# Leading and Implementing Change in Rotary



Zone 7b and 8 Conference

Hobart, Tasmania, 15 September 2018





#### **PANELLISTS**

#### Moderator:

David Anderson, PDG, D 9790

#### Panellists:

David Egan, DG, D 9500

D'Arcy Walsh, PP, Rotary Club of Adelaide

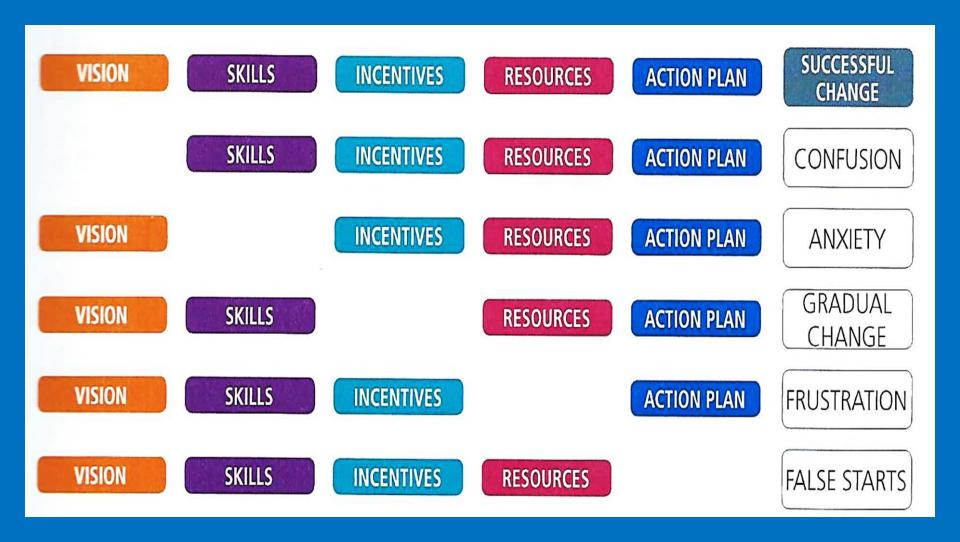




### Components of a change strategy



#### **Change Planning Gap Consequences**



# Change Leadership

- Principles & Challenges -

DG David Egan September 2018

# Main Messages

- Leading change is a challenge because human brains are wired to resist it!
- Good leaders recognise this and lead in ways that help their people overcome resistance....its all about engagement and understanding WHY!
- Leaders who fail to recognise the human and cultural aspects of change invariably fail.



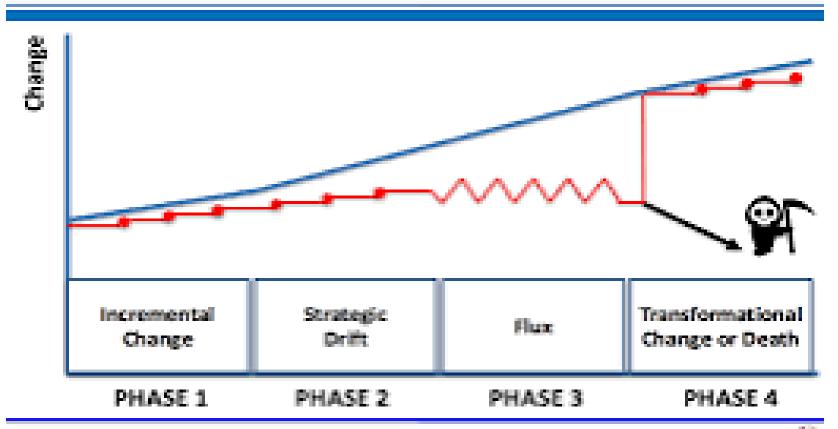
# In 1935 Paul Harris said...

"This is a changing world; we must be prepared to change with it....

At times change will be evolutionary and occasionally revolutionary".

