

## ROTARY DISTRICT 9500

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Dear Club Members,

The results of our giving to the Rotary Foundation for the year to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2009 have been received, and whilst they are very pleasing and comparatively excellent, they do bear some analysis and explanation which should help understanding and budgeting for this year.

Please remember that in this analysis any monies donated are converted to US dollars using the exchange rate applicable at the time. We all know how the Aust dollar dropped from a 20 year high of around 94c to the US Dollar in 2008 to around 72c in 2009 which was a 23% decline. However, Australian contributions slipped 14% in US terms, and we (District 9500) came 5<sup>th</sup> out of the 23 Australian districts. This is very pleasing, given that clubs in our district have also generously supported those affected by the horrific Victorian fires and the NSW & Qld floods, and donated a very large sum to Shelterbox.

Looking at The Rotary Foundation of RI, the five top clubs of our district in terms of giving were Barossa Valley (1<sup>st</sup>), Adelaide (2<sup>nd</sup>), Salisbury (3<sup>rd</sup>), Alice Springs (4<sup>th</sup>), and Adelaide West (5<sup>th</sup>). Congratulations!

When you divide the club figures by members to get a per capita donation, the leading clubs were Salisbury (1<sup>st</sup>), Alice Springs-Mbantua (2<sup>nd</sup>), Adelaide West (3<sup>rd</sup>), Playford (4<sup>th</sup>) and Barossa Valley (5<sup>th</sup>). This is probably a better indicator of performance but individual generous donations can and do improve a Club's standing on these lists.

Another important indicator is the percentage of money given to that raised. This in my opinion, is the most important measure of all. It reflects a club's dedication to our charity – The Rotary Foundation. District Governors are uniquely able to monitor this outcome, and they certainly encourage clubs to donate more of their raised funds to The Foundation. There are many voices within Australia and the Zone hierarchy who firmly believe that clubs should be asked to budget 20% of their fundraising to The Rotary Foundation and I lean this way too. After all, TRF is the financial hub of Rotary International which ensures the continuation of 'doing good in the world'.

The report collated by Evanston separates the Annual Giving from Restricted Giving. e.g. Polio donations. At the start of my year as Governor, clubs were asked to support the Bill Gates Polio challenge by giving US\$1000 per annum for 3 years. The challenge was to raise these additional funds by holding a special public appeal to assist with eradication of polio. I note that 21 of our 54 clubs gave nothing to this challenge resulting in an average of approx US\$500 per club which is only half of the budget needed to meet it. However, the first challenge of US\$100m has already been achieved by clubs around the world.

Thank you for a solid year of support. I hope you all have many more satisfying years supporting the programs of The Rotary Foundation.

[IPDC](#) Roberta Waterman  
Foundation Chair PDG Robert Brookes



Immediate Past  
District Governor  
Roberta Waterman

