



January Is Rotary Awareness Month

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Rotary Shares Because Rotarians Provide 'Service Above Self'



DG John & Joan Davis

Momentum is important and that's what makes January an important month in the Rotary year.

After a break from the activities of the first 6 months, it's not always easy to pick up the ball and start running again. Prior to Christmas, momentum is not a problem ... achievements are tabled and future objectives are reviewed. Then it's January but somehow we manage to shake off the holiday lethargy and 'start rolling again'.

January also sees the forward planning required to organize a seamless changeover of Club and District Office bearers on 1 July 2008. Most clubs have confirmed their 2008-9 President and the Presidents Elect are having their initial confrontation with future deadlines - the first being the list of club office bearers for the District Directory committee.

This month DGE Jim Studebaker attended the International Assembly in San Diego with 530 other District Governors Elect. This is the final formal training program for District Governors Elect before they take office from the 1 July 2008 ... and when they will **'Make Dreams Real'**.

January is also the time to nominate a Past President from our District to be considered for the position of District Governor 2010-11 of District 9800 Inc. Club nominations for the position of District Governor will close on 18 March 2008, after the District Conference. Club Presidents can obtain a guide for potential candidates - 'Becoming Governor' - by contacting me.

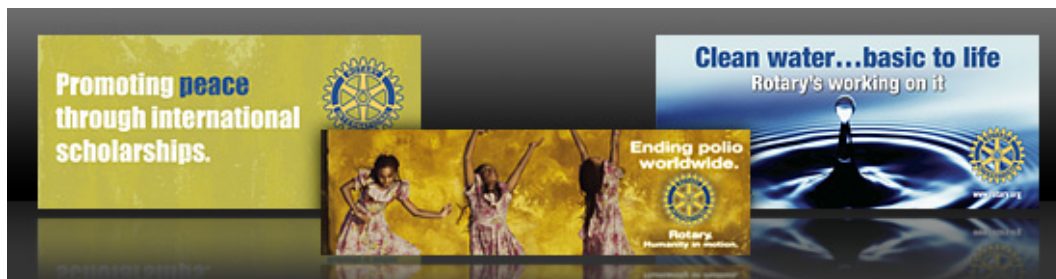
The Christmas/New Year period saw the hands-on side of Rotary where various initiatives were taken to support the families living in drought affected areas. At the District Management meeting in December we resolved to invite clubs to participate in a project to give some Christmas comfort to families facing extreme difficulties due to the drought. At short notice, and with the financial support of clubs in our District, a Rotary Christmas Cake or plum pudding with a Christmas card expressing Rotary's support to the family, was provided to almost 1000 primary school children in small communities in rural Victoria. Thank you to the Assistant Governors and clubs who participated in this project. The cards were donated to us by RC Waverley in District 9810 and we thank them for their assistance. We also gratefully acknowledge \$6,000 in food vouchers donated by IGA.

I have also been made aware of other initiatives taken by clubs in our District with support to the Shire of Moira and the Shire of Loddon. RC Melbourne also commenced a major program under the banner of 'Dust Bowl Xmas Appeal'. Funds generated from this appeal before Christmas are being used to buy food vouchers for families in need. Telstra Countrywide are also supporting this appeal through the provision of phone cards. Both the food vouchers and phone cards will be made available to families in January and February. Thank you to all clubs and their members who continue to support programs and projects assisting families in the drought areas of rural Victoria.

Rotarians do make a difference. That difference has been seen in January. Consider what difference you can make as a Rotarian.

Stephen Grellet seemed to capture the mood when he said, *"I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good things, therefore that I can do, any kindness that I can show a fellow being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."*

- John Davis, District Governor





New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Kristian van Staveren, RC Melbourne, Classification: TBA
- Rosemary Davies, RC Bendigo, Classification: Horticulture

When sending advice of new club members, please include their classification.

Quip Corner:

Where would we be without rhetorical questions?

Membership Seminars

All interested Rotarians - including Presidents, Presidents-Elect and Membership Chairpersons - are invited to attend an exciting and informative Membership Seminar to learn new methods of attracting additional members and retaining existing members. **Sunday, 10 February**, 9.00am for 9.30am to 12.30pm at the Holiday Inn Melbourne Airport, 1 Centre Road, Tullamarine. Morning tea is included in the \$10 per head. Please contact District Membership Advisor, Mel Gray on 0407 787 117 or email him at membership@rotarydistrict9800.org with your acceptance ASAP. Acceptances close Tuesday, 5 February.

Calling All Conference Early Bird Registrants!

