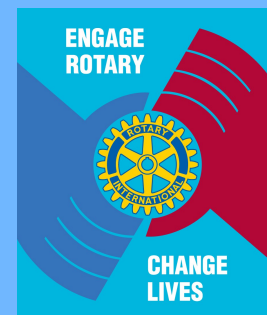


District Governor's Newsletter

Rotary International District 9780

Incorporation No. A0051943L



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

19TH JUNE 2014

From Governor Ken's Desk

The last month of every Rotary year is Fellowship Month. June is designated Rotary Fellowships Month to recognize the importance of international fellowship and goodwill among Rotarians with similar recreational and vocational interests, promote increased participation in fellowships, and increase understanding of this program. This is a fitting designation since fellowship is particularly to the forefront with changeovers being very much the priority in June. Fellowship is of course one of the five core values of Rotary, the others being service, diversity, integrity and leadership. Yet in so many clubs there is a real objection to the use of the word **fellowship** and I know of some clubs, not necessarily in our District, where the use of the word will require the person concerned to make a donation to the fines box. It seems those who find the word objectionable see it as one of those legacy words that define **old** Rotary and inconsistent with **new** Rotary. That said no one seems to have been able to identify or even invent a word that comes close to all that is implied in the word fellowship. Certainly the term goes back a long way – apparently to the twelfth century from the Middle English word felaweshipe or feolahschipe, meaning companion! Depending on which dictionary you prefer, the definitions of fellowship generally comprise common sentiments. Broadly fellow-

ship can be related to three areas of significance – company, association and membership (or partnership). So it can refer to a community of interest or activity but also a company of equals or friends. A somewhat obsolete interpretation is as the quality or state of being comradely! A thesaurus will tell us it is an association of people who share common beliefs or activities, as we do in Rotary.

Synonyms are listed as communion, rapport and rapprochement. Related words include accord, agreement, concord, harmony, oneness, solidarity, togetherness, unity, affinity, empathy, sympathy, understanding, amity, companionship, friendliness, reciprocity and symbiosis. No wonder it is hard to find a word that might come close to capturing the shades of meaning suggested by fellowship.

Then there is the other meaning that is widely used in academia but also in Rotary. So in a University there is an accepted status of a Fellow and in Rotary we of course have Rotary Peace Fellows. Generally it is accepted that a fellowship provides for a financed study post providing study facilities, and tuition and living costs (sometimes in return for teaching service). There is also a Christian or ecclesiastical interpretation.

Rotary also has Fellowships in many areas, which are based on

JUNE 2014

ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

DG KEN MCINERNEY



AND SANDRA

NEXT MONTH IS

GETTING STARTED MONTH

From Governor Ken's Desk cont.

a friendly association of people who share a common interest, or more broadly as a group of people meeting to pursue a shared interest or aim.

Rotary Fellowships are designated as autonomous, international groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who join together to:

- Share a common interest in worthwhile recreational activities (sports, hobbies, etc.)
- Further their vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same profession
- Make new friends around the world
- Explore new opportunities for service
- Have fun and enhance their Rotary experience

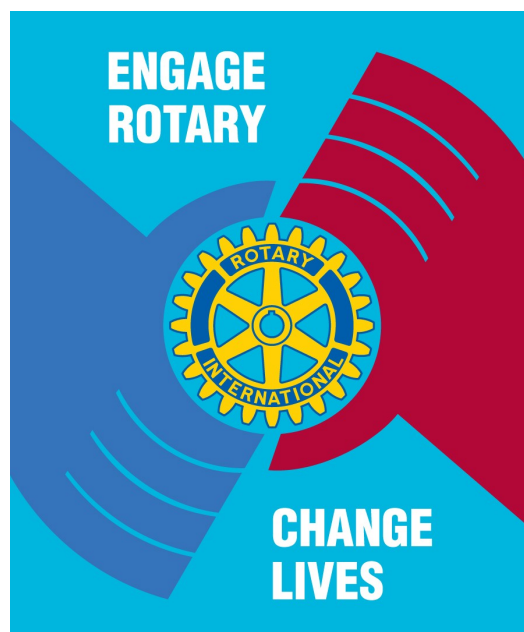
There are nearly 70 formal Rotary Fellowships catering for interests from Chess to Cricket and Stamps to Skiing. I note there is even a Fellowship for Past District Governors (and friends)! Alphabetically it sits next to the Fellowship for Old and Rare Books and maybe that is not a random or unintended connection.

