



DONATIONS OF CLUB SINCE 1999

AUSTRALIAN PROJECTS - Total \$345,134	\$
Aust Rotary Health Research Foundation	9,101
Childhood Cancer Support Inc.	10,000
Coast Guard Noosa	5,678
Disaster Appeals in Aust.	18,302
Helicopter Rescue Service Sunshine Coast	25,000
Hospital at Noosa	28,645
Health Care Organisations Noosa region	47,350
Hear & Say Centre S/Coast for deaf Children	26,450
Salvation Army Noosa	9,925
Sports Programs for Disabled in Noosa	11,409
Sunshine Butterflies for the Disabled in Noosa	27,920
Surf Clubs Noosa & Sunshine Beach	30,475
University of Sunshine Coast Graduates	8,500
Youth Projects for Noosa region	72,294
Other Local & Australian Projects	14,085
GLOBAL PROJECTS - Total \$209,504	
Disaster Appeals	26,670
Health Care Programs	22,900
Orphanages & Schools	23,210
PNG Projects	8,700
Polio Eradication globally	30,740
Medical Aid for Children ROMAC	10,000
The Rotary Foundation	20,578
Other International Projects	66,706
TOTAL CLUB DONATIONS	\$554,638

Greetings my fellow Rotarians,

Where did September go?? My time as District Governor is galloping by!
I can't believe we're through September.

Club visits are going well, 40 so far with most of the island clubs being completed. It is incredible meeting with the clubs and finding out how many positive ways and projects, they are contributing to their communities. Well done everyone, quite impressive. A recent visit took us to Noosa Daybreak. They had this rollup banner in their meeting room, which they explained that they also put it up at their Bunnings BBQs so that the local community can see their contributions and projects. They had their annual Bookfest recently, which was quite successful.

Yours in Rotary Service,
DG *John Lane*



The following article appeared in the September issue of Rotary Down Under,

BOOKFEST NOOSA

Held over three days at the Noosa Leisure Centre, Noosaville, Qld, the Rotary Club of Noosa Daybreak's annual Bookfest saw more than 10,000 books snapped up by record crowds this year.

"We had \$1 books on sale for children, which gave them an inexpensive opportunity to purchase books to continue their education," John McAlpin, of the Rotary Club of Noosa Daybreak, said.

On display in the venue were finalist and winning entries of the Noosa Primary School's Writing Competition and posters created by schoolchildren, popular with the young students and the public alike.

Hungry shoppers enjoyed the barbecue stall and the Children's Corner was full of play. One lucky buyer received a \$1000 cash prize after winning the Bookfest raffle.

From the funds raised over the three days, a donation of \$12,000 was made to Sunshine Butterflies, a local support organisation working to improve the lives of disabled children and their families. This was matched by a \$10,000 grant from RAWCS Compassionate Grants project.

A further \$12,000 was donated to the Hear & Say Sunshine Coast Centre to assist children with hearing loss to hear, listen and speak.

Thoughts on membership:

Since 1 July 2016, my Rotary club has recruited and brought in 31 new members. Eleven of these new members are women and eight of them are under 40 years of age. The club has gone from being classified as a “medium” sized club of 68 members in our district to being classified as a “large” club of 93 members in just over nine months. How did this happen? Here’s our tips:

