



**BE THE
INSPIRATION**

Rotary
District 9800



Annual Report 2018-2019

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

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Rotary District 9800 Support Team 2018-2019

This team of Rotarians supported Clubs and Rotarians tirelessly with creativity and dedication. The thanks registered herewith is inadequate to express the debt of gratitude required for their selfless service.

BOARD MEMBERS

Governor

Vice Governor

Governor Elect

Governor Nominee

Governor Nominee Designate

Immediate Past Governor

Secretary

Treasurer

Director Foundation

Director Governance

Bronwyn Stephens (Melbourne South)

Neville John (Central Melbourne)

Grant Hocking (Woodend)

Philip Archer (Southbank)

Dale Hoy (Brighton)

Peter Frueh (Balwyn)

Jane Pennington (North Balwyn)

Arthur Hubbard (Brighton)

Dennis Shore (Hawthorn)

David Whiting (Keilor)

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS & SUPPORT CHAIRS

Assistant Governor Mentor

Batman

Beachside

Calder

Chirnside

Eastside

Gateway East

Gateway West

Goldfields North

Goldfields South

Heritage

Hobsons Bay

Port Phillip

Riverside

Stonnington

Westside

Club Service

District Rotaract Representative

Learning and Development

Community Service

Membership

International Service

Vocational Service

Youth Service

Director Public Image and Communications

Jonathan Shepherd (Kew)

Dale Hoy (Brighton)

Peter Schneider (Pahran)

Jenny Foster (Keilor East)

Julieanne Bartels (Caroline Springs)

Barry Hickman (Brighton)

Ian Ada (Carlton)

Des O'Shanassy (Hoppers Crossing)

Jill Barker (Eaglehawk) and

Ron Payne (Eaglehawk)

Cliff Downey (Echuca)

Joan Robison (Albert Park)

Paul Rake (Chadstone East Malvern)

Rosemary Waghorne (Canterbury)

Nick Pane (Camberwell)

Amanda Wendt (Melbourne)

Josephine Falzarano (Woodend)

Yvonne Flynn (Malvern)

Helena Toscas (Rotaract Gateway)

Julie Mason (Wyndham)

David Bourke (Keilor)

Neville John (Central Melbourne)

Bob Glindemann (Melbourne)

Alan Seale (Central Melbourne)

Maria Silber (Footscray)

Kerry Kornhauser (Melbourne)

2018 Vision

Rotary District 9800



Where we are now?

Not all together across clubs, districts and demographics.

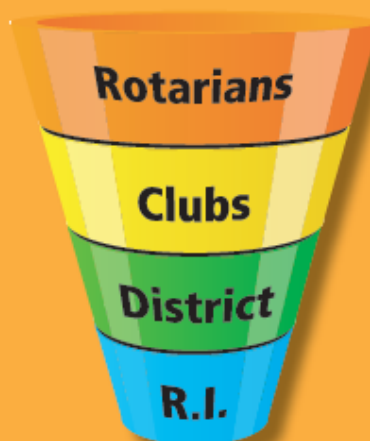
Rotary membership static.

Demographic at times not representative of the community we serve.

The Rotary Foundation Charity not necessarily Rotarian's charity of choice

Polio is still in the world.

Some administration layered, costly and technologically outdated.



"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves"

Rotary International vision

Our Values

1. SERVICE
2. FELLOWSHIP
3. DIVERSITY
4. INTEGRITY
5. LEADERSHIP

Our Plans

Our family of Rotary - Interact, Rotaract, Earlyact and Rotary blurring boundaries.

Representation of Rotaract on Rotary board.

Victoria wide opportunities.

Corporate, philanthropic and Government relationships developed.

Creative "membership support team".

Community Hub relationships.

Promote the People of Action campaign.

"Rotary Days".

Focus on diversity opportunities and relationships at government and corporate levels.

Promote Charity Navigator 5 star rating of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) as No 1 in world.

Concentrate on large scale projects with sustainability focus and high impact.

Promote peace, global scholars and TRF sponsored programs.

Increase our share to the "End Polio Now" campaign.

Revise District meetings and venue options.

