



# CONNECTIONS

July 2017

Kimberly Carroll, Editor ([kycarroll@yahoo.com](mailto:kycarroll@yahoo.com))



## President's Corner

### Website Updates

The ITHF Team has been working diligently to update information on the [www.ithf.org](http://www.ithf.org) website.

If you are looking for information to share with others, please view the revised **Promotional Brochure** on the first page of the website. Within the next few months, we hope to have a colourful brochure created to supplement this Promotional Brochure.

If you are looking for lots of information about how ITHF works, the **Members Guide** has been updated. Check it out!

Once you have logged on, you have access to the following documents:

**Directory of Members PDF** – this is an updated Roster of Members as of July 10, 2017. The goal is to have this document updated quarterly.

**2017 Minutes of Meetings** – in this section you will find a comprehensive document entitled Minutes of ITHF Meetings at the Atlanta Rotary Convention 2017, which includes the minutes and supporting documents

### ***Did you join at the Sydney Convention in June 2014?***

An issue with our website mailing system between late-April and mid-July may have kept you from receiving a reminder to renew your membership. Please check your subscription on the website, or contact Administrator Rick Harned at [admin@ithf.org](mailto:admin@ithf.org).

For those of you planning on attending the **RI Convention 2018 in Toronto, 10-14 June**, the National Geographic *Traveler* magazine August/September 2017 cites the classic rail journey on *The Canadian* as “one of the world’s most amazing routes.”

You can find lots of wonderful places to see in Canada by visiting the official Destination Canada website: [https://us-keepexploring.canada.travel/what-to-do?utm\\_expid=.zZeEjzct\\_O5sRbJEBySyw.1&utm\\_referrer=https%253A%252F%252Fsearch.yahoo.com%252F\\_ylt%253DAwrSbhilmHdZ08wAgy1XNyoA%253B\\_ylu%253DX3oDMTByb2lvbXVuBGNvbG8DZ3ExBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNzcg--%252FRV%253D2%252FRE%253D1501038856%252FRO%253D10%252FRU%253Dhttps%25253a%25252f%25252fus-keepexploring.canada.travel%25252f%252FRK%253D1%252FRS%253DxarO0Qoenv3NRCaL2V\\_oW83dnc-](https://us-keepexploring.canada.travel/what-to-do?utm_expid=.zZeEjzct_O5sRbJEBySyw.1&utm_referrer=https%253A%252F%252Fsearch.yahoo.com%252F_ylt%253DAwrSbhilmHdZ08wAgy1XNyoA%253B_ylu%253DX3oDMTByb2lvbXVuBGNvbG8DZ3ExBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNzcg--%252FRV%253D2%252FRE%253D1501038856%252FRO%253D10%252FRU%253Dhttps%25253a%25252f%25252fus-keepexploring.canada.travel%25252f%252FRK%253D1%252FRS%253DxarO0Qoenv3NRCaL2V_oW83dnc-)

### ***President Sheila Encourages All ITHF’ers to Engage in Promotional and Recruitment Activities***

There is nothing more thrilling than to have another member of your club join ITHF. Why? Because you know that they can visit places around the world and be hosted by ITHF’ers who will show them the true culture and spirit of their community. In addition, hosts can access their guests’ wealth of Rotary knowledge.



*President Sheila was thrilled to present an ITHF pin to fellow Nelson Daybreak member Dave Douglas and his wife Barb. Dave has been a Rotarian for 34 years, was the Centennial President of Nelson Daybreak and has held various positions in the Club and District. Dave is known as Mr. RYLA in District 5080. He has been a staff member of the week-long camp for 34 years and has served as Camp Director for 21 and Program Director for 33 years. He received the District Service Award for over 30 years of service to RYLA. Dave and Barb live a short drive out of Nelson, BC on the shores of beautiful Kootenay Lake from May 1 – October 31 and in Victoria, BC from November 1- April 30. Dave and Barb are already viewing the Roster of ITHF Members as they plan to visit New York and the East Coast of USA in the fall of 2017. Dave is still wondering why it took him so many years to discover ITHF and was thankful for a table top display at District Conference that enticed him to join.*

