

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

September is Youth Month and our District is blessed with many and varied youth programmes.

All clubs through their New Generation (Youth) committees focus their Club members on the youth adopted programmes. The District Coordinator for New Generations (Youth) is PP Margaret Grummit.

As Rotarians we all appreciate the value and importance of all of our Youth Programmes – after all, our youth of today includes our leaders and Rotarians of tomorrow.

Youth Programmes in our District include:

- * **Youth Exchange Program** – this year we have 23 outbound and inbound students.
- * **National Youth Science Forum**
- * **Siemens Science Experience**
- * **Honeywell Engineering Summer School**
- * **Model United Nations Assembly**
- * **Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment**
- * **Rotary Youth Transition Seminar**
- * **InterAct**

InterAct

The Rotary Club of Coomera Valley has in this current year chartered two new InterAct Clubs; one at Upper Coomera State College, the other at St Stephen's College. They provide an unique opportunity for students at both these schools to experience and understand the benefits of being involved in community service projects.



St Stephen's College Interact President, Tamara Dorrington with DG Douglas Geekie

Douglas I Geekie

District Certification

A responsibility that attaches to Club involvement in Youth Programmes is the need for the Club to be certified to RI Standards. I have previously advised that our District has been certified (accredited in Australian terms) and we now have a task to ensure that all our Clubs are certified. Accordingly, the chairman of YEP, PP John Anstey and Margaret Grummit have arranged for Club training to be held at three locations:

Sunday 15 October – Grafton : venue TBA – all Clubs Ballina / Lismore and to the South and out to Glen Innes

Saturday 21 October – Warwick : venue TBA – Clubs to the west of Jimboomba down to Tenterfield

Sunday 29 October – Gold Coast : venue Robina State High School – remaining D9640 Clubs

John will be communicating to all Club Presidents directly over the next few days – this training is not a matter of maybe – all Clubs need to be certified to participate in Youth Programmes.



InterAct students at Upper Coomera State College (left) and St Stephen's College (below)



Suicide Prevention

On Sunday last I was privileged to attend in part the Suicide Prevention seminar at Robina. It was a most worthwhile seminar coordinated in conjunction with our District Suicide Committee by Rtn Raylee Taylor of the Coomera Valley Club. Raylee was that day awarded a Life Award for Suicide Prevention Australia as part of the Healthy Communities Award. That presentation was made at Government House in Sydney, NSW.



Raylee Taylor
of the District
Suicide
Prevention
Committee,



Congratulations and appreciation from all members of the District is extended to Raylee for her continuing efforts in this most important community work.

50 years in Rotary

At my visit to the joint Warwick Rotary clubs this week I had the privilege to present a certificate of 50 years of membership to Don Crook (see below). Don, who is a retired primary producer, qualified accountant and musician (singer and organist) has been a loyal member of the Club.



New PROBUS Club

Congratulations are extended to President Sandra Doumany and her fellow Club members of the Hope Island Rotary Club (the District's youngest club) for their efforts in establishing a new PROBUS Club.

The charter meeting was held at 1000 hours on Wednesday September 13, and in excess of 55 charter members voted and resolved to establish the "Hope Island PROBUS Club".



The Charter President, a former Rotarian from the UK, Malcolm Phillipps is supported by 10 enthusiastic Board members.

Our District Chairman for PROBUS Barry Slocum assisted the Hope Island Team in getting the new Club across the line. A job really well done. Could I encourage all Clubs to consider promoting and facilitating a PROBUS club in their area – it is a great way to serve our senior citizens who are increasing at a significant rate in our communities.

Douglas Geekie DG 9640



The Hope Island PROBUS Club

MUNA

Fellows, I recently had the pleasure of attending the Model United Nations Assembly at Old Parliament House, Canberra.

There were some 70 delegates from high schools from Wagga Wagga, Rose Bay, Sale Central, Pambula, Deloraine and Ourimbah. Students came from Districts 9640, 9750, 9670, 9690, 9800 and 9810 to join the many students from District 9710.

The MUNA, held at Old Parliament House Canberra, is a project of the Canberra Sunrise Rotary Club and has been conducted by them for many years. Similar MUNAs are conducted by other Districts throughout Australia and in the wider world.

The Hague International Model United Nations has been conducted at The Hague for some 39 years and some students from Australia are accepted to attend. These students then seek support, often financial, to enable them to attend.

