

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S Newsletter

August 2016



D9520.secretary@gmail.com



In preparing this edition of the DG Newsletter, I was given a reality check. We are already one month into the Rotary year and it seems like we have only just started! It did remind me that we all need to make the most of every moment of our time and when we are participating in Rotary activities, we should all look to do the best we can and maximise our opportunity to positively impact the community and help those in need.

I have commenced my official DG visits to clubs and without exception, everyone has been warm and welcoming wherever Lee and I have been. What has been especially encouraging is the commitment of all Clubs to explore ways to become even more effective and relevant in their communities. All the clubs I have visited have plans in place to drive membership growth, to continue to support many of their existing projects and also are exploring opportunities to collaborate on larger projects either within our District, nationally and internationally. Partnering with other Clubs and other organisations opens the door to many more opportunities for all of us to increase our service to humanity. I have also observed that even the smallest of Clubs can arrange and undertake significant local and international projects. It all boils down to the enthusiasm, desire and persistence of the individual members within Clubs.

August is Membership Month and there are many resources available to help Clubs recruit new Rotarians. Membership is everyone's business. RI Director Noel Trevaskis has emphasised some key points that we all must work hard to address.

Our average age is 71 years old.

We need to become more diverse in our membership.

Our clubs must reflect their respective communities.

We need younger people of both genders and we need the best possible people to join Rotary.

I have taken the liberty to insert the following information from the rotary.org website which you may find useful within your Clubs. **Sam**



There are many ways to join in the celebration of Membership month but here are a few activities to get you started:

Say it loud, say it proud! Let everyone in your social network know that you are a proud member by changing your Twitter and Facebook profile to the [I'm a Proud Member](#), [I'm a Proud Rotaractor](#), or [I'm a Proud Interactor](#) graphic. Copy and save the graphic as your profile picture for August.

Watch and share. Download RI President Gary C.K. Huang's video on membership from [Rotary's Vimeo page](#). Watch it at your next meeting or club event to highlight the vital role membership plays in maintaining a strong and active club.

Exchange ideas. Do you have successful membership strategies that have worked well in your community? Share them on the [Membership Best Practices Discussion Group](#).

We Are Rotary. Using the hashtag #WeAreRotary, [post photos](#) to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Vine of your club members at work in your community or abroad to show how Rotary makes a positive impact in the world.

It's Now or Never. Join us on August 13 at 10:00 Chicago time (UTC-5) for our [Membership: It's Now or Never](#) webinar. It will feature international membership expert Nikki Walker discussing innovative ways of thinking about membership.

Making a difference. Rotary clubs are known for the high-impact service projects they undertake locally and globally. Share stories about your service projects and how they improve lives on [Rotary Showcase](#). Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to see what Rotary members around the world are doing to celebrate Membership Month.

Welcome John Fitzgibbon—District 9520 Vocational Service Chair

John Fitzgibbon joined the Rotary Club of Irymple in 1989. He has been a Director on the Board for most of that time and has held most positions in the Club. He has been President on two occasions, has been a long-term Club Secretary and still is. He was presented with a PHF pin in 1997 by the Club and has since been awarded two sapphires to go with the pin.

John has served on number of District Committees including a term as District Secretary and others on District Conference Committees. He was a DG Representative for PDG John Jackson.

John joined Rotary with the classification of Education and later changed to Management Services.



He was strongly motivated to join by the Objects of Rotary and in particular, the Second Object, which calls Rotarians to “encourage and foster”:

- High ethical standards in business and professions
- The recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations
- The dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society

John believes this was the case with many Rotarians but has some misgivings that this commitment has tended to wane in many Clubs in recent years. John would welcome the challenge of assisting Club to return more strongly to some of the basics that has made Rotary a world-leading community organisation.

As the District Vocational Service Chair, John believes that there are many wonderful stories about vocational service in District 9520 Clubs. He would like the assistance of all Clubs to share the ‘good news’.



Welcome Trevor McGuirk - District 9520 International Service Chair

Trevor McGuirk is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Unley, having joined Stirling in 2006 and President of that club in 2010-2011. He is currently vice President of Unley Rotary Club.

Trevor has travelled extensively overseas but notably to South America on 4 occasions. In 2008 he spent 8 weeks as volunteers in Cusco, Peru. In November 2009 he returned to Cusco for 5 weeks to distribute Christmas gifts to children who live in poverty in the Andes Mountains near Cusco. On this trip the opportunity to do more for these children and their families arose, and with a Rotary Foundation matching grant was able to provide a school bus for the community of Quishuarani so that children did not have to walk 2-3 hours to school each day. The bus was delivered in October 2010.



Trevor is currently working to establish an extensive medical health care program for these people who live in isolated communities in the Andes mountains, some 5 hours' drive from Cusco.

Rotary keeps Trevor busy being Chair of the D9520 Friendship Exchange Committee and recently appointed as International Projects Services Director for D9520. He somehow finds time to belong to the Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia. The Choir will present the “Proms” concerts in the Adelaide Town Hall in August.

A Rotarian is someone who, through their efforts:

- Digs wells from which they will never drink
- Restores eyesight for those they will never see
- Builds houses they will never live in
- Vaccinates children they will never meet
- Plants trees they will never sit under
- Educates children they will never know
- Feeds hungry people, regardless of colour, race or politics
- Knows real happiness

Directors migrated north for the Winter?

With key people absent a Board meeting can be less than satisfactory. In **Somerton Park's** case two key Directors – husband and wife Rob and Marianne were enjoying the sun in Cairns and their opinion and wisdom was still needed, so they decided to set up a Skype link.



In the comfort of their motor home it was easy for Rob and Marianne to attend the club's board meeting. Once allowances for time differences were made the grinning faces appeared. To save bandwidth they cancelled the vision after about half an hour, and brought it back up at the end of the meeting so they could all say goodbye and they could see the assembled crew. President Mark Thomas reported: On the odd occasion I forgot they were present, but they reminded me when they had something to say or needed to be included.

With an emphasis this year on getting serious about using electronics this was a great start for the Club.



St Peters—Taken for Granted

St Peters Rotary Club were successful with their application for matching funds from the Federal Government for an infrastructure upgrade to their shed. The *St Peters* club's application detailed a project to concrete the rear access drive to their "spiritual" home, the *Peter Slattery Memorial Shed* as



well as purchasing a dishwasher to clean the multitude of pre-loved kitchen/dishware picked up as donations and then on-sold at the *Rotary on Linde* community rummage shed and meeting place. It's open to the public on Saturday mornings.

Funds are available through the Federal Government's **Stronger Communities Programme** whose objective is to fund small capital projects which will deliver social benefits. The programme aims to improve local community participation, cohesion and contribute to vibrant and viable communities. The Club will receive **over \$6000** to fund these improvements/additions and will match this amount to complete the project by the end of October 2016.

For Rotary clubs thinking they might be able to use taxpayer money wisely and for which it's been intended follow the link listed below, make a plan and do some "hard yards" through the application process and maybe your local community will also be a winner!

<http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/scp/>

For more information on the *St Peters Rotary Club's* experience, contact President Romaine Dawson at romaine1@gmx.com



Peter Slattery Memorial Shed



The driveway that will be concreted

Mitcham—Gallery One

The Rotary Club of Mitcham supported their local community gallery, 'Gallery One', in its 3rd annual art exhibition.

Gallery One (Mitcham Village Arts & Crafts) is an independent and not-for-profit initiative, one of the longest running organisations of its kind in Australia (founded in 1974).

This organisation, located within the Mitcham Cultural Village, is promoting and showcasing art and crafts with a strong community and art teaching focus driven by energy, motivation, passion and countless hours of many dedicated volunteers.

A Gala Auction and Awards evening was held on the 9th of July. As in previous years, cigar box lids painted and donated by well known artists, including Robert Hannaford and Alison Mitchell, were part of a silent auction to raise much needed funds.

The Rotary Club of Mitcham's involvement included sponsoring two award categories 'People's Choice' (won by Pam Altschwager) and 'Emerging Artist' (won by Sonja Durmanovic.) Rotary members also helped on the night in various roles.



District Directory



Mt Barker

President: Helen Cameron email: hc_celebrant@hotmail.com

Noarlunga

Secretary Sue Curtis M: 0431 945 949 email: noarlunga.rotary@gmail.com

Environment Joint District Board

Bob Arnold email: robbynevenus@gmail.com



Download an Electronic Copy

Did you know that the current **District Directory** is available to download from the District 9520 Website? The Directory can be downloaded to your phone or tablet (or you can print it in hardcopy if you wish). [Download instructions are available as well.](#)

The great thing about an electronic directory is that information is updated regularly as our District Secretary is notified of changes or corrections.

Go to the District web site at <http://rotary9520.org/>. Scroll down until you see the following box on the home page. You can click on the relevant iPhone or android instructions. You can download the District Directory and the Members Directory if you wish.

If you need help with anything on the web site, you can contact **Robin LeGallez** at mhcool@lm.net.au.

Home Page Download Files

- » [Instructions to Download Directory to Android Phone](#)
- » [Instructions to Download Directory to iPhone](#)
- » [District 9520 Directory 2016-17](#)
- » [RI Integration Help File 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- » [ClubRunner Integration Help Powerpoint](#)
- » [District Members Directory \(Protected\)](#)
- » [District 9520 Strategic Plan](#)
- » [District Equipment List](#)



Notice Board



The **Rotary Club of Glenelg** in collaboration with Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club, Uniting Care Glenelg and the St Vincent de Paul Society, is holding the "Cold Plunge for those in need" on **28th August at 11am**. This annual event raises awareness and funds to support the homeless and others in need, with proceeds donated to not-for-profit organisations including St. Vincent de Paul and Uniting Care.

The event will take place in front of the Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club and we're calling on members of the public to get sponsors and put on their boardies or bikinis and plunge into the icy cold water for up to 5 minutes.

It will be a fun and an unforgettable experience, and with more than 5000 homeless people doing it rough in South Australia, it will certainly be for a great cause.

This is the major annual fundraising event for the Rotary Club of Glenelg, and is also a significant occasion for the Glenelg community itself. Last year over 150 people took the "Cold Plunge", which was covered by three of the major TV news stations, and through the generosity of participants and the wider community, we were able to raise in excess of \$10,000 for this worthy cause.

Please go to their website <http://www.rotarynews.info/club3755> to download a sponsorship form, find a link to join the event on their facebook page and obtain further information or turn up on the day and pay \$10.



The **Voice of Rotary Programme** is broadcast on 1197AM RPH Adelaide each **Tuesday 7.30-8.00 pm**.

From each Wednesday the broadcast program can be heard on-line at

www.rphadelaide.org.au/

[Webcast.html](#)

Jock Thornton

johnjan4@gmail.com

Programme

9 August

PP David Cockshell, RC Gawler Light

"Donations in Kind – The Old RAH Project"

16 August

Imogen Walters, Rose Park

"To Moscow with the Bolshoi Ballet, Helped by Rotary"

23 August

PDGs Ed King and Peter Ochota

"Rotary for the 21st Century – Options for Change"

30 August

Rtn Richard Heathcote, RC Brownhill Creek

"Carrick Hill – a Unique Treasure"



Calendar

August is Membership & New Club Development Month

August 5

Hutt St Centre—"Walk a mile in my Boots" RC Kent Town

August 12

International Youth Day

August 17

Business Breakfast RC Eastwood

August 28

Cold Plunge for those in need - RC Glenelg

September is Basic Education & Literacy Month

September 7

Indigenous Literacy Day

September 24 - 30

RYLA Nunyara Conference Centre

September 29- 30

RYDA Flinders University

October is Economic & Community Development Month

October 7

Hat Day for ARH

October 10

World Mental Health Day

October 23

Eve of World Polio Day—The Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration in Cleveland Ohio

October 25

Polio Eradication Dinner—RC Edwardstown Details to follow



September 24-30th

Nunyara at Belair

Sponsorship \$900

Visit District 9520 website

WHY WINTER IS GOOD FOR YOU

1. It's easier to breathe.
2. You can sleep better.
3. You may burn more kilojoules.
4. Your skin is more protected.
5. Cold water boosts your immune system.
6. Less chance of food poisoning.



What are you waiting for?

Join the Australian Organ Donor Register online today
donatelife.gov.au

DonateLifeWeek 2016
SUNDAY 31 JULY – SUNDAY 7 AUGUST



More than 1,600 Australians are on donor waiting lists at any time, and many more need donated tissue.

During DonateLife Week, the community is being asked "What are you waiting for? Join the Australian Organ Donor Register on today at www.donatelife.gov.au

RI President, John Germ has written to the District Governors across Australia expressing his strong support for the project and encourages districts to get involved in this effort in whatever ways they can.

