

# ***DG's NEWSLETTER***

## ***DISTRICT 9550 - MARCH 2015***



### **“Light Up Rotary” March 2015 – Literacy Month** **2014-15 District 9550 DG Moorthy Karuna**

I hope you celebrated the 110<sup>th</sup> birthday of Rotary International and managed to get good publicity.

It's now time for you to register for the 2015 Rotary International District 9550 Conference here in Townsville. It's a slightly different format this year and we have incorporated new ideas in the hope of not only making this conference enjoyable but to try and involve the community. It's not going to be successful unless we have you attending. Please don't wait to the last minute to register. Do it now and save me getting stressed and making everyone's life a misery thinking that no one will turn up.

During my club visits last year I requested each club's leadership team to consider producing a quality video / DVD (maximum 5 minutes) highlighting a signature project that their club had been working on or completed. It was hoped that we would show case their project to the rest of the Rotary family by showing it at the District Conference in Townsville on the 1-3 May. If you are one of those clubs which has done this we would be appreciative if these could be forwarded to our District Chair, Greg Hamblin by Friday 17 April 2015.

The District's Leaders Training in Townsville on 21-22 February 2015 was well attended. DGE Mike Woods, had the opportunity to speak to the District Leaders for 2015-16. Mike's enthusiasm and passion was obvious and he was certainly able to inspire and

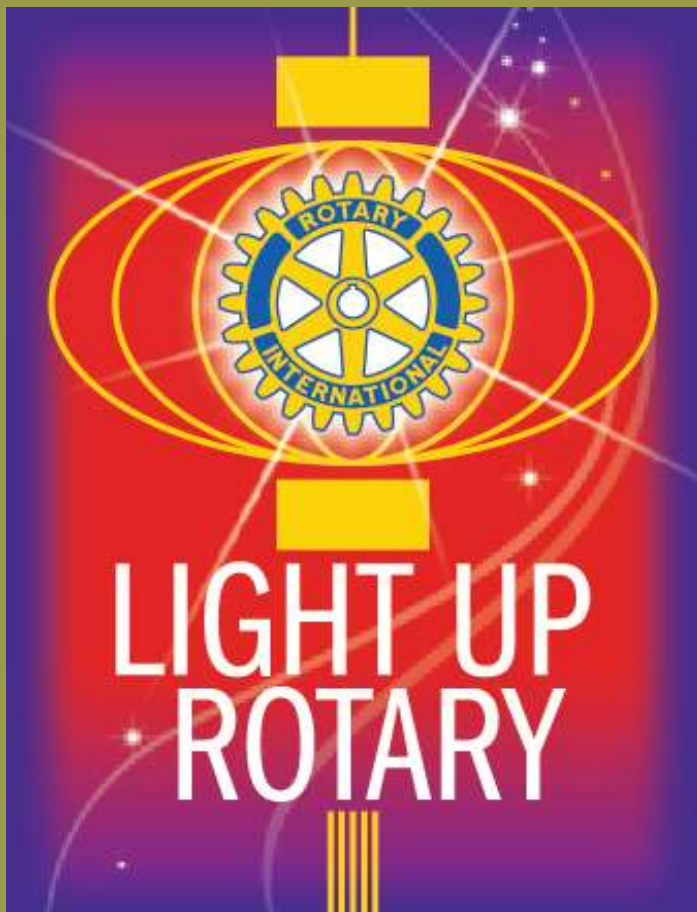
motivate those present. He will be given another opportunity with the President Elects Training Seminar (PETS) and Team Assembly which occur in Cairns, Townsville, Darwin and Mt Isa in March 2015.

The 5 Avenues of Service Citation for individual Rotarians provides a club the opportunity to nominate one member per Rotary year.

Can I please have your Presidential Citation nomination to me by the 31 March 2015? In addition those clubs wishing to nominate for “Recognition of Membership Development Initiatives” should also ensure it is submitted to me by 15 April 2015.

As at 31 January 2015 District 9550 membership is 1020. Unfortunately this is a reduction of 10 members from our initial figure on 1 July 2014. PDG Tony Goddard, District Membership Chair, is focused on halting this trend by conducting Membership Seminars in Cairns, Townsville and Darwin. Tony has a tremendous wealth of experience and is passionate about membership. He has assured me that these seminars will be very different but fun. I am requesting that we all support Tony and the District by taking the time to attend. These seminars will generate many useful tips on member recruitment and retention.

**Since it is Literacy Month, may be you can do something in literacy to mark this wherever possible and light up Rotary.**



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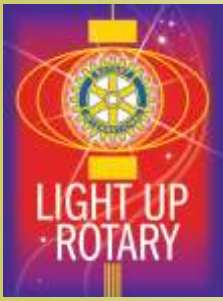
**Dear DG Moorthy,**

**Thank you so much for your letter of congratulation and kind wishes to me on the occasion of my 60 years in Rotary as a member of Mareeba Club. DG Nominee Ida read your letter out at the Club meeting on Wednesday night where I was presented with a 60 year Plaque and framed memento of aspects of my life as a member of the Club.**

**My wife, Margaret, and I have much to thank Rotary for over the years and we really appreciate the recognition of this milestone by yourself and by the Club.**

**All the best for your remaining term of office.  
Kind regards.**

**Yours in Rotary  
John Harvey**



# Presidential Message

GARY C.K. HUANG President 2014-15



## March 2015 Presidential message

In Rotary, we have the opportunity to build bonds of friendship with fellow Rotarians around the world. And once a year, at our international convention, we have the chance to get together with all of our Rotary friends, to share new ideas, plan new service, and just have fun.

What better way to celebrate the end of the 2014-15 Rotary year, and *Light Up Rotary* with your friends, than to travel together to the 106th annual Rotary International Convention in São Paulo, Brazil? Whether you have never been to a convention before or are an experienced convention goer, this will be one you won't want to miss. Preregistration pricing ends on 31 March, so plan now for the biggest Rotary party of the year.

The convention will begin on Saturday, 6 June, and after the opening ceremony there will be a traditional Brazilian Carnival party and a Samba School Parade at the Anhembi Sambadrome. Even if you think you have no rhythm or can't carry a tune, you will find yourself dancing, singing, and laughing all night long. The party and parade will feature the bright colors, feathers, and sequins of Carnival costumes as well as the sights and sounds of samba, the Afro-Brazilian music and dance, and the delicious food and drinks of São Paulo.

On Monday night, Ivete Sangalo, winner of two Latin Grammy Awards, will entertain Rotarians. And every evening of the convention, Rotary Restaurant Nights will let you enjoy discounts in the culinary capital of Latin America. Savor fish from the Amazon, sushi with a Latin flair, Brazilian beef, and other offerings from some of São Paulo's 30,000 restaurants and bars. Admission to several museums in São Paulo, including the excellent soccer museum, will also be free with your convention badge.

Brazil reflects a diversity almost as great as Rotary's: *Paulistanos*, as the people of São Paulo are known, have created a lively culture with influences from all over the world. One of the highlights of any Rotary convention is always hospitality night, where you can get to know local Rotarians. Monday night is your chance to experience the *paulistano* lifestyle with the Rotarians of Brazil – but be sure to book early, as numbers are limited.

In Rotary, service and friendship go hand in hand. As you focus on the work of this Rotary year, I ask you not to lose sight of the importance of international friendship, and to register for the São Paulo convention now, at [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org)



# LIGHT UP ROTARY come to TOWNSVILLE



MAY 1-3 2015



INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS  
COVERING A DIVERSE  
RANGE OF TOPICS

REGISTER NOW  
[www.d9550rotary.org.au](http://www.d9550rotary.org.au)

KISSING POINT  
JEZZINE PRECINCT  
RYDGES SOUTHBANK  
MUSEUM OF TROPICAL QLD

FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SPORTING LEGEND  
BOLLYWOOD DG DINNER  
PRIME MINISTER'S LAUREATE  
INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP MASTERCLASS  
& ROTARY BIG DAY OUT

Create Innovate Inspire







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Dear Fellow Rotarians and Friends:

I am very pleased to welcome you to this 2014-15 District Conference. A District Conference is a wonderful opportunity for Rotarians and friends of Rotary to enjoy good fellowship, to be inspired by the formal program and the interaction with other Rotarians, and to celebrate the success of your District's many activities and initiatives. I recall the wonderful experiences Corinna and I have had at such conferences and I wish you all the best as you take advantage of this special time together.

The Chinese philosopher Confucius said, "It is better to light a single candle, than to sit and curse the darkness." This is a message that I have taken to heart. Rotarians demonstrate this philosophy everyday as they carry out projects in their communities and around the world, lighting candles of hope through their actions.

My challenge to all of you this year is to **Light Up Rotary** by making Rotary fun, by growing our membership, by doing more and better projects, and by reaching more people with Rotary's message. **Light Up Rotary** is our theme for the year – but it is more than our theme. It is how we live in Rotary, how we think in Rotary, how we feel, how we work. It is how we make a difference – every day, in every club, every district, and every country where we serve.

I hope you have a wonderful time during your conference and that you leave here inspired to even greater heights of service and with a renewed commitment to the work we need to do to help Rotary grow and do even more good in the world.

Please **Light Up Rotary!**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Chinese characters.

Gary C.K. Huang  
2014-15 President



Country Name	Club Count	Member Count
Afghanistan	3	48
Åland Islands	2	142
Albania	8	194
Algeria	13	235
American Samoa	1	25
Andorra	1	50
Angola	3	68
Anguilla	1	16
Antarctica	2	14
Antigua and Barbuda	2	79
Argentina	622	10556
Armenia	4	72
Aruba	1	48
Australia	1117	30287
Austria	146	7535
Azerbaijan	2	42
Bahamas	12	520
Bahrain	3	165
Bangladesh	263	7714
Barbados	3	164
Belarus	3	55
Belgium	260	9843
Belize	9	168
Benin	21	559
Bermuda	4	121
Bhutan	1	14
Bolivia	51	1183
Bonaire	1	34
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12	202
Botswana	4	77
Brazil	2388	55793
British Virgin Islands	3	196
Brunei Darussalam	2	37
Bulgaria	87	2099
Burkina Faso	10	221
Burundi	5	137
Cabo Verde	4	91
Cambodia	4	74
Cameroon	18	319
Canada	728	24725
Cayman Islands	4	266
Central African Republic	0	0
Chad	1	23
Chile	220	4161
China, People's Republic of	4	192
Colombia	142	2633
Comoros	1	12
Congo	5	123
Congo, The Democratic Republic of	26	475
Cook Islands	1	17
Costa Rica	14	264
Côte d'Ivoire	21	508
Croatia	49	1118

Country Name	Club Count	Member Count
Curaçao	2	122
Cyprus	19	685
Czech Republic	46	900
Denmark	275	10697
Djibouti	2	46
Dominica	2	65
Dominican Republic	59	1292
EClub	1	11
Ecuador	60	1289
Egypt	77	1939
El Salvador	14	291
England	1411	40323
Equatorial Guinea	1	16
Eritrea	1	32
Estonia	16	535
Ethiopia	9	230
Faroe Islands	2	62
Fiji	10	170
Finland	295	10571
France	1063	32229
French Guiana	5	118
French Polynesia	6	78
Gabon	9	206
Gambia	2	48
Georgia	2	30
Germany	1036	53312
Ghana	36	1189
Gibraltar	1	32
Greece	97	2045
Greenland	1	42
Grenada	2	50
Guadeloupe	8	165
Guam	5	221
Guatemala	29	631
Guernsey-Channel Islands	3	125
Guinea	4	75
Guinea-Bissau	1	16
Guyana	6	225
Haiti	21	406
Honduras	31	673
Hong Kong	54	1530
Hungary	49	1123
Iceland	30	1181
India	3354	130480
Indonesia	107	2293
Ireland	42	1154
Isle of Man	5	201
Israel	56	1282
Italy	839	39780
Jamaica	27	714
Japan	2277	88919
Jersey-Channel Islands	2	113
Jordan	11	310
Kazakhstan	1	12

Country Name	Club Count	Member Count
Kenya	64	1611
Kiribati	2	30
Korea, Republic of	1591	61185
Kosovo	11	189
Kyrgyzstan	1	21
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1	21
Latvia	20	411
Lebanon	27	651
Lesotho	2	58
Liberia	4	125
Liechtenstein	2	109
Lithuania	49	1468
Luxembourg	14	824
Macao	6	145
Macao	15	396
Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Republic of	20	390
Madagascar	5	182
Malawi	115	2748
Malaysia	1	35
Maldives	13	232
Mali	3	170
Malta	7	198
Martinique	1	13
Mauritania	18	475
Mauritius	2	67
Mayotte	588	10383
Mexico	2	21
Micronesia, Federated States of	4	72
Moldova	1	55
Monaco	14	311
Mongolia	6	137
Montenegro	1	27
Montserrat	40	697
Morocco	6	111
Mozambique	1	37
Myanmar	7	100
Namibia	1	8
Nauru	87	2931
Nepal	492	18278
Netherlands	3	92
New Caledonia	238	8135
New Zealand	15	247
Nicaragua	3	58
Niger	275	6799
Nigeria	1	22
Norfolk Island	30	923
Northern Ireland	1	42
Northern Mariana Islands	300	11036
Norway	168	3026
Pakistan	1	19
Palau	4	82
Palestine	15	467
Panama	12	198
Papua New Guinea	23	505
Paraguay	148	2897
Peru	840	23254
Philippines		

Country Name	Club Count	Member Count
Poland	72	1664
Portugal	156	3161
Puerto Rico	32	989
Réunion	21	548
Romania	112	3122
Russian Federation	80	1360
Rwanda	6	159
Saint Barthélemy	1	22
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2	64
Saint Lucia	3	66
Saint Martin	1	24
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	1	14
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3	42
Samoa	1	20
San Marino	1	53
Sao Tome and Principe	1	20
Scotland	199	5932
Senegal	9	196
Serbia	56	1118
Seychelles	2	44
Sierra Leone	4	126
Singapore	21	740
Sint Maarten	3	81
Slovakia	24	485
Slovenia	44	992
Solomon Islands	2	43
South Africa	214	4148
South Sudan	2	49
Spain	208	4113
Sri Lanka	72	2028
Sudan	1	21
Suriname	3	195
Swaziland	5	93
Sweden	524	25299
Switzerland	212	12600
Taiwan	688	34450
Tajikistan	1	11
Tanzania, United Republic of	36	626
Thailand	311	8010
Timor-Leste	1	32
Togo	12	261
Tonga	1	11
Trinidad and Tobago	22	539
Tunisia	29	540
Turkey	217	5734
Turks and Caicos Islands	2	49
Uganda	77	2423
Ukraine	48	771
United Arab Emirates	7	304
United States	7727	332216
United States Virgin Islands	11	286
Uruguay	107	2356
Vanuatu	3	40
Venezuela	105	2182
Wales	104	2543
Zambia	22	430
Zimbabwe	28	593
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>34814</b>	<b>122076</b>