Rotary District 9910

IMAGINE ROTARY

NEWSLETTER - MARCH/APRIL 2023

Matt McLeod

Governor Introduction

Dear Rotarians

The Rotary year is moving fast and the last month or so has been super busy. Our District Conference is happening at the end of April and we are looking forward to a great time with a combination of social activities (Friday night racing at Alexandra Park as well as the Saturday night conference dinner), plus a good number of excellent speakers and a breakout activity which we're hoping will inspire and reinvigorate you. If you haven't registered yet, please do so as soon as possible - the last date for registrations is Sunday 23rd April. Register online at ***https://www.rotaryconference9910.org.nz/*** and check in with your club members to see who else might like to go who hasn't already registered. Profiles of some of our speakers are on page 3 of this newsletter and on the speakers page of the conference website.

I was pleased to attend the fundraising lunch and auction organised by Kumeu Rotary to support the community at Muriwai who have been cut off from access from their houses as a result of the large landslide there earlier in the year. It was a very professionally run event and raised a good sum of money. Congratulations Kumeu Rotary. (See pages 7-8)

During March the District held a breakfast to celebrate International Women's Day. There was a great mix of both Rotarians and non Rotarians at the event which was organised by our District Governor Nominee Jenn Wong. The feedback from this event was excellent and a number of the non-Rotarians in attendance have expressed an interest in joining. Going forward, running more events like this both at District and club levels is a great way to promote Rotary to a new audience in a fun, no-pressure environment.

It was also very pleasing to see the grand opening of the Rotary Foundation Global Grant funded project at Thamdanda in Nepal to provide safe drinking water, sanitary facilities and to allow villagers to generate income by growing crops. This project was brought to Westhaven Rotary by member Clare McCall and was well supported with funds from multiple clubs and Districts. See page 15 for the full article.

Thank you to all Rotarians across our District for the work you continue to do for your clubs and communities. Keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the District Conference.

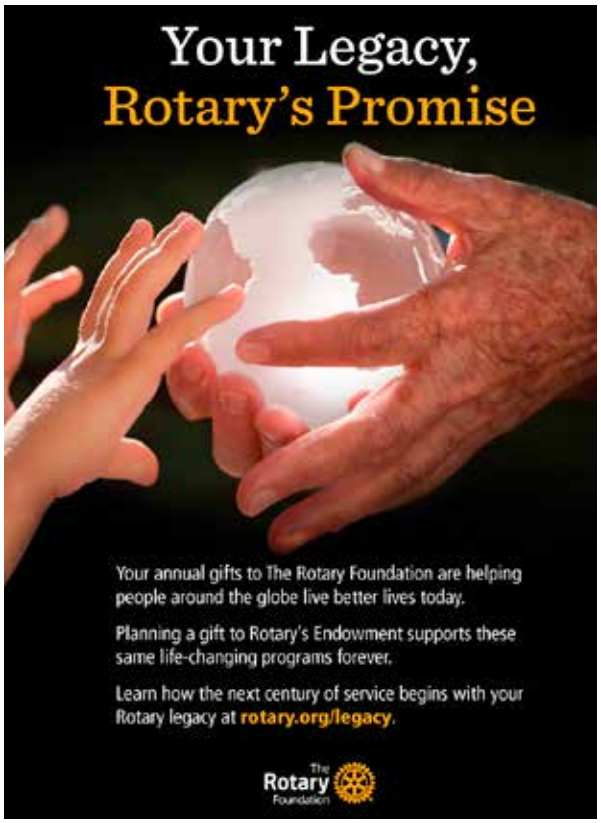
Matt McLeod
Governor - District 9910
2022-2023

District Diary

15 April	RDU copy deadline for next month's magazine
22 April	World Earth Day
28-30 April	***District Conference***
30 April -6 May	99910 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
4 May	Rotary Kaikohe birthday (chartered 1954) Rotary Milford Golf Tournament
13 May	Rotary Kerikeri birthday (chartered 1978) Rotary District Quiz (Rotary Browns Bay)
14 May	D9910 Rotary Peace Fellow graduation
15 May	RDU copy deadline for next month's magazine
17 May	Rotary Norfolk Island birthday (chartered 1973)
20 May	Rotary Birkenhead birthday (chartered 1957)
21 May	Club Leaders Seminar - Virtual by Zoom
25 May	Rotary Waitakere birthday (chartered 1970)
26 - 27 May	Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)
28 - 31 May	Rotary International Convention - Melbourne

Events

Events in the district can be found on the district website at the following link ***District 9910 Diary*** - clubs who want their events here should send information/flyers to District Administrator, ***district9910@gmail.com***



VIVID
COMPUTERS
Ph: 09838 0030 www.vivid.net.nz

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary District 9910 Presents

Trivia Night

Saturday 13th May
Outram Hall, 478 Beach Rd, Murray's Bay, North Shore.
$60 for a team of 6 - 8 people.

Register a team now and pay as a team (reference: Club name) by 8th May to:
Rotary Browns Bay
12-3042-0026245-000

Arrive 6pm for 6.30pm start
BYO Snacks. **Cash bar available**

Contact: Sally Cargill
sallyraecargill@gmail.com

Conference 2023

We are please to introduce one of our main speakers for the conference.

