

DIRECTOR'S NEWS

Rotary International Zones 7B & 8

Volume 2 Issue 8: May 2018

Embrace the Renewal of Rotary



RI Director Noel Trevaskis OAM, and Sue

G'day,

If we are serious about change in Rotary, then it is time for all of us to embrace renewal of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand.

If we were to empower each Club with a vote to decide the next District Governor, rather than relying on Past Governors to select the District Governor, how would this impact our Districts?

Would such a system deliver a different 'brand' of Governors, rather than leaders selected by a committee that consists of a majority Past District Governors with traditional views?

We need to be thinking about the future of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand - a new style Rotary!

We have great opportunity with the redistricting process happening in

Australia and New Zealand at present and which will continue to happen as Districts fall below 1,100 members.

We must get away from District Governors and club Presidents talking about 'my year'. District Governors, Governors Elect and Governors Nominee need to be working together on long term plans for District change and development. There must be constant communication within that group. We do not need people in leadership roles talking about "my year" and fo-

cused only on the present. That will not stimulate Rotary growth. We should be talking about the future and best outcomes for our Districts and Clubs five, ten and even twenty years on.

Because of our unique size and self contained regional status, Australian and New Zealand Rotarians have an ideal opportunity to develop a new Rotary 'model' - one that will carry us forward. Director Elect for Zone 8 and 10, Raffy Garcia is supportive of what we are doing in Australia and New Zealand. He wants to see these changes happen quickly as he wants a strong Rotary 'Down Under'.



Noel with good mate RIDE Raffy Garcia who is replacing Noel on the Board on July 1st.

Let's all focus on what Rotary needs to be in the future and how we are going to get there.

I am pleased to see Districts 9700 and 9710 working on the concept of having Area Governors within their proposed new larger District. Each Area Governor will have a maximum of fifteen clubs. This system will come into

play because of the larger District area. It will not be possible for the District Governor to visit all the clubs - and they shouldn't be expected to do so. Following such a path will allow business leaders and younger people to consider the possibility of serving as a District Governor.

Some people have asked me why should we move to larger Districts, and why do we need to change? It is quite simple ... demographics.

Our ageing membership in the western world means that by 2022 we are going to start losing members involuntarily at a greater rate than ever before.

Australia, New Zealand, North America, Europe, Great Britain are losing members because of our age. In addition to the age factor, social changes in the western world have seen incredible lifestyle changes which volunteer organisations like Rotary have failed to

recognise and adapt accordingly.

Families by and large are now two income families. Technology has also changed society, family structure and habits - along with education, vocational demands and what is expected of employees. No longer do businesses operate from 9 till 5. With all these changes happening in the western world, many organisations are struggling to adapt - churches, sporting clubs, school P & C's and volunteer groups of all sorts. Rotary is not unique. The western world is under great challenge and, because of that, we need to be willing to embrace renewal and change, and we need to do

it now.

Rotary must 'fit' the 21st Century.

In Asia, India and Africa, we continue to see growth of numbers in Rotary and will do so for some time to come. The growth in these areas will maintain Rotary's numbers to around the 1.2 million members. I believe that from 2022 in the western world, we will continue to lose members at a great rate until 2032 at which time we will plateau out at around 50% of our current membership.

So, is Rotary lost? Will Rotary be strong in the future?

Rotary isn't lost in the western world and I believe it will be stronger but with a different style and structure. There will be less clubs, but they will be larger and stronger. They will be 'cause' driven, rather than 'fund raising' driven, as is the current situation with many clubs.

I am hopeful that, with the start of a Global Membership model, we will see younger people joining to become Global members. This will be a model wherein people will choose to join because of special areas of interest or

Rotary must 'fit' the 21st Century



Directors of the RI Board for 2017-18 preparing for the April Board meeting at RI Headquarters in Evanston



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

causes - the environment, poverty, peace and conflict resolution etc. One such global organisation started ten years ago and has a membership of 1.2 million people - mainly young people who have joined because of a cause they want to support.

I don't see it as "doom and gloom" for Rotary in Australia and New Zealand. We can become stronger even if we do have less members. We will be leaner, more cause and project orientated and driven, focussed on service, not fund raising. Let's make sure such change happens.

Where there is talk of change, we will always experience some resistance. It will come from people who say they want change, but really do

NOT want to change. They want to hang on to the past and their comfort zones. They want Rotary to be the way it was thirty or forty years ago. They are the same people who talk about "my year".

It isn't "our year" but the future of Rotary on which we need to focus ...

Be prepared for change.

Be supportive of change.

Be willing to accept change.

Do not be a 'roadblock' to change. Be a 'builder' and help build a stronger Rotary. We need everyone working together in making a difference and impacting the challenges and causes of the future!

Noel



[Register Here](#)

**TORONTO
2018**

Registrations for the Hobart Conference are now open. [Register Here](#)

2018 Australia New Zealand Rotary Conference

14-16 September 2018 HOTEL GRAND CHANCELLOR, 1 Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania

**Explore
THE Possibilities**



CONVENOR: Noel Trevaskis, RI Director 2016/18



Highlights from the April 2018 Rotary International Board of Directors Meeting

The 2017–18 RI Board of directors held its fourth meeting on 9–13 April 2018 in Evanston, Illinois, USA and reviewed reports from 11 committees and recorded 45 decisions.

RI ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES

The Board

- agreed that upon the certification of polio eradication, Rotary will advocate in pre-selected countries for the implementation of the polio post-certification strategy as developed by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative;
- agreed to continue the Rotary Global Rewards program beyond its pilot period of June 2018;
- in reviewing the Young Past Governors Task Force report, requested the general secretary to research:
 - a) using a mobile app for participant evaluation of Rotary events, including club meetings;
 - b) creating a Rotary database of qualified speakers, presenters, trainers, and facilitators for use by Rotarians in developing high quality events;
 - c) developing an annual “seal of excellence” to highlight clubs that meet certain criteria;
- approved new procedures for the selection and evaluation of Rotary committee members;
- approved The Rotary Foundation’s contributions budget totalling US\$314,671,000, a total program awards expenditures budget of \$274,026,000, and net investment returns budget of \$43,269,000;
- delegated authority to the president after 1 June 2018 and upon recommendation of the current director from the zone, to designate conveners for RI director nominating committees that will meet in September 2018 to select directors for election at the 2019 RI (Hamburg) Convention.
- Directors will be selected from Zones 2, 9, 13A, 17B, 21B, 25B, 28, and 33.

RI PROGRAMS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND MEETINGS

The Board

- received the general secretary’s report on the International Assembly location changing in 2021 and thereafter to Orlando, Florida, USA;
- approved a one-time exception to its policy to permit select Rotaractors as official participants at the 2019 International Assembly;
- amended its guidelines for attendance at the International Assembly to provide for more family participation, particularly to allow for supervised children under the age of 18 to attend;
- approved a new convention city bidding process whereby every seven years, cities that do not meet Rotary’s critical criteria for hosting a Rotary convention can bid to host the convention;
- agreed to hold a Rotary Peace Symposium on 31 May–1 June 2019 at the Hamburg convention;
- extended Rotary’s service partnership agreement with Peace Corps and Habitat for Humanity International both for an additional three-year period;
- selected Sambasiva Rao Patibandla to serve as one of two lead facilitators on the 2019 Regional Leaders Training Institute planning team with the moderator and another lead facilitator appointed by the Trustees.