

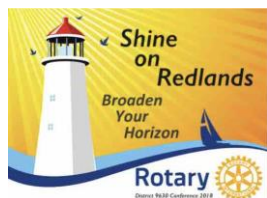
The BEACON

NEWSLETTER OF DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELWYN HODGES



*We are now well into the last half of the Rotary year and I have been impressed with the way clubs have been making a difference in their communities and across the globe. With 22 District Grant projects, involvement in 14 Global Grants including the Indigenous Dialysis Project at Pukatja - South Australia and other numerous Club projects our clubs can be very proud of their achievements. Rotary in 9630 is **making a difference**. Some of these projects will be showcased at our District Conference 9-11 March.*

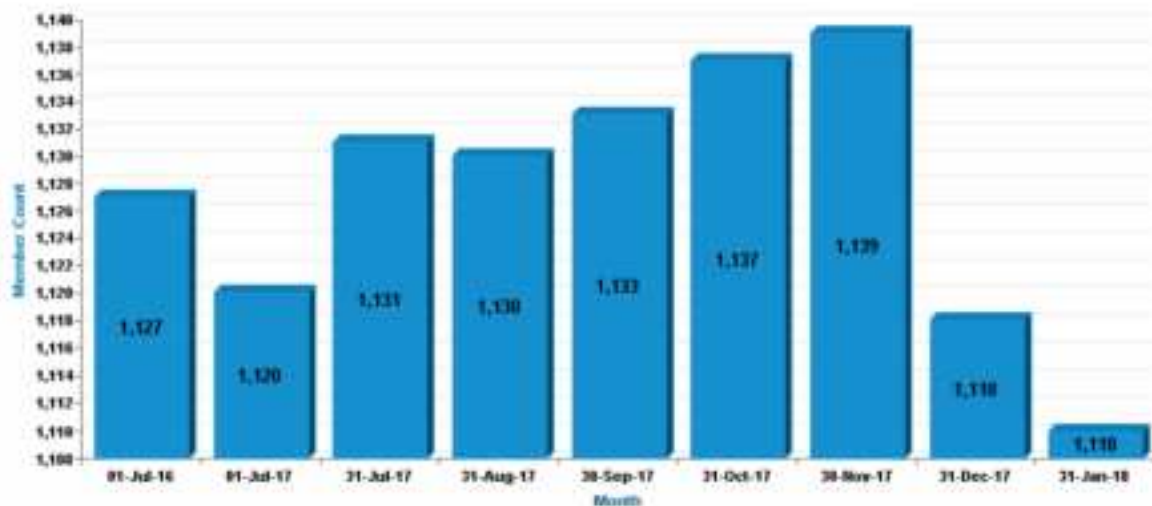
February is Peace and Conflict Resolution month and I had the pleasure of meeting the recent Peace Fellow intake at Bostock House last Sunday. As always the stories they tell about their careers and the reasons for doing a Master's Degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution are nothing short of amazing. You may not be aware that each year Rotary selects up to 100 individuals from around the world to receive fully funded academic fellowships at one of six peace centres. The University of Queensland is one of those six centres. These Peace Fellows are available to talk to your clubs, so I encourage you to embrace the opportunity and get a Peace Fellow along to one of your meetings. Contact PDG Anne Brand for details on how to contact the Peace Fellows.



District Conference is now only a couple of weeks away and I encourage all of you to attend. Attending Conference is a great way to learn more about Rotary from the club level and beyond. It also gives you the opportunity to meet fellow Rotarians for fun and fellowship. We will be recognising accomplishments of our members, clubs, and the District and I know that you will be inspired by the amazing guest speakers that we have secured for the Conference. Speakers like Sarah Brown, Hester Australian Nurse of the Year who will inspire you with her story of the Purple House and her tireless efforts to provide much needed Kidney Dialysis in outback aboriginal settlements, or Gemma Sisia from the School of St Jude in Tanzania, a woman with a vision and a passion to achieve it and many more. Our Keynote Speaker on Sunday morning is Allan Pease, Mr Body Language; the power is in the palm of your hand, you'll laugh, you'll learn and you will be inspired. Saturday night's Gala Dinner is not to be missed with entertainment, fine dining and dancing to the little Steely Brothers.