Jaden Movold

Jaden is an 18-year-old T54 Internationally Classified Wheelchair Racer from Auckland. He was born with a rare form of Spina Bifida and has faced many physical challenges, including spending a lot of time in hospital and having 31 major surgeries. Despite this, he has never given up his pursuit of being an athlete. Starting from a young age, he tried nearly every sport, and eventually became a competitive swimmer, wheelchair basketballer, and triathlete. In 2019, he discovered his passion for wheelchair racing, his now main sport, where he competes in all track events from 100m-5000m and 10km road events. He currently holds numerous Auckland and NZ age-group records and holds several national championships titles. Aside from being a competitive athlete, Jaden is also heavily involved in his community, serving on several national committees and advisory groups. He is also a disability advocate, a public speaker, an ambassador, and is frequently asked to contribute his expertise and experience within projects focused around disability and young people. He is also pursuing a psychology degree at AUT University.

David Downs.

He is an exceptional speaker and we look forward to hearing from him.

David is CEO of The New Zealand Story and a director on several boards, including as Chair of The Icehouse.

David is an ex-comedian, TV and radio actor, semi-finalist for New Zealander of the Year, cancer survivor and a published author of books No.8 Re-wired, No.8 Recharged, A Mild Touch of the Cancer, and Silver Linings.

Lisa Adams

Is a women's para shot put athlete (F37 category) who has experienced a rapid rise to the track and field stage.

Diagnosed early in life with left hemiplegia, a form of cerebral palsy, she won a national title in 2018 at her first major competition and has broken the F37 para shot put world record several times since she started competing. Lisa won her first world title with a world record throw of 14.80m at the World Para Athletics Championships in Dubai in 2019 and broke this again throwing 15.28m at the 2020 New Zealand Track and Field Championships.

Lisa competed at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games (postponed to 2021) and won a gold medal in Women's shot put F37, setting 4 Paralympics records in the process.

She splits her time between being a mum at home in Rotorua and training commitments in Auckland and is coached by her older sister Dame Valerie Adams.

D9910 Conference 28 - 30 April

ESRAG Environment Actions Summit May 25

By Pat Armstrong

If you are arriving in Melbourne ahead of RICON, you will not want to miss this ESRAG Environment Action Summit on Thursday, 25 May. To be held in a central Melbourne location, this Summit will feature leading environmental keynote speakers and showcase a number of outstanding Rotary environmental projects. After this inspiring introduction, delegates will work in breakout groups to develop practical ideas for Rotary club and district environmental projects. These ideas for projects will then be collated and produced into environmental action guides and made available to Rotary clubs and districts worldwide. This will be the chance for you to share some of the innovative projects of your club and district and to also learn from speakers and other delegates.

You will hear from two outstanding keynote speakers:
Professor David Karoly is an honorary Professor in the School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and an honorary Senior Research Fellow in Melbourne Climate Futures, having retired from CSIRO at the end of January 2022. He is an internationally recognised expert on climate change and climate variability.

Keynoters: Professor David Karoly and Patrick McCafferty

Patrick McCafferty is Managing Director at Yarra Valley Water and Chair of the Thriving Communities Partnership. Yarra Valley Water was the first water utility to join the UN Global Compact, a global organisation with a strong sustainability focus. Aligning its operations to this Compact, Yarra Valley Water uses anaerobic digestion for sewage management and treatment and to convert food waste to renewable energy. It also recycles water from sewage for use in homes, parks and sports grounds.

Our prospective speakers and topics include:

- Salvador Rico: Cleaning the Rivers of the World
- Christopher Puttock: Mangroves Restoration
- Rob Anderson: Rotarians for Climate website
- Clari Nolet: Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling (A Program of Impact) David Brawn: Environmental Envoys to Engage Rotary Clubs Colin Scobie: Oyster Shell Reef Restoration
- Trees for Survival
- Pat Armstrong: Light up Timor Through Enterprise

Tickets - which include lunch- are US $60 for Rotarians, and $30 for Rotaractors, but ESRAG members get a 15% discount! Click here to ***register.***

Inviting you to RAGTime at Royal Botanic Gardens

This is a unique opportunity to meet members of ESRAG and to meet, learn from and share ideas for joint projects with members of the other 26 Rotary Action Groups.

You will also be able to have informal conversations with Rotary staff and our Rotary International leaders, including some past RI Presidents.
Ticket includes canapés, one free drink, and a bountiful spread of Rotary goodwill

Would you please include this link to ***Register***

District Diversity

How would you cope in a training session where the facilitator and documents were not in your mother tongue?

A fifth of the members of our district are based in New Caledonia, where French is the primary language.

In fact, our district is very diverse. It contains four countries and six official languages - English, Māori, French, Bislama, Norf'k and Sign Language.

Due to the special nature of our district, a portion of the budget a governor receives from Rotary International is allocated to training our Pacific Island members.

For the last couple of years, we have not been able to provide the usual language support to our French-speaking Rotarians at the multi-district training sessions.

Recently, Past Governor Elaine Mead was in New Caledonia to support members attending the online South Pacific Presidents-Elect Development Seminar.

She also facilitated training sessions, in French, for New Members; Club Leaders and on topics such as Promotion & Public Image; and Member Engagement.

The attendees enjoyed the opportunity to network and learn more about Rotary and their roles, and appreciated the effort made by PG Elaine and the District.

La promotion et l'image publique - GàD: Jean-Michel Blaise, Roselyne Legras, Jean-Yves Badet, Marie-Claire Gauthier, Patrice Milot

Diversité de District

Comment feriez-vous face à une session de formation où l'animateur et les documents n'étaient pas dans votre langue maternelle ?

Un cinquième des membres de notre district est basé en Nouvelle-Calédonie, où le français est la langue principale.

En fait, notre district est très diversifié. Il contient quatre pays et six langues officielles - anglais, māori, français, bichlamar, norf'k et langue des signes.

En raison de la nature particulière de notre district, une partie du budget qu'un gouverneur reçoit du Rotary International est allouée à la formation de nos membres des îles du Pacifique.