End duplication between information platforms.

Our information to members will be up-to-date and accessible.



www.rotarydistrict9800.org

2018-19 Rotary International Theme: “Be the Inspiration”

Our theme in this Rotary year was Be the Inspiration. Barry Rassin chose this theme because, throughout his years in Rotary, he has seen that what truly motivates Rotarians is their work. The Rotarians who have the biggest impact through their service aren't always the women and men with the greatest resources, the most experience, or the largest networks. They're the ones who are inspired. Whether it was something they did, something they saw, or someone they met, they've all had experiences that lit them on fire—and inspired them to serve.

This year, he asked each of us not only to seek that inspiration within yourselves, but to Be the Inspiration for others. He asked us to work to build clubs and districts with Rotarians who find meaning in their service, who know they are having an impact, and who are inspired to do even more. Lead with passion, lead by example—and lead Rotary to a future even stronger than its present.

Strategic Plan



The vision for the year was audacious and bold with several innovative plans to see how Rotarians would respond to potential alternative support structures and cost savings. PDG Keith Ryall invited us to bring “Big hairy audacious goals” to the table. The District Support Team (DST) did just that. The team was renamed to focus our efforts on supporting the Clubs and Rotarians we serve.



The Rotaract District Representative was invited to the DST.

District Governor 2021-2022 was selected. Dale Hoy from the Rotary Club of Brighton.

Thanks to Ron Payne for stepping into the Assistant Governor role at very short notice mid way through the year.

A multi district Conference facilitating all ages of our Rotary family was actively pursued. Significant financial provision for youth to plan their own conference and Earlyact, Interact and 18-30 year old involvement sought.

A change to ClubRunner website and app improved accessibility and up-to-date information for our members. Mark Stephens wrote the website at volunteer rates i.e. no cost, and District Secretary Jane Pennington and others can easily update it. The combination of savings through moving the website to ClubRunner and moving away from a paper District Directory to combination of website, app and printable pdf has been over \$30,000.

Community Hubs relationship with Rotary Clubs began to flourish thanks to persistence and goodwill.

Governance Director David Whiting's support of us all through interpretation of legislation and then helping us apply it in practical terms was appreciated. We grapple and sometimes find it difficult to evolve with the times and understand that compliance is required. Something that was a goal for us, was to develop some conflict resolution training and a team to assist Clubs. The training packages explored were extremely costly and the negotiations stalled. David was supported in the role by Mark Perree (Insurance) and Gary Goldsmith (Youth). Acknowledgement and thanks to them all for their service in their complex roles.

Council of Legislation representation through PDG Dennis Shore's support of us all was very much appreciated. His reporting on the decisions and interpreting the resolutions made the Rotary International global sphere relevant and vibrant.

The requirement of International House for their students to use the Royce and Jean Abbey Room for tutorial spaces created unexpected opportunities for us to be creative. We relied heavily on IH for our 120+ meeting spaces a year at a significant cost. Now Rotarians have sourced free spaces. DIK has a wonderful digitalized facsimile of RI President Royce Abbey for all to enjoy in the meeting room.

Awards and Recognitions

Laurie Fisher and Bob Glindemann District 9800 Champions of Change

Jenny Foster District 9800 Royce Abbey Champion of Change

Ludovic Grosjean Rotary People of Action: Young Innovators Recognition presented at Rotary Day at the United Nations Nairobi by RI President Barry Rassin

Lin Hughes District 9800 Humanitarian of the Year

Ricardo Krauskopf PHF double sapphire from RC Dili for 10 years of development work in Balibo & Belola

Ken Maxfield District 9800 Rotarian of the Year

Gordon McKern Service Above Self

Ian Salek District Service Award

SHINE ON RECIPIENTS



DISTRICT CHANGEOVER ON 3RD JUNE 2019 AWARD PRESENTATIONS:

Smarties awards

These are District Governor recognitions for Rotarians who have, via their outstanding service, supported many Clubs over a number of years, and also particularly supported her personally.



Ross Butterworth – for outstanding service in creating WERN. Also the innovation in starting the Multi District Collaboration of President Elect Leadership Development.



