



Rotary District 9675

---

## District Governor's Newsletter August/September 2017

---



Well we are more than one month in. Jane has said to me that this is a great sentence to start with. I think it is because there is a sense of urgency to set the sails and the direction. Have you set the sail for your Club? To this end I am impressed that the President's in my team are all talking about the plan, the citation and the needed change. I am very proud of what I have seen. The majority have listened and I commend you. For those who hate change, well it is not wholesale change but setting a course down a path to make your Clubs more sustainable.

I have been talking about my Dreams in my DG talk to highlight what the focus of the foundation is. Below I extract some information about the areas of focus of the foundation and a little about them.

### **Promoting Peace**

Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.



## Calendar

### August 2017

Membership and New Club  
Development Month

### September 2017

Basic Education and Literacy Month

### October 2017

Economic and Community  
Development Month

2 - 8 October — Rotary Alumni  
Reconnect Week

24 October — Rotary's World Polio Day  
Livestream Event

30 October - 5 November — World  
Interact Week

### November 2017

#### Rotary Foundation Month

1 November — Service Award for a  
Polio-Free World nominations are due

1 November — Service Above Self  
Award nominations are due

11 November — Rotary Day at the UN

### December 2017

#### Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

15 December — early registration  
discount ends for the Rotary  
International Convention

---

### **Fighting disease**

We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. We improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in developing areas.

### **Providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene**

We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation and hygiene to more people every day. We don't just build wells and walk away. We share our expertise with community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed long-term.

### **Saving mothers and children**

Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.

### **Supporting Education**

More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

### **Growing Local Economies**

We carry our service projects that enhance economic and community development and create opportunities for decent and productive work for young and old. We also strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities.

I have been asking you to tell the stories and I want to work on a banner for the BBQs etc where we can express in a few words what we can do. We need to become the advocate. Many say to me, "does Rotary really do that"? Your answer should be "of course and more." Use every opportunity to talk to people about what we do. My dreams in my Club talks are extracted from the focus of our Foundation.

Our Foundation is doing some amazing things in the world and please get behind the Foundation. I think what the Foundation does is why we join Rotary.

Family day is an up and coming event. I thank my Parents for raising this recently with me. We must recognise our families. The first week in December will be Family Week. Please organise a Club event or participate in the District event on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December more details will be provided soon.

I want the Family Day to be a fun day with plenty of social interaction. But above all else about bringing and engaging with our families and telling them about what all the Clubs do. You can also display your projects on your home ground and ready you display for the district conference. Ambiguous I know but almost a Club cultural exchange. There are no rules as long as we exhibit the four-way test and have fun. AG's under the leadership of AG Coordinators are in charge of making this happen.

The Conference is going well. Our speakers will include:

- Sports Commentator Ken Sutcliffe and Polio Survivor
- Stephanie Wollard from the Seven Women's Association
- Mike Brady who wrote many popular jiggles and Rotarian
- Son of Carmen Stein from Cronulla Rotary Club and Young wine Maker from Mudgee -Jacob Stein
- And many more.....

The early bird cost will be \$185. Registration is about to open soon.

Keep up the good work. Thank you to those who has hosted us to date and for the hospitality.

**Stephen Britten**

**District Governor**

## EndTrachoma by 2020 - Rotary Australia's Multi-District Project

Clubs around Australia support many worthwhile charities and projects. But **EndTrachoma by 2020** is something particularly special for Rotary Australia.

### Trachoma: Fast Facts

- Trachoma is the leading cause of infectious blindness in the world - 1.9 million are blind or severely vision impaired from trachoma, and 200 million are still at risk.
- Australia is the last developed country to still have trachoma.
- Australia's coordinated effort in treatment began in 2009, resulting in significant rate reductions from 21% to 4.6% in 2015.
- Without prevention however, trachoma will continue to persist. To stop trachoma transmission, and to stop trachoma bouncing back again, we must make sure that all children in affected communities are able to keep their faces clean, and have safe and functional washing facilities.

Rotary's 2017-18 International President, Australia's Ian Riseley, wants a trachoma-free Australia by 2021, Rotary's 100th year in Australia. We are the world's only developed country with trachoma, an infectious eye disease that can be prevented with good hygiene practices.

## Why support EndTrachoma by 2020?

Here are your club's top 5 reasons

### **#1 Rotary in Australia turns 100 in 2021**

What a way to celebrate! Work together on a single Australia-wide project for communities aspiring for better lives.

### **#2 Australians working for Australians**

Some of our Indigenous Australians still have health as poor as in many developing world slums. We can do something about this!

### **#3 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley is calling for your support**

It's barely once a decade that a Rotary International President is Australian. Ian, from RC Sandringham Victoria, wants us united on this centenary project.

