



ROTARY DISTRICT 9650 FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE COMMITTEE 2009-10

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- Coffs Harbour 6652 4911 Cluster 1
- Dorrigo 6657 2119 Cluster 1
- Nambucca Heads 6569 5986 Cluster 2
- Wauchope 6585 3856 Cluster 3
- Gloucester 65581610 Cluster 4
- Armidale AM 6771 2249 Cluster 5
- Quirindi 6746 2666 Cluster 6
- Coonabarabran 6843 8273 Cluster 7
- Inverell 6725 6741 Cluster 8
- Narrabri 6792 1278 Cluster 9

OCCASIONAL E-NEWSLETTER – MAY 2010

Fellow Rotarians of District 9650

Here is an update on Rotary Friendship Exchange activities involving our Rotary district.

Since our newsletter in September of last year there has been a very mixed bag of outcomes in Friendship Exchange. Thanks probably to the GFC, and a number of other reasons, several planned and prospective exchanges have fallen through.

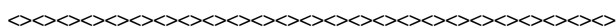
In an effort to re-energise the program the RFE committee referred again to the RFE Matching Board* to determine which districts in which countries, might be interested in an exchange with D9650.

Then, using the RFE survey conducted at our stand in the friendship room at the Port Macquarie Conference, the committee targeted particular districts in countries that were popular with D9650 Rotarians. Approaches were made to a total of fifteen districts.*To download the Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) Matching Board go to the D9650 website or to

<http://www.rotary.org/en/serviceandfellowship/fellowship/RotaryFriendshipexchange/Pages/ridefault.aspx> .

The results of this action were most encouraging with favourable responses coming from a number of districts.

Please read on to find out what is happening now.



UPDATE TO TIE UP LOOSE ENDS

D4450 PERU (Southern part)

Back in September expressions of interest were called for a “one way” exchange. There were a good number of D9650 Rotarians who responded, however D4450 Chair Blanca subsequently advised her district was not able to proceed with the visit.



D3030 INDIA (Maharashtra)

Also in September, expressions of interest were called for a possible exchange with D3030, but there was insufficient interest at the time.

Those who expressed interest in D4450 and D3030 were advised of the negative outcomes.



D4360 CHILE (Central Part)

There has been no progress with this prospect. While it seems there are quite a number of difficulties preventing an exchange with D4360 from proceeding, clearly the recent Chilean earthquake has been a decisive factor.



D4850 ARGENTINA (Buenos Aires)

This prospect was signed and sealed, but sadly, it has not been delivered. Interest in D4850 for an exchange has all but disappeared, so it is highly unlikely it will go ahead.



CURRENT EXCHANGE – Good News



D6200 USA (Louisiana)

Planning commenced back in September, and practically all has been sorted out with the D6200 RFE Co-chairs Joe Hidalgo Bob Landry.

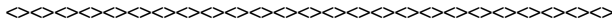
INBOUND VISIT MARCH 2011.

Their team will comprise 4 doubles and 3 singles. It is anticipated they will commence their visit at Wauchope on 4th March and then move on to the Forster/Tuncurry area, Walcha, Tamworth, Narrabri, and then to Coonabarabran to attend the D9650 Conference, finally departing from Tamworth on Monday 21st March.

D6200 OUTBOUND MAY 2011



This visit fits in beautifully with the 2011 RI Convention in New Orleans. **Applications are now being called to join this team.** See later in this newsletter for some details.



NEW EXCHANGES – Good News Too

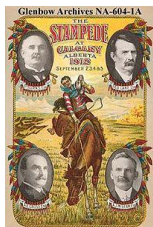
D5360 CANADA (Alberta)



We have been in communication with D5360 RFE Chair Pat Killoran, on and off, since early 2009. Now, agreement has been reached on an exchange.

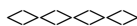
INBOUND VISIT NOVEMBER 2010

It is anticipated a team of fourteen will commence their visit at Tamworth on Friday 5th November and then travel to Armidale, Walcha, to the Forster/Tuncurry area and Port Macquarie, finally to Coffs Harbour before departing on Monday 22nd November.



OUTBOUND JUNE/JULY 2011

Our visit will include a great opportunity for team members to attend the famous Calgary Stampede. **Applications are now being called to join this team.** Again, see later in this newsletter for some more details. Yippee!



And yes, there's still More Good News



D9270 SOUTH AFRICA

Agreement has been reached for an exchange between our two districts, to reprise the friendship we shared in 2005 from GSE.

INBOUND VISIT Late 2011

Timing details as well as itinerary to be sorted out later, but team size will be between eight and ten.

OUTBOUND MAY/JUNE 2011

Our visit will include attendance at the D9270 Conference on the South Coast. **Applications are now being called to join this team.** See later in this newsletter for some details.

