



# LEAD THE WAY

9640 District Governor's Newsletter

Vol. June 2007



## JUNE IS FELLOWSHIP MONTH



After eleven months of hard and devoted Rotary effort and application, we enter the final month of this 2006-2007 Rotary Year, in what has been set as fellowship month. I believe that we can all be proud of our achievements and spend these final days of the year, enjoying the fellowship of our club members, clusters and the District together. But, please, let us ensure that we have tidied up all the unfinished bits and pieces (of which there are still too many) before the parties and fellowship begin in earnest.

Remember that in our fellowship celebrations we include all members of our Rotary Family and not simply the members of our clubs — people such as members of YEP, PROBUS, Inner Wheel, Foundation Alumni, from our Youth programs such as RYLA, RYPEN, InterAct, RYTS, MUNA and the many other groups associated with us all during this year's journey. These folk are our ambassadors as well as our members and, perhaps, future Rotarians. We need to be inclusive of them at all times.

As we approach the season of club changeovers, Suzanne and I express our appreciation to all club members in the District for the support and care which you all, in your own ways, have shared with us this year. It is something that we will remember for always and that has enriched our lives enormously. Thank you all so much — may God bless you all for your thought and consideration.

As you will readily appreciate, with 54 clubs in the District it will not be possible for Suzanne and me to attend each and every changeover, so in keeping with our District 9640's tradition we have arranged for a Past District Governor, the DGE or DGN to attend as a representative in our stead where necessary. We really would have liked to attend all the changeovers, but I am sure you all understand the logistics of the situation.

**Douglas I Geekie**

Rotary Club of Gold Coast Central / District Governor, District 9640, 2006–2007

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I am pleased to announce that the District Nominating Committee has selected (and this has now been ratified) Past President Peter Robinson to be the District Governor for the Rotary year 2009–2010. Peter, a member of the Grafton Midday Club, will be supported by his wife, Lois (the current President of Grafton Midday Club). As most will be aware, Peter has been an Assistant Governor for Cluster1 this Rotary Year and has enjoyed responsibilities in the past as both Chairman and a member of the District Youth Exchange Committee. Prior to joining Rotary in 1995, Peter was a member of Apex, serving on all Board positions in his club, also District Governor and Zone 5 President in 1983. I know that all members of the District wish Peter and Lois well as they start this incredible new journey in their Rotary lives.

Those members who attended our District Conference at Conrad Jupiters in April will recall that we were privileged to have the Governor of District 5000 Jim Varner and his wife, Nancy, join us. Their GSE team was also present at the Conference. In keeping with our original agreement, I attended the District 5000 Conference held at Kona, on the Island of Hawaii, over the US Memorial weekend.



*DG Douglas with DG Jim in fellowship at the Rotary Club of Waikiki*



*Under two flags  
Our combined GSE teams  
and Skippy*



I was joined by our visiting GSE team, PDG Trigger Tregurtha and Jean, PP Neil Jones and Christine (Broadbeach), AG Peter Brown and Coralie (Goondiwindi), and Rtn Carol White (Gold Coast Central).

The Hawaiian Conference was a great success and, I think, for all of us who attended, an enlightening experience as we saw how Rotary works in another part of our world. Two of the highlight presentations of the Conference were:

PP Ann Lee Hussey (Rotary Club of Berwick, Maine, USA) on the Polio Plus Campaign. In January 2007 Ann Lee became Chair of the Polio Survivors and Associates Rotarian Action Group, where she plans to assist in setting up rehabilitation centres globally. Ann Lee's real mark has been her travels to India, Egypt, Mali, and Niger, to work on a Rotary National Immunisation volunteer team. She has participated in 10 NIDs, immunising children against polio. She received the Rotary Foundation International Service Award for a Polio Free World in June 2006, and received the Service Above Self award in May 2005.

*Ann Lee administers the drops*



As a polio survivor, Ann Lee has a passion for the polio-eradication program and shares Rotary International's vision for a polio-free world.

