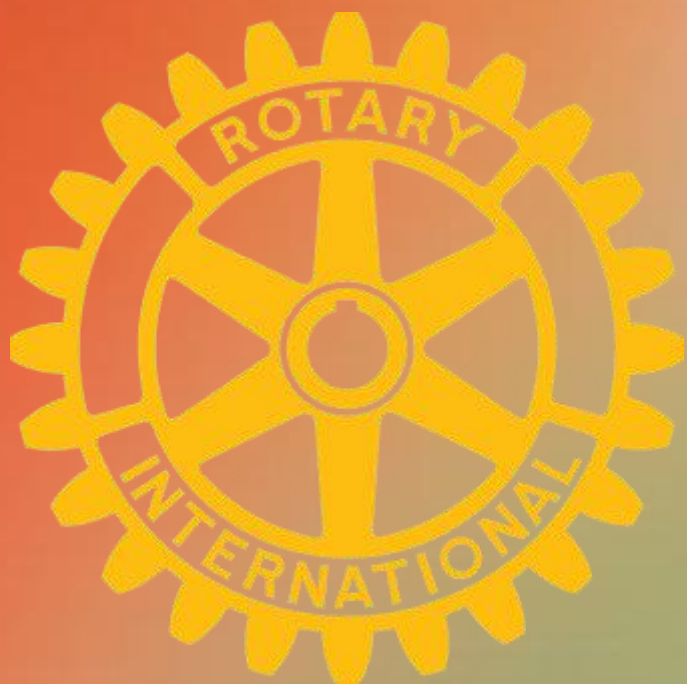
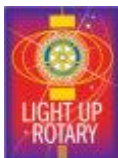


# 2014-2015 Annual Report

Rotary International District 9780 Inc.

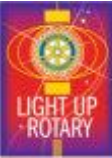
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# District Governor's Report



Rotary International President for 2014-2015, Gary Huang urged us to “Light Up Rotary”, and as many of you will be aware, we interpreted Gary’s challenge in terms of 27 steps to “Rotary enlightenment” arranged in four levels of human interaction: the personal, inter-personal, community and planet.

Of course, those 27 steps were not mine – they were gathered from experts in Rotary who have been sharing them with us for a number of years based on research into the ways our service clubs can operate most effectively. In general terms, they represent “best practice” for Rotary, and given time and persistence, and proper implementation, they are a pretty sure way to develop a vibrant, enjoyable, service-based group that is going to attract other people to it in the long run. So, we now

pretty much know what works, and we’re seeing evidence in many Rotary communities of those ideas actually translating into new members.

The Zone 8 membership plan produced a couple of years ago contains or implies many of the 27 steps, and the latest figures show that membership numbers have in fact turned around in the Zone 8 region as a whole.

And I believe that as a District, we gave those 27 steps a pretty good shot. As Meryl and I travelled around our 59 clubs, I’m happy to say that most of our clubs and committees can say they did indeed “Light Up Rotary” during 2014-2015.

You’ll be able to read the details of what has been achieved in this Annual Report. But on our tours last year, we certainly saw Rotarians actively engaged at the **personal level**. They were engaged in service tasks they enjoy doing, we saw them developing their leadership skills in leadership roles in their clubs, we saw increasing numbers enrolled in RLI courses to learn more about Rotary, we’ve talked to Rotarians who attempt to apply the values of Rotary to their work in their vocations, and we saw increasing numbers getting serious about making the Foundation their charity of choice. Speaking of the Foundation, our District started the year really well, and we were the leading District in the region for a while. We dropped back a bit in the “tables” in the middle of the year, and then rallied towards the end.

Allowing for the fall in the Australian dollar, we were pretty close to the same high level of giving that we reached last year. At the end of our Rotary year, we had given \$342,000 with still some \$17,000 in the pipeline – compared to \$350,000 last year. What was heartening to see was that during 2014-15, an extra 10 of our members opted to become Paul Harris Society givers – those who promise to give \$1000 US per year, and we had 74 new Centurions to give total of 508 in the District. We still have a small number of clubs that are shown as not having given anything to the Foundation, but I suspect that some of their members are giving but have not linked their donations to their club. And that’s what we want to happen; we want individuals to give, for that giving to be linked to the club and for it

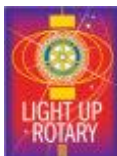


to be done earlier in the Rotary year. I’d like to thank our new chair of Foundation Giving, PP Peter Simons for all his efforts in keeping me apprised of our Foundation figures, and promoting the idea of giving to the Foundation during the year. Where individuals have excelled is in giving blood, and our District was way out in front of other Districts in the recent Blood Challenge. Thanks to Ann Barker from Warrnambool Daybreak for coordinating our efforts in this area.

We have also seen “enlightenment” on the **Inter-personal or club level**. It was good to see some clubs running surveys or negotiating with members to ensure each member







# District Governor's Report

feels actively engaged in Rotary service in their club. We saw clubs and committees actively assisting members to attend RLI, and attend Presidential training activities. We saw clubs having lots of fun organized by a director of fun or a social activities coordinator. We saw clubs promoting their uniqueness and good works on Facebook and Twitter, and budgeting for money to spend on local promotion. We saw clubs reminding members of the unique quality that separates Rotary from other service clubs – the application of ethical values applied to our vocational and personal situations. We were pleased to hear the four way test recited as part of the invocation at one of the clubs we visited. We saw almost all our clubs and committees being active in the five avenues of service especially doing great things for youth and their local communities. We've had more clubs than ever before seeking District grants, totalling over \$46,000 during the 2014-2015 year. We saw most clubs supporting Polio Plus and 2014-2015 giving almost equalled 2013-14 amounts in \$US dollars, which is quite an increase in \$AUD. Increased giving to Polio has been in part due to the great Bellarine Bike Ride Effort for Polio. Thanks for that. We saw quite a few clubs running Rotary days or community events such as the Bike ride, where Rotary can be showcased in the local community. And we saw clubs and committees doing things for the environment and promoting peace – and I'm pleased to report we actually had a young man from Swan Hill endorsed by the District for a Peace scholarship. Jamie Evans did not succeed in receiving a scholarship, but his application was of an impressively high standard and he has been encouraged to try again later this year.



Of course, I'd like to be able to say that with all this great work being done by our clubs and committees, our numbers turned around in our District during 2014-15—but that didn't happen. We definitely had a pleasing number of new members, and in some clubs, the first new members in years, but we unfortunately lost more than we gained during the Rotary year. However, as in all successful journey stories, and you all know how I love journey stories, things never turn around instantly – it takes reflection, planning, time, perseverance, inevitable mistakes and disappointment, and then new revised plans and more perseverance, and the process repeating again, and again to achieve a quest that is worthwhile.

And for me personally, that area of reflection and planning was the key area that I wanted to promote in our district



during our last Rotary year. I believe that the surest path to Rotary enlightenment starts with that process of self-reflection, generating a vision of how things could be better, setting some goals in key focus areas and then setting up plans to implement those goals. And then those plans are reviewed periodically, tweaked and a new revised set of plans get put into action. Every success story in every field of endeavour contains those same elements. And I'm pleased to be able to say that in 2014-15, our District set up its own annual planning process with our first Strategic Plan as a District. I'm pleased to say more and more clubs were asking about Club visioning or doing their own form of reflection and planning. It is through such self-reflection activities that clubs ask themselves the hard questions about how they might be coming across to potential members—including potential

younger members. It is through such self-reflection that clubs discover whether their current promotion and membership strategies are really working or not.

And I am convinced that when we as individual Rotarians reflect, and attempt to put into action the values of our founder, Paul Harris, and the values embedded in the four way test, and our service above self motto and our object of Rotary, we will secure the future of this great organization – an organization of fallible humans striving to be better people doing good in the world.

And if we become those sorts of people, we'll be fulfilling Gary Huang's challenge to light up Rotary, and dare I say it, in terms of the 2015-16 theme, we'll also "be gifts to the world".

In closing, I would like to sincerely thank all Rotarians in our District for their great efforts in "lighting up Rotary" during 2014-2015, and I'd like to wish DG Jane Cox a fulfilling and successful Rotary year during 2015-2016.

