



Peter & Reo Smith
Rotary Club of
Whangarei City

District Governor's NEWSLETTER MAY 2017



PETER C. SMITH GOVERNOR
D9910 2016 – 2017

Res 09 435 1391

Bus 09 430 3186

Mob 021 430 316

pcsmith.rotary@gmail.com

PO Box 1357,
Whangarei 0140 NZ

DISTRICT DIARY EVENTS:

Sunday 18 June

Final Debrief for 2016-17 Inbounds
prior to departure

Saturday 24 June

RANZSE Students come back to
NZ with Matched Twin

Sunday 25 June

District 9910 Changeover
Waitakere College, 42 Rathgar Rd,
Henderson

IN THIS ISSUE

- Governors Report May 2017
- Club News
- Our Centennial History
- Rotary Voices:
 - * Science camp changed my life
 - * Giving young Rotarians a space to call their own
 - * Deeply wounded world needs Rotary Peace Centers
 - * Rotary Training team helps the girls of Malawi
- Directors News

The MONTH of MAY

was named for Maia, the
Greek goddess of fertility.

Newsletter items
for JUNE

DG Newsletter

to Margaret Cebalo

cebalo.bam@extra.co.nz

by 25th June 2017



Governors Report for May 2017

This Month witnessed the great occasion of a solid weekend of RLI Training in Vanuatu for the Pt Vila Club plus one from Santo. It has been 10 years since Training of this sort has occurred in Vanuatu and the 17 Participants were eager to learn more about Rotary.

The fast paced Programme was compiled by Elaine Mead to cover all three parts of the RLI Programme over the two days instead of the usual three separate sessions on different days here. Judging by the enthusiastic participation by all attendees and the after match comments this could be the way forward for RLI here in the future.

How the Foundation operates and the essential participation of Rotarians on the ground in Vanuatu for the Global Grant mechanism to function properly was also greatly received. Peter Garnett had a great time answering all the queries about our great Charity and the functionality of the Global Grant Process.

In fact, an offer of Financial support popped up during the discussion on this Topic. A little unusual in that usually there is a Project waiting for Finance but in this case it is Finance waiting for a Project. Pt Vila Rotary Club have risen to the challenge and will be the instigators of their own beneficial Project in their Area. It was also indicated that some more funds would be available from South Korea for this.

Speaking of the Foundation, there is not much time left in this Rotary Year for all Clubs (and Individuals) to complete their giving so that there will be time for all donations to be included in this years figures. A notice has been circulated to all Clubs with directions of where to send their Contributions.

Another highlight of the Vanuatu Visit was a visit to Pele Island to check on Tangovawia Primary and Kindy School to obtain a list of jobs that St Kentigan Girls can carry out on their next visit. This visit by St Kentigan School Girls is being coordinated through our A/G Richard Purdy's wife Ursula.



Rutherford Rede
www.rutherfordrede.co.nz

**Our sponsors for our
Rotary year**



Forrest Funeral Services
www.forrests.co.nz



D9910 Training Dates 2017

Fri-Sun 12-14 May

Rotary Learning & Information (RLI) - Port Vila, Vanuatu

Sunday 28 May

Rotary Learning & Information (RLI) - AKL

"A friend
is someone
who thinks
you're a
good egg
even though
you're slightly
cracked."



Click on the
following links for
Presidential Citation
Resources and Help Guide
[Achievement Guide](#)
[Citation how-to video](#)

Governor Report for May 2017 continued ..

It is the simple things that have the biggest impact. Looking at their Sports equipment all you could see was numerous deflated balls of all sorts because they didn't have a method (or pump) to inflate them.



School sports equipment ready and waiting to be pumped up and played with again.

Whilst on Pele, we were able to chat to one of the village elders about how they saw the future for themselves. It was very interesting to hear how to avoid pressure on their resources they are championing smaller family sizes (down from their generation of 12-14) to around 2-3 children now. They see the future for the Children through Education and opportunities away from their traditional Village. The down side of this is that once the Children have experienced the bright lights they become reluctant to return. This situation is not unique to Pele alone.

Around our Clubs there have been some great initiatives to highlight and promote the Foundation in this its Centenary and to chase the eradication of Polio.

