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"YOUNG PEOPLE SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ROTARY"

Article by RC PDG Jessie Harman

Young people want to be office bearers and meaningful leaders in Rotary, and they want to support causes that they can relate to – these were just two of the many findings from the Australian National Youth Summit held recently in Canberra.



Held in parallel with the National Membership Success Seminar, the Youth Summit brought together around 25 young people from Rotary, Rotaract, and Youth Exchange. It was facilitated by young Rotarians Damian Leach, Kaye Titmarsh and Natalie Jupe.

The theme of the Summit was 'Shaping the Future of Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific'. During the weekend the young participants discussed three key questions: How do we make Rotary more attractive to young people? How can we better retain our Alumni? How can we support young people to be effective leaders and contributors in their clubs? Discussion was active and solution oriented, with participants exchanging ideas, best practice and advice.



Some of the participants of the Youth Summit

Summit participants provided a number of useful recommendations for Rotary. They highlighted the importance of mentoring, and the value of maintaining strong personal relationships with alumni. They stressed the need for more information and training, and targeted communications to improve Rotary's public image for young people. They highlighted the importance of increasing flexibility in clubs.

One important insight from the Summit was that young people want to be meaningful leaders in their clubs. They want the development opportunities that come with leadership positions, but they seek meaningful leadership roles, not simply 'tokenistic' positions, or those which pigeon hole them to a particular 'young person' role. And whilst recognising they have much to learn through Rotary, young people also want to be recognised for the energy, experience and 'can-do' attitude they can bring to clubs.

Another important insight was that young people want to be involved in causes they can relate to. They want less focus on conversation, and more focus on actually making a difference in the community. Like other Rotarians, they seek opportunities to participate and take ownership of projects which are relevant to theirs and the community's interests. They love the diversity of the causes that Rotarians embrace.

The themes from the Youth Summit are currently being collated into a communiqué which will be forwarded to Governors of all Districts throughout the Zone, and to Rotary International through Zone Director, Guiller Tumangan. The communiqué will also be available to all Rotarians on the Rotary Australia website.

"ROTARY SUCCESS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS"

Article by RC PDG Malcolm Lindquist

On September 4th and 5th over 270 representatives from all over Australia and New Zealand converged on the Hellenic Club in Woden, Canberra for the fourth biennial Membership Success Conference and Youth Summit to be held in this wonderful venue.



Rotary Coordinator Jessie Harman has reported, on the previous page of this newsletter, about the outcomes of the youth summit which was held in parallel with the breakout sessions at the conference.

The keynote speaker for the weekend was Past RI Director Mary-Beth Growney Selene who travelled from Wisconsin and reflected on membership in a changing world in a most entertaining manner. RI Director Guiller Tumangan officially opened the conference and welcomed participants.

The five breakout sessions gave clubs and individuals the opportunity to highlight strategies and practices that have made a dramatic change to club culture and membership numbers in a variety of geographical environments.

Topics included:

- Attracting and maintaining members
- Successful formula for running Membership Nights
- Rotary Leadership Institute and Club visioning
- Diversification and Innovative Clubs including E-clubs
- New model clubs
- Successful clubs including Yass, Kunanurra, Port of Brisbane and Crows Nest
- Public Image strategies



Part of the audience at the Success Conference.

As part of the concluding session representatives from the Youth Summit shared their ideas on how we can attract younger members and share their passion for Rotary.

Other highlights of the conference apart from the great networking opportunities were the presentations from Susanne Rea and the runaway success story of the world's greatest meal to raise over \$4million to assist the End Polio Now campaign and Jonathan Welch whose magnificent voice charmed those attending the conference dinner.

Congratulations and thanks to the Hellenic Club for generously donating their premises and to RI Director Elect Noel Trevaskis, the Coordinator team, Canberra Rotarians, all of the presenters and facilitators for contributing to making the weekend such a success.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rotary Leader September 2015 edition

Assistant governors can now serve up to three more one-year terms after a two-year break, under a rule change by the RI Board. Previously, assistant governors, appointed annually, were allowed to serve no more than three terms.

"RI DIRECTOR'S FLYING DISTRICT VISITS"

Report by RC PDG Malcolm Lindquist

RID Guiller Tumangan and Letty used the Canberra Success conference in September as an opportunity to visit all of the Districts in Australia. They were also able to experience first-hand the vast distances involved in criss-crossing the continent.