Geoff James (District Governor 2014-2015)



### ***Executive & Administrative Positions***

- DG Geoff James (Rotary Club of Maryborough): District Governor
- DGE Jane Cox (Rotary Club of Geelong Central): District Governor Elect
- DGN Stephen Lamont (Rotary Club of Highton Kardinia): District Governor Nominee
- PDG Ken McInerney (Rotary Club of Bordertown): Vice Governor and Immediate PDG
- PP Derrick Marsden (Rotary Club of Maryborough): District Secretary
- PP Trevor Lea (Rotary Club of Wendouree Breakfast): District Treasurer
- PDG Brian Trenery (Rotary Club of Warrnambool): District Rotary Foundation Chair
- PDG Chris Sims (Rotary Club of Torquay): DG Mentor/ Administrative Advice Chair

### ***Assistant Governors (Clubs)***

- AG Lorraine Wilson (Rotary Club of Hamilton): Assistant Governor - Group 01
- AG John Millington (Rotary Club of Nhill): Assistant Governor - Group 02
- AG Pam Capstick (Rotary Club of Horsham East): Assistant Governor - Group 03
- AG Gerardine Prendergast (Rotary Club of Kerang): Assistant Governor - Group 04
- AG Janey Preston (Rotary Club of Warrnambool Daybreak): Assistant Governor - Group 05
- AG Mark Towner (Rotary Club of Cobden): Assistant Governor - Group 06
- AG Douglas Ball (Rotary Club of Beaufort): Assistant Governor - Group 07
- AG Margaret Robinson (Rotary Club of Ballarat East): Assistant Governor - Group 08
- AG Philip Beasley (Rotary Club of Geelong Central): Assistant Governor - Group 09
- AG Ross Taylor (Rotary Club of Geelong East): Assistant Governor - Group 10

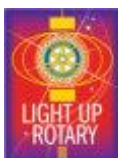
### ***Assistant Governors (Services)***

- AG Trevor Butler (Rotary Club of Bordertown): Assistant Governor - Community
- AG Stephen Ellis (Rotary Club of Portland): Assistant Governor - International Service
- AG Jo White (Rotary Club of Bayside Geelong): Assistant Governor - Membership
- AG Ron Pickford (Rotary Club of Ballarat Inc): Assistant Governor - Vocational Service
- AG Susan Williams (Rotary Club of Horsham ): Assistant Governor - Youth

### ***Other members serving on the Board during 2014-2015:***

- Rtn Pauline Stewart (Rotary Club of Highton): Chair of Public Relations Committee and Acting Chair of Membership (during 2015)
- PP Ray Herbert (Rotary Club of Mt Gambier West) - Acting Assistant Governor—Group 01





# District 9780 Management

During the 2014-2015 Rotary year, our Administrative structure and procedures followed the practice of previous years with just a couple of additions. Or tweaks

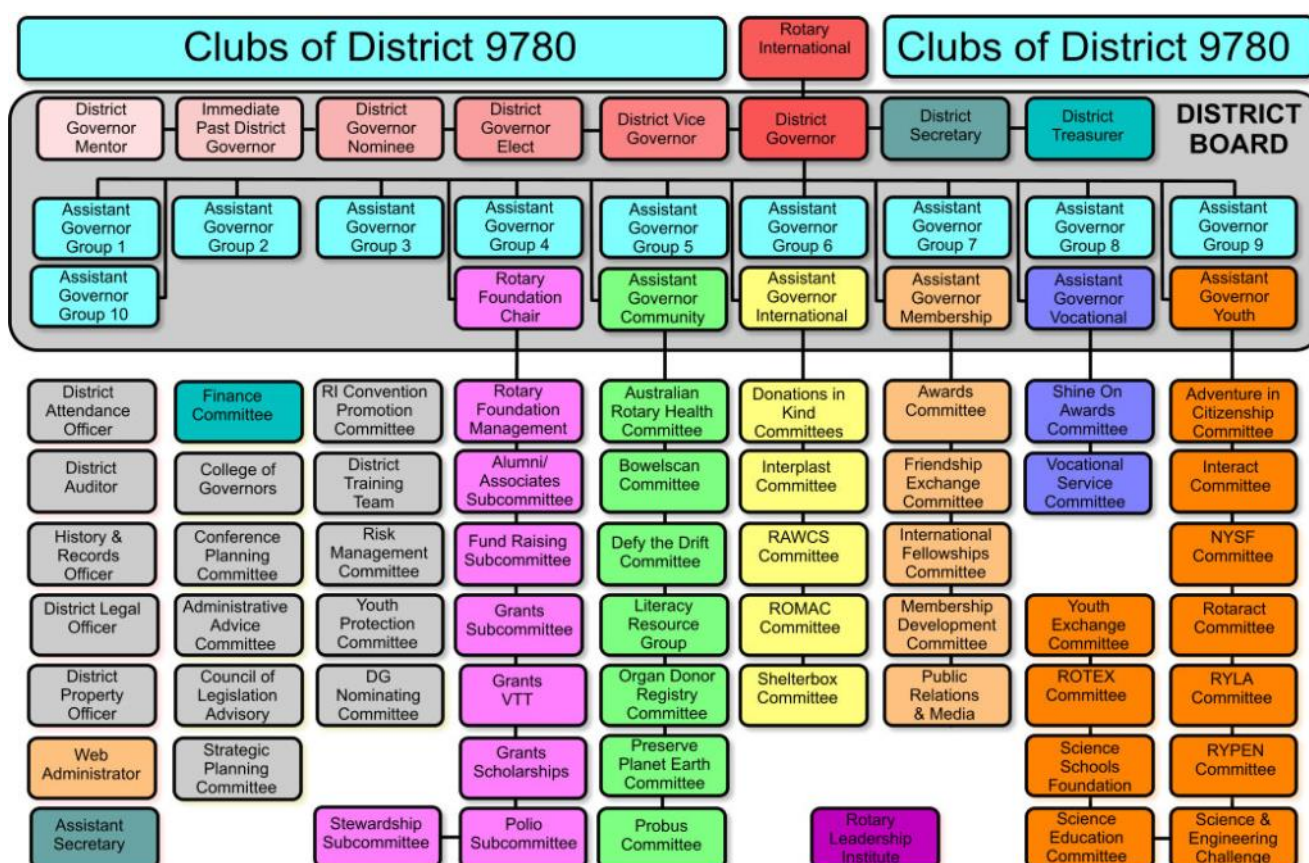
As in previous years, the District Board met quarterly in Ararat to provide strategic leadership for the district and hear reports from our Rotary Group Assistant Governors (Clubs), our Assistant Governor (Services), our Foundation Chair, and our Finance Committee. However, in the mornings before each Board, an additional workshop/ meeting was conducted with all Assistant Governors to provide some training opportunities, and extended time for discussion of key strategic issues. From these discussions, amongst other issues, we developed a Strategic plan for the district, started the process of forming a District Learning and Development team, looked at ways the District could effectively disperse some of our excess funds, and introduced some dialogue on ways we could make our District Awards work more effectively.

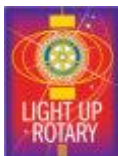
2014-2015 was the first year that our District has appointed a Vice Governor—someone to step into the Governor role should the Governor be unable to perform their duties—for whatever reason. Our District decided that the Governor appointment group (the current and previous four Governors) should make this appointment at the same time they considered the appointment of the DGN. Immediate Past District Governor Ken McInerney was selected for this role in 2014-15, and DG Geoff James was nominated to take on the role during 2015-16.

The Finance sub-committee also met quarterly around two weeks before the Board, and during 2014-2015, all meetings were conducted using a Skype audio conference. Apart from some teething troubles in our early meetings, the system worked reasonably well. The Finance Committee was chaired by PDG Brian Trenery, and included the District Treasurer (Trevor), the Governor team (Geoff, Jane, Stephen and Ray), Immediate Past District Governor (Ken) and the District Secretary (Derrick).

The College of Governors, made up of past, present and future Governors met three times during the year—just before Conference, just before the Changeover, and in late November. This group provides advice on any issue when requested, and keeps an eye on the Governor selection process. In April, 2015, they witnessed the selection of PP Ray Herbert from Mt. Gambier as our new District Governor Nominee to take on the role of Governor during 2017-2018.

## The Organization Chart For District 9780 as it operated during 2014-2015:





## Finance Report

At the end of May 2015, District 9780 showed a surplus of \$20,711 against an annual budgeted loss of \$4,675. This positive variance will reduce a little in the month of June as further expenses are incurred, but the District will exceed its budgeted position by a fair margin at 30th June 2015.

Major reasons for the positive variance are savings as follows:

- Conference for year seeding
- District Team Training
- District Badges
- AG Clubs & Services Allowance – not claimed
- District Directories
- Sundries
- District Public Relations
- Community, Vocational & International Service
- These savings offset cost overruns in:
- Insurance
- Pre Pets/MD Pets

The Maryborough conference has broken even for the year, after seed funding and donations to local support groups and the Nepal Earthquake appeal. An excellent result.

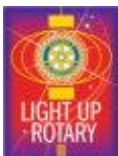
This year was the first where cheques were eliminated from 1st July 2014. The electronic system has worked well and saved a considerable amount of time for the District Finance officer.

Working to reduce the significant amount of surplus funds has started this year. The finance committee is working towards retaining 75% of operating revenue as our net assets. This means we have funds, surplus to requirement, of around \$160,000.

A committee has been established to find opportunities to reduce this surplus over the next 12 – 36 months. A start has been made which is a very encouraging sign after much discussion over the last three years.

The Budget Analysis, Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report for the 2014-2015 year can be found in Attachments 1 to 3 at the end of this booklet.

PP Trevor Lea (District 9780 Treasurer)



## Administrative Advice Committee

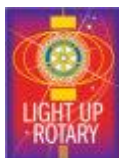
During the year the Administrative Advice Committee was contacted by Clubs on a number of occasions to provide advice and guidance on such matters as ATO Deductible Gift Recognition status, alterations to Club Rules and By Laws, Consumer Affairs lodgement and reporting issues, Fundraiser registrations, and Victorian Gaming Regulations.

However the main activity was assisting DG Geoff James in the review of the District Leadership Plan and the production of an amended document for consideration at Conference 2015 at Maryborough. The amended District Leadership plan was adopted at Conference along with the ongoing resolution to undertake such a review each year.

This annual review of the District Leadership Plan ensures that it remains a working document with relevance to the current operations of District.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their counsel during the year, and thank DG Geoff for both his time and technical expertise.

PDG Chris Sims (Chair, District 9780 Administrative Advice Committee)



# Bowelscan

**Test Kit:** As reported to the 2014 conference, because of insufficient information in June 2014 regarding the possible kits alternatives for 2015 and the reported high rate of positive patients in some areas with the then current Bowelscan immuno kit (Ultimed), we had taken advantage of information from the TGA that “we were allowed to sell and test any guaiac kits in the future that are in our possession on 30 June 2014” and we purchased, paid for and took delivery of sufficient guaiac kits for the 2015 program. This was done before we had any indication that other districts would abandon the Ultimed kit and look for an alternative.