#### The rate of change – where's Rotary?

#### Strategic Drift - Illustrated





# **Humans prefer:-**

Certainty

**Control** 

No Change Comfort

### The Status Quo resists

The Blacksmith example

Past V future paradigm

 Annual leadership change (Presidents, DGs, RIPs, Boards)

#### Our new vision – Unite and Lead!

"Promote a culture of "TROIKA" where the Current, Elect and Nominee closely collaborate"

The late Sam Owori

"Seek first to understand and then to be understood"

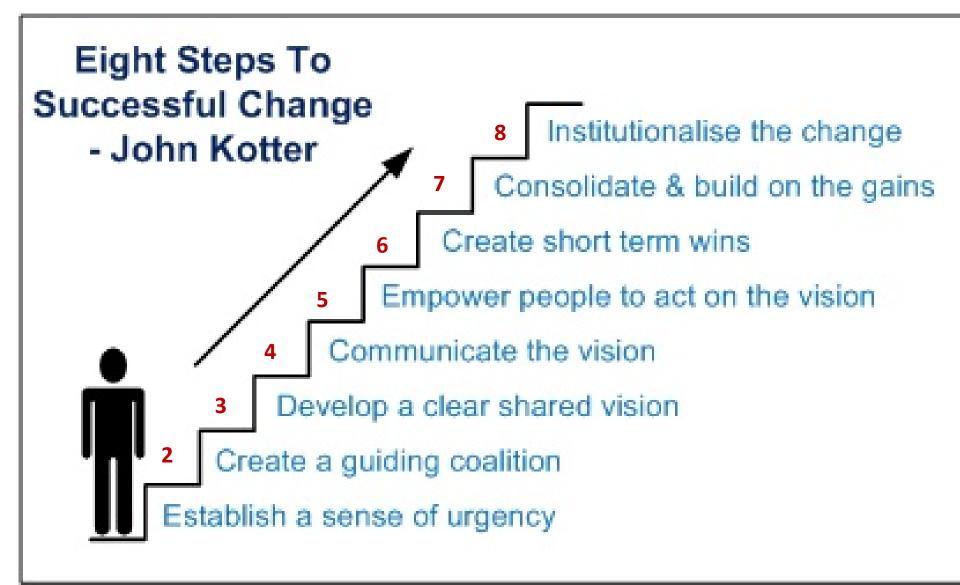
**Stephen Covey** 

"Leaders put an engine on change, managers put the breaks on!"

**John Kotter** 



### Why, What & How?

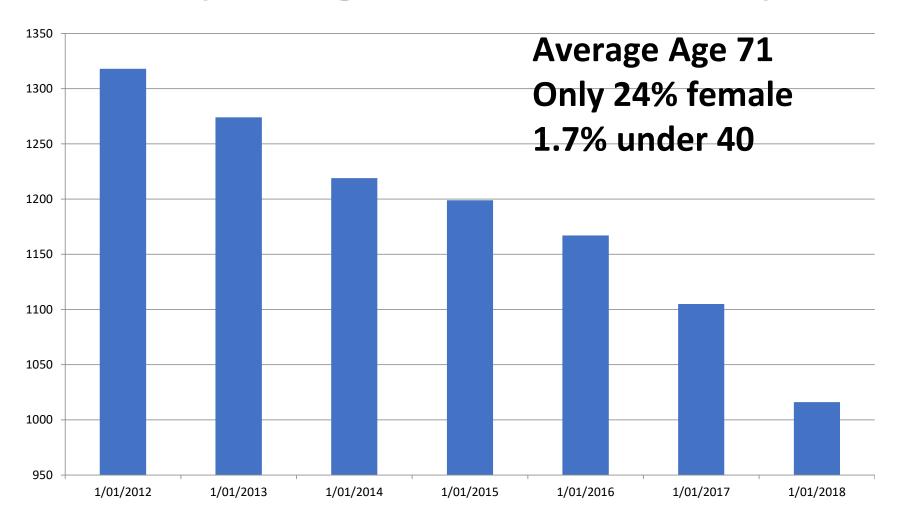


### WHY change?

- 1.2 million members for last 20 yrs (537 Districts is 170 too many)
- Shrinking and ageing membership (in developed countries)
- Not attractive to next generation. (relevance)