1. **Know your club’s strengths**. If you meet in the morning, you will probably be a good fit for a 9 to 5 employee. But if you meet at noon, you’re more likely to appeal to retirees or parents of school-age children. If someone doesn’t fit your format, recommend them to another club. They won’t forget you and may send you someone another day. Let all the clubs in your area know you are looking for members, and they may send you some that better fit your format than their own.
2. **Keep a list of potential recruits**. It doesn’t matter if it’s a paper list or if it’s kept on the desktop of your computer – it just makes you think about those people and others that may be a fit for your club.
3. **Make recruiting the top priority in your club**. You can’t do everything as a club president, and knowing that will give you some freedom to focus on the most important thing. Having new members – with new energy – will help you have more people to raise money for The Rotary Foundation, serve on your committees, and invite additional members/more smiling faces to your meetings and fun event. Let your members know this is the top priority so they can all help.
4. **Create a letter that lists all the great things about your club**. List your star members, the advantages of where your club meets, how many members it has, etc. Make sure to tailor the email/letter to the wants of any potential new member.
5. **List potential areas of responsibilities**. Potential members will want to know how they can fit in and what opportunities there are for serving.
6. **Be persistent**. There will be times that it takes literally a dozen requests to get someone to a meeting. Keep asking. They may come to a meeting, or tell you they can’t join now because they are too busy, or they aren’t interested in joining at the moment. These are all fine answers as long as you keep track of them and keep in touch. How many times did you have to be asked? (It was over a course of two years for me)
7. **Talk about Rotary wherever you go**. At church, temple, work, neighbourhood gatherings, family gatherings, parties, etc. You’ll be amazed how easy it is after you practice for a while. Getting a lot of “no” answers built my confidence because it didn’t hurt as bad as I thought and most people were happy I asked, even if they responded negatively. It’s always a good time to recruit.
8. **Celebrate when you get a new member**. This gets the club excited about getting more members. Our club makes a poster of the individuals after they’ve been voted in and we put it in the front of the room at our next meeting. We do the same thing when we induct a new member.
9. **Realize there is no finish-line**. Even if you are at the size that your club wants to be, there are always reasons people leave. And new insights always benefit a club. You’re either growing or you’re dying.
10. **Be vibrant**. Wear a turkey suit before Thanksgiving (it’s only your dignity you stand to lose), wear a lanyard with lots of “flair”/Rotary pins (it gets people talking to you), make outrageous centrepieces for your meeting tables (it gets people talking to each other), greet people outside the building you are meeting in and hold the door open for them (it lets people know you care).

These really work. Try them out.

Throughout Membership and New Club Development month, we will be featuring blog posts that focus on [club flexibility](#). From a hybrid club to dual membership, these posts feature clubs who have benefited greatly from restructuring or implementing new membership options.

- Tom Gump, president of the Rotary Club of Edina Morningside, Minnesota, USA, and a District 5950 trainer in Rotary Voices



What is Positive Peace?

By John Hewko, General Secretary Rotary International

We Need to Look Beyond the Causes of Conflict

One hundred years ago, much of Europe was embroiled in what was optimistically being hailed as “the war to end all wars.” Except that it wasn’t. Instead, “the Great War” created conditions for an equally deadly world conflict just 20 years later, with new and even more dangerous repercussions.

Since then, we’ve experienced what has been called “the long peace,” marked by an overall reduction in violence. Intrastate and regional conflicts have fortunately not ignited a third global war. Our 60-year containment of war is progress, of course, but the level of conflict has begun to creep up again, creating a mounting death toll and a refugee crisis of unsustainable proportions.

Clearly, containment is not the best solution, given the soaring human, social, and economic costs. It’s time for new approaches in our work for peace—solutions based on crafting the conditions that contribute to a peaceful society, rather than simply focusing on the causes of war. The Global Peace Index offers us a valuable tool that can make our work to develop peace both more realistic and more enduring.

Is it ‘Peace Studies’ or ‘Conflict Studies?’

The concept of [positive peace](#) seems so simple, and yet it’s actually quite revolutionary. For centuries, we have looked at peace as the absence of violence, without fully considering that other drivers are in play. Positive peace turns this definition on its head and lets us reframe the question. Instead of examining the causes of war, we can explore the attitudes, institutions and structures that build a more peaceful society, and work to create those conditions in vulnerable areas before conflict even occurs.

Working for peace has always been a top priority for Rotary—so much so that we had a seat at the table at the 1945 UN charter conference. In fact, more than 40 Rotarians were present at the UN conference in San Francisco. But most of our work for peace doesn’t happen at conferences or in diplomatic circles. It happens through personal relationships that are developed over time and across national borders and disparate cultures.

Positive Peace is More Than the Absence of Violence

Our members have always been passionate advocates for international understanding. We created professional and student exchange programs that promoted international travel many years ago at a time when it was both costly and rare. In fact, Rotary sends 9,000 students every year on various exchanges. [Our scholarship programs](#) have sent graduate students to opposite sides of the globe to act as ambassadors of goodwill. Our international service projects depend on Rotary members from two different countries, often with very different cultures, working together to improve the quality of life in the host country.

Today, [Rotary](#) is taking on some of the world’s greatest development challenges—from reducing poverty, to providing clean water and educating and empowering millions of people. If you look at these efforts as the spokes of a wheel, with peace and conflict resolution as the hub, you get a picture of how Rotary is working to create the social and economic conditions that encourage peace.

