President Les Frampton - Acceptance Speech
Monday 1 July 2013

Having heard Sue Bolton’s achievements for 2012-2013 and there are many, it will be my role during 2013/2014 to build upon and maintain the already successful programs and projects...in this coming years theme, Engage Rotary-Change Lives.

My vision for the coming year is to engage more with Rotarians at District and Club level along with businesses within Richmond for it is vital to the success of our club for the future. When I say engage, I include all the events that we also attend at a district level for example, Trevor Pang with International, John Benger with ROMAC just to name two Richmond Rotarians who have been involved with District....for it is the Rotary Club of Richmond’s name that I wish “keep up in lights” as the “go to club” for ideas across the avenues of service within our District

With a Club membership of 35 people and a core active group of 20/25 it is important that we further Engage more with our present Richmond Rotarians and Friends of Richmond Rotary so that we do not over commit ourselves for our fundraising projects & programs, therefore Membership is an integral and key part of my 2013-2014 Vision. For this reason Membership of any Rotary Club is it’s Lifeblood, it is the Heart to the ongoing success of any club and no more so than Richmond. For without membership growth we would find it difficult to manage projects here and internationally.

Richmond was responsible for the sponsorship of Melbourne Park, a great initiative and now look at them...powering along. There is a restructure this year for Membership, it was recommended and agreed that this important role come under the stewardship of the President, for it must have continuous focus and always be first on the agenda..A membership presentation will be presented at Club Assembly in August.

And look at tonight we have a new member in Chris Kemp who was inducted by President Sue Bolton & DG Ross Butterworth - one of youngest members to join our club. Chris will be a great asset and give another perspective to our club members.

As you are already aware we are involved heavily with the Richmond Community or you could say we are already engaged – there is:

*The Next Step Program whereby we have 55 young people for the 2013-2014 year and this should grow to around 60 by the end of the year.
*Mock Job Interview at Melbourne Girls’ College 24 volunteers, 84 students from 195 applicants
*Rotary Youth Arts Project
*Supporting Richmond Police in their open day in providing hands on management with our BBQ’s
*City of Yarra, again support over the year where they have outdoor events.
*Ainger Public Speaking Award
*The Slade Literary Awards
*The Speaker Series
*Clean Up Australia Day
*International...East Timor Kindergarten Project

Another area where we have been successful at, is our weekly speaker program, Ben Hosking has done a great job in getting quality speakers. Good speakers energise others to attend meetings.

Then there are our major income streams, the “Abbotsford Convent Parking” our single largest ongoing fundraiser, and the “Motto Pop up Stall” these two projects contribute substantially to the funding of our programs and require people to volunteer. It is important that we manage projects that we as a club can facilitate. Again we are working within the Richmond and immediate community.
In the month of July the Board will have assessed the annual plans across all avenues of service and then present to the Club around mid August at our Club Assembly.

My 2013-2014 Board & Chairs are:
* Vice President - Michael O’Sullivan
* Past President - Sue Bolton
* Treasurer - Judy Nettleton
* Secretary - Jo Cowling
* Public Relations - John Benger
* Fellowship - Kristen Widdop
* Community Service - Tim Baker
* International Service - Trevor Pang
* New Generation - Sue Bolton
* Fundraising - Elissa Marriot.
* Foundation - Mark Dwyer
* Protection Officer - Nia Holdenson
* Janice Kesterton - Director
* Chew Chan - Director

You will be aware that I’ve advanced my presidency by one year due to family illness of former President Elect Melissa Carfax-Foster. My year was to be 2014-2015 however to support and guide me through this year, & when required, as a sounding board, I have an executive management team, of Barry Roberts, Trevor Pang, Michael O’Sullivan...all highly regarded Past Presidents. Thank you for agreeing to this.

I would like to thank:
* DG Ross Butterworth and Annette, what a delight to have the DG along. Ross we will work with and alongside you in making your/our year a success
* AG Adrian Nelson & Louise
* MC Trevor Pang & yes Trevor, it was a Fun evening.
* Past President Sue Bolton and Kevin, Sue it was a great night and we kept to time
* Fellow Rotarians, Partners, Friends and Guests, thank you for being a part of our evening
* Jennie Purdie-Smith...our table sponsor, Jennie thank you so much for your ongoing support
* Sally O’Sullivan...table decorations and Bowties, just a great idea, lots of colour you are always innovative...well done Sally.

It’s going to be a challenging, exciting and fun year in so many ways.

Thank you.