Getting back to the concept of fellowship, part of the problem seems to be that we have taken a noun and made it into a virtual verb. So we have commonly identified fellowship to mean a period of social time but also an activity. How often do we see at Rotary functions that fellowship is listed in the program as a period of time before or after a meeting?

Those periods are a time when we are socialising (as we might refer to it) whereas in fact the whole event, including the meeting represents real fellowship and I think therein rests the source of the discomfort with the concept of fellowship. As for the expression **let's have some fellowship**, I think we are way off the mark. Simply I think we are misusing the word and maybe if we avoided using it in the context of pre-dinner drinks or social time we would restore it to its proper place as a real core value of Rotary.

Paul Harris was looking for friendship when he conceived the idea of Rotary. He wanted to develop friendships that went beyond the cordial relationships of business connections. It was of course a very different society in those

days and people typically socialised by joining special interest clubs or sporting associations. The idea that Paul Harris had was a club based on a very simple plan of mutual cooperation and informal friendship such as all of us had once known in our communities. It was also based on the expectation of reciprocal trade between the best single representatives of each business. As Rotary grew so did the sense of special relationships. Again, it is hard for people in 2014 to imagine life in 1914 but a Rotary meeting and Rotary service was pervading. The Rotary lunch, and the closeness of Rotarians and their families meant a special kind of fellowship, in which all those definitions of fellowship applied.



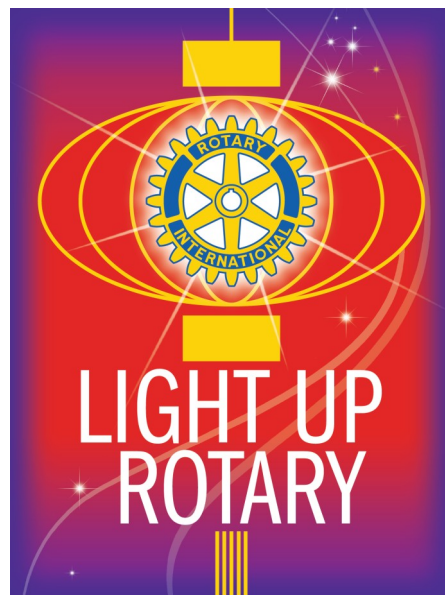
Networking has been suggested as a better representation of what is intended by the word fellowship. If I have been able to adequately define fellowship, it will quickly be seen that networking is in fact only a part of what fellowship is about. In fact it is a more self-serving aspect of fellowship. An accepted definition seems to be the exchange of information or services among individuals, groups, or institutions; specifically: the cultivation of productive relationships for employment or business. Each Rotary Fellowship operates independently of Rotary International, with its own rules, dues requirements and administrative structure. It must be international in nature with active members in at least three (3) coun-

From Governor Ken's Desk cont.

tries. Each fellowship elects at least three (3) officers to oversee the group's administration. The Rotary Fellowships are expected to facilitate communication among their members and maintain regular communication with RI.

What are the benefits for Rotarians in joining the Rotary Fellowships? Fellowship provides opportunities for Rotarians to make lasting friendships outside their own Club, District or country. Fellowships contribute to the advancement of world understanding and peace. Also, Fellowships serve as an incentive for attracting new members to Rotary and retaining our existing members. Indeed, Rotary Fellowship, together with the Rotarian Action Groups, serves as an effective tool in promoting membership development and should be actively promoted in our Districts. Whatever word individual Rotarians may feel most comfortable with, fellowship is alive and well in Rotary and will be celebrated most demonstrably over the next month and into July as club officers change over and all Rotarians recommit to Service Above Self. It also brings to an end our theme for this Rotary Year of "Engage Rotary Change Lives" as we move to "Light Up Rotary".