Au cours des deux dernières années, nous n'avons pas été en mesure de fournir un soutien linguistique à nos Rotariens francophones lors des sessions de formation multi-districts.

Récemment, passé gouverneure Elaine Mead était en Nouvelle-Calédonie pour soutenir les membres participant au séminaire en ligne sur le développement des présidents élus du Pacifique Sud.

Elle a également animé des séances de formation, en français, pour les nouveaux members et pour les dirigeants de club, ainsi que sur des sujets tels que la promotion et l'image publique et engagement des membres.

Les participants ont apprécié l'occasion de réseauter et d'en savoir plus sur le Rotary et leurs rôles, et ont apprécié les efforts déployés par PG Elaine et le district.

La formation à la français!

Nouveaux Membres - GàD: Tommy Dupuy, Jordan Chorlot, Roselyne Legras, Mathieu Banka, Patrice Milot

Create stronger messages

Whether you're posting on social media, inviting community members to volunteer with you, or speaking at an event, you'll get more people to take action by using precise words and clear examples. Our Communication Guide, inspired by Rotary's Action Plan, offers advice for clear and effective messaging, such as:

Be specific: Inviting community members to "serve meals to hungry children" is more accurate and compelling than asking them to "defeat hunger."

Be inclusive: It's easier for people to imagine themselves getting involved with Rotary when you refer to "members and participants" rather than to "Rotarians."

For additional guidance and more concrete examples of powerful communications, read our ***Communication Guide*** and be inspired!

Alothman family Car - Fundraising by North Shore clubs

Thanks to District Governor Matt and our Fellow North Shore Rotarians for all your help and assistance with our fundraising efforts, to help a local Syrian refugee family. Together with the following clubs:-

East Coast Bays Rotary
North Harbour Rotary
Albany North Harbour Rotary
Korean Rotary
Takapuna Rotary
Milford Rotary
Devonport Rotary
Private Rotary donations
Rotary Browns Bay

We raised over $2000 towards a motor vehicle for the family

This has enabled Rotary Browns Bay to pay the $1500 contribution to the Car dealer and we have also given the Alothman family a petrol voucher of $300 and will provide another in a few weeks to help with the running costs.

The vehicle was supplied by GVI imports at a very subsidised cost. A huge thanks goes to Erica Stanford our local MP for advocating for the family and putting this together.

Paul Mees
Mobile 021 025 70993
Rotary Browns Bay Public Relations Director

Kumeu Rotary & Allely Estate - Muriwai Relief Fundraiser Charity Lunch & Auction

Kumeu Rotary is supporting the community at Muriwai after the landslides caused by the recent weather events. A large number of houses at Muriwai have been red or yellow stickered. Many of these don't have any direct damage to their properties, but are unsafe to enter because they have unstable ground above them.
These residents are left in limbo as because there is no actual damage to their land or houses they can't make an insurance claim on their properties, nor can they return to live in their houses - meanwhile they have needed to find alternative accommodation whilst still paying their mortgages and rates at their red and yellow stickered properties.

Kumeu Rotary worked with Allely Estate in Kumeu to run a charity lunch and auction on the 26th of March. Support was received from a large number of local businesses and Kumeu Rotary was supported by the Waimauku Lions in selling tickets and organising the auction items.

The beautiful villa of Allely Estate was adorned with over 60+ items donated for auction. Guests poured over all the wonderful offerings – some sport-themed being cricket bats signed by Kane Williamson, a prized Richard Hadlee signed photo, Warriors signed & framed jersey, a golf pass for 4 to Huapai Golf Club, and Round of Golf for 3 people at Te Arai Links with Greg Turner (which we ended up getting two donor prizes for – thanks to Ryan Brandenburg from Golf Strategy Group), beauty treatments from Brow, White Spa & Float Lounge, accommodation on Great Barrier, Castaway & Soul Retreat Cable Bay, a massage chair from iRelax, plenty local and kiwi artwork, STIHL items from STIHL Kumeu and so much more. Guests purchased an array of drinks and mixed & mingled in the lusciously gorgeous grounds before finding their way to their designated tables in the marquee.

With 22 tables set up, there were over 200 people who attended this event. And the marquee had been beautifully presented by Paul & his team at Event Styling (who donated their time and equipment, thank you) along with the Allely Estate team led by Melissa for the set up with flowers put together by our Client Manager Athina and partially donated by Country Blooms, Riverhead.

Once seated in the draped roofed marquee, MC and local, Alison Mau (Ali) set the scene for the day as to why we had all come together, thanking those who had put the event together; Catherine & Peter, owners of Allely Estate with Kumeu Rotary (who donated many items, brought tables, shared the event far and wide) for funds earmarked for the Muriwai Community Association (who also did exceptionally well with sharing the event, purchasing tables and gaining donor items for the auction) and their Trust, the Muriwai Relief Fund. Ali thanked Todd & the band from Crowded Trousers (part of The Groove Diggers) along with Peter's brother Chris Cooke (NZ Musician who lives in Sydney, hails from Auckland and returned for this event) for their offer of time to keep everyone musically entertained. Ali also thanked the Waimauku Lions who came on board to be part of this event with their donation, promotion, and purchasing of tables.

Ali said to everyone 'don't think you are getting a bargain … this is a charity fundraiser so open your pockets'.

Lunch commenced with a gorgeous buffet from Head Chef, Kevin and his team, accompanied with an array of NZ wines, beers, and commemorative personalised French bubbles from Wine Time. Chris Cooke delivered amazing vocals and tunes over lunch, and it was great to see people dancing to his music.