The Early Bird draw/cocktail party for all Early Bird registrations is planned for Tuesday, 13 February subject to Giaan Rooney's availability to host the event. The Draw/Cocktail party will be held at the Lexus of Blackburn Showrooms, 146 Whitehorse Road, Blackburn from 7.00pm to 8.30 pm.

Lexus of Blackburn - the major sponsor of the 76th District Conference of District 9800 Inc - are proud to be associated again with the Rotary Conference at Shepparton after the success of the 2007 event. The Early Bird prize sponsored by Lexus of Blackburn is a perfect weekend away. The package includes one night's accommodation at the beautiful Lindenderry at Red Hill boutique hotel and vineyard, nestled amongst 30 acres of gardens and vines and includes a bottle of Lindenderry Estate wine, three course dinner and full breakfast. To take you to your destination in style, select from one of the Lexus Hybrid vehicles as your transport for the weekend. Thank you Lexus of Blackburn.

A formal invitation will be posted to Early Bird registrants confirming details in the first week of February. Thank you to all the Early Bird registrants, your early registration for the Conference was very much appreciated by the Conference Organizing Committee.

76TH DISTRICT 9800 CONFERENCE
13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008
GREATER
SHEPPARTON
VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA



DG JOHN & JOAN DAVIS INVITE YOU TO

Challenge the way you see your Rotary life. Make a Difference. Share the passion.



The D9800 Exercise Book Challenge

This is a great project to kick start 2008! It requires little effort or money, and everyone can get involved. It gives you the opportunity to tell everyone about Rotary during Rotary Awareness Month, and provides other great promotional opportunities.

Improved education is one of the keys to reducing 3rd world poverty, and our aim is to send one million exercise books and make a difference to a kids education.

During the 'back to school' period, major retailers will be selling exercise books below cost at 1 cent each. Talk to the stores - they may allow your club to buy some in bulk, and last year stores allowed us to buy the remaining stock at the end of the promotion.



Why not make it a club project? Set a target and get everyone you know involved - Rotarians, your immediate family, your extended family, friends and neighbours. Get your local Probus involved or ask your work mates to help with a flyer on your notice board. Contact businesses to help, many have social clubs that may want to get involved.

Try visiting Big W (packs of 10 books for 10 cents – max 20 packs per customer), Officeworks (1 cent each – limit varies) and large supermarkets (many have books on special at 5 for 5 cents).

Books can be delivered to DIK late January or early February, rear of Woolshed 37, 400 Sommerville Road, West Footscray (enter Gate 1.). DIK is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.00am to 3.00pm.

Contact Bill Dagg from D9800DIK on (03) 9318 5313, 0425 741 045 or bdagg@tpg.com.au.

What is RFPD & What Does It Do?

Here are some facts you may not know about The Rotarian Action Group for Population & Development (RFPD):

- Our mission is to work to address the population crisis around the world. We do this through educating and motivating the 1.2 million Rotarians, like you, to develop and implement projects that directly address the population problem.
- Over 20,000 members world-wide, with organized committees in 70 countries. It is the largest of Rotary's 75 Fellowships/Rotarian Action Groups, and has given thousands of Rotary club, district, zone and RI level programs around the world on Population.
- Promoted and helped gain approval of the Population Resolution at the 1998 Council on Legislation.
- Helped organize and fund Past RI President Frank Devlyn's three Population Conferences, as well as providing leadership and expertise for Frank Devlyn's Population Committee.
- Educated the RI Board for the approval of the RI-UNFPA Memorandum of Cooperation.
- Secured \$1.7 million in private grants to support Rotary's involvement in Population work.
- Established a Population Project Database and assists in finding project needs and project sponsors, and in processing projects through The Rotary Foundation.

If you would like to find out more about RFPD or organise a speaker at your club, please contact Gordon Cheyne, RC Toorak via gcheyne@bigpond.net.au. You can also visit <http://www.rifpd.org/> for further information.

Notices & Events

The Einstein Factor

The ABC invites Rotary Clubs of Victoria to be a part of the studio audience for the 2008 series of 'The Einstein Factor' (<http://www.abc.net.au/einsteinfactor/>) for free! Please contact the Studio Audience Ticket Line (03) 9524 2229. Group and individual bookings are welcome.

Sit On The Green To Catch Some Blues!

The inaugural Homestead Blues Festival on **Sunday, 10 February 2008**, the brainchild of the Laverton Point Cook Rotary Club, will mark the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead. Proceeds will help build a spectacular new children's playground in the picnic area of the Coastal Park, funded in conjunction with Wyndham City Council and Parks Victoria. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children, students and pensioners or \$50 for families, available through the Point Cook Homestead 9395 7501 or <http://www.pointcookhomestead.com/>, at the Point Cook Homestead Café (9395 1213) and the Soundgarden live music venue (The Soundgarden, 2 Fitzgerald Road, Laverton North, 9369 1324). Tickets also available at the gate.

