

Furthermore, I would like congratulate the inaugural winners of the Presidents Prize, Premier Trading Company.

I would like to introduce the new board for 2011 – 2012. Could they come up in order as they are called- Past President Jo Cowling, President Elect Sue Bolton, Treasurer Aviars Lode and Secretary Jo Cowling, 2nd year directors Annie Wysham - Marketing/PR, Mark Dwyer - Foundation and Judy Nettleton – International, 1st year Directors Trevor Pang - Club Service, Nia Holdenson - New Generations and Tim Baker - Community Services.

Nia and Tim are apologies as they are both overseas- Tim and Ann are having a well deserved rest, tramping over the hills and dales of Scotland.

Please give the board a round of applause for they will guide the club wisely throughout the year, and I will enjoy working with them to achieve our aims. Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, would be jealous!

Other chairs are- and would they stand as they are called- Liz Bartlett- Fundraising (Liz is not here today as she suddenly became ill. We wish her a speedy recovery) Les Frampton- Membership, Janice Kesterton- Bulletin and Program, Annie Wysham and Phil Mylecharane- joint Sergeant-at-arms. (These two are not shy in coming forward, as we all know, and will take great delight to make sure you have no change in your pocket when you leave the meeting. My apologies now).

Please thank them as they have challenging jobs to do and we wish them every success in their endeavors.

*The theme for this year is **'Reach within to embrace Humanity'** which I think as a Club we do very well already - so therefore my vision for the Club this year will be the same as in President Jo's year. Why? Because the Club is punching well above its weight and I am very conscious of the fact that we are all volunteers first and foremost.*

While attending the President Training Seminars we were privileged to hear the world President Ray Klingingsmith speak. We too, heard from Rotary International Director Stuart Heal at the District Conference in Adelaide as well as past and present District Governors. One word came up in every speech and that was "CHANGE". We will only move down that path with the board and members approval. One change that will happen will be that the Club will make its tentative debut on FaceBook and I must thank Kristen Widdop for volunteering to be the editor and I wish her the best of luck. Chadstone and East Malvern are on FaceBook and already have had five enquiries asking if they can become members.

The Club will support our very successful community service projects such as the Rotary Youth Arts Project where disadvantaged young people can learn photography or dance, through which they will gain confidence to move onto the Next Step Program where they learn to handle money, do first aid, obtain their drivers license, but above all improve their communication skills so they become valued citizens in the community.

Other educational projects we do are Mock Jobs Interviews at Melbourne Girls College, Slade Literary Awards, Ainger Public Speaking Awards and the Yarra Primary School Garden Project. We will send students if selected to National Youth Science Forum, Science Experience, Model United Nations Assembly, and the Rotary Youth Program.

On an international level, we will support the Rotary Foundation, which in turn supports Rotary Club Projects all over the world, Rotary Medical Aid which assists children from overseas to receive major life-changing major surgery.

Then there is the Vietnam PCAST Project where a team from Melbourne University are fitting cheaper, easier-to-fit artificial lower limbs, that will eventually see the training of local people to manufacture them and assist lower limb amputees throughout Vietnam.

We will support the ongoing Timor project.

All outstanding projects led by outstanding Rotarians, you would agree.

We will support the Heritage Cluster, especially Fitzroy's bowling night for indigenous health, but more importantly to wrestle back the bowling shield from Fitzroy, by hook or by crook, that we won in the original competition in 2009!

Recently, Past President Jo, Annie Wysham and I went along to a City of Yarra function to acknowledge the work of volunteers in the district. I did not realize the sheer number of charitable organisations there are in the Richmond area! Seeing as I have bit of time I would like to get out and connect with these organisations so that in future we may be able to help them out if they need it.

I have been touched by the offers of support given by the members of the Club and if we all can share the load we can meet the challenges of membership, fundraising and our projects to keep this Club vibrant and more importantly have fun doing the work. We can then all walk round being proud that we are members of a great organisation called Rotary.

I would like to close the meeting but before I can do this, at I must thank several people:

First of all could I thank the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club for allowing us to enjoy their beautiful facilities and the staff for the beautiful meal and service.

I would like to thank Brian and Jenny List whose organisational skills are par excellence - this Changeover Luncheon would not have happened without their skill and attention to detail. I should also mention Jo Cowling, Maureen Pang, Sue Bolton and Tony Webb for their assistance.

I would like to thank the following for joining us today - DG Keith Ryall and Gabrielle and I like to wish you both a great year as our District Governor. As I said at the Carlton Changeover that we are here to assist you in anyway to help make the District Conference a huge success- better then PDG Ian

Knight's record conference!

Past District Governor Iven Mackay and Marilyn, congratulations on a great year!

PDG Judy Nettleton and John, AG John McMorrow and Rosalind - I look forward to working with you and the Heritage Cluster in making it another successful year.

Past Assistant Governor Henry Drury and Jane - thank you for all your work you have done for the Heritage Cluster.