Ali Mau returned to the stage after lunch to remind people 'why' we were all here and invited up Kat Corbett to give a goose bump, chilling, and very emotional account of her family's fight for survival amid landslides, while also acknowledging two friends, Craig and Dave (Volunteer Firefighters) who lost their lives saving many, coupled with the uncertain future ahead of them all.

Continued

As Kat left the stage you could feel the emotion in the room. Entertaining Auctioneer Stephen Theobald, Harcourts Kumeu & Member of Waimauku Lions had a huge task ahead of him for the next hour, not just to fetch a good sum of money but to also get through a mammoth 60 items. Warming up the crowd didn't take long, and Stephen was in full swing. Over the next hour, Stephen with the help of the very ambitious & motivated team at Allely Estate – Athina, Catherine & Melissa ramping up the crowd – Stephen yielded $33,250 post bank fees. There was some very heated contest with the lucrative prize from Nick Komornicki (Buccaneer Ltd) for two to visit the set for Jason Mamoa's latest filming – a young lady pipped Allely Estate's owner Catherine for this; and this same lady also brought a bit of contest to the Golf at Te Arai with Greg Turner, which as mentioned above the wonderful Ryan Brandeburg from Golf Strategy Group managed to score a 2nd donor prize option with this being matched by the other bidder. These 3 donor prizes alone brought in $11,250! … the auction didn't just finish here … more on this well below.

After an action-packed hour and a quarter Ali signalled everyone to a breather to stretch, mix & mingle, enjoy dessert & beverages and music by Crowded Trousers.

Returning to the marquee for a wrap Ali invited Brett from Kumeu Rotary, and Peter & Catherine Cooke to the stage for a few words. Kumeu Rotary President Brett Connolly talked about how important this event was for Rotary and it was never in question to do an event and how seamless it was to do this with Allely Estate. Brent thanked the donors, attendees, Allely Estate, especially Catherine and Peter for their drive and passion to deliver and Waimauku Lions for jumping on for support. Brent also encouraged others to consider joining Rotary Kumeu, so we have more heads and hands to help the community. Peter discussed about how the event was very aligned with his and Catherine's vision to connect with the community and how we approach all we do with a view of being heart centric. Peter thanked Allely Estate team, vendors, donors, and attendees. Catherine talked about the whirlwind 3 weeks to pull this together on top of their already busy workload (she and Peter have 3 businesses) and to see the efforts of today and the coming together & giving of such a great crowd made it all worthwhile. That the Allely Estate team were pros at doing events with little to no notice and had delivered two weddings with 2- (wedding here) and 3-days' notice (wedding here) for couples whose venues had been compromised from the storms, meaning they could not get married – so we made it happen here at Allely Estate & delivered their magical wedding days.

Catherine thanked Ali Mau for jumping on board to promote and MC this event, along with Stephen for rousing the crowd to empty their pockets – they were both gifted with a commemorative Muriwai Rebuild bottle of French bubbles from Wine Time.

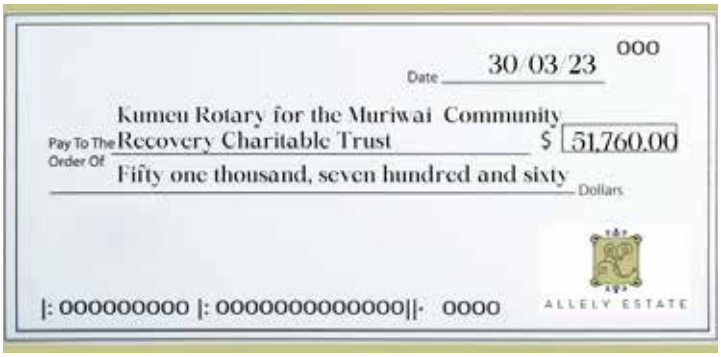
Kat Corbett took to the stage to present Catherine Cooke with an amazing bunch of flowers, from which Catherine tried to auction these off for $2000 and this was met with laughter from all, however, Catherine was not finished …. she attempted Stephen Theobald's job as auctioneer (she is happy for him to keep that job) and managed to sell two more auctions at $4750 – bringing the total auctions on the day yielding approx. $38,000 after bank & credit card fees.

While the formalities of the event were finished, the guests continued to purchase a few items in the villa, enjoy the surroundings & company of many in the venue – many enjoying a Sunday afternoon boogie to the vocals of Crowded Trousers, with the last of the guests leaving at 5:30 pm – an hour and a half after the event finished.

What an amazing day – and quite an achievement from all who planned & delivered this emotionally charged event.

Thank you to everyone involved in the event. The amount raised was $51760.00 with additional funds still coming in.

Special thanks to Geoff Salisbury Photography who photographed the event. Geoff's photos are below and we acknowledge credit to him for these images.



Rotary Women in Leadership Breakfast

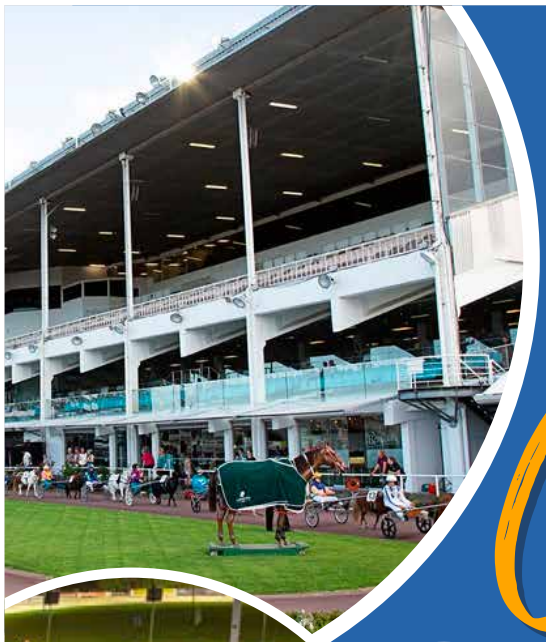
District 9910 was pleased to host a breakfast on the 11th of March to mark International Women's Day (8th March).