Not only were there many early flights involved but in many cases they had only a short time to meet with the District management groups and inspect many of the projects undertaken by clubs and districts before taking off again.

At the end of the two week visit Guiller and Letty must have been exhausted and looking forward to the return to their home in the Philippines. It is a tribute to their energy and enthusiasm that they were able cope with the pressure and maintain their warm and friendly composure and fulfil their desire to meet more Australians and see so much of our flora and fauna.

They expressed their thanks to all of the District Governors who arranged such a multitude of experiences that allowed them to meet so many people and better understand how Rotary in Australia operates.



RID Guiller and President John Illingworth from the RC of Blakiston feeding kangaroos at the animal rescue centre



RC Malcolm Lindquist, DG Dick Wilson, RID Guiller and President John Illingworth after ascending the not so lofty peak of Mount Barker in South Australia.



RID Guiller and Letty and members of D9520 inspecting the school of St James restored by the RC of Blakiston

"END POLIO NOW"

***RI President K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran
Rotary Leader September 2015 edition***

It has been well over a year since South Asia was declared polio-free. Thanks to our work, polio is gone from that part of the world.

Far from being over, our work must now intensify, for we have no time to spare, and no room to fail. Your role is more important than ever. Now is the time to spread the word, to raise awareness, to support our work: in your communities, on social media, with your elected representatives, and through our Foundation. The long race is nearly over. The finish line is in sight. This is our time to *Be a Gift to the World: to End Polio Now*.

Excerpts from an email from RI President Ravi and Rotary Foundation Chair Ray Klingensmith

July and August brought great milestones in the polio eradication effort. For the first time in history, Nigeria -- then all of Africa -- marked one year with no new polio cases caused by the wild virus.

We are closer to making good on our promise to end polio forever, but there's still work to be done. As we protect the progress made in Africa, we focus even more sharply on Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Thirty years ago, we told the world what Rotary believes: that we can achieve the eradication of polio. Our dream is becoming reality. For every child, on World Polio Day 23 Oct, let's push ahead to the reality of a polio-free world.

“ROTARACT CLUBS BLOSSOM IN BRISBANE”

Article by Tony Thomas (D9800 Correspondent), RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

Rotarians don't realise how much potential there is to get Rotaract clubs started. So says Riley Louise Thornton, 23, president of [Rotaract Club of Brisbane Rivercity](#). Rivercity chartered in July with 20 members and now has 25. Rotary District 9600, including Brisbane, had no Rotaract clubs early this year. It now has two – Rivercity and [Brisbane CBD](#), 11 members at chartering last March, now 12 with three more expected. Two more Rotaract Clubs, charter in October, North Lakes and Sunshine Coast with about 20 and 15 members respectively.



Part of this success story is Rotary's youth exchange and youth leadership programs that introduced youngsters to Rotary and inspired them to get Rotaract Clubs started. A small mystery is why these Rotaract Clubs tend to have 50% or more females while Rotary in Australia has about 75% males.

District 9640 (Gold Coast) sponsored Riley Thornton to RYPEN during high school and then to a year's Youth Exchange to Denmark in 2010. She also became involved with RYLA and grew 'a passion for Rotary'. "I met Melanie Packer last year while looking for recruits to Rivercity," she says. "Mel was also starting a Rotaract. We decided to launch two clubs rather than combine."

Mel 27, is a town planner who was first involved with [Rotaract Club of Redlands](#), south-east of Brisbane. Travelling through Queensland on State government business, she used Rotaract as a short cut to friendships in towns and cities she visited. At Sydney's Rotary Convention last year, she met [RC of Brisbane High-Rise](#)'s past-president Bill Phillips and worked with him to sponsor a Brisbane Rotaract club.

The upshot was that the five inner-city Rotary clubs did the sponsoring jointly, partly because of nervousness about whether the project would succeed. The five are Brisbane, Brisbane High-Rise, Brisbane Mid-City, Fortitude Valley and New Farm. An earlier Rotaract club in Brisbane had folded through lack of younger recruits. Mel says, "Our members range from 21 to 29 years, a batch of us will turn 30 soon and leave Rotaract – maybe to start a young Rotary club or rejuvenate an older club".