District Governor Candice (Candy) Pierce, Governor of District 5160 in 2006–2007 and a member of the Rotary Club of Cordelia in California, USA, spoke about the Ellen Meadows Prosthetic Hand Foundation.

### **The LN-4 Prosthetic hand**

After industrial engineer Ernie Meadows and his wife Marj lost their daughter Ellen in a car accident, they set out to create a legacy to her — a selfless, no-money-to-gain act to benefit children around the world.

When Ernie learned of the thousands who had lost their hands and limbs to land mines, he knew he had found what he had been looking for. This was the inception of the LN-4 Prosthetic Hand.

In 2005 Ernie gave permission for the hand to become a Rotary endeavour and signed over the rights during Far West PETS in 2006. The rest is history as the Prosthetic Hand is now an official initiative of both Rotary District 5110 and 5160.





Details of the project can be viewed online at <http://ln-4.org/> and I encourage all members of the District to visit the site. Candy's message touched my heart – and for just US\$50 per prosthetic hand, I encourage all Rotarians to consider donating at least one hand to the project – IT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE for so many people in our world.

Like at District 9640, the District 5000 Conference was supported by an impressive entertainment program with a great golf event.

The changeover ceremony for the incoming Governor 2007–2008, George Fontaine, was performed, but only with effect from 1 July 2007. This was in lieu of our District changeover event.

I am sure that the Australian visitors all enjoyed the experience and it really demonstrated to me the internationality of Rotary and how much we can all learn about our great organisation from one another.

Whilst on the subject of Hawaii I was so proud to be constantly complimented about the exemplary behaviour and contribution of our GSE team – I could not have written a better script if I had tried.

Our team presented a cheque for US\$1,000 to a local literacy program within the District and sold their Skippy Kangaroo to benefit the Rotary Foundation to the value of US\$2,500. An outstanding achievement by any measure indeed. Congratulations to a great team, so ably lead by PP Lew Verney of the Goondiwindi Club.

In about a week's time Suzanne and I will be off to Salt Lake City, for the 2007 Rotary International Convention. This will be a grand finale for this Rotary year particularly with ROMAC having an International display at the Convention. We will be joined by the PDG Yarkers, PDG Brian Heaton, PDG Trigger and Jean, PP David Bonifant and Catherine, PP Brian Mason and Lyn, and Jill Ellis. I look forward to reporting back after the event.

Thank you all, once again, for your support during the year – I am confident that we will be chartering two new clubs and, with the growth in membership reflected in the statistics for the year to 30 April 2007 included in this report, all looks good for positive growth this year – well done to you all.

That's all for now FOLKS! Enjoy the remainder of the year and enjoy good Rotary Fellowship.

Yours in Rotary Service and . . . Continue to LEAD THE WAY



Douglas



*DG Douglas Geekie and President Signe Godfrey, Rotary Club of Kahala Sunrise*

*The early induction of new Governor George; and (below) DG Jim Varner with DG Candy Pierce*