Make sure your club has seen Ian's call to action at <http://tinyurl.com/z44fnb4>

### **#4 We coordinate with and fill gaps among every trachoma organisation in Australia**

Every dollar you donate prevents unnecessary blindness by improving the hygiene and health of our least advantaged, remote Indigenous Australians.

### **#5 Importantly, let's rid Australia of trachoma!**

How can Australia be the last developed country with trachoma? Together, we can join the World Health Organisation's global effort to eliminate trachoma by 2020.

Our Australian Centenary project needs your support on the ground to mobilise Rotarians and communicate the value of our project to clubs and communities.

We are currently recruiting District Trachoma Champions to engage club support across Australia to **EndTrachoma by 2020**. If you are interested in working with us, with Rotary International President

2017-18 Ian Riseley and Zone Director Noel Trevaskis, with Rotary clubs around Australia to Make a Difference to communities within our own country, and make history in Rotary Australia, check out our website [www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au), contact your District Governor, or email [info@endtrachoma2020.org.au](mailto:info@endtrachoma2020.org.au) now.

Below I have extracted the text of the International President's Address in San Diego. He explains in the way we need to collect volunteer hours.

### **The Value of Doing Good in the World**

#### **Address by Ian Riseley to the DGE at the International Assembly**

20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

When someone asks you, "What is Rotary?", what do you say?

I think we've all had the experience, of being asked that deceptively simple question, and finding ourselves suddenly at a loss for words. Most people fall back on the response of 1.2 million members or over 35,000 clubs, maybe they mention polio eradication or some other specific aspect of our humanitarian service.

One of my friends has a stock answer that serves him well: "It's me, and it could be you as well." Clever, but not very informative.

Even the most articulate among us have a hard time capturing the essence of our organization in just a few sentences. And even given much more than a few sentences—in our annual report, or on [rotary.org](http://rotary.org)—our organization still has a very difficult time conveying the scope of our work. Not just what we do, but how we do it, and the value of it.

The problem is that we have no good way to measure and communicate what Rotary does.

As an accountant, it should come as no surprise that I like numbers. They work in every language, and very often, they communicate a very large idea much more effectively than words.

If you want to communicate how big Rotary is, you can say how many members we have, in how many clubs, in how many countries.

If you want to communicate how strong our Foundation is, you can say how much we have in our endowment, our annual program expenditures, or our annual contributions.

We can measure what we have, in Rotary: we know our input.

What we don't know, what we can't measure, is what we contribute to the world. Our problem has been how do we measure the output of an organization when there is such a wide range of projects and programs?

You know how enormously broad are the projects carried out by clubs in your district. But do you know the value of those projects? Do you know how much time is invested by your Rotary clubs in those projects? Great projects like:

Building toilets for schools in India, Supplying solar lighting for a remote village in Fiji, Helping needy children learn to read in Alabama, 68.

And there are many, many thousands of other examples in every one of our 36,000 clubs.

The only way to begin to know the work that Rotary does, is to know the work of each individual club. And I'm going to ask all of you to start, in your year of leadership, by asking each of your clubs to provide just two numbers:

The amount of money, both in cash and in kind, spent on humanitarian service: And the number of hours of work performed in Rotary's name. That's it. Just those two numbers.

But if we want these numbers to be useful—if we want to be able to shout from the rooftops that Rotary contributes one billion, or two billion dollars or whatever of value to the world— it goes without saying that they have to be accurate.

To get to those year-end numbers, we need to start with asking each club to accurately track the hours and the money that they spend on their service. I know that some clubs, such as the Rotary Club of Salt Lake City, already calculate this information or more, but to be truly effective we need to have every Rotary club participate in this effort.

The simplest way for clubs to provide this information at the end of the year will be via entering it, every month, on Rotary Club Central. As you heard from our General Secretary on Monday, that tool is being completely rebuilt to be significantly more useful, and easier to use, than it is now. However, we realize that for various reasons, not every club is able to use Rotary Club Central; for example in rural areas where there is no reliable access to the internet. In those cases, I am relying on you to identify those clubs, and assign a district leader responsibility for entering their information for them.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough, that the goal of this effort is *not* getting the largest and most impressive numbers. There is not going to be any competition, or any recognition, or any public use whatsoever of the numbers reported by any individual club.

The goal is simply to have numbers that we can present confidently, in our public image work, and in our membership materials, and to our partners. Numbers backed by specific data, on the club level, that answer not only the question, "What is Rotary?" but the question, "What does Rotary do?"

We need to be able to answer that question, so that we can move forward in the way that we want to move forward. Other charities and not-for-profits are in a position to demonstrate this information, and so should we be.