At the ITHF AGM in Atlanta, President Sheila enthusiastically announced the slate of 4 Regional VPs and 35 Area VPs who are now in place to serve the ITHF membership. For a complete list of this team, go to Members-Only area on the ITHF website and look at the dropdown menu for Officers. Sheila has called upon this team to make the District Governors aware of Rotary Fellowships and ITHF, in particular. In addition, VPs will encourage Districts to provide Area VPs with authority to put information about ITHF on the District website, District Directory and District Facebook page. District Training events are an ideal time to provide programs about Fellowships, ITHF and travel opportunities in Rotary service. In the near future, a PowerPoint presentation about ITHF and about Fellowships will be made available to all members; these can be used as programs at club meetings. Sheila has also requested Area VPs to encourage ITHF activities within the areas they serve. This could include a social event, short tour with hosting within an area or taking advantage of being involved with Rotary Friendship Exchange activities to promote additional hosting and travel. She is looking forward to receiving reports about activities and to read articles in Connections about new and innovative initiatives to encourage participation in ITHF.

### ***ITHF REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY – 2016-2017 – Draft 8, June 23, 2017***

**REGIONAL VP AMERICAS** – USA, Canada, South America, Central America & Caribbean Islands – **Don Schiller** - E-mail: [schiller@commspeed.net](mailto:schiller@commspeed.net)

**REGIONAL VP EUROPE, EURASIA, AFRICA**- Europe, UK/Ireland, Turkey, Russia, Hungary, Africa – **Peter Ibbotson**- E-mail: [peter@cotsport.com](mailto:peter@cotsport.com)

**REGIONAL VP ASIA/OCEANIA** – China, Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa – **Dick Milner** – E-mail: [milner@adam.com.au](mailto:milner@adam.com.au)

**REGIONAL VP INDIAN SUBCONTINENT/SW ASIA** – India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka – **Aswini Kar** - E-mail: [aswini.kar@gmail.com](mailto:aswini.kar@gmail.com)

#### **VICE PRESIDENTS who report to the Regional VP**

**VP Great Britain and Ireland** – England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland – **Brian Murray** -E-mail: [brianmurraylls@aol.com](mailto:brianmurraylls@aol.com)

**VP Northern Europe** – above 55 parallel - Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania – **Herman Essén** -E-mail: [herman.essen@gmail.com](mailto:herman.essen@gmail.com)

**VP Southern Europe** – Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Belarus, Poland, Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Poland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia-Montenegro, Croatia – **Sedef Bircan** -E-mail: [sedefbircan@hotmail.com](mailto:sedefbircan@hotmail.com)

**VP Western Russia** – Western Russia – **Andrei Ibragimov** E-mail: [a.ibragimov@mipar.ru](mailto:a.ibragimov@mipar.ru)

**VP Eastern Russia & Mongolia** - Eastern Russia, Mongolia – **Irina Dogadina** -E-mail: [irina.dogadina@inbox.ru](mailto:irina.dogadina@inbox.ru)

**VP North and Central Africa** – Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Western Sahara, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Senegal, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Burkina Faso, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, , United Arab Emirates - **Bala Inuwi** -E-mail: [bala\\_inuwa@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bala_inuwa@yahoo.co.uk)

**VP Southern Africa** – Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Angola, Zambia, Tazmania, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Lesotho, Madagascar – **Rosette Nabuuma** – E-mail: [rosettenabuuma3@gmail.com](mailto:rosettenabuuma3@gmail.com)

**VP North India & Pakistan**– Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Pakistan – **Ranjan Dhingra** -E-mail: [r.dhingra@laraon.com](mailto:r.dhingra@laraon.com)

**VP South India, Sri Lanka** – Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Sri Lanka – **K.C. Philip** - E-mail: [philipsonsons@gmail.com](mailto:philipsonsons@gmail.com)

**VP Eastern India, Bangladesh** – Bangladesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunach, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Bihar – **Madhu Bishnu** - E-mail: [madhubish27@gmail.com](mailto:madhubish27@gmail.com)

**VP Western India** – Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Daman and Diu – **Parimal Gandhi** E-mail: [emailparimal@gmail.com](mailto:emailparimal@gmail.com)

**VP Nepal** – Nepal – **Sita Rupakheti** – E-mail: [sitarupakheti1@gmail.com](mailto:sitarupakheti1@gmail.com)

**VP Japan** – Japan – **Noko Yoshida** – E-mail: [nokoyoshida@gmail.com](mailto:nokoyoshida@gmail.com)

**VP South East Asia** – Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Philippines, China, Hong Kong, New Guinea, Korea, Samoa, Thailand, - **Tc Tan**- E-mail: [tctan.sg@gmail.com](mailto:tctan.sg@gmail.com)