# DISTRICT 9640 MEMBERSHIP

## April 2007

# DISTRICT SECRETARY'S

## report



Rotary Club of	Attendance		Membership <sup>change</sup>		
	Apr 07	Yearly	1.07.06	30.03.07	
Allora	76.00	76.11	11	14	3
Alstonville	85.35	86.00	23	23	
Ashmore	84.00	83.90	38	37	-1
Ballina	82.03	81.70	33	37	4
Ballina-on-Richmond	73.00	68.90	25	25	
Beaudesert	82.00	87.97	26	28	2
Boonah	78.70	82.00	40	43	3
Broadbeach	60.00	63.00	54	52	-2
Broadwater-Southport	68.82	73.60	28	31	3
Burleigh Heads	55.00	61.10	25	29	4
Byron Bay	70.00	76.60	8	9	1
Casino	75.00	77.20	20	21	1
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	54.34	61.14	23	23	
Coomera Valley	68.00	64.73	26	31	5
Glen Innes	77.17	75.55	31	31	
Gold Coast Central	75.00	75.88	28	34	6
Goondiwindi	56.00	72.77	24	27	3
Goonellabah	70.00	75.75	23	25	2
Grafton	79.00	82.77	25	21	-4
Grafton Midday	87.80	73.77	29	22	-7
Hope Island	67.70	65.20	35	42	7
Iluka	80.00	83.38	10	10	
Jimboomba	58.33	63.44	27	24	-3
Kingscliff	70.70	78.60	13	11	-2
Kirra Currumbin	84.00	81.77	12	12	
Kyogle	94.75	79.00	13	14	1
Lismore	80.00	87.66	22	21	-1
Lismore Central	56.00	58.22	16	16	
Lismore West	95.83	95.75	43	43	
Maclean	85.78	84.79	48	50	2
Mermaid Beach	80.00	82.00	24	24	
Mt Warning AM	87.96	84.95	26	27	1
Mudgeeraba	65.93	75.11	24	23	-1
Mullumbimby	89.40	79.22	21	19	-2
Murwillumbah	73.00	74.62	36	37	1
Murwillumbah Central	91.66	89.74	37	30	-7
Nerang	80.00	88.00	20	19	-1
Palm Beach	69.11	74.55	23	24	1
Parkwood	72.00	62.90	24	23	-1
Robina	80.00	80.33	9	13	4
Runaway Bay	75.76	71.56	41	39	-2
Southport	61.00	66.75	42	46	4
Southport North	72.00	70.55	22	22	
Stanthorpe	81.11	75.00	44	43	-1
Summerland Sunrise	59.20	61.00	15	18	3
Surfers Paradise	58.33	58.49	36	38	2
Surfers Paradise Central	53.78	58.57	53	53	
Surfers Sunrise	67.00	71.00	30	29	-1
Tamborine Mountain	64.58	75.64	11	12	1
Tenterfield	93.30	83.69	21	23	2
Tweed Heads South	67.00	74.66	17	19	2
Warwick	66.70	68.62	17	16	-1
Warwick Sunrise	63.00	66.77	18	22	4
Yamba	84.61	78.70	16	17	1
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1406</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>36</b>

As the Rotary year rapidly closes we all (albeit subconsciously) begin to wipe the dust of the current year from our sandals and prepare to walk the road of a fresh year.

We wonder in fact whether we ever achieve what we set out to achieve and, if indeed, our efforts resulted in a sound return on investment; whether we like to see it or not, we do invest a great deal of time, energy, material possessions and expectations in our time with Rotary. Have we made a solid investment? Is the world a better place for our efforts?

When reflecting on this issue I always recall the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, who wrote to the effect that "our purpose in life is to matter; for it to have made a difference that we lived at all". Perhaps we should reflect each day upon what we have done in that day to make the world a better place for everyone.

Within Rotary, no matter who we are, we always achieve much more whenever we work with others for the common good. Even if, at a fundraiser, we do not make much money yet every member helped share the load for a good and just cause, we have achieved much by way of working with respect, dignity and goodwill.

Our achievements when we work with others for the betterment of humanity include the following



**Shared vision** – when we give form by words to our aspirations and others grasp that vision the words describe, wonderful things happen as minds are drawn together for good



**Shared goals** – by sharing the vision the group defines the goals and takes ownership, leading to action



**Shared workload** – many hands, sometimes international, to share the load



**Shared achievements** – everyone in the effort shares the glory of success

Through Rotary no good thing is impossible and we achieve so much more than we can possibly achieve on our own. Nothing is by chance.

Now go on, get out there, do some good every day, and **Lead The Way** in all you do.

Kind regards

Steven Gill

District Secretary



## Rotary Clubs build a school for orphans in Thailand



DG Douglas presents the Trivia Trophy to John McDonald and Eddie Klimowicz of Surfers Paradise Central

Volunteers from Gold Coast Rotary Clubs and Thai royalty have combined to build and furnish a school for orphans of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami.

The school was built for 40 children inside the Taplamu naval base at Khao Lak in Thailand following a 10 day mission. Khao Lak is located 100km north of the Thai tourist destination of Phuket and was the hardest hit by the tsunami. Princess of Thailand HRH Maha Chakri Sirindhorn gave permission for the school to be built at the naval base.

The school, a single room seven metres by 15 metres that will also be used as a community centre, was designed by Rotarian Des LeRance, pre-built by Surfers Sunrise Rotary Club at their Arundel workshop, then packed into two containers and shipped to the site.

The volunteers also built a covered playground for the children and funded toilets and showers.

Conditions were tough as volunteers worked seven days straight — from 7.30 am to 5pm in 38 degree heat. Southport Rotarian Michelle Wachter, who was one of the volunteers helping with construction said she would always remember the experience. "It was hard work! It was very hot but the local people and the local Rotarians all made it very comfortable with accommodation," she said. "It was certainly tiring, but worth it in the end."

Southport Rotary Club President David Randal, whose club helped to raise money for the cause, said: "We raised \$14,000 for our tsunami relief fund. This is one of our major projects."

Many Rotary clubs such as Hope Island, Ashmore and Jimboomba all donated money to contribute to the school. Southport Rotary paid for the two shipping containers to go to Bangkok and then to the Taplamu naval base near Khao Lak.

Local Gold Coast schools also donated money for the project, including AB Paterson College, Guardian Angels College, Saint Vincent's College, Saint Kevin's College and Gold Coast and Beenleigh Catholic Colleges.

"They had quite a bit of a ceremony," said Rotarian Tony Pritchett, "with the Australian Ambassador to Thailand, Bill Patterson, representatives of the Thai Royal family and the Thai Royal Navy." Tony helped with the construction of the school.

*Patrick Williams is a journalism student at Griffith University. He wrote this article for publication but reports little luck so far. Keep trying Patrick.*



### WORD WAR II:

#### A trivial back-to-back win

Seven word-wielding Samurai from Surfers Paradise Central, backed by partners and friends, won the Word War of the ROMAC TRIVIA TROPHY for the second consecutive year. The annual battle of wits was fought by champions from more than 10 clubs in the district, on 18 May at the GC Arts Centre, HQ of Gold Coast Central. Proceeds were awarded to ROMAC. Honours for pageantry went to host club GC Central and the glory of the trophy to Surfers Paradise Central. The SPC team was led by General John McDonald.

David Bonifant, also of Surfers Paradise Central, thanked the assembled combattants on behalf of ROMAC.

It was a great evening.

*Carol Cheshire*



David Bonifant accepts the proceeds of the GC Central Trivia Night for ROMAC.





Queensland Day 2007 Award for Barry Slocum of Broadwater Rotary Club, here with wife Carol.

## Bill's

### USEFUL WEBSITES

Rotary Fellowships and Rotary Action Groups:  
<http://rotarnet.com.au/users/9/96452/fellowships251103.htm>

Service Above Self:  
<http://rotarnet.com.au/users/9/96452/nov032.htm>

Key Websites :  
<http://rotarnet.com.au/users/9/96452/whatsnew2.htm>

Have you noticed the new Shelterbox website?:  
<http://www.shelterbox.org/>

It contains small images under Downloads and when they are clicked from a website they enlarge to full page size.

*Bill Pavey, webmaster Parkwood Rotary*

## AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH Work 'works' for mental health

Australian Rotary Health recently awarded an Evaluation of Mental Health Services grant of \$60,000 to Dr Geoffrey Waghorn from the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research.

"This program aims to reduce the social and economic marginalisation associated with severe mental illness by providing individualised intensive employment assistance integrated with mental health treatment and care" says Waghorn.

It is estimated that 75-84% of people with a psychotic disorder in Australia are unemployed or have given up looking for work, with most in receipt of a disability support pension. In overseas studies the integration of an employment specialist into a community mental health team has led to employment outcomes of 60% or more.

The Federal Department of Workplace and Employment is considering committing \$700,000 to extend the project to sites across Australia. Even though the program has only been going for two months, it is proving such a success that the QLD Government has put aside funding to extend it to six other sites.

Jenny Hearle, Rehabilitation Service coordinator at the Park Centre for Mental Health, says "it is great that the program is being expanded but even if it had stopped here it has made an enormous difference to the lives of the nine people who have now got a job because of it".

One participant, who lives in a rural area, travels several hours by bus and train to get to his new job. If he works late, he uses part of his pay to stay overnight in town to ensure he gets to work the next day.

Your continuing support of Australian Rotary Health is vital to its success and will guarantee ongoing research funding. For more information on research projects funded by Australian Rotary Health check out [www.arhrf.org.au](http://www.arhrf.org.au). Donations to ARHRF are tax deductible and can be sent to:

ARHRF, PO Box 779, Parramatta, NSW, 2124.  
ph 02 8837 1900 or email [arhrf@arhrf.org.au](mailto:arhrf@arhrf.org.au).

*Joy Gillett*





9640

## ROTARY FOUNDATION

June 2007

news

As we approach the new Rotary year, it is pleasing to see the District and our clubs adopt the Club Leadership Plan to administer the clubs as we go forward.

Under the Plan, The Rotary Foundation will now be included in the five standing committee structure that has been chosen to run effective clubs.

The role of The Rotary Foundation Committee is to develop and implement a plan to support the Foundation through program participation and financial contributions.

This will alleviate a lot of responsibility that previously fell on the President and the International Director in terms of programs and on the President and Treasurer in achieving a club's financial goals.

To my mind, this change will be an excellent outcome as it will keep the Rotary Foundation in the foreground of each club's decision making when it comes to the allocation of its resources. With more Rotary Foundation participation, the education of club members about the Foundation, particularly new and prospective members, will become easier.

Remember, the Rotary Foundation is OUR charity and the more support it receives, the more good it can achieve in changing and saving lives, both in the local community and internationally.

Each year, your President-elect has the task of establishing effective goals that will support the club's action plan for the incoming year, which includes a contribution to the Foundation.

With the assistance of the new Rotary Foundation Committee, the President-elect can now confidently set his or her goals with the knowledge that a strategy will be put in place to achieve those goals.

Your club's Rotary Foundation Committee, through its Chair, will be able to seek more participation in the Foundation's educational and humanitarian grants programs, thus making the club more active and progressive.

As these programs are funded by voluntary contributions, the more that club members can become involved in the programs, the more they will understand the need for financial support. This, in turn, will go a long way to achieving the goals that the President-elect can confidently put on place.

### GSE TEAM TO SCOTLAND

The selection of this team has now been concluded and finalised for its departure in September, and as it turns out, it will be an all female team that will represent us.

The touring party will consist of a journalist from the Northern Star newspaper, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Alstonville and a business manager from the Ballina Chamber of Commerce, sponsored by the Ballina-on-Richmond club.

The remaining two members are teachers from the same school in Glen Innes, sponsored by that club.

Team leader will be former GSE team member, PP Margaret Grummitt from the Rotary Club of Parkwood. It sounds like it will be a great fling, hoots mon!

### FINALLY

Contributions to the Foundation should be forwarded in this month, especially, for those seeking a tax deduction from The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust. Forms have been sent to your Secretary.

In particular though, it is noted some clubs have yet to donate or are below their President's goals. This will need to be attended to this month as well, so that DGN Peter Robinson can continue to provide the increased level of programs that we are now used to, in 2009/10.

*Doug Brown*