Ghost Tour

RC Melton valley invites you to at 'Ghost Tour' of The Haunted Book Store, 15 McKillop Street, Melbourne on **Saturday, 16 February 2008**. Cost is \$18 for the 2 hour walking tour. Contact Jo Cupps via jo.cupps@optusnet.com.au or visit <http://www.haunted.com.au/>.

We are not hurt so much by what happens but our opinion of what happens.

- Wes Truscott (2007)



Rotary Southern Districts Shine On Awards

Nominations for the Rotary Southern Districts 'Shine On Awards' close on **25 February 2008**. If you have any queries or you just need another copy of the Rotary Shine On Guidelines and Nomination Form, email DawnWatson@yahoo.com or call Dawn on 9337 4710.

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

RC Altona City's Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects is commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (entries in before 14 February). There will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes. All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge will be on Labor Day Weekend, **Sunday, 9 March 2008** and take riders on a 135km tour on sealed roads (will suit riders with a good level of fitness). Our major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, through the Rotarian Action Group for MS Awareness, which is linking MS research groups worldwide. Profits will go to MS and other meaningful community and international service projects. Call (03) 5428 3474 or visit the website for more info and online registration - <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/gisborne>

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli. A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on **24 April 2008**, together with local Rotarians. Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Fun In Retirement Expo

The Rotary Club of North Balwyn, in conjunction with the City of Boroondara will be staging the inaugural Fun In Retirement Expo (FIRE) at the Boroondara Sports Complex from **5-7 July 2008**. FIRE will showcase the huge variety of businesses and community groups catering for the rapidly growing number of Boroondara citizens in 'The Third Age'. Our aim is to show the 50+ members of our community what is available to them, and to encourage them to become more involved in the life of the community, putting more richness and variety into their lives. You are invited to take a booth at FIRE to show your wares to this age group who have both the money and the time to take up new hobbies; to develop themselves mentally and physically; to become more involved in their community; or to just indulge themselves! Visit www.funinretirement.com.au for more details.

Rotary Awareness Month

The Importance Of Branding

Rotary's (and your club's) brand is the way the outside world perceives what Rotary does, so it is imperative to create the right impression. After all, promoting yourself in the right light will lead to a positive image, create interest, entice new members, generate goodwill, and even bring financial support.

7 Rules of Effective Brand Management

1. **Always be noticed** – because if you aren't, who will know you exist?
2. **Excite your audience (potential members and supporters) and engage them** ... they deserve to be enthused and motivated by your messages.
3. **Challenge the status quo**. All clubs, no matter how accomplished, should think like 'challengers' who are looking to achieve their next major goal, and constantly seeking to do things better.
4. **Watch your brand's progress** like a hawk. A brand is never still – its position in the public's consciousness changes constantly.
5. **Be aware that the influences on a brand are sometimes beyond your control**. You need to revise your brand strategy and tactics constantly, or risk losing sight of your intended direction.



6. **The whole club must be aligned to both its own marketing messages as well as those of Rotary International.** The passion for alignment starts at the very top of the club, with the club President.
7. **Great brand management has a major influence on how the world views you – it can even influence change in the world.** It increases (and retains) membership, grows financial support, provides channels for action within the community and provides the resources to make a real difference on issues locally and internationally. You and your club members should aim for nothing less!

- Source: Adapted from '7 Rules of Effective Advertising & Brand Management' by Steve Yolland, the well-known Melbourne-based strategic thinker, writer, ad man and public speaker.

How's Your Club Shaping Up?

Unfortunately the 'Silly Season' seems to have impacted on reporting for December. Let's hope the New Year brings us back on track!

(The figures below have been sorted by % Change.)

Club	Cluster	Attendance		Membership				
		Dec 07		Jul 07	Dec 07		Net gain 07/08	% Change
		No. of Mtgs	Month %		Start	End		
Tullamarine	Gateway	1	65%	14	21	21	7	50.0%
Woodend	Calder	3	78%	13	17	17	4	30.8%
Melbourne North	Gateway	2	71%	21	26	26	5	23.8%
Altona City	Port Phillip	3	83%	28	30	33	5	17.9%
Melton Valley	Westside	3	84%	13	15	15	2	15.4%
Flemington	Hobsons Bay	3	85%	20	21	23	3	15.0%
Malvern	Monash	4	86%	40	46	46	6	15.0%
Balwyn	Eastside	3	85%	77	88	88	11	14.3%
Kew-on-Yarra	Yarra	3	69%	22	25	25	3	13.6%
Southbank	Batman	2	75%	23	27	26	3	13.0%
Maribyrning Highpoint	Hobsons Bay	3	61%	16	18	18	2	12.5%
Brighton	Beachside	3	47%	125	139	140	15	12.0%
Glen Eira	Beachside	3	64%	25	28	28	3	12.0%
Moonee Valley	Gateway	3	63%	18	19	20	2	11.1%
Central Melb. Sunrise	Batman	3	71%	55	59	61	6	10.9%
Keilor East	Gateway	3	69%	38	41	42	4	10.5%
Caulfield	Beachside	2	72%	10	11	11	1	10.0%
Albert Park	Batman			43		47	4	9.3%



