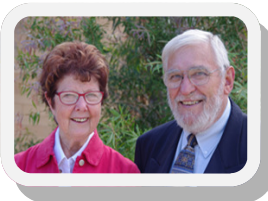




Changes to Club Meetings, Attendance and other Rotary Rules

The Council on Legislation meeting in April last made many changes to requirements for Club meetings.

A simple summary has been made available by Rotary International about the changes and how they affect clubs and their members. The information is available to all members, not just the Club executive. It refers to changes in attendance, club board structure, club finances, meetings, district leadership including vice governors, e-clubs, elections, magazines and club membership. You can download the 3-page summary by copying the following link into your browser to access the report -



<https://www.dropbox.com/s/5bidvqo2g98qbta/2016%20COL%20Essential%20Changes%20Clubs%20Districts%2026May16%20%283%29.docx?dl=0>

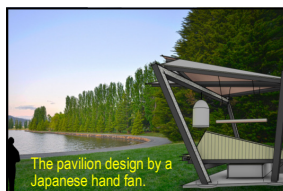
Within the next few weeks I will be sending out information to Club Presidents about the new Standard Rotary Club Constitution, and the Recommended Club By-laws. Clubs should consider this material before their next annual general meeting, as the necessary changes can be effected at such a meeting. It can be done before, but it is probably easier to do it at the AGM.

Kurri Kurri High School Interact

Kurri Kurri Rotary Club is in the process of sponsoring a new Interact Club associated with Kurri Kurri High School. The application form shows the names of 98 students who want to be a part of it! Congratulations to Graham Farish of Cessnock Club, others in Kurri Kurri Rotary and District Chair Michael Weatherall for seizing the initiative and running with the formation of the new Club.

The World Peace Bell - Canberra Proposal

The World Peace Bell is a United Nations Peace Symbol. The first Peace Bell was cast in 1952 and was an official gift from the Japanese people to the United Nations. This Peace Bell is located inside UN grounds in New York City.



The pavilion design by a Japanese hand fan.

There are now 22 replica Peace Bells around the World including 5 in Japan with others in Ankara, Berlin, Warsaw, Mexico City, Ulan Bator, Brasilia, Los Angeles and Montreal to name a few places. Australia currently has a Peace Bell located in Cowra NSW.

The Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin in conjunction with the World Peace Bell Association has decided to locate a World Peace Bell in the Canberra Nara Peace Park. It has already obtained the approval of the National Capital Authority and the ACT Government for the use of the land and to erect a pavilion to house the Peace Bell on its chosen site.

The Club would like to see wide community, government and Rotary involvement for the construction of the pavilion to house the Peace Bell and also for the associated landscaping and pathways.

The Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin is seeking donations from the public to assist with the casting and erection of the Canberra Peace Bell. More information about donating, including details of taxation deductibility, may be found on the website www.canberrapeacebell.org. You can also like or share on the [Canberra World Peacebell Facebook page](#).

The Club hopes to also attract donations from those ringing the Canberra

DISTRICT DIARY

September - 2016

- 17 - Build for A Cure - Kurri Kurri Rotary Club
- 12 - DG visit - Dubbo
- 13 - DG visit - Dubbo City Rotaract and Mudgee
- 15 - DG visit - Cobar
- 16 - Last day to nominate for GSE Team Leader
- 16 - Applications Close for RYPEN
- 17 - TRF South American Fiesta - **cancelled**
- 19 - DG visit - Cardiff
- 20 - DG visit - Wallsend-Maryland
- 21 - DG visit - Newcastle Sunrise
- 22 - DG visit - Greenhill-Maitland
- 23-25 - Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) Weekend
- 24 - YEP Briefing weekend 2017 Outbound
- 26 - DG visit - Rutherford-Telarah
- 27 - DG visit - Maitland-Sunrise
- 27 - DG visit - Merriwa
- 28 - DG visit - Denman

