



LEAD THE WAY

9640 District Governor's Newsletter



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Rotarian friends, I believe Rotary year 2006–2007 will be full of excitement and achievement, because we have a team of enthusiastic and committed Presidents leading the Clubs in our District. Rotary is unique, in that each year we change the leadership team of our organisation. As a result, our previous comfort zone is regularly challenged with new ideas. Paul Harris said, “We live in a changing world and Rotary must be prepared to change as well”. His mandate from 80 years ago is still relevant now, as we Rotarians prepare to “LEAD THE WAY” with our Clubs into this second century of Rotary.

This year our RI President Bill Boyd asks that we strengthen our Clubs by reviewing administration and costs of membership. It is vital that we give our members good value, as well as deliver productive local and international service projects.

How do we LEAD THE WAY? Simply by:

- Adopting the RI-recommended Club Leadership Plan that has been trialled across the world with success and enthusiasm by Club members.
- Increasing our support for the Rotary Foundation by direct fund raising from our communities.
- Increasing membership in our District by recruitment, retention and chartering new Clubs.
- Establishing new Probus Clubs, Interact and Rotaract Clubs in our communities.
- Being involved in new and productive Community and International projects.

I encourage all Rotarians to share and promote the work of our Clubs and members to our friends and associates in our business community and daily lives. Introducing another person to Rotary is to offer the gift of Rotary membership – “the privilege to serve”.

Let us all make our best effort to serve our community and mankind in this year, enjoy Rotary, have good fellowship and fun

... and “LEAD THE WAY”.



*District Governor,
Douglas Geekie*

Get to know your governor

Douglas, after a career in Finance and General Management, semi-retired with his wife Suzanne to their Hope Island home in July 2002. Changing pace dramatically, their lives now focus on community activities and the occasional consulting assignment.

His career caused him to live in South Australia, Queensland (Mount Isa), Victoria and New South Wales. This mobility led to his membership of seven Rotary Clubs in five different Districts. In District 9800, he was President of the Rotary Club of Melbourne South, District Chair of ROMAC and both District, and National Strategist and Planner for ROMAC.

He will tell you his Rotary life in District 9640 has been both full and enjoyable. At his Club, Surfers Paradise West, he has been Community Services Director and Vice President. At District level he has served as a member of the Interplast, Centennial, and Public Relations committees. In 2004–2005 he was Assistant Governor for Group 6 and appointed as District Governor Nominee. In 2004–2005 he was named Rotarian of the Year by his Club.

Since 2004, his passion has been in working for the conservation of Sea Turtles on the Western Cape York Peninsula (an Ashmore Rotary Club project) — as well as preparing for the 2006–2007 Governorship,

Douglas is an avid golfer, keen photographer and gardener. He and Suzanne, share their home with two cats, Tiggie and Jaffa. Coincidentally, he shares his birthday anniversary with Rotary's founder, Paul Harris.

Douglas I Geekie

Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise West/ District Governor, District 9640, 2006–2007
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2006-2007 DISTRICT CHANGE-OVER ATTENDED BY 190 ROTARIANS AND GUESTS



Top: The District team for 2006-2007;
Centre: Douglas and Trigger cut the ceremonial cake;
Lower left: Southport Yacht Club filled with Rotarians on 1 July; Lower right: Mr and Mrs Eddy Liu.

The 2006-2007 Rotary year commenced with some 190 people attending the change-over luncheon at the Southport Yacht Club on Saturday 1 July. The function was organised with style by Di Todd-Banks and her team of helpers. The setting was really first class and all enjoyed good food, fine wine and superb entertainment provided by acclaimed pianist Eddy Liu. Congratulations to the "Di team" and Chairman Stan Shneider who organised the entertainment and managed the program.

The program was full and guests were welcomed by both Mr Steve Ciobo, MP, the Federal member for Moncrieff, and Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke.

The Toast to Rotary International was proposed by International visitor, Past President Ajay Bhatnagar from the Rotary Club of Basel Dreilandereck, Switzerland. Ajay arranged his visit to Australia to be present at the change-over.

