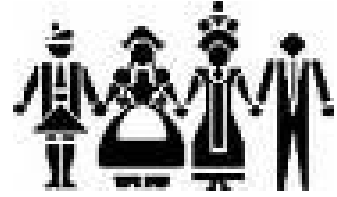




Rotary Friendship Exchange



Dear Club Secretary

Will you please advertise details of this latest District 1070 Rotary Friendship Exchange, to members of your club?

Applications are invited from Rotarians in District 1070 to participate in a Rotary Friendship Exchange to District 9800 (Victoria, Australia) in October 2010. It is planned for Rotarians and their partners from District 9800 to be hosted by Rotarians from our district in **May 2011**.

If you are interested in taking part in this exchange please apply by email to Rtn Brian Dawson at briandawsonh@tiscali.co.uk by 1st December 2009 at the latest. Please refer to the notes overleaf and include the following information with your application:

- Name & partner's name, address, telephone number,
- If you have been on a RFE before and if and when you hosted an incoming RFE?

As soon as possible after this date our District Governor Dick (or an Assistant DG) will make the draw of successful applicants and a reserve list.

District 9800 covers part of the Melbourne Metropolitan area and stretches to the North West to include Bendigo and to the North as far as Echuca on the Murray River. It is approximately 250kms North to South and 120kms East to West. The District comprises of about 70 Clubs and 3000 member Rotarians.

Melbourne is, of course, one of the grand cities of Australia and is the Capital city of Victoria. There is a wonderful history going back to the prosperous gold rush days and much of the history and architecture going back to the early and mid 19th century has been preserved. These include the Royal Exhibition Building, The Royal Botanical Gardens, Flinders Street Station and the very popular Queen Victoria Market. The Old Melbourne Gaol is still there (where the legendary Ned Kelly was hanged in 1880!)

For the sports enthusiast there is of course the MCG (cricket lovers), the home of the Australian Tennis Open and the famous Melbourne Cup (horse racing fans note that this is in November). For wine lovers there are 100 wineries within a 100km radius.

The Port of Echuca is the home of the Paddle Steamers and there is a rich history of their work in transporting wool and timber from the interior. This area is still very much agricultural and produces prime beef, lamb, dairy products, grains, fruit and vegetables.

Bendigo is also an important farming area but is famous for the discovery of gold in the 1800's. Mining stopped about 50 years ago after 25 million ounces of gold had been extracted. The construction of a Cathedral in Bendigo was started in 1896 but its completion and consecration didn't take place until 1977.

This is a snap shot but you will see there is a lot to see and do with our Australian Rotarian friends.

Notes:

- Acceptance of a place on an RFE trip will imply that you will be happy to host, to assist in the arranging of hosting and organise a programme for the return group in your area.
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- Under normal circumstances hosts provides accommodation and meals in their homes and all travel within the district when this is in the host's/Rotarian's car.
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- Normally visiting Rotarian guests meet their own costs when eating in restaurants and cafes etc. They also pay for their entrance fees to museums, exhibitions, entertainment venues etc as well as all other transport costs.
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- There is no funding from District, RIBI or RI for Rotary Friendship Exchange and therefore, upon acceptance of a place, you will be asked to forward a cheque for £75.00 (£150.00 per couple). This cheque will form part of your commitment to accept a place on the exchange and, apart from serious medical considerations, will be non-refundable. This money will be used to defray any costs when hosting/entertaining the return group.
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- Although Rotarians normally travel with their spouse/partner please understand that single Rotarians may also apply. This programme cannot accommodate children, grandchildren etc. (12 places are available)
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- A reserve list will be kept in the order of the draw and should you not be successful initially, don't despair, as we might well be contacting you if somebody should have to drop out. Those who have not been on an outbound exchange but who have hosted an incoming exchange will have their name put into the draw twice. Please ensure that you make this clear when applying (see 1st page)
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- It is the responsibility of each person to ensure that they have full travel insurance, are medically fit to travel and to take part in a busy schedule of activities. Also, where necessary, have or qualify for the correct documentation to visit a particular country.
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- There will be team meetings before the trips start and ideas and information will be exchanged.

District 1070 Friendship Exchange Information.

District 1070 has embraced and promoted Rotary Friendship Exchange since the 1980's and our teams have visited Rotary Districts in many different Countries during this time (e.g. USA, South Africa, Australia, India, Brazil, New Zealand, Turkey and Canada) and District 1070 Rotarians have had great pleasure and have been generous in the hosting of incoming teams from abroad.

Next year, exchanges with South Carolina, USA and Victoria, Australia are being planned. All rotary clubs in district will be informed via email to secretaries, about future exchanges and application procedures.

The 4th object of Rotary

'The advancement of International understanding, goodwill and peace through world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service'

Rotary Friendship Exchange is a practical and enjoyable way of implementing this object and the benefits derived are long lasting.

Also, if you are interested in:

- Overseas travel adventures,
- Sharing fellowship and friendship with Rotarians from another country,
- Learning about the culture of another country,
- Sampling another countries home cooked cuisine,
- Living with Rotarian families from another country,
- Sharing club and district & informal meetings with Rotarians from another country,
- Experiencing first hand the projects of Rotarians from another country,
- The opportunity to work on joint projects with Rotarians from another country,
- Hosting Rotarians from another country in your home,
- Showing Rotarians from another country your home area,
- Developing lasting friendships with Rotarians from another country.

Then Rotary Friendship Exchange may be for you.

By staying with Rotary families we hope to gain a greater insight into the true character of a Country and how Rotary influences the lives of many people; something you cannot always appreciate when travelling as a tourist.

Would you like to know more?

- Start by looking at www.ri.org or www.rotary1070.org and follow the Rotary Friendship Exchange links. Refer to the application details and notes.
- Contact your District RFE officers:

Rtn John Tyers (Soar Valley RC), johntyers@metronet.co.uk

Rtn Lesley Tyers (Loughborough Beacon RC), lesleytyers@fsmail.net

Rtn Brian Dawson (Rushden RC), briandawsonh@tiscali.co.uk

We are here to help, organise, explain and promote Rotary Friendship Exchange.