Lesley McCarthy – for editorial services via the District News, actively acquiring notices and photographs and always supporting the Clubs in this endeavour.



Neville John – for constant dedication to membership development. Encouraging innovation and creativity in flexible thinking. For being an unwavering mentor to so many, including me.



Jane Pennington – for District Secretary support to all Rotarians in times of innovation and change. Always smiling, always willingly encouraging and always being on the spot.



Warwick Cavell – for helping us to understand high performance spaces. For giving me a statement “I don’t believe in failure I believe there are setbacks that are put in our path to teach us something and move us in a different direction”. This and so many other strategies and tools are so very useful.



Robert Fisher – for arranging at very short notice End Polio promotion of the Melbourne Town Hall as a general public awareness campaign.

CLUB RECOGNITIONS:

International Service

Rotary Club Central Melbourne **Heuthan Village Primary School Renovation Project, Laos**

Rotary Club Canterbury **Health, Hunger and Clean Water, Philippines**

Community Service

Rotary Club Eaglehawk **Cobar Drought relief effort**

Rotary Club Flemington Kensington **FlemKen Festival of Arts and Ideas**

Vocational Service

Rotary Club Central Melbourne **Ambulance Vic Mentoring Program**

Rotary Club Brighton **RMIT Mentoring Program**

Public Image and Communications

Rotary Club Richmond **Celebrating Inspiring Women**

Rotary Club Altona City **Teacher Awards**

Youth

Rotary Club Brighton **Marine Industry Preparation program**

Rotary Club Melbourne **Mobile Interactive Face Washing station/Eliminate Trachoma**

Membership

Bacchus Marsh **Vintage Truck & Trades Show**

Melbourne **Membership Engagement**

FROM DISTRICT 9800, RECOGNIZING OUR PEOPLE GOING EXTRA 100'S OF MILES

Elizabeth and Jonathan Shepherd	Kew	PHF Certificate of Appreciation
Ian Hovey	Werribee	PHF 4
Vijay Susarla	Camberwell	PHF+3
Hugh Bucknall	Melbourne	PHF+3
Lynda Shore	Hawthorn	PHF+7
Stuart and Yayoi Murata McArthur	Southbank	PHF Certificate of Appreciation
Peter and Barbara Lamping	E-Club of Melbourne	PHF Certificate of Appreciation
Michael Lapina and family	Wyndham	PHF Certificate of Appreciation
Julie Mason	Wyndham	PHF+8
Stuart Cardell	Central Melbourne	PHF+2
David Bourke	Keilor	PHF+4
Alan Seale	Central Melbourne	PHF+7
Barry and Vanda Mullen	Keilor East	PHF Certificate of Appreciation
Maria B Silber	Footscray	PHF+2
Gabrielle Morgan	West Footscray	PHF+4
Yvonne Flynn	Malvern	PHF+2
David Whiting	Keilor	PHF+3

Significant Events in 2018-19

There were many significant milestones, events and moments in this year, including:

Drought relief



**RC CASTLEMAINE & EAGLEHAWK
COMBINED TO ASSIST COBAR**

The D9800 drought relief project has been successful in achieving its aims of supporting drought affected communities whilst at the same time building connections between D9800 Rotary clubs and Rotary clubs in affected communities.

All projects involved direct connection with the affected communities with D9800 clubs visiting the affected communities and most had D9800 clubs working with local Rotary clubs thereby raising awareness of the impact of drought with D9800 Rotarians.

Whilst visiting the drought affected communities D9800 clubs boosted the local economy by staying in their hotels, eating in their restaurants and Pubs and buying from the local shops. In most cases goods were purchased from local suppliers thus further assisting local business to remain in the community and assist the long-term survival of the town.

The final donations into the D9800 account totalled \$348,676.49 (\$250,000 from the National fund and the remaining \$98,676.49 from private community donations).

The total dispersed from the D9800 account was \$343,600 with the remaining amount of \$5076.49 being transferred to a club drought project.