Ada Gain 26, has organised the chartering of Rotaract Club of Sunshine Coast in mid-October. Ada got interested when District 9640, straddling the NSW/Qld border, sponsored her for RYLA this year and she's now on the Rotary D9640 RYLA committee as well.

Back at the Sunshine Coast, where she's doing a Master's in social work, she is starting the club to enhance youth leadership work. Ada says, "New people show up at every meeting, I recruited two members at an orientation week stall, another two came from RYLA in Districts 9600 and 9630, but most recruitments have been through networking."



Chris Poole and Ada Gain



Mel Packer



Riley Louise Thornton

Chris Poole 19, has passed through Interact, RYPEN and RYLA and became secretary of Rivercity Rotaract this year. To reduce travel he started North Lakes Rotaract, 40 minutes north of Brisbane, where he studies psychology and works in medical administration. It has about 60% female members.

He says, "We've recruited through social media and word of mouth, we also ask local Rotarians to tell the young employees and young adults they meet about us. It's surprising how Rotarians don't do this spontaneously".

"Rotaract is brilliant because we can help diverse charities. Rotaractors want to change the world and for this, we get access to an amazing Rotary support network."

Rivercity's Riley Thornton says, "So many young people want to get involved in the community but don't know where to start. Rotary and Rotaract tick all the boxes – service, friendships and personal development.

We have it tough finding jobs after uni and networking with managers and specialists is also attractive. Learning from our sponsor club Brisbane Rotary is great as they know how to organise charity projects, which we can find complicated."

"ROTARY CLUB OF ST GEORGE NEXT GEN"

Article by ARC PDG Keith Roffey



District 9675 recently chartered a new club, the [Rotary Club of St George Next Gen](#) – to quote PDG Barry Antees *"It is an exciting time in Rotary when the launch of a new and emerging style of club is chartered"* the Rotary Club of St George is one of those clubs and one to watch.

Vimla Hayman is the Charter President and I asked her to explain the new style she and her fellow members had in mind when they began to establish the club.

Fundamentally they wanted to attract people well connected in business including young business people, professionals, students and families. They want their club to be a premier platform for entrepreneurs and professionals to foster their passion and personal development, they want their club to be the vehicle in which members can achieve goals, work together to empower youth, enhance health, promote peace and most importantly advance their community. To do this they needed to embrace today's lifestyles.

To enable this membership to be engaged with these ideals they needed to be flexible with meeting criteria and give consideration to cost. So their meeting schedules vary with different times and venues they also have the facilities to meet on-line or it may be a combination of face to face and on-line participation. The word fun came into the conversation but enjoyment in each other's company, achievements and job satisfaction I think was more to the point for them.

But what stood out to me was that they started the club with a cause. They did not say *"join Rotary we are wonderful organisation"* they said *"our community needs a community garden and we need a music program for the elderly and disabled, as Rotarians we can achieve this"*. They planned short and long term projects and activities relevant to today's needs and future generations, and then they began to build their membership to suit. It was not about age or gender it was about the right people for the job and they started with an end in mind.

The club has mentors in PDG Barry Antees and PP Janice Hall. Hurstville, the centre of their community is almost a dormitory city now so Janice explained that Vimla's dedication to education through sustainability and healthy eating and her passion for community gardens was the basis for her enthusiasm in providing these facilities for her community – and Rotary is the vehicle.

"PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE"

RI President K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, September 2015

For the last 20 years, we have relentlessly beaten the drum of membership in Rotary. We set goals and launch campaigns, all focused on bringing in more and more members. And yet, our overall numbers remain the same.

It is time to sharpen our tools. Instead of focusing on the question, "How can we bring more members into Rotary?" we should be asking ourselves, "How can we add more value to Rotary membership, so that more will join and fewer will leave?"

One way we are doing that is with the new Rotary Global Rewards program, which launched in July. This innovative program allows Rotarians to connect with, and receive discounts and concessions from, businesses and service providers around the world. Individual Rotarians may submit their own business to be included alongside those with which Rotary has already negotiated relationships; the most appropriate offers will be added to the listings. We have also created the option of allowing businesses to return a percentage of their profit on each transaction to our Rotary Foundation, and several companies have already been locked into this part of the scheme. Each month we will update the list with additional offers that we may receive. I urge all of you to try it out by signing up on My Rotary at [Rotary.org](#) now. The more Rotarians participate, the stronger, and more beneficial, the program will be.