Register now, don't miss out. [Register here.](#)

Membership retention is still a major issue for our District. Whilst I know that clubs are regularly inducting new members, our total number of members in the District as 31 January 2018 has declined. The graph, below, tells the story. Have you ever stopped to analyse why we are losing so many members, particularly our younger members. If we don't connect with our members and understand what it is they are looking for in Rotary, engage them in activities that meet that need and ensure that there is an element of fun in everything we do, then we will lose them. I challenge all of you to seriously look at your club, ask yourself the question is my club delivering on its promises, is it really meeting members desires and aspirations. Have you taken advantage of the flexibility offered by the changes introduced by the Council on Legislation? There is lots of information in My Rotary to help you assess the health of your club and tool kits to assist in membership development and retention. Our District Membership Director Tim Keeler can help; please don't hesitate to seek his advice and assistance.



Redistricting has attracted much attention over the last few weeks. Under Rotary International Rules, District boundaries will be adjusted when membership of a District falls below 1100. When this happens RI decides where to draw the boundaries, Districts don't have a say. A number of Districts in the country including the two northern Queensland Districts have fallen below that number and a number of others including 9630 are very close (we are now at 1110). Realising that there would be an RI redistricting for those clubs currently below 1100 and quite a few others that would most likely get there in the next few years, our RI Director sought and got RI approval to look at redistricting right across Australia with the aim of creating Districts that would be sustainable well into the future. Many proposals were looked at; most involved splitting up pieces of Districts and merging them with pieces of other districts. In our proposal, District 9630 remains intact, within the larger district – an important consideration. Adopting this proposal will give us the opportunity to be involved in developing the implementation plan over the next three years rather than the alternative of leaving it to a committee in Evanston whose only resources may be a map of Australia, a calculator and a ruler.

District Governor 2020-21 Nominations Reminder. Expressions of Interest are invited throughout our District for the position of District Governor for the 2020/21 Rotary year. Members who are interested in this important role within the District are asked to complete the relevant forms, duly endorsed, and return to me no later than Saturday 31st March 2018. Detailed requirements and required forms can be found in the weekly update.

Finally, we have a very busy time over the next couple of months leading into our changeover season so please don't forget to check out the District Calendar for upcoming events. [District Calendar](#)

Yours in Rotary Service *Elwyn Hodges* District Governor 2017-18

TREE PLANTING CHALLENGE

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone a long time ago planted a tree" – Warren Buffett

Buffett's simple yet thoughtful quote conjures the image of one of life's simple pleasures and, indeed, of one of our most important natural resources— trees. It conveys our connectedness and the importance of positive action to enhance the lives of others and communities. Moreover it suggests the need for vision, forethought and sustainability.



Rotary International President Ian Riseley has challenged all 1.2 million Rotarians to plant a tree before Earth Day on Sunday April 22, 2018. Trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming.

OUR CHALLENGE.....

Can Rotary District 9630 plant 1,110 trees before April 22nd?

Wear red for ROMAC



**On April 30 to May 5 2017
to change and save children's lives**

Please consider wearing red as many days as you can in the above week and make a much-needed donation to ROMAC. As many of you know this Rotary Project, run by volunteer Rotarians just like you, provides specialist treatment for children from developing countries in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home countries. Without ROMAC these children may live at best miserable lives whilst others may die. Organise a fund-raising event, make a personal (tax deductible) donation or simply make a club donation. So that I can keep track of the money raised and, of course, personally thank you on behalf of the children please would you let me know how much was raised and by whom.

On behalf of the deserving children a sincere *thank you*.

Margaret Hayes m 0428 114 909 or 07 38213137 margaret.hayes2@bigpond.com



PP PETER WALSH - IPSWICH AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



PP Peter Walsh (*current Secretary of Goodna Rotary*) being congratulated by Councillor Paul Tully at the 2018 Ipswich Australia Day Awards ceremony on Saturday, 20th January. Peter was presented with a City of Ipswich Medallion by the Mayor Cr. Andrew Antonioli to recognize his community service over many years with the Rotary Club of Goodna and Goodna Youth Services.

DAN HOLZAPFEL – CITIZEN OF THE YEAR REDLANDS AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



Dan receives his Award from Councillor Karen Williams, Mayor of Redland City

ANOTHER AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD

Congratulations Toowoomba East



THE INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS-QUEENSLAND FLEET

International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting all aspects of boating as an opportunity for fellowship and service. This fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by, [Rotary International](#).

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians - Queensland Fleet is looking at expanding our membership, and we will have a booth at District 9630 Conference 2018 at Cleveland, I look forward to seeing you there, or call Commodore Eddie Richards Ph. 0417611936 for more information about the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians. All Rotarians can join. The only requirement for joining is an active interest in boating (ownership of a boat is not required). Local fleets are located worldwide; if there is not a local fleet in your area you can join our E-Fleet.