We had not anticipated that our new kits would be the “American” version with space for a greater amount of personal information on the kit itself than on the Australian Bowelscan format. This resulted in a high number of kits being received with blank registration cards requiring 5-6 hours of work each week to ascertain all the details necessary for data entry. However, now there was often sufficient information on the kit for us to, at least, establish the identity of the client and, therefore, the total number of clients that could not be identified is lower.

While we do not have sufficient guaiac kits left to conduct another state-wide program, there would be a theoretical opportunity to conduct a guaiac program within a defined area (e.g. Geelong) with the 5-6000 kits we have left. This would avoid a cash write-down of \$10-14,000. This would also enable us to test guaiac kits already sold in 2013-14-15 but not yet used and returned.

**Sales:** While we are still (late July) waiting on about 6 clubs to provide their sales data, the interim results show that there has been a reasonable growth in sales in the country areas of western and north-eastern Victoria and the related border areas of SA and NSW. This is despite the number of our clients who have advised us that they are switching to the NBCSP kit.

It would have been helpful if we had been able to address the combined PETS program or various District Conferences. There is a need to be able to talk to ALL the clubs and not just those who visit the Bowelscan stand, because they are already involved in the program and would like to have a chat. If we accept the invitation to run a program for another District then we need to be able to talk to all the club representatives. Some comparisons:

- One suburb in Geelong will sell and test more kits than the entire metro areas of 9790 and 9800 combined.
- The (sales and) testing for all of Geelong is greater than the whole Melbourne metro area!
- The Ballarat area sells almost as many kits as all of 9820.

We, in the 9780 District Committee, can provide services for the other districts, but there is a limit to how much you can do to encourage them into greater participation. The extreme example was a club a year ago that, reportedly, only sold kits to its members – does that fit the parameters of the Four Way Test?

**Testing :** The testing facilities that we had anticipated utilising were not available, other than for the final stages of the program, but we were able to make alternative arrangements and again had the strong support of our volunteer testers and supervisors. We also had a number of new volunteers make themselves available for the pre-preparation services. This made the work load easier for some of the committee.

Kit numbers tested in 2015 are about 2.8% ahead of the same stage in 2014.

**1300 Phone service:** There has been a marginal decrease in the number of calls for western and northern Victoria but with a small increase in the number of clients phoning to advise that they will now access the NBCSP.

**NBCSP:** Our committee has been involved for over 9 months in discussions with the Victorian Dept Health and Human Services (DHHS), who have responsibility within Victoria for marketing the NBCSP. We had been requested by DHHS to assist them because of the strong record by Bowelscan in having kits returned for testing (80% approx) vs the NBCSP kit return rate (33%). While we support the general concept of rolling the Bowelscan program into the NBCSP, we have serious concerns about the failure to address the needs of those under 50 - particularly with the reports from Bowel Cancer Australia that there is an increasing incidence of bowel cancer in this age group – or those over 74. The DHHS states that it “cannot” work outside NHMRC guidelines regardless of the increasing incidence of bowel cancer in these two groups! An approach similar to that utilised in the breast screening program would assist everyone to promote all the programs.

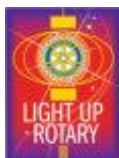
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**Are you over 40?**



... then you should consider having a Bowelscan check every year!



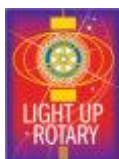


## Bowelscan (Continued)

**2016 Kit:** While there have been discussions about which kit we should utilise in 2016, these have only been of a preliminary nature as we need a clear indication of the benefits and problems of the various kits being used by other programs. The reports from each district/program, when received, will assist us to formulate a recommendation, but no decision will be made by our committee until the reports and recommendations from the conference are discussed by us again in late September.

Please note – while the Committee is a “9780 Committee” the Bowelscan program is not only conducted for all of D9780, but also on behalf of D9820, the “Mildura” area of D9520 and the country areas of D9790 and D9800. A testing and reporting service is also provided on a fee-for service basis for D9810 and the Melbourne metro areas of D9790 and D9800. The program is, therefore, a multi-district state-wide Victorian and border areas program.

Graeme Hawkins (Chair, Rotary District 9780 Bowelscan Inc)



## Defying the Drift

Defying the Drift 2014 welcomed the largest group of participants to date with 26 year 10, 11 and 12 students from around western Victoria, meeting in the third term school holidays at Marcus Oldham College Geelong for the first component of Defying the Drift - the 3 day residential program.



Amongst the 2014 intake we welcomed several students from outside District 9780. It is great to see Defying the Drift gain wider exposure and involvement. Twenty four of the participants went on to complete the second part of the program by making a presentation to their local Rotary Club.

Each year we invite a past Defying the Drift participant to join us in the role of mentor. James Kirkpatrick who attended our inaugural course in 2010 was our mentor in 2014. As the course began we learnt James had a few days earlier been awarded a much sought after scholarship to commence study at Marcus Oldham College in 2015. On behalf of our committee and all involved in Defying the Drift, congratulations James! James was a great asset dur-

ing the course, speaking formally about his journey towards a career in agriculture and informally being part of the program and mentoring our 2014 participants. James is not the only participant from our 2010 and subsequent groups who has continued to pursue a career in agriculture. Their experiences and choices underpin the value of Defying the Drift.

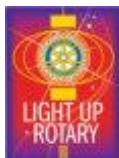
It is heartening to note that Defying the Drift appeals equally to girls and boys, belying the traditional image of agriculture as a male dominated industry. The 2014 program included slightly more boys than girls, but overall, the program attracts approximately equal numbers. The more or less equal gender involvement reflects the composition of the post-secondary programs offered at Marcus Oldham College and other tertiary agriculture programs. Agriculture is very much a modern career that is equally relevant for women and men.

I must thank my fellow Rotarians, including members of our committee and from the various Rotary Clubs that sponsored course participants. Without the amazing volunteer input accompanied by fund raising efforts the program would not exist.

The contribution of Marcus Oldham College is gratefully acknowledged, financially through the College Foundation and in the high quality of the course material presented under the auspices of Course leader, Fiona Chambers.

Finally, many thanks to our sponsors, whose logos and names we proudly carry on our report for their commitment to the future of agriculture. Particular thanks to Rural Finance for their generous support, both financial and with the involvement of Agribusiness Relationship Manager John King who spoke at the 2014 Defying the Drift Dinner.

Rob Pelletier (Chairman District 9780 Rural Support Committee)



## Organ Donor Awareness

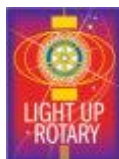
In July, Heart Recipient Aaron Habgood spoke to the R/C of Highton encouraging Members to register as potential Organ Donors. Also, a presentation given at the Probus Club in Highton was most responsive.

The National Transplant Games were held in September and support was given through donations and funding as the result of Raffle Sales. Donate Life representative, David Cornford regularly supplied information that was forwarded on to our Committee Members and the community by means of shop front and notice board displays. We wish David every success as he relocates to the Alfred Hospital, and welcome his successor Adam Duke 0428 027 782 with his first Edition in May – Organ & Tissue Donation Background Brief.



Sincere thanks to all concerned including the Promotion at Deakin Waterfront in March, and our Club's Motor Show in February where mementos and Organ Donor Registration Forms were dispensed.

PP Mary Elliott (Chair, Organ Donor Awareness Sub-Committee)



## Donations in Kind

Once again this great group of volunteers has been very busy, both on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Not all are Rotarians. We are in the process of loading our 14th container, with another 3 or 4 expected before the end of June.

During 2014-15 year we have sent both 20 and 40 foot long containers to Mombasa, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu, PNG, and Tonga etc. Unfortunately, Fiji is still on the too hard list as the government is charging import duty on donated goods. Once again it is the poor of the community who miss out. DIK does not have the funds to cover both shipping costs and then import duty which can be higher than the shipping costs!

We are fortunate in that we are renting the current site from the council at a very reasonable rent and so all money raised can be used for shipping. Our scrap steel and recycled computers parts etc. provide for the morning teas for the volunteers and occasional office expenses, which I may add are minimal.



We are keenly trying to find a volunteer to help raise our profile and assist with our publicity to clubs and the wider community.

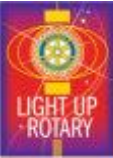
We have just sent a container with 17 tons of potatoes to storm ravaged Vanuatu, they are currently being distributed. (see photo)

During this past 10 months, we have invested approximately \$87,630 in shipping goods estimated at around \$950,000.

We look forward to the incoming committee continuing their financial assistance.

Anton Van Doornik (Chair, Donations in Kind)

Potatoes being handed over to National Disaster Management Office on 7th April



# Interplast

The committee of Amanda Hough (Torquay), Alan Richardson (Mt Gambier), Ann Barker (Warrnambool), Debra Hall (Colac), Kathryn O'Connor (Belmont), John Nelson (Geelong West) and John Oswald (Ballarat West) met three times using HotAir teleconferencing, and each were allocated 6-10 clubs in the district as their responsibility.

The results of the raffle for a \$6,000 travel voucher for a visit to Fiji, drawn at the District 9780 Changeover, was Mr E. Britton, Mt Gambier. This resulted in a \$5,000 profit for the Interplast committee.

However, a decision was made not to have a raffle again this year, as it was very time consuming.

Funds raised over the last two years were \$74,000 plus, which allowed the District sponsorship rights for an Interplast program, and the nomination of an observer for an Interplast program.