If we are asking people to pay attention to us, to join us, to partner with us, to take us seriously: we have to take ourselves, and the value of our work, seriously. It will be a minimal investment of time and energy, on the part of each club: that will yield tremendously valuable information, both for our clubs, and for our organization.

We'll be able to demonstrate the value of Rotary—to help us make more of a difference, for more people, in more ways, than ever before.

## ROTARY EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNITY AWARDS – RESCA

On 4 August 2017, the Gala Awards Ceremony was held at Bankstown Sports Club with 400 guests from all over the State attending. The feedback from those who have attended these awards since their inception, our 3<sup>rd</sup> at State level, declare this year's is the best yet.

His Excellency General, The Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of NSW, the Awards Patron and Mrs Hurley; joined our Minister for Police and Minister for Emergency Services, The Hon Troy Grant MP; our District Governor of Rotary District 9675, Stephen Britten and Jane; together with the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners of each of the six (6) Emergency Services Agencies. To achieve the attendance of all of these dignitaries in the one room at the same time, is a real honour for those we are celebrating and the project, generally

Our Rotary District, the initiator of this project, was very well supported by a large number of our fellow Rotarians, followed by District 9685.

The 24 Finalists came from all over the state – visit the website for full details and photos – [www.RotaryESCawards.org.au](http://www.RotaryESCawards.org.au).

This project has enabled the funding of the third year of an Australian Rotary Health PhD Research Scholarship for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder – PTSD for Emergency Services Personnel. This link provides details - <https://australianrotaryhealth.org.au/research/current-research-opportunities/current-phd> scholarship-opportunities/

Our Rotary Vanuatu Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Vocational Training Team – VTT, added another dimension to the ceremony in harmony with RESCA's purpose. Ian Johnston, Deputy Chair of RESCA was competitively selected to lead the team, has been working tirelessly to lead and facilitate the training program currently being delivered by the team of five (5) highly-skilled Emergency Services Personnel. Follow their posts on [www.RotaryESCawards.org.au](http://www.RotaryESCawards.org.au) Facebook page.

The project is fully self-funded through the generous support of Partners/sponsors, the Principal Partner is NRMA Insurance, supported by Gold – Remondis and First State Super; Silver, Bronze and supporters.

Watch this space for an update for the event in 2018.

Dot Hennessy, Chair, extends a very special thank you to each and every one who has made the project the success it is, especially the Rotarians in this District.

---

### MAJOR AWARD WINNERS:

---

**Rotary NSW Emergency Services**

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR SERVING IN A PAID CAPACITY:**

***DANIEL HATTON – Senior Firefighter – Bulli***

**Fire & Rescue NSW**



**Rotary NSW Emergency Services**

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR SERVING IN A VOLUNTEER CAPACITY:**

***TIMOTHY LIDDEN – Squad Captain –***

***Wagga Wagga***

**NSW Volunteer Rescue Association**



**CATEGORY WINNERS FOR EACH EMERGENCY SERVICE AGENCY:**

**FIRE & RESCUE NSW Officer of the Year**

***DANIEL HATTON – Senior Firefighter – Bulli***



Daniel is a senior fire fighter with Fire & Rescue NSW. Daniel has gone well beyond his duty to serve his community, voluntarily following up with families he helped rescue during the 2001 Christmas Day bushfires. Daniel has also taken on a virtual global outreach to the poorest and most vulnerable children in the world. He has built homes in eight developing countries, including a pre-school in Banda Aceh for orphans of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami. He lived in Zimbabwe designing and implementing sustainability programs at multiple orphanages, and is now a board member of Vana Childcare Ministries Australia. For the past seven years he has coordinated the 15km ocean paddle as part of the Wollongong Christian Surfers paddle

against poverty.

**MARINE RESCUE NSW Officer of the Year**

***ADOLF FRANCO – Treasurer – Berridale***



It might be the ultimate nightmare to get into boat trouble in the alpine lakes of New South Wales Snowy Mountains, especially in plummeting temperatures. But Adolf Franco has been there in the background, ready to take on the wilds of Lake Eucumbene and Lake Jindabyne. Adolf, who lives at Berridale, stations and maintains a rescue vessel at home when the season or weather requires it. Adolf is also an active member of the Berridale Brigade of the Rural Fire Service and the State Emergency Service. Because of the huge distances in the Snowy River Region Frank also has a SES rescue vehicle ready for action stationed at his home. As an electrician, Adolf operates his own business and freely donates his time to the elderly if they have electrical problems. In March Frank volunteered to go to

Taree and Ballina to assist in flood relief.