This event was very well organised by District Governor Nominee Jenn Wong from Takapuna Rotary Club and attended by just over 100 people - a great mix of both existing Rotarians and non-Rotarian guests.

The guest speaker was National Party Deputy Leader Nicola Willis who was asked to speak on her thoughts on Leadership and about her own experiences. Nicola was asked to make the talk non political and she did a great job doing this. The venue was Wynyard Pavilion who provided a delicious breakfast. A raffle was run and funds raised from the event were donated to Breast Cancer Foundation NZ - around $1500 was raised.

Several non Rotarian attendees were very interested to hear DGN Jenn talk briefly about Rotary and are interested in joining. In particular, congratulations to Waitakere Rotary who brought along approximately 15 guests who are now looking to form a new satellite club.

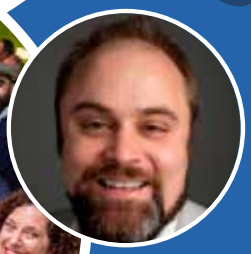
We hope to be able to run another event like this in the new Rotary year.



Rotary
District 9910

CONFERENCE 2023

Come join us!



District Governor Matthew McLeod welcomes you to join this years District Conference being held at Alexandra Park in Auckland

The conference starts on Friday, 4pm the 28th of April & finishes on Sunday, 12.30pm the 30th of April 2023

Cost per person is $199

ALEXANDRA PARK ADDRESS:
Greenlane West Rd &,
Manukau Rd, Greenlane,
Auckland 1051

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

- A great line up of speakers
- Fun activities & break out rooms
- An amazing atmosphere with like minded people
- And don't forget the Saturday night dinner at Top of the Park Restaurant!

Saturday Night Dinner with our amazing MC Pio Terei

Play it Again, Sam! Piano Man show, starring Sam Hyde on piano and vocals

TO REGISTER AND FIND OUT FURTHER INFORMATION YOU CAN VISIT:

rotaryconference9910.org.nz

Member Experience #1

Article from Rotary On The Move (March 2023), written by Barbara Mifsud, Regional Membership Officer

Recent research confirms that the club experience is what matters most to our members. Use this helpful one-pager to enhance a meaningful experience.

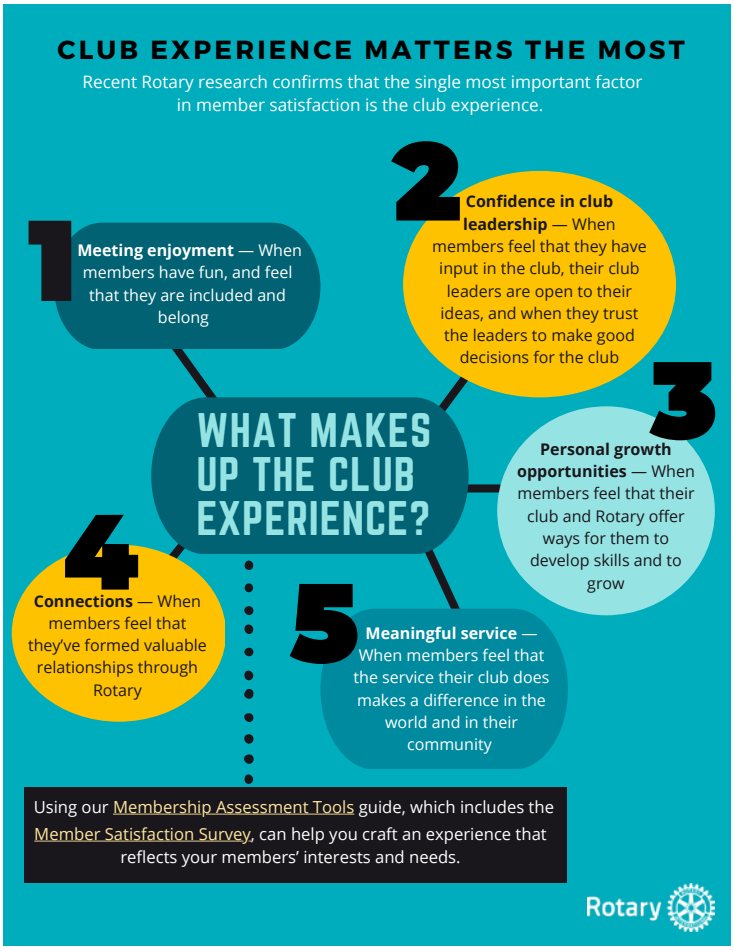
Submitted by Barbara Mifsud, Regional Membership Officer, RI staff

Recent Rotary research confirms that the club experience is what matters most to our members. Everyone plays a part in making sure that members have a fulfilling and enjoyable experience.

Use this helpful one-pager called ***What makes up the club experience (English)***, ***(French)*** to build an experience that not only attracts new members to our clubs but retain the ones that we have.

When members feel welcomed and included, are given opportunities for personal growth and leadership development, are able to make meaningful connections, and are contributing to service, they are more engaged and more likely to remain active in their club.

Looking after members by showing them comfort and care should be the priority for all club leaders. Knowing the needs of your members and making changes in your club to address those needs creates a more positive environment for all.



Rotary offers resources that can help:

Member Interest Survey — Getting to know new and prospective members early on is helpful for everyone. Use this survey to learn about their preferences so you can meet their expectations.