Whangarei Souths "Walk because you can" for Polio and Pilar Boyle from New Lynn throwing a penultimate Birthday Party to fund raise for the Foundation easily spring to mind. Well done to all concerned for the initiative shown and results achieved.

Changeover Invitations are beginning to roll in for Reo and I. These are being accepted on a "first in first served basis".

I wish you all the best in helping your Club achieve their Presidential Citation.

PC & Reo

"Always give without remembering
and always receive without forgetting."

The following is an excerpt from **Kumeu Rotary Grapevine**

Club News

First Month in Switzerland — An update from our IYE Student, Mishaela Simkins



After arriving in **Switzerland**, I had a week before I had to go to school, so I thought it would be a good idea to look around where I will be living for the next year. **Let me tell you I have never been lost so many times in my life.** I live in St. Gallen, Switzerland. This is a town an hour away from Zurich. I found my way to the most important things, like the supermarket, pizza takeaway, cinema, and the chocolate shop. After that everything else came together very well.



My first day of school was so scary. I was given my timetable, and then taken to my first class which happened to be English, so I was in luck with that. I introduced myself in front of the class, and they were all very interested in me and New Zealand, so I was happy with my class. The girls I sat next to were very kind, and I decided I would try to speak German to them, but let me tell you I was very glad they spoke good English because if it had been in German, I would have asked them how they were, and what their name was and that would be the end of the conversation. In the middle of the lesson I showed the girls my timetable, and they told me I was in the wrong class and wrong grade. I went back to the teacher who was in charge of me, and showed him the mistake. He printed out my correct timetable and took me to the appropriate class. They were in the middle of a lesson, so it was very embarrassing coming in to the class when they were all underway, but I did it and introduced myself again to the class, sat down and listened to a class conducted entirely in German and no English at all.



I am finding school very hard and different. **Here in Switzerland you have to take 12 subjects, and in New Zealand only do 6 subjects,** so for me it was very hard to have a day full of 8 different subjects, not to mention all in German! So I just sat there looking at the teacher like he had grown a second head. I find the Swiss school system to be very demanding and unfair to the students. At the school that I attend here, you have to do a test to see if you are good enough to be in the school, and if you're not, you have to go to a different school. I think it is wrong to tell a 15 year

old (that's the age when you take the test) that they are not smart enough to go to the best school. Imagine what happens when a student finds out one of their friends got into the school when they didn't! I don't think it is a good thing to do. It is not nice being told you are not good enough for a school. Also, if you make it into the school you must choose your major at the age of 15!!!! I am in a class which has art as the major, but we still have to get an A+ in science and sport to be able to stay in the school. Even if you want to do art for a job, you have to be passing every other subject just to keep attending



the school. **There are two girls in my class who are absolutely amazing at art, and I feel blessed just to see them next to me while they draw because it takes my breath away every time.** They got given their results from a physics test and the marks were not good, so they got a warning from the school saying they need to get better grades, and I find this to be so wrong. In New Zealand we do all the subjects, but as we get older and develop an idea of what we want to do in life, we can drop the subjects that we won't need, so that we can focus on what we are good at and get the best grades we can for that.



All the students here are under so much pressure to get into the best school, and pass everything. I find it to be absolutely crazy that they have no time to be teenagers. They only have time for study and school, so when I ask my classmates if they would like to meet up for lunch, or go out in the weekend, they look at me and say that it is impossible for them to get out of the house because they have to do homework for 12 subjects, and study them all. I really feel for them. To me it makes so much sense that at lunchtime every student is outside smoking from my class, and every other class as well. They are trying to get away from the stress of school. At my school here they have a spot in the school that is for smoking. I am against smoking, but the students here are under so much pressure that I understand they need something to try and calm them down.

Continued over page ...

Continued ...

First Month in Switzerland — An update from our IYE Student, Mishaela Simkins



After my first week of school, I had a language camp for two weeks with all the exchange students who had just arrived, which meant about 19 Aussies, 3 Kiwis, and 5 from South America. In that two weeks we had to live in an old military camp, so we had 4-6 people in a room. Everyone got very close because we were all doing the same thing, coming on exchange and leaving our family back home - we could all bond over that. In the camp the days were planned out for us. We would wake up and have breakfast, then attend a German lesson for 2 hours. We would have a small break in the middle, when we went and had lunch. After lunch we were given an hour and a bit of free time, depending on how fast we ate our lunch. In those breaks we went and looked around the town that we were staying in.