PDG Trigger provided an overview of the District's achievements in 2005-2006 with special mention of the contributions by clubs to the victims of Cyclone Larry. (Since the change-over a further \$2,500 donation has been acknowledged).





DISTRICT 9640 NOW INCORPORATED



Above: Douglas Geekie ready to get on with the job;
Below; Mayor Ron Clarke

Trigger presented certificates of appreciation to all members of the 2005-2006 Leadership team and Assistant Governors. He also acknowledged District Secretary 2005-2006 Elton Squires by presenting him with a Paul Harris sapphire pin.

DG Douglas recognised Trigger's year as Governor and specifically mentioned the way in which he and Jean had adopted clubs and visited them over the year. Some 70,000 kilometres were travelled by Jean and Trigger — that is to say, they had on average spent some 3 hours of every day of the year in the car travelling somewhere in the District.

Congratulations were extended to all Clubs for the manner and enthusiasm in which the theme "SERVICE ABOVE SELF" had been applied throughout the year.

The 2006-2007 Leadership Team and nine Assistant Governors were introduced to the gathering.

The afternoon concluded with Trigger and Douglas cutting the cake — now a District 9640 tradition. The cake was baked, decorated and donated by Rtn Sue Randel — the icing depicting the Surfers Paradise skyline. It was truly spectacular and the cake was superb. Thank you Sue, it was really a great gesture.

The occasion has really provided a great start to the Rotary year.

Day two of the new Rotary year, Sunday July 2, started with a number of fit (and not so fit) Rotarians participating in the Surfers Marathon Walk inviting all to "LEAD THE WAY".

At the start of the new Rotary 2006-2007 year, District 9640 was incorporated as:

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9640 Limited
Australian Company Number (ACN) 120 511 999

Early in 2005, all clubs were presented with the case for the incorporation of the District and this was accepted and adopted. The members of the Company (Shareholders) are the 54 clubs in the District.

Appropriate legal documentation was drawn up by Rob Ffrench (the then Secretary of the Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise West) and approved by the Rotary International Board of Directors in Evanston.

Our special thanks and appreciation are extended to Rob and his team for their contributions which were provided on a pro-bono basis.

The Company commenced operation for the Rotary year 2006-2007. A Board of Directors has been appointed in accordance with the adopted constitution for the company and the members are:

- DG Douglas Geekie (Chairman)
- PDG John Tregurtha (Glen Innes)
- DGE Brian Wheatley (Lismore Central)
- PP Bill Vanderstaay (Mermaid Beach)
- PDG Ross Smith (Palm Beach)
- President Bruce Bevan (Ballina)
- PP Steven Gill, Company Secretary (Ashmore)

Additionally, the Rotary International Board of Directors requires the incorporation of Districts to meet their mandated requirements of certification of Youth Exchange programs. This step means that our District 9640 will now have full certification.

The Board of Directors will meet every two months and at such other times as necessary.

Below: Rotary walkers Peter, Carol, Greville and Di, after leading the way at the Gold Coast Marathon Walk





**A Message to share with Rotary International District 9640
Through the Chair of The Youth Exchange Committee in relation to
the introduction of the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme
To the inbound 2006–07 YEP Students
On behalf of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh**

Young people need to develop those human qualities which allow communities to be friendly and civilized, rather than violent and unscrupulous. These qualities cannot be taught like Grammar or Mathematics, but have to be acquired from the example set by parents and adults and also from personal character-building experiences.

The award scheme provides a balanced program of extra-curricular activities for young people and complements academic development. It stimulates the qualities of self reliance, preservation, effort, initiative and self-improvement, and emphasises personal responsibility in the community.

The award scheme is not just another youth organisation competing for membership. There is nothing to join. It is a challenge to young people between 14 and 25 years — an opportunity to enjoy adventure, to acquire useful and creative skills, to serve others and make new friends, young and old.