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Gisborne	Calder	3	75%	25	25	27	2	8.0%
Brunswick	Heritage	3	42%	29	31	31	2	6.9%
Melton	Westside	3	85%	44	47	47	3	6.8%
West Footscray	Hobsons Bay	3	73%	31	33	33	2	6.5%
Footscray	Hobsons Bay	3	56%	56	59	59	3	5.4%
Collingwood	Heritage	2	70%	21	22	22	1	4.8%
Brighton North	Beachside	3	54%	44	46	46	2	4.5%
Echuca-Moama	Goldfields	3	70%	24	25	25	1	4.2%
Bendigo	Goldfields	3	74%	78	80	81	3	3.8%
Essendon North	Gateway	3	81%	27	28	28	1	3.7%
Melbourne	Batman	3	61%	257	266	266	9	3.5%
Camberwell	Eastside	3	67%	61	61	63	2	3.3%
Eaglehawk	Goldfields	3	89%	38	39	39	1	2.6%
Bendigo South	Goldfields	3	76%	41	42	42	1	2.4%
Canterbury	Eastside	3	70%	43	44	44	1	2.3%
North Balwyn	Eastside	4	75%	89	91	91	2	2.2%
Kew	Yarra	3	70%	53	54	54	1	1.9%
Hawthorn	Yarra	3	72%	70	72	71	1	1.4%
Bendigo Sandhurst	Goldfields	3	70%	51	51	51	0	0.0%
Bendigo Strathdale	Goldfields	3	84%	30	30	30	0	0.0%
Brimbank Central	Westside	3	71%	27	27	27	0	0.0%
Chadstone / East Malvern	Monash	3	91%	44	44	44	0	0.0%
Daylesford	Calder	3	73%	26	25	26	0	0.0%
Fitzroy	Heritage	2	92%	30	30	30	0	0.0%
Kangaroo Flat	Goldfields	3	58%	31	31	31	0	0.0%
Keilor	Gateway	2	78%	36	36	36	0	0.0%
Laverton Point Cook	Port Phillip	3	68%	20	20	20	0	0.0%
Port Melbourne	Batman			54		54	0	0.0%



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Richmond	Heritage	3	76%	47	47	47	0	0.0%
St Kilda	Monash	4	71%	11	11	11	0	0.0%
Toorak	Monash	3	71%	35	35	35	0	0.0%
Williamstown	Hobsons Bay	3	63%	29	29	29	0	0.0%
Carlton	Heritage	3	90%	41	40	40	-1	-2.4%
Bacchus Marsh	Westside	3	71%	39	39	38	-1	-2.6%
Melbourne South	Batman	2	79%	37	36	36	-1	-2.7%
Hoppers Crossing	Port Phillip	3	81%	30	29	29	-1	-3.3%
Altona	Port Phillip	2	69%	27	26	26	-1	-3.7%
Sunshine	Westside	3	79%	24	23	23	-1	-4.2%
Werribee	Port Phillip	3	79%	46	44	44	-2	-4.3%
Elsternwick	Beachside	2	55%	19	18	18	-1	-5.3%
Kyneton	Calder	5	57%	38	36	36	-2	-5.3%
Point Gellibrand	Hobsons Bay	3	80%	36	33	34	-2	-5.6%
Castlemaine	Calder			52		49	-3	-5.8%
Essendon	Gateway	3	59%	81	76	76	-5	-6.2%
Glenferrie	Yarra	3	75%	48	44	45	-3	-6.3%
Prahran	Monash	3	77%	30	28	28	-2	-6.7%
Rochester	Goldfields	4	73%	12	11	11	-1	-8.3%
Brighton Beach	Beachside	2	67%	22	20	20	-2	-9.1%
Yarraville	Hobsons Bay	3	76%	19	17	17	-2	-10.5%
Boroondara	Eastside	4	75%	18	16	16	-2	-11.1%
South Yarra	Monash	3	71%	9	8	8	-1	-11.1%
Wyndham	Port Phillip	4	88%	30	24	24	-6	-20.0%
Melbourne Latrobe	Batman			13		8	-5	-38.5%
No. of Members				2760	2853	72	2.6%	



Be Extraordinary!

Spread the Rotary word
and invite someone new to
your next club meeting!





February is World Understanding Month

Ever Had A Life Changing Moment?

A moment that touched you, that inspired you, that compelled you to make a change in your life or help make a change in the lives of others?

The 76th Rotary District Conference is all about life changing moments.

The Conference is now only 6 weeks away. Thank you to all those Rotarians that have registered already - **you are going to have a great weekend at Shepparton!**

The conference will be the biggest conference that Shepparton has hosted. As such, it has put some strain on allocating the accommodation in Shepparton and surrounding areas. We thank all the delegates to the Conference for their patience while the Shepparton Visitors Centre has been sorting out the complicated matrix of how a 1000 delegates can be satisfactorily accommodated and, where possible, keeping all club members together.

If you have not yet registered for the Conference **NOW** is the time. **Registrations will close at the end of February.**

Registration, as many of you have already found, is a simple matter. Registration is online and here's how to do it:

Go to the District 9800 website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/>), click on members on the top line. A new page appears, a box with 'click here to register' is on the right of the page. Click on this box. The link will open a new window taking you to the Online Registration Form. You can book here by credit card (Visa, MasterCard American Express) or pay later by cheque. The cost of Registration is \$395 plus a \$5 booking fee. If you are having difficulty with the online registration you can either refer to your Club's nominated Conference Registration Officer or you can contact Katie Armitage during business hours on (03) 9690 7979 or via email (KArmitage@archwaygroup.com.au). Alternatively, you can download a copy of the registration form and forward to your Club's Conference Registration officer who in turn can enter your details on line.

Accommodation is being handled by the Shepparton Visitors Centre. Please contact Maree Glasson on free call 1800 808 839 or (03) 5831 4400. Fax (03) 8522 2311 or email maree.glasson@shepparton.vic.gov.au.

This issue of Networker has been dedicated to bringing you up-to-date with the 76th Annual Conference of District 9800 Inc. The Annual Conference is where we all come together to celebrate the work that Rotary is doing in local and overseas communities and also to participate in Rotary fellowship. Fellowship is still the principal reason as to why Rotary is such an effective service organisation.

It is an excellent opportunity for the members of our newest club - Port Melbourne - to see the power of Rotary on a District and International level. And so it is for all new Rotarians. We strongly encourage all new Rotarians to make a special effort to attend the Conference which starts on Thursday, 13 March 2008.

I can guarantee you that Shepparton will be a fun Conference. We are particularly delighted and honoured to have World Rotary President Wilf Wilkinson's personal representative - **Past World President, Glen Kinross**. It's a great filip to have a Past World President in this position and underlines the respect that Rotary International has for District 9800.

One Past World President in attendance at a District Conference is, in itself, a great honour. However, at Shepparton we will have in attendance **2 Past World Presidents!** Our own **PRIP Royce Abbey** will also be in attendance. Royce has been a mentor to many people in our District and we are thrilled that he and Jean are able to join us for the duration of the Conference.

The theme of the conference is **ROTARY SHARES** and I invite you all to:

- Share Your Integrity
- Share Rotary With The Young
- Share Rotary With The World
- Share A Rural Perspective
- Share Our Rotary District
- And, Most Importantly, Share Your Rotary Fellowship With One Another

Challenge the way you see your Rotary life - Make A Difference, Share The Passion. Be a participator, not a spectator. In order to participate and SHARE your Conference, you must register now - it's a wonderful opportunity for a life changing moment.

- John Davis, District Governor

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A formal invitation will be posted to Early Bird registrants confirming details on 4 February. Thank you to all the Early Bird registrants, your early registration for the Conference was very much appreciated by the Conference Organising Committee.

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13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008
GREATER
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Challenge the way you see your Rotary life. Make a Difference. Share the passion.



Shepparton – What's On

Thursday, 13 March 2008

12.30pm sharp **Golf at Shepparton Golf Club.**

- Team event shotgun start.

4.00pm – 9.00pm **Registrations.**

- Collect satchels and name tags from Eastbank Centre.

6.00pm – 9.00pm **Informal Gathering In The Park.**

- International smorgasbord cuisine, informal dining.
- Includes a concert and jazz band at Wanganui Park Secondary College.
- "Welcome & Presentation of Golf Trophies" with DG John Davis.