October - 2016

- 04 - DG visit - Dubbo South
- 05 - DG visit - Murrurundi
- 06 - DG visit - Hunter Rotaract
- 07 - Aust Rotary Health Hat Day
- 08 - GSE Team Member Interviews
- 10 - DG visit - Singleton on Hunter
- 11 - DG visit - Singleton Sunrise
- 11 - DG visit - Rylstone-Kandos
- 12 - DG visit - Scone
- 14 - Last day to nominate to host GST members
- 14 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs Meeting - East
- 15-16 - Australian ROTARACT Conference
- 15 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs Meeting - West
- 17 - DG visit - Waratah
- 19 - DG visit - Dubbo West
- 20 - Quarterly meeting of D9670 RAWCS
- 22 - RC Singleton Sunrise Charter Lunch
- 23 - RLI East - Day 1 / two day course
- 24 - DG visit - Myall Coast
- 25 - DG visit - Newcastle Enterprise
- 29-30 - GSE Team Selection Weekend
- 30 - RLI East - Day 2 / two day course
- 30 - Rotary Down Under (RDU) Graffiti Removal Day
- 31 - DG visit - Belmont

November - 2016

- 03 - DG visit - Lake Macquarie
- 08 - DG visit - Kurri Kurri
- 09 - DG visit - Newcastle Harbour
- 12-13 - Eastern Region RAWCS Conference
- 13 - RLI East- Day1 / two day course
- 14 - DG visit - Warners Bay
- 20 - RLI East- Day 2 / two day course
- 27 - YEP Final briefing Outbound

December - 2016

- 11 - The Rotary Foundation Meeting

February - 2017

- 10 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs Meeting - East
- 11 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs - West
- 23 - Rotary's 112th Birthday
- 24 - AGs training
- 25-26 - 2017-18 AGs and Chairs Training

March - 2017

Peace Bell to support Rotary Peace Projects such as the Rotary Foundation, Rotary Peace Scholarships and Shelter Box Australia. There is also an agreement from the Chief Minister's office of the ACT for the awarding, each year, of the Chief Minister's Rotary Peace Prize which would be awarded to a selected citizen. The Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin has agreed to nominate that citizen as a Paul Harris Fellow. It is expected that the \$1,000 donation to the Rotary Foundation would come from donations made during the year at the Canberra Peace Bell.

One of the formal World Peace Bell requirements is that the Peace Bell be rung each year on the International Day of Peace on the third Tuesday in September. The Rotary Club would also invite wide involvement from other community groups and organisations and encourage them to hold special events at the Canberra Peace Bell to commemorate significant anniversaries of events. It is proposed that the Canberra Peace Bell be struck at 11am on 11 November, Remembrance Day, each year. The Club invites suggestions for ringing days from Rotary Clubs and encourages them to work closely with their local communities to create special events.

Rotary Action Group for Peace (RAGFP)

Still on the theme of Peace, it is noted that Peace and Conflict Resolution is one of the 6 areas of focus of the Rotary Foundation. A new Rotary Action Group (RAG) has been formed, which may be of interest to some members. More information on the Rotary Action Group for Peace can be found via the website mentioned below.

There is a PeaceMap, which is an interactive mapping system developed to help Rotarians connect with:

Rotary Peace Centres
Rotary Peace Fellows
Peace organizations
Educational institutions with peace programs
Peace Projects around the world



By connecting to any of the above peace entities, Rotarians can become involved in peace activities and contribute in the endeavour of making peace a global phenomenon. The RAGFP PeaceMap can be found by following this link:

The RAGFP would like to invite the Rotarians in your district to become active participants in this great Rotary tradition. We invite you to take the first step by joining the RAGFP and encouraging Rotarians in your district to do the same. To join the RAGFP, go to the website. We also encourage you to add to your agenda a peace initiatives component, as part of your leadership and service to Rotary. In the occasion that you need any further assistance, the RAGFP is ready to answer any of your questions and offer its full support and assistance to your peace initiatives and involvement. Please feel free to contact us at contact@rotariansforpeace.org. The postal address for this RAG is - Rotarian Action Group for Peace, 221 NW Second Ave, Suite 204, Portland, OR 97209, USA

[Read More](#)

The Zone Institute

Rotary International has divided the world into a number of administrative zones and Australia is in Zone 8. New Zealand is in part of Zone 7, and forms Zone 7B. Every few years there is a combined Zone 7B and Zone 8 Conference associated with the Governor Elect Training Seminar and Zone Institute and recently this took place in Penrith, with our New Zealand cousins in attendance. In the past the zone conference has only been for former officers of Rotary International and the current G-train. However this year, for the first time, on the initiative of Australian R.I. Director Noel Trevaskis, the Zone Conference was opened up to every Rotarian in the country who wanted to attend.