Approaches for financial assistance have been made recently by students who have been accepted as delegates to THIMUN to Rotary Clubs in the Canberra area .

THIMUN is a genuine project which is supported by the *United Nations Youth Association of Australia* and requests for financial assistance are accompanied by a letter of support from our Prime Minister, Mr John Howard.

What should be clear to Clubs when considering these requests is that THIMUN is NOT a project of Rotary and is not directly associated with the Rotary MUNA program operated by the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise, District 9710.

Sue Randel



The two girls we sent to National MUNA were chosen as one of 3 winning teams with equal placings. Our girls had chosen Iran and they did exceptionally well.

I have also since been advised, that to the best of everyone's knowledge this win is a first at National for our District. So we all deserve a pat on the back (well I think we do anyway) ... We are a team and we all did "our bit", especially committee people.

*The girls are: **Kristen von Saldern** age 15 from Southport State High School (Principal is Rtn Rob Stones of Broadwater Southport Club) and **Katherine Mansted** age 15 from Somerset College.*

Somerset College also won the MUNA shield this year.



*Kristen von Saldern (above) and
Katherine Mansted (top)*

Broadwater Southport club agreed to sponsor the teacher who acted as chaperone to the girls for the week-end. She was Bella Mason of Southport State High. So I think it was a great outcome all round., as each team member represented D9640 to the very best of their abilities.

Sue Randel

MUNA 2007 will be on Sat. 10 March 2007.

Students selected to attend the National Youth Science Forum in January 2007



Thank you to the following people who helped in the selections: Linda Jackson (Beaudesert); Mark Jackson (Beaudesert); Pat Jeffords (Robina); Steve Paterson (Robina); Lyn Paterson (Robina); Sue Milsom (Burleigh Heads); Michael Hart (Burleigh Heads); Lucy McDermott (Burleigh Heads); Eric Stevens (Burleigh Heads); John McDonald (Surfers Paradise Central); Judy Aitken (Kingscliffe); Ian Aitken (Kingscliffe); Bella Douglas (Kingscliffe); Carla Ulakovic (Amb. Scholar).

We had 45 students register online; we interviewed 28 and selected 12 to attend the forum. Emily McCredden and Rebecca Curran are reserves if the following can't make it.

Session A

Kathleen Bakon, Somerset College, Qld (Ashmore)
Mairin Lawrence, Grafton High School, NSW (Grafton)
Trent McIntyre, Ballina High School, NSW (Ballina)
Emma Riles, St Joseph's College, NSW (Tweed Heads S)
Anthony Strickland, Clifton State High School, Qld (Allora)
Tsjatsja Westerveld, Somerset College, Qld (Mudgeeraba)

Session B

Lauren Beynon, All Saints Anglican School, Qld (Broadbeach)
Emily McCredden, Kooralbyn International School, Qld (Beaudesert)
Mathew Merryweather, Kingscliff High School, NSW (Kingscliff)
James Sheeran, Scots PGC College, Qld (Warwick)
Sherie Sunderland, Tweed River High School, NSW (Palm Beach)
Jessie Wilson, Coomera Anglican College, Qld (Surfers Paradise)



Alstonville Board change

PP Gordon King has taken on the role of Vice President and Rotary Foundation Rep as a dual role, replacing Col Kenway, who has resigned for personal reasons, as advised by our President, Bob Gordon of the Rotary Club of Alstonville.

Barry Pratt

DISTRICT SECRETARY'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2006

Many thanks to clubs for making the effort to provide attendance figures as it assists in demonstrating to Rotary International that we are committed to Rotary and we are on the ball. My thanks also to District Attendance Officer Ian Wilson for his efforts.

At this stage of the Rotary year, all clubs should have:

- forwarded their RI dues to Parramatta office
- forwarded their District dues to the District Treasurer
- paid their Club dues

Please ensure you honour all of your financial obligations as our wonderful work cannot be sustained without the necessary financial support.

Club Presidents and Secretaries should also have completed reporting requirements to the Department of Fair Trading in NSW and the Department of Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development in Queensland, together with any late lodgement fee.

Additionally there should be a clear idea of who will become your President-elect as that decision needs to be made by December 2006 and announced at your Annual General Meeting, which will need to be concluded by mid-December 2006 and, preferably, held in November 2006 if you can manage it.