Participants can develop existing interests or try something new. The activities selected can be group or individual, but should challenge and broaden existing skills and experience. The scheme is not competitive. Young people can select their own program and advance at their own rate. Anyone with the necessary perseverance, enterprise and effort will gain an award. For adults the scheme provides an opportunity to help by sharing skills and experience with young people, improving understanding and co-operation between them and younger people.

This year we will be challenging our YEP inbounds to the task of achieving the Bronze Award before Conference 2007 — it will be a challenge for us all to help them succeed. And we will succeed.

Through our YEP DofE co-ordinator, Alex Haslett of the Rotary Club of Stanthorpe, we will encourage participation through the Stanthorpe camp with a two-day first-aid course, an overnight expedition and a map-reading exercise, along with bush craft and survival skills.



It gives new emphasis to students and clubs alike and puts a challenge out to us all.

If you would like to be involved, we are encouraging the Rotarians of District 9640 to challenge each other and make this happen.

Volunteers for the Stanthorpe Expedition are being sought NOW!

If you have a particular project and skill to share particularly in the avenues of service above self, email me johnanstey@iprimus.com.au and I will be only too happy to pursue any challenge together.

Come join us on a new adventure! An adventure in Life.

Carpe Diem

John and Claudia Anstey
District 9640 Chair YEP Committee

VALE

PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR Ronald K.W. BURLING OAM 2 August 1933 - 24 June 2006

Past District Governor Ron Burling passed away on 24 June 2006.

Ron had a distinguished career and his contribution to the community and Rotary was outstanding.

In 1965 he established his private practice as an architect on the Gold Coast and in 1972 established Burling Brown and Partners. With his professional expertise he made a significant contribution to the TSS School and since 1986 made an enormous contribution to All Saints Anglican School becoming Chairman of the School Council from 1994 to 2004. Many of the buildings at the school are testimony to his architectural expertise and influence.

Ron was a member of the Southport and Surfers Paradise Rotary Clubs and a charter member of the Nerang Rotary Club. He was President of the Rotary Club 1969–1970, 1974 leader of a GSE to USA, and was District Governor of District 963 in 1977–1978. In 1994 he was the chairman of the agenda committee for the Adelaide Rotary Institute.

Ron will always be remembered in our District as a distinguished Rotarian who served his community through Rotary and his personal achievements and efforts.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Kay and family at this time.

FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

Welcome to a fresh year of Rotary endeavour, where the theme “Lead The Way” is more relevant than ever.

In a year where District 9640 has had to become incorporated and we now, more than ever, need to act as a business and not just a benevolent organisation, we need to hone our leadership skills and respond quickly and decisively to ensure we move forward positively in the ensuing year.

By this time all members should have received their district directory. If you have not received your copy, please tell your president who can contact your assistant governor who will arrange for a copy to be provided.

On the matter of the directory, there have been quite a number of calls regarding the lack of contact information for District Officers.

The reason for this is that, at the last District Conference in Glen Innes, the meeting resolved not to publish details of officers. This decision, doubtless supported in good faith by those concerned about privacy protection, has caused a major difficulty for those district officers trying to do their job.

Should you be one of those district officers whose details do not appear in the directory, please forward your contact details via email to me at sgill@winshop.com.au and I will collate those details onto a master list which will then be forwarded to each club. In the interim you will need to ring around to obtain those contact details.

The matter of attendance reporting is one of the most basic functions the District carries out. There have been many discussions over the years about its relevance and value.

Stated bluntly, Rotary Clubs do need to report attendance as being part of Rotary International, and the District has the responsibility of reporting the figures to the Rotary International office in Parramatta.

Please do make the effort to report to the District Attendance Officer by the 7th day of the following month as the shortage of figures only makes the job of the District Governor and his team so much more difficult than it need be. It also helps highlight to the Club if the level of interest in Club activities is in decline, a useful tool for the President who can then take positive remedial action.

The District Attendance Officer is Ian Wilson and his contact details are email : ianwil@bigpond.net.au and street/postal address is 20 Roderick Court, Benowa Waters, Qld 4217.