The disbursements of funds and basic details of the projects are on the D9800 website and were published in the District newsletter. The detail included D9800 club names, location being supported, other Rotary club involvement and amount of money funded from the D9800 Drought fund. It is important to note that clubs have also made financial contributions in excess of these amounts which further supported drought relief efforts.

On behalf of our D9800 thanks to DGE Grant Hocking for Chairing this massive effort, Philip Archer for mobilizing Channel 9 and RAWCS to achieve so much in funding, committee members David Bourke, Cliff Downey and Barry Hickman for all the due diligence and connections, and our Clubs for humanitarian service.

Donations in Kind DIK this year has shipped over 80 containers to Bangladesh x 1, Cambodia x 3, Chile x 2, Fiji x 5, Ghana x 1, Kiribati x 1, Nepal x 1, Philippines x 2, Somaliland x 2, South Sudan x 2, Sri Lanka x 1, Tanzania x 3, Timor Leste x 8, Vanuatu x 1.

Western Emergency Relief Network (WERN) have 362 accredited caseworkers coming to them for assistance and 51 partner support agencies. They assisted 424 Clients in 6 months this year compared with 910 in the total of the last 3 years with a nominal value of the goods totaling \$315,700. Over 1300 families have been helped since PDG Ross Butterworth started this in 2015.

Shine On this year was hosted in D9800 with thanks to Victorian representative Louise Bugeja, Margaret Desmyth and the RC Hoppers Crossing. There were 23 nominations and the afternoon of celebration and smiles was inspirational.

Playgrounds councils no longer require have a new purpose. They are dismantled and shipped to developing countries, then giving joy to countless children. This is through the dedication and tenacity of Peter Cribb and via Rotary Flemington Kensington.

End Trachoma 2020 is now supported throughout all Districts in Australia. Lien Trin continues her expert attention to this role, supported by a committee from RC Melbourne. <https://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au/>

Rotary: Give Every Child a Future, a centenary project for 2021 is a Rotary Australasia centenary project to save lives by vaccinating 100,000 children across nine Pacific Island countries against three diseases and to establish sustainable vaccination programs in each country. We are committing significant District Designated Funds to this project as a mark of commitment. <https://everychildafuture.com/>

80 midwives in Nepal received midwifery training thanks to RC Gisborne, Sam Dunne and her team.

Diversity and inclusion actively championed, engaged with and celebrated during Pride March, IDAHOBIT and a Workshop Chaired by Grant Godino.

Natalia is 24 years old living in West Papua. She suffers from Neurofibromatosis. Greg Penno and his tireless efforts raised over \$60,000 for her surgery to positively transform her life.

Homelessness committee

Homelessness continues to be a troubling aspect of humanitarian service for Rotarians. A focus group has worked tirelessly and provided key strategies going forward:

- A working party of Rotarians with broad knowledge
- Creation of a simple effective brochure
- A panel presentation and small group discussions at the Multi District Conference
- Structures to connect like minded Rotarians and Clubs across the State
- Effective collaborative techniques with the Lord Mayor and her team, agencies and partners.
- The committee is losing some members and looking to restructure and refocus for 2019-2020.

A main aim going forward will be to provide an opportunity like the forum for clubs to become aware of existing projects, share knowledge and collaborate where possible. Austin Burleigh and James Pullar have championed this fledgling Committee

BMDI/Rotary House

Eric Wright (Managing Director) has been pivotal in the revitalisation of Rotary's relationship with Rotary House. He has spoken and hosted many Clubs at Rotary House this year. The personal story of a family's journey through bone marrow transplantation, what having accommodation at Rotary House means to them, and the possibility of rebuilding and enabling more welcoming spaces for people from regional areas resonates with our members.

