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District 9675



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ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017



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DISTRICT GOVERNOR
STEPHEN HUMPHREYS

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

I am greatly honoured and privileged to have been given the opportunity to be Governor of District 9675 this past year.

I sincerely thank our leadership Team, the Assistant Governors, Simon Rez the Assistant Governor Coordinator, all the District Chairs and the Committee Chairs for their commitment, dedication and hard work. You have all made extremely significant contributions over the past 12 months, making a real difference within our District.

I also thank all the Club Presidents for your leadership and all Rotarians in our District for the amazing contribution you all make to our communities, both locally and internationally, to make the world a better place.

I would like to especially thank Matt Playford, the President of my own club, Camden, for his backing over the past 12 months, as I do all members of my club. I am honoured that my club supported and encouraged me to stand for the position of District Governor.

I would also like to thank all Past District Governors in our District for their counsel, their support, and their friendship. I was always comfortable knowing that I had a very experienced and committed group of PDGs to fall back on if and when advice and guidance was needed.

Some of the highlights of the year...

- Most certainly our District Conference in early March at The Novotel in Wollongong stands out.
- We had well over 450 Rotarians, partners and friends who attended at some time over the weekend. The food and service from the hotel was amazing and we had an incredible speaker list.
- The excitement of all who attended was obvious, there was a great feeling about the Conference throughout the whole weekend and the feedback that I received following the Conference was extremely complimentary.
- I sincerely thank Ian and Carole Johnston and the entire Conference Committee for the hard work and long hours they put into making our Conference such a success.

Our club visits have been a real highlight for me and Judith. We have been exceptionally well received wherever we have gone, small clubs, big clubs; the welcome is still the same. Each club is unique, each club has their individual projects and every club is doing some amazing things in their local communities. Some are even making a real difference in our international communities.

The Rotary Foundation Million Dollar Dinner which we combined with District 9685 to hold at The Epping Club was a great success, with the target of \$1M from bequests and donations being achieved. Past RI President Bill Boyd was the Guest of Honour and the event was attended by around 350 Rotarians, partners and friends.

A number of clubs have celebrated special anniversaries this year, Ingleburn celebrated its 40th Anniversary, Picton and Kings Cross celebrated 50 years of service to the community, Granville and Padstow celebrated their 60th anniversaries and Rotary Club of Parramatta reach the milestone of 90 years of service.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT CONTINUED

Six clubs received special recognition from Rotary International. Caringbah, Padstow, Holroyd, Corrimal, Fairy Meadow and Liverpool West received special awards from The Rotary Foundation for recent and cumulative donations to The Rotary Foundation.

Eight clubs, Cabramatta, Camden, Como-Jannali, Granville, Holroyd, Padstow, Randwick and West Wollongong were recognised for their significant contributions to the End Polio campaign.

Our New Generations programs continue to grow and thrive. Please read the reports provided by District New Generations Chair Cheryl Deguara. We are slowly moving back into Youth Exchange, working with D9685 to take two Inbound Students with perhaps another Inbound under our own banner in July. There have been numerous enquiries about Outbound Exchange for January next year. We are building a base for future re-growth of the program and I hope that clubs will embrace the opportunity.

The many and varied programs and projects in the area of Community Service have had another successful year. District Community Services Chair (also District Governor Nominee) Sue Haywood has provided reports on all programs.

We are indeed fortunate in District 9675 to have Training and Personal Development leader Bruce Farquharson on our Team. For a number of years now successive District Governors have enjoyed the luxury of having Bruce as our Training Chair. Bruce and his team have organised and lead numerous training sessions throughout the year increasing the knowledge and understanding of all participants.

PDG Barry Antees and his Club Extension Committee have been planning and consulting throughout the District, exploring opportunities for club growth within our District. There is great optimism that a new club will charter at Gregory Hills in the new Rotary Year with other possibilities also being explored.

The Governance Committee under the leadership of PDG Barry Thompson has achieved much this past year and I thank them sincerely for their commitment to raising the bar on governance in our District.

The Strategic Planning Committee after an extensive process of meetings and consultation has produced a Strategic Plan for our District which will provide direction and priorities and ensure that we continue to work towards common goals. The Plan is a living document which will be reviewed each year and actioned by the District Leadership team.

The Vocational Training Team visit to Vanuatu is finally about to happen with the Team leaving for Vanuatu in August. This project has been a long time from start to finish taking a couple of years. Funding for the trip is through accumulated profits from RESCA (Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards) and from District reserves. This financing was approved by a vote of Clubs at the AGM in November.

Our District website has moved forward considerably this past year in content, news, information and the quality of the District membership database. I sincerely thank Peter Townsend from the Rotary Club of Holroyd for his time and commitment to advancing and improving the website. The website will soon have a new, modern, fresh appearance. I encourage all Rotarians in our District to visit the site regularly and make use of all that it has to offer.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT CONTINUED

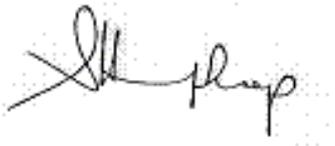
The District Bulletin has been produced monthly, with exception of Christmas; the quality of the presentation has been outstanding, the content interesting and informative, and the feedback that I have received has been extremely positive and complimentary. Michael Crowley from the Rotary Club of West Wollongong has produced the Newsletter each month and I have nothing but praise for his skill and creativity. I cannot thank Michael enough for all that he has done.

