

**TO:** District Management Committee, Presidents, and Secretaries

**FROM:** DG Roy Armstrong

Date of Issue: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013

We hope you are all "Having Fun".

# **Action Items (New Items First)**

## Lisbon Conference – 23,000 Attendee Challenge

As we enter our final days of Lisbon Convention promotion, I am excited to announce the **23,000 Attendee Challenge!** Thanks to a generous contribution by an anonymous donor, if the final paid Lisbon convention registration reaches 23,000 attendees, the top 10 districts with the highest per capita registration\* for the 2013 Rotary International Convention will be credited with a US\$10,000 Annual Fund-SHARE contribution! These contributions also result in future District Designated Funds made available for district and global grants, so I am counting on our future leadership to join us in this challenge.

Lisbon convention registration is projected at 20,000 based on the current registration pace, but if we all work together to encourage our friends and family, clubs and districts, first timers and seasoned convention-goers to join us in Lisbon, *A Harbor for Peace*, we will reach our goal and secure this \$100,000 donation for The Rotary Foundation. Please review the <u>attached</u> challenge details for more information. All paid convention registrants are eligible, from 5 May 2012 through 26 June 2013. **On line registration is highly encouraged.** Winning districts will be notified by 15 July 2013.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to make this Lisbon Convention a memorable experience for all to enjoy! Sincerely, Sakuji Tanaka - 2012-13 President, RI

### Australian Rotary Health - Annual Bicycle Ride to Conference

We call for your support to ride from Summertown to Tanunda on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2013. It will be a one day ride of 80 km. as an individual or as teams riding sections. We also appeal for your donations to support this great Australian Rotary program.

All donations received will be credited to the individual Clubs' contributions to Australian Rotary Health.

Since Dr. Dick Wilson's solo effort riding from Adelaide to Tanunda in terrible conditions in 2005, we have raised close to \$20,000 over the past number of years.

Come on cyclists join the team for a day of fun and adventure to support our own Australian program – Australian Rotary Health, serving the community and Australians.

For further information contact Ian Parson via email <a href="mailto:net.au">nettian@iinet.net.au</a> or telephone nos. 08 8323 9284, mobile 0408 337 155.



## Multi- District Working Bee at Donations in Kind

At the RAWCS meeting the other night it was suggested that another multi-district working bee be held at DIK as a way of many clubs getting together, meeting others, becoming more aware of RAWCS programmes and getting much needed work done at DIK. The last multi-district working bee at DIK was held in April 2011 which was very successful. I would like to call on your support to hold such a working bee again this year.

It has been suggested that Saturday 11 May 2013 would fit with what is currently known of club and district events. It may also fit with a number of country club members who would be in Adelaide for district meetings on Friday 10 May.

DG Roy has added his support for this. Previous multi-district working bees have featured DGs meeting and greeting Rotarians, cooking BBQ lunch and even enjoying themselves demolishing unwanted furniture.

Dave Cockshell – Chair RAWCS Donations In Kind Central Region Mob 0401995996

### THEFT AT DONATIONS IN KIND - HELP REQUESTED

At our RAWCS Donations in Kind facility at Edinburgh Parks, there was a break-in over the New Year resulting in the theft of our near-new cordless drills, angle grinder and chargers. All up, nearly \$800 worth of tools was stolen. This has been particularly disheartening to the DIK committee who has worked so hard in this challenging programme getting surplus goods to needy communities world-wide.

The committee works hard to raise funds, with support from clubs in Districts 9500 and 9520, to operate this humanitarian programme. The loss of our cordless drills etc., is a particular nuisance as they are a key tool for our operation but the total of the loss is only marginally more than the insurance excess. Hence making an insurance claim is only marginal and does risk higher insurance premiums for Rotary in the future.

Therefore, I would like to put a call out to Rotarians/clubs in the two districts for support in kind – if you can provide a good cordless drill (with batteries and charger) we would really appreciate it.

Dave Cockshell - Chair RAWCS Donations In Kind Central Region Mob 0401995996

# Kompian Hospital project - Dr Mills, Papua New Guinea Invitation to all interested Clubs to a joint project meeting on Thursday 21 March 2013; 6.30pm Marion Hotel (Marion Rd).