Will this approach succeed? Well, that depends on one key aspect—sustainability.

To be sustainable, our solutions can’t simply be stopgap measures, such as installing a hand pump without teaching the community how to fix it if it breaks. Instead, we’re looking for strategic interventions that will provide training and maintenance plans to keep the water flowing for years to come. This requires detailed program monitoring, solid data collection, and [field workers](#) trained in the principles of Positive Peace.

Through sustainable solutions we can reduce the likelihood of conflicts to create a more peaceful world.



This year, the district conference is focusing on peace & conflict resolution, our peace fellows from UQ, as well as a Nobel Peace Prize nominee from Cambodia, Dr. Emma Lesley. Sarah Brown from Purple House will be joining us along with several key note speakers. The Saturday evening dinner/dance is “Flower Power” with theme dress encouraged. Sunday morning, we will have a sunrise breakfast on the beach. Viewing the sunrise is optional however.

Let’s support DG John and support the conference this year. If you would like to assist, please contact DGN Darryl Iseppi @ Darryl.iseppi@satellite360.com.au

COUNCIL FLEXIBILITY

GRANTS CLUBS GREATER

IN MEETING, MEMBERSHIP

The 2016 Council on Legislation may well be remembered as one of the most progressive in Rotary history.

Not only did this Council grant clubs more freedom in determining their meeting schedule and membership, it also approved an increase in per capita dues of \$4 a year for three years. The increase will be used to enhance Rotary’s website, improve online tools, and add programs and services to help clubs increase membership.

The Council is an essential element of Rotary’s governance. Every three years, members from around the world gather in Chicago to consider proposed changes to the policies that govern the organization and its member clubs. Measures that are adopted take effect 1 July.

The tone for this year was set early, when the RI Board put forth two proposals that increase flexibility. The first measure allows clubs to decide to vary their meeting times, whether to meet online or in person, and when to cancel a meeting, as long as they meet at least twice a month. The second allows clubs flexibility in choosing their membership rules and requirements. Both passed.

Representatives also approved removing six membership criteria from the RI Constitution and replacing them with a simple requirement that a member be a person of good character who has a good reputation in their business or community and is willing to serve the community.

The \$4 per year dues increase was based on a five-year financial forecast that predicted that if Rotary didn’t either raise dues or make drastic cuts, its reserves would dip below mandated levels by 2020. The yearly per capita dues that clubs pay to RI will be \$60 in 2017-18, \$64 in 2018-19, and \$68 in 2019-20. The next council will establish the rate after that.

“We are at a moment in time when we must think beyond the status quo,” said RI Vice President Greg E. Podd. “We must think about our future.”

Podd said the dues increase will allow RI to improve My Rotary, develop resources so clubs can offer a better membership experience, simplify club and district reporting, improve website access for Rotaractors, and update systems to keep Rotary in compliance with changing global regulations.

Also because of this Council’s decisions:

- A Council on Resolutions will meet annually online to consider resolutions — recommendations to the RI Board. Council members will be selected for three-year terms. They’ll participate in the Council on Resolutions for three years and the Council on Legislation in their final year only. The Council on Resolutions will free the Council on Legislation to concentrate on enactments — changes to Rotary’s governing documents. Proponents predict that the Council on Legislation can then be shortened by a day, saving \$300,000.
- Rotaractors will be allowed to become members of Rotary clubs while they are still in Rotaract. Proponents argued that too few Rotaractors join Rotary. Sometimes it’s because they don’t want to leave their Rotaract clubs before they have to, upon reaching age 30. It’s hoped that giving them more options will boost the numbers of qualified young leaders in Rotary.
- The distinction between e-clubs and traditional clubs will be eliminated. The Council recognized that clubs have been meeting in several ways, and given this flexibility, the distinction was no longer meaningful. Clubs that have “e-club” in their names can keep it, however.
- The reference to admission fees will be removed from the bylaws. Proponents argued that the mention of admission fees does not advance a modern image of Rotary.
- A standing committee on membership was established, in recognition that membership is a top priority of the organization, and polio eradication was also reaffirmed to be a goal of the highest order.

If you or your club wish to submit an article, or an article regarding a club fundraiser, please email it to:

bomorse@icloud.com. Many thanks.