If Rotarians can think beyond the square, our world can become a better place.

But

The most dangerous phrase is “We’ve always done it this way”. If you are a member of this club, it is time to change.

Apply this philosophy to the Rotary Theme for September

‘Basic Education and Literacy Month’

What is the first thing that pops into your mind when you think of education and literacy? Books was my first thought. Maybe my mind is boring! I need to think beyond the square. Some 20% of our Rotary clubs have. They are supporting literacy via a back door. They have chosen to support Days for Girls.

Why?

Maybe my mind is boring! I need to think beyond the square. Some 20% of our Rotary clubs have. They are supporting literacy via a back door.

The philosophy is, that if girls don’t have sanitary supplies it means days out of school. Days of isolation. Girls in third world countries and many indigenous girls in Australia (so please do not ignore our own backyard) use leaves, mattress stuffing, newspaper, corn husks, anything they can find but still miss 2 months of education. It turns out that this issue is a surprising but instrumental key to social change for women all over the world. The cycle of poverty is broken when girls stay in school.

Another club is thinking beyond the square with education. It is in the process of building a flat pack school for Samoa. The Rotary Club of Surfers Sunrise is partnering with the Northern Collegiate of State High Schools on the Gold Coast: Helensvale, Coombabah, Pacific Pines, Pimpama and Coomera State College, and the Samoan Victims Support Group for disadvantaged youth who can’t afford basic education.

Quoting Nelson Mandela: “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. The more informed you are, the less arrogant and aggressive you are”.

What can your club do during September for ‘Basic Education & Literacy?’

How can your club make a difference?

Darrell Brown.
Ok, so we are in the last month of the first quarter. How many friends and acquaintances have been brought along for a meeting at your club?

More than 5? Not bad. More than 10? Excellent!

Are you “working on them”? Have they been introduced to your club’s projects? Are they aware how they can themselves achieve the same level of contentment you feel when a good Rotary project is being undertaken?

In last month’s 9Six4Oh you find an article on forming a Satellite Club. If many of your prospective members are in a quite different demography (read: age group): this may not be a bad way to build enthusiasm. Young people often have more energy (or less patience) to get things rolling.

An alternative, and much less demanding, would be to change your Club Constitution to allow ‘Associate Members’. Whilst they wouldn’t have formal status as Rotarians, nevertheless this would tie prospective members much closer to the club. To read more about the rules, click on this link.

What? You have not had any new prospective members introduced? Time to start talking again to your fellow members. In the “good ol days” we used to have vocational Classifications. The old rule was that only one member of each vocation would be a member of your club. This has been totally relaxed. Still... Check out the start of a list of classifications below. It may trigger some names. Has your Rotary Club really asked every member in your local business community, your headmasters, your bank managers? Do you know people who have recently moved into your area? They may be, quite literally, a bit lonely. Ask! And don’t forget your existing members, in particular those who have only recently joined. They must be involved. Give them responsibilities. There is no rule stating that a new member cannot become a director in their first year with your club!

Ah, all your directors’ roles have already been filled? Since you are reading this, most likely you are one of them. Don't you want a breack? For example, your Chair of Services Projects needs 3 deputies:

- Community Service
- International Service
- Vocational Service

Then there is Youth Service: Deputies for Youth Exchange, RYLA, RYPEN, RYTS etc... Plenty of opportunities to get members involved!

### Has your club filled these classifications?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Whom can you think of?</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Whom can you think of?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Sales</td>
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<td>Bookkeeping Services</td>
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<td>Bus Transportation</td>
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<td>Bottle Gas Distribution</td>
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<td>Cable TV Installation</td>
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<td>Bowling Centres</td>
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<td>Camera Sales / Retail</td>
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<td>Broadcasting - Radio</td>
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<td>Building &amp; Construction</td>
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<td>Building Materials</td>
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<td>Cemeteries</td>
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<td>Body Corporate Services</td>
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<td>Child Care Services</td>
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<td>Burglar Alarm Services</td>
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<td>Chiropractic Services</td>
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</table>
Rotary District 9640, together with Murwillumbah’s three Rotary Clubs, The Rotary Club of Murwillumbah; The Rotary Club of Murwillumbah Central; and The Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM; have come together to offer assistance to some of the flood affected people in the local area.