As I reflect on the year there are certainly still challenges that face us at both club level and District level. Some of our clubs are attracting members and growing, others have maintained the status quo while others have lost members resulting in an overall fall in District numbers again this year, as we have done each year since re-districting four years ago.

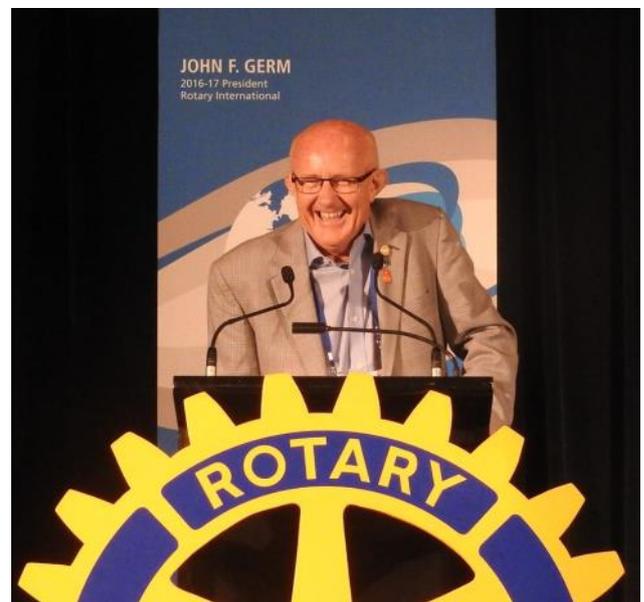
And finally, I thank my family, particularly my wife Judith, for their support and understanding. Over the past year or so there have been occasions when family has had to be put on hold or my time availability was limited and I thank them for their love and understanding.

It has been a great pleasure to serve our District over the past twelve months and I thank you all for the opportunity.

Yours in Rotary Serving Humanity,



Stephen Humphreys
District Governor



NEW GENERATIONS REPORT

The New Generations portfolio is an ever-evolving area of Rotary. Rotarians and Rotary Clubs that have engaged with the youth in their community no doubt have reaped the benefits of some vibrant young people.



This year we once again held Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (**RYPEN**) at two different venues. This concept has given clubs an opportunity to promote different venues (may be even closer to home) in two different tertiary years. The venue chosen for this Rotary Year was YMCA at Homebush and Teen Ranch at Cobbitty. **RYPEN** is a well-received program throughout the district with over 80 students attending over the two camps. The leadership team has had a balance of past leaders and the induction of some of our past RYLarians. The concept of bringing the RYLarians has been most beneficial, as we are now mentoring some very strong leaders. This year we have once again tweaked the program determined on the venue and on some of the feedback that we are receiving from past attendees and leaders. This has been a positive move that we feel only enhances the program within our District.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (**RYLA**) Yarramundi a most successful event that was held in very hot conditions. The Seminar team had prepared well for the camp – with team leaders engaging with the 62 nervous recipients prior to the week. The program once again changed slightly from previous years – with the team and the Seminar Leader being able to put their own flavour to the week. With the weather being so hot – gave challenges, but thank goodness for the water and the activity day on the river. Once again, the closing of the day with the Showcase gave the RYLarians an opportunity to sponsors, parents, friends and relatives what had happened over the week through their eyes. **RYLA** has a continue Mentor Program happening after camp which has become beneficial to the RYLarians reach their goals.



National Youth Science Forum (**NYSF**) continued to grow in interest in our district. Clubs are very supportive of students that have shown an interest in STEM. Having to pick once again 26 students out of 65 potential budding scientific minded young people was no mean feat but our capable team of interviewers

NEW GENERATIONS REPORT CONTINUED

(consisting of Rotarians, Rotaractors, **NYSF** Alumni and RYLarians) were able to make some fine selections. Our process seems to challenge our young people but our interviewers come away feeling more knowledgeable in the field of science. I am sure sponsoring clubs have been able to see that their financial support in these young people well worth every dollar. We had one of the selection team, Vera Liondas attended one of the events in Canberra and District Chair, Stephen Lovison attend Canberra to give some feedback and meet up with his counterparts in other Districts.

Last year our winning teams from Model United Nations Assembly (**MUNA**) went to Canberra to compete against other Districts and we are pleased to say that St Andrews Cathedral School were winners overall and Sydney Boys High came in third. An outstanding result for District 9675.



Once again, we held MUNA in NSW Parliament House hosted by PP Hugh McDermott (State Member for Prospect). The memory of speaking in Parliament House can make an impact on young people's thoughts on being able to debate in an open forum.