The program was to Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines (see attached Interplast bulletin "Rotarian Review" for December 2014).

After an interview process throughout the district, a Rotarian was selected from several highly qualified and motivated Rotarians to be our observer on an Interplast program. The successful candidate was renal physician Dr John Richmond from the Rotary Club of Ballarat West. Dr John Richmond joined our committee in April, 2015.

The committee decided to advise Interplast that they would attempt to raise similar funds again over the next two years to qualify for the right to nominate an observer and have naming rights for a surgical team again.

The major fundraiser was the visit of Boys in the Band to Ballarat in April this year, which disappointingly only raised \$1170. However, it did give our committee a chance to get out to the clubs to promote Interplast.



Dr Lupi Lestari and Dr Lia Fatmarita, senior Anaesthetic Registrars from Dr Soetomo hospital in Surabaya were sponsored by Ballarat Health Services, Interplast and the Rotary Club of Ballarat West to spend four weeks at Ballarat Health Services undertaking a program of CPD in October, 2014. This is the third time two members from the Anaesthetic Department of that hospital have undertaken this program. It follows on from the Interplast program to Balikpapan in East Kalimantan, which is largely staffed by members of the Anaesthetic department at Ballarat Health Services. They were involved not only in Anaesthetic training, but also were also widely involved in the community. See photo of their involvement with Ballarat West's Hat Day.

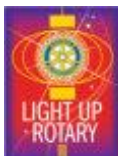
I joined a team to visit Masbate in the Philippines

for an Interplast program in February

I also spoke at the 8th Indonesian Symposium on Paediatric Anaesthesia in June, detailing the development of what is becoming a twinning program between the Anaesthetic departments of Dr Soetomo Hospital in Surabaya, Indonesia and Ballarat Health Services

Dr John Oswald (Chair, Interplast committee)





# R.A.W.C.S.

This year, Rotary Australia's World Community Service has moved from being a regional organisation to being a National corporate body. It now has a full time secretariat at its office at RDU House in Sydney, and aid and support are focussed on delivery in a fully accountable format.

- Last year RAWCS facilitated the delivery of more than \$30 million of humanitarian aid to developing overseas countries
- Managed over 1060 volunteers in 154 teams in 27 different countries
- Donated and delivered in excess of \$8.9 million in donated goods through Donations in Kind
- Distributed millions of long lasting insecticide treated bed nets in PNG, Solomon Is. and Timor-Leste
- Provided more than \$2.5 million for assistance to people in need in the Australian Community
- An upgraded RAWCS website assists donors in selecting their preferred project and facilitates donation directly to a RAWCS Bank account with tax-deductible receipts electronically generated and despatched to the donor's email
- Project registration is now done directly on the RAWCS website
- Implemented a single MYOB financial and reporting software package of all projects as to donations received, project payments and unspent donations. Financial accounts are reconciled on a daily basis
- Non Financial policies and manuals produced such as a Board Charter, a Code of Conduct, Occupational health and Safety Procedures, and a Travel Policy
- There are 430 current RAWCS projects including 87 new registrations
- RAWCS was one of the sponsors of the PETS Conference held in Ballarat on the weekend of Feb. 27. and featured Lew Pretorius, the Chairman of RAWCS Southern Region as a speaker and a stand displaying Rotary International projects

The project volunteer process is going on line and will become (almost) paperless and there will be no hand written applications. As a result the Overseas High Commissioner / Smartraveller / Insurance / DFAT / Overseas DG etc. will all be simultaneously informed. This new system started on 1/7/2014

Newly registered D9780 RAWCS projects; include Project \*43/2014-15 is to build and transport a Dental Prosthetics Lab. to Vanuatu.( Ballarat West and Grassroots Vanuatu Rotary clubs) and a Rotary Club of Geelong / Cotton On Foundation project in Uganda which is expected to raise \$5million per year

D9780 Rotary volunteers participated in RAWCS projects in Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa, East Timor and PNG

A stand was manned for the District Conference to feature D9780 projects and another was set up for the Rotary International Expo at Melbourne's Vic markets (organised by RAWCS)

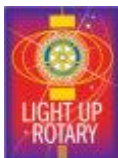
A project volunteers Training Day was held last August.

D9780 DIK depots in Geelong and Ballarat have sent some 20 shipping containers of donated goods to overseas countries this Rotary year. The Essendon DIK store closed in March 2015. And some of their stored items were sent to Geelong depot.

D9780 DIK Chairman Anton Van Doornik recognised for his Rotary work in this year's Honours list (OAM)

David Goldsmith (Chair, District RAWCS Committee)





# R.O.M.A.C.

ROMAC has been well supported financially during the 2014-15, however for the first time during my term as chair, our donations were less than \$20,000 and noticeably less than other Southern Region Districts. This is also less than the target fundraising of a minimum of \$500 per club.



## Final Totals for D9780

TOTAL CLUBS	\$14,694.00
PERSONAL DONATIONS	\$3,225.00
Probus	\$125.00

**Total District 9780                      \$18,044.00**

ROMAC has increased its profile in the Geelong areas. While quiet, our committee continues to support ROMAC. The appointment of Torquay Rotarian, Gaynor Schols (past chair of ROMAC in D9810) as Chair of Southern Region ROMAC has enabled more club presentations to occur. Her enthusiasm has enlisted new committee members to speak to clubs. This boost in enthusiasm, a

new logo and the possibility of D9780 again hosting convalescing patients between surgeries has energised our activities. Also, the Royal Children's Hospital has again agreed to accept patients which will boost our potential numbers being treated in Victoria.

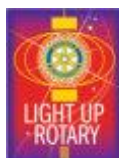
With the assistance of other District Chairs of ROMAC, we had a stand in Ballarat at Multi District PETS in February. We also had a very active stand at District Conference in Maryborough and we enjoyed talking to Rotarians about this project.

I thank the District for their interest and generosity, and as I retire from this position, I wish incoming chair Lesley Sheddon good luck in her future role.

I would also like to thank Gaynor and ROMAC for the certificate I was presented at my club, thanking me for me service to ROMAC over the last five years.

Christine Dufty (Chair, ROMAC Committee)





# PR & Membership

The work of the District Public Relations Committee covers a number of different media aspects. We have an active and vibrant Facebook page which has over 500 followers and continues to grow. This year Facebook “Boosting” was introduced, effectively paying for the Rotary message to be seen by thousands of viewers that otherwise would not know of the work of our Clubs. After the closure of Rotary Radio broadcasts in 2014, a new Podcasting website has been developed – Rotary Conversations from D9780 - where a number of interviews and broadcasts are available for Rotarians to download and listen to at their own convenience. The D9780 Vimeo (video) channel has continued and new videos have been added throughout the year. The latest video is a compilation of highlights of the District Conference 2015 in Maryborough. The District Website has continued to grow as our most important and efficient communication tool. A number of Public Relations Flyers – PR Pointers – have also been produced to assist Clubs in their own PR planning.



The PR Committee continues to actively seek to improve the capabilities, understanding and skills of Clubs to spread the Rotary message to their own communities, the broader community and across the District. Advice and support for Clubs on Facebook/Social Media/Media Releases/Website maintenance/Publicity Campaigns/banners/ brochure templates is sought by many. PR Committee members have been available to speak to Clubs within their area.

D9780 began the year with 47 of 59 Clubs having a Facebook page – this increased to 52 by the end of the Rotary year, ensuring that the Rotary message is being shared to the widest possible audiences.

Understanding that funds for Public Relations support & campaigns can be difficult to raise, the District Board approved a one off Club Strengthening Public Relations Grant opportunity for Clubs. \$30,000 was made available for Clubs, with a maximum Grant Funding of \$2000 per Club for approved PR campaigns. This opportunity was eagerly taken up, with 38 Clubs seeking more than \$68,000 in grant funding – more than double the funds available. The Reviewing Committee met at the start of the new Rotary year to consider and allocate funds. The innovative, exciting and compelling applications demonstrated the talent and ability that exists in our Rotary Clubs.



Membership & Public Relations are two branches of the same tree, and so much of the work of the PR Committee covers membership support & engagement.



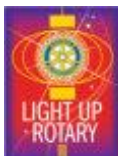
In May 2015, a Group 6 Membership Forum was held in Camperdown, with members of each of the Group 6 Clubs joining in a small workshop aimed at sharing ideas & creating plans to enhance their membership. This successfully led to a number of these Clubs applying for District Funding from the CSPRG opportunity.

Thanks and appreciation go to the Public Relations Committee members for their work during 2014-2015. Rhonda Whitton (Kardinia), Tony Stewart (Geelong Central) & Penny Flynn (Horsham East).

Pauline Stewart (Public Relations & Communications Chair & Website Administrator, Acting AG Membership)







# District Awards

For the 2014/2015 Rotary year, only a small number of awards were presented, mainly relating to attendance at the Conference in Maryborough, along with the Lange Trophy awarded to the Club with the best net growth for the 2013/14 Rotary Year.

Over the past twelve months or so, there have been discussions held over the relevance of some of the awards in today's Rotary. Changes in administration styles, online reporting, and Club versus personal contributions, have affected the formulas for some of the awards, and it would appear that most – if not all Clubs – are no longer interested in showcasing projects as no submissions for project related awards were entered during this year, with only two projects presented in the 2013/2014 Rotary year.

Further discussions need to be held in the future as to whether to keep, alter, or do away with many of the awards and recognitions. Or do we create new and relevant awards and recognitions? On behalf of the District and the Awards Committee I would like to encourage Clubs to go back to their members and brain storm ideas and thoughts on the future of District 9780 Awards.