Friday, 14 March 2008

9.00am – 10.30am **First Plenary Session: "Share Rotary" Opening Ceremony**

- Francesco Fabris – "This Is The Moment"
- Don Hyde A.M. – Master of Ceremonies
- Australian National Anthem, International Flags
- Club Roll Call, Students – GSE Teams
- Dr Bob Newman, RC Footscray President
- District Governor, John Davis
- Mayor of Greater Shepparton, Cr Eric Bott
- PPRI Glen Kinross, Rotary International President's Representative
- Dr Sharman Stone MHR – "The Goulburn Valley"



Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



10.30am – 11.00am **Morning Tea**

11.00am – 1.00pm **Second Plenary Session: Vocational – “Share Our Integrity”**

- “People Movers”
- Tim Lane, “Australian Football – 150 Years”
- John Winneke AC RFD QC, “Odyssey House”
- Franceso Fabris
- Prof. David Ames BA MD, “The Challenge of Dementia”
- Kaye Fallick, “Planning for non-Retirement”
- DG John Davis welcomes bike riders

1.00pm – 2.00pm **Lunch in the Park**

2.00pm – 4.30pm **Third Plenary Session: New Generations – “Share Rotary With The Young”**

- The Bouchier St. Primary School Choir
- Bryce Ives, “Living, Breathing and Being Online”
- “Storm The Stage”
- George Halkias, “Homeless Street Soccer World Cup”
- “People Movers”
- Paul Kelly, “The Mountain of Youth”
- Youth Exchange Presentation
- Marc Fookes, District Advisor
- RYLA, RYPEN

4.30pm – 5.30pm **Resolutions Session**

- Delegates to be nominated by the club, based on a I-25 membership. This session shall be chaired by District Governor, John Davis and Past District Governor, Ian Knight, with District Secretary, Colin Muir, in attendance.

Evening **Club Dinners**

Saturday, 15 March 2008

7.00am – 8.30am **Foundation Breakfast**

- DG John Davis extends an invitation to Paul Harris Fellows, Members of the Paul Harris Society, Foundation Benefactors, Foundation Alumni and delegates attending the District Conference to join him for the Foundation Breakfast.

- The Breakfast will be held on Saturday, 15 March 2008, 7.00am to 8.30am at the Country Comfort Parkdale Motel, 481 Wyndham Street, Shepparton at a cost of \$25 per head.

Guest Speaker: PDG Keppel Turnour D9790

Chairman: Regional Rotary Foundation Co-ordinator,
PDG Don Jago

In Attendance: PRIP Glen Kinross

- PDG Keppel Turnour was the GSE team leader to Districts 563 and 565 Nebraska and Iowa in 1971 of which DG John Davis was a member. Members of the 1971 team will be in attendance as well as the 2008 Australian GSE team, and the GSE team 2008 from District 5650 covering Nebraska and Iowa in the USA.
- The venue requires approximate numbers by the end of February. Would you please email DG John Davis if you will be attending at dg@rotarydistrict9800.org or cmadavis@inet.net.au by 24 February. Numbers are limited to 200 attendees and the cut off point will be the first 200 members to pay for the function. Payments can be made at the Registration Desk at the Conference or at the Breakfast.



DG John Davis
Photo taken by Barry Mullen

9.00am – 10.30am **Fourth Plenary Session: International & Rotary Foundation – “Share Rotary With The World”**

- “World Choir”
- PPRI Glen Kinross, “Foundation Key Note Address”
- Introductions of Teams – GSE Australia (6), GSE Nebraska (5)



Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



- Jamie Robertson, "Confessions of a Repeat Offender"
- Chris Don, District Chairman – Presentation and Awards

10.30am – 11.00am **Morning Tea**

11.00am – 1.00pm **Fifth Plenary Session: Community – "Share a Rural Perspective"**

- Wanganui Park Secondary College Musical Entertainment
- Don McQueen, "Bush Poet"
- Geoff Odgers, Kevin Ritchie & Ross McPherson
- "Shepparton & The Goulburn Valley"
- "People Movers"
- Royce & David Abbey Interview – "The Royce & Jean Abbey Foundation"
- Mev Connell, District Advisor

1.00pm – 2.30pm **Lunch in the Park**

- Shepparton Rotarians/Fellowship
- Afternoon free / bus trips

6.30pm – 7.00pm **Pre-Dinner Drinks**

7.00pm – 11.00pm **Gala Dinner in the Park**

- "Share Our Friendship"
- Theme is 1950's Rock & Roll – Elvis Presley & Roy Orbison
- Dress casual – jeans, runners, blue suede shoes, t-shirts, colourful dresses. Appropriate 1950's gear will be available for hire from the Eastbank Centre if required.
- Seating will be by allocation in clubs. Refer to display board and ushers on entry.
- Food will reflect the 50's theme.
- **Join in the spirit of the 1950's theme and have a fun night!**