Those who did attend were privileged to meet and hear from Past RI Presidents Glen Kinross from Australia, Bill Boyd from New Zealand and Ron

05 - Clean Up Oz Day
12 - Loop the Lake
16-19 - District Conference, Dubbo

April - 2017

01 - PETS West
02 - District Assembly West
29 - PETS East
30 - District Assembly East

May - 2017

12 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs meeting East
13 - Presidents, AGs & Chairs meeting West
26-27 - MUNA, Muswellbrook

July - 2017

01 - District Changeover

*Correct at time of publishing.
Any changes will be up-dated.*

THERE ARE LOTS OF PROGRAMS FOR NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

The great diversity of programs available to Australian and New Zealand Rotarians offers a challenge and realistic programs to assist the youth in your area.

Rotary Clubs are autonomous in their choices of service projects. They make decisions based on local, national and international demands and have need to balance resources to provide assistance in times of unforeseen crises.

This list is to give your club something to think about should you like to do something for this month.

- Cure Kids
- Handicamps
- NZ Challenge Camp
- Interact
- J R McKenzie Youth Education Fund
- Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)
- Pacific Australia Cultural Exchange (PACE)
- Peer Support
- Pictorial Dictionary Project
- Recognition of Youth Awards (ROYA)
- Rotaract
- Rotary Adventure in Citizenship
- Rotary Youth in Agriculture (RYAG)
- Rotary Youth Crops Agronomy. Grain and Seed (RYCAGS) Camp
- Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA)
- Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)
- RYDA - Youth Driver Awareness
- U-Turn the Wheel

Burton from the United States of America. As well, the RI President Elect Ian Riseley from Australia was present and spoke several times. And there were presentations about using positive psychology; a project assisting indigenous people with diabetes needing dialysis to remain on country; water and sanitation programs; reasons for Rotary to change and innovate; the Centenary of The Rotary Foundation and the Atlanta convention in 2017 and much more. But outside of the presentations, there was an opportunity to talk to and listen to other Rotarians from right across Australasia – to discuss projects, membership, places to visit, in fact anything relating to Rotary and its multitude of activities. It is a great opportunity for learning from your peers and I would recommend that anyone who can attend does attend in future years.

As Others See Things

It would be a sad world if everyone thought the same way and did exactly the same thing as everyone else. Sometimes, though, for various reasons people do not see things in the same way that others do. Take for instance the last edition of the District Governor's Newsletter. Shortly after Volume 2 was published, the District Secretary, who had nothing to do with it except distribute it, received an email from a Rotarian saying the newsletter was "a disgrace and offensive", and that it would not be sent on to the members of that Club. It was quite plain that the problem was the "blonde jokes" which appeared in that edition.

The way the Newsletter is compiled is that the District Governor writes pieces for inclusion, or copies articles from elsewhere. The Newsletter Editor formats the newsletter, and puts in little pieces of information, or in some cases humour, to lighten up the newsletter. The Editor then sends the draft to the District Governor for approval. When the draft of Volume 2 was received, this DG thought the humorous items about the census were quite funny and requested that the Editor forward it to the Secretary for distribution. It didn't ever enter the Editor's head or the DG's head that the humour was so-called "blonde jokes" – each of them thought they were a bit of poke at bean counters – statisticians, accountants and the like.

If any blonde or associate of a blonde was offended by the jokes then I apologise unreservedly, as I know the Editor does. And if any statistician, accountant and the like is offended by the jokes themselves or by the above comments, I apologise for them too. But where does one draw the line? Do we have to be so politically correct that there is no longer room for comment, or banter, or even a bit of fun? As long as the joke is not a "put-down" I frankly can see no harm in it. The next time someone refers to lawyers as being people with short arms and deep pockets, or when someone who gets a bill from a lawyer is heard to say that the lawyer came at them with head down, horns up, nostrils flared – i.e., charged like a raging bull – won't be the first time this District Governor has heard those comments. It goes with the territory, as they say. In case you don't know, the District Governor has been associated with the legal profession for in excess of 50 years.

ACTION TAKEN

But in view of the complaint, what was done? The District Newsletter is for the benefit of all Rotarians, and the indication that Volume 2 would not be sent to the members of that particular club disturbed the District Governor. After consultation, the District Newsletter Editor removed all humour from the newsletter and published another version. That was sent to the club of the complainant Rotarian with a request that the later version be distributed. Was it distributed? We don't know, as there has been no response.