Following the presentation by Dr Mills on the Kompian Hospital project, at our District Conference in Mildura (2012), many Clubs have shown an interest in undertaking projects to assist Dr Mills.

We (District Grants team) are holding a meeting with interested Clubs, to discuss and help coordinate projects being undertaken by Clubs in D9520. If your Club is interested doing a project to assist Dr Mills (Kompian Hospital), please come along. This is an opportunity to learn about proposed projects and assistance needed by Dr Mills. More importantly – it is an opportunity for those Clubs with limited resources to join with other Clubs to undertake TRF grant projects.

Please contact Euan Miller (<u>euanm@internode.on.net</u>) or Chandra Sluggett (<u>chandsluggett@tpg.com.au</u>), as soon as possible if you are interested. Thank you.



## OUR ROTARY STUDENTS - What we should and are required to do to protect them

All Rotary students or groups of students some of whom are under 21 years of age are subject to ROTARY CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES. This required any adult, Rotarian or non-Rotarian, male or female, caring for our students to be assessed either as a RESPONSIBLE ADULT or as a REGISTERED VOLUNTEER.

- A RESPONSIBLE ADULT is any carer
  - o who is responsible for caring for youth involved in a Rotary program in a **group** situation (Note a group may be (a) a group of young people, (b) a group of carers, (c) a combination of both)
  - whose role is such that there is virtually no opportunity for a young person to be placed at risk of abuse by that person
  - who the assessing district committee member, host parent or counsellor, acting as conscientious parents would in protecting their own children when of a similar age, would establish the "responsible adult" candidate to be a suitable and caring person
  - o who has not been police and formally reference checked
- A REGISTERED VOLUNTEER is any carer
  - o who may, at times on his or her own, be responsible for caring for a youth involved in a Rotary program
  - o whose role is such that there is seen to be an opportunity for the youth involved to be placed at risk of abuse by that person
  - o who has filled out the "Registered Volunteer Information and Declaration Form" YP 6 (Short Rotary Program) or CL 4 (Youth Exchange Program)
  - o who has been police and reference checked and approved.
- CLUB PRESIDENTS alone have the authority to use Rotary's VOAN number to authorise free S.A. Police checks. Club presidents are also the only people authorised to sight police certificates and confirm the holder has no pending or registered charges for crimes against children.

(Note: This privilege must not be abused by authorising police checks for anyone not known to specifically need them or anyone who is not being formally reference checked.)

This and further information is on the District web site under "A Guide to Protecting Youth Involved in Short Rotary Programs" and "Club Certification Policy, Procedures and Documentation for Protecting Youth Exchange Students. For further clarification or information about protecting our students, please contact

David Binks, dpbinks@senet.com.au - New Generations Coordinator

# **District Governor 2015/16**



DG Roy has been encouraging you to have fun. Well here is the ultimate chance. 2015/16 could be your year. The ultimate in thrills all the adrenalin of a high wire act, all the fellowship you could want, the ultimate opportunity to travel, be part of a high flying team and all in one year. More steak and chips or chicken and chips than you had dreamt of.

Take that step, nominate for D9520 District Governor. Apply now or dob in a mate. Want to know more call DG Roy for the low-down on having fun.

Applications close on **March the 15th 2013.** Application forms are available on the District Website, go to the dropdown box under "Our District" then go to District documents (DG Nomination form).

Upon completion these should be sent to District Governor Roy Armstrong.



# Other Items (New Items First)

### **Foundation Update**

This past year was one of major accomplishments for Rotary and your Rotary Foundation.

Extraordinary progress was made toward the eradication of polio. We made history when India was removed from the list of polio-endemic countries — leaving just Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. A difficult road lies ahead, but thanks to the commitment and generosity of Rotarians and friends, we are confident that Rotary will lead the way toward a polio-free world.

We also expanded Rotary's reach in new and effective ways by entering into partnerships with Mercy Ships and UNESCO-IHE. And we built on our record of humanitarian service by continuing our strong relationships with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, Aga Khan University, Oikocredit and the Rotary Peace Centres.

Over half a million young people worldwide participated in our New Generations programs. Their involvement in Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotaract and Interact clubs, and RYLA events helped them develop skills that they'll need to become service-minded community and global leaders - and future Rotarians.

In 2012, The Rotary Foundation also earned top marks from several independent charity evaluators, including the American Institute of Philanthropy, Charity Navigator and the Wise Giving Alliance.