Everyone agreed that the Resolution topic were quite thought provoking. Understanding that sometimes the views of the country that students represented would have been quite different to their own. Topics that were discussed at this **MUNA** were: Organ Donation, Violence Against Women, Definition of Gender and the Death Penalty. This year we will be sending St Patricks College, Sutherland, Merrylands High School and SCEGGS to Canberra to represent the District.

Rotaract

Rotary Club Partner



Technology, Broadway. The aim this year is that the enthusiastic young Interactors will share their school's projects with the other clubs. The program, once again, is being tweaked to be in line with some of the feedback from the previous years. We are finding that there is a lot of pressure on schools and so interested participating teachers are becoming more difficult to find and support the **Interact** program, but in saying this we have some very strong Interact Clubs due to diligent teachers and Rotarians.

The auditing process continued with our **Interact** Clubs in District 9675. We have encouraged our Rotary Clubs to become more engaged with their sponsored Clubs. We had to postpone the Interact Conference but it will be held on 21st August at University of

Interact

Rotary Sponsored Club



Rotaract have seen themselves on a little bit of a roller coaster. We as a District, have strong Rotaract support from within universities. This is where the clubs find that their numbers fluctuate, due to the degree and the

NEW GENERATIONS REPORT CONTINUED

intensity of their workload. We still have the Provisional Rotaract Club of Western Sydney University, Parramatta. They have gone through some changes even while in the Provisional stage – all positive, with some dynamic personalities at the helm. This **Rotaract** year was about consolidating – having the clubs become focused and compliant with their obligations.

What has spawned out of **RYLA** is a Provisional Rotaract Club of Wollondilly. They have the support of the Rotary Clubs of Picton and Wollondilly North. This club is community based and are now meeting regularly with their sponsoring Rotary Clubs and has community involvement.



Rotary Youth Exchange (**RYE**) in our District has accreditation from Rotary International to operate Youth Exchange. We have worked with District 9685 to take on some inbound students where are being supported by Rotary Clubs of Corrimal and Caringbah and we look as if we may bring in our own student from Switzerland in July (we are still waiting confirmation). We have held an Interest Meeting for some young people wishing to go out on an exchange in January 2018, and since then more enquiries have been flowing through to the committee. With the exchanges now happening for the younger student and not the gap year – timing is everything for the family and the student.

Other programs that operate within our District for example, **Science Experience, Science and Engineering Challenge, RYDA** and **U Turn the Wheel** should not be forgotten. These programs while not part of every Rotary Clubs agenda have played an important part of New Generations engagement in District 9675.

The introduction of '**Form 3**' to be compliant with Volunteering with Youth has given some clubs a few challenges. This formality while seeming onerous on the surface will soon become a matter of procedure – especially when clubs are participated in youth projects within District and their communities.

A special acknowledgement and thank you should go to Richard Booth, who is stepping down from RYLA and RYPEN chair (his position has been taken on by two able Rotarians next year), his tireless work in these areas has been outstanding. He has helped to mould some great programs in our District. I did not let Richard get away, he will be the Chair of Interact for 2017/18.

I would personally like to thank all our New Generations Program Chairs and their committees. The tireless work that the teams have put into our District programs is a testament to the successfully year we have had once again. I also should acknowledge that some of the Chairs will be moving to new positions, they have been great mentors to their successors. Rotary International District 9675 New Generations has 'Served Humanity' with its vibrant programs.

Cheryl Deguara
Rotary International District 9675 Inc
New Generations Chair

SERVICE PROJECTS REPORT

Dream Cricket

Three Dream Cricket days were held during the current Rotary year; Two by Corrimal and one by Holroyd. (Photos provided). PDG Paul Reid has spoken at another three clubs but they are yet to take on a day. St. Marys would appear the most promising. Mt Druitt has also shown interest.

Thanks to PDG Paul Reid – District Chair, Dream Cricket

Community Grants

Regular monthly notices have been sent out by Mike Mazza via the District Secretary. These publicise the grants provided by Service Clubs, government departments and other organisations and can be a useful source of funding for community projects.

Thanks to Mike Mazza - District Chair, Community Grants

Graffiti Removal Day

We had a good response across the district with clubs participated in the Illawarra, the Shire, the Inner West and the city. Dulux supplied the paint and hardware, and the equipment free of charge. Jeff Egan might be able to give us the details.

This is a good fun project that clubs should be involved



Thanks to Jay Thorogood – District Chair, Graffiti Removal Day

Australian Rotary Health (ARH)

The following clubs had presentations to promote the work of ARH.

RC Emu Plains, RC Sydney, RC Burwood, RC Wetherill Park, RC Blacktown, RC Holroyd Golf Day for ARH, RC Campbelltown, RC Mt. Druitt, RC Cronulla, RC Rose Bay, RC Narellan, Combined RC Five Dock & RC Concord, RC Wollongong, RC Macarthur Sunrise

Thanks to Fayez Nour – District Chair, ARH

Soap Aid

During the year progress was made in the collection of used soap from hotels in the Sydney CBD, Sydney Airport, Coogee and Blacktown City and surrounds. Since the commencement of the project in March 2015 and to 30 June 2016 just over 5 tonnes of soap had been collected. For this year the rate of collection has increased and a total of 4.5 tonnes was collected, bringing our total collections

SERVICE PROJECTS REPORT CONTINUED

since the project started to 9.5 tonnes, which equates to 95,000 100g bars of reprocessed soap, all for distribution to villages in need in India, Africa, Australia's Outback and the Pacific Islands.