## ***Winners for 2014/2015***

DE GARIS TROPHY—percentage of members present at the Conference

Joint winners: Kerang and Nhill

HOLMES TROPHY—for members present & distance travelled to the Conference

Warrnambool Daybreak

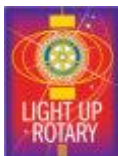
FURNER SUGGETT TROPHY—for the highest percentage of members and partners present at the Conference

Kerang

LANGE TROPHY—best net growth for last Rotary year

Swan Hill Sunrise with an 11 member increase in the 2013/14 Rotary Year.

PP Jean Wise (Chair, Awards Committee)



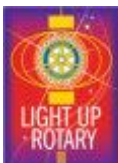
## Vocational Service

This year, District 9780 had one nomination for the Vocational Service Leadership Award.

The award recognises Rotarians who have made a significant impact in advancing vocational service, exemplifying integrity and high ethical standards in their vocation and in Rotary, by using their vocational talents to serve the community and participating in a vocational service project that meets local needs.

Congratulations to Rotarian, Frank Monger from the Rotary Club of Mt Gambier West Inc. on receiving this award.

PDG Ron Pickford (AG Vocational Service.)



## Shine On Awards

The Rotary International Southern District Shine on Awards 2015 were hosted on Sunday May 24th 2015 by the Rotary Club of Maryborough in District 9780. Clubs from Districts 9780, 9790, 9800, 9810, 9820 participated. Eight representatives of the Shine on Southern District Committee and a representative of the Major sponsor Bendigo Bank attended.

Prior to the awards, guests enjoyed an informal luncheon and entertainment by the Maryborough City Brass Band.

District 9780 nominated 5 of the 15 nominees. Sheena Wood (Rotary Club of Mt Gambier Lakes), Robert Seamons (Rotary Club of Wendouree Breakfast) Craig Alpen (Rotary Club of Ballarat) Valarie Lorenzi and Sharnie Digby (Rotary Club of Maryborough)

Certificates of Commendation were presented to 10 of the nominees in acknowledgement of their achievements and service in the work place in spite of their disability.

Shine on Awards Trophies were presented to 5 of the nominees in recognition of their exceptional achievement and outstanding service in the community by a person with a disability.

Past President Garry Higgins addressed the gathering on "Family Violence Awareness" a project that has been successfully instigated by the Rotary Club of Maryborough in its community.

Thank you to District Governor Geoff James and Rotarian Meryl who assisted with presentations and for providing entertainment with their rendition of "I am Rotarian"



The Awards closed with alone piper playing "Will ye no come back again" and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne". Afternoon tea was then enjoyed by all attending.

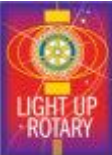
Over 120 Rotarians, parents, guests and nominees enjoyed a very inspiring and successful day. Congratulations and thank you to the Rotary Club of Maryborough and Sub-Committee Chairman Past President Bob Osborne for organising this very special event.

Throughout the year our District representatives Graeme Thompson, Adrian Innes and Judy Pickford have attended the Southern District Shine on Committee meetings.

The committee with the approval of the Southern District Governors has produced a Shine on Operations Manual.

The Manual is a guideline for District and Clubs on Shine on Award Procedures.

Past President Judy Pickford (District 9780 Representative, Southern District Shine on Awards Committee)



## Rotary Youth Exchange

On behalf of the D9780 Youth Exchange Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to “Thank” the participating Clubs in the Youth Exchange for the past 12 months. This year, 12 fine young Australians left Melbourne in January 2015 on exchange to 9 Countries. 14 Inbound students were hosted by Clubs around the District with 3 students co-hosted by Rotary Clubs. 14 Rebound students arrived back in January 2015 after experiencing an exchange of a lifetime. Another 13 have arrived and are settling in well to life in Australia. At any one time, the YE Committee can be coordinating up to 40 students or more.

The interest from students wishing to go on exchange has been steady, which is pleasing considering it has decreased across some Districts in Australia. We received several expressions of interest, through the ongoing National advertising campaign and National Website, in addition to the applications that came directly to the Clubs. In July, we successfully selected 14 young men and women to represent Rotary, their Rotary Club, Youth Exchange and Australia in 2016. They, like all students will be fine ambassadors.

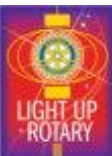


2014 Youth Exchange Inbound Students with Chair, Graeme, DG Geoff and Meryl

In order to send out students, we have to guarantee to our exchange partner countries that we will receive an equal number of Inbound students. We therefore seek Clubs to continue to support the Youth Exchange Program. The highlight of the Youth Exchange year in 2015 was the raising of over \$8,500 for Swags for the Homeless. A great effort by all students.

We hope that with your Club's support, the YE Committee can continue to provide an opportunity for Youth Exchange to as many students as possible from D9780. Please get behind the Program.

Graeme Cox (Chair, Youth Exchange)



## Rotary Adventure in Citizenship

District 9780 was again well represented at the Rotary Adventure in Citizenship event which was held during Budget week of Federal Parliament in May. The program is organised by the Rotary Clubs of Canberra and Woden in conjunction with the Parliamentary Education Office in Canberra. Fifty five year 11 students from around Australia spent a week experiencing the Parliamentary system as well as other highlights in the National Capital.

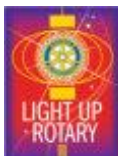
I am again pleased to report that District 9780 had 3 students attend the Adventure in Citizenship. Congratulations to the Rotary Clubs of Corio, Port Fairy and Warrnambool who sent Matt Kinnia, Giorgina Maxwell and Ben Cressall respectively.

I would encourage Clubs to organise for these young people to visit their Club as a Guest Speaker. They have a wonderful story to tell and come back from their experience filled with confidence and enthusiasm for the program.

Information on the program is sent to schools and Rotary Clubs early in the Rotary year. I encourage you also to visit the website [www.raic.org.au](http://www.raic.org.au). I will be continuing to promote the program next year and encourage year 11s to participate and ask Clubs to consider sending a candidate in 2016.

PDG Pat Robertson (Chair, Rotary Adventure in Citizenship)





# Rotaract

The District Rotaract Committee comprises the following:

- District Rotaract Representative: Jamie Turner,
- District Rotaract Secretary: Brendan Holland,
- District Rotaract Treasurer: Meg Pethybridge
- District committee members: PP Cheryl Bellman & PP Jim Allen
- Plus Presidents of the three clubs with Rotaract groups.

Currently we have 3 clubs in district 9780:

- R.C. Of Barwon 20 members
- R.C. Of Ballarat S.E. 7 members inducted at a meeting on Wednesday 29/4/2015
- R.C. Of Warrnambool and District 10 members

R.C. Of Hamilton has been in recess, but have advised that they will be conducting a public meeting in July to see if they can get this club up and going again.

The district camp was held in Warrnambool in February. It was highly successful with representation from all clubs. There was lots of fun, and discussion regarding projects and the future development of clubs. Members took part in the operation uplift (bra sorting) project. It was quite funny listening to the comments, and watching the antics etc. It was a fun time, too! Rotarians from the 3 sponsoring Warrnambool clubs and the Rotary club of Warrnambool Daybreak provided catering for the weekend.

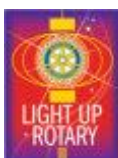
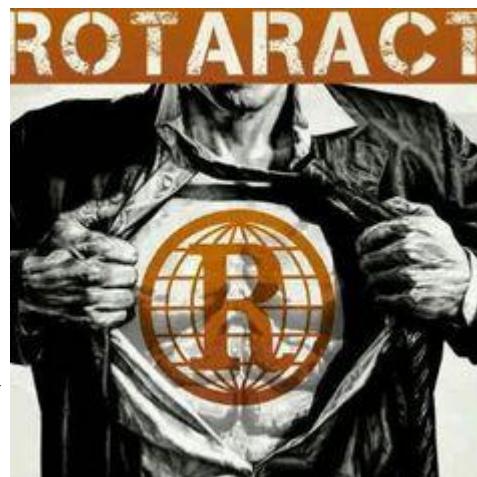
Each club has been busy recruiting new members, undertaking their club projects and have been assisting Rotary clubs with their projects as well.

The next event will be a get-together in Ballarat. This will give existing members an opportunity to meet new Ballarat South East Rotaractors. A day at D.I.K. in Ballarat will be organized as a project. District skype meetings take place regularly. The program is gaining momentum again, so this is heartening.

As usual, it would be exciting if more Rotary clubs were prepared to develop their own Rotaract clubs. The RI presidential Citation for 2015-2016 year has a requirement to sponsor a Rotaract club, or be a part of a Rotaract club. This would be a perfect opportunity to gain more clubs.

The Rotaract district committee and Rotaractors alike are available to visit Rotary clubs to discuss their chartering a new Rotaract club.

PP Cheryl Bellman (Chair, District Rotaract Committee)



# R.Y.P.E.N.

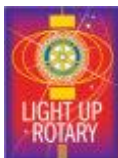
The two RYPEN camps were successfully held from the 10th—12th April 2015 at Adekate near Creswick, and on 17th—19th April at Noorla Yo-Long near Millicent.

A total of 60 students attended the two camps with much positive feedback from both venues. All students benefitted from activities that promoted personal growth, leadership skills and teamwork.

The picture shows a group at the Adekate camp attempting to build a waterproof shelter using only natural materials found in the bush.

AG Sue Williams (AG Youth)





## RYLA.

FIRST UP ... Let me thank PP Barry Clark for the last three years of stellar leadership, and wish him well with his new appointment at District level.