Peter McDonald of Mt Warning AM, who is the chairman of the Flood Relief Group, reports they have assisted a number of families in the Murwillumbah community, providing essential items to help restore their daily life to some type of normality following the devastating March flood.

“So many people have lost so much. But in the midst of this adversity they are doing what they can to get on with their lives, and we commend them for their strength and resilience in soldiering through.” said Peter. “It has been heart-warming to be able to offer a little in the way of assistance.”

So far the Flood Relief Group has provided a variety of assistance to people/families in dire need, including accommodation, replacement white goods, new clothing, bedding, blankets etc.

“We are very pleased that other Rotary Clubs within District 9640 also rallied to provide support and contribute funds to help us to provide this community assistance following the catastrophic event.” Peter said.

Some people literally lost everything they had. Rotary’s support has been gratefully received by those who have been assisted. Many have commented how the assistance has helped to restore their self-esteem and given them a sense of belonging to a caring community.

The local Rotary Clubs are proud to be able to offer back to their local community. It has been an opportunity for them to demonstrate their ability to act locally, providing a useful community service and practical assistance to local people in need.

There is no station in life where there is not a constant demand for the exercise of charity. We cannot be in company an hour with any person without some such demand presenting itself to us. The daily intercourse of life places it constantly in our power to make some person more or less happy than he now is, and accordingly as we may choose between these two modes of action we are fulfilling or setting aside the law of charity.

Mary G. Chandler, The Elements of Character
A culture of fun or a fast track to chaos?

Culture: ‘the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.’

For the past 100 years, it’s been cultural changes that have shaped how we have evolved and coped with our environments — no longer purely genetic changes.

What cultural changes have we seen? Where on the continuum of what’s OK and what’s NOT, do the current cultural trends sit with you and your members?

- Informality - disrespect and rudeness, or casual & relaxed?
- Personality – weird & confronting or inclusive and accepting of difference?
- Stories – telling tales, or information for improving?
- Emotion – crazy and stressful, or inspiring and motivating?
- Humour – bad taste and hurtful, or non-specific and playful?
- Social exchange – damned devices, or amazing e-connections?
- Active participation – just good club meetings or great community activities?

All of these aspects of culture impact on the meaningfulness of FUN.

What if you were to map the cultural changes in your club over its history? Where does fun sit on your cultural map — as you reminisce time spent together, you will note those occasions that you enjoyed the most: were they “great fun meetings” or “great fun community projects” or “great fun social events”?

# FUN will be remembered
# FUN will bring people back and keep them coming
# FUN needs to be assessed against the changing culture of our clubs

Suzie Annelie (1): RoFUNtary (FUN in Rotary)

Fellows! All of these are perfectly achievable:

Award certificates will be provided to district governors and district membership chairs for clubs that achieved:

- Highest growth percentage
- Highest number of new members
- Highest growth percentage of female members
- Highest growth percentage of members under 40
- Highest retention percentage over the past 3 years

How about we go for an international Membership Development Award?

Conference Chairman Jo Gorman and her team have been busy, beavering behind the scenes. Next March’s District Conference at Seaworld is coming together nicely, thank you. Click on this link to learn all about it, where you can also register. Attendance at the conference, including attendance to all the keynote speakers is free; individual meals and the Saturday night entertainment naturally attract a fee.

Registrations are now open.

Registrations for the District Conference 2018 are now open

Suzie Annelie is a nom de plume
I am delighted to announce that our second Human Brain PhD Scholarship has been awarded to Ms Samra Naz from Pakistan. Samra will commence her studies at the Queensland Brain Institute at the University of Queensland in October this year. She has a Master’s degree in bio-medical engineering and will work with Professor Peter Silburn AM to develop an Atlas of the Human Brain that will assist surgeons and practitioners in treating patients with Parkinson’s disease and other neurological disorders.

