300 a year to continue their education
- Supported teacher development programs in Kathmandu
- Engaged in International Rotary Friendship exchange visits to Adelaide and Kathmandu
- Involved Pulteney Grammar School and Unley High School in social justice programs to support science and technology which included working with schools and an orphanage and student sponsorships.



*Girls from the Blue Sky School
with Principal Prem Oli*

In addition David's last dream involved the establishment of a school to support the children in a Golfutar orphanage on the outskirts of Kathmandu. Through generous support of individuals and many Rotary donors (clubs and individuals) he worked hard to raise the \$200000 necessary to complete the project but sadly succumbed to cancer before it could commence.

PDG Malcolm Lindquist was issued with the challenge by David to complete this final project. Work has commenced but has proceeded at Nepali rate. PDG Malcolm visited Kathmandu in July to inspect progress and ensure that the project which is a registered Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) project was proceeding as expected.

It is hoped that the building with the assistance of the RC of Dillibazar will be completed by the official opening date of 21 Feb 2015 when a large contingent of South Australian Friends of Nepal will witness the fulfilment of one man's dream to Light up Rotary.



A Teacher's View



The Management of RC of Dillibazar



Laying Foundations



Where Is She Now?

A Bit About the Rotary Foundation

By Satish Gupta

The money raised by The Rotary Foundation supports the Rotary International's educational and other programs worldwide. When I was Chair of the District 9520 Scholarships Committee, we recommended some of our graduates to study further in different parts of the world.

The Rotary Scholarships enabled the lawyers to study further in Holland and Denmark and a police officer to enhance his Peace and Reconciliation skills in Thailand. We also received Scholars from Japan and the United States. The names like Hitomi Baba and Yasuyo Shimomura are well enshrined in our hearts.

Let us look at Hitomi, for instance. She came here to be trained as teacher for Special Children. "There are a lot of special children in Japan but not many trained teachers." She told me as we sat for our first evening meal in our dining room.

"I will go back home because those children there need me. The Rotary Scholarship was a God-sent opportunity to enable me to serve my Japanese people."

In early days, she was worried about her poor English. For the first few days, we communicated through the sign language. "Before you go home, you will make speeches in good English, so don't worry." She did not believe me then.

Hitomi became part of the District 9520 family. She became better known than any other scholar that I have known. In the beginning, she was reluctant to speak, but that did not stop her chatting away with whosoever had time and patience for her.

Most Rotarians saw her at the 12/13 District Conference at the Barossa. She was dressed as one of the Marion Rotary host club. She was a chatter box. She was eating, often double meals, drinking and dancing, over-zealously, to make a point that 'she had arrived' and that she was one of us. Believe me, there was no doubt in her mind.

She was part of the Marion family till her last day here. She tried hard to be one of us and succeeded. It was privilege to be her Counsellor. I wish more incoming Scholars would emulate Hitomi and become part of the Rotary family here.

It is the marvels of The Rotary Foundation that we met Hitomi and meet other overseas Scholars. That is why it is indeed a privilege to be a Rotarian and through it serve the mankind, create peace and better understanding in the world.

She wrote in her email of 8 July that she was teaching in Osaka's school for Special Children. "I am thrilled to be back and spending New Year Eve with my family. I had a great time with you and other Rotarians in Australia. I can't say thank you enough."

If there is someone you know, is able and willing to participate in the program, you need to contact the current Chair PDG Euan Miller.



We received a question from a concerned member: "Who is the Public Officer?"

We put the question to the Office of Consumer and Business Services who administer the Associations Incorporation Act on behalf of the Corporate Affairs Commission and they directed us to some helpful articles on their website. You can visit this website at : <http://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/wcm/associations-and-charities/incorporated-associations/> . It is well worth reading. A short visit to the site might help you to avoid trouble and inconvenience.

Here is a small extract from the web site concerning above question:

The Associations Incorporation Act, 1985 requires an incorporated association to have a Public Officer. The Public Officer must be a natural person of or above the age of 18 years who is resident in South Australia. The public officer is the person responsible for lodging legislated forms with our office.

Ideally the person will be closely associated with the association. The public officer performs an important role within an incorporated association, acting as the central contact person for the association. Any notice or other document can be served on an incorporated association by serving it on its public officer. The public officer must sign most of the forms and returns lodged with Consumer and Business Services. Failure to have a public officer is a breach of the Act and can mean penalties being levied against the association. In most cases, the public officer is a member of the association, however this is not a requirement. It is common for a public officer to have other responsibilities within the association, such as being a member of the committee of management.

It is a breach of the Act for an association to be without a Public Officer for a period longer than one month. The Public Officer's name and current residential address must at all times be registered with the Consumer and Business Services Office..

If the Public Officer changes his or her residential address, or if the association changes its nominated Public Officer, this office should be notified within one month of the change on the prescribed form [\(Form 10\)](#). No fee is payable. (Late fees apply if lodged after the prescribed time).

Read More: [Public officer responsibilities \(PDF 96KB\)](#)

Disclaimer: This column provides only general information and should not be construed as a specific legal advice. If you have concerns with a legal problem you should contact the Consumer and Business Services directly or contact your Solicitor.



Secretary's Corner

Membership Matters

August is Membership and Extension month, so it seems appropriate to discuss several membership matters.

With June passed, all clubs will have updated the Rotary International membership database with current members. If this has not been done recently, please do so at your earliest convenience. If your club's membership details are not up to date, per capita fees will be incorrectly invoiced.

By now, all District 9520 Clubs will have received an account for Rotary International dues. These dues are calculated on the Rotary members listed in the RI database on June 1st. Now is the time for payment of this account. Payment of semi-annual dues can be made by bank transfer, credit card or cheque.

At the start of a new Rotary year, many Clubs will have recently presented awards for outstanding service, welcomed new members and farewelled old friends. All of these events are significant and should be promptly recognised throughout the District.

Last month, I sent Club Secretaries a request for information when there are changes in a Club's membership. Hopefully, this will enable us to appropriately acknowledge these significant events and this is important, because we all recognise how much membership matters!

Peter Hammond
District Secretary