To the other Members of the Committee...

To Secretary - Rachel Furnell. What a magnificent job as both a new Rotarian, just stepping up from Rotaract, to take on this job.

Treasurer Richard Cody. Give him a job and you know it is well done.

To the Committee Members: Ian McKay, Linda Kelly, Phil Proctor, Barry Clark and Max Wines – Associate Member

What a great team we make.

Thanks to Jane Auchtell, who has acted as secretary and Registration Officer. Our heartfelt thanks for your contribution to our RYLA Committee.

To our Leadership Team of Johanna Parker and Clare Desira.

What an unparalleled effort you two girls have put in. Not only running the week of RYLA, but the balance of time and effort put into Seminars for the rest of the Training Team. All Rotarians in the District should, if they get a chance at any time, congratulate this team for their efforts.

I know you all see what the end result is, when your nominated Rylarian returns to speak at your Club. This year was one of the largest we have seen for a few years, and the support we receive from Clubs in the District is most welcome. Keep on the lookout for potential people to send to RYLA. This should be a year long exercise for all Youth Directors, not just when the Application forms arrive.

Thanks must go to Rotary Club of Cobden who provide free train rides and mini golf as the Participants wait at the assembly point before embarking onto Kangarooobie. Cobden was this year's Host Club, which we thank them for.

This year, D.G. Geoff James attended a Committee Meeting and was helpful with advice.

A big thank you, to both Geoff and Meryl on making it to the RYLA Presentation Night, to congratulate the Participants and show their well known vocal and musical talents to all.

Thanks also to A.G Sue Williams for her support this year with some minor problems, which we were able to solve to the satisfaction of all.



Why is the camp held at Kangarooobie? We often get asked. Quite simple... it suits the needs of the entire Seminar. It allows the flexibility that ensures all the participants are able to take great advantage of the week, and it supplies all of the training team needs.

This year participants took full advantage of the week.

We look forward to working with this year's D.G Jane Cox, and wish her every success for her 12 months of Leadership of this District.

Two Clubs in the District this year ran a Program called "RYLA –TWO YEARS ON" No acronyms for this one.

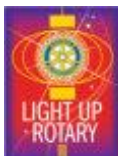
The idea behind this was to bring contact with the Sponsoring Club back to the RYLA Nominees that completed the Camp at least two years ago. The aim being that Rotary has no follow up on these young people who have completed RYLA. These are potential Rotarians for your Club. Where else is there a pool of talent that has not been explored by your Club? A great example of this is our Secretary, Rachel.

To quote what an elderly Rotarian stated to a Member of the Committee...

"I have been in Rotary a long time, and that is one of the best Presentations that I have been to" - Referring to the RYLA Presentation of what these people have achieved in their time after RYLA.

PP Barry Burnett (Chair, RYLA Committee)





# Science & Engineering Challenge

There were four Science & Engineering Challenge events scheduled to take place in four locations in D9780 during 2014-2015:

Geelong – 23rd & 24th April 2015

Ballarat – 19th May 2015

Mt Gambier – 12th June 2015

Warrnambool – 23rd June 2015

This year there has been a loss of sponsorship by the Science & Engineering National Committee, and they are now proposing to charge schools to participate which may see many schools withdraw from this event. The D9780 Science & Engineering Committees for each event raises funds to support each event from sponsors and clubs. If we can obtain extra funds this year then we can reduce or eliminate this cost to schools. Our clubs can help by suggesting sponsors or by providing club funds. The more funds found the smaller the amount needed from each source.

Secondary Schools register with the local committee and then send a team of approximately twenty Year 10 students to their nearest event. They participate in challenges that encourage students to explore science and engineering. For example:



Some of the 14 schools and 300 students at the Geelong Science & Education Challenge

**Gold Fever** – students design and construct a bridge from balsa wood, masking tape, drawing pins, icy pole sticks and coffee stirrer's to carry gold ingots across a chasm. The bridges are then tested to destruction with increasing weights with the highest score being obtained by the lightest bridge carrying the most gold.

**Catapult** – students design and construct a catapult from dowels, elastic bands and

packing tape to fling a tennis ball. The catapults are then tested with the highest score being obtained by best range with accuracy.

**Hover Frenzy** – students design and construct a hovercraft from a polystyrene tray, computer fan, two motors with propellers, garbage bag plastic and masking tape. A controller and battery pack are also provided. The hovercraft are then tested with the highest score being obtained for travelling the furthest across an increasing bumpy surface with speed and accuracy.

**Mission to Mars** – students design and construct a mars explorer rover from meccano pieces, a block of wood and elastic bands to carry a payload across a rocky terrain that gets increasingly rougher. The rover that successfully carries the payload the furthest and fastest scores the highest.

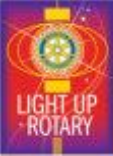
D9780 has been supporting these events since 2007. It involves three Avenues of Service: Youth, Vocation & Community.

See also <http://www.deakin.edu.au/sebe/events/challenge>

Any Rotarian who has an interest in science and/or engineering and would like more information or would like to register their interest, please email me at: [aalsop@agbgroun.com.au](mailto:aalsop@agbgroun.com.au)

PP Tony Alsop, (Chair, Science & Engineering Challenge)



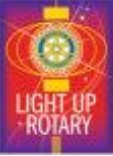


# Rotary Foundation Introduction

Continuing the work from last year, we to developed and promoted further, The Rotary Foundation in our District with clubs showing an increased participation.

Please see below, the reports prepared by the various Chairs of sub-committees, I commend them to your reading.

PDG Brian Trenery (Chair, Rotary Foundation)



# Rotary Foundation Fundraising

My first year as the Fundraising sub-committee chair has been both rewarding and frustrating.

Rewarding because this year we now have a record number of new Centurions as well as a record of many previously recognised Centurions with updated records.

We have many generous Rotarians who contribute directly to our Rotary Foundation; our many thanks to these valuable individuals—and this year we achieved USD 97.82 per capita.

It has been frustrating because only 27% of district clubs set and update their Annual Fund goal early in their club year. It is also rewarding as many clubs do exceed their contribution goal. Well done.

We still have clubs and Rotarians with poor knowledge of The Rotary Foundation, moreover how to contribute to our Foundation. Despite emails, updated web page links and even letters, information does not easily flow to, or is read by clubs and individual Rotarians.

Unfortunately, contributions to Our Foundation in USD for the 2014-2015 year are lower than the 13-14 year. There are several reasons for this:

- Reported contributions from RI are lower as they are reported in USD. We have seen the AUD / USD exchange rate decline by 19% over this Rotary year,
- Only 1 in 4 Rotarians in District 9780 directly contribute to our charity, the Rotary Foundation, and
- Not all clubs in district financially support our Rotary Foundation, especially the share fund which is the source of District 9780 funding (DDF) in 3 years' time.

As of the end of the Rotary year, District 9780 has accrued USD 274,769 distributed across:

- Annual Fund: USD 188,883
- Other funds including Polio Plus: USD 78,073
- Endowment Fund: USD 7,813

In this 2014-2015 year D9780 has:

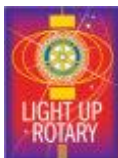
- 20 members as Paul Harris Society members, an increase of 9 this year,
- 74 new Centurions, and
- 511 recorded Centurions.

We also recognise that D9780 has:

- 7 Level 1 Major Donors, 3 level 2 Major Donors and 2 Level 3 Major Donors
- 3 Bequest Society Level 1 Donors, and 1 Bequest Society Level 2 Donors

In summarizing, our USD contribution to TRF was overall lower than the 13-14 year but our AUD 14-15 contributions were comparable to the 13-14 year, a great achievement in tougher times.

PP Peter Simons (Chair, Foundation Fundraising)



## Rotary Foundation Alumni

Recently, the RI Board and Rotary Foundation Trustees have expanded the definition of Rotary alumni to include all individuals who have participated in any Rotary program, including the following:

- Interact
- Rotaract
- Rotary Youth Exchange
- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
- Rotary Peace Fellowships
- Global Grant Scholarships
- Vocational training teams (members and leaders)
- District Grant scholarships
- New Generations Service Exchange
- Rotary Foundation awards to individuals in former TRF programs, such as:
- Ambassadorial Scholarships
- Grants for University Teachers
- Group Study Exchange
- Rotary Volunteers

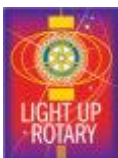
A database with information of the Alumni residing or having completed such programs within District 9780 has been loaded onto the district website (member's login section) with the assistance of our web administrator Pauline Stewart. Once members login to the members section they can download this information and contact can be made to the listed Alumni to assist with information and feedback on the programs.

Clubs may also find and request an Alumnus to be a suitable guest speaker to inform them on how to participate in the various programs on offer. The challenge remains to regularly update the database as current participants take part and it is up to clubs to notify our web administrator of names and contact details.

The Rotary Foundation and UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, which are working together to tackle the world's water and sanitation crisis, this year made available a limited number of scholarships for graduate students at UNESCO-IHE's Delft campus in the Netherlands. The partnership aims to increase the number of trained professionals who can devise, plan, and implement water and sanitation solutions in developing areas. The scholarships also are designed to promote long-term productive relationships between Rotarians and skilled water and sanitation professionals in their communities. Scholarship applications for study during the 2015-17 years were made on line and this information was distributed to clubs by an article in the District Governor's newsletter in April.

In 2015-16, the RI Board has decided that Alumni shall be moving from The Rotary Foundation to be placed under the Community Services umbrella.