In the meantime go on, get out there and *Lead the Way* in every good thing you do.

Steven Gill
District Secretary 9640

Beaudesert welcomes three in one night

The induction of 3 new members on the one night: Warren Eyers, Paul Sheffield and Ray Turner were inducted by President Mark Bermingham on 25 July 2006 at the Rotary Club of Beaudesert. Howz'at for Leading the Way into August's Membership month?



OVERSEAS VISITORS MEET NGOORABUL PEOPLE



At a Rotary Foundation Seminar at the University of Queensland in Brisbane earlier this year, PDG Trigger and Jean Tregurtha were made aware of two Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars wanting to meet with an indigenous community living within a white Australian community. Trigger suggested that a visit to Glen Innes might provide the opportunity these scholars were seeking, and offered to see what could be arranged.

So at the end of August, Trigger and Jean brought to Glen Innes six Ambassadorial Scholars, representing the UK, Canada, Germany and the USA, Rotary Peace Scholar, Fernanda, from Argentina, and one past Ambassadorial Scholar from Sweden about to start a year teaching at Bond University.

The next day began at the High School, where they observed an indigenous art class in progress, then visited the Ngorabul Lands Council, where they were welcomed by Ronald Byrne, entertained in song by Megan Cutmore, served morning tea, and shown a locally produced video of some of the elders.

The visitors were joined at lunchtime by Aboriginal Sites Officer, Bruce Cohen and Alan Weatherall of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Bruce showed them locations and pictures of sites sacred to the Ngorabul People. He also brought various artefacts and tools used by the original Australians, explaining how tribes traded with each other using such items in payment. Besides playing the didgeridoo, Alan also explained their spirituality, including the story of the Rainbow Serpent, and how they regard the earth as their "mother".

"I have to say that the co-operation we received from the High School, the Ngorabul Elders and their Land Council, and employees of the National

Parks and Wild Service was as instant as it was generous," Trigger said. "Adele Chapman-Burgess was quick to offer the visitors an opportunity to visit her Aboriginal Culture Art Class, while Rosemary Curtis arranged for a morning tea and a chat with the local elders at the Lands Council. We also received instant and similar co-operation from the NPWS staff."

That evening being a Monday, the visitors were made welcome at the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Glen Innes, where they were enthusiastically welcomed by over 50 members and guests. Clare Wood from the UK represented the group after dinner. Clare not only thanked the club for their invitation and The Rotary Foundation for making it possible for them all to have a year of post-graduate study in Australia, but she also outlined the Ambassadorial Scholarship programme in some detail. As one of the first Foundation programmes since 1947, nearly 37,000 students from 100 nations have studied abroad as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars. To-day it is the world's largest privately funded international scholarships programme.

"Since arriving in Australia in February this year," Clare said, "I have had a lot of involvement with Rotary. One of my favourite achievements so far has to be helping out with the Northern Region's Donations in Kind programme. I have spent two Saturday mornings at the Rotary Wacol warehouse packing containers with goods ranging from medical to educational supplies. I have also been able to participate in a weekend trip away to Goondiwindi with my host club, the Rotary Club of Kippa Ring."

Clare concluded with a personal tribute to Rotarians all over the world. "I wish to say thank you very much to each of you for supporting me," she said. "It's the money you contribute to the Foundation that has allowed me to be here today. I am working hard and certainly trying to do my best to be an Ambassadorial Scholar for Rotary International worldwide to remember and be proud of."



DG Club visits for September

- 4 Tweed Heads South
- 5 Broadbeach
- 6 Ashmore
- 8 Broadwater Southport
Surfers Paradise Central
- 11 Lismore
- 12 Warwick/Warwick Sunrise
- 13 Alstonville
- 18 Allora
- 19 Jimboomba
- 20 Lismore
- 25 Grafton
- 26 Yamba
- 27 Southport North



David Randall, President of Southport Rotary Club with DG Douglas Geekie on 22 Sept. at Southport Yacht Club



L to R Keith Robson, Gary Wachter, Don Dineen, District PR Director Diana Todd-Banks, DG Douglas, Beverly Blythe Bailey, Graham Jones



Surfers Paradise Central President Warren Walmsley with DG Douglas Geekie and guest speaker, Perry Cross on 8 Sept. at the Courtyard Marriott, Surfers Paradise

Getting a Thirst for Knowledge in the Bush



On 26 September, 100 school children from South East Queensland will head almost 1200km inland to the Outback for a lesson in water conservation, thanks to a specially funded trip, organised and run by the Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise Central.