The great work being done for the Sydney City Hotel Cluster has been possible through the individual effort of Jay Thorogood, RC of Darling Harbour. Not only does Jay collect soap from hotels and the Ralph Street Laundry but has also taken a more proactive role in fostering contact with key hotel housekeeping staff. A number of big hotels continue to provide support and huge amounts of soap and special mention must go to Rydges Airport, Darling Harbour Hotel at Star Casino and Ralph Street Laundry, who collect from hotels while delivering or collecting laundry.

The Rotary Club of Blacktown City is now involved in the project and is responsible for the Western Sydney Hotel Cluster. While still in the early phases of development some collections have been made and deposited in our Castle Hill storage point. Further work is needed during the coming 12 months to support this cluster.

Special thanks must go to AG John Given for his ongoing support in allowing us to use his business premises at Rockdale for the storage of soap. Thanks also must go to John's storeman, Steve, whose assistance in loading and unloading of stock is very much appreciated.

For this year, 2017/18, we hope to be able to add in hotels in Cronulla and Brighton Le Sands and to use these hotels as a base for a new hotel cluster, Sydney South. By the end of June 2018 we hope to have been able to increase annual collections to 7.5 tonnes.

Thanks to Steve Hooper - District Chair, Soap Aid

Bowel Scan

As our program comes to a close this year it is with great sadness that we observe Richmond Manyweathers' passing in May this year. Richmond was a fantastic & enthusiastic champion for Bowelscan and will be sorely missed by all that new him. At Richmond's request a private funeral was conducted and on the 24th June a Memorial service was held at his home town of Alstonville. Neil & I attended the memorial with fellow Rotarians & friends.

The Bowelscan ran in 3 areas in District 9675. Illawarra, Sutherland Shire & scattered areas in the district. Our program ran for the month of May this year in conjunction with the National Bowelscan Program.

Our sales were down again this year in all areas of the District. Our sale price has remained consistent for the past 3 years at a price of \$15. The main reason for the drop in sales is the increased distribution of the National Bowel Cancer Screening by the Australian Government.

All Australians, who have a Medicare card or Department of Veterans' Affairs card, aged between 50 and 74 will be eligible for screening every 2 years, by 2020. This kit is free and mailed out to all who are eligible.

We are waiting on all testing to be completed before any accurate statistics can be made and will be completed before August.

SERVICE PROJECTS REPORT CONTINUED

With the decline in sales of kits in the past year it has been decided that the Bowelscan program will no longer run and This has been backed by the National Bowelscan Committee Inc. The wonderful uptake by the Australian Government will fill in our sale area and with the cost of running the program, it is does not remain viable.

Without the hard work and dedication of many Rotarians in many different clubs this very important Public Awareness Program would not be as successful as it is. Alf Harley has been a particularly dedicated and hardworking Rotarian from Corrimal Rotary Club for all the years that the Bowelscan Program has been running in the Illawarra Area. With his team he has pounded the pavement, put together TV and Radio advertisements', flyers and wonderful launches. Thank you Alf.

For many years SEALS at Sutherland Hospital tested and collated many, many, many Bowelscan kits. Without this wonderful support, particular Anita Burnie & Anita, the program would not have worked so well and diligently.

To Dr D Fenton-Lee, Gastroenterologist at Miranda/St Vincent's Hospitals a very big thank you for being our capable Medical Coordinator. The pharmacists throughout the Sutherland Shire and Illawarra, we thank you for your tireless commitment to our community and Rotary. They willing sold our collect the kits for the program for the entire program year after year. Thanking you is pleasure.

And finally we give a big thank you to you all who has supported the project over the many years the program has run.

Thanks to Heather Newbould - District Chair, BowelScan
(and to the late Richmond Manyweathers for starting this initiative many years ago)

Probus

This year In District 9675 we have divided the clubs into groups by geographical areas e.g. The Shire East – The Shire West – City West – St George etc. Meetings of most groups have been organised with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Some have held a number of meetings to address membership issues and the promotion of Probus in their areas.

Attendance and displays at local events and shopping centres have been organised and media advertising has been undertaken. One group has organised basic computer training, free of cost, at the local TAFE as well as fitness courses through the local council.

Training days for new office bearers were carried out in April at 7 venues. These were cooperative efforts with District 9685.

A new club was formed on 3 May at Gledswood Hills and a number of other possibilities are being explored. Unfortunately, one club, Fairfield City (formerly Prestons) handed in their charter. All members moved to Georges Hall Probus Club.

We are looking for people who are members of both Rotary and Probus to join Dick. Please contact Liz McIntosh – Service Projects Chair 2017-18.

Thanks to Dick White – District Chair, Probus

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in D9675

In 2016-17 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library was a project of Macarthur Sunrise RC and of the combined Rotary Clubs of the Illawarra. The project was considered by some other clubs but not proceeded with.