**VP Taiwan** – Taiwan – **Andrea Chen** – E-mail: [andrea.w.chen@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.w.chen@gmail.com)

**VP Western Australia** – Western Australia – **Melodie Kevan** - E-mail: [melodie.kevan@inet.net.au](mailto:melodie.kevan@inet.net.au)

**VP Australia Victoria & Tasmania** – Victoria & Tasmania - **Peter Downes** – E-mail: [phetlern@bigpond.com](mailto:phetlern@bigpond.com)

**VP Australia New South Wales & Capital Region** – New South Wales and Capital Region - **Vacant**

**VP Australia Queensland** – Queensland – **Kevin O’Flaherty** - [kmof@bigpond.com](mailto:kmof@bigpond.com)

**VP South Australia** – South Australia – **Dick Milner** - [milner@adam.com.au](mailto:milner@adam.com.au)

**VP New Zealand** – New Zealand, New Caledonia, Micronesia – **Ian Holyoake** E-mail: [ianholyoake@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ianholyoake@xtra.co.nz)

**VP South America and Central America**– Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Uruguay, Peru, Columbia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, Paraguay, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Mexico, Honduras, Panama, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Jamaica, British Virgin Islands –**Alonso Campoi** – E-mail: [brtravel@terra.com.br](mailto:brtravel@terra.com.br)

Not identified –Barbados, Bahamas, Aruba, Antigua & Barbuda, Cayman, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago

**VP – Western Canada** – British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, Nunavut – **Linda Krahn** – E-mail: [lindaraekrahn@telus.net](mailto:lindaraekrahn@telus.net)

**VP – Eastern Canada** – Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland – **Alec & June Brown** E-mail: [jandabrown@rogers.com](mailto:jandabrown@rogers.com)

**VP – Hawaii** – Hawaii – **Steve Yoshida** – E-mail: [steveyoshida@gmail.com](mailto:steveyoshida@gmail.com)

**VP - Alaska** – Alaska – **Kristin Lambert** - E-mail: [kristinalaska@gmail.com](mailto:kristinalaska@gmail.com)

**VP – California** – California – **Ernie Delfin** - E-mail: [ernie.delfin@gmail.com](mailto:ernie.delfin@gmail.com)

**VP – USA North West** – Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming – **Michelle Lee** – E-mail: [michellelee1225@hotmail.com](mailto:michellelee1225@hotmail.com)

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**VP – USA South West** – Nevada, Arizona, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado - **Don Schiller** E-mail: [schiller@commspeed.net](mailto:schiller@commspeed.net)

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**VP – USA Great Lakes** – Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana – **John Henderson** - [jeanjohnh@gmail.com](mailto:jeanjohnh@gmail.com)

**VP – USA South East** – Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia – **Michael Abraham** – E-mail: [bikemike@nrvunwired.net](mailto:bikemike@nrvunwired.net)

**VP – USA North East Coastal** – Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut – **Dick Anderson** – E-mail: [rwalaw@cox.net](mailto:rwalaw@cox.net)

**VP – USA North East** – New York, New Jersey, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware – **Dan Parker** – E-mail: [dan.parker@travelleaders.com](mailto:dan.parker@travelleaders.com)

### ***ITHF “Buth” at Atlanta Convention was a Resounding Success***

Sheila Hart, the incoming president for ITHF had always been thrilled with the response to her Call for Volunteers for the ITHF *Buth* in Atlanta. Some 37 volunteers and 5 roving Ambassadors had been scheduled to work. However, it was an additional 6 volunteers that saved the day as the *Buth* was extremely busy at all times. All of the volunteers put in their best effort and showed how effectively they could sell the benefits of ITHF. Some 165 new members were registered and many more renewed their membership subscription. Except for 3 XXXL shirts, all of the stock of shirts, jackets, labels and logo patches were sold. Ninety-five members registered for the AGM Breakfast meeting at the Hilton. The entire stock of flyers for the pre-convention trip, The Best of Eastern Canada, and the post-convention trip, Canadian Rockies by Train, were distributed. The feed-back from the volunteers who served has been positive and some have already volunteered to serve at the *Buth* at the Toronto convention. ***A block of rooms at the Toronto Hilton has been reserved for ITHF.*** Watch for announcements about deadline for registrations for rooms, tours, volunteering, special events and the Breakfast AGM. With over 20,000 already registered for the



Toronto Convention, ITHF expects to be busy again in 2018.