DGN Stephen Lamont (Chair, Foundation Alumni)



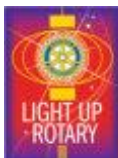
## Stewardship

I have been methodically accumulating all MOU and Addendum for the first three years, together with applications, reports and claims for reimbursement plus bank statements so that we can table all necessary information should TRF call for an audit.

Summary:

You can see this committee has been working quietly to achieve the goal of the Rotary Foundation. In closing, I wish to recognize the work of the members of this District committee and thank them for their valuable efforts, time and commitment in serving the District and The Foundation. I also wish to thank DG Geoff for his support, encouragement and leadership over the past twelve months.

PDG Eddie Loughnan (Chair, Stewardship Sub Committee)



# Peace Fellows & Scholarships

As Chair of the District 9780's Scholars Subcommittee, I am pleased to report on another successful year that saw:

- the award of the District's first Indigenous Medical Scholarship to Tayla Matthews who is studying for her medical degree at Deakin University, Geelong;
- the decision to fund three scholarships in 2015–16: a second Indigenous Medical Scholarship at Deakin University and two health-based scholarships at the Australian Catholic University, Ballarat;
- receipt of an application for a Rotary Peace Fellowship from Jamie Evans, through the Rotary Club of Swan Hill; and
- the success of Sarah Roache, a recipient of a 2013–15 Global Postgraduate Scholarship, who graduated in May 2015 with a Master of Laws in Global Health Law from Georgetown University, USA.

## ***2014–15 Indigenous Medical Scholarship***

In 2014 District 9780 established an Indigenous Medical Scholarship in recognition of the urgent need to train Indigenous doctors. In March 2015, following months of publicity, Tayla Matthews commenced her Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery studies at Deakin University, the only university offering a medical degree within District 9780.

Tayla is a Division 1 nurse who hails from Mount Morgan in central Queensland where she was working at the local hospital prior to moving to Deakin. The \$10,000 scholarship will assist her to meet her course fees (approx. \$10,200 p.a.) and accommodation on campus. She has settled in well and looks forward to developing a relationship with local Rotary clubs.

## ***2015–16 Indigenous Medical Scholarship***

As a result of the success of the 2014–15 scholarship in not only attracting an outstanding candidate but also raising Rotary's profile, District 9780 agreed to fund a second Indigenous Medical Scholarship. The cooperation of Deakin's School of Medicine, the Institute of Koorie Education and the University's scholarship department is vital to the success of the scholarship.

## ***2015–16 Health Scholarships at the Australian Catholic University***

In order to extend the reach of the District's scholarship program, two additional scholarships, each of \$5,000, were made available to disadvantaged students studying in the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Para medicine at the Ballarat campus of the Australian Catholic University (ACU). I thank Martin Hill for negotiating these scholarships with the authorities at ACU.

## ***2016–17 Rotary Peace Fellowship application***

In May 2015, the District was alerted by the Rotary Club of Swan Hill that they had been approached by Jamie Evans, a candidate for a Rotary Peace Fellowship. Jamie had been working in Indonesia as a volunteer with Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID), while serving as an analyst with the Australian Attorney General's Department. His application for 2016-17 was lodged with Rotary International on 31 May 2015 and has since been endorsed by the Swan Hill club. I thank Peter Simons for assisting Jamie with his application.

## ***2013–2015 Global Grant Postgraduate Scholar: Sarah Roache***

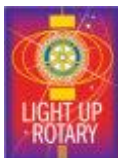
In 2013, District 9800 generously made available its two-year Global Postgraduate Scholarship to applicants from across Victoria, including D9780.

Sarah Roache, a young lawyer who hailed from Lorne, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highton and ultimately selected as D9800's candidate, the first to be sponsored from outside D9800. She commenced her studies at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. in August 2013.

I am delighted to report that Sarah graduated in May 2015 with her Master of Laws in Global Health Law from Georgetown University and received the prestigious Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize for the most distinguished academic record. She is currently working as a Law Fellow at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center where she is researching, promoting and advising on the use of law as a tool to prevent and control key risk factors for chronic diseases, including tobacco, alcohol, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity.

Jenny Acopian (Chair, Peace Fellows and Scholarships)





## Rotary Foundation Grants

In D9780, we refer to three different things called District Grants and that is causing confusion. The term, “District Grants” should be confined to just the Rotary Foundation District Grant projects. We cannot change The Rotary Foundation.

This year, District Grants will be a record \$45,900. Last year, it was \$32,649, and the previous 8 years averaged \$11,000 (range \$7,000 to \$14,500). The District Grants have been reported in the DGs Newsletter. Ten club sponsored grants and two scholarship grants were approved. The spending plan for next year has been approved by TRF, as has the D9780 report for last year’s District Grants. This means provision of funding will be automatic in early July.

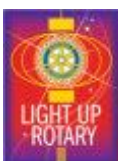
In an effort to reduce the workload, it is suggested that reports only be accepted via email.

We have had two successful Club sponsored Global Grants and one that failed to be approved. The Nepal water project is being implemented, and we all sympathize with their current struggles. The provision of a machine to test for Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis in Timor Leste has been completed and the report accepted. Three district sponsored grants have been approved, and the final reports of two of these are being reviewed. There are four other Global Grants being drafted or reviewed. We believe this is a little above average for Rotary districts.

It is disappointing that so few clubs have qualified for grants. Qualification is simple; one or more members must attend the November Grants Seminar and the President and President Elect must sign two MOU documents.

This year has been the first full year of operating under the new model where TRF has devolved a lot of the work running District Grants to the district. In line with the increases in available grants, the work load for the District Grants Sub-committee Chair has increased considerably, but fortunately the new model has made life simpler and more flexible for clubs. PP Martin Hill of RC Ballarat will take over as DGSC from Jerry Leech next year.

Jerry Leech (Chair, Rotary Foundation Grants)



## Vocational Training Team

The Development of Vocational Training Teams for District 9780 during 2014/15 has been rather disappointing.

To begin my year in the role of VTT Chair, I noted there was very little information available for Vocational Training Teams (VTT), as this was a new direction for Rotary. I decided to develop a manual of procedure and a marketing/promotional brochure to help others understand VTT. However even though these documents were distributed across the district, we have to date had only one VTT application from Clubs within the District, and while we did work with a few groups to put in place potential VTT projects, none have yet come to any positive outcome.

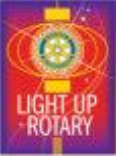
We worked in detail with members of a Melbourne club (RC Greensborough) to send a team based on the teaching of Mental Health First Aid to people in Ghana and in fact did receive an initial application from this group which was rejected by myself as VTT chair, due to a number of unacceptable aspects of the project, and at the very same time, the Government of Ghana decided to halt all such incoming teams due to the Ebola crisis. No further application for Ghana has been received.

We also worked with people from both Deakin University and Australian Catholic University to send a team to Sri Lanka to look at helping them with obstetrics and child birth issues. To date no application has been received. In both cases the main lead on establishment of a VTT project was coming from myself which was not what I would have preferred. It would have been better if each application was being driven by others as in my role as VTT Chair there would always be potential for a conflict of interest if I am both lead for a project and also the person approving the project.

This brings me to conclude that we have an issue at this stage with the process for the establishment of VTT projects, and this should be an issue to be dealt with at a District level.

I am due to take on the role of District Foundation Grants Sub Committee Chair for the next three years, and will hand over the VTT Chair to Gordon King from RC Ocean Grove.

PP Martin Hill (Chair, Vocational Training Teams)



# Rotary Leadership Institute

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) within District 9780 has just completed its seventh round of training programs. This is continuing to be a very successful program.

The achievements of the program include the following:

- Increased knowledge of Rotary and Rotary programs by all participants
- This increased knowledge provides a sound base for leadership in clubs and the district
- Many people taking on key leadership roles have completed RLI, including District Governors, Assistant Governors, Committee Chairs, Club Presidents, and many other roles
- Anecdotal evidence would also suggest that this also contributes to an improved retention of Rotarians in clubs

During this past year we had a program running at four venues across the district:

- An alternating venue at Portland, Penshurst and Warrnambool under the very capable leadership of Janet Blackley and Carolyn Millard. Great effort, and taking over from the formidable Wayne Barrett.
- Ballarat was strongly represented again. This was delivered by Margaret Robinson, Jessie Harman, and Linda Carr.
- Geelong was delivered by the team of Pauline Stewart, Warren Norton, Jane Cox, and Linda Carr with assistance from Kathy Ryan for registrations.
- Horsham had a team headed up by Christine Dufty and Jane Cox.

Congratulations to all of the participants who finished all 3 levels of the program and graduated at the end. This has provided each individual with an opportunity for personal growth, and also provided expanded knowledge within the clubs and district.

Thank you to the committee members and the discussion leaders who have volunteered their time to plan and deliver this very worthwhile District Program. Without your work and efforts the program could not run.

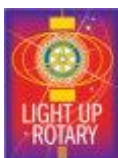


Plans are in place to conduct RLI in Kerang, the first time in the north. Many Rotarians from the northern clubs have supported RLI and participated, so we thought it time to see if we can get RLI up and running in the north.

The District committee had expanded to 7 permanent members who work together to plan and organise the programs across the district.

Please refer to the web site and the District Committee for more information.

Howard Randall (Chair, Rotary Leadership Institute in District 9780)



# District Conference

Maryborough Rotary was delighted to host the 2014-2015 District Conference in the historical Maryborough Town Hall on the weekend of March 20th—22nd 2015.