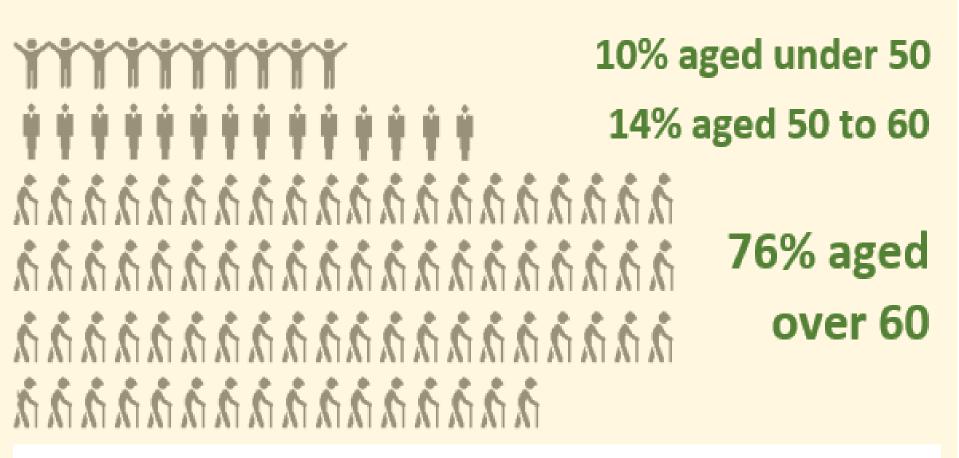
#### WHY? - Shrinking Capability: District 9500

(Shrinking networks, service and fun)



\*\* Demographics and Networks \*\*

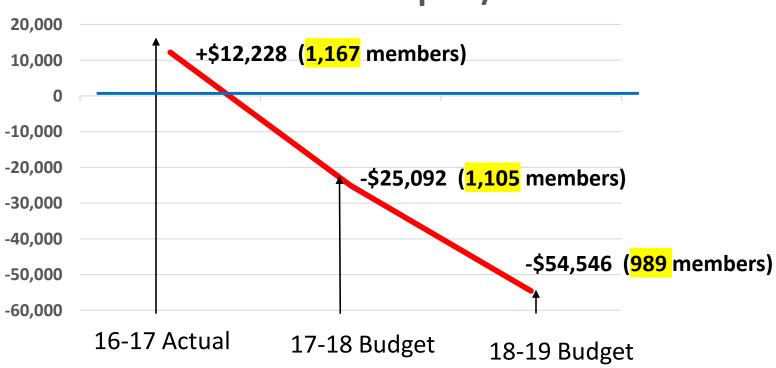
# Club Age Profile



18% over 80 - almost twice as many over 80 than under 50 years old (Slide refers to Rotary Club of Adelaide in 2015)

### WHY? - Money talks!





#### WHAT? - first, get the "right" people!

• Level 5 leaders - low ego, high humility but a fierce resolve for organisational success!

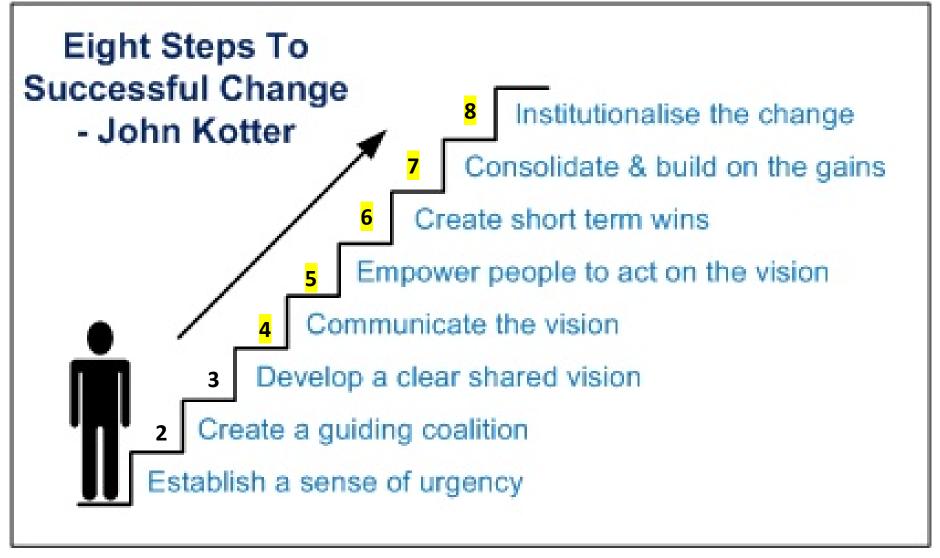
Diversity is crucial – include next gen!

 Future focused and strategic - its a 3 to 5 year plus challenge!

#### WHAT? - Second, ask where to?

- What must change and what must never change?
  - What are we most passionate about?
  - What are we best in the world at?
  - What drives our economic engine?
- Develop/share a vision, and strategic priorities - create the future!