Samra is an outstanding person and was one of two women chosen to represent Pakistan at a Young Women’s Science Convention in Daejeon, South Korea. She has already developed an automated system to diagnose “age macular degeneration” and a computer monitoring system to detect “fatigue in motor-car drivers”. She reported on this research at the South Korean convention.

The heartening news is that this scholarship has been funded under a Global Grant from the Rotary Foundation. Thanks to the help of our very generous International Sponsors, Rotary District 3450 [Hong Kong, Macao, and Mongolia] and the Rotary Foundation this scholarship worth $89,000 (AUD) is only costing us $28,000 (AUD). The earlier PhD scholarship awarded to Andea Giorni from Italy was valued at $75,000 and all of this had to be paid from the scholarship funds established by the Rotary Clubs of Maclean, Yamba and Iluka-Woombah. Incidentally, Andea should be graduating later this year.

We look forward to Samra’s arrival and I know that she will be a wonderful ambassador for Rotary and someone who will have a significant presence in our District.

PDG Graham Jones - Chair, Project Manager
Some time ago, John McKenny (then RC of Glen Innes), organized a team to assist a farming family in Willdale, Western Queensland. I couldn’t write as well as it is written in a humorous yet thoughtful letter of thanks received from the Campbell family:

We, as a family, can’t begin to express our gratitude towards the wonderful, overwhelming and selfless assistance given to us by you and your Rotary Team.

Having never experienced this type of charity before, we were very unsure of what to expect. Rotary?? Volunteers ?? Visions did come to mind of decrepit, geriatric pensioner volunteers with tablet boxes, prescriptions, mobility scooters getting bogged in the bull dust and walking frames getting caught in the galvanised burr . . . . . how wrong those images were. These mature veterans were anything but past their prime. The attitude, grit and determination of your team members would make a gun shearer blush, a strapping ringer tip off his steed, and the hardest fencer hang up his trusty pliers.

We have battled for many years to fulfil our lifelong dream of making a living, of growing our cattle, kids and dogs on our own western Queensland property.

Two years ago, we finally got a chance to take on a ‘blank canvas’ of a place, with plenty of potential and beauty alike. However, despite our hard work and well thought out plans, we have faced many obstacles along the way, preventing us from being together as a family on ‘our place’. Drought, distance and time have been the big challenges for us. In these dry times, your focus must quickly turn to survival mode rather than development mode. Therefore, activities are concentrated on supplement feeding livestock, checking/maintaining stock waters instead of planning that new road or fence, or working on that house that we really need to make liveable.

Enter the Rotary Veterans . . .

General McKenney blazed the trail, formed strategies, rallied troops and gave orders to attack.

...continued on page 7
Ranger Scout Jim struck early and proceeded to prepare wiring and power supply ahead of the convoy. The squadron rolled up to Willdale at 1400 hours, accelerated introductions “there’ll be time for that after dark”. And they attacked with the vigour of a military campaign. The infantry commenced preparations leaving Colonel Denis and the Quartermaster Evonne to set up camp. No time for formalities here. Brigadier Barker was quick to announce “Now listen you blokes, I’ll do everything . . . . . . as long as it’s not sanding, grinding, wire brushing, painting or cleaning”. RIGHT Let’s Go! So pretty soon there wasn’t a door in the place that didn’t swing or didn’t close! Captain Chittick turned out to be a two legged, turbo boosted, supercharged paint preparation machine tearing that flaky paint off that tin at a consistently frightening pace. The Captain was not afraid to boldly go where others might avoid.

