



Rotary

Rotary International District 9650

E News - Sunday 22 March 2020

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| Rotary International President Mark Maloney (Gay) Rotary Club of Decatur Alabama USA | District Governor Phil Hafey (Bronwyn) Rotary Club of Laurieton NSW Australia |
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MESSAGE FROM DG PHIL HAFEY

As Rotarians and Clubs, along with most other organisations and businesses, struggle with the rapidly changing face of our society I would like to emphasise the many positive things that are happening in our Rotary world.

Rotary International has been encouraging us to think of new ways we can communicate and work within our Communities to assist those in need and many Clubs are looking at new methods of meetings and working on projects within our communities.

One of the options is a Zoom meeting which is available online or via phone. If any Club wishes to try a Zoom meeting, please contact PDG Rob Anderson who will set up a meeting for the Club. Please contact your Assistant Governor if you need any more information as to what Zoom is.

Most Rotarians would have heard me talk about Kempsey West's Housebound Book Project which has been operating for over 45 years. Last Saturday provided a new twist to this project where Coles had provided a plastic bag with two rolls of toilet paper and a box of tissues for each of the Housebound Book Project clients. Is your Rotary Club in a position to assist the elderly with their grocery needs?

Despite the ever changing rules and recommendations coming from Government there is still a need for Rotary Clubs to assist those recovering from Drought and Bushfires and to this end I will be in a position to publish details of new opportunities for grants and funding for projects in next week's E News. At this stage I anticipate that there will be \$50,000 available for drought recovery projects and over \$75,000 available for bushfire recovery projects. In addition, RAWCS is working with the Federal Government to distribute funds to drought affected Communities.

Included with E News this week is the list of trophy winners which should have been announced at this weekend's Conference.

Congratulations to the winners and the trophies will be delivered when next our District is able to gather. On the subject of Conference, all registration fees will be refunded in full and this process is already underway. However, the refunds may take up to 7 days to be processed so please do not ring the registration team.



POSTPONED

This afternoon the RYLA 9650 Management committee met online to discuss Federal and State Government recommendations and directives regarding the containment of COVID-19. We have therefore made the difficult decision to postpone RYLA 2020 to a date to be determined, potentially still this year.

AS you are aware this year District 9650 is celebrating the 50th anniversary of RYLA being held in our district. This made the decision to postpone RYLA 2020 all the more difficult however, under the current world crisis it is prudent and an exercise in good governance to postpone to a date more suitable. It is important for all Rotarians, Sponsors and participants to be aware that this is a postponement and not a cancellation. As soon as we acquire an alternate date from NSW Sports and Recreation, we will inform the district.

It is imperative that all clubs immediately notify all nominated participants as well as sponsors regarding this unfortunate postponement. People that you have approached and interviewed for RYLA suitability should be contacted and kept updated regarding an alternate date. Nobody wants these people to miss out on such a great and potentially life changing opportunity. Be assured that our leadership team is unanimous in this decision and united in ensuring that RYLA 9650 will be happening at the earliest feasible time.

David W. Mayne

DGN & RYLA 9650 Chair

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9650 INC

www.rotary9650.org.au

Contributions are sought and encouraged. Please e-mail to Neville Parsons: neville.parsons1@outlook.com

DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2022-2023 - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED



D9650 Clubs are invited to submit their suggestions for nominations for District Governor for the 2022-2023 year.

Such suggestions are to be received by DG Phil Hafey **on or before Tuesday 31 March 2020**.

D9670 are also seeking expressions of interest from their Clubs for District Governor for this same year, being the first year that D9650 and D9670 will be the one new District.

The nominations received by the respective District Governors will be considered by the Nominating Committee which will comprise the District Governor, District Governor-elect and District Governor-nominee of both District 9650 and District 9670 together with the Chair of the Transition Committee.

The District Governor Nomination Application Form, is located in the Documents Library on the District 9650 Website and is to be returned direct to DG Phil Hafey **no later than Tuesday 31 March 2020**. By mail to P O Box 92, Bonny Hills 2445 or via email to phil.hafey@bigpond.com

Clubs are reminded of the following as specified in the D9650 Policies at 4.05.2.1:

The Nomination Form requires that the Nominee suggestion from the Club be endorsed via a resolution of members adopted at a regular meeting of the club naming the suggested candidate. The resolution shall be certified by the club secretary. A club may suggest only one of its own members as a candidate for governor-nominee. (RI Bylaws Article 12.030.3)

The criteria for eligibility for District Governor include:

- Candidates must, at the time of taking office, have been a Club President and been a Rotarian for 7 years;
- The successful candidate must attend Rotary Zone 8 and Rotary International training;
- Given this will be for a newly formed District, Rotary International have advised that Past District Governors of either D9650 or D9670 are eligible to apply.