PDG Gordon McKern whose Rotary vision it was to mobilize Rotarians in 1992 to build the research facility and then the accommodation house has spoken at 15 Rotary Clubs, inspiring them and generating interest for the redevelopment. The District Board agreed that an MOU would be enacted with the Fight Cancer Foundation to continue to collaborate and fundraise for the redevelopment. I have been invited to a working party with 2 Rotarians and 3 FCF representatives, chaired by Eric Wright. In 2019-2020 Grant Hocking has created a portfolio to champion the Rotary House redevelopment and I am honoured to accept his invitation to this role. See <https://vimeo.com/341171464>

"World BBQ Day" PP Carl Zammit's Kew's idea has lots of sizzle <https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Stories/world-bbq-day>

Rotary Friendship exchanges with guidance from Chair Jeanette Lynch. Outgoing team from Scotland D1020. Incoming team from D5550 Central Canada March 2019 and outgoing exchange August 2019. D



2023 Rotary International World Convention will be held in Melbourne thanks to the foresight, creativity and nomination by RC Melbourne under the leadership of Hugh Bucknall and his team.

Rotarians 4 Bees and ESRAG alliance effectively drawing in several Clubs and Districts has created a platform for championing environmental awareness raising and practical measures to protect our bee population.

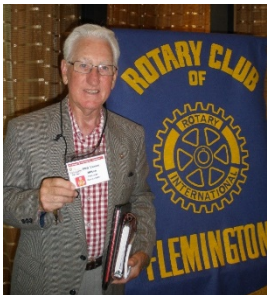
PDG Lawrence Atley represented D9800 on the Probus South Pacific

Nomination Selection Committee.

Global Grant WASH project in the Philippines for final assessment & handover involving 6 villages (RC of Melbourne and RC of Tabuk up in Northern Philippines in D3770). Congratulations Ruth Carloz-Martinez and PDG Iven McKay.

RAGMSA New Strategy and new website, attendance at Hamburg world convention.

Vale



Each year some of our Rotarians are called to higher service and this year was no exception.

Past District Governor Vance Hilton, a charter member of the Rotary Club of Flemington, passed away on 29th September 2018. Vance was District Governor 1999-2000 and was chairman of Rotary Down Under. He was awarded an O.A.M. in 2006.

Rotarians we miss deeply were honoured at District Conference during the “In Memoriam” reflection.

Programs and Projects

‘District Recognised’ programs were administered by a committee comprising PDG’s Jim Studebaker, Peter Frueh and Marjorie Gerlinger. The programs are those within Community, International, Vocational or Youth that are adopted by several Clubs, then submitted for scrutiny and evaluation to this committee for District to actively promote. Clubs wishing to support a program can be assured that a District Recognised program has been through a rigorous evaluation and is continually monitored. For a list of District Recognised programs visit <https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050232/en-au/files/homepage/d9800-programs/D9800-Programs.pdf>

Membership

Rotary Club Flemington changed their name to Flemington Kensington.

Doing good in the world while maintaining personal lives and day to day challenges is a complicated and sometimes difficult business. A few Clubs have had Presidents who needed to step down mid-year due to ill health and other issues. It is a testimony to the team and our fellowship of Rotary when these challenges beset and we pull through.

The official RI membership for District 9800 clubs as at 31 May 2019 was 2,234 compared to 2,221 at 1 July 2018. We hope that the month of June does not repeat the trend of recent years where clubs have shed over 100 members across the district in that month.

There are still clubs whose futures are in danger. Each have their own reasons why this is the case, but from my general view point, they do not engage their members or the community well enough to retain or attract new members.

Four clubs sought assistance from the District Membership Support team during the year in an effort to work through a process that would provide them with a revitalisation action plan.

A new club was chartered at Wyndham Harbour in April this year, the first in that area in 33 years, so we now have 64 clubs in D9800, one more than at the beginning of the year. This is a welcome change to the trend of the last four years where the district saw 8 clubs either retire their charter or merge.

Interest meetings are being held for a new club in Macedon Ranges, with around 28 attendees. It is estimated that this club will charter in July/August 2019. Lien Trinh is holding an interest meeting on Sunday 14 July 2019 in Northcote to determine interest in starting a new 'coffee' styled club that meets on a weekend day in that area. Lien hopes to attract young families who are unable to attend meetings during the week. Jenny Foster is developing a Passport Club concept at Donations in Kind to capture non-Rotary volunteers and regular visitors who have an interest in the store. An interest event at DIK is planned for 6 July 2019. In addition to this, a branch of Central Melbourne Rotary in Docklands (Rotary Docklands) is continuing its development with a project based structure that will be used to attract local residents and workers who want to be engaged in helping others. Sorry this hasn't changed, I've pressed the wrong button and now can't get rid of the red.

