



Town & Country Weekly

Your e-Zine from District 9800

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DG Bernie's Message - FROM THE CHAIR

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH -

Membership is our most important topic because Rotary would not exist if there were no members. Our work in the world would be severely curtailed and hampered if our membership numbers fell dramatically. There would be very less people to Lead the Way to make our world a better place for everyone.

So much for the negative vibes; let us shake off the gloom and put on our positive smile that has propelled Rotary through the past 101 years.

This year, District 9800 is going to pass the 3,000 member mark again and go forward towards completing positive programmes for those in need and who require our help. We have plans in place to turn membership around and I am delighted that our Club Presidents this year have confidently predicted increases in membership in their Clubs. So how can we assist to achieve these goals?

Ensure that the fun and fellowship light is burning brightly and its flame is kept alive by all members being part of the enjoyment that all Rotarians should experience at all times. Still progress your projects but employ your business principles in an endeavour that sees everyone revelling in the satisfaction of achievement and experiencing the power of Rotary in everything we do. Remember, we do not come to Rotary meetings to be bored or lectured to but we commit ourselves to working with our fellow members to make someone else's life a little easier.

We are going to expand our network of Clubs by starting with groups attached as committees to existing Clubs with the sole objective of eventually commencing a new Club. This process could take two or three years but we need to start somewhere. These groups will be called Satellite Groups and will form the nucleus of new Clubs where the Rotarians will have some experience and will continue to be monitored by their sponsoring Club. Satellite groups will also give us a chance to review progress and ensure that we have chosen the right areas for development.

Part of our plans is to strengthen existing Clubs by concentrating on interaction in the



Clusters so that all Clubs will feel the importance of belonging and calling on the strength of neighbouring Clubs to assist when times are a little difficult. On District, we will provide direct assistance through the Assistant Governors and, when required, key Past Presidents who have steered successful Clubs and who will stand with the management of the Club and become the mentor and guide to enable the Club to progress and strengthen until it is once again, self sufficient. If the situation is deemed irretrievable, we will seek to merge the Club with another in the District.

These are some of the ways we are employing to bolster our membership, however, everyone must play their part to promote membership and to make sure that your fellow members also enjoy Rotary so they will sustain their membership for the long term and truly be recognised as very special Rotarians. At the Induction of a new member we offer them the right hand of fellowship. Let us hope that the right hand gets very tired.

Together let us **Lead the Way.**

DG Bernie Walshe

Rotary Membership

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

There are 1,209,790 **Rotarians** in 32,462 clubs in 529 Districts in 168 countries. Districts in turn are divided into 34 zones each of which appoint a zone director on the Rotary International Board.

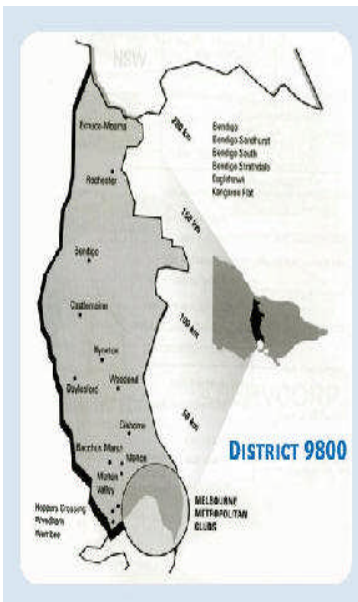
There are 184,437 **Rotaractors** in 8,019 clubs in 139 countries.

There are 242,926 **Interactors** in 10,562 clubs in 109 countries.

In Australia, Papua, New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Timor Leste there are 34,636 Rotarians in 1,193 clubs.

In New Zealand and the Pacific nations there are 10,266 Rotarians in 264 clubs.

In District 9800 there are nearly 2900 Rotarians.



1. Club Presidents and Secretaries: Did You Know....?



Information Resources for New Club Officers - A message from the RI

Did you know that the Club and District Support (CDS) staff at Rotary International serves as your primary contact at the RI Headquarters? They are ready to answer almost any question you may have about Rotary, and can provide you with advice on such topics as club elections, constitutional matters, club operations, and RI Board policy.

Do you know who your CDS representative is? Your representative can be found on the web at: <http://www.rotary.org/support/CDAreps/index.html>

Have you seen some of our web resources that will make it easier for you to administer your club?