Cyclone Debbie loomed eminent, however spared us its deluge to mixed emotions . . . . . . All the while the troops were fuelled by Quartermaster Evonne’s regimented meal breaks and inspirational lectures. Major Adrian managed to glue the squad together, picking up on any jobs others found too difficult or formidable. Colonel Dennis maintained machinery and continued sanding while Brigadier Barker maintained moral and continued telling yarns of suspicious heritage in attempt to keep the squads productive procedures to the maximum level.

These dedicated community soldiers turned what seemed an impossible, unachievable goal into a positive, can do, will do renovation project. The end result was nothing short of AMAZING! A forgotten tin house, from a bygone era transformed, well on its way to becoming a treasured station homestead that will one day soon become our cherished family home. The headquarters for the hindquarters, a haven, a sanctuary for our family, to protect us from the often harsh environment, to regroup and most importantly, be together in some comfort on Our Place – WILLDALE.

We hope this letter helps to express our version of Thank You and somewhat reflects our great admiration of your ‘Amazing Rotarian Army’.

The Campbell Family
‘Willdale’

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA): looking for next year’s intake

The 2018 RYLA Committee are full steam ahead with organising next January’s seminar and July’s meeting was one to remember! The team’s July meeting took place during the annual road trip, which sported a Disney-theme. Full of laughs along the way, the team bonded over RIPPA tunes, scavenger hunts, trivia and facing the public in our Disney attire. With only one car getting lost throughout the weekend, the trip was deemed a major success and the team called the Murwillumbah Showgrounds home for the night. The official meeting of the trip proved productive with many exciting ideas planned for the year ahead, so keep your eyes peeled, you might see us around your town!

RYLA is designed for people aged 19 - 28 years.

The next camp is from 20th - 25th Jan 2018. Click here to get more information on RYLA

How many Youth Programs, conducted in D9640, can you name?

Yup, I know, there is RYLA (as above), then there’s RIGHTS (or was that RYTS?), and RYPE (or was that RYPEN?). And of course we have the Youth Exchange Program. And Rotaract? Then there is one where we send some really bright kids to Canberra... Would you believe, there are a total of 12? Twelve?? What are they?

Go to www.rotary9640.org and click on Youth.
"Hi, would you like to marry me?" is as silly a question as "Hi, would you like to be a Rotarian?". Would you ask a customer "Hi, would you like to buy a car from me?"? Of course not. You would first qualify the customer, match the product exactly to his need, and only then would you do a proposal. But still, you have to start somewhere...

**The first date**
The first step is to get a date. You already know the requirements of what makes a good (potential) Rotarian. So, think of some prospects, then invite them to our club’s meeting.

Perhaps offer two alternative dates when an event is on, or a Guest Speaker is presenting which would be of interest. Forward your club bulletin to somebody whom you feel comfortable has the depth to be a Rotarian. Or **send a Facebook invitation** to your next meeting. Or both.

**Getting to know each other**
At the meeting, ensure that your guest also meets other members. It is also very important that any questions your guest has about Rotary can be properly answered. Plan this step in advance and provide others with background information about the person you have invited. Ideally, the conversation should cover some aspects outside of "whaddya do for a crust?" and "been on the coast for long?". Your guest came along because he wants to learn more about Rotary and, in particular, your club.

**Will I see you again?**
The next step is trying to ascertain interest. Rotary has so many facets that you cannot possibly cram it all into one session. Ensure your guest has plenty of information about Rotary. Unless your own club’s website is current and regularly updated, the District Website, [www.rotary9640.org](http://www.rotary9640.org) is the best start.

But the major attraction for a new member to join Rotary is almost always the wish to belong to a club with like minded members who strive towards a worthwhile goal and have lots of fun along the way! If you feel he would indeed qualify to be a Rotarian, ensure you are inviting him to come along again!

**Asking For the Hand**
After three or four visits the club and the individual know about each other and the Membership Director or the President may proceed to make a formal offer. The orientation process will ensure that the candidate understands the commitment.