FUTURE EXCHANGES

Committee has agreed to further develop four other prospects, in Brazil (2), Sweden & Canada. To find out a little more about these districts please go to the RFE Matching Board.

D4600 BRAZIL (South East Region)



Team size – ten to twelve

Duration – about two weeks

The **inbound visit** could take place sometime between 29th April and 13th June 2011.

The **outbound visit** probably will occur between September & November 2011.

D2360 Sweden (Western part)



Team size – ten maximum

Duration – TBA

The **inbound visit** is planned for February 2012.

The **outbound visit** is planned for late May 2012.

D7280 CANADA (Nova Scotia +)



Team size – TBA

Duration – about two weeks

The **inbound visit** probably will occur sometime between September & November 2012.

The **outbound visit** could occur in May/June 2012.

D4770 BRAZIL (Central Region)



Team size – six

Duration – about 2 weeks.

Given the small team size the **inbound visit** could be arranged for any convenient time to suit our exchange partner.

Committee has in mind that the outbound visit might be an “add on” for some of the team members, who would be participating in an outbound visit to D4600.



VISITOR EXCHANGES

All the Rotary Friendship Exchanges that D9650 has participated in have been “**Team Exchanges**”

There are opportunities for many more Rotarians to participate in RFE through “**Visitor Exchange**”

(The visitor exchange gives individual Rotarians, who may be accompanied by family members, the opportunity to spend a few days in the home of a Rotarian in another country. The typical visitor exchange lasts from three to seven days.)

Interested? Check the Matching Board for prospects, and then get in touch with the RFE Committee, for assistance in finding an exchange partner. Or, arrange an exchange yourself, and ask RFE committee to endorse that your plans comply with the Rotary Friendship Exchange program. There are benefits.





INVITATION TO APPLY

Rotarians of D9650 are invited to apply for places on the three teams to participate in the outbound legs of the upcoming Rotary Friendship Exchange visits to **D6200 Louisiana, USA, D5360 Alberta, Canada and D9270 South Africa.**

Applications will be received and accepted until close of business on **Thursday 17th June 2010.**

Applications forms in PDF format will be forwarded with this newsletter. Alternatively, forms in both PDF and Word (more convenient for electronic submission) are available for download at the District 9650 website. Go to Downloads and look under Membership/Friendship Exchange. <http://www.rotary9650.org.au/>

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- **D9650 Rotarians may choose to apply for a place on more than one team, but may be allocated a place in just one team.**
- **Rotarians submitting applications for more than one team, may choose to assign a priority to each application.**

TEAM SELECTION

Selection of all three teams, including team leaders, will take place at a RFE committee meeting scheduled for **Saturday 19th June 2010.**

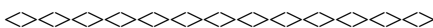
The process for selecting each team is set out on the relevant application form.

The District RFE Committee looks forward to receiving your application(s).

PLEASE FORWARD APPLICATIONS

Preferably by Email to: - sjjackson@bigpond.com

Snail Mail to: - Stan Jackson,
65 Raleigh Street,
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450



D6200 LOUISIANA

BRIEF INFORMATION

District 6200 is in South Louisiana, one of the more diverse regions in the USA. Six flags have flown over the state since the French explorers came 300 years ago. Baton Rouge is the state capital, and the largest city in D6200. The district is in Mississippi River plantation country.

Cajun Country, which has a unique culture, lies in the heart of District 6200.

Music, flavoursome food, and numerous festivals are found throughout the district where jazz, country, blues, and zydeco have deep roots.

The Mississippi River, the Atchafalaya Basin, and the Sabine River shape the Louisiana coast. Their wetlands create habitat for birds, alligators, crayfish, and great fishing.

Lafayette is the unofficial capitol of Cajun Country. Smaller cities in D6200 with multiple clubs, are Lake Charles and Houma-Thibodaux.

ITINERARY

- 4th May Arrive New Orleans, rendezvous with team.
- 5th May Tour city with D6200 Rotarians.
- 6th May Pick up by the group from Houma for three nights.
- 9th May Hand over to Lake Charles group for three nights.
- 12th May Hand over to Opelousas-Lafayette group for three nights
- 15th May Hand over to Baton Rouge group for three nights.
- 18th May Transport to New Orleans for the Rotary International Convention

SOME GENERAL CONDITIONS OF EXCHANGE BETWEEN D 9650 and D6200

Team Size: The team may include singles; it will be 10 persons, and possibly 11, depending on final makeup of the team.

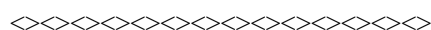
Team Rendezvous: All team members must meet in New Orleans on 4th May 2011 at the hotel selected.

New Orleans RI Convention: This district and timing of the exchange have been chosen to provide a unique opportunity for team members to attend the RI Convention. Preference for **all places on the team** will go to those who intend to attend the convention; however others should not be deterred from applying.