There was very little there, I think maybe 10 shops and the biggest one was a supermarket. So we **found a frozen lake** and decided to walk on it. We bought a plastic sled and sat on it and slid across the ice. This was a lot of fun. Once we got back from our adventures, we went and had another German lesson for 2 hours, then we would go for dinner. After dinner (if we were lucky) we would get to have some free time, and if not we would have someone come and talk to us about the rules, what we should expect in Switzerland. At the end of the camp my blazer was starting to look like I did my exchange in Australia and not Switzerland, given all the pins I got from everyone.



That language camp was the best time I have had in Switzerland. We all got on really well together, and I will definitely miss them a lot when I have to say bye to them at the end of the year.

The following is an excerpt from Browns Bay Bulletin

**Club
News**

Guest speakers, Anna Leclercq & Sue Snyder

Anna and husband Peter went to Cambodia in 2013, on a cruise down the Mekong River. Along the route, they visited villages & met the locals. Anna & Peter were so moved by the hopelessness of the people and the lack of prospects for future generations, that they came home determined to do something to help. Sue joined them and the Swallow Foundation was born.

By managing to track down people they had met in the villages, Sue, Anna and Peter were able to provide assistance in a number of ways. They have helped a family put their children through university, have purchased bullocks to help with agricultural projects and have helped a family rebuild their house. They have also helped two men needing prosthetic legs. There are few health services in Cambodia, even fewer mental health for the many people suffering PTSD from the Pol Pot years. They are now seeking assistance to expand their work.

The following is from

Rotary Club of New Lynn



Science & Technology Forum

ISSUE 4/2017

In March we had Eleanor (Avondale College) and Tobi (Kelston Boys) come in and tell us about the great fun they had at the Rotary Science and Technology Forum in January 2017. 168 people from all over New Zealand, and all learning to live at University. If you were late to an event the hosts would make you do strange punishments, so turning up early was one of the first things you learnt. The timetables were packed with events from learning, physical and social activities, starting the day at 6:30am.

Tobi's enjoyed all the modules he went to but, mostly enjoyed Psychology, Electronics/Robotics and Biological/Biomedical Engineering the best.

Eleanor's favorite modules were Molecular Biology and Biomedical Sciences.

At the evening they did 'Tech options' and these varied from visiting structural engineering sites, forensic crime examinations, crime science and TV broadcasting technology. Tobi's favorite was a visit to Air New Zealand. Eleanor's favorite was visiting the 'Landcare Research, Conservation and Bio-security lab'.

Tobi' got to join in the 'Boys Club' which was a lot of fun with singing, fines and a Disco.

So what was gained from the experience.

Before the forum Tobi wanted to be an engineer, and this experience has given him more knowledge to become a Bio-Engineer. Eleanor was always going to go into medicine, and this has confirmed her option.

By stepping out of their comfort zones, they have both made many friends, and their confidence has grown and they appreciate the push this experience has given them. They both said this has been a valuable lesson, learnt a lot and they are now open to new experiences. Life changing for both of them.



The following is an excerpt from
Rotary Club of

Onehunga – One Tree Hill Inc.



Conrad La Pointe presented a cheque for \$20,000 to Ernie Meyer, who accepted it on behalf of the club. This cheque represents \$5,000 for each of the second, third and fourth Habitat for Humanity house builds in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively, plus \$5,000 as an acknowledgement of the time taken to get to this point. Conrad spoke of the enduring benefits of the four year partnership and thanked the club for our successful partnership.

Five Minute Speaker: Deidre Shea talked about the current decile system which provides extra funding to schools according to five factors, which are:

- Percentage of households with income in the lowest 20% nationally
- Percentage of employed parents in the lowest skill level occupational groups
- Household crowding
- Percentage of parents with no educational qualifications
- Percentage of parents receiving income support benefits

Deidre spoke about the decile system being a blunt instrument, and the negative stereotyping resulting from people misunderstanding the numbers 1-10, which are socio-economic indicators and have nothing to do with the quality of education provided.