Ken McNerney
District Governor 2013/2014



Queens Birthday Honours

A special mention of two outstanding Rotarians who were honoured in the Queen's birthday list:

President Marie Schlemme of the Swan Hill Rotary Club who was recognised for her work with women and education

Honourary Rotarian Merv Schneider of the Nhill Rotary Club who was recognised for his service to his community.

Congratulations to both Rotarians and also congratulations to those who took the time to nominate them.





district 9780

abn no 65775 379108

donations in kind

If you can help with useful items please contact Anton on 52785544 or 0412 256 878
The depot at Swinburne Street North Geelong is open Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'



Change is in the wind for Rotary Club of Highton Kardinia. The Club has changed its name to KARDINIA ROTARY CLUB as from 1 July 2014 and they are looking forward to working under the banner of their new name. The Club's PR Committee proposed the notion of the name change late last year to give the Club a stronger identity. After estimating the costs (which were minimal) the Committee put their proposal to the Club's Board, who put the proposal to a member vote in February this year in two stages: first on whether the Club should change its name and secondly the new name. The vote was almost unanimously in favour of the change and the name Kardinia Rotary Club.

The name Kardinia was chosen to retain historical links with their former name.

Rhonda Whitton

DISTRICT HISTORY & ARCHIVES

Up to and including 1964-1965, the clubs which now make up District 9780 were split across two Districts, 250 and 280. From 1965-1966 (DG Bill Wood of Charlton) the clubs have been together, despite changes in District Numbers and District Boundaries.

I have in my possession a large collection of material which might be regarded as the "District Archives", and with the approach of the 50th anniversary of the creation of "our" District, it seems a good time to organize the material.

The collection contains 35 District Directories – if anyone has one of the following Directories which they are prepared to donate to the archive, or lend for copying, we can move towards a full set.

Hill, Jack	1981-1982	Lowery, Frank	1980-1981
Downey, Ray	1977-1978	Coghlan, Ian	1976-1977
Mitchell, Murray	1975-1976	Graetz, Ray	1974-1975
Thorpe, Wynton	1972-1973	Pola, Bob	1971-1972
Chisholm, Jim	1970-1971	White, Walter	1969-1970
Bell, Albert	1968-1969	Sones, Bill	1967-1968
Kentish, Cec	1966-1967	Wood, Bill	1965-1966

I can be contacted at welsford@hotmail.net.au or 24 Alison Avenue, Warrnambool 3280.

PDG Ray Welsford

Australian Transplant Games – 2014

Attention all Clubs in District 9780:

The Australian Transplant Games are to be held from September 26th to October 4th 2014 at Albert Park Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

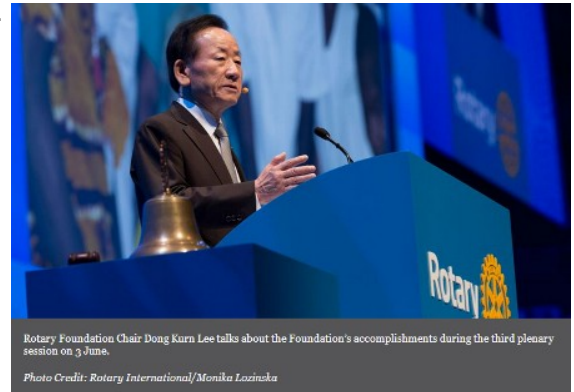
Anyone interested in volunteering to help man the Games please contact Mary Elliott ASAP.

