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What is Rotary Friendship Exchange? The Friendship Exchange Program is an International exchange program for Rotarians and Rotary couples that provide participants with the opportunity to experience other cultures by staying in the homes of Rotarians, visiting their clubs and participating in the lifestyle/activities of their communities. The goals of the exchange are to advance international understanding and peace through visits across borders, as well as promote interclub relationships, fellowships and service projects. The Rotarians participating gain the opportunity to make long lasting friendships while exploring different areas of the world.

<u>What is happening in District 9700?</u> Clubs in District 9700 have been very busy over the last few months planning and entertaining RFE teams from District 7120 in New York State USA and District 5360 Canada. A large team of 20 couples were hosted by Clubs in Wagga Wagga, Narrandera, Leeton, Parkes and Forbes. A bus was hired by Lance and he along with navigators drove to Sydney Airport collect our guests and at the completion of the exchange delivered them safely to their hotel in Surry Hills. All in all a very interesting exercise! A wonderful program of events was compiled by all clubs and carried out with enthusiasm. A very big thank you to all clubs involved. This was a very large team and created some logistic problems that were happily overcome with enthusiasm.

District 5360 from Canada joined the very busy throng of departee's from the Rotary Convention, caught a train, changed to a bus at Lithgow and arrived safely at the Bathurst Railway Station on Thursday 5th. We travelled to Bathurst to greet these visitors along with the members of the Bathurst Daybreak and Bathurst clubs and enjoyed lunch with much friendship and fellowship. After their stay in Bathurst, Orange, followed by Young Rotary clubs also hosted this team. The team will departed from Cootamundra by train. Another successful exchange thanks to the co operation of District 9700 clubs and Rotarians.

District 9700 RFE team to Sweden will arrive in Nassjo to commence their exchange with District 2380 on 8th August. 5 couples and two singles from the Rotary clubs of Orange, Leeton, Narrandera and Wagga Wagga will enjoy the hospitality of the Swedish Rotarians for 14 days. We look forward to sharing their adventures with the District on their return.

District 9700 – Outbound	District 2380 – Sweden	August 8 th – 21 st 2014	5 couples 2 singles departing
District 2380 – Inbound		April 17 th – May 1 st 2015	Host clubs needed
District 9700 – Outbound	District 5360 – Canada	June 23 rd – July 5 th	5 couples expressed interest

Rotary Friendship Exchange is a great program – BE IN TOUCH IF YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED.





District 7120 Team members departing Narrandera