## ***Rick's Ramblings***

***Planning on Attending the Toronto Convention? Get a Room!*** Early registrations for the 2018 Rotary Convention in Toronto are reported to be very high. Make sure you've got a place to stay with your ITHF friends! The Fellowship has reserved a block of rooms in the Toronto Hilton. If they are not spoken for by September 30 they will have to be released. So make your plans early – and write to [r.harned@ithf.org](mailto:r.harned@ithf.org) to reserve your room! A valid credit card and expiry date will be required to hold a room (don't email that info); a deposit equivalent to two nights' charge will have to be made by December 1, 2017. Rick can provide full details.

***Expand your Travels Beyond the Big Cities!*** Most of us travel primarily to big cities and tourist draws – New York, Miami, Vancouver, Sydney, Singapore. And the ITHF has many members in those cities who are ready to host! But we also have members in places you may not have thought about before – cities such as Port Macquarie, Australia; Elkhorn, Wisconsin, USA; Livingston, Scotland; or Pinetown, South Africa. By connecting with members a little bit “*off the beaten path*,” you can get some fascinating insights and learn about real attractions that you just don't get if you only stay in the big centers. When you're planning your next trip, be sure to allow a couple of days to really explore the country – you just might be amazed at the friends you meet!

***New Member Directory in PDF Form***—Have you been on our website lately? (If you've had difficulty getting there, try using the https protocol – <https://www.ithf.org>) On the menu for ITHF members in the left column of the home page is a new item – “*Directory of Members PDF*.” This is a downloadable document, organized by area Vice President, to make it easier for you to find members you want to meet in the countries or states/provinces you want to visit. Our Webmaster Roger Siddell has put a lot of work into organizing this document and keeping it current – we expect a new version to appear every quarter-year or so. Take a look, and let us know what you think! (And if your information is not current, help us update it!)

***Are we Friends on Facebook?*** The ITHF has had a Facebook page – “*ITHF – International Travel and Hosting Fellowship*” – for several years, but it has not been actively used. Plans are to enhance its utility as a communication channel for important announcements and for member sharing. Membership promotion may also be a possibility. If you are on Facebook, give us a “*Like*” and share your best recent travel pictures!



***TC Tan/Rotary Club of Pandan Valley Singapore  
30 June 2017***

In May, my wife and I took a Portuguese Douro River cruise from Vega Terron to Porto. Douro Valley is famous of beautiful scenery and high-quality port wine. We enjoyed the journey throughout the 2-week holiday.



During the journey, I was pleasantly surprised to catch up with 2 Rotarians. They are PP Jim Ray of Metairie and PP Dan Milham of New Orleans. We shared with each other's respective community project experiences, include end polio projects. I have learnt much from them. I wish we would meet again during holiday trips in near future! It is not the first time I met with Rotarians. Rotarians meet each other regularly during international trips, whether it is cruises or land tour. During my past cruises with Queen Mary 2 and Princess Cruises, I always attend the cruise organized meetings for Rotarian. It is not only work for community; it is also fun to be a Rotarian!

***Linda Bauer Goes to Huntsville, Y'all!***

Sometimes you have to persevere!



We thought we would play a little golf in northern Alabama on our way to the Atlanta convention, so I wrote to Dennis Sanders to see if he might be interested in hosting us for a few days, and hang out a bit. My e-mail came back as undeliverable. So I got on his club webpage and sent a note to see if he was still a member. It turns out Dennis is the Clubrunner manager, and he answered me immediately. A connection was made, and we have a new Rotary buddy. We were his first ITHF guests, and now that his address is corrected, I'm betting he will have more. He is a terrific host, and we got the behind-the-scenes tour of Huntsville and Madison, had some terrific BBQs, hung out at a couple of his favorite breweries, and became fast friends. Huntsville is an interesting town with much to see and do. We will see Dennis again down the road.

