



MESSAGE FROM DG DICK.

To all Rotarians and Friends of Rotary in District 9520.

As the 2015-16 Rotary year draws to a close, may I thank everyone for his or her contribution, whether it was large or small. Rotary is a team effort and I have had around me a team of wonderful support people and workers. To them, I offer my special thanks.

And may I wish all those taking office in the next Rotary year the very best in their quest for "Service Above Self".

To have served as your District Governor has been a pleasure and an honour and this year has been the highlight of my 42 years in Rotary. Liz and I have particularly enjoyed visiting all 50 Clubs in the District. We have witnessed 'Rotary in Action' at the grass roots and we are mightily impressed with the dedication and hard work of our fellow Rotarians.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

SEOUL – 28MAY to 01 JUN 2016

Liz and I had the opportunity to attend the RI Convention and what a magnificent event it was. With close to 43, 000 registrants, it was like turning up at a Crows or Port Power game!

The location was the Convention Centre at Kintex in Goyang City, about a one hour bus drive from the Seoul business district.

The program was stacked full of interest – from preconference sessions, opening and closing events, plenaries, breakouts, lunches, dinners – there was something for everyone!

World President Ravi was in charge of the opening session and, following welcome addresses from the President of South Korea and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, he gave his opening address.



General Session 2 was chaired by RI President Nominee Ian Riseley and a number of keynote speakers were featured, including a very moving speech from Gary Haugen which I have précised below.

Past RI President Ray Klingensmith chaired General Session 3. He is The Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair and the program concentrated on PolioPlus and the achievements of the Foundation over the past 100 years.

And President Ravi was in control of Session 4 and the speaking panel included our own 2015 Australian of the Year Rosie Batty as well as Paul Sheahan, former test cricketer and headmaster appearing on the "Sports Panel".

“DID YOU DO THE RIGHT THING ?”



The president and CEO of International Justice Mission, Gary Haugen, speaks to Rotary's 2016 convention on "Until All Are Free: How to End Slavery in Our Lifetime."

There are 36 million people in slavery in the world today. Gary Haugen poses the question in a historical context from your grandchildren, "Did you do the right thing to correct this wrong." This is an inspiring and confronting video which is worth watching: <http://video.rotary.org/aTQk/gary-haugen/>

Below is some thoughts from the speech.

“Until All Are Free: How to End Slavery in Our Lifetime”

“One day our grandchildren are going to give us a history exam. How well will you do?

It won't be a test of what we knew about history. It will be a simple question about what we did about history.

It seems that, eventually, history convenes a tribunal of our grandchildren, and they ask us: where were you?

Where were you grandpa, when the Jews were fleeing Nazi Germany and seeking a safe shelter in the world?

Grandmother, where were you when Nelson Mandela was rotting in prison for more than 25 years fighting the apartheid system in South

Africa? What did you do? Did you raise your voice?

Over time, there are just a few great dramas of human history, which our grandchildren discover with crystal clarity – and they just want to know from us: what did you do?

It's a way of asking: what kind of family do I come from?

And what a glorious thing to be able to look that child straight in eye and with all humility and gentleness say:

well, I just did my part. To say, as my father's generation could say – well, we all did our part, at great cost, to make sure that the forces of good could wade ashore on D- Day and bring the Nazi nightmare to an end.

Or to say, well, all around the world, we raised our voices against the apartheid regime in South Africa and didn't stop until Nelson Mandela walked free.

Indeed, imagine your grandchildren asking: “Grandma, grandpa – where were you when children like me were perfectly safe from the terror of polio, but thousands of the world's poorest kids were crippled by the disease every day?” And how glorious for you Rotarians to say, with all humility and gentleness: “Well, we all just did our part. We raised our voices and millions of dollars. And we didn't stop until every child was safe from polio.”

And in that moment your grandchild's heart will swell with a quiet joy and pride – because they will have learned something fundamental.”

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH (ARH) – “addressing vital health issues within Australia”

ARH Ambassador PDG Bob Aitken addressed Rotarians and friends at two meetings, the first in Goolwa on 06 JUN and the next night at Kooyonga Golf Club (KGC).

The Goolwa meeting for Group 4 Clubs, was organised by Dr Andrew Benson from RC Encounter Bay and, at the conclusion of the evening, a certificate of thanks was presented to Andrew for his many years of service to ARH. The meeting at KGC was a joint District meeting with 50 attendees. In addition to Bob Aitken, the other keynote speaker was Kristin Graham who is doing some exciting research into Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) at the University of Adelaide.

And.... on another ARH note, one of ARH's PhD Research Scholarship recipients, Dr Stephanie Shephard, a rising Flinders University medical researcher, was in the spotlight at this years South Australian 2016 'Fresh Science' Challenge. On 15 JUN, she took centre stage to show case her discoveries at the Lion Hotel, North Adelaide.

Dr Shephard described her work in urine testing for monitoring Motor Neuron Disease (MND), and how her research will further practical and important outcomes for developing better treatments for MND.