*Till next month,
DG Stephen*

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

DG's Newsletter will be published by the 14th of each month.

Only information relevant to the entire district will be published.

Share your 'big' event.

Sam Owori is selected as 2018-19 Rotary President



Samuel Frobisher Owori, of the Rotary Club of Kampala, Uganda, is the choice of the nominating committee to be the president of Rotary International in 2018-19.

He will be declared the president-nominee on 1 October if no challenging candidates have been suggested.



Friday October 7 2016 is Hat Day, an initiative of Australian Rotary Health, one of the largest not-for-profit funders of mental health research in Australia.

100% of the money raised during this year's Hat Day campaign goes directly to research helping the one in five Australians affected by depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and many other illnesses.

You can help by simply registering your Hat Day event on our website. It could be for your club, company, work associates, sport team, get together some friends or family – whatever!

Once your Hat Day event page is set up you can share the link and let everyone know how they can help by making an online donation. You'll be able to set a 'Hat's Off' target to reach by October 7 2016 and keep track of the progress whilst you plan for a big celebration on the day.

AROUND THE CLUBS

This section is for all Clubs in the District 9670 to publish any Club event you would like known through-out the District.

Only for Events that will attract visitors from the District.

It is not for your 'local' BBQ.

SEPTEMBER

- 16 - Trivia Night, Scone Rotary Club
- 17 - Build for A Cure, Kurri Kurri Rotary Club

OCTOBER

- 7 - Friday - Nelson Bay Charity Golf Day
- 8 - September Club attendance and Community Hours to be sent to PDG Peter Sivyer at ppsivyer@bigpond.com
- 8 - High Tea - Rutherford-Telarah Rotary Club
- 22 - Saturday - Charter Luncheon Singleton Sunrise - All Invited
- 22 - Saturday - "Newcastle to Dungog Charity Bikeride." Rotary Club of Newcastle
- 22-23 - Sat-Sun - Murrurundi Train Festival
- 28 and 29 October - Made in Australia Charity Cabaret - Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter

Thank you to the Bulletin Editors who send me their Bulletin each week.

Any others, please send to:

districtnewsletter@rotary9670.org.au

REMEMBER

All new Club Presidents and Secretaries should visit the District Web site (www.rotary9670.org.au).



Please check your club officers and Board information for 2016-2017 to be sure it is correct and complete.

Your club planning document should be sent to your AG four weeks before the DGs visit.

All Clubs are encouraged to update their goals for 2016-2017 and put these into My Rotary (www.myrotary.org).

There is the possibility of a RI Presidential Citation, under the more flexible requirements established by RI PP Ravi last year.

ROTARY DISTRICT 9670 – AUGUST, 2016

CLUB NAME	MEMBERSHIP NUMBER	ATTENDANCE %	RANK	COMMUNITY HOURS
Belmont	22	96.1	2	ns
Cardiff	13	70	17	42
Denman	21	76	10	138
Dubbo	25	78.1	9	102
Dubbo Macquarie	21	100	1	145.5
Dubbo South	57	75.79	11	423
Dubbo West	42	73.11	15	68
East Maitland	33	78.79	7	95
Kurri Kurri Sunrise	20	85	5	127
Maitland	37	74	14	360
Maitland Sunrise	29	75	13	202.5
Merriwa	31	75.48	12	ns
Myall Coast	28	56	21	64
Narromine	12	70.45	16	ns
Nelson Bay	49	80.69	6	ns
Newcastle Harbour	14	69	19	ns
Rutherford Telarah	38	86.4	4	400
Singleton	31	70	17	ns
Wallsend Maryland	32	78.46	8	348
Waratah	21	94.53	3	45
Williamtown	21	69	19	303
Month of July 2016				
Maitland Sunrise	29	71		1262
Williamtown	22	58		272

I appreciate the effort of Rotary Club Attendance Officers in responding to the request to submit their reports by the 8th day each month. –This has allowed me to forward this report to the Editor John East (Rotary Club of Denman) for earlier finalisation of the "September" District newsletter for D.G. Stephen Jackson.

In Rotary, PDG Peter Sivyer.

DID YOUR CLUB DO ANYTHING?

August was Membership and New Club Development Month.

Did your Club actually do anything to find one new member?

We shouldn't forget what really is the simplest way of increasing our membership – individual Rotarians asking somebody to join, or at least come along to a meeting.