Member Satisfaction Survey — A satisfied member is an engaged member and engaged members make clubs vibrant. Distribute this survey regularly to all members in your club and respond to their feedback to empower them to shape the club experience.

Exit Survey — Understanding why members leave gives your club the opportunity to address any issues that are causing members to resign.

Being open to change can be challenging, especially for clubs that have well-established ways of doing things. But when members feel heard and understood, they are more likely to feel valued and cared for and to be active in their clubs.

Bravo les Rotariennes!

These three ladies were amongst the first women Rotarians in New Caledonia.
LtoR: Genvière Carnier-Barney, Luce Lorenzin, Mireille Hugeaud, with PG Elaine Mead.

Luce and Mireille were charter members of Rotary Nouméa Ouen Toro in 1994 and Genvière joined the next year.

It was the first club to have women members in New Caledonia and in 1997, Mireille became its first women President.

Not only the first woman Rotary club President in New Caledonia but also ahead of clubs in France.

During PG Elaine's visit, and in the week of International Women's Day, the club recognised Geneviève and Mireille with Paul Harris Fellow sapphires (PHF+1)

Ces trois dames ont été parmi les premières femmes rotariennes de Nouvelle-Calédonie.
LtoR : Geneviève Carnier-Banney, Luce Lorenzin, Mireille Hugeaud avec PG Elaine Mead.

Luce et Mireille étaient membres fondatrices du Rotary Nouméa Ouen Toro en 1994 et Geneviève a rejoint l'année suivante.

C'est le premier club à compter des femmes en Nouvelle-Calédonie et en 1997, Mireille en devient la première présidente.

Non seulement la première femme Présidente de Rotary club en Nouvelle-Calédonie mais aussi avant les clubs en France.

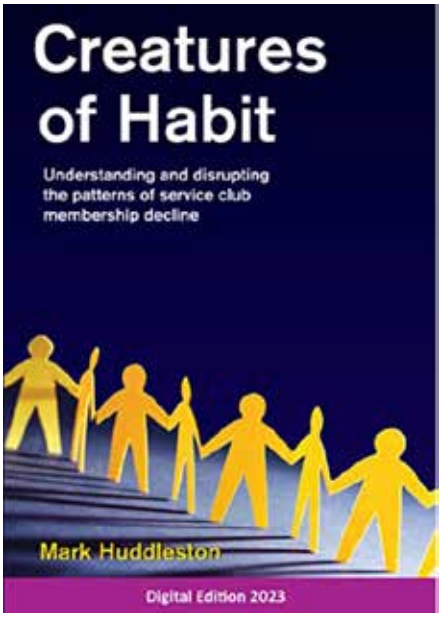
Lors de la visite de PG Elaine, et dans la semaine de la journée internationale des femmes, le club a reconnu Geneviève et Mireille avec des saphirs Paul Harris Fellow (PHF+1)

Creatures of Habit Version 7 - ebook

Mark has written this book as a lesson and a new way forward for Rotary clubs in Australia to grow in membership. He shares many fresh ideas on how we should approach increasing members in our clubs. It's a collection of his 30 years' combined real life experience in Rotary & Rotaract. This is a must read for Rotary Club Presidents and those aspiring to be Rotary District Leaders in Australia & New Zealand. Mark tackles one of the root causes of membership decrease in Rotary in Australia. He says our clubs have not been relevant to the demands of our fast changing society.

Available as an ebook

Link to website for more info.
https://www.facebook.com/CreaturesofHabitbyMarkHuddleston/



Fifty Things Every Rotarian Should Know.... Continued

Here are a few more interesting facts about Rotary. For previous number in the sequence, please refer to previous editions of the newsletter. Each month I will give you a few more facts. Some of the facts may have changed since these were put on club runner. Hope you find them interesting.
Fifty Things Every Rotarian Should Know

25 - THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Most Rotarians have never attended a Rotary district conference. They have not experienced one of the most enjoyable and rewarding privileges of Rotary membership. A district conference is for all club members and their spouses, not just for club officers and committee members. The purpose of a district conference is for fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one's Rotary membership more meaningful. Every person who attends a district conference finds that being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the conference. Those who attend a conference enjoy going back, year after year. Every one of Rotary's more than 500 districts has a conference annually. These meetings are considered so important that the Rotary International president selects a knowledgeable Rotarian as his personal representative to attend and address each conference. The program always includes several outstanding entertainment features, interesting discussions and inspirational programs. One of the unexpected benefits of attending a district conference is the opportunity to become better acquainted with members of one's own club in an informal setting. Lasting friendships grow from the fellowship hours at the district conference.

26 - YOUTH EXCHANGE

Rotary Youth Exchange is one of Rotary's most popular programs to promote international understanding and develop lifelong friendships. It began in 1927 with the Rotary Club of Nice, France. In 1939 an extensive Youth Exchange was created between California and Latin America. Since then the program has expanded around the world. In recent years more than 7,000 young people have participated annually in Rotary-sponsored exchange programs.

The values of Youth Exchange are experienced not only by the high school-age students involved but also by the host families, sponsoring clubs, receiving high schools and the entire community Youth Exchange participants usually provide their fellow students in their host schools with excellent opportunities to learn about customs, languages, traditions and family life in another country. Youth Exchange offers young people interesting opportunities and rich experiences to see another part of the world. Students usually spend a full academic year abroad, although some clubs and districts sponsor short term exchanges of several weeks or months.

Approximately 36 percent of Rotary Youth Exchange students are hosted or sent by the clubs in the United States and Canada. European countries account for about 40 percent, and 12 percent come from Australia and New Zealand. Asian clubs sponsor 5 percent, and 7 percent come from Latin American countries. Over 70 percent of all Rotary districts participate in Youth Exchange activities.