The Beach to Bush program will educate the 12 to 14 year olds on the importance of preserving the country's dwindling natural resources during a week-long outback experience.

The highlight of the trip will be an overnight camp at the remote Bimbah Station, where each child will have to make do with only two litres of water. Rotarian Don Stalker, who is personally directing the program, assisted by more than twenty club members, will introduce the city children to many other aspects of rural life during their stay in Longreach.

"Throughout the week," Don says, "we'll visit the Stockman's Hall of Fame, Qantas Museum, School of Distance Education and Longreach Agricultural College to learn about Longreach's rich history. The children will also take part in traditional outback activities such as whip cracking, sheep shearing, damper making and boomerang throwing."

The Beach to Bush program is run by the Surfers Paradise Central Club with support from the Queensland Government through Queensland Rail, McDonald's Family Restaurants and Network Ten. A documentary, to be televised nationally, will be made by Network Ten. This follows the success of a similar initiative hosted three years ago when 350 children from Longreach were taken to Brisbane and the Gold Coast for the holiday of a lifetime.

A return visit will be made by Longreach children to Brisbane and the Gold Coast in January 2007.

Don is calling on Rotary Clubs and the district offices of the Department of Education to work together with regional schools in selecting 350 local children aged between 12 and 14 to take part in the program. Rotary Clubs in the Longreach region keen to help are encouraged to email Don on <dstalker@ozemail.com.au>.

ROTARY DISTRICT 9640

Membership and Attendance July 2006



New PHF at Murwillumbah Central

Rotarian Peter Eugene Sochacki joins the ranks of PHFs at Murwillumbah Central. That's two this year (the other being Barry Lloyd Lack, at President David Vickers-Shand's Changeover).

Going bananas!

We were disappointed that you didn't come. It was a great night ...



In the Banana Festival Queen competition, our entrant, Stacey Gilmore, won Miss Photogenic and she won the Ticket Selling Prize. And incidentally our Float won the Category 2 Prize in the Grand Parade. So Murwillumbah Central had a good day in the Parade and at the Ball. *D Vickers-Shand*

Burleigh Heads First Remnant & Recycled Building Materials Auction

A new fundraiser is to be staged in the carpark at the Boss Institute in Kortum Drive, Burleigh Heads. Burleigh Heads Rotary Club will be staging its first Auction of Remnant and Recycled Building Materials. Goods can be inspected from 7.00am and the Auction commences at 7.30am. All goods will be sold. The emphasis is on clearing them so come along and bag a bargain. The Club hopes that this will become a regular event.

Australian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians Annual Tournament

Warrnambool and Port Fairy

19 - 23 March 2007

Entries close 18 January 2007 For further information contact David Richards:

ph 03 5561 1840

<david.richards@westnet.com.au> or go to www.rcw.org.au and follow links to AGFR

Rotary Club of	Attendance		Membership		
	July %	year %	1.07.06	31.07.06	
Allora	84.00	84.00	11	13	2
Alstonville	no report		24	24	
Ashmore	87.00	87.00	38	38	
Ballina	75.90	75.90	34	33	-1
Ballina-on-Richmond	70.83	70.83	25	25	
Beaudesert	93.00	93.00	26	28	2
Boonah	82.83	82.83	42	42	
Broadbeach	64.66	64.66	54	54	
Broadwater-Southport	81.38	81.38	28	29	1
Burleigh Heads	61.29	61.29	31	31	
Byron Bay	77.00	77.00	11	11	
Casino	78.33	78.33	22	20	-2
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	70.83	70.83	24	24	
Coomera Valley	54.00	54.00	26	25	-1
Glen Innes	74.78	74.78	31	31	
Goondiwindi	70.30	70.30	26	23	-3
Goonellabah	72.00	72.00	24	24	
Grafton	70.00	70.00	28	26	-2
Grafton Midday	57.41	57.41	29	29	
Hope Island	62.20	62.20	39	41	2
Iluka	95.00	95.00	11	10	-1
Jimboomba	70.30	70.30	27	27	
Kingscliff	90.63	90.63	13	13	
Kirra Currumbin	77.00	77.00	12	12	
Kyