

John Lane, District Governor

D9600 Newsletter, December 2017

Making a difference~

volume 1, edition 6

And now, a few words from the District Governor...

Half Yearly Report-DG John Lane

Almost six months gone, sixty-two Rotary Clubs, three Community Corps, one Rotaract Club and two Interact Clubs visited.

One Club Birthday Celebration, interesting times in Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands. Rotary Institute in Darwin, Youth Exchange training and our dog still recognizes us! Even though I may have visited Clubs before it is only when you are in the Governor role that you actually find out how much is achieved and the variety of different projects and day to day service that is carried out. Congratulations to you all on making a difference and I look forward to hearing about and being involved with you all in your endeavors for the second half of the year. Bo has assumed a role for Rotary International as Assistant Public Image coordinator for Australia. Why not send her news about your club and she'll publicize it for your club, bomorse@icloud.com.

Rotary International President Ian Riseley's Visit

In March, Rotary International President Ian Riseley and his wife Juliet will be in our District following the Peace Conference in Sydney on Saturday 17 March 2018. He arrives in Brisbane on the Sunday (18 March 2018) and will be hosted that day by Caboolture Rotary who are arranging a Tree Planting followed by a Dinner at the Sandstone Point Hotel that evening.

On the Monday (19 March 2018) he will be the Guest of Honour at a Multi-District (Districts 9600, 9630 and 9640) Dinner in the Brisbane area (venue to be confirmed). And on the Tuesday (20 March 2018) he will be spending time at the University of Queensland Rotary Peace Centre before departing for France. This is an ideal opportunity for local Rotarians and Friends of Rotary to meet and hear from President Ian and Juliet. Please mark your diaries as further details will be available early in the New Year.



Governor Partner's Project

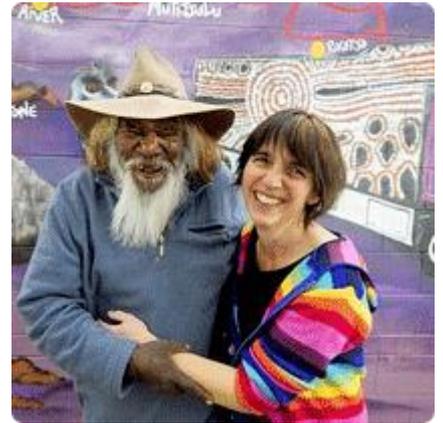
On most of my Club Visits Bo has accompanied me and has spoken about her Partners Project – The Purple House.

This is a project by local indigenous people in communities around Alice Springs to provide localized Dialysis for Kidney Disease Patients. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcGtRO8QZkQ>

Achieved by locating dialysis chairs in small communities or by mobile units in Purple Buses (set up with two chairs within a 'bus').

The nurse in charge of the programme, Sarah Brown will be one of our guest speakers at the 2018 District Conference. Sarah has also

been nominated for Australian of the year in Queensland by the way. Any Clubs or members who would like to contribute to the project may send money through their Club or direct to the District account, NAB Virginia BSB 084-209 Account Number 853832749, please note as Purple House contribution.



During the year to come; may you enjoy good health, and happiness, may peace reign over our country and throughout the world, may you have a kiss from your beloved, a smile from a child, a warm cosy house with the aroma of good food baking in the oven, wise governors and merciful tax collectors, companionship of good friends and helpful neighbours, may you enjoy the fruits of your labours, celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, may the sun shine on your face, may you see a rainbow, hit a home run with the bases loaded, may you have

an umbrella whenever it rains, may this year be happy, healthy and prosperous one for you and your loved ones.

Bo and I wish you a safe and peaceful holiday season and everything you wish for in the New Year.

Merry Christmas! John & Bo

Will we see you in Toronto at the International Convention?

Let's support our Aussie President.

"It's the best way there is to celebrate a year of successful service, and renew our energies for the year to come."

2017-18 RI President Ian H.S. Riseley, Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia

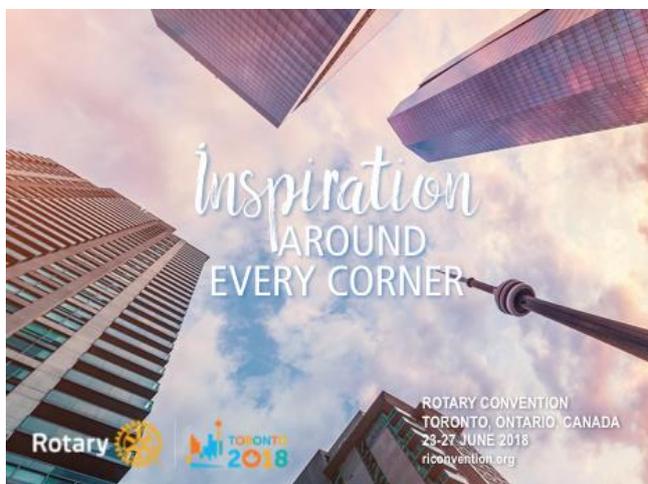
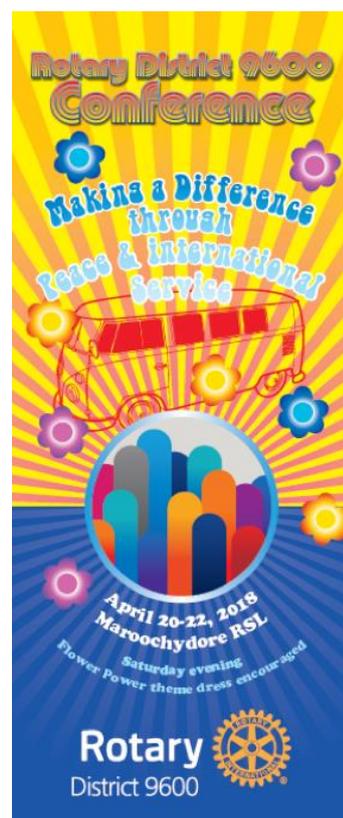
If you are interested, Bo is having a breakout session on how to identify, complete and fund a water global grant project.

UPDATE

District Conference 20-22 April 2018

Talking about the Conference, we have a great list of speakers organized, focusing on our theme of making a Difference through Peace and International Understanding.

Starting with an evening buffet on the Friday evening with an inspiring Guest Speaker. A full programme on Saturday topped off with a back to the 1960s night, theme dress encouraged. Breakfast on the Beach on Sunday Morning and more inspiration. It's going to be great, bookings will be available early next year. Start planning to attend and book your accommodation now.



The 2017 Chiapas earthquake struck at 23:49 CDT on 7 September (local time; 04:49 on the 8th UTC) in the Gulf of Tehuantepec off the southern coast of Mexico, near state of Chiapas, approximately 87 kilometres (54 mi) south of Pijijiapan, with a Mercalli intensity of IX (Violent). The magnitude was estimated to be M_w 8.2. The greatest devastation occurred in Oaxaca, Mexico City and the state of Chiapas. The area is within close proximity of Guatemala.



Bo Morse just returned from a month in Mexico working on disaster relief due to the recent earthquake. She arrived in Mexico City on November 12, 2017, on behalf of Disaster Aid Australia, as team leader for the Chiapas response. Disaster Aid had committed \$100,000 AuD to providing a disaster response for Chiapas, as well as clean water systems.

The earthquake caused some buildings in Mexico City to tremble, prompting people to evacuate. It also generated a tsunami with waves of 1.75 metres (5 ft 9 in) above tide level; and tsunami alerts were issued for surrounding areas. Mexico's president called it the strongest earthquake recorded in the country, in a century. It was also the second strongest recorded in the country's history.

In the hour following the earthquake, at least 12 aftershocks were recorded by the USGS.^[23] As of 00:30 September 14 (UTC Time), the National Seismological Service (SSN) has recorded at least 1,806 aftershocks, of up to a magnitude of 6.1.

Behind the magnitude 8.6 earthquake in 1787, and this was the most intense recorded globally, so far in 2017.

There were two significant earthquakes within two weeks of each other. The first earthquake occurred with a magnitude-8.1 quake Sept. 7, which resulted in 90 people dead and was the strongest earthquake to hit Mexico in a century. It struck off the country's southwest coast, levelling buildings and causing mass evacuations. Residents in Chiapas and Oaxaca states were hit particularly hard. The Mexico earthquake triggered alerts as far away as south east Asia, reports Reuters. In Chiapas alone, there are 20,000 impacted municipalities, with 800,000 residents impacted.

The Sept. 7 quake measured a magnitude-8.1, according to the USGS. About 50 million people across Mexico felt the earthquake. Local officials said they counted nearly 800 aftershocks of all sizes, and the U.S. Geological Survey counted nearly 60 with a magnitude of 4.5 or greater.

How much damage did the earthquakes in Mexico cause?

The Sept. 19 quake levelled at least 44 buildings, according to Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto. At least 225 people were dead, including at least 21 children after the Enrique Rebsamen School collapsed.

Within Chiapas, the earthquake affected an estimated 1.5 million people, with 41,000 homes damaged. Jose Calzada, Minister of Agriculture,^[27] reported that at least 98 people had died in the earthquake, including 78 in Oaxaca, 16 in Chiapas and 4 in Tabasco.^[27] The Secretariat of the Interior declared a state of emergency for 122 municipalities in Chiapas, and the Mexican Army was deployed to aid in disaster relief. Schools were closed on 8 September in 11 states for safety inspections. Damage in Veracruz was reported.



The village of Rizo de Oro, where 26 families are having homes built for them, 106 people in total.

So, in total, we installed a water system in the hospital, one in a rural village, repaired the primary school, and built 48 houses for 192 people.