Fresh Science is a national competition that helps early-career researchers share their stories of discovery and gain national media coverage for their work.

Incidentally, Stephanie was awarded a Flinders University Vice- Chancellor's Prize for Doctoral Thesis Excellence

on 29 APR 2016. Special thanks to ARH and the Neville and Jeanne York PhD Scholarship.

All donations made to Australian Rotary Health are fully tax deductible, and are extremely important into funding programs such as these, as well as numerous General Health, Indigenous Health and Rural Health research programs. Visit the website for more information and to donate www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au

CHANGEOVER EVENTS

It has been a concerted effort from the G-Train to attend as many changeover events as is possible.

It is a time of great celebration, for both the year just past, and looking forward to the year ahead.

Unfortunately, time and distance puts Group 1 & 2 Clubs at a disadvantage and I hope that in future years, more attention can be paid to the needs of these Clubs at this time of the year.



The RC Noarlunga were the first Club to 'change' and the full team of DG, DGE and DGN were in attendance with their partners. And President Alan Nelson and President Elect Mark Simpson did not disappoint.

Having the rock band 'Sonic Bomb' playing made sure that the evening went off with a bang and the Rotary Hall rafters are still singing. And to top off a great night, both Alan and Mark were recipients of Paul Harris Awards.



On a sadder note, Rob Kidwell and Denise were farewelled from the Club after many years of outstanding service – thanks to you both!

END OF AN ERA- Meri King Interplast Coordinator D9520

Meri King has been the Coordinator of Interplast for a number of years. During this time she has addressed about 40 Clubs to raise awareness of the importance of the Interplast Project to so many of our near neighbours in the Asia/Pacific Region, has run fund raisers, and has overseen a large number of medical teams to carry out the motto of Interplast, "we repair bodies and rebuild lives". Meri has resigned as a Rotarian to pursue other interests in her life, and we wish her well.

"Dear Meri

I see from this week's Bulletin that your Rotary career is over.

Thank you so much for your contribution to Interplast. Single-handed, you took the reins and drove this wonderful program in District 9520. Thank you so much for the time you put in, the dedication you gave it and the great Rotary spirit you provided to the ongoing success of Interplast.

May I wish you well in your next endeavour - I know that you won't be sitting still!

Kind regards. Dick"

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE – Loxton, 20 JUN 2016

I know that District Secretary Sam will cover this event but can I thank him, the Rotary Club of Loxton, other Clubs in the Riverland and also AG Mike Woosnam and Loxton President Tom Shannon for their work, effort and support for this event. May it become a regular event on the Riverland Rotary calendar.



LAST WORDS

And finally, thank you for reading The Herald and DG Newsletter.

If you don't read it, then you won't have got to this thankyou!

Editor Sam has done a great job all year and I think it was a first for Sam and The Herald to win the District Award for Club Bulletin of the Year.

And finally, thanks to the G-Train, the Committee of Management, the Assistant Governors, the District Leadership team and to all my Club Presidents for 2015-16. I have enjoyed the year and more will be said at the District Changeover on SUN 03 JUL.

Why not come along?????

DG Dick June 2016



The inaugural staging of the **Science and Engineering Challenge** for District 9520 was held at Loxton last Monday 20th June 2016, and what a stunning success.



150 Year 10 students from Riverland Schools at Loxton, Waikerie, Glossop, Karoonda and Renmark took part in a day of competition solving science based problems, and learning more about the essence of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The occasion was generously supported both with sponsorship and person power by the Rotary Clubs of Loxton, Berri, Waikerie, Renmark and Barmera. The purpose of this activity was to present a practical view of the Sciences, and Engineering with the aim to influence more young students to pursue studies in these subject areas both at school and later in tertiary studies.



This group above, constructed a hovercraft that could be manoeuvred through a course of obstacles, take part in a speed test, and move across a bumpy track.

Testing the design of a building under earthquake conditions takes intense concentration.



Sharing the power supply through a complex grid of electricity consumers requires an innovative approach.



Loxton High School emerged as winners on the day, and later this year they will take part in the State Finals of this competition. Class Captain Saxon Westbrook accepts the trophy from Event Organiser, Rotarian Sam Cozens.



Special thanks to Rotarian Ollie Clarke from the Rotary Club of Adelaide for his promotion of the Science and Engineering Challenge into our Rotary District 9520.



Your gift can make an impact in lives around the world.

Give the gift of life through Rotary International:

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/give/give-gift-rotary>



SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR COMMUNITY FIRE STATION

One of this month's highlights was a visit to the C.F.S. station to see how a 'mini cutter' works. Our Club contributed \$2000 to the purchase of this tool to allow CFS to cut through steering wheels, foot pedals etc. We were also able to look at their rescue vehicle which services a huge geographical area. This equipment would otherwise have been stored on a water truck, taking the place of personnel.



The CFS volunteers perform many vital duties throughout our community and it is a relief to know they have efficient and up to date equipment.

ROTARY ROCK EVENT INTO 2016-2017.



