

11 October 2018

Presidents and Secretaries
Rotary Districts 9500 and 9520

My year as District Governor in 2014-15 was one of the highlights of my Rotary journey and was a very special opportunity for me.

Although nearly 5 years ago in January 2014, I recall the International Assembly as breathtaking, especially seeing at first hand the Internationality of Rotary.

My goal as Governor was, amongst other things, to inspire "my" District to do 2 things - Each Club to donate \$1500 to the End Polio campaign and the equivalent of \$100 per member to the Rotary Foundation. My wife - Julie's Partners Project for the year was to collect 8500 pairs of new or gently used shoes for Soles4Souls and the equivalent number of gold coins for each pair to enable Rotary to fully fund a shipping container of shoes to Tanzania. What a great year.

In my 19 years as a Rotarian, I am most proud of the work being done by Australian Rotary Health (ARH). It is Australia's largest and longest serving Rotary program and through its research, has saved countless thousands of lives.

ARH has excellent governance from the Board members who are elected for a minimum of 3 years to CEO Joy Gillett OAM and her team. As with other areas, in our joint districts we have 2 representatives directly involved with Australian Rotary Health. One is the District Representative (myself) confirmed with each governor earlier this year, the other is an ARH Director (PDG Barbara Wheatcroft) responsible for our Districts.

We are a great Australian Rotary charity, fully endorsed by Rotary International, with an enviable track record. You can feel confident in our researchers and in the management of our research and indigenous scholar programs. And thanks to our many volunteers, along with interest earned from our investments, we can give 100% of our donations to our research programs.

This month there are many Club events supporting our "Lift the Lid on Mental Illness" program. For our Districts, it was the ARH High Tea last Sunday 14 October, an event that we plan to add to the annual Rotary calendar. It was a great success.

I wish you success as you lead your Clubs and with your ARH projects throughout the year as we strive towards another outstanding fundraising year.

Yours in Rotary



PDG John Campbell