Macarthur Sunrise RC has a project committee lead by Cathy Richardson. Most of their children attend one of the Wheely Good Fun playgroups run by their local Benevolent Society. In 2015 they began with 17 children from a Claymore playgroup. In August 2016, they added children attending the Ingleburn playgroup which increased their registrations to 31. More recently a group of children who have returned to their families after being in foster care have been included. Registrations now number 39, 13 of whom have parents from non-English speaking backgrounds. So far they have given 434 books to participating children. Funding has been from the club and some specific fundraising activities. They would like to offer the program to more children and are waiting for the outcomes of recent grant applications that would enable this to happen.



Imagination Library Illawarra is a joint project of all of Illawarra's Rotary clubs and has a multi-club committee, chaired by Sue Clark. Most of the children attend one of several Barnardos supported playgroups, or a preschool for Aboriginal children. Illawarra's project began in 2014 – it was one of the collaborative projects PDG Garry Browne initiated - and to date has been funded by Illawarra's Rotary clubs, an IMB Foundation grant, United Way, individual donations and a local business. During the 3 years, 519 children have been registered for various lengths of time, of these 250 are currently registered, and together they have received more than 9000 books. The IMB grant is nearly spent so the number of children must be reduced, hopefully through graduations and without having to terminate any registrations. The project has had wonderful financial support from Illawarra's Rotary clubs and some individual Rotarians, but so as not to depend on Rotary donations alone, at least one annual fundraiser is being arranged and any possible grants, including 2 recently submitted, will be applied for.



The DPIL project is a great way to give a disadvantaged child a hand up! It helps the child develop language and literacy skills, the ability to listen and follow a story, and even increases their confidence and self esteem! The project has also been credited with improving family relationships! \$90 pays for a year's supply of (12) books and the project can be started with almost any budget. Contact Cathy or Sue if you would like more information about the project or about starting one.

Thanks to Sue Clark – District Chair, DPIL

Rotary Inspirational Women's Awards 2017 (RIWA)

The Committee, chaired by Dot Hennessy, has been working quietly in the background to prepare for these awards which are held to recognise the efforts of women, statewide, to serve their community.

The awards will be held in October in Sydney. Look out for more on RIWA over the coming months.

Thanks to Dot Hennessy – Chair, RIWA



TRAINING AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The committee comprised Bruce Farquharson (chair), DG Stephen Humphreys, DGE Stephen Britten, DGN Sue Hayward, Michael Brown, Cheryl Deguara, Chris Evans, Dot Hennessy and Charles Mille.

The committee met on four occasions and minutes were recorded.

The following Training Events were presented:

- A computer training session for Club Runner software
- Two sessions for Assistant Governors
- Two sessions for District Chairs
- Two President-Elect one-day training sessions
- A full day at District Assembly for incoming Club office-bearers
- Four weekends of Rotary Leadership Institute
- One session of facilitated workshops at District Conference

Each of these training sessions had good attendances. Most of these were evaluated by participants and any comments were considered.

The facilitated workshops on the Friday at the start of District Conference were well attended and had good participation. This was the first time this has been undertaken and it is recommended that they continue in future years.

Every member of the committee was involved in training and were competent presenters. Other presenters were used where specialist expertise was required.

Overall a successful year based on committee participation and on outcomes. The goal was to increase Rotary knowledge and to enhance personal development. This has been achieved.

My appreciation to a hard-working committee.

Bruce Farquharson
Chairman
Training and Personal Development

CLUB EXTENSION REPORT

I am pleased to report on our activities during the year and that we have assembled a great team to take us forward next with a number of new clubs in a position to be created in the new Rotary year.

PP Janice Hall
PDG John Lee
PP Anita Robinson
PDG Keith Roffey
PP Aneek Mollah
PP Allan Teale
IPDG Graham Wilson

This last year has been taken up with surveying, community consultation and planning and I would like to thank the committee for their support during this crucial phase of further developing the expansion of Rotary within our boundaries.

Joining the committee next year will be Paul McCarthy and PP Victor Fenech to strengthen the committee as Anita and Aneek will be mentoring the new club of Gregory Hills Next Gen. We are expecting the Gregory Hills Next Gen to charter during July 2017, this event will be broadly broadcasted so we can all celebrate and welcome our new Rotarians to the District.

We do have four other clubs in various states of preparation to come on stream over the next year and I do welcome other Rotarians to join us on the committee. These clubs will not be all similar to each other but will reflect what the charter members wish to see how their clubs will operate.

I thank DG Stephen Humphreys and Judith for their support over the past twelve months in sowing the seeds, knowing they will see the fruits over the next twelve months.

Barry Antees
District Chair

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Governance Committee consisted of:

PDG Barry Thompson Chair
DG Stephen Humphreys
DGE Stephen Britten
District Secretary Di North
Simon Rez
David Bamford
AG Richard Woodburn
PDG Bob Richards

The achievements of the Committee this year include:

- an update of the District Regulations;
- amendment to the District Constitution and then successful adoption by Clubs at the Annual General Meeting in November;
- development of a District Privacy Policy;
- and updating of the District Youth Abuse and Harassment Prevention Policy.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT CONTINUED

But perhaps the most significant achievement of the Governance Committee was the preparation of a New Standard Club Constitution which complies with both Rotary International, following changes made at the Council on Legislation last year, and NSW law. The document was considered so good by Rotary International that a request was made to use it as a template for all Australian, particularly NSW, Districts and Clubs.

Barry Thompson
Chair

VOCATIONAL SERVICES REPORT

The Rotary Clubs of NSW Police Officer of the Year Awards

Another very successful event was held on 3 November 2016 at the Dockside Pavilion, Darling Harbour. Just over \$26,000 was raised and distributed between Police Legacy, The Rotary Foundation and Rotaract.

Although fundraising plays only a small part of the evening the generosity of all those who have attended has seen us raise in excess of \$233,000 over the last seven years.

Nominations from across the State increased presenting a very challenging time for the judges. Being a judge for the first time, it really opened my eyes to just how difficult it was to separate the final winners of each category.

As you know the evening is about the Community through Rotary, recognising and rewarding excellence in Policing.

Over 500 guests attended an increase over the previous year. A spectacular display also celebrating the immense service given to the NSW Police force by Commissioner Andrew Scipione, who retired from policing on 31 March 2017.

A huge thank you to John Given and his team for this amazing project and all that it achieves.

Rotary NSW Emergency Services Community Awards

There has been two Awards held at State-wide level with the 3rd to occur on 4 August 2017 at the Bankstown Sports Club.

The Patron and Governor of NSW, The Hon David Hurley and Mrs Hurley; the Minister for Emergency Services the Hon Troy Grant MP; and all six (6) Emergency Services Commissioners and their 24 finalists are all committed to attend this year.



VOCATIONAL SERVICE REPORT CONTINUED

The Premier of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian has accepted as the Awards Ambassador.

The website – www.RotaryESCawards.org.au contains details.

It is hoped that the event will be fully subscribed and all Presidents in the District are asked to support.

Ian and Carole Johnston continue to be an amazing support, providing over and above support in their role as Event Managers. Ian, has been Deputy Chair for seven (7) Awards events. Both he and Carole will be stepping back in 2018. Rotarian Julian Day will be stepping into the role of Deputy Chair.



It is proposed to attend every District Conference in NSW to grow and further develop the project with a view to rolling out nationally in 2018.

District Vocational Visit – BSX Barangaroo Exchange

After previously going on a Vocational Visit with Dot Hennessy, the team from BSX Barangaroo Exchange headed up by Ron Wright, invited a small number of Rotarians from both District and club level for a site visit of this brand new jewel for the City of Sydney.

The group met at the Barangaroo site (BSX Exchange) on Thursday 20th October and listened and learnt about the history of the Barangaroo site as well as covering off on the current project.

We then put on our PPE (boots, overalls, gloves & goggles) before heading off to the “Still under construction” Barangaroo site. After spending over an hour walking around the site, we were spilt with some of the best views of Sydney and the harbour.

Thanks to those Rotarians that took part and Ron Wright and his team from BSX Barangaroo Exchange.

PCYC NSW – Memorandum of Understanding – MOU

There are lots of exciting developments about to happen with District 9675's relationship with PCYC NSW. PCYC new GM Club Operations, Scott Murray and CEO, Dominic Teakle, have verbalised that participation from Club, Regional, GM and CEO. PCYC will fund the membership of all Club Managers, RGM's GM Club Operations & CEO to join their local Rotary and support with scheduling to play an active part of Rotary.



Meetings and discussions for further engagement and support are and will

VOCATIONAL SERVICE REPORT CONTINUED

continue to be progressed into the new Rotary year in July. Clubs will be approached to assist.

World Skills Australia – MOU

The MOU in this District is now in its 5th year. We have continued to be actively engaged through the WSA competition 2yr cycle. Four (4) young National winners attended RYLA in January 2017. The feedback from the RYLA organisers is that the involvement of these young 'tradies' enhances further diversity to the program.

One of our RYLARIANS, Louise Azzopardi, has been chosen as an Ambassador and to represent Australia in Abu Dhabi in October 2017. Louise has been adopted by the Rotary Club of St Mary's who have been with her since sponsoring her for RYLA. A trivia night was held recently to help raise funds to support her expenses.

Co-branding is continuing to be pursued.



Skills & Thrills Showcase (Skills One)

A pre-cursor to National Skills Week, The Skills & Thrills careers showcases were presented with great success across the western and northern suburbs of Sydney in an effort to raise awareness of Australia's skills shortages, and highlight the many career pathways available through Vocational Education and Training. Hosted by Skills One CEO Brian Wexham, and entertainment provided by a live band, musical performances from the Australian Institute of Music, and interviews with Australian Training Awards Alumni and Australian Apprenticeships Ambassadors; the showcases received positive feedback and affirmative reviews from audiences.

Several Rotarians in our District attended The Skills & Thrills showcases with their children and grandchildren. We will encourage this to keep going into the next Rotary Year.