What does a 20KVa generator, earplugs, Paul Harris Fellowship, glow sticks, drums, guitars, a Rotary Presidential Collar, concert audio system, concert lighting rig and six computers have in common? Well if you were at Rotary Hall, Christies Beach on the 10th June 2016 then you would have seen all these things at the Rotary Club of Noarlunga Changeover Event, with entertainment by rock band Sonic Bomb. Loud, bright, fun, hot dancing and most of all unique. Yet for all the differences with what is a traditional changeover, the core essence of Rotary was there, with two Paul Harris Fellowship Awards and the Induction of Mark Simpson as new President. Serious people arrived but were soon swept into the fun and frivolity of the occasion. Well done Rotary Club of Noarlunga!

Congratulations Berri, Coromandel Valley, Edwardstown, Flagstaff Hill, Hyde Park, Irymple, Kent Town, Magill Sunrise, Mitcham, Morialta, Murray Bridge, Noarlunga, Renmark, Somerton Park, Stirling, Strathalbyn, Tailem Bend, and Waikerie for integrating My Rotary and ClubRunner for their Clubs.

There are still a few days left for our District to reach the goal of 20 Clubs for the year of being a gift to the world. A ClubRunner app is now available for members to place on their phone, iPad, or computer, so that they have email and voice contact with other members at the touch of the screen. A good feature of this app is that you always have the updated version of contact information for other members of your Club.

MEMBERSHIP DATA for 2015-2016

The Rotary Year commenced with 1315 members at 1st July 2015 and as at 23rd June 2016 the membership is at 1296, which represents a loss of 19 over the year.

22 of the 50 Clubs either maintained or increased their membership, and the losses were evenly spread across the District. The figures appear to reflect that we are good at attracting new members, but we lose existing members. Historically these figures follow a very similar trend over recent years.

THE HANDS ON PROJECT



The Helping Hands Project has been difficult to correctly locate on the web, so from 1st July 2016 the new name of “The Hands on Project” will be used.

Rotarian Sally Charlton is now the Project Manager of this project, and the Rotary Club of Tailem Bend is the sponsoring Club.

Rotary Clubs within D9520 have made a huge effort to support the Helping Hands Project, and you are encouraged to continue this support under the new banner name of The Hands on Project. The photo above shows Liz Wilson and Kay Dowling assembling a prosthetic hand.

A new website is being developed but you can still access the present site at <http://www.rotaryd9570helpinghands.com/> or watch a video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kux6UoLXFvE>

The photo shows Rotarian Sue Piggott from the Rotary Club of Tailem Bend with a very happy man from Sri Lanka who lost both his hands in a robbery. Sue donated, built and fitted one hand and the other hand was donated and built by Tony Pasin MP.

Meryl McDougall and Helen Bowering also helped with the building of hands during a Rotary Club meeting at Tailem Bend.



COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION

You will by now have received a number of articles about the outcomes from the recent Council on Legislation. During this week a document from PDG Peter Ochota, our District 9520 Delegate to the Council on Legislation, was distributed to Incoming Presidents, giving a strategy for dealing with the information and responses that may be taken in your Club.



Correction in the names listed for the Seoul Convention photograph published last week. This of course is Kay Dowling, and I should have noticed the error. My apologies Kay. Editor.

A gift of \$10 provides a mosquito net for a safe and peaceful night's sleep for a person in Uganda where malaria is still a major health concern.



A gift of \$100 provides a sewing machine to teach entrepreneurs the skills they need to launch a business. Microloans and training ensures the business is sustainable.

A gift of \$200 provides medical equipment for newborns to start their lives in hospitals which have vital medical equipment to care for babies in their first moments of life.



In this final “The Herald” for the year of being a “gift to the world”, I would like to send my thanks to the readers and contributors who have made the news so interesting. You have kept me on task all year through your encouragement, and excellent stories. I was not all that keen on some of the pictures you sent, but the wonders of PhotoShopping rescued a few. The emphasis upon highlighting the special contributions of individual members in our District has worked well as the good stories always created favourable responses back to me.

I have many favourites to reflect upon, and it is hard to select 3 but here they are:



The very idea that a young student on an Exchange trip from Europe, visiting a shearing shed in Lameroo and actually shearing a sheep I think will be a life lasting memory for this young visitor.

Thanks Clive and Cheryl Bowman at Lameroo for providing this wonderful experience.

Postie Bikes Across Australia was a fund raiser for mental research and a wonderful story

Under the leadership of Nick Grosvenor, a group of 12 young men planned to make their lifestyle outlook more positive for themselves and for their community, as well as making a difference for others by contributing to mental health research through Beyond Blue.



The setting for the induction of Will Owen into the Rotary Club of Kent Town was stunning. Standing on the promenade deck of the Riverbank Stand at the Adelaide Oval with the city lights forming a brilliant backdrop to the River Torrens and the Walkway, was an inspiring occasion for all who attended.

I ride into the sunset well pleased that together we have made a contribution to the purposes of Rotary. Our stories have enriched our understanding of what Rotarians do, and given some insight into why they serve above self.

Editor Sam Cozens