As we look ahead, we can be proud of all that Rotarians have accomplished. I am pleased to share the digital version of the <u>2011-12 Rotary International and Rotary Foundation Annual Report</u> (click here), which offers a firsthand look at how Rotarians are working to improve the lives of people in need. I encourage you to review our annual report carefully, and to share it with others who may be interested in joining, partnering with, or donating to Rotary.

Thank you for helping Rotary achieve lasting change in your community and around the world. Sincerely, John Hewko - General Secretary - Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation

## Joint District 9500/9520 Peace Forum 23 February – Resolution Passed

"Peace is not a final destination to be reached, but an active and continuous process. All of us are capable of becoming peacemakers in our own lives, and through our words and actions, we will demonstrate that peace is possible. (From the Declaration of Peace Honolulu 2013)"

Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world. Desmond Tutu

#### Rotary District 9520 - Water and Sanitation Project, Timor Leste - NEWSLETTER #4

Imagine having your toilet washed away every wet season, then having to wait until the dry season to re-build it. This has been a frustrating scenario in five villages in Oecussi Province, Timor Leste, which, thanks to Rotary, should be a thing of the past.

D9520 clubs contributed generously to the Timor Leste Water & Sanitation Project (a \$104,000 project), which provided extensive water and sanitation facilities for six remote villages. That major



project which essentially concluded in 2012 was not extended as the project partner, Plan Australia, became fully engaged in a multi-million dollar EU-funded project in water and sanitation, a project along similar lines to the one in which Rotary had been involved.

An amount in excess of \$12,000 remained in the Project account. The Safe Water Saves Lives (SWSL) Committee sought assistance from the Australian Embassy, Dili, in identifying water/sanitation activities on which these funds could be spent. The Embassy recommended two projects which had been proposed for funding under its Direct Aid



Program (DAP). Under DAP, the Embassy receives many more requests than it has money to fund so it was delighted to be able to refer two worthy projects to Rotary. SWSL Committee considered the projects carefully and agreed that they were worthy and in line with the aims and objectives of the original project.

The projects are based in Oecussi (see map), an 815 sq. km. enclave and province of Timor Leste, located on the

north coast, about 150 km west of Dili. Oecussi is an anachronism, a legacy of Portuguese/Dutch rivalry in the East Indies, which culminated in the division of Timor into a Dutch western half and a Portuguese eastern half. The Portuguese, the first of the European colonisers to the East Indies, successfully negotiated the retention of the small Oecussi area (clearly in the western half of the island) because of its historical significance; it was the place where they first landed in Timor and where they introduced Catholicism to the island (Timor Leste is a strongly



Roman Catholic country). Today, Oecussi, with a population around 60,000, is isolated, surrounded on land by the Indonesian region of Timor Barat (West Timor)in the Province of Nusa Tenggara Timur – on independence, the new state of Indonesia absorbed all the former Dutch possessions in the East Indies - with the Savu Sea forming its northern border.

Oecussi is relatively undeveloped, with major communication and transportation problems. The main link with Timor Leste major is the ferry which sails twice a week between Pante Makassar, the largest town (population 5,000), and Dili, a 12 hour journey.

The two Rotary projects entail building permanent toilets in five Oecussi villages. Traditional wood and thatch toilets



Above: Attendees at the handing over of the funds at the Australian Embassy, Dili, including, extreme left, Daryl Mills, RAWCS Liaison Officer, second left, Merita de Jesus Marques, Project Manager, FEEO, centre, Maria do Ce'u Federer, Political Research Officer, Australian Embassy, second from right, Benediktus Martins da Costa, Project Manager, FLWS.

are washed away in the wet season. The adverse health effects are obvious, particularly for the children, but there is also a loss of personal dignity. The first project (estimated cost USD 5,000.25), the building of five permanent toilets (using concrete, iron and zinc, etc.) in the village of Malelat, is managed by Fundasaun Esperansa Enclave Oe-cusse (FEEO), a local NGO, using free village labour. In the second project (USD 7,984) eight toilets will be built in three villages – Tulaika, Nefobai and Oemolo-with Fundacao Lifau We'e Suli (FLWS) managing the

project, again using village labour.