Youth Exchange is a highly recommended program for all Rotary clubs as a practical activity for the enhancement of international understanding and goodwill.

27 - "EVERY ROTARIAN AN EXAMPLE TO YOUTH"

In much of the official literature of Rotary International relating to service to young people, a special slogan will be found -"Every Rotarian an Example to Youth." These words were adopted in 1949 by the Rotary International Board of Directors as an expression of commitment to children and youth in each community in which Rotary clubs exist. Serving young people has long been an important part of the Rotary program. Youth service projects take many forms around the world. Rotarians sponsor Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, athletic teams, handicapped children's centers, school safety patrols, summer camps, recreation areas, safe driving clinics, county fairs, child care centers and children's hospitals. Many clubs provide vocational counseling, establish youth employment program and promote use of The 4 -Way Test. Increasingly, drug and alcohol abuse prevention projects are being supported by Rotarians. In every instance, Rotarians have an opportunity to be role model for the young men and women of their community. One learns to serve by observing others. As our youth grow to become adult leaders, it is hoped each will achieve that same desire and spirit to serve future generations of children and youth.

The slogan accepted over 40 years ago is just as vital today. It is a very thoughtful challenge, "Every Rotarian an Example to Youth."

28 - WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE

World Community Service is the Rotary program by which a club or district in one country provides humanitarian assistance to a club in another country. Typically the aid goes to a developing community where the Rotary project will help raise the standard of living and the quality of life. The ultimate object of World Community Service is to build goodwill and understanding among peoples of the world. One important way to find a club in some other part of the world which needs help on a worthy project is to use the WCS Projects Exchange, a list of dozens of worthy activities in developing areas. The exchange list is maintained in the RI Secretariat in Evanston and is readily available upon request. It outlines projects, provides estimated costs and gives names of the appropriate contacts.

Clubs which need assistance, or are seeking another club to help with a humanitarian project, such as building a clinic, school, hospital, community water well, library or other beneficial activity, may register their needs. Clubs seeking a desirable World Community Service project may easily review the list of needs registered in the Projects Exchange. Thus, the exchange provides a practical way to link needs with resources.

Every Rotary club is urged to undertake a new World Community Service project each year. The WCS Projects Exchange list is an excellent tool to find a real need, a project description and cooperating club in a developing area. The job then is to "go to work" to complete the project, and at the same time build bridges of friendship and world understanding.

29 - FUNCTIONAL LITERACY PROGRAM

It has been estimated that a billion people -- one-fourth of the world's population -- are unable to read. Illiteracy of adults and children is global is a concern in both highly industrialized nations and in developing countries. The number of adult illiterates in the world is increasing by 25 million each year! In the United States, one quarter of the entire population is considered functionally illiterate. The tragedy of illiteracy is that those who cannot read lose personal independence and become victims of unscrupulous manipulation, poverty and the loss of human feelings which give meaning to life. Illiteracy is demeaning. It is a major obstacle for economic, political, social and person development. Illiteracy is a barrier to international understanding, cooperation and peace in the world.

Literacy education was considered a program priority by Rotary's original Health, Hunger and Humanity Committee in 1978. An early 3-H grant led to the preparation of an excellent source book on the issues of literacy in the world. The Rotary-sponsored publication, The Right to Read, was edited by Rotarian Eve Malmquist, a past district governor from Linkoping, Sweden, and a recognized authority on reading and educational research. The book was the forerunner of a major Rotary program emphasis on literacy promotion.

In 1985 the RI Planning and Research Committee proposed, and the RI board approved, that the Rotary clubs of the world conduct a ten-year emphasis on literacy education. Many Rotary clubs are thoughtfully surveying the needs of their community for literacy training. Some clubs provide basic books for teaching reading. Others establish and support reading and language clinics, provide volunteer tutorial assistance and purchase reading materials. Rotarians can play a vitally important part in their community and in developing countries by promoting projects to open opportunities which come from the ability to read.

Situations Vacant

RYLA - Chair and Administrator Roles

Rotary Youth leadership Awards (RYLA) is a Rotary organised programme promoting youth leadership for young aspiring leaders aged 20 to 28. Since its inception in 1960, thousands of young people around the world have benefited from RYLA. Many have gone on to be outstanding leaders of their families, their businesses and the communities in which they live.

RYLA is one of D9910's leading youth programmes and receives excellent feedback from participants. Over recent years RYLA has been based at the Muriwai Surf Club and RYLA 2023 will be there during the week 30 April to 6 May 2023.

Since 2020, the D9910 RYLA Chair has been PDG Peter Garnett, with wonderful administrative support by Fay Norman, both members of Rotary East Coast Bays. They have thoroughly enjoyed their experience with this important programme however, they are now seeking successors for their roles following RYLA 2023.

Facilitating RYLA has evolved in recent years. Now one to two RYLArians from each cohort are invited to join the organising committee for a period of 3 years. They bring the perspective from their experience, provide feedback on the visiting speakers, provide ideas for new speaker and take turns in facilitating a day or a RYLA session.

The Chair leads the Committee, provides oversight for the programme, coordinates presenters and is on-site as the lead facilitator for the programme. The Administrator's role includes liaison with Rotary clubs providing participants, ensuring applications are provided in a timely manner, liaison with the Surf club and caterers and oversight of the financials.

We are now seeking expressions of interest from Rotarians who would be interested in supporting this outstanding youth programme by undertaking one of these roles.