The work to replace this system with a more effective mechanism is evolving, and a recent iteration presented at a principals' meeting by Damian Edwards of the Ministry of Education shows the following are high marginal indicators (not determinants) of poor student outcomes:

- Proportion of time spent supported by benefits since birth
- Mother's qualifications
- Gender
- Child has a CYF care and protection notification
- Mother smokes
- Mother's age at birth of first child

The following is an excerpt from Rotary Club of Onehunga – One Tree Hill Inc.

Guest Speaker Monty Betham

Spoke about “Steps for Life”. Monty and his sister, Chante Betham-Spencer, co-founded the Steps for Life Foundation after realising the significance of obesity in our communities. At that time, New Zealand ranked third in the OECD in terms of obesity. Monty attended Marcellin College and his wife attended Onehunga High School, with both living locally all their lives.

From their own upbringing and from what they have been able to achieve, Monty and Chante know how much benefit living well affords. They want to offer this life opportunity to anyone who wants to be helped to achieve it; they do this work because they care. Steps for Life is self-funded, which is hard, but this means that they operate according to their own values and approach, rather than having to stick to other’s rules.

Many poor health outcomes can be related to obesity, including type 2 diabetes, sleep apnoea and heart disease. Monty cited the following:

- 1 million Kiwis are obese
- 1 in 5 Kiwi kids are overweight, 1 in 9 Kiwi kids are obese
- 1 in 2 Kiwi adults are overweight, 1 in 3 Kiwi adults are obese

The Foundation has been running since 2009 and Monte and Chante have worked with close to 200 families. They work on nutrition and exercise; buy in from families is critical. It is a 12 week programme - you come on this programme for yourself. If you embrace the programme, you will do well. It is tough but there is huge support throughout. 80% of the results are through what you eat, and 20% of it is through exercise.

The programme includes:

- Supermarket Tours - where to shop and what to stay away from e.g. Fizzy drinks, flavoured milks
- Cooking Lessons - how to cook your favourite meals properly
- Goal Setting - purpose (why?)
- Alternatives to poor food choices (did you know a Big Mac has 1200 calories?) - your taste buds take 2 weeks to adapt
- Diaries of exercise and food

Open sessions with families work well, they are often emotional because this change is hard, and it is important. The programme is very successful. A challenge for the Foundation now is sustainability; Monte and Chante endeavour to follow up, to improve this.

For further information, go to <http://www.stepsforlife.co.nz>



'Our Centennial History'

Dear All,

We have made some decisions on our Centennial history such as deciding that we will have our own for New Zealand and not a combined Australia/New Zealand version and it is approaching the time for us to decide how we move forward. During the last year we have done some preparatory work and I would like to make a suggestion. We will need continuity on the project and my suggestion is that the 2016/2017 DGs form the committee to plan the project. For this we need the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 DGs to agree.

My further suggestion is that we use some of our airline points to gather in one place for a day to actively plan the way forward. An agenda should not be a problem! We know the histories that have been written previously and need to decide on the way forward. I have some other samples of histories written within Rotary and a format and the selection of media is a good starting point. We have located some historians within our districts and we need to decide how we can use those talents.

Do you agree?

Bill Boyd

Past Rotary International President

All mankind is divided into three classes: those who are immovable,
those who are movable; and those who move.
(Benjamin Franklin)

The following is from May 2, 2017

Rotary Voices

**Rotary
Voices**

Science camp changed my life

by [Rotary International](#)

Editor's note: This is part of a series of blog posts from Youth Leadership All-Stars, participants in Rotary's programs for young leaders, in celebration of Youth Service Month.



By Rebecca Weragoda, Rotaract Club of Sydney, Australia

Twelve years ago, I made a seemingly small decision to apply for a Rotary Australia supported "science camp." Like so many of my peers in Rotaract, this decision changed the course of my life personally, professionally, and socially.

From attending the National Youth Science Forum to today, I've been afforded many opportunities through Rotary, just some of the highlights include:

- travelling to South Africa for National Youth Science Week
- trekking in the desert in remote Western Australia as a leadership development opportunity
- attending my local Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
- serving as a RYLA Leader and RYLA Director
- leadership roles including Rotaract Club Professional Development Director, President and District Rotaract Representative
- attending international RYLA in Sydney
- the Young Leaders Summit in South Korea.