***Madhumita Bishnu***  
***Makes Two 'Connections' Prior to Atlanta RICON and Post RICON***

Mark Barnes, ITHF member from Mumbai, India and I visited Amicalola Waterfalls at Dawsonville State Park in Georgia between June 6-7, 2017 and we enjoyed the Waterfalls a lot. There were 735 steps to the Falls but we did midway and still enjoyed a lot.

The second 'Connection' was Nancy Fleming and Robert Smallwood who hosted me for the second time for 5 days at their Westmont home in Chicago. I had earlier been hosted in 2005 during RICON in Chicago and we've been in touch and are very good friends. Nancy had invited some of their Rotary club members for an evening and had Indian dinner specially to make me feel at home and I enjoyed so much meeting their club members and the dinner. We did architectural boat trip together which was a great trip I must admit. We watched the Blue Man group performing and blues music in Buddy Ones club. Ella, their dog loved me too. I had a great hosting by them and their hospitality is exceptionally good.

***John and Jean Henderson (Elkhorn WI USA)***  
***Hosted by Robert Menzies in Edinburgh, Scotland***

A lovely holiday was recently made even more special with many ITHF Ties—new connections and renewal of past ones. Members John and Jean Henderson, Elkhorn WI were hosted by Robert Menzies in Edinburgh, Scotland meeting up with good friends and ITHF members (Treasurer Rick Harned and wife Mary Ellen) also traveling in Scotland. Robert was an excellent host (and cook!) making sure we saw the best of Edinburgh in our few days there.

We met up with Harneds again later along with Jean's twin sister and husband to begin a planned 6-day walking adventure in England's beautiful Lake District. We stayed at lovely, often historic B & B s (inns and farmhouses) setting off each day for a new trek along the footpaths in the National Trust land. Gorgeous scenery, green hills, many, many sheep - altogether delightful with an added "*adventure*" on a wild rainy windy day thrown in to make us appreciate the fair days all the more!! (A tale to tell here!) We arranged with a company to set up our stays as well as move our luggage from place to place- a very good plan!

Along the way, we met up with our ITHF webmaster Roger Siddle and wife Hillary who live in Carnforth but drove an hour to have dinner with us and make that ITHF Rotary tie—in person.

The worlds a smaller and finer place when your travels include ITHF friends!

With appreciation for our wonderful fellowship, John and Jean Henderson



## ***Ian Holyoake, New Zealand Police Involvement with the ITHF!***

There was a recent “*police connection*” with the *International Travel & Hosting Fellowship*, and involving police officers from Germany and New Zealand - but not quite in the way that might be first thought.

Ian Holyoake, recently appointed the New Zealand VP for ITHF, was travelling about the north of New Zealand on holiday when he received an email from Jochen & Angela Barckmann who were travelling hundreds of kilometres away in the south. They sought to meet up with fellow ITHF members in Napier and the various travel arrangements were adjusted to suit that.

Jochen is a retired Police Chief from a city in Germany and Ian a retired police chief from the New Zealand Police. Having observed Ian’s profile on the ITHF website, Angela & Jochen, having met other ITHF members, thought it would be especially good to catch the Holyoakes because of the similarities in their backgrounds. When dates coincided they made their way to the Holyoake address, only to find it was out of date and Ian had overlooked amending that on the Fellowship website. Not a very good start for his role as the NZ VP—but now rectified! A quick telephone call and “*Google Maps*” solved the problem and the Barckmanns and Holyoakes got together.



Tall tales were told of police exploits of “*yesteryear*”—but none of them can be related here! Sightseeing plans were put in place and the German visitors were taken to various lookouts, scenic sights, high hilltops and got to experience the wine and ice-cream that Hawkes Bay is known for, as well as see the “*Art Deco*” architecture for which Napier is famous (calling itself the “*Art Deco Capital of the World.*”) The guided *Art Deco Walk* through the streets of Napier was one of their highlights. The Barckmanns continued their journey through New Zealand but will always remember their “*connection*” in Napier, Hawkes Bay, where “*old coppers*” were able to meet, exchange greetings and tell tales of the “*bad guys*” they had chased in years past.

***Editor’s Note: if you did not submit your photos as attachments to your article, I wasn’t able to “copy & paste” them into the Newsletter....please submit articles as Word documents and photos as an attachment to your email....thanks....you know I’m not that cyberliterate, but I don’t want your photos left out....till next time!***