There was a time constraint as the projects needed to be commenced before the onset of the wet season. The process for getting project approval was, however, not easy as it involved (rightly so) lots of checks and balances. Senior Rotarians at the District and national level, however, at the urging of former Chair, SWSL, Gordon Wilkinson, expedited the approval process. The funds were then transmitted through the banking system to Daryl

Mills, RAWCS Liaison Officer in Dili, who was critical to the transfer of the funds to the respective NGO's. On Monday, 18 February, 2013, Daryl handed over the funds to the FEEO and FLWS representatives (who had travelled to Dili that morning by ferry) at a ceremony at the Australian Embassy.



There are lots of positive things to say about these projects. First, the original requests for assistance under the Embassy's DAP were rigorously assessed by Embassy staff (including visits to the respective locations) and approved by the Ambassador. Second, they will provide tangible health benefits for the villagers; in the short term a decline in diarrhoeal diseases, in the longer term they will contribute to a decline in the high infant mortality rate. Third, the toilets will be constructed by the villagers themselves, which will engender a strong sense of ownership which should guarantee a high level of sustainability of the facilities. Fourth, the villagers will acquire some modern building skills. Fifth, Rotary has established its credibility, with the local people and with the Australian Embassy, by being able to respond to a basic human need so quickly.

As a delighted Maria do Ce'u Federer, Political Research Officer, Australian Embassy, confided to Daryl Mills, "We can rule the world when we combine forces for a greater good".

#### **Project Contacts:**

Robert Koehne - Project Manager, SWSL Committee member - Rotary Club of Stirling - Tel: (08) 8390 1074

email: alfa1300@senet.com.au

Bryan Harris - Chair of "Safe Water Saves Lives" Joint District Committee - Rotary Club of Adelaide

Tel: (08) 8431 6471 email: <u>tweed2@bigpond.net.au</u>

Norwood Rotary - GSE Team Returning from Taiwan

Invites you to join our members to welcome the D3470 GSE Team from Taiwan At Don Pyatt Room, Norwood Town Hall, George Street, Norwood

on

Friday 3 May 2013 from 6.00 pm

Drinks and nibbles will be served - Cost: \$15.00 per head

RSVP: 19 April 2013 - Robyn Baker

Mob: 0466 694 361 eMail: robyn.baker46@optusnet.com.au

Eastwood Rotary - 21st Birthday Celebrations of Community Service

President Annie & Rotary Club of Eastwood
Invite

..... Rotarians...& Partners......

To attend their 21st Birthday Celebrations of Community Service

Proceeds to assist Catherine House

Provider of supported accommodation for those affected by Homelessness

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2012 - Royal Coach Motor Inn - Kent Town 7- 7.30pm

Keynote Speaker- International Cricket Council, Elite Umpire Steve Davis

Dress Cocktail/ Jacket & Tie - \$55 per head - Wine available for purchase RSVP Essential—Brian Lange - 6<sup>th</sup> April by email - lange\_brian@hotmail.com



## Links to Prior Herald Articles Which May Be of Interest.

#### **Action Items**

**ROMAC – Board Positions** 

**District Conference** 

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/34-Feb24.pdf
Rotary Connect Mentoring Program 2013

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/33-Feb17.pdf

**District Training Dates 2013/14** 

Australian Rotary Health - Indigenous Health Scholarships

South Australian Police Officer of the Year

Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment - R-YPEN 2012 launched to Schools and Clubs.

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/32-Feb10.pdf

#### Other Items

**Tasmanian Bushfire Relief** 

**Blackwood Rotary - Community Forum** 

ROTARY AUSTRALIA WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE LTD - GUEST SPEAKER FOR YOUR CLUB

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/34-Feb24.pdf

**Sunraysia Charity Ball** 

Australian Rotary Health Photo Competition – 26 Jan to 25 April

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/32-Feb10.pdf

**Blackwood Rotary Second Hand Booksale** 

**Goolwa Rotary Art and Photographic Exhibition** 

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/31-Feb03.pdf

Glenelg Rotary – Breakfast on the Pat

http://www.rotarynews.info/Uploads/Districts/9520/Documents/Weekly%20Mailouts/2012-2013/30-Jan27.pdf

That's all for this week. Peace through Service – The Challenge of Change –

# Have fun!!

DG Roy Armstrong.