Much more than another loyalty program, Rotary Global Rewards is a new way to benefit from being a Rotarian, and being part of the Rotary network. It is another way to combine business and service. And it is yet another way to add value to Rotary membership. We cannot forget that our potential members will be asking themselves, "What's in it for me?" We need to demonstrate the value of Rotary by showing that becoming a Rotarian will enrich their lives, as it has ours.

"A ROTARY CLOCK – IN A SHOPPING MALL"

Article from the 9710 District Matters, Aug 2015 edition

The [Rotary Club of Ginninderra](#) has been successful in applying a traditional Rotary symbol to a modern shopping precinct – a Rotary Clock. The Kippax Fair Shopping Centre in West Belconnen was chosen because it ticked all the right boxes:

- It involved the local business community
- It provided a safe and secure location for the Rotary Clock
- It would ensure the clock was of practical use to the community
- It was a landmark that would be recognisable as a Rotary symbol
- It provided a cost-effective way to promote Rotary and the Club
- The Rotary Clock will serve as a point of reference/meeting place
- It was in close proximity to the Club's meeting venue.



Local politicians were invited to join club members for the unveiling at Kippax Fair on June 5th. Above is the proud gathering, which includes DG Monica and PDG Rob Woolley, Director Steve, and Bernie (very white shirt) the proud builder.

The Kippax Rotary Clock

The Rotary clock is a light-weight construction (MDF timber) with faces of about 75 cms diameter. The clock has a standard clock movement with power supplied via the Centre's 240 volt system. An inbuilt system enables recoveries from power interruptions and has inbuilt daylight savings adjustments for 100 years.

Installation and Unveiling

The Club's task was made easier by having a licensed master builder amongst its ranks. The member took care of the installation.

How did they do it?

The driving force for the project was the Director of Community Service, Steve Fielding, with support from the Community Service Committee and the Board of the Club. The nearby Belconnen Rotary Club acted in support by facilitating contact with the owner of the complex, who gave in-principle agreement.

Planning involved:

- Researching other similar Rotary Clock installations – Cooleman Court, ACT (Weston Creek Rotary) and Kenmore Village, Qld (Kenmore Rotary) - and seeking guidance from the relevant Rotarians.
- Identifying the manufacturer of a suitable clock (Ingrams Time Systems, Melb).

"TRAIN YOUR TRAINERS!"

Rotary Traing talk, Sept 15.

Bring your facilitators together to collaborate on training goals, logistics and instruction methods. Prepare your training team with curriculum and materials designed for you.

- The Trainer's Toolkit course, located in the Learning Center, has refresher courses for trainers and a Trainer's Library of additional session guides for general topics to add to your training.
- The Train the Trainer [session guide](#) and [slides](#) are a roadmap of key topics and worksheets so you can deliver customized training to your facilitators.

Explore the Learning Center [course catalog](#) for eLearning courses to support your training agenda. ELearning enhances the learning experience by giving participants the control to acquire and apply new knowledge at their own pace. Ask participants to complete one or more of the courses in the Learning Center to prepare for in-person training. Participants come to training ready with questions, and advance their learning in less time.

" AUSTRALIAN STUDENTS TAKE OPPORTUNITY BY THE HORNS "

By Nancy Shepherdson, *Rotary News*, 17-Jul-2015



Australian Rotary members create a rodeo school for Aboriginal boys, watch a [VIDEO](#).

The rules of the Shaftesbury Rodeo Academy are simple: no school, no rodeo. It's a message that teenagers who attend school at Bisley Farm, most of whom have never attended any school regularly, take seriously. Because come Friday night, these aspiring rodeo heroes want to join their friends to ride bulls for a heart-stopping eight seconds, if they last that long.

The school in rural Queensland, Australia, also teaches the boys, who are of the Wakka Wakka Aboriginal people, basic academics and farming skills, including how to care for crops and livestock. It's a fairly common form of schooling in Australia, an alternative education for students with troubled backgrounds. For many of them, Bisley Farm is the best chance for them to improve their lives.

But rules are rules. In order to participate in the school's weekly Friday night rodeo, students must attend class Monday through Thursday and do all their work, including helping to manage a herd of beef cattle. Perhaps not surprisingly, student attendance and performance have shot up.