Costs Responsibilities of Team Members

These are generally in line with the RFE handbook some of which are: -

- ☺ **Transport:** Each member must meet costs of travel from home to and from New Orleans.
- ☺ **Transport within D6200:** This will be provided by D6200 hosts. (A big cost saver.)
- ☺ **Admission:** Costs of admission to parks, activities and events, unless hosted by the local group.
- ☺ **Meals:** Costs of meals outside the host family home, unless hosted by the local clubs.
- ☺ **Accommodation:** All costs outside host families; two nights in New Orleans at commencement of exchange.
- ☺ **RI Convention:** All costs associated with convention.



D5360 ALBERTA

BRIEF INFORMATION

This district comprising 45 clubs and 2200 Rotarians is in the southern half of the Province of Alberta, Canada. D5360 includes Calgary (1996 RI Convention) as its major city, and Banff/Lake Louise as one of the tourism hotspots. The district is set on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains with all the scenery and tourism opportunities that provides. The province is rich in both energy and agriculture. A visit in summer should include the world famous Calgary Stampede and Rodeo, Dinosaurs, the rugged mountains, extensive agriculture, and the “oil patch” as its known locally. Summers have lots of daylight and little rain.

ITINERARY

This is yet to be fleshed out, but, it will both start on 24th June, and finish on 10th July, 2011, in Calgary. The last days of the visit will coincide with the commencement of the Calgary Stampede, providing a great opportunity for team members to attend with their hosts.


SOME GENERAL CONDITIONS OF EXCHANGE BETWEEN D 9650 and D5360

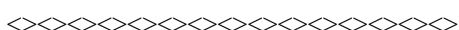
Team Size: Will be a maximum of 14 persons, providing for no more than nine team places are allocated, which would occur if the team makeup comprises 5 doubles & 4 singles.

Team Rendezvous: All team members must meet in Calgary, the day before the exchange commences, on 23rd June 2011 at the hotel selected.

Costs Responsibilities of Team Members

These are generally in line with the RFE handbook some of which are: -

- ☉ **Transport:** Each member must meet costs of travel from home to and from Calgary, Alberta.
- ☉ **Transport within D5360:** Costs will be met by team members. It will likely be cost of hiring two self drive “vans”. Here is a picture of one. 
- ☉ **Admission:** Costs of admission to parks, activities and events, unless hosted by the local clubs.
- ☉ **Meals:** Costs of meals outside the host family home, unless hosted by the local clubs.
- ☉ **Accommodation:** All costs outside host families. This is expected to be one night in Calgary, before the exchange commences.



D9270 SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEF INFORMATION

This district is on the South African East Coast, and includes KwaZulu Natal, parts of the Eastern Cape and of Mpumalanga. The largest centre is Durban. D9270 now has 47 clubs and about 1000 Rotarians.

The oldest club, is Durban chartered in 1925; newest club, Zimbali, received its charter on 18th May.

The exchange has been agreed; however we are awaiting some detail from our exchange partner. This will be passed on to applicants ASAP.

ITINERARY

We are awaiting details from Chair Ash Maharaj, however the exchange will be for 10 days including the D9270 conference on the South Coast. The exchange will take place from late May to early June in 2011.

SOME GENERAL CONDITIONS OF EXCHANGE BETWEEN D 9650 and D9270

Team Size: The team may include singles; it will be between 8 and 10 persons, and a limit on places is likely to be five (i.e. 5 doubles, 4 doubles +1 single)

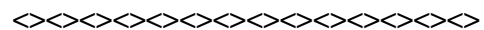
Team Rendezvous: All team members must meet at the designated city on the appointed day at the hotel selected. It is likely to be Durban.

D9270 Conference: Attendance at the conference is part of this exchange and team members will attend.

Costs Responsibilities of Team Members:

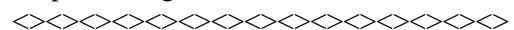
These are generally in line with the RFE handbook some of which are: -

- ☉ **Transport:** Each member must meet costs of travel from home to and from designated location in South Africa.
- ☉ **Transport within D9270:** Not yet determined, however for the time being, it may be anticipated that team members will meet the cost of hiring vehicle(s).
- ☉ **Admission:** Costs of admission to parks, activities and events, unless hosted by the local group.
- ☉ **Meals:** Costs of meals to outside the host family home, unless hosted by the local clubs.
- ☉ **Accommodation:** All costs outside host families.
- ☉ **Conference:** All costs associated with attendance.



QUESTIONS?

Please direct any questions on any of exchanges to the undersigned or your cluster member of the Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee.



Yours in Rotary Friendship
 Stan Jackson
 Chair, D9650 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee 2009-10
 Phone 6652 4911, Skype stanjackson38