These are just the tip of the iceberg and don't even begin to capture the abundance of leadership opportunities I've had within Rotaract, culminating with my current position as the Chair of Rotaract Australia. My experience in Rotaract led me to transition from a technical science-based role to work in the Corporate Social Responsibility sector of a multi-national company—an area I didn't even consider when I left school!

I love how my Rotary and work worlds continually collide. For example, this past March when listening to a Rotarian address the Rotaract Club of Sydney City about the Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC), I learned that, sure enough, the orthopedic implants their patients use are donated by my company.

I continue to be inspired by the chance to truly and meaningfully impact the world. But my most significant aspiration for Rotaract and Rotary is to highlight the ways we can continue working together, at all levels, to create an environment of meaningful collaboration.

Both groups have so much to contribute. Rotarians bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table as well as the resources that go with them. Rotaractors bring energy, innovative ideas, and an intuitive understanding of how to best engage in today's increasingly online world. By working together on projects we increase the likelihood of Rotaractors transitioning their membership and becoming dual Rotarian-Rotaractors or becoming a Rotary member in the future.

I look forward to continuing to be an ambassador for Rotary and Rotaract and being part of the positive change Rotary has on communities locally and globally.

Learn more ways Rotaractors can collaborate with Rotarians in [our new club](#) flexibility.



Trekking in remote Western Australia as a leadership development opportunity.

The following is from May 15, 2017

Rotary Voices

**Rotary
Voices**

Giving young Rotarians a space to call their own

by [Rotary International](#)

By Elizabeth Davis, a member of the Rotary Club of Lake Norman-Huntersville, North Carolina, USA

What would happen if we gave the younger crowd a space to call their own?

This was the question that our club president, Kamlesh-Chandan (Kam for short) posed to us recently as we discussed how to recruit young professionals.

After a little more thinking, Kam and our club developed a term for our approach, YP 35 (short for young professionals under 35 years old). From there, we started to rally our members and members of other local clubs to seek out young professionals in the area who could call Rotary home.

A club they can call their own

It was an instant success. At an initial meeting to explore interest for YP 35, fourteen enthusiastic young professionals gathered to discuss their new club over food and drinks. Now, more YP 35 meetings and events are scheduled to take place.

YP 35 is a success because of how it's structured. YP 35 was able to easily and immediately start up thanks to the mentorship and financial support of its host club the Rotary Club of Lake Norman-Huntersville. However, because it puts an emphasis on engagement over attendance and has the autonomy to structure meetings and events as its members prefer, Rotarians in YP 35 still have a club they can truly call their own. From picking how often they prefer to meet, to where they meet, to what areas of service their work will revolve around, YP 35 is by the members and for the members.

Young professionals are interested in Rotary

When asked about any concerns that YP 35 might try to split off from the Rotary Club of Lake Norman-Huntersville, Kam said such a scenario would be perfectly fine. For him and his fellow Rotarians, the main goal is to bring more, and younger, members into the organization. If they can do this by starting a new club, then their goal is accomplished.

Ultimately, what starting YP 35 has shown is that there is, in fact, a desire among the young professionals crowd for a service-based organization. Young professionals are interested in Rotary. The key is to give them a space to call their own.



The Rotary Club of Lake Norman Huntersville initiative has given young professionals a club they can call their own.

The Following is From Rotary Voices

**Rotary
Voices**

Posted on May 18, 2017

Deeply wounded world needs Rotary Peace Centers

By Marie-Paule Attema, a Rotary Peace Fellow at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

After months of anticipation, I finally arrived in Brisbane, Australia, where I will be for the next 18 months while I pursue the Masters of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Queensland Rotary Peace Center.

I quickly felt at home after being picked up by our “Australian parents,” who have been extremely helpful in our transition. I have enjoyed the pros and cons of Australian living as I have quickly adapted to 30 degree weather in March and travelling via a ferry that feels more like vacation than public transit. I have also survived Cyclone Debbie (experiencing my first ever rain day) and have been sure to watch my step for snakes and spiders. I have also learned to stay out of the Brisbane River. Bull Sharks are everywhere!!



Marie-Paule Attema, right, and her husband, left, with host Rotarians in Brisbane, Australia.