The interviews for the position of District Governor 2022-23 of the District created by the merger of D9650 and D9670 have been scheduled for the weekend of 30-31 May 2020 at a venue yet to be decided.



New Plans for District Assemblies

The following advice was issued to all Club Presidents and Presidents-elect on Tuesday 17 March 2020 at 9:18pm.

As you have most likely anticipated the scheduled District

Assemblies as previously foreshadowed will be cancelled and in their place will be one District Assembly that will be provided via Zoom Meetings.

This is formal advice of the cancelling of the previously advised District Assemblies and the scheduling of the one that will be an electronic meeting on Sunday 3 May 2020 to run from 9am to 4pm with scheduled breaks for morning and afternoon tea and lunch... only thing is that you will need to cater for yourself!

To be clear there will be no District Assembly on either 5 April 2020 nor the 19 April 2020 and we will provide a Zoom Meeting facilitated District Assembly on Sunday 3 May 2020 to ensure that we abide by the NSW Health "social distancing" guidelines.

We will also set out the Rotary International's Learning Centre modules for the various Club roles and encourage incoming Officers to do the Learning Centre modules of relevance. To ensure that this can be done then all incoming Officers are encouraged to have a Rotary International "My Rotary" sign-on and have at least investigated the Learning Centre and the various modules of learning.

We will then schedule a Presidents and Secretaries specific Zoom Meeting pre or post that Assembly meeting to address the specific President and Secretary matters that we would normally do at Assemblies.

The actual Assembly Zoom Meeting will likely cover off an Agenda with key presentations as follows:

- DGE Debbie Loveday – Goals and Focus for year
- District Youth protection Officer Diana Reynolds – the latest update on Youth protection requirements
- District Insurance Officer Brett White – the latest update on Insurance requirements for protection
- PR Director PDG Brian Beesley – the importance of telling our story and doing stuff
- Membership Director 2020-2021 Jenny Sinclair – the focus on the various Rotary Club types as a Menu and the viewing of some membership Videos of What not to do
- Foundation Director PDG Maurie Stack – Maurie's Foundation Overview
- An overview of other Director Portfolios as highlighted in the Directory
- My Rotary Overview and Rotary Club Central

I am also proposing that each District Director would schedule during May 2020 a Zoom meeting session on their portfolios for the related Club Officers eg Community Service, International Service, Vocational, Youth, Club Admin and Rotaract.

Assistant Governors would also be encouraged to hold 2 zoom meetings with their Presidents and Secretaries 2020-2021 during May & June at mutually agreed dates.

So for now I wanted to provide you the news of the cancelling Assemblies as initially proposed and the scheduling of a "super District Assembly via Zoom meetings on Sunday 3 May 2020.



Message from Rotary International South Pacific & Philippines Office

Dear Club Officers,

Please be advised that effective today, 16th March 2020, this office will be operating under an alternative setup both to ensure the well-being and safety of our staff as well as to lead the community to make an effort to flatten the curve and allow our health systems to cope with the surge of confirmed cases of COVID19 in our communities.

Work from home arrangements have been offered to all staff and while we carry on as normally as possible, there will be some areas of our operations that will be impacted.

Calls will still go through to our phones and we encourage you to contact us if you need any assistance. Our [Contact List](#) would be helpful in identifying who to call for your particular query. Our [Resource Guide for Rotary Club Officers](#) also provides helpful links to resources that you may need.

Some of our staff will be coming in on Tuesdays and Thursdays to check on mail and bank any cheques that come by post. Dispatch of regalia via Australia Post will also be done on those days. Fedex to the Philippines will only be done on Thursdays.

We strongly encourage you to use MyRotary to make dues payments and contributions. Other alternatives would be to do a funds transfer (instructions are included in the [Resource Guide for Rotary Club Officers](#)), properly identifying the club or donor; or by credit card. These methods can be done with minimal delays.

With the uncertainty in the economy, it is expected for the exchange rates to take a bad turn. If you are intending to send in funds, please do so before the end of March.

The situation we are faced with is unprecedented and we are trying to be as adaptable as we can be without sacrificing the service levels that we are committed to delivering. I am proud to be leading such a dynamic team who are passionately supportive of Rotary's causes and ideals.

Please reach out to us if you need anything as that is what we are here for. If you have any suggestions or feedback on how we can serve you better, please let us know. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy. Let's look out for each other in these challenging times.

Best Grace

Grace Ramirez

Manager, International Office and Financial Services
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Postponement of Foundation grant-related travel

Rotary is monitoring the spread of COVID-19 closely to ensure the health and safety of all program participants. Given the ever-changing nature of this pandemic, the Foundation is cancelling all grant-funded travel for the months of March and April while we monitor the situation. The only exception is for scholars who are returning to their home countries.