- Helpful resources have been designed specifically for club presidents and secretaries. A copy is attached, and it can also be found on the Rotary web site at:
http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/club_pres_sec_resources.pdf.
- Learn how you can make changes to your club's membership records, reference various Rotary Foundation reports, pay your club's dues online, and report next year's club officers using Member Access. Full instructions and helpful suggestions can be found on the web at:
<https://riweb.rotaryintl.org/faq.asp>.
- You can find a selection of important club administration publications, including audiovisual programs, club software, forms and supplies on the web at:
<http://shop.rotary.org/catalog/default.php?cPath=37>
- The Club President's Checklist is a month-to-month calendar, for the club president and president-elect, with reminders about important club and district functions, as well as RI and Rotary Foundation program due dates. Find it at
http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/pres_checklist.pdf.
- The Club Leadership Plan is a great new way to invigorate stagnant clubs. It is based on the best practices of effective Rotary clubs. You can find this plan on the web at:
<http://www.rotary.org/support/club/clubplan.html>

2. **The Rotary Group Study Exchange Program**

Applications are now open for Team Leader and Team Members for the exchange with District 1580 in the Netherlands. The Exchange will take place approximately during the period 28 April 2007 to 2 June 2007. You can visit the D1580 website at
<http://www.rotarydistrict.nl/d1580/>

The Team leader interviews will be held on Sunday 8 October 2006 at International House. The Team leader once selected must immediately join the D 9800 GSE Committee and be available to attend the selection process for the outbound team on 22 October & 29 October 2006 at International House.

The Application Form for Team Leader is available by clicking [here](#) and for Team Member click [here](#).

Full details have been sent to all Club Presidents

3. **RAWCS MINI CONFERENCE International Chairpersons, Committee and fellow Rotarians -**

There is still time to register for the very popular annual event:

Country Clubs:

Sunday 13 August 2006

9.00-9.30 am

City Clubs:

Sunday 27 August 2006

9.00-9.30am

Camp Get Away - Axedale Bendigo International House

Stay the week-end in comfortable accommodation

Partners are welcomed - BYO Bedding.

Please forward your Club Registration Form to or for further information please **contact:**

Virginia Turner

(email: v.turner@bigpond.net.au Phone: 03 9592 4691)

4. **Improving Rotary's Image** - Application for Grants now open
[Click here](#) for details

5. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLUBS

RC Kew Fundraiser

- Great informal night of **FUN** + Spit Roast **Dinner & Auction**.
- **Three courses only \$35.00/person. Wine** at very reasonable prices.
- Funds raised to **RCH Neurological Department** Date: Friday **18 August** at 7:00 pm (no footy in Melbourne)
- Venue: Holy **Trinity Hall** - High St, Kew (**Ample Parking** Peel St.)
- Tickets: **Barry Minster on 9816 9713** or 0428 876 038

RC Altona: The 29th Annual Art Exhibition & Sale is on again - 19 & 20 August at Williamstown Town Hall - [Click here](#) for details

RC Brighton: Also has their Annual Art Show - The Bayside Art Show, which runs from 9 - 13 August at the Brighton Town Hall. For further details visit: <http://www.thebaysideartshow.com.au/Default.asp>

New Members

A big Rotary welcome to the following new Rotarian:

RC Melbourne South

Barbara Comino

Paul Harris Fellows:

Congratulations to all PHF recipients through whose recognition the Rotary Foundation has benefited significantly:

RC Glen Eira

PP Marc Fookes (sapphire)

Bev Fookes

RC Eaglehawk

Partner Vivienne Osborne (wife of P.P. Howard Osborne)

Partner Anita McKern (wife of PDG Gordon McKern) – Sapphire

Vale - PDG Colin Martin



District Governor Bernie Walshe is sad to advise that PDG Colin Martin passed away on August 2nd. On behalf of all Rotarians and the Family of Rotary in District 9800 DG Bernie offers sincere sympathy to his family and Members of the Rotary Club of Balwyn.

We mourn the passing of our most esteemed and respected Past District Governor 1990/91, Paul Harris Fellow and Past President of the Rotary Club of Balwyn.

A tribute to the life and Rotary service of PDG Colin will be published in the District Governor's Monthly special monthly edition of the Town & Country which will be available early next week

RI Exchange Rate

The August Rotary exchange rate for the AUD is 1.31

Don't forget - you can always check the back issues of Weekly News if you missed something: 2005-2006 [Issue 01](#) [02](#) [03](#) [04](#) [05](#) [06](#) [07](#) [08](#) [09](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#) [16](#) [17](#) [18](#) [19](#) [20](#) [21](#) [22](#) [23](#) [24](#) [25](#) [26](#) [27](#) [28](#) [29](#) [30](#) [31](#) [32](#) [33](#) [34](#) [35](#) [36](#) [37](#) [38](#) [39](#) [40](#) [41](#) [42](#) [43](#) [44](#) [45](#) [46](#) [47](#) [48](#) 2006-2007: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)

Speakers Bank Update: [Click Here](#)

District 9800's website: www.rotaryd9800.org