The staff at the [University of Queensland Peace Center](#) have been incredibly welcoming and helpful. I was rather anxious returning to studying after six years, but after only one month I feel inspired and prepared to undertake my program. I'm both honored and intimidated to be on this journey with nine amazing Peace Fellows from all over the globe. Each [Peace Fellow](#) brings vast knowledge and life experience.

This semester I'm enrolled in four peace and conflict related courses. The course work is both challenging and exciting. I'm excited to learn not only about peace and conflict theories but also practical skills including mediation. Furthermore, I was excited to be a part of a seminar for Class 14 this past week. These peace fellows presented on their AFE (applied field experience). It was an enlightening experience and I am excited for my opportunity to apply some of my newfound knowledge into the field.

In a world deeply wounded by conflict, I feel more than ever that peace education is essential. I'm thankful for my sponsoring Rotary Club of Tavistock, Ontario, Canada, and my host Rotary Club of Balmoral Brisbane, Australia, for their continued support, and look forward to keeping in touch!

[Is a peace fellowship right for you?](#)



About the author: Marie-Paule is a survivor of the Rwandan genocide. She immigrated to Canada 16 years ago. Over the last ten years she has worked with marginalized populations in various community initiatives in Ontario, Canada. Her career goal is to contribute to recovery and mental health in the aftermath of armed conflict, and in the long term, to promote peace and equality through global policymaking.

The following is from May 4, 2017

Rotary Voices

**Rotary
Voices**

Rotary training team helps the girls of Malawi

By Elizabeth Usovicz

Last April, I led a Vocational Training Team (VTT) to Malawi. The global grant project of the Rotary clubs of Limbe (Malawi) and Kansas City-Plaza (Missouri, USA) installed solar lighting in schools and trained primary school teachers in an after-school program designed to empower children, especially girls, to stay in school.



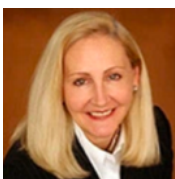
As in many countries, girls in Malawi face several challenges along their path to an education, including early marriage, teen pregnancy and HIV/AIDS. Malawi is called “The Warm Heart of Africa,” and with an average annual income of about \$255 per capita, tenacity is more than an admirable trait. It’s a survival skill. Here are some of the traits, conditions and needs affecting the girls of Malawi in their quest for an education.

Multitasking: Village girls learn how to multitask from their mothers, walking barefoot several times a day from the village water pump with 70-pound buckets of potable water on their heads, babies on their backs, and another child or two by the hand. I saw village girls supervising younger siblings while pounding maize, herding goats, and trying to get homework done. These girls exhibited a tenacity that humbled me.

Tradition: According to a United Nations Development Program background paper on Malawi, 47 percent of girls finish standard 8 – the equivalent of the 8th grade. Family influences, the tradition of early marriage and teen pregnancy can easily discourage a girl’s plans for the future. A girl who intends to go to secondary school and then to college or university must have strong, quiet determination, as well as encouragement.

Role Models: I met dozens of girls who told me they aspired to become businesswomen, doctors, nurses or accountants. Most had never had an opportunity to meet women working in those professions. The village girls who succeed in getting an education are the future role models for other village girls.

My VTT experience has given me a global perspective on the value of girls’ education. With tenacity and encouragement, it’s my hope that the girls of Malawi will reach their aspirations.



About the author: Elizabeth Usovicz is a member of the Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza, Missouri; a [Rotary Public Image Coordinator](#) for Zones 30 and 31 in 2017-20; and a past district governor. She was also a [Women of Action](#) honoree at the White House in 2014.

DIRECTOR'S NEWS

Rotary International Zones 7B & 8

Volume 1 Issue 7: May 2017

Noel's Message



that will be impacted include 9500, 9520, 9550, 9570, 9600, 9630, 9700 and 9710. Your District Governor will have details of the redistricting to share with you. All districts have been involved in the process of redistricting.

Hello,

The final submissions for redistricting have been submitted to Rotary International. Those districts involved will be working to a template provided by RI to ensure smooth transition. Andrew Best and Barbara Mifsud from RISPPPO will be working with the Districts. A number of PDG's from those districts involved in redistricting recently have made themselves available to act as advisers to the Districts if they are needed.