"These are really tough kids," says Kristian Wale, director of the Shaftesbury Centre, which sponsors Bisley Farm, and a member of the [Rotary Club of New Farm](#), Brisbane. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Indigenous peoples make up 3 percent of the country's population. But they make up 50 percent of the juvenile detention and 27 percent of the adult prison populations.

"A majority of the kids [who come to us] can't read, even if they have been to school," says Wale. "We teach basic education and social skills and prepare our students for jobs."

And none of it would exist without Rotary.

Powerful grants

George Grant wanted to do something for the Aboriginal teenagers after attending a Rotary grants seminar in 2010. He was president of the [Rotary Club of Bribie Island](#) when he met Wale at the conference. The two began to formulate an idea for a cattle operation near Cherbourg, sponsored by the Shaftesbury Centre.

"When I first took the idea to the club, it seemed too far out in left field. Some members came along easily but others were very noisy in opposition," says Grant. "They couldn't see how a club with fewer than 30 members could raise the money required to get something like that off the ground."

At first, the naysayers seemed right, Grant says, particularly when the scope of the problem began being mapped out. They would have to buy cattle, trailers, fencing, and a school building. Then what would they do with the beef? If the operation was to be sustainable, they would have to figure out a way to get the beef to market.

So they started small: six head of cattle, a trailer, and some fencing. They soon started applying for money through Rotary, more than US\$120,000. Supported by fundraisers from surrounding clubs, the Bribie Island club managed to donate thousands of dollars toward the project.

Undoubtedly, though, many potential supporters and new club members are drawn to Grant's enthusiasm for the school his club built from the ground up. "I just love to skite (brag) about it."

SHARE YOUR CLUB OR DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT AND MEMBERSHIP BEST PRACTICES.

We would like to hear from Clubs or Districts telling us what they have done. Please include a summary, contact details, and a couple of photos, and email to [Issa Shalhoub](#), this Newsletter's editor.

We also would like readers to share their experiences and stories on Best Practices in their Clubs and what has worked for their Clubs in gaining new members and also what has helped in keeping members.

"HELPING CLUBS STRENGTHEN THEIR MEMBERSHIP"

Rotary Membership Minute, August 2015 edition

Resources available from Rotary

We're committed to helping clubs thrive. Sign in to [My Rotary](#) or go to [Rotary's shop](#) to find publications and resources to help you attract new members, engage current members, and build your club's capacity. Here are some of the resources you'll find:

- The five-part [Membership Matters! webinar series](#) is available to view on demand. Each webinar is time-stamped for convenient viewing during club meetings. Topics cover club evaluation and visioning, simple steps to innovate your club, member engagement, and member recruitment.
- [Strengthening Your Membership: Creating Your Membership Development Plan](#) explores club evaluation, visioning, member recruitment and engagement strategies, and mentorship.
- [Proposing New Members](#) (formerly How to Propose a New Member) helps guide Rotarians through the process of identifying and proposing qualified prospective members.
- [Be a Vibrant Club: Your Club Leadership Plan](#) offers fresh ideas for engaging members and revitalizing clubs. The publication is available in languages with region-specific content.

Rotary is constantly working to refine and develop resources to help our members. Watch for a new piece for clubs to use for prospective members, a welcome kit for new members, and a new publication called Membership Assessment Tools (formerly Club Assessment Tools).

We're also developing a resource to provide ideas and strategies for new member orientation. Has your club had success with an innovative way of introducing new members to your club, to fellow members, and to Rotary? Share it in the [Membership Best Practices discussion group](#).

"ROTARY PROUD!"

SHOW YOUR PRIDE IN MEMBERSHIP

Rotary Membership Minute, August 2015 edition



You can show your Rotary pride with a [Proud Member window cling](#) for your car or home, available for purchase at [shop.rotary.org](#). Share these with new club members, those celebrating membership anniversaries, or as a fun giveaway.

And display your pride in membership by using the [Proud Member graphic](#) on social media.

All past editions of the "Rotary on the Move" Newsletter can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#)

If you wish to receive an electronic copy of this Newsletter, or you know of someone who would like to receive one, please email the editor; Issa Shalhoub shalhoubissa@shoal.net.au

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2015 - 16
Zone 8 and 7B

Zone 8; Australia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and Nauru.

Zone 7B; New Zealand, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Vanuatu, American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Tonga and Samoa.

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