## The Western Port Channel Rotary Club of Hastings Western Port Rotary





District 9820

President: Mark Humphries president@rotaryhastings.org.au

<u>Secretary:</u> Linda Humphries secretary@rotaryhastings.org.au

<u>Treasurer:</u> Mike Callaghan treasurer@rotaryhastings.org.au

Rotary International President K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran

District Governor: Merv Williams

Meeting information: Monday Evenings 6.00 for 6.30 pm Hastings Club, Marine Pde, Hastings VIC 3915

<u>Contact Details:</u> PO Box 29 Hastings Vic 3915 Mobile: 0434193796 www: http://www.rotaryhastings.org.au email: info@rotaryhastings.org.au









### Message from the President

Fellow Rotarians,

This is my first message written from the president and I am conscious of the history and the big shoes I am now having to fill. Our club has a long history of doing good. My goal is to ensure that the club will continue to exist. Be able to support our community and the Rotary ideals. We need to build membership so we can continue to help with our local schools, support international projects and respond quickly to the call for disaster aid and finally eradicate polio. I promise to hand the club over with a clear direction, achievable goals and a higher profile in the community. The club needs to attract new members to lighten the load and share the joy and pleasure of giving a hand, extending caring support to our community and beyond and having a lot of fun doing it.

This is my aim and I need you all to help achieve it. Each of you will make a difference and be a gift to the world

Congratulations to Mike Callaghan for taking out the prestigious Rotarian of the year.

One of the first things that I am going to ask club members to do is complete a survey where you can say how you want your club to run. Do you have any suggestions as to what questions you would like to see on the survey? Example of current questions include, 'Do you want to start meeting with the bell and grace 'Do you want to ... Survey will be emailed next week, then on the 27th at the club night we will discuss the outcomes. Be a Gift

Interested in finding out how Rotary is eradicating Polio? http://www.endpolio.org/ Contact info@rotaryhastings.org.au to see how you can help

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Rotary 🛞 International News

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran Rotary International President 2015-2016

## **Rotary a Presidential Message**

We in Rotary aspire to great deeds. We admire those who gave great gifts to humanity: Abraham Lincoln, who gave the gift of human dignity to the downtrodden; Mother Teresa, who gave the gift of compassion to the forgotten; Mahatma Gandhi, who gave the gift of peaceful change to the oppressed. Their very lives became gifts to the world.

We can be inspired by their example. We can be inspired to ask, how can I, in the life that I live – without neglecting the responsibilities that are so dear to me – how can I, too, become a gift to the world? As I considered my theme, I thought of the lessons I have learned through my Hindu faith. I thought especially of the story of Sudama.Sudama was a poor child and a bosom friend of Krishna, who was born in a royal lineage as an avatar – an incarnation of the divine. As the two boys grow up, they drift apart, and while Krishna becomes a military leader and king of great repute, Sudama remains a humble villager. The years go by and Sudama's poverty deepens. Finally, he lacks even food to feed his children. His wife reminds him of his childhood friendship with Krishna: Perhaps it is time to go to the mighty ruler for help. Reluctantly, Sudama agrees, but resolves that he will not go empty-handed. He gathers together a few handfuls of rice – all the food his family has left – and wraps them in a piece of cloth as a gift for his friend.

When Sudama enters the palace, he is overwhelmed by the grandeur and by Krishna's gracious welcome. His meager gift, so carefully prepared, seems a humiliating reminder of his poverty. Krishna embraces Sudama, who hides the hand holding the rice behind his back. Krishna asks what he is holding.

Far from being disdainful, Krishna accepts the rice with gratitude and consumes it with joy as the two sit and talk together. Hours pass, during which the pleasures of their rekindled friendship push all thoughts of his desperate plight from Sudama's mind. When evening falls, Sudama sets out for home – and only then realizes that he has neglected his task. He is returning with nothing, and Krishna has eaten his family's last grains of rice.

Sudama steels himself to return to his hungry children. But standing before his gate, as dawn begins to break, he sees that the hut he left yesterday has become a stately home, and waiting to greet him is his own family: well-dressed, and well-fed by the baskets of food that appeared in their kitchen as Krishna ate each grain of Sudama's rice.

Krishna understood what Sudama had brought him: everything he had to give. In return, Krishna gave him everything he needed. It is never the material value of a gift that matters – it is the love that comes with it. Just as Sudama's gift to Krishna became a gift to Sudama, what we give through Rotary becomes a gift to us. And we all have a choice: whether to keep our gifts to ourselves or give them to others, and Be a Gift to the World.

We have only one chance at our lives. And we will have only one chance at this new Rotary year. This is our time. Let us grasp it. Let us Be a Gift to the World.













Merv Williams District Governor, District 9820 2015-2016



Our changeover last week saw the changing of the theme from "Light up Rotary' to "Be a Gift to the World". I was honored to be inducted as District Governor for 2015/16 by Past Governor Rob Marks (Mount Martha). This theme is fitting as each one of us has something to give - whoever we are, whatever our place in life. We can give our talent, our knowledge, our abilities and our effort. Through Rotary, we can take these gifts and make a genuine difference in the lives of others and in our world.

The District thanks Past District Governor Charlie Speirs and Janne for their commitment and enthusiasm during the past year. Many clubs have now completed their changeovers and we welcome in the new executives or directors of these clubs.

The District Governor club visits begin on Monday July 13 and both Christine and I we are looking forward to meeting members and partners during this time.









#### **District Events**

Monday Jul 13 School Term 3 Begins

Friday Jul 17 Traralgon Central Latrobe Film F

Saturday Jul 18 Traralgon Central Latrobe Film

Sunday Jul 19 The Rotary Foundation Committee Meeting

Sunday Jul 26 District Board Meeting (1) District Leadership Meeting (1) Contact DG Merv Williams District Finance Committee Meeting (1)

Saturday Aug 1 AUGUST IS ROTARY MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION MONTH

Sunday Aug 9 Programs of Rotary Seminar: Learn about the wide range of programs of Rotary Contact DG Merv Williams

Saturday Aug 15 2:00pm RC Mt Eliza: Music by George Charters

Youth Exchange Camp 1 Saturday Aug 29 Youth Exchange Camap 1 RAWCS Southern Region Seminar: Traralgon Visit by RI Director Guiller Tumangan to Victorian Districts

Sunday Aug 30 Youth Exchange Camp 1 RAWCS Southern Region Seminar: Traralgon Visit by RI Director Guiller Tumangan to Victorian Districts

Monday Aug 31 Visit by RI Director Guiller Tumangan to District 9820

# **Club Events**

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Date	Event
July 13th	District Governor Merv Williams
July 20th	Club Night
July 27th	Carrie Senecko
Membership Month	
August 3rd	Board Meeting
August 10th	Louisa Castles
August 17th	Grahame Gordon
August 24th	
August 24th	
August 31st	Social night
Literacy & Education Month	
September 7th	Board Meeting
September 14th	
September 21st	
September 28th	



#### **Useful Links**

https://www.rotary.org/ https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en http://district9820.org/ http://www.rotaryaustralia.org.au/ https://www.rotary.org/en/give/