The new districts will come into place on July 1, 2020. The Districts

I recognise that this exercise has not been an easy one for many people. The whole process has emphasised the need for us as an organisation to really focus internally on membership, not just members but also retaining members.

One of my greatest concerns is our aging membership,

Indications are that, by the year 2022, we are going to start losing members at an accelerated rate because of our demographics. That is why membership must be a top priority as we have much to achieve

Rotary Foundation named World's Outstanding Foundation for 2016

The Association of Fundraising Professionals recognized the Rotary Foundation with its annual award for Outstanding Foundation at its 2017 Conference in San Francisco. The award honors organizations that show philanthropic commitment and leadership through financial support, innovation, encouragement of others and involvement in public affairs.

The award was presented on 2nd May at the AFP's annual conference.

In This Issue

- Noel's Message
- Rotary Foundation named World's Outstanding Foundation for 2016
- The Future of Rotary 'Down Under'
- John Hewko to attend Zones 7B & 8 Institutes

in five years.

At the end of this newsletter, I share my brief thoughts on how I think Rotary could be in the future. This is meant to be a conversation starter to get people thinking on the future of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand. If you have ideas on how you believe Rotary should be going forward in our two countries, I would like to hear from you. Email me directly and we can start having a conversation about different ways in which we might do things in the future.

I have been involved as Vice Chair of the RI Re Zoning Committee. Past Director and TRF Trustee Mike McGovern is the Chair. The Rotary world has been rezoned with significant changes. India has two extra Zones, North America has lost two Zones and Africa is now a single Zone. Our new Zone 8 will include Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific Islands including Timor Leste and will come into effect from July 1, 2020. This is also the date the next Director from Zone 8 will take office. The selection of this Director will take place in the last half of 2018. All qualified past officers of Rotary International from Aus-

tralia, New Zealand and the South Pacific will be able to nominate for the role. From that time, Zone 8 will have a Director on the Board of Rotary every four years.

The Directors of RAWCS, ARH, ROMAC and RDU recently completed training on their roles and responsibilities as Directors. The training included good governance and due diligence and was conducted by Greg Hudson. This is the first time that the Directors from the four organisations have met together for training on this sub-

ject. From feedback received, it was well worthwhile and annual training with all four groups will be ongoing in the future. This is critical for stronger and better administration within Rotary's key organisations.

The 2017 Zone Institutes are well into the final stages of organisation for Darwin and Auckland. If you haven't registered yet, I would encourage you to do so. Click on the link provided here.

Both Institutes will be exciting and full of information and provide another positive experience for Rotary's present, future and past officers and partners. RI President

for 2018-2019, Sam Owori and his wife Norah will be in attendance, as will be the General Secretary of RI John Hewko and his wife Margie. At Darwin, we will also have the purple Truck at the Convention Centre with Hesta Nurse of the Year, Sarah Browne, making a repeat appearance on the Institute program.

I wish to advise that I have also been appointed Convenor of the Zone 7B and 8 Institutes in 2018, the locations for which will be announced in Darwin and Auckland.

Regards,

Noel

Register Here

Zone 8 Institute

1-3 September 2017
Darwin Convention
Centre, NT



Future of Rotary in Australia & New Zealand

I often think about the future and wonder how Rotary might be in Australia and New Zealand in the future - and I also shake my head in disbelief that we are we still doing numerous things as we were 30 or 40 years ago and ask myself why?

The Council on Legislation last year gave us the opportunity to change the way in which we do many things at the club level.

But, what about beyond the club level? What about district level and even nationally and with the Zones?

Over the last nine months there has been a lot of discussion about how will Rotary look in the future in Australia and New Zealand. Many people agree that the recent round of redistricting is just a stop gap measure as we will be

going through the process again in a few years time - if we continue to lose members. Unless we effect real change, by the year 2022 we will start to lose our members at a faster rate because of our demographics.

I believe it is time to start having conversations about how we conduct Rotary 'down under' in the future.

Unless we effect real change, by the year 2022 we will start to lose our members at a faster rate

manage their respective Districts needs to be discussed in as many forums as possible – and we really need to go further than that. Let's start talking about all the possibilities for a greater and stronger Rotary. How can we take Rotary here in Australia and New Zealand to a

different level? Firstly we have to accept the challenges we are facing across our region. If we identify the real challenges, we can then start to plan and think strategically for the future.

