



Regional Director Australian Region

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Hello to all members,

Recently I attended an online Area Zoom meeting where our International Secretary General Jose spoke about the strategies for growth of the movement. I was significantly moved by what he said to want to communicate these strategies to you as a member. Most of you will be familiar with the “Concept of Extension” which is the creation of new clubs for the organisation.

However, Jose spoke about a different approach to the traditional method of a club sponsoring the development of a new club with which we are all familiar. He talked about the concept of Challenge 22 the extension of New Clubs being changed to an emphasis of **extension of membership growth** in existing Clubs.

Emphasis to be more on a **personal experience** more than Service to the community. He gave answers to questions that have troubled Y Service members to answer prospective members for example,

To answer the question “What’s in it for me”?

1. You are surrounded by friends
2. Not lonely
3. Have around the world friends
4. Experience a network of people/ different abilities/capabilities which are not available in most people’s cases.

Join the club to get the above benefits

Or why do you help someone?

- Fulfilment in self
- Happiness in self
- Satisfaction experienced in helping the needy

Why is Y Service Different to other organisations?

- Mission driven organisation -based on the teachings of Jesus Christ
- Relationship with YMCA – Historical partner
- Ordinary people can participate in all Areas and Positions
- Small enough for opportunities for leadership on a worldwide basis
- Small enough for individuals to know others from around the world
- Brotherhood fund travel grant
- Target Loneliness to Happiness

Growth of Movement.

ISG Jose talked about several strategies to create more clubs and members

The First action is to form a regional team for Extension. Team should include at least 1 YMCA member. The Regional executive is looking at how we might implement this as a matter of urgency so we can help existing clubs grow.

Challenge for each existing member to bring a friend

Have a Club night where members share a positive personal experience of being a member.

Emphasis to be on personal experience more than Service to community



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We cannot stop the decline unless every existing member brings in a friend.

Jose has given us a strategies and answers to questions to look at rebuilding our wonderful movement.

The challenge is for each of us to do something about it.

It is simple, it only requires you to bring someone/anyone to experience the joy of having a circle of supporting /new friends within your club.

Don't ask them to join a service club, ask them to join a group of new friends in other words join the great supporting feelings that come with having a range of friends.

Ask your existing members to speak about the positives they have received from being a member.

Your club can continue to do the good things they currently do. Let the new member grow into the experience that comes with being part of Y Service.

I will be sending you more information and things that you as a club member can do to help with this new approach over the next few months. Y Service International has a major membership activity occurring the latter part of this year. Your Club was sent information about this last year, but the Regional Executive will be providing more shortly.

The Regional Executive will be requesting Club Presidents/Secretaries past and present to take part in a Club zoom meeting about this and other matters in May. Meetings will be arranged over different dates so that all can participate. These dates are contained below.

Other Items for your information.

Regional Director Elect Position for 2022-2024

Past Regional Director Bill Schmidt is calling for nominations for this position. Club Presidents please discuss with your members about this as a matter of urgency. International headquarters is holding a training session via zoom for this in late May this year for those incoming RDE's from around the world. Interested persons looking to take on this role can discuss with Bill what is involved. I can assist also with information as required.

Club Presidents/Secretaries Zoom meeting for the coming year.

The Regional Executive is planning to hold Zoom meetings for current and incoming Presidents and their executive members in May. The dates are Monday May 17th and Tuesday May 18th at 7.30 pm. The Regional Executive will be present to answer any questions incoming Club executive members may have. We are holding the same meeting over two nights so that as many people can attend. Attendance at one meeting is requested. More information will be sent closer to the event.

New Executive Notification.

Recently I sent a request to club Secretaries/presidents to notify myself and RSD Leigh to update your club's incoming new executive. Please notify us even if there are no changes to your Club administration by May 31st. Several clubs have already done this. My email is ycam@ozcameron.com and Leigh's is lhdcon@bigpond.com



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Response to Postal Vote sent to Clubs Re: Reduced Regional Dues.

The following motion was sent to all clubs for consideration from the Regional Executive:

That, in view of the financial impact of Covid-19 on Clubs within Region Australia and in recognition of the impending Centenary of our Organisation, the Regional Executive be authorised to waive the Regional Dues component of Membership Fees for the 2 Semesters of financial year 2021-2022.

Region Secretary Brian has reported that by the date specified the response from Clubs was;

6 Clubs voted in favour

4 Clubs did not respond

1 club voted but did not indicate either yes or no

So the motion is carried.

Clubs will be advised in the normal manner by Regional Treasurer John of required dues payment.

International Contributions to 12th April 2021

Regional Treasurer John advised the Regional Executive that he had received a total of \$4,560 banked as of the above date. There may be more contributions from Clubs and the Y Service Women as final contributions are not due until May. However, given the problems with fund raising for clubs caused by the Covid Epidemic this has turned out to be an excellent outcome.

I and the Region Executive thank all clubs for their efforts to continue supporting Y Service International Programs and Projects.

Area and Region Website.

The Asia Pacific Area is in the process of developing a new and updated website for members of the Area as well as the public. A task force has been created to oversee this development. As part of this, all Regional websites within the Asia Pacific Area will be linked to this site. Our Australian Region Website has lots of information and news for our region's members. Some clubs are particularly good at sending information and pictures of their activities for inclusion on the site. It would be great if your club could also contribute. Even 1 article a year would be great. Australian Website <https://yserviceaustralia.com/>

Area Newsletter

Each month I forward to you the Asia Pacific Area Newsletter. Bendigo Club member Colin Lambie is the current editor for this newsletter. Each month a Region is a focus of the newsletter. It is amazing what some regions are doing. I hope you take the time to read as it is a great way to learn about the Area in which you belong as a member of Y Service International. Many thanks to Colin for co-ordinating an excellent Bulletin each month.

Well that's all for this bulletin

Y'sly Yours

Wayne Cameron

Australian Regional Director