

ROTARY DISTRICT 9620

D9620 TREE PLANTING DAY CHALLENGE– 10 APRIL 2022

TO: All D9620 Brisbane and Surrounds Club Presidents

BACKGROUND – D9600

In Ian Riseley's year as RI President (2017-2018), he encouraged Rotarians to focus on environmental sustainability, particularly with regard to degraded land areas. As such, he challenged every Rotary Club throughout the world to plant at least one tree per Rotary member.

With DG John Lane's approval, D9600 easily achieved this target by planting 1,414 trees at the first D9600 Coordinated Tree Planting Day, in association with Brisbane City Council, at John Sprent Reserve in Moggill Brisbane in April 2018. Another 1,750 trees were planted at John Sprent Reserve during DG Wendy Protheroe's year.

Unfortunately, COVID restrictions caused the cancellation of the Tree Planting Day in DG Darryl Iseppi's year.

Last year, DG Neil Black agreed to have another District Tree Planting Day, again in association with Brisbane City Council and 2,500 trees were planted at 85-91 Ross Road, Upper Kedron.

THIS YEAR

This year, DG Wendy Protheroe has asked for a D9620 Tree Planting Day Challenge and this is planned for **Sunday 10 April**. The intent is to ask every Club in the new D9620 team to take part in a tree planting project of some sort on that day.

To this end, Brisbane City Council's Offsets and Restoration Team has offered a new venue for this year's planting at the **cul-de-sac end of Dividend Street, Mansfield** for Clubs in Brisbane and surrounding areas.

The attached document from Council gives information about this venue and Council's objectives for choosing this particular site.

This event ties in beautifully with Rotary's area of focus "**Supporting The Environment**" as well as Council's recently announced initiatives to protect and extend Koala Habitat.

DGE Tim Keeler has already indicated that he is keen to have a District Tree Planting Day in his year and Council have indicated that Stage 2 of the proposed planting for this site would be ideal for this.

The Brisbane City Council team coordinator Nic Holmes has been so impressed with the enthusiasm of the Rotary planting teams at previous events that he has suggested a target of **5,000 trees this year**.

As with previous years, Brisbane City Council will be providing the plants, digging the holes and providing follow up maintenance for the plants.

While we obviously can't expect representation from every Club in the District at this site, based on the success of our previous planting days, the proposed target should not be a problem.

We aim to start this event at 9.00 am with a Welcome to Country ceremony and wrap up as close to mid-day as possible. I will be prevailing on Karana Bellbowrie Rotarians to once again provide refreshments (including tea/coffee and the now world-famous scones) for those attending.

We will also be ensuring that this event receives the widest publicity possible so we would ask all those attending to wear their Club shirts for a combined D9620 Planting Team photo on the day.

Council is intending to have members of their Environmental Education team on site to provide activities for any school aged children who might be attending. This is a great opportunity for any Clubs involved in the Rotary Junior Community Awards programme at their local schools to encourage students to attend and gain points towards their awards.

In order to complete the planning for the day, could I please ask you send me the following Information by **Friday 25 Mar 2022** at the latest?

1. Number of Club members who would like to attend the event. Please note that members of Rotaract, Interact and Earlyact would be more than welcome to help with the tree planting.
2. Any School groups that might like to be involved and indicative numbers attending. Your Club's support will help to rehabilitate another degraded site to the benefit of the environment and the surrounding communities.

WHAT TO BRING

Could you please let those attending know that they should wear closed-in shoes and bring their own hat, sunscreen, water bottle. They will also be required to register their attendance on the day.

MORE INFORMATION

Let me know if you need any further information or I can be of any assistance in planning or promoting your own D9620 Tree Planting Challenge project.

Hope to see you on **Sunday 10 April**.

David Kearney
Coordinator - D9620 District Tree Planting Working Group
Karana Bellbowrie Rotary Club rclubkd@gmail.com 0419700647