**The Wedding**
We hope the candidate will make Rotary a lifetime commitment and we must make the induction an event to remember. There is no reason why family, special friends, and even a business associate or two should not be invited. The Secretary will ensure that all the appropriate documentation, name tag, and pin etc are ready. The idea is not to induct a member but accept a new Rotarian. Except for Paul Harris, everybody else was asked to attend a Rotary meeting!  

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Surfers Paradise Rotary’s 15th Charity Race Day

11:30 am Saturday 7th October 2017
The Dome, Gold Coast Turf Club, Racecourse Drive, Bundall

$75.00 per person includes a new fantastic hot and cold buffet lunch. Cash Bar. Tables of 10 available. $100 per pre-paid table donated to ROMAC in your club’s name (minimum purchase 2 tables for this incentive).

**RSVP 11th September 2017** - Call Adrian 0417 634 485 or email rotaryraceday@yahoo.com

Prizes for Best Dressed Male & Female and Best Hat, etc.
Where will District Governor Darrell be?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location (click on link for map)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th August 2017</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Burleigh Heads Rotaract Club</td>
<td>Burleigh Heads Mowbray SLSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th August 2017</td>
<td>All week</td>
<td>Darwin Zone Institute</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>05th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Mudgeeraba Rotary Club</td>
<td>Merriam Tavern</td>
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<tr>
<td>06th Sept 2017</td>
<td>06:45 am</td>
<td>Mt Warning AM Rotary Club</td>
<td>The Riverview Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>07th Sept 2017</td>
<td>5:45 pm</td>
<td>Gold Coast Rotary Club</td>
<td>Southport Golf Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>08th Sept 2017</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>College of Governors Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Coomera Valley &amp; Interact Club</td>
<td>Arundel Tavern</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Jimboomba Rotary Club &amp; Interact Club</td>
<td>Jimboomba Country Tavern</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Sept 2017</td>
<td>07:15 am</td>
<td>Southport Satellite Club</td>
<td>G’s Restaurant, Griffith Uni</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Stanthorpe Rotary Club + Satellite</td>
<td>Stanthorpe International Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Tenterfield Rotary Club</td>
<td>Tenterfield Golf Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th Sept 2017</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Goondiwindi Rotary Club</td>
<td>Royal Hotel, 48 Marshall St</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st Sept 2017</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Currumbin - Coolangatta - Tweed RC</td>
<td>Twin Towns Services Club</td>
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<td>23-30th Sept 2017</td>
<td>All week</td>
<td>Surfers Sunrise RAWCS Project, Samoa</td>
<td>Apia, Samoa</td>
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<tr>
<td>01st Oct 2017</td>
<td>09:00 - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Public Image Workshop - Gold Coast</td>
<td>Quality Hotel, Mermaid Waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>03rd Oct 2017</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Warwick Rotary Club</td>
<td>Warwick RSL Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>04th Oct 2017</td>
<td>07:00 am</td>
<td>Warwick Rotaract Club</td>
<td>The Coffee Club, Warwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>05th Oct 2017</td>
<td>06:45 am</td>
<td>Warwick Sunrise Rotary Club</td>
<td>Warwick Gardens Galore Cafe</td>
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<tr>
<td>05th Oct 2017</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>McLean Rotary Club</td>
<td>Maclean &amp; District Bowling Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>07th Oct 2017</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Surfers Paradise Rotary Race Day</td>
<td>Gold Coast Turf Club</td>
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More details of District Events on the District Website: [http://rotary9640.org/Events](http://rotary9640.org/Events)

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**Rotary**
New Public Image Workshop
Organised by D9640

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**Sunday 1 October 2017**
9.30am to 12.30pm (QLD time)
Quality Hotel, Mermaid Waters
Cnr Markeri St & Sunshine Blvd
Cost: $25 - includes: tea/coffee & lunch
Register your place at: [https://goldcoasttickets.com.au/](https://goldcoasttickets.com.au/)

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The single biggest problem with Communication is the illusion that it has taken place.

George Bernard Shaw