Sunday, 16 March 2008

9.30am – 10.00am **Ecumenical Church Service, Eastbank**

- Tribute to deceased members

10.00am – 12.30pm **Sixth Plenary Session: Share Our District**

- Heart and Soul Choir
- John Illott, "Police Mentoring"
- Mel Gray and Philip Archer, "Membership & Marketing"
- Peter Mitchell, "Donygi Project"
- Heart and Soul Choir
- PPR Glen Kinross, "Conference Summary"
- DG John Davis, "Resolutions & Thanks"
- "Invitation to Change Over Banners"
- "Itchy Feet Farewell"

12.30pm **Light Lunch & Home!**

Shepparton – What You Need To Know

Program

The Program highlights the RI Theme – Rotary Shares.

Each plenary session shall have an Avenue of Service as its theme, with special sessions for the Foundation and Special Projects.

We have dedicated Community Service to Shepparton and The Goulburn valley (Saturday morning) after morning team, and three local speakers will give us a first hand insight on a rural perspective.





Lexus Sponsorship

Lexus of Blackburn are major sponsors for the Conference. We ask that you provide them with courtesy and we thank them for their hands-on assistance in running this Conference. Their coffee machine will be available all day in the House of Friendship and they ask for a gold coin donation which will be donated to the Rotary Foundation.



Registration

Registrations will be available from 4.00pm until 9.00pm, Thursday, 13 March, and 8.30am to 12.30pm, Friday, 14 March.

All enquiries should be made to the information centre on the first floor level of Eastbank Centre.

Shuttle Buses

Shuttle buses shall collect and return all delegates from their motel or accommodation area. Advice will be publicly displayed regarding times and the buses will run a shuttle service during the day for those wishing to return to their accommodation. Look for details in the foyer at Eastbank Centre.

Punctuality

Punctuality at the sessions is very important, particularly on Friday morning, when we will cease access from the ground floor, prior to commencing our opening session, the nature of the facility necessitates using upper and lower access points and it is important that you take directions from the Sergeants in the matter of crowd control.

Identification

Access to all activities, particularly the Gala Dinner, shall be based on the visible presence of your conference badge.

House of Friendship

The House of Friendship is located immediately beside the auditorium. The whole proceedings of the Conference shall be screened for your convenience and you are encouraged to relax with a coffee or tea in this area during the presentations.

Morning and afternoon teas will be served in this area.

Conference booths are located generally on the ground floor around the House of Friendship and passage areas.

Footscray Rotarians

Footscray Rotarians will be recognisable by their white shirts, hats and blue lanyards. They are there for your assistance and please ask for any help that you may require.

Medical Attention

If at any time during the Conference you are ill or require medical assistance, Doctors Eugene Spangaro and Bob Newman are available, together with Catherine Newman and Margaret Batrouney, who are senior nurses. Please contact any Footscray Rotarian for attention.

VIP Gifts

Gifts of appreciation to our guest speakers will be in the form of a porcelain cow, hand painted by the disabled students at Billabong Centre, which is part of The Goulburn Valley TAFE College. This venture which has been developed especially for the Conference and has been received so well that the College and Shepparton Council are to establish an ongoing industry for the promotion of Shepparton and the Shepparton community. We are delighted that we have instigated this and believe that the gifts will be a very special and original art form.

Child Care

If numbers are sufficient (this will be confirmed early March), a children's program will be available under the direction of Therese McKenny-Campbell who is a fully accredited child counsellor and she will have special programmes established for the children. This is not a program for babies.



Bus Trips

A limited number of buses will be available after lunch on Saturday, to take those interested to various sites, such as vineyards and orchards etc. Duration of the trip will be approximately one hour and is at no cost.



New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Diego Facchinetti, RC Brighton, Classification: Forest Machinery-Sales
- Graeme Hill, RC Brighton, Classification: Plantscaping
- William Howley, RC Brighton, Classification: Forest Industry-Consulting
- Richard Payne, RC Brighton, Classification: Corporate Training
- Jon White, RC Brighton, Classification: Financial Planning
- Greg Willcock, RC Brighton, Classification: Education - Business Manager
- Dianne Woodgate, RC Brighton Beach, Classification: Sculptor & Artist

When sending advice of new club members, please include their classification.

Notices & Events

The Einstein Factor

The ABC invites Rotary Clubs of Victoria to be a part of the studio audience for the 2008 series of 'The Einstein Factor' (<http://www.abc.net.au/einsteinfactor/>) for free! Please contact the Studio Audience Ticket Line (03) 9524 2229. Group and individual bookings are welcome.