In the next Rotary year, we will be a sponsor on Skills One for 12 months starting July 1

Skills One – National Skills Week (29th August – 4th September)

The National Launch was held on Monday 29 August 2016 at the Southern Cross Vocational College. Rotary was invited and attended for support. A range of different events have been organised for this year. Rotary has supported through promotion to clubs to stimulate attendance

For the coming Rotary year, District will be provided sponsorship of National Skills Week. We would also see respective Rotary representatives are invited to the various launches country wide, in Sydney at Lend Lease with Minister on Aug 30 (eve).

We also want to get out to Rotary Clubs about doing something during National Skills Week this coming year as Skill Shortages are again a big issue.

Vocational Training Awards - Regional Committee support

Support by a member of the District VS Committee is proved at the following Department of Industry Region - Illawarra. These regional events recognise mainly youth at the local level, the winners moving forward to State and possibly national level. This is another project that is being progressed.

Vocational Service Speakers program

Approximately 10 presentations have been made to Clubs with further presentations made a District Presidents' meetings; District 9675 and other District Conferences and District Assemblies.

VS Director in every club/VS program in every club

District Assembly in May this year attracted over 25 to attend their VS presentation where each of the projects were showcased. VS is an avenue of Service which the committee has highlighted and promoted to encourage greater engagement through projects and the opportunity to enhance membership through each Rotarian's vocation.

VTT – Vanuatu Report

This year will see the fulfilment of a long-standing District Vocational Service goal with the outbound VTT team heading to Vanuatu in August 2017. It has been a long but rewarding journey to get the project to this point and thanks go out to the many Rotarians who have helped make this possible.



Project Leader Ian Johnston and ESA Liaison Officer Brian Graham conducted a successful Scoping Mission in Port Vila during July 2016 to ensure the project met VTT objectives including: aligning with one of the areas of focus, working with locals to ensure the project addresses community needs, defining measurable goals and ongoing sustainability.

Although we were disappointed that the Foundation did not support the project with a Global Grant, we were very encouraged when District Clubs showed their overwhelming support by stepping up with additional funds in February.

In addition to facilitating the training of Vanuatu Emergency Services Professionals regarding the latest thinking and best practices relating to emergency and disaster preparedness, the project will help save lives in the event of local emergencies and/or natural disasters and assist communities and businesses to more effectively respond to emergencies and re-establish their lives and ongoing economic development.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE REPORT CONTINUED

Summary:

In my first year as the Vocational Service Chair, I would like to thank and congratulate my Rotary mentor, Dot Hennessy OAM, for assisting me with transitioning into this role and for being honoured with an OAM in the Queen's Birthday list. This has been a very busy year, for very busy Rotarians who are passionate about Rotary, their roles and as members of the District Team.

Moving forward, we are now in a position to share projects with a refreshed and strong committee established.

I take this opportunity to personally thank each member of the VS Team and all who have assisted me in my role as Vocational Service Chair in this my incumbent year.



A very special thank you to DG Stephen and Judith for your untiring support and encouragement. Your leadership and friendship is valued.

Charles Mille
Vocational Service Chair

ALUMNI REPORT

The following is a summary of our efforts to establish a strong and active Alumni District Committee since established in this Rotary Year.

In 2015, Rotary International - RI, encourage Districts to establish a Chair to **Reconnect** with their District Alumni with a view to engaging and encouraging more involvement in Rotary whilst making sure to capture every opportunity.

RI, has appointed, in Evanston, an officer to work with Districts to communicate and train initiatives. I have connected to that support and valued the information with a view to translating this into action for our District.

As the Chair, I have attended and participated in two (2) webinars; connected with an Alumni Chair in Christchurch New Zealand and through the RI Alumni Facebook page – connect through Rotary District Alumni Chairs. It has been highlighted that we are should make it a priority, possibly part of the Club's Membership Director to **purposely** maintain contact, continue to invite and included our Club's Alumni to Rotary events.

Based on the research and advice received to date, The following is a summary of the presentation made at the last Presidents' meeting for this Rotary year.

Who are Alumni?

Clubs are encouraged to identify and connect with any individual who has been supported/sponsored by their Club.

ALUMNI REPORT CONTINUED

RI records do have details of those who have been involved in RI programs such as Youth Exchange, Group Study Exchange, etc.

The following are the **most** relevant examples for our District:

- Youth Exchange - RI,
- Interact, Rotaract, RYLA we need to follow these at Club/District level.

The following are for information:

- New Generations Service Exchange
- Peace Fellowships
- Global Grant Scholarships
- Vocational Training Teams (VTT)
- District Grant Scholarships
- Former TRF programs:
 - Ambassadorial Scholarships
 - Grants for University Teachers
 - Group Study Exchange (GSE)
 - Rotary Volunteers Program

Benefit of engaging Alumni – three (3) areas of focus has been identified:

- **As Members**—Alumni may be interested in acquiring and expanding leadership and professional skills through Rotary
- **As Volunteers**—Alumni are volunteers and show a strong interest in Rotary Service.
- **As speakers and Mentors**—Alumni are interested in connecting with a diverse group of professionals and sharing their Rotary experience.