New models of operating are being tried by existing clubs and the interest in new engagement focused clubs that have flexible meeting arrangements is growing. The district will continue to support both existing and new clubs to develop value propositions that will attract new and retain existing members.

Rotary Foundation(TRF)

Maximizing what we do through our Charity's incredible capacity has paid off this year. On behalf of the PDG Dennis Shore and the District Foundation team it is my pleasure to report:

Paul Harris Society

This year Chair PDG Gordon McKern welcomed 4 new members to the PHS. Michael Lapina (RC Wyndham), Gary McClure (RC Castlemaine – in honour of his parents), Catherine O'Connor (RC Laverton Point Cook), and Vijay, Susarla (RC Camberwell). This brings the number of people contributing USD \$1000 annually to TRF to around 135.

Grants

This Rotary year TRF has provided over \$95,000 for District local and International grants. High impact global grants take research and generally multiple Club involvement. This year 6 global grants were undertaken involving 13 of our Clubs.

GG1873091	Skills Development Training For Financially Weaker People	\$	62,000
GG1871023	Treatment for children with Congenital Heart Defects	\$	78,000
GG1866289	Malaria elimination in border towns in Timor Leste	\$	251,334
GG1874460	Global Grant Scholarship-Katharine Brown	\$	30,000
GG1862419	SCC Kouk-Kandal	\$	89,000
		\$	510,334

A unique opportunity was posed to Clubs to connect with their local secondary school by way of a scholarship for year 10 students. \$1000 Club contributions matched by \$1000 TRF for the School Principal was taken up by 16 Clubs.

There were 35 District Grants involving both local and international communities.

Peace contribution and scholars

A contribution of USD \$25,000 was made to Rotary Peace Centres.

Four Peace Fellows are enrolled at universities. Unfortunately one has subsequently withdrawn. Those remaining are Catherine Harris, mentored by the Rotary Club of Brighton, who will commence her course in September this year at Duke Uni/ Uni North Carolina, Anggia Burcher at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand (Certificate Course over 3 months) and Amra Lee at Uppsala University in Sweden (Masters Course over 18 months).

6 exceptional candidates were interviewed in June 2019, having been put forward by Clubs and mentored by the Peace Committee, under the leadership of Rob Helme.

Royce & Jean Abbey Vocational Scholarship

A new Scholar (Jenny Endola from the Philippines, sponsored by RC Essendon) arrived.

Global Grant Scholars

Scholar Katie Wilford from the USA (hosted by RC Melbourne) completed her Masters in Mathematics at Melbourne University.

Alexa Ridgway who is nearing the completion of her PhD from Hong Kong University, has advised that she is expecting twin future Rotarians (a boy and a girl) due at the end of June. HKU has agreed to her completing her thesis in Australia. She and husband James have taken up residence in Footscray, close to her sponsor club!

Alistair Quin (sponsored by RC Carlton) already has the Menzies Scholarship. \$30,000 from TRF will fund his Harvard course in Computational Biology and Quantitative Genetics.

Genevieve Auld (Sponsored by RC Carlton and hosted by RC Oak Park-River Forest) is a lawyer working in refugee law. Her scholarship for US\$30,000 has been approved to attend Chicago University to extend her studies as a global scholar.

Vocational Training Teams

District 9800 and TRF provided funds for 2 Vocational Training Teams this year. A team of teachers have provided the last instalment of a 3 year educational VTT for teachers in Cambodia. In Timor Leste the completion of the second VTT series for Antenatal and Obstetric Emergency Care has occurred is nearing completion. [They have one more visit].

Youth

The many and varied offerings including camps, science and academic forums, provide a smorgasboard of programs for Clubs to offer to students. They are outlined at

<https://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/youth>

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) provided a safe space for 15-17 year olds to stretch and explore. This year the camp numbers were April 2019 43 and Oct 2018 34.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA), the week long personal development challenge for 18-25 year olds was attended by 49 attendees and 23 in the leadership team plus the Co-Directors David Kinnersley and Jacqui Birchall.

