

Hi All

My stint as Chair of the D9500 RYE Committee is rapidly coming to its end and Paul Thomas (Northern Yorke RC) will be assuming the role as Chair of the newly merged District D9510 as of July 1st.

I would like to thank you personally for your help and support that you have given to the Rotary Youth Exchange Program over my time as both Chair and committee person.

I really appreciated it! I have enjoyed the role and I am aware that together we have provided many of our students with an experience they will never forget, have learnt much from and whose lives are the better from it. However, we tend to forget the vital roles that our Clubs, our host parents and volunteers play in enabling this fantastic program to continue as it does. Please thank those often overlooked people for me!

The past few months have been harrowing for all of us, but we have got through it, albeit the program has been suspended for 12 months, but with growing hope I think we may see overseas students here amongst us once again sometime in 2021. Our next group of outbound students look like departing Australia in January 2022.

Currently, we have one student overseas in Denmark (Ella Dixon- Pt Augusta RC) and hoping to return January 2021, and 3 overseas students who will be going home fairly soon (Sara- Gawler RC, Ana- Pt Pirie RC and Jonas- Pt Lincoln RC).

I know that under Paul's leadership and with a supportive committee behind him, the program will continue to grow and give a lot more students the chance to go overseas to study and learn.

Again, thanks for your help and support

Regards

Ian Howlett

Chair D9500 RYE Committee