Finally if you as club secretary need assistance, or if there are resources that your club requires, please contact me and I will do my best to assist. Acquisition of knowledge is power and its proper application brings the positive results we all seek as we “LEAD THE WAY”.

Steven Gill, District Secretary

STOP PRESS

The District Nominating Committee has announced that Tony Hayes of Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club has been selected as District Governor Nominee (District Governor 2008–2009). Tony is the husband of past District Governor Margaret Hayes. Congratulations Tony and welcome to the District Team.

ROTARY DISTRICT 9640

Membership and Attendance May 2006

Club	Attendance			Membership		
	Meetings	%	Rank	%	Rank	Start Pres/ Change of yr
Allora	0 of 0	0.00	=33	76.49	27	13 11 -2
Alstonville	5 of 5	75.56	20	74.00	32	28 24 -4
Ashmore	5 of 5	86.00	=7	81.80	14	36 39 +3
Ballina	5 of 5	91.03	6	73.39	33	35 34 -1
Ballina-on-Richmond	0 of 0	0.00	=33	64.65	49	28 29 +1
Beaudesert	5 of 5	93.00	3	88.65	5	27 26 -1
Boonah	0 of 0	0.00	=33	86.32	8	41 40 -1
Broadbeach	5 of 5	63.75	28	64.92	48	61 61 -
Broadwater-Southport	4 of 4	73.33	22	72.47	35	28 30 +2
Burleigh Heads	4 of 4	64.61	27	67.98	44	23 31 +8
Byron Bay	0 of 0	0.00	=33	75.00	=28	11 11 -
Casino	0 of 0	0.00	=33	74.45	31	24 22 -2
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	4 of 4	62.96	29	54.93	54	27 27 -
Coomera Valley	0 of 0	0.00	=33	68.33	40	26 28 +2
Glen Innes	5 of 5	78.26	14	74.63	30	30 31 +1
Goondiwindi	0 of 0	0.00	=33	69.85	38	31 28 -3
Goonellabah	0 of 0	0.00	=33	77.00	=22	22 24 +2
Grafton	0 of 0	0.00	=33	68.03	=42	31 30 -1
Grafton Middy	0 of 0	0.00	=33	58.68	52	33 31 -2
Hope Island	5 of 5	84.42	10	67.20	45	34 44+10
Iluka	0 of 0	0.00	=33	73.10	34	14 12 -2
Jimboomba	0 of 0	0.00	=33	68.12	41	29 27 -2
Kingscliff	0 of 0	0.00	=33	90.05	4	15 14 -1
Kirra Currumbin	4 of 4	92.00	4	76.82	24	14 12 -2
Kyogle	5 of 5	77.40	17	87.89	6	12 13 +1
Lismore	5 of 5	95.46	2	95.08	2	22 22 -
Lismore Central	0 of 0	0.00	=33	70.77	36	15 17 +2
Lismore West	0 of 0	0.00	=33	97.36	1	42 44 +2
Maclean	4 of 4	91.45	5	84.37	10	43 48 +5
Mermaid Beach	5 of 5	86.40	=7	82.20	12	24 24 -
Mt Warning AM Murwillumbah	5 of 5	85.40	9	77.04	21	26 26 -
Mudgeeraba	5 of 5	83.27	11	77.00	=22	25 25 -
Mullumbimby	0 of 0	0.00	=33	77.22	20	22 23 +1
Murwillumbah	0 of 0	0.00	=33	75.00	=28	36 36 -
Murwillumbah Central	5 of 5	100.00	1	94.56	3	34 37 +3
Nerang	0 of 0	0.00	=33	83.27	11	23 20 -3
Palm Beach	4 of 4	66.17	26	76.64	25	23 23 -
Parkwood	5 of 5	62.60	30	66.12	46	27 25 -2
Robina	5 of 5	68.00	24	55.14	53	13 9 -4
Runaway Bay	4 of 5	78.20	15	80.76	15	42 42 -
Southport	0 of 0	0.00	=33	69.50	39	42 43 +1
Southport North	5 of 5	77.77	16	70.19	37	22 22 -
Stanthorpe	4 of 4	80.00	13	82.05	13	44 44 -
Summerland Sunrise	0 of 0	0.00	=33	79.94	16	16 19 +3
Surfers Paradise	4 of 5	61.03	31	61.16	51	48 37 -11
Surfers Paradise Central	4 of 4	59.57	32	65.65	47	54 56 +2
Surfers Paradise West	0 of 0	0.00	=33	76.63	26	28 32 +4
Surfers Sunrise	5 of 5	67.33	25	63.73	50	35 30 -5
Tamborine Mountain	4 of 4	77.27	18	86.43	7	12 11 -1
Tenterfield	5 of 5	81.70	12	85.53	9	24 21 -3
Tweed Heads South	4 of 4	77.10	19	77.34	19	16 19 +3
Warwick	5 of 5	75.00	21	79.51	17	17 16 -1
Warwick Sunrise	0 of 0	0.00	=33	68.00	=42	22 18 -4
Yamba	5 of 5	71.70	23	77.77	18	14 16 +2
Totals				1484	1484	-

DID YOU KNOW ...??

Information Resources for New Club Officers

Did you know that the Club and District Support (CDS) staff at Rotary International serves as your primary contact at the RI Headquarters? They are ready to answer almost any question you may have about Rotary, and can provide you with advice on such topics as club elections, constitutional matters, club operations, and RI Board policy.

Do you know who your CDS representative is? Your representative can be found on the web at: <http://www.rotary.org/support/CDAreps/index.html>.

Have you seen some of our web resources that will make it easier for you to administer your club?

- Helpful resources have been designed specifically for club presidents and secretaries. A copy is attached, and it can also be found on the Rotary web site at: http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/club_pres_sec_resources.pdf.
- Learn how you can make changes to your club's membership records, reference various Rotary Foundation reports, pay your club's dues online, and report next year's club officers using Member Access. Full instructions and helpful suggestions can be found on the web at: <https://riweb.rotaryintl.org/faq.asp>.
- You can find a selection of important club administration publications, including audiovisual programs, club software, forms and supplies on the web at: <http://shop.rotary.org/catalog/default.php?cPath=37>
- The Club President's Checklist is a month to-month calendar, for the club president and president-elect, with reminders about important club and district functions, as well as RI and Rotary Foundation program due dates. Find it at http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/pres_checklist.pdf.
- The Club Leadership Plan is a great new way to invigorate stagnant clubs. It is based on the best practices of effective Rotary clubs. You can find this plan on the web at: <http://www.rotary.org/support/club/clubplan.html>



The RI Secretariat staff looks forward to working with you and supporting your club's service efforts in the year ahead. Be sure to contact your CDS representative whenever you may need help from RI Headquarters!

THE DISTRICT HISTORIAN A new position?

Not new, but an old position revived. For many years this position was very capably filled by the late Tub Nardi of Lismore Central and Bob Harslett of Stanthorpe but regrettably has lapsed during recent years. DG Douglas has seen fit to re-institute the office, and for my sins, has asked me to fill this position.

As a result, I am now asking all Clubs and District Committees to forward me copies of their annual reports for the year 2005 – 2006. I do not require Club Bulletins, unless they document a special occasion, special project, etc.

Reports can be forwarded to Rotn. Tony Hayes, 37 Sutherland St, Kingscliff, NSW 2487.

Many thanks,
DGN Tony Hayes

MEET SUZANNE



Suzanne Geekie is working hard to support Douglas in the year ahead. She looks forward to meeting members and their partner as she and Douglas travel around the District.

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (G.S.E.)