### **HOW?** (steps 4 -8)



### HOW?

- Engage with consultative process approach!
- Communicate abundantly! the vision, the reasons why, what won't change, what will and WHY leaders must get & maintain buy-in thru' the journey!
- Cultivate an "innovation mindset"!
- Identify & celebrate champions!
- Institutionalize change! train, develop, reinforce



#### For success ....

- Be united and first of all get the "right people" involved with long term strategic "troika" approach!
- Lead change, don't manage it!
- Engage people establish and retain buy-in by communicating abundantly always explaining WHY – it's essential to overcome resistance!

#### Adelaide Oval -a metaphor for positive change

history retained, more attractive and relevant!





# "Rejuvenating and Rebuilding" CHANGING the Rotary Club of Adelaide"

PP D'Arcy Walsh

# Preface from my project experience, I see the key elements in the change process being:

- Be very clear on the need for change, share it with all stakeholders and get their commitment;
- Involve all stakeholders in as many aspects of the change process as possible;
- Develop very clear objectives and targets (KPIs);
- Use stakeholders in the implementation process;
- Use cascade models to help implement the changes use champions in the process to help others;
- Provide regular feedback on progress to re-inforce the positive impact of the change;
- Consolidate and institutionalise as soon as possible.

#### What was happening at RCA?

Like most Rotary Clubs in the developing world, back in May 2015 RCA had:

- declining numbers 30% in 5 years;
- an aging membership profile (69 average age and 18% over 80 years old);
- only 13% female members; and
- very few members with different ethnic backgrounds.

# We were predominately an aging, male, anglo-saxon membership









# Something had to be done – it was time for change



#### And change we did,



#### How did we get this turn around?

- We have undertaken a number of things that collectively have brought about a significant change in the culture of our club and how we operate;
- All clubs are different so what we have done may or may not work for you;
- HOWEVER, what is relevant to everyone is the philosophy or logic behind what we did
  - the 5 Steps in our process.

# OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH "The 5 Steps"

- 1. Awareness and commitment
- 2. Getting the club ready
- 3. Finding potential new members
- 4. Getting them to join
- 5. Welcoming and retaining them.

#### 1. Awareness and commitment

Getting all members to accept the problem and to agree to work together to resolve it.

- Speak openly about the problems associated with aging membership;
- Share the M. McQueen (District Conf) and M. Huddleston (District 9520) videos;
- Discuss what other Clubs are doing (Yass and Sydney RCs plus PAFC);
- Develop a Membership focus in your strategic or action plans.

#### 2. Getting the Club ready

Developing an attractive, professional and welcoming environment for new members to enter

- Self evaluation, RI Health Check, survey potential members about Rotary and what would attract them to join;
- Make meeting format more attractive;
- Make sure your website and social media sites are up to date and inviting;
- Prepare members to be open & welcoming.

#### 3. Finding potential new members

Finding and making contact with people who have the potential to become new members

- Access Rotary alumni and Rotoractors;
- Approach new small businesses;
- Look within your expanded families;
- Look within work places and clients;
- Approach business networks;
- Look at your regular visitors and guests;
- We asked members to come up with the names of 3 potential new members.

#### 4. Getting them to join

Presenting Rotary in a manner that interests them and is seen to fill some of their needs

- Invite them to a special membership information evening (YASS model);
- Invite them to attend meetings;
- Ask them to join you on community projects and or club events;
- Follow them up, send them your weekly bulletin, put membership information on your website AND show interested in them.

# 5. Welcoming and retaining them Show interest in them and make them feel involved

- Acknowledge & make them feel welcome;
- Ask them what they want to do AND listen;
- Get them involved on committees asap;
- Use mentors to support them;
- Use their member's profile to link them;
- New members' fireside chat sessions;
- Ask them to talk about themselves at a monthly social evening.

#### Some closing comments

- The 5 step approach is holistic and will work in any Club but takes time & needs the involvement & commitment of all members;
- It is not minor cosmetic change, it is about a significant cultural shift within the club;
- Use the RI membership resources and seek out support from the District;
- The image we portray is important;
- Working together has big advantages.

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#### Resources

#### General (principles)

Google: Leading Change

Rotary

Rotary Coordinators (RCs)

RI website: Learning and Reference







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