With the theme, “Take the Journey to Light Up Our World”, the conference challenged delegates to not only take the physical journey to Maryborough, but also take the inner journey to prepare themselves to light up four aspects of our Rotary “World”.

On Friday night, attendees were encouraged to re-ignite their personal passion and commitment for Rotary through an inspiring talk by the Founder of the Choir of Hard Knocks, Jonathan Welch.



On Saturday morning, the hilarious duo of Patricia Cameron-Hill and Dr Shayne Yates challenged Rotarians to brighten their Rotary groups with fun and laughter. District Chair of our Rotary Leadership Institute encouraged Rotarians to develop their leadership potential, and our District Chair of Public Relations provided some great ideas for our clubs to use “PR” more effectively.

On Saturday afternoon, Rotarians were challenged to shine a light of hope in communities—both local and overseas—to highlight areas of injustice, or community needs that are “in shadow”, or not being noticed or adequately addressed by other sources of

support. Prof. Michael Sawyer from the University of Adelaide engaged the audience with a persuasive case that Rotary needs to continue to support the needs of Mental Health in Australia. We watched a video on the valuable work of the Mercy Ships program and then heard about the fascinating work of Don Cullen in Tibet Break-out sessions then looked at three programs being supported by Rotary Clubs in our district. Gary Higgins from Maryborough Rotary shared Maryborough’s, “#SayNOtoFamilyViolence” Program. AG John Millington shared the Rotary Club of Nhill’s work with the Karen Refugees. And Geraldine Edar-Ralph shared her Alternative to Schoolies program supported by clubs in the Moyne Shire.

Saturday evening was set aside for some fun and fellowship at the Maryborough Highland Society. Attendees were delighted by the Highland Dancing and music exhibition held on the Bowling club lawns just before dinner, they were enthralled by local identity, Bruce Duncan’s account of Maryborough’s Scottish connections and they danced to music by five piece band, “Seriously Sixties” featuring our DG Geoff and his wife, Meryl.

On Sunday, the program looked at the big picture “world”, and visitors were asked to reflect on how we can have an enlightened approach to looking after our planet, and strive to facilitate world understanding and peace. Ian McBurney from Bendigo asked the question, “Can our Economy and Environment thrive together?” and our Youth Exchange team provided delegates with an entertaining forum debating how we can best promote peace in our world.

Our International President’s Representative was Dr Ishtiaque Zaman from Bangladesh, and he delighted our audience with his good humour and insights into ways we can become more effective Rotarians.

This event was over two years in the planning, and I want to sincerely thank our hard working Conference committee members for their diligent attendance at dozens of meetings, their great ideas, their encouragement and support and their significant physical efforts in planning and setting up this event.

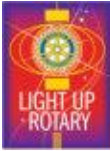
May I also thank organizers of the over twenty Rotary related groups that set themselves up in the “Rotary on Show/ House of Friendship” area in Tren DuBourg Hall during the conference. We had a great range of stalls, and everyone in attendance found items of interest there during the conference breaks.

Financially, the Conference made a profit of just over \$5000 which was donated to the RAWCS appeal for the reconstruction of Nepal after their devastating earthquake.

As we listened to our speakers, shared our experiences with other Rotarians from District clubs, explored “Rotary on Show” in the hall and enjoyed some fun together, we were certainly able to “Light Up Rotary”.

Ray Hannan (Chair, 2014-2015 Conference Committee)



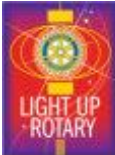


# Attachment 1: Financial Report

Rotary International District 9780

Financial Report

As At 30th June 2015



# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

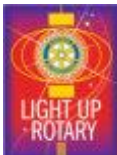
Rotary International District 9780

Financial Report

As At 30th June 2015

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Statement of Changes in Equity	6
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## Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780

#### STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Committee the financial report as set out on pages 4 to 10:

- a) Present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Rotary International District 9780 as at 30 June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as detailed in note 1 to the financial statements.
- b) At the time of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Rotary International District 9780 will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- c) Rotary International District 9780 has operated in accordance with its rules and the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012 (Vic).

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

*Geoff James*  
Chairperson

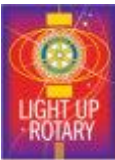
*Trevor Lea*  
Treasurer

Signed at Ballarat

on 9th October

2015



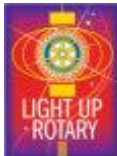


## Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780  
INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Revenues from Ordinary Activities	2	159,057	163,138
Expenses from Ordinary Activities	3	(147,432)	(157,464)
Net Profit / (Loss) from Ordinary Activities		<u>11,625</u>	<u>5,674</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial statement



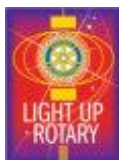
# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	256,341	239,049
Other Current Assets	5	12,001	18,030
Total Current Assets		<u>268,342</u>	<u>257,079</u>
Total Assets		<u>268,342</u>	<u>257,079</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables / Provisions	6	17,734	17,432
Tax Liabilities	7	(415)	248
Total Current Liabilities		<u>17,319</u>	<u>17,681</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>17,319</u>	<u>17,681</u>
Net Assets		<u>251,023</u>	<u>239,398</u>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained Profits	8	251,023	239,398
Total Members' Funds		<u>251,023</u>	<u>239,398</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial statement



## Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

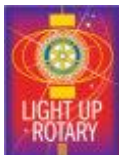
### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Total Equity at the Beginning of the year	239,398	233,724
Profit / (Loss) for the Year	11,625	5,674
Total Equity at the End of the Year	<u>251,023</u>	<u>239,398</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial statement





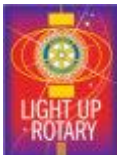
# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Cashflows from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from Customers		149,558	155,010
Payments to Suppliers		(141,765)	(169,565)
Interest Received		9,499	8,128
Cash flows provided by operating activities	9	<u>17,292</u>	<u>(6,427)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		<u>17,292</u>	<u>(6,427)</u>
Cash held at the beginning of the year		239,049	245,476
Cash held at the end of the year	4	<u>256,341</u>	<u>239,049</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial statement



# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

### Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### a) Basis of Presentation

This financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 103	Materiality
AASB 108	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 110	Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 107	Cash Flow Statements
AASB 118	Revenue

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

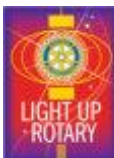
This financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### b) Income Tax

The Association has a tax exempt status.

#### c) The purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdraft.

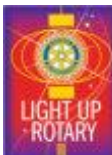


# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

<b>Note 2 Revenue</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Operating Activities :		
District Dues	121,565	121,845
PETS Registrations	11,277	8,143
Other Income	16,716	25,021
	<u>149,558</u>	<u>155,010</u>
Non-Operating Income		
Interest Received	9,499	8,128
	<u>9,499</u>	<u>8,128</u>
Total Revenue	<u>159,057</u>	<u>163,138</u>
<b>Note 3 Profit from Ordinary Activities</b>		
Expenses include :		
DGN Expenses	6,648	5,654
DGE Expenses	30,249	30,428
DG Expenses	85,813	103,596
Club Expenses	6,122	4,680
International Expenses	6,000	6,173
Rotary Foundation	2,045	2,010
New Generation Expenses	1,555	4,023
Science Engineering Challenge	9,000	0
Other	0	900
	<u>147,432</u>	<u>157,464</u>
<b>Note 4 Cash Assets</b>		
Westpac Cheque Account	51,210	7,031
Westpac Cash Reserve Account	31,997	30,948
WBC Grant Account	3	2
Westpac Term Deposit 1	73,131	101,068
Westpac Term Deposit 2	100,000	100,000
	<u>256,341</u>	<u>239,049</u>
<b>Note 5 Other Current Assets</b>		
Prepaid conference expenses	11,696	0
Other sundry assets	305	0
Accrued Reimbursements	0	18,030
	<u>12,001</u>	<u>18,030</u>



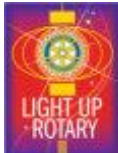


# Attachment 1: Financial Report Continued

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9780 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

<b>Note 6 Payables</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	\$	\$
Rotarians for Mine Action	1,500	1,500
Defying the Drift	13,979	6,913
Rural Relief Committee	0	9,019
Other creditors	2,255	0
	<u>17,734</u>	<u>17,432</u>
<b>Note 7 Tax Liabilities</b>		
GST Payable	(415)	248
	<u>(415)</u>	<u>248</u>
<b>Note 8 Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	239,398	233,724
Net Profit (loss) attributable to the association	11,625	5,674
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	<u>251,023</u>	<u>239,398</u>
<b>Note 9 Cash Flow Information*</b>		
Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to		
Operating surplus / (deficit)	11,625	
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/Decrease in GST Refundable	(663)	
(Decrease)/Increase in Other Liabilities	302	
(Increase)/Decrease in Other Assets	6,028	
Net Cashflows from Operating Activities	<u>17,292</u>	

(\* It is not practicable to provide comparative figures for this note)



## Attachment 2: Auditors Report

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ROTARY DISTRICT 9780

#### Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Rotary District 9780, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

#### Committees' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of Rotary District 9780 is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committees' responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee has determined is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

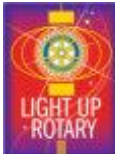
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Qualification

It is not practical for the Rotary District 9780 to maintain an effective system of internal control over cash receipts until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to cash receipts was limited to amounts recorded.



## Attachment 2: Auditors Report

### Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Rotary District 9780 as at 30 June 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012.

### Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the Rotary District 9780 to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Stephen Kirtley  
Director

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 2015.

**Davidsons Assurance Services Pty Ltd**  
101 West Fyans Street  
Geelong Victoria 3220