CHAIRMAN

Col Makin
Broadbeach 0755 399 513 (H)

COMMITTEE

DG Douglas Geekie
Surfers Paradise West 07 5510 8033 (H)

Suzanne Geekie
Surfers Paradise West 07 5510 8033 (H)

PDG John Tregurtha
Glen Innes 02 6732 3080 (H)

DDG Brian Wheatley
Lismore 02 6629 3404 (H)

Ian Wilson
Ashmore 07 5539 1862 (H)

Stephen Tancred
Stanthorpe 07 4681 2931 (H)

Des Roberts
Southport 07 5594 5471 (H)

Ed Ahern
Nerang 07 5537 7909 (H)

Bruce Perri
Goondiwindi 07 4671 2524 (H)

Bob and Greville handing over the \$5000 cheque for Sailability to

SAILABILITY CHEQUE



buy a new boat.



Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise West

Service, friendship & fun!

We are a community-minded club, proud to have made a difference to our local and international communities. Our meetings at the Gold Coast Arts Centre are always lively and we enjoy entertaining visitors with our unique welcome song and its user-friendly 'walkabout'.

Youth

At Griffith University our Ernie Hicks Scholarship provides funding to high achievers with family and financial restraints. We participate in YEP with John Campbell's committee, each year welcoming an exchange student into our lives. Our financial contributions help special needs students at Benowa State School and we are proud to sponsor 17 year old Tameka Butt's amazing international soccer career, also students attending RYLA, RYPEN, NYSF, SSE, MUNA, RYPEN etc.

Community

As developers and managers of the Rotary Village at Labrador, we provide and maintain 12 homes for people in need. This year we installed a new TV receiver system and air conditioning. Our annual Bush Dance, with additional funding from AMP led to a \$10,000 donation to the Southport Women's Refuge. We donated \$5,000 via the Rotary Club of Innisfail for the victims of Cyclone Larry and \$5,000 for the Rotary Centenary Gardens. With additional financial support from AMP we gave \$2,000 to the Queensland Royal Blind Foundation plus donations to Careflight, Nobby Beach SLSC and others.

International

Our largest project this year was co-ordinating the Australian portion of a global project involving 21 clubs in 5 countries, bringing clean drinking water to 200,000 people in Niger. Surfers Paradise West Rotary Club contributed US\$4,500 out of a total District 9640 amount of US\$12,172. In other projects we provided 3 Shelter Boxes to Kashmir at a cost of \$3,600, plus a fourth to Java; \$2,000 to the Australia Cambodia Children's Village; sponsored 3 children in Indonesia via the Rotary Australia World Community Service. and funded the purchase of teaching aids for schools in Vietnam and Tanzania. ROMAC's expansion 'North of the Border' was instigated by PP Stan Shneider and carried on by active members Bryan Mason, Jill Ellis, Dr Darrell Price and Phil Rosenberg.

Vocational

Our vocational visits took us to Q1, a whale watching business and a behind-the-scenes peek at running 5000 hotel rooms. Our very successful Pride of Workmanship Awards gave recognition to six deserving recipients at a sell-out event.

Service, Fun, Fellowship and Fund Raising

We excel when we combine our 'Service, Friendship & Fun' motto with fund-raising, to give our members a good time with our social events! Our club visited Vietnam, had a wonderful time, stumbled upon an extremely poor school and bought the children equipment for lessons and their playground. The annual ROMAC Trivia Challenge (see top left) with over 250 Rotarians from 17 Rotary clubs raised over \$11,000. At an Evening with Elvis, Honorary Rotarian Dean Vegas donated his amazing talent, (see below left) raising \$5,400.



Past President Kathy, host mother Julie Lander with exchange student Reece, YEP councillor John Campbell and President/host father John Lander with Reece's Picturegraph of her stay in Oz

The very popular Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, our Phantom Melbourne Cup, Bad Taste Earrings and Ties night, incorporating a wine tasting competition are great occasions and fun! And how could we exist without the many shows we attend in Brisbane and the Gold Coast, the fun Board meetings at members' homes that often continue into the wee small hours, the raffles, the sausage sizzles

Oh, there's one more ... We're proud to be the home club of your new District Governor Douglas Geekie. "Aha" you may be thinking, "No wonder they're the first club to be featured on the back page!" Yes, it's true, and now we look forward to reading about your clubs in future editions.

Reporter Rtn Phil Rosenberg



Potential Soccerroo star Tamika Butt