Exciting times in **Interact and Early Act** with 3 new Clubs chartered. Rotary Club Williamstown chartered the Earlyact Club of Sandridge School with 25 members. Rotary Club Brighton chartered the Interact Club of Brighton Grammar School.

Rotary Club Richmond reinvigorated Melbourne Girls College Interact Club with 12 members. Gisborne SC being revived. Albert Park College lapsed but there are plans for it to be revived.

Earlyact Clubs in D9800 include Earlyact Club of Sandridge School, Earlyact Club of Baden Powell College and North Balwyn.

Interact Clubs in D9800 include Baden Powell, Balwyn HS, Camberwell GS, Kyneton SC, Macrobertson Girls High, Melbourne Girls College, St Albans Secondary.

Youth exchange via dedicated committee members has continued to provide robust stewardship and support this pillar program. Students this year were inbound from Brazil x 2, Germany, Finland, Spain, France and Taiwan, and outbound to Germany, France, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, Finland and Austria. A 2 minute promotional video was produced to encourage hosting <https://vimeo.com/341169060>. "Letters from abroad" provides deep and inspirational reflections from returning YE students.

<https://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Stories/2018-letters-from-abroad>. Committee Chair Gabrielle Morgan was invited to present at RYEA Conference. The program underwent a Visioning exercise with PDG Keith Ryall facilitating the session.

Learning and development

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

-John F. Kennedy

The learning and development offerings and responses this year have been fruitful and appreciated. A robust President Elect Leadership Development Program was widely embraced. Rotary Leadership Institute was attended by 48 Rotarians over two programs this year.

Vicki Teschke who has supported RLI for many years now is retiring. Thank you, Vicki for your outstanding contribution. Other offerings were the provision of a Seminar for forty

three new members at District Assembly and for nine at Woodend with a program provided by DGE Grant Hocking. For the first time a Discussion Group was facilitated with immediate Past Presidents to encourage a move to Leadership Beyond the Club.

The team providing L&D – PDG Julie Mason, Warwick Cavell, Lesley McCarthy and Dale Hoy continually respond to Rotarian's feedback and the changes in our Rotary world to evolve this program.

Public Image and Communications



Rotary District Discussion Facebook Page, Rotary9800.org and ClubRunner app have been used to great effect this year to communicate Rotary's stories.

Public Image and Communications Chair Kerry Kornhauser with Zone Regional Chair PDG Julie Mason provided 2 interactive workshops. These assisted and encouraged Rotarians to create their own tools of trade...brochures and media communications.

Rotary Radio continues to tell our stories and is available via podcast and download from the Rotarydistrict9800 website. Thanks to Ian Salek, David Proud, Jonathan Shepherd and Jill Weeks.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/rotary-radio/podcasts-2019>

Channel 9 have effectively publicized Rotary for the drought relief campaign and the launch of the 2023 Rotary Convention. Philip Archer's connection with Channel 9 is invaluable.

Vimeo and youtube have been very effective and some professional short cuts are available for download and use for Clubs

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RotaryDistrict9800>;

<https://vimeo.com/335779790>; <https://vimeo.com/jamesmephram>

A Club Banner has been provided to every Club with thanks to the design of Grant Gittus (District 9810) and Kerry Kornhauser. The corporate connection with Winc (formerly Officemax) has provided a durable and quality product.

Clubs have given great feedback that the banners were so appreciated. It was gratifying that great cost savings were possible at a district level to enable this.



Multi District Conference

Four Districts (9790, 9800, 98101, 9820) agreed to hold a combined District Conference in February 2019. The only venue in Victoria able to accommodate 1500 was the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The only date available was February 15th -17th. An Agreement was drawn up with each Districts as partners, a business name registered, and a separate bank account created.

The initial Budget based on 1250 attending and with each District contributing a per member subsidy of \$16.50 , a registration fee of \$175 (normal) and \$125 (first time attendees, Rotaractors and YEX students) with \$50 extra after November 30th and a Conference Dinner fee of \$110 was approved by each District.