Peter and Fay will provide a handover and are prepared to be available in a support role for next year's RYLA

If you would be interested in undertaking one of these roles please contact:
PDG Peter Garnett, Chair D9910 RYLA
Email: ***pgarnett.rotary@gmail.com***
Mobile 027 220 5137

ROMAC- Committee Roles available

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) provides surgical treatment for children in Australia and New Zealand from developing countries from our Pacific region in the form of life giving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country.

After Covid delays, ROMAC have now restarted bringing children to New Zealand for treatment. Our first child, a young boy from Tonga, arrived in March and has now had his cardiac operation and is in recovery. We expect the arrival of our next patient from Fiji in the week prior to Anzac Day. We are also working through arrangements for six children from Vanuatu to come to Starship for cardiac surgery.

Our ROMAC New Zealand Committee is seeking expressions of interest from Rotarians (or partners) to join our committee in one of the following roles:

- ROMAC Liaison Person
- Committee Secretary

If you would be interested in undertaking one of these roles please contact:

PDG Peter Garnett, Chair NZ Region ROMAC
Email: ***newzealand@romac.org.au***
Mobile 027 220 5137

From Surviving to Thriving

For many of us, we never get close to the Rotary Foundation projects supported through our individual and club contributions.

But this month, for Rotary Westhaven member Clare McCall and her partner Bino Smith, they got to experience it first-hand. To hear the stories and meet the people whose lives were changed by Rotary and its partners.

After the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, an acute water shortage forced villages in the Thamdanda area to purchase high priced water for washing, cooking and reconstruction activities for rebuilding their houses. The lack of water also impacted their main income sources, animal husbandry and agriculture.

The villagers were desperate when they met Rabindra Lama, Clare's friend and co-founder of their organisation, ***Himalayan Leaky Foundation***, which focuses on assisting Himalayan communities in need. The villagers had pleaded with local and central government for help, without results, and their village was just about abandoned.

Rotary Westhaven, in conjunction with local club Rotary Kavre-Banepa, got a USD125,000 Global Grant to provide safe drinking water, sanitary facilities and to support income generating activities for five villages.

The project installed 8km of pipeline from an identified water source to the impacted villages and established the Thamdanda Water Supply and Sanitation Users Committee, which was accompanied by training in water supply maintenance and management.

Pre-construction training was held in early June 2019 and a blessing conducted on 9 June 2019 before the first construction began. Over the next few months there were challenges with flooding and landslides in areas where the pipeline was laid but despite all this, water arrived in the villages on 27 October 2019.

Improved crop production resulted in more produce to take to market and increased income, which has enabled re-builds within the village and expansion into new food crops. More women have become empowered through their involvement in the Thamdanda Water Supply and Sanitation Users Committee and young men are upskilled in pipeline maintenance.

The villages post-earthquake

Pipeline installation underway

Training for the water committee

Clare attended the Covid-delayed official handover ceremony at the village on Sunday 2 April, along with representatives from Rotary Kavre-Banepa and media. Clare was told the project is known for its success all over Kavre (a district bigger than Northland) and the ceremony was broadcast on the radio. Some Rotary Westhaven members even joined the official event via Zoom.

"One of my favourite parts of [the ceremony] was meeting the women and this amazing woman said that she is so happy now that she doesn't have to get up at 1am every day to walk for hours to get water, and she has also donated thousands of dollars from her sold crops to help rebuild a local monastery, paying it forward. Now people are coming back to live in the village and there is life and hope again," said Clare.

This Global Grant was supported directly by all the districts in New Zealand, District 3501 (South Korea), District 9820 (Australia), District 3292 (Nepal), Rotary Westhaven, Rotary Kavre-Banepa, Rotary East Coast Bays, Rotary Henderson and Rotary North Harbour.

It was also supported indirectly by club and/or individual donations to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation

Thank you, Ngā mihi nui, Gamsahamnida and Dherai Dhanyabad,

Water arrives in the village

For information on the Thamdanda Water & Sanitation Global Grant contact Clare McCall ***clare@jcmccall.co.nz***

For information on Global Grants contact District Foundation Chair, PG Grant Smith ***grantsmith.rotary@gmail.com***

Clare amongst the village women. The woman sitting on Clare's left at the front has donated to the local monastery

A return to green fields of crops

Signage for the official handover

.....and a good harvest to eat and sell

Feb 2023

Convention event tickets now available for non-registered Rotarians/Rotaractors, family members & friends Limited time only!

If you are unable to register for the Convention you can still have the opportunity to be part of it, by booking a ticket/s to attend one or more of the fabulous events planned as part of the convention.

A number of tickets are now available for non-registered Rotarians, Rotaractors, family members and friends. Book between now and **31st March** to take advantage of this great opportunity to be part of the RI 2023 Melbourne Convention!

So what's on offer?

On **Saturday afternoon,** while soaking up the pulsating excitement at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) you will have a great opportunity to ensure our international guests experience the thrill of Australian Rules Football!

On **Saturday evening** enjoy the big **welcome reception** at the Melbourne Museum, where you will savor the finest food and beverages Australia has to offer, meet some of our interstate and international visitors and gain a surprising insight into Australia's history.

On **Monday or Tuesday** evening enjoy a very different food and beverage experience with our ***Streets of Melbourne*** **events at South Wharf,** where you will be able to sample the best Victoria has to offer.

On **Tuesday** you can enjoy a ride on an exclusive return Rotary express train to **Flemington Racecourse –** the home of the Melbourne Cup for a night like no other – you will enjoy superlative Victorian cuisine prepared with fresh Victorian produce, served with Premium Treasury Wines, all while enjoying the fabulous view of the night sky across Melbourne and great entertainment.

For more information click the link below and book now!!

https://rotarymelbourne2023.org/events