

Rotary



JANNE'S journal

IMPORTANT DATES

July 1st

Registrations Open for Conference

July 8th

District Board Meeting

August – Membership & Extension Month

August 12th

District Leadership Meeting, Finance Meeting, Board Meeting @ Centenary House

August 26th

Foundation

October 27th

Polio Fundraising Event – Details To Follow

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this issue

From the D.G. **P.1**

Ciao! - Rotary Youth Exchange **P.2**

Toronto International Conference **P.3**

Welcome to the 2018/2019 year!

Hi All! I write to you all from the transit lounge at Los Angeles international airport on the way home from Toronto. It's been a whirlwind and I'll give a few thoughts regarding Toronto later. We've already attended some Club Changeovers and have really enjoyed them. I hope that those which have occurred recently have been just as enjoyable. We hit the ground running again on Saturday night when we arrive home, and then have quite a few in the coming days. I am sure that as our outgoing Presidents sit back and 'smell the roses', those who are taking up the reins will be ready for a wonderful year in which we will all 'be the inspiration'



I would like to just express my very sincere thanks to all those who were able to attend the District Changeover on the 17th June. I really had a great day and I'm hoping that you all did as well. Thanks also to those who have sent their good wishes in other ways. Thank you again also to Past District Governor Don and Jude and we all hope they have a great time winding down over the coming weeks. In the meantime I would like to thank my newsletter editor Jade Smith for her efforts with this first instalment and I hope you all enjoy the offerings this year. Please remember to send her any notices of events you have coming up, celebrations of successes and other pieces of interest to the district.

Yours in Rotary,

Janne

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Exchange. This word means so much more to me than I thought it could ever have meant.

I've grown with every second that passed, every memory that I've made and every conversation that I've had (the first ones too, even if they were awful). However, because there is no way to put twelve months into just one speech, here are some things that the word 'exchange' truly means to me.

Exchange at the beginning is strength. It's the strength to say goodbye to your family and friends. It's the strength to put your entire life into one suitcase (or four in my case). It's the strength to leave your comfort zone, your country and the people that you knew so well. It's the strength to know that you don't know what to expect, and to still get on the plane in search of a whole new world.

After the first few weeks in Korumburra I started realizing what exchange was and how every stone that was in my way was a chance; a chance to realise that being different is worth celebrating and the only way to learn is through continuously making mistakes.

Exchange is celebrating life to the fullest. It is having fun with lifelong friends and doing subjects that you could never do at your school in your home country. I've been part of a production with my drama class for the Korumburra Primary School students.

I have made handmade macaroni for my cooking class (realising that I'm just hopeless when it comes to cooking), slept for the first time in a swag under the stars in the middle of Australia, eaten for the first time kangaroo meat, chicken salt, sausages rolls, meat pies, pineapple on pizza and vegemite on toast.

Ciao, Aurora!

At the conclusion of her Rotary Exchange here in Australia, Aurora Giovanelli made her final address to the Korumburra Rotary Club before flying home to Italy.

I have played my first netball game, experienced two Australian weddings, flown to New Zealand, been to the Australian Rules football twice, done kayaking and even cuddled a little joey and an echidna. With my amazing Rotary club, we've ridden a 600km ride, raising over \$52,000 to support the Gippsland Rotary Centenary House to accommodate sick children and adults attending the Latrobe Regional Hospital for long term treatments. With forty nine other exchange students, I travelled by bus around Australia for three weeks. By the end of the journey we had nearly reached 10,000 kilometres.

We sat for over fifty hours in the bus, saw some incredible and breathtaking places, all so different in culture, climate, landscape and everyday life. Starting in Melbourne, we went through Adelaide and Coober Pedy. We crossed the border of Northern Territory stopping at Uluru and Kings Canyon. Then we left the red dust of the Outback to go to the East Coast of Australia. We travelled through Queensland, went to the Great Barrier Reef, Airlie Beach, Great Keppel Island and the Gold Coast. Our journey finished in New South Wales, with quick stops in Sydney and Canberra.

Exchange is laughing. It's laughing about mistakes, words that I pronounce or use in a wrong way. It's laughing about all the stupid little things that happened and knowing that "nobody knows you here". Some days I just enjoyed sitting in the car with the windows down on my way to a different part of this beautiful country, with my three dollar sunglasses on, music playing and realising just how lucky I have been.

Exchange is feeling like you're a part of a big family. Firstly I want to thank my amazing Rotary club. Thanks for being such role models for me. Thanks for always being present when I needed you and supporting me through this long journey.

Thank you for giving me the chance to realize all of my dreams and giving me the opportunity to achieve each of them.

This year, you've each taught me so much and I'm so proud to say I'm a part of the Rotary Club of Korumburra. I will forever hold a special place for you in my heart and I will miss you a lot, especially on Tuesday nights.