### **NSW AMBULANCE Officer of the Year**

**CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON – Critical Care Paramedic – Helicopter Retrieval – Bankstown**



When a hillside collapsed at Thredbo in 1997, wiping out two ski lodges and killing 18, Christopher was one of two paramedics that crawled into the wreckage and stayed with the trapped survivor, Stuart Diver. Throughout the ordeal, Chris was integral to Stuart's treatment and rescue. It is just one incident during a long career of tackling some of the most dangerous rescue assignments including cliff, ocean and mountain rescues in difficult and hostile environments. Chris has performed helicopter rescues and retrieval of critically injured and ill patients for over 25 years. He now attends the most severe accidents and trauma, retrieving and transporting victims to trauma centres and hospitals. Chris has used his vast experience over the past 34 years to give medical training to Australian Special Operations personnel, especially in austere and remote medicine.

### **NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE Officer of the Year**

**GORDON HILL – Volunteer – Duty Officer, Critical Incident Support Services – Cobar**



Gordon deals with emergencies in Cobar, in the state's far west. He has been a Critical Incident Support Service Peer (CISSP) with the NSW RFS on call most days for the past 22 years and a Critical Incident Support Service Duty Officer for a week a month for the past 5 years. For 40 years Gordon has been a member of the NSW SES and is currently the Local Controller of the Cobar Unit. Gordon has been a member of the NSW SES CISS Programme since its inception 13 years ago. He is Deputy Chairman of the Cobar Health Council, and member of the Western Primary Health Network Community Council, helping to source better health services for people in the Western Region.

### **NSW STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Officer of the Year**

**GRAHAM KINDER – Unit Controller – Windellama Unit**



Graham lives two emergency service lives – one at Manly as NSW SES Deputy Local Controller, dealing with flooding, east-coast lows - and even a potential tsunami. The other at Windellama (near Goulburn) as SES Unit Controller and RFS President, Deputy Captain and Training Officer. Like all dedicated emergency workers, Graham has gone above and beyond the call of service, leading teams during floods from Goulburn to Murwillumbah, fighting fires in the Blue Mountains and facilitating Multi-Agency Leadership training across NSW. A foundation Tsunami Capability Development Group volunteer, Graham proposed development of Tsunami Awareness Training. Graham is a member of the Northern Beaches Council Flood and Coastal Storms Working Group and is a member of the SES Aviation

Operations Team, diligently maintaining competency and training.

## NSW VOLUNTEER RESCUE ASSOCIATION Officer of the Year

**TIMOTHY LIDDEN – Squad Captain – Wagga Wagga**



A VRA captain and member for over 24 years, Tim is known for going well beyond the call of duty to help others. In 2010, after his squad completed human rescues in local flooding, Tim went out by himself to help a farmer transport several hundred sheep that had been trapped on an island to safety by boat. In 2012 the flooding saw Tim make daily trips in the flood rescue boat to feed a heard of sheep. For the past 10 years, Tim has also been a member of the NSW Rural Fire Service, serving in the Glenfield Brigade, and in that capacity fought the Victorian Black Saturday bushfires in 2009. In 2013, he assisted in the Blue Mountains bushfires, and has survived being caught in a firestorm.



**NSWVRA Tim Lidden with Rachel Lidden**

**Overall Winner in a Volunteer Capacity**



**FRNSW Daniel Hatton with Commissioner Paul Baxter**

**Overall Winner in a Professional Capacity**





DG Stephen wants the Clubs to be competitive and wants them to strive not only for the Presidential Citation but also for the following awards:-

The awards this year will be as follows and the criteria will be as follows:

### **Best PR and Marketing campaign**

Criteria: Impact in the Community

Coverage in District

Social Media involvement

### **Best international project**

Criteria: Impact on community where project is undertaken

Number of Rotarians Involved

Recognition in International community

### **Best local community project**

Criteria: Benefit for the local community

Number of Rotarians Involved

Community recognition

### **Best vocational community event**

Criteria: Support for the vocations

Number of Individuals recognised or involved

Positive community recognition of event

### **Best youth initiative/project**

Criteria: Positive impact on youth

Recognition in the community

## **Outstanding initiative from a Rotaract Club**

Criteria: Best community impact

Number of Rotaractors Involved

## **Club who has made most progress in the year**

Criteria: Membership growth

New Projects engaged

Improved Governance of Club

Increased giving to the foundation

## **Club of the year**

Criteria: Receive the Presidential Citation

Projects involved and

Engagement with Community

Level of giving to Foundation

Governance of the Club

Applications will sent to all Clubs in the middle of April.

## **District Governor**

### **Stephen Britten**

[districtgovernor@rotarydistrict9675.org](mailto:districtgovernor@rotarydistrict9675.org)