District 9800 organised and underwrote a Peace Through Service Forum on Friday 15th February similar to 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley's Peace Conferences during his year.

A Youth oriented Social Impact Forum and an Interact / EarlyAct Forum were separately organised at the same venue bringing the Family of Rotary together under the one roof.

A Rotary Showcase called "What Rotary Does?" was organised in the Exhibition Centre aimed at sharing Rotary Projects between Clubs across Victoria.

The main conference was conducted on Saturday and Sunday morning with 4 main sessions, a breakout session with 4 topics and separate sessions for each District on the Sunday morning.

There were a mix of speakers presenting on both general topics and specific topics relating to Rotary themes. It was not possible because of time constraints to present specific District or Club projects at the combined sessions.

There were two optional Breakfast Sessions and a Governors Lunch on the Sunday. As usual a Gala Dinner was held on the Saturday night.

Over 1500 Rotarians and partners attended the Conference and the feedback was generally positive especially with respect to the multi District concept although this did vary between Districts.

The overall surplus from the Conference was \$23,320 although it should be noted that Districts contributed a total of \$93,550.

The attendance from District 9800 was 582 which is lower than previous District Conferences. The post Conference survey strongly indicated that the Dinner should be optional and that unregistered partners should be able to attend. Only 35% preferred a single District Conference.

Rotary International Convention in Hamburg

Over 35 Rotarians and partners from D9800 attended the Convention in Hamburg. Barry Rassin has been an energetic and youth focussed President. The convention reflected that focus.

Many of the D9800 attendees had special red Foundation End Polio tee shirts which stood out when they were together. There were the usual range of excellent speakers including Daniel Flynn. Managing Director and Co-founder, Thankyou, Jeffrey Kluger Editor at Large, Time Magazine, Jennifer Scott Rotary Club of Central Blue Mountains. Many Rotary speakers and partner organisations spoke about opportunities and challenges. Breakout sessions allowed delegates to pick topics of interest to them.

There were host hospitality events and many social engagement opportunities with Rotarians and partners from all over the world. The House of Friendship had many stalls with projects and ideas. It was a place to excite the mind, share a meal with friends and increase our commitment to making a difference.

For those who haven't yet attended a Rotary International Convention it is definitely something to consider doing.

Club Milestones

Several Clubs celebrated significant big 0 birthdays during the year:

Williamstown	70	Echuca	70
Daylesford	65	Hawthorn	65
Malvern	60	Werribee	50
Fitzroy	50	Brighton	45
Toorak	45	Southbank	20



LES PORTER RIDING TO SUPPORT SALVATION ARMY



CLEAN WATER, EDUCATION AND MORE IN EAST TIMOR



AN INDIAN CHILD THE RECIPIENT OF A PROSTHETIC HAND COURTESY OF RECYCLED PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS, ENVISION AND LOTS OF ROTARIANS



E CLUB COLLECTING FOR SECOND BITE



AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR KATIE WILFORD FROM USA RELISHING VOLUNTEERING



RC POINT GELLIBRAND CHALLENGE KIDS PIRATE DAY



JACKSON, JUNIOR WINNER WYNSPEAK
WOWED US AT MDCONFERENCE



RUN FOR DEL TEAM RAISING FUNDS FOR ROTARY HOUSE



MACROB INTERACT COLLECTING FOR EAST TIMOR



LUDOVIC GROSJEAN ROTARY PEOPLE OF ACTION:
YOUNG INNOVATORS RECOGNITION



JENNY FOSTER
ROYCE ABBEY CHAMPION OF CHANGE



**DOCKLANDS SHIPPING CONTAINER
DESTINATION MALAWI**



STEPS OUTREACH ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS



ROTARY.ORG WORKSHOP – WHAT FUN



LIGHTING UP THE MELBOURNE TOWN HALL FOR END POLIO



YOUTH EXCHANGE 2017-2018



**4 DISTRICTS AT MCEC AND OUR FAMILY OF ROTARY
TOGETHER FOR CONFERENCE 2019**