Thank you,

PP Mary Elliott
Organ Donor Awareness Sub-Committee
Ph 03 52613310 Mob 0429 613310
Email: mary2ken@bigpond.net.au

Sydney International Convention

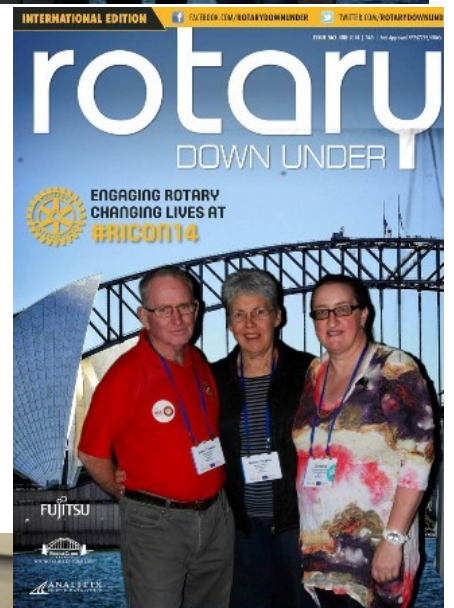
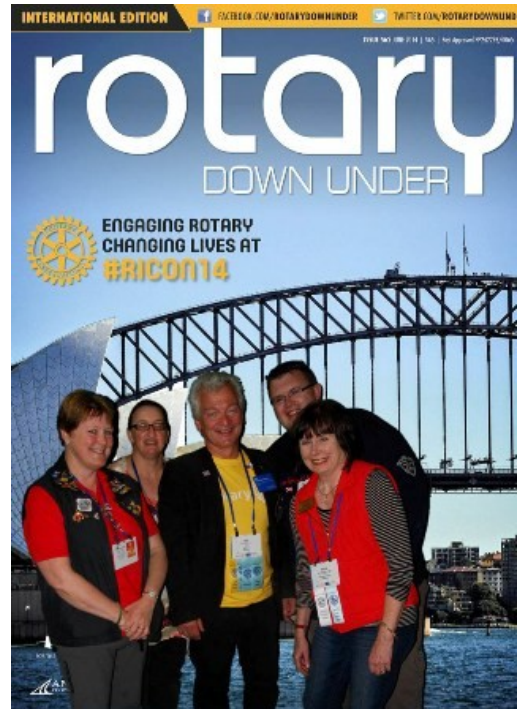
It was good to see so many Rotarians from our district at the International Convention. Whilst the Convention numbers were down on expectations, the 18,000 odd Rotarians who attended had a great time. Outstanding speakers, World Class entertainment and a very well-run Convention highlighted the Aussie professionalism for major events. It was disappointing that there was no room for an Australian MC and makes you wonder why? A lot of photos were taken and a snap shot of some of the activities and attendees are included.



"Light Up Rotary is more than our theme. It is how we live in Rotary, how we think in #Rotary, how we feel, how we work," Huang says. "It is how we make a difference — every day, in every club, every district, and every country where we serve."



Sydney International Convention



Rotary



Articles for the next DG's Newsletter can be sent to Derrick Marsden the 2014-15 District Secretary.

Next Deadline: 15th July

Please keep your article short and to the point.
A word document is preferred, not just an email.
Please reduce the size of photos before sending.

WEB SITE LINKS

District: www.rotary9780.org

Rotary International: www.rotary.org



2013-14

Rotary International President:

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District Governor:

Ken McInerney (Sandra)

District Secretary:

Christine Dufty

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PH: 03 5391 1032 M: 0409 443 418

Email: d9780sec13.14@gmail.com

District Treasurer:

Yvonne Sargeant (Des)

PO Box 103, Bordertown SA 5268

PH: 08 8752 1096 M: 0408 852 038

2014-15

Rotary International President:

Gary CK Huang (Corinna Yao)

District Governor:

Geoff James (Meryl)

District Secretary:

Derrick Marsden

32 Menzies Drive, Daisy Hill Vic 3465

Ph 03 5460 5924

Email: sandek44@bigpond.com

Photo L: RC Wendouree breakfast at Sydney Convention.