Next my awesome host families. The journey started with the Nicholas family; Cindy, Davin, Bayley, Paris and Obsa. Then on to the Turtons; Andrew, Sharon, Tash, Aaron and Katie. Next I was hosted by the Smiths; Peter, Nadine, Maddie and Lachie. Last, but certainly not least, the Macri-

Lomas family; Ronnie, Jules, Cayli and Siena. Thank you all for taking care of me every day. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to visit and do as many things as you could do. I will be forever grateful for everything you've done in order to make my experience unforgettable. You showed me that family is so much more than the people you share blood with.

You've made me feel accepted and loved more than I could ever have imagined. If you ever get the chance to go to Italy I would be absolutely honoured to show you all a bit of my country and my door will be always open to you.

Right now exchange to me is being a bit afraid to go home. The other day I was talking to my Australian nanna and I made the comment that I had forgotten how to speak Italian properly! Home will never be home the way it used to be. It's suddenly knowing that home is where your heart is, but also being aware of the fact that my heart is split in half and each of those halves are spread across the ocean.

Exchange will never leave me. The things that I have learnt and experienced will stay a part of me forever. I will go back with more than what I have in my mind, my heart and my suitcase!



2018 Rotary International Convention

Where could you find a princess, three prime ministers and a former first lady? At the Rotary International Convention, of course!

The Toronto convention has seen some 25,000 Rotarians, Rotaractors and Rotary friends come together from about 170 countries for three days of fantastic speakers, fellowship and fun.



It has been a great experience and I am sure will stand me in good stead as we move into our new Rotary year when we will 'be the inspiration'.

It is very easy to feel inspired after an event like this, and there are a number of things I intend to use during the coming year which I hope will add to our vitality and energy as a district.

Left: Rwandan peace scholar with an incredible story to tell



Above: PM Justin Trudeau giving his address at the conference



Above: Enjoying the great food, music, and sunshine at Rotaryfest

CONFERENCE UPDATE

Registrations are OPEN Multi-District Conference!

Friday 15th February to Sunday 17th February

Head to <http://www.rotaryconference.org.au/> for more information and to reserve your tickets to this show-stopping event!

The multi-district conference is a first for Australia, and possibly for Rotary worldwide. The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre will host all attendees and allowing for multiple ways to display projects from across Victoria and interact in an open and inviting atmosphere. Plus, its central location means that there is plenty of accommodation within walking distance (and a good coffee is always on hand!)



SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Ian & Juliet Riseley (*Past RI President*)
- Brittany Arthur (*Past President of Rotoract Club Berlin*)
- Noel Trevaskis (*Rotary International Director*)
- Edna Adan Ismail (*UN Diplomat, midwife and teacher*)
- ...and more EXCITING speakers yet to be announced!!!

EYE ON IT Rotary D9820

Find us on Facebook to stay up-to-date with all things D9820 – including events, videos, photos, events, and more! Scan this QR code to get a direct link to the page



CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

Commemorative Days In July

1st July

The Coming of the Light is celebrated by Torres Strait Islanders, wherever they may be, on 1 July each year. It commemorates the arrival of the London Missionary Society on Erub Island in the Torres Strait in 1871. It led to the adoption of Christianity through island communities during the late nineteenth century.

4th July

American Independence Day

14th July

Bastille Day, celebrated in France

20th July

Columbia's National Day

30th July

International Day of Friendship, proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.

(<https://www.diversitybestpractices.com/2018-diversity-holidays>)



Other Upcoming Events

• RYLA 2018 – October 19th

RYLA 9820 is an immersive 3 day residential program with thought provoking plenaries, discussion moderators, and professional facilitators from many disciplines. Discussions and experiential sessions focus on what leadership is, qualities of leadership, team-building activities, time and stress management. Graduates of previous RYLA programs report the course was fantastic opportunity to develop their skills, have fun, and meet an enthusiastic group of like-minded people.

Rotary clubs are encouraged to select participants from their local community, businesses, tertiary education facilities and other community service groups.

Businesses and other organisations are encouraged to sponsor staff members to attend, or to sponsor a young leader from their community.

Contact: Instagram @ryla9820 or email ryla9820@gmail.com

• Community Choice: Pop Culture Trivia Night – August 4th

Casey-Cardinia Rotaract is excited to announce our upcoming Community Choice: Pop Culture Trivia Night supporting End Trachoma by 2020. Trachoma is the leading infectious cause of blindness globally. Australia remains the world's last developed country where it still persists.

The World Health Organisation has a global goal to eliminate trachoma by 2020. Trachoma is an infectious eye disease that can be prevented with good hygiene practices. But it is still present in remote Aboriginal communities and can lead to permanent blindness.

Contact: Casey-Cardinia Rotaract via Facebook for further details

“Friendship...the craving for which brought Rotary into existence is the thing that will keep Rotary a living, vital force in the world for all time, the very foundation of our organization.”

Address to 1920 Rotary Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA

<http://www.rotaractorwiki.org/images/b/b9/100RotaryQuotes.pdf>

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District Changeover

