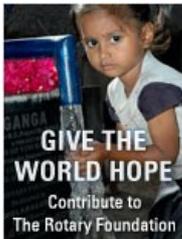


[Register Now!](#)[Click Here](#) District
Conference 2013

District Events

Visit DIK

Aug 04, 2012 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

DG's Official Zone Visit - BeachesBalgowlah RSL Club
Aug 07, 2012 06:00 PM**Presidents' Meeting**Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Aug 10, 2012 06:00 PM**Visit DIK**

Aug 11, 2012 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Spring Chickens vs Old Coq'sKariang Rotary Hall/Phillip House
Aug 11, 2012 07:00 PM - 10:00 PM**National Skills Week 2012**National Institute of Dramatic Arts
Aug 13, 2012 05:03 PM - 08:30 PM**DG's Official Zone Visit - Northern District**Pennant Hills Golf Club
Aug 13, 2012 06:00 PM**DUETS - 3rd Annual Gala Charity Concert**State Theatre
Aug 20, 2012 07:15 PM**DG's Official Zone Visit - Upper North Shore**Hornsby RSL
Aug 22, 2012 06:00 PM**National Skills Week**

Aug 27, 2012 - Sep 02, 2012

DG's Official Zone Visit - The

Stories

Governor's Message

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Aug 01, 2012

**Dear Rotary Friends and Friends of Rotary**

Second fortnight of the year has been just as busy and tiring as the first, but still uplifting and great fun.

I had the great pleasure of attending (with IPDG David Rands) one day of the Secondary Schools Science Challenge at Macquarie University. This event spread over 3 days and involved about 800 students. I was brought up on a diet of Professor Julius Sumner Miller challenging me with, "Why is it so?" (remember them? in black and white on the ABC?) and these students were challenged to put theory into action with hovercrafts, planes, electrical circuits and (the last event) the bridge challenge.

Nothing better than hearing teams of bright students egging each other on and getting a buzz out of science. I enjoyed the decibel level and enthusiasm. Credit to Gavin Ralston and his team for providing many of the helpers to enable the function; also to the staff and students of the University and Young Scientists of Australia. (I wondered if I had misspent my career in law, rather than doing something useful!)

Then, it was down to Canberra for the National Success Conference. This was very different to my preconception of a conference, with most of the sessions being effectively workshops. There were terrific opportunities for Rotarians from across Australia and New Zealand to share ideas and issues. The conference finished with an address by Timor Leste's first lady Kirsty Sword Gusmao that was very down to earth, with a vision to rebuild that country from the ground up, starting with the essentials of maternal health and preschool education. She acknowledged the role of Rotarians (which includes many from our District) in that rebuilding, noting that Rotary has always been a consistent partner.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the weekend was meeting and hearing from RI President Elect Ron Burton. It was music to my ears when he referred to Rotary rules and bureaucracy with disdain, saying that the only test was, "Is this for the good of Rotary?" We face a number of challenges in Australia if our numbers keep declining and we need the rest of the Rotary world to understand that there is more to Rotary than counting heads.

Then, back to Sydney to meet our new exchange student, Onni from Finland. Thanks to those who covered for Janelle and I for the day. Onni is our family's 19th Inbound Student – you might think we enthusiastically support Rotary Youth Exchange! He is settling in well, but it is a bit crazy being in the house of the DG. Expect to see Onni at a number of the Official Visits.

Since my last newsletter, we have had three more Official Visits at the Northwestern, City North and Central Coast Zones. My support Geoff

Hills Castle Hill Country Club Aug 29, 2012 06:00 PM
Rotary Club of Umina Beach Portrait Prize and Art Worthington BMW Aug 31, 2012 07:30 PM - Sep 02, 2012 04:00 PM
RYLA Timor Leste Sep 02, 2012 - Sep 08, 2012
DG's Official Zone Visit - North Shore North Sydney Leagues Club Sep 05, 2012 06:00 PM
DG's Official Zone Visit - Upper Central Coast Mingara Recreation Club Sep 11, 2012 06:00 PM
PDGs Meeting Sep 15, 2012
DG's Official Zone Visit - Lower Central Coast Everglades Golf Club Sep 19, 2012 06:00 PM
Rotary Peace Communities International Conference Wagga Wagga Sep 21, 2012 - Sep 23, 2012
Victory Ball Sep 21, 2012 07:00 PM
Graffiti Removal Day Sep 23, 2012
Graffiti Removal Day Sep 23, 2012
DG's Official Zone Visit - Peninsular Checkers Country Resort Sep 25, 2012 06:00 PM
Presidents' Meeting Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club Oct 12, 2012 06:00 PM
Tri-District Foundation Dinner Oct 15, 2012 06:30 PM
2012 Police Officer of the Year Awards Doltone House Darling Island Wharf - Pyrmont Nov 02, 2012 07:00 PM - Nov 03, 2012
BOLLYHILLS - Bollywood in the Hills Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Facility Nov 10, 2012 06:00 PM - 10:30 PM
Roger Woodward in Concert for ROMAC The Concourse, Chatswood Nov 17, 2012
Presidents' Meeting (with Partners) Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club Dec 07, 2012 06:00 PM
PDGs Meeting Dec 08, 2012
International Assembly San Diego, California, USA Jan 13, 2013 - Jan 19, 2013
Presidents' Meetings Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club Feb 08, 2013 06:00 PM
Youth Exchange Weekend Feb 22, 2013 - Feb 24, 2013
District Conference (information) Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Mar 15, 2013 - Mar 17, 2013
District Conference 2013 Mar 15, 2013 - Mar 17, 2013

Brennan does a great job setting things up on the ground, the Presidents then proudly inform the meeting about the latest in their Clubs and I love a soapbox to suggest some different ways of enjoying the magic of Rotary. Similar to the Science Challenge, what I also enjoy is the decibel level both before and after the meetings of Rotarians catching up, enjoying fellowship and discussing the wide variety of service they perform in their communities.

