



Rotary District 9455

District Governors

Newsletter



DG Newsletter – April 2015

*Firstly – a very large thank you to all who attended the **District Conference** and made it such a success. The feedback we have had from all of you is fantastic and very much appreciated. PDG Geoff Simpson and his team did an outstanding job. We are very pleased that you found the speakers interesting, inspiring and enlightening. Professors Donna Cross and Andrew Whitehouse, Gemma Sisia and Dorice Livingstone-Abel stood out in your comments. Marcus Akuhata-Brown was simply inspiring.*

***Rotary Youth Exchange** Chair Norm de Grussa has had a record number of applications for outbound Youth Exchange Students which is fantastic news. This includes a highly qualified indigenous student from Port Hedland. Unfortunately the Port Hedland Club is not in a position to support the student. Could your Club help us in this situation, should the student's application be successful? Norm advises that there will be no assistance available in hosting the reciprocal student. So you absolutely need to be aware of this. **The Youth Exchange Trust** has sponsored three outbound students which is great news.*

*Those who attended District Conference on 9 April would have heard Peter Chwal from **Donor Mate**. Your District has partnered with Donor Mate to get out the message on donating life, particularly to young people. We need to use the Rotary network to get out this message for registered organ donors. Please consider inviting Peter Chwal, an inspiring speaker, and liver recipient, to be your club's next guest speaker. Contact Peter: peter@donormate.org.au For further information contact PP Tim Dawe: tim.dawe@optusnet.com.au*

***Interplast** sends teams of highly qualified plastic and reconstructive surgical VOLUNTEERS to developing countries in the Asia Pacific region to deliver programs of treatment and training. Surgeries undertaken are generally cleft lip and palate repairs, burn contractures, tumor removals and repairs to other trauma. A high percentage of these surgeries aid children. As you can see this program changes many lives – every year.*

Your district 9455 has set a target of raising sufficient funds to support one medical team to the Asia Pacific region each Rotary year. If your club has some capacity please consider a contribution to Interplast. Please contact your District Chair for Interplast, Steve Dixon in respect to making a contribution or Steve would be pleased to present on Interplast at your club. Email : sdixon@macrofunds.com.au : Mob 0412 244 496.

***The Rotary 4 Way Test public speaking competition** State Final was a resounding success. Held at the Royal Perth Golf Club and hosted by District 9465 this year. The 4 young speakers were absolutely astounding. The winner was from Mandurah speaking about Mental Illness (she suffers from this herself), and the runner up from Hale School sponsored by the Cambridge Rotary Club. I know that PDG Hank de Smit has sent information out to your Clubs already for next year's program. Please seriously consider liaising with your link school to get a young person to try out at your Club, and to hopefully progress through the Club, District and State competition. These students are absolutely brilliant.*

***The Rotary Foundation Gala Dinner** on Thursday 19th May will be held at the Parmelia – bookings are open through the District Website. Past RI President Bill Boyd is our guest speaker – worth travelling to listen to – he is truly a great speaker and a true gentleman. Please consider supporting our Charity – the Rotary Foundation. Brochures and other information have been sent to you Clubs over the last five weeks.*

*The Rotary year has gone past incredibly fast, and they always do. Now is the time to consider what your Clubs or you personally would like to do to support our **Foundation**. For those Clubs and Rotarians who have already donated – thank you, sincerely.
There are many ways to support the Foundation –*

A Centurion – where you donate US \$ 100 per annum for as long as you can.

A Paul

Harris Society member – where you donate US \$ 1000 per annum for as long as you can.

Every Rotarian Every Year – where every member of a Club makes a donation – every year.

A Bequest Society Member – where a Rotarian or Partner bequests US \$ 10,000 or more in their will –

no money now.

Also – please remember that for every dollar that you give to Polio eradication – the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will donate TWO DOLLARS.

***A Shelter-Box** response team is travelling to Ecuador to carry out assessments following the catastrophic 7.8 magnitude earthquake. The Shelter-Box operations team has been monitoring the situation since the earthquake took place on Saturday night, which has so far triggered heavy landslides and more than 130 aftershocks. There is already aid positioned in neighbouring Colombia, as well as in Panama and Bolivia, which can be quickly transported into Ecuador.*

The people of Japan, Myanmar and Ecuador as well as Fiji need your help and support to give them shelter and dignity. So whether Shelter-box or Disaster Aid Australia, or another Rotary program is your choice, the local inhabitants would welcome any help that you can give. As mentioned at our Conference – we can only scratch the surface of a very large Iceberg of human suffering, but the more that we can do is so much better than nothing.

Very best wishes to you all – Jerry & Kerry Pilcher.