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians is the oldest and largest of the Rotary Fellowships. It began in England in 1947 and has grown to 126 fleets, with about 3685 members in 44 countries. There are 11 Fleets in Australia. Member fleets are located in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, and the USA, with annual meetings each year at Rotary International Conventions.

International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians fleets are Rotary Fellowship groups composed of individual Rotarians from multiple Rotary clubs that may be located in several different Rotary districts. The fact that Fleet members come from many clubs broadens the potential for those with a fleet relationship.

The Objectives of the Fellowship:

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians combines an acceptance of the principles of Rotary with a love of boats and the sea, rivers and inland waters, and uses the shared interest of yachting and seamanship as an opportunity to encourage and foster the objectives of Rotary.

IYFR objectives are:

To advance international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideals of service.

To promote Rotary fellowship through cruising, yachting, racing, sailing, kayaking and other activities involving boats and boating.

To promote high standards of seamanship and abide by recognized yachting customs and etiquette on the water.

To support Rotary service projects and opportunities, on and off the water.

When you join IYFR, the benefits are:

- Help to advance Rotary's "international understanding, goodwill and world peace."
- Meet interesting people, make great contacts and establish lasting friendships.
- Receive the "International Roster of Members," which puts you in touch with more than 3000 Rotary Mariners, worldwide. Contact them - enjoy Rotary Mariner Fellowship.
- Keep in touch with what is happening in IYFR internationally through the "Rotafloat" newsletter.
- Enjoy the IYFR booth and activities at International Rotary Conventions, including the Annual General Meeting and IYFR Post Convention Cruise.
- Enjoy boating and social events (on land or water) with other IYFR members locally, regionally and internationally.



IYFR regalia available for purchase in each one of the 3 Areas, identify you as a Rotary Mariner at home or abroad.

Fleet Events: Each Fleet in IYFR plans and hosts its own activities and events for Fleet members and their partners and guests. Exchange visits by members of other IYFR Fleets and Independent Members are actively encouraged. Typical events include "raft-ups" on the water, cruises, regattas, service activities and a wide variety of social events on shore. The theme of all activities is fellowship.

Annual dues for fleet members are USD 10 per member, payable through the fleet. Most Fleets also charge an additional membership fee to cover their own administration costs.

Eddie Richards

Commodore

International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians – Queensland Fleet

THE 2018 DISTRICT CONFERENCE – 9TH TO 11TH MARCH



- **Redlands Performing Arts Centre (RPAC) in CLEVELAND**
- *The Governor's Golf Day on Friday 9th*
- *Saturday breakfast at the Oldest Pub in Queensland – The Grandview*
- *The Gala Dinner at the Alexandra Hills Hotel Function Room*
- *Breakfast at Redlands RSL on Sunday at 7am - \$15*

If you have any Conference raffle tickets in your possession, please send them to David Field as soon as possible. PO Box 9 Cleveland QLD 4163 – a Club cheque for sold tickets is fine or EFT to Rotary District 9630 Conference 2018 – BSB 633 000 – Acct 157423039 – with Club name and Conf. raffle.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL WELCOME

Go to www.9630conference2018.com.au
and complete your registration on line.

REDLANDS PERFORMINGS ARTS CENTRE - CLEVELAND



NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

A thank you letter from an appreciative attendee.

To President and Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Toowoomba,

I'm writing as a now-alumnus of the National Youth Science Program 2018, and wish to thank you for your generous sponsorship of me for the program. I have included a more thorough report with this letter, but I can honestly say the two weeks were life-changing. I've had the opportunity to speak with professionals in the STEM field, I've met 200 like-minded passionate and driven teenagers and I've learnt so much about both the future of STEM and myself. If there is any opportunity for me to attend a meeting I'd be honoured to speak about my experiences a little more as well.

My email address is hulmepz@downlands.qld.edu.au and mobile number is 0477535604 and I look forward to hearing from you!

Kindest Regards,



Zoe Hulme-Peake

The **National Youth Science Forum** (NYSF) is an Australian program dedicated to exposing year eleven students who are heading into year twelve and are thinking about a career in science, engineering and related disciplines to major scientific institutions and researchers, so that they may make more informed choices for their future endeavours. They are also given training in time management, interview skills and public speaking. The Forum is fully residential and takes place during January in Canberra. All activities are fully supervised by student staff and resident Rotary counsellors. The program is extremely intensive with little time for outside activities except for meeting those people already in the program. The most important aspect coming from the NYSF is a network of friends, colleagues and support groups throughout Australia which will be of value to participants for the whole of their lives. The NYSF continues after January, first in the form of university seminars and industry site visits in March and April and afterwards as a long term personal network of people with common aims.