If you are sponsoring a district grant or global grant that includes travel during March or April, we ask that you postpone the grant-funded travel and contact your regional grants officer to alert them to this change.

We will send updates as they become available. In the meantime, stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Abby McNear

Director of Grants



Tel 1.847.425.5656

rotary.org

Unfortunately due to the COV19 Virus the decision has been made to cancel the Zone 8 GETS and Institute/Conference in Alice Springs set for September 2020. The health and welfare of Rotarians and their families was foremost in this decision. There were also significant financial implications if we were to cancel the GETS and Institute/Conference at a later date. I wasn't prepared to take that risk.

We are in unprecedented times globally as well as here in Australia and New Zealand. We need to make sure that we look after ourselves, our families and friends at this time.

Regards, Noel Trevaskis, Conference Convenor

Rotary International Convention Cancelled

The Rotary International Convention, scheduled for 6-10 June 2020, in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, has been cancelled in response to the ongoing threat of COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus.

Rotary Club of South West Rocks welcomes 2 new members

Rotary club of South West Rocks, had the pleasure of inducting 2 new members last Wednesday night.

We welcome them into our Rotary family

Photo Below: From left to right

Peter Caha, Bev Bartlett, new member Suzanne Bright, President Muni Osborne, new member Julie Hennessey, Daryl Bartlett, Kay Pollock and Rob Pollock



Photo Right: Suzanne Bright, President Muni Osborne and Julie Hennessey



Rotary Club of Uralla Art Exhibition cancelled

Following the advice of the Department of Health and in consultation with Rotary DG Phil Hafey, the Uralla Shire Council and other community representatives - with regard to the escalating COVID-19 issues - the Art Show Committee have made the unfortunate decision to cancel the 43rd Annual Rotary Club of Uralla Art Exhibition.

The Committee publicly thanked all the sponsors, local businesses and community members for their support of the Art Show, and are now going through the process of repaying artists entry fees and sponsorship cash & vouchers.

It is quite a big job and luckily many artists are submitting entries online which makes the process of being in contact a little easier.

The Uralla Rotary Club was set to hold a fantastic event with around 500 entries received from artists across NSW, QLD and the Uralla Shire Council Preschools, Primary and High Schools.

Guest Artist Katherine Miles, NERAM Artistic Director Ms Rachael Parsons and our wonderful local Member of Parliament Mr Adam Marshall have all pledged their support for the Art Exhibition in 2021.

The Rotary Club of Uralla encourages social distancing, good hygiene and consideration of the more vulnerable members of our communities at this very difficult time.

Leanne Doran

Publicity Officer, The Rotary Club of Uralla

Message from Robin Norton President Rotary Club of West Kempsey

Hi Everyone

I thought I'd let you know how yesterday's Home Lending Library deliveries went with our extra care packages.

Each resident (5 deliveries in total) received a box of tissues and 2x rolls of toilet paper with their library books.

All these goods were very kindly donated by Coles in Kempsey.

Suzanne reported that the toilet paper and tissues

were very well received and appreciated. One recipient in particular was very thankful as she was down to her last roll.

Suzanne then added an extra two rolls to her delivery.

Great work Suzanne!!!

The extra rolls and tissues will be kept for future Library Deliveries.

Stay positive everyone! There is still plenty of good we can do in the community!

Message for the Fellowship of Rotarian PDGs

I am sure that by now you have heard the news of the cancellation of the Rotary International Convention in Honolulu. It is the first time in Rotary's 115 year history that the convention has been cancelled. It is a sad decision, certainly, but it is a decision that was made with great thought, time, and analysis. I think we can agree that it was the correct decision.

The lack of a convention means that we will also not be holding our annual "Dinner With the RI Presidents". There has been a great deal of work to plan this event already and we're sorely disappointed we won't be able to welcome you this year. I'd like to thank Ann Lee Hussey and her team that worked so hard to prepare for the event. We certainly hope to greet you all at our dinner at future conventions.

As we go through these difficult times, my thoughts turn to our clubs. As Past District Governors of Rotary International we have each dealt with difficult situations in clubs and have each had to help clubs find solutions. Virtually all of our clubs now find themselves in a difficult situation. I would encourage each of you to invest in your clubs during this time. Help lead your clubs to continue meeting virtually using tools like Zoom, WebEx, or Skype. If your club needs help in understanding and utilizing these tools we have resources that can assist you and your club.

As you conduct these virtual meetings you may need content. With so many meetings being cancelled, many Rotary leaders find themselves with calendars that suddenly have gaping holes. Reach out to them and ask them to participate in your club's virtual meeting. You may be surprised at who is willing to attend your club's meeting virtually.

There has likely never been a Rotary theme more appropriate during the year than RIP Mark Maloney's "Rotary Connects the World". We must work now to connect and stay connected."