I have had plenty of good feedback about the new Official Visits, including from some doubting Thomases who thought the concept would not work, but were big enough to come up and admit to a good time. At the Central Coast, we had five PDGs in attendance and, although their year was obviously the best, they could see the benefit of the new format.

Spurred by Rob Buton's thoughts, I went all out at City North and declared there were "No Rules". I was obviously wrong in that we need a positive framework, but we should not be caught bickering about where the deckchairs go, while ignoring what is happening to the ship. We need to adapt what we do to what suits us best.

Off into August!! More Official Visits coming up and our first Presidents' Meeting on the 10th. Vocation Chair Peter Kirkwood is putting together a program focussing on clubs' vocational activities – might be a few good ideas on hand. I have copped some flak moving the meetings back to Friday and having them at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, BUT our clubs meet on every other night of the week, it was best to shift away from the traffic chaos of Hornsby (sorry to the Central Coast people for the longer trek) and there are only 6 in the year: one of those balancing acts where you can't please everyone.

I look forward to catching up with you at the Official Visits and any service activities you have going if I can fit them in my calendar.

Yours in Rotary

John Dodd

District Governor 2012-13

[Read more...](#)

Supporting healthy minds, bodies and communities for over 30 years

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 31, 2012



Mental illness can affect anyone at any age and is close to becoming an invisible epidemic, affecting more than one in five Australians every year. So fast is this problem growing that depression and anxiety are expected to become the world's leading causes of disability within the next eight years.

[Read more...](#)

Bake the world a better place!

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 27, 2012

This August take part in the 2nd Annual Big Cake Bake and support the everyday work of Red Cross.

Big Cake Bake launched in 2011 and was a huge success. Thousands of events took place across the country, including cake sales, baking competitions, themed dinner parties, plus morning and afternoon tea celebrations, which helped raise just over \$390,000.

[Read more...](#)

[RAWCS ROVER July 2012](#)

PDGs Meeting
Mar 18, 2013

Presidents' Meeting
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Apr 19, 2013 06:00 PM

Council on Legislation
Chicago, Illinois, USA
Apr 21, 2013 - Apr 26, 2013

PDGs Meeting
May 18, 2013

Presidents' Meeting (Awards)
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
May 31, 2013 06:00 PM

Rotary International Convention
Lisbon, Portugal (tentative)
Jun 23, 2013 - Jun 26, 2013

Changeover - D9680 to D9685
Hornsby RSL Club
Jul 05, 2013 06:00 PM

Rotary International Convention
Sydney, Australia (tentative)
Jun 01, 2014 - Jun 04, 2014

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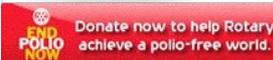
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Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 27, 2012

Colleague, friend and mentor to many people both in Australia and beyond, Bill Little, a man of great heart and compassion passed away from a massive heart attack on Monday, 9 th July. Bill's death has stunned many, his loss leaving gaps in a host of activities directed towards his stalwart interest in community service.

[Click here to read the latest edition of RAWCS ROVER.](#)

Music stars unite at DUETS concert!

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 27, 2012

Sydney, Australia – Sunday, 3 June, 2012: DUETS (formerly known as Dueting it for the Kids) is a unique concert unlike anything else staged in Australia. It brings together the very best of the music industry in a concert of duets with proceeds going to support The Australian Children's Music Foundation (ACMF).

[Read more...](#)

Office space available in rotary down under house

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 27, 2012

Modern office space is available on the second floor of Rotary Down Under House at 43 Hunter Street, Parramatta.

Approximately 160 square metres in total, the space was previously occupied by Probus South Pacific and is adjacent to the Australia Rotary Health office.

[Read more...](#)

Update on Queensland Flood Recovery

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Jul 27, 2012

Rotarians in District 9680 will remember the devastation caused by the floods in Queensland in 2010-2011.

Under the direction of then District Governor George Papallo we set about finding community-based projects that the considerable fundraising efforts of D9680 Rotarians could go towards. Following are updates on two different but equally worthy projects.

[Read more...](#)

2013 Group Study Exchange

Posted by Les Walsh on Jul 24, 2012



In 2013 the GSE team from our district will be visiting [District 2440](#) in Turkey. Not only will this be the last time District 9680 puts together a team (a lot of lasts) but it also marks the end of Rotary's GSE Program.

Key dates:

- Closing date for applications for Team Leader - 31 August
- Closing date for applications for Team Member - 31 October
- Depart Australia – 14 April
- Attend ANZAC Day ceremony – 25 April
- District Conference at [Fethiye](#) - 9 to 12 May
- Return to Australia 13 May

[Read more...](#)

Register now for the District Conference

Posted by Les Walsh on Jul 21, 2012

Register Now!

Click Here 

We invite you to register now!

We would also like you to encourage as many of your fellow members as possible to get together to make a very loud noise as Rotary District 9680 Conferences Soar into History.

Favourable 'Early Bird' pricing is available until 30 November 2012. The early bird package includes a \$50 deposit option - the fine print is on [the website](#)

[Read more...](#)

District 9680 E-News is reviewed weekly for publication on Thursday at least every two weeks. You will find important club and District announcements. To include your club's announcements or other news for the District, please submit your article, announcements or letters by Tuesday evening to [the Editor by email to editorial@rotarydistrict9680.org](mailto:editorial@rotarydistrict9680.org) with your copy and photos. Your submission will then be considered for immediate publication on the [District Website](#) and in the next edition of E-News.

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