We need to start looking at a number of things.

How can we make it easier, efficient and more manageable for future Governors?

The expectation of how District Governors

In this electronic age, do Governors really need to physically visit every club? When I hear how much it costs for a District Governor to visit a club of a few members in a remote area, I question whether such practice represents good stewardship of funds. More use needs to be made of programmes such as Skype, Go to Meeting or Zoom to communicate Rotary's message.

[Register Here](#)



Waipuna Conference Centre,
Auckland 8-10 September 2017

Zone 7B Symposium 2017

(Incorporating Institute and Future Leaders Seminar)

Rotary

New Zealand & Pacific Islands



My personal thoughts are that we need to start thinking about a complete restructure of Rotary District administration.

How do we do things in Australia and New Zealand? Are we still the innovators we use to be?

Do we still need District Governors and Districts as we know them?

I can see a future wherein we may have only six to eight districts for Australia and New Zealand! How would Rotary operate with six or eight Districts in Australia and perhaps one or two in New Zealand? Such a system could allow for Regional Governors to have responsibility for ten to fifteen clubs. Regional Governors would report to a District Governor. Or we could have Regional Governors and no District Governors? The Regional Governors would report to a National Executive.

Either way, training for Regional Governors could consist of two days at the Zone Institute or pre Institute. We would not have Assistant Governors. If we were to have a National Executive, do we have an elected National Gover-

nor or President? For years, Rotary leaders have complained about the lack of a single voice of authority in New Zealand and Australia.

Would Rotary be more effective in Australia and New Zealand with a paid CEO/Executive Director at the top of the 'management tree' - with a National Executive in each country?

Remote and far flung clubs could be "visited" electronically rather

This is all about administration of Rotary at the highest level

would encourage the emergence of young leaders through the system.

Imagine the community impact, if we were to have a young man or woman in their thirties as our national spokesperson? We as Rotary Australia or Rotary New Zealand would have to give that person every support possible, to ensure they do not have to give up a career to take on such a role for twelve months.

Districts would no longer exist. Youth Exchange, and other pro-

grammes would be national programmes with regional committees. The Zone Institute would be part of a National Conference for all Rotarians. This National Conference would be rotated around the capital cities and regional centres annually - or do we plan a National Conference every two years and make it a real highlight?

There are so many possibilities.

Undoubtedly, a lot of people have many different ideas on how Rotary could be conducted in Australia and New Zealand in the future. We need to start talking to each other about the different possibilities now - if we really want change to happen. Will it make a difference to membership? There will be many people and clubs who will want to stay as we are now. Change for them is always a challenge but, for many people, change is too slow.

Remember, this is all about administration of Rotary at the highest level – District Governors, District teams and Districts. The real



strength of Rotary is the Rotary Club which remains intact within restructure plans at this time.

We need to start the conversation now so that we can be proactive regarding the future of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand. Why? Because within the next three to five years there will be more districts that will be redistricted. In-

stead of taking a "band-aid" approach to 'fixing' districts, we really need to look at the future of Rotary and set it up for the long term.

Change is progress and we need to start changing now so that we can progress Rotary in Australia and New Zealand – and ensure that our great organisation survives for another hundred years!



John Hewko and Marga to attend Institutes

General Secretary of Rotary International, John Hewko and his wife, Marga, will be special guests as the Zones 7B and 8 Institutes in September.

John is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Kyiv (the first Club in Kyiv). He holds a law degree from Harvard University, a Masters in modern history from Oxford University (where he studied as a Marshall Scholar), and a bachelor's in government and Soviet studies from Hamilton College in New York.



As General Secretary, he leads a diverse staff of 800 at Rotary International's World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, and seven international offices.

He is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Contact Us

The Director's News is the official newsletter of Zones 7A, 7B & 8 Director 2016-2018, Noel Trevaskis

It is produced bi-monthly

Editor: PDG Gina Growden

M: 0412 128 106

E: gina.growden@bigpond.com

Contributions are welcome—please email articles and good quality photos to editor

www.facebook.com/RotarianNoelTrevaskis

To unsubscribe email:

gina.growden@bigpond.com