Sit On The Green To Catch Some Blues!

The inaugural Homestead Blues Festival on **Sunday, 10 February 2008**, the brainchild of the Laverton Point Cook Rotary Club, will mark the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead. Proceeds will help build a spectacular new children's playground in the picnic area of the Coastal Park, funded in conjunction with Wyndham City Council and Parks Victoria. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children, students and pensioners or \$50 for families, available through the Point Cook Homestead 9395 7501 or <http://www.pointcookhomestead.com/>, at the Point Cook Homestead Café (9395 1213) and the Soundgarden live music venue (The Soundgarden, 2 Fitzgerald Road, Laverton North, 9369 1324). Tickets also available at the gate.

Ghost Tour

RC Melton valley invites you to at 'Ghost Tour' of The Haunted Book Store, 15 McKillop Street, Melbourne on **Saturday, 16 February 2008**. Cost is \$18 for the 2 hour walking tour. Contact Jo Cupps via jo.cuppens@optusnet.com.au or visit <http://www.haunted.com.au/>.

Rotary Southern Districts Shine On Awards

Nominations for the Rotary Southern Districts 'Shine On Awards' close on **25 February 2008**. If you have any queries or you just need another copy of the Rotary Shine On Guidelines and Nomination Form, email DawnWatson@yahoo.com or call Dawn on 9337 4710.

GSE Welcome Dinner

The Rotary Club of Glen Eira presents with the Beachside Cluster a dinner to officially welcome the Group Study Exchange Team from Rotary District 5650 (Iowa and Nebraska, USA) to Rotary District 9800. The dinner will be held on Tuesday, 26 February (6.30pm for 7.00pm) at the Terminus Room, Milano's Hotel, 4 The Esplanade, Brighton beach. Please RSVP by Tuesday, 19 February to Adrian Nelson on 0411 550 708 or adrian@nelsonbros.com.au. Cost is \$35 per head. Get in early, as our capacity is 130!

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

RC Altona City's Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects is commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (entries in before 14 February). There will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes. All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or

Quip Corner:

It may be that your whole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.

*Will YOU wonder, a year from now,
where you would be
if you started today?*

- Wes Truscott



Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge will be on Labor Day Weekend, **Sunday, 9 March 2008** and take riders on a 135km tour on sealed roads (will suit riders with a good level of fitness). Our major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, through the Rotarian Action Group for MS Awareness, which is linking MS research groups worldwide. Profits will go to MS and other meaningful community and international service projects. Call (03) 5428 3474 or visit the website for more info and online registration - <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/gisborne>

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli. A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on **24 April 2008**, together with local Rotarians. Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Fun In Retirement Expo

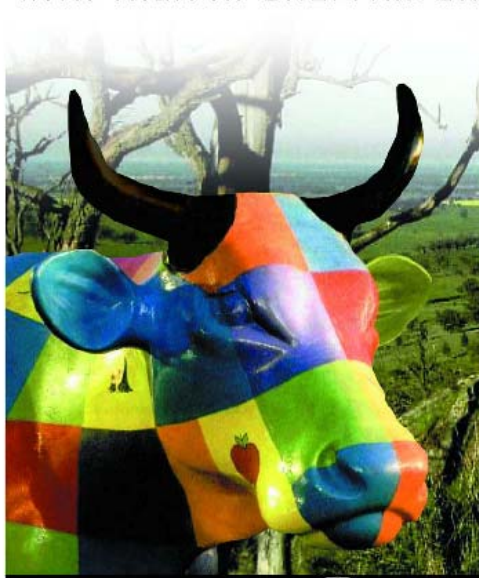
The Rotary Club of North Balwyn, in conjunction with the City of Boroondara will be staging the inaugural Fun In Retirement Expo (FIRE) at the Boroondara Sports Complex from **5-7 July 2008**. FIRE will showcase the huge variety of businesses and community groups catering for the rapidly growing number of Boroondara citizens in 'The Third Age'. Our aim is to show the 50+ members of our community what is available to them, and to encourage them to become more involved in the life of the community, putting more richness and variety into their lives. You are invited to take a booth at FIRE to show your wares to this age group who have both the money and the time to take up new hobbies; to develop themselves mentally and physically; to become more involved in their community; or to just indulge themselves! Visit www.funinretirement.com.au for more details.



76TH
ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 CONFERENCE
13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008

GREATER
SHEPPARTON
VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA

DR JOHN & JOAN DAVIS INVITE
YOU TO "SHARE ROTARY"
WITH THEM AT SHEPPARTON



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