Engagement Strategies – challenge and avoid - **MISSED OPPORTUNITIES**

Moving Forward for D9675:

District Goals

District Committee be formed from 1 July 2017
AG's to consult Clubs – representative from each Group
DC to be trained in role and form priorities▪

District celebrate Reconnect week – 1st week

****October each year – put this in our District Calendar – Reconnect Month**

Club Goals - This year, we encourage Clubs to:

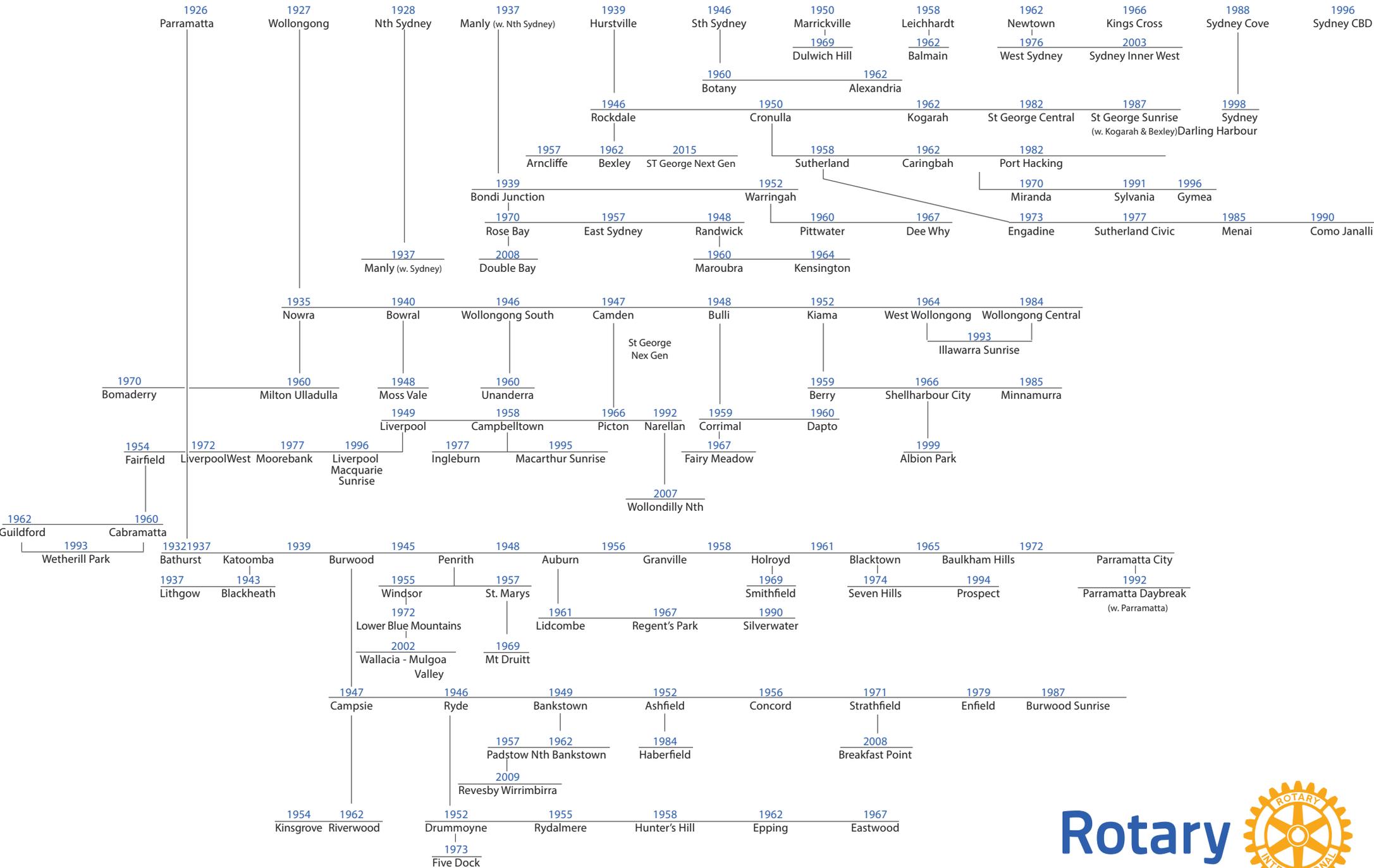
- Clubs appoint Alumni Director from 1 July 2017
- Membership/Alumni Director
- Club research and develop Alumni records – work back - last 5 years
- District to celebrate Reconnect week – 1st week

****October each year – put this in your Club Calendar – plan a celebration**

A very special thank you to DG Stephen and Judith for inviting me to develop this District Role, your untiring support and encouragement in my attempts to research and develop a working model for us to embrace. Your leadership and friendship is valued, it has been another fantastic Rotary Year of Service. I am now looking forward to developing a strong District Alumni Team to work with DGE Stephen and Jane, and each of the AG Groups and Clubs in our District.

Dorothy (Dot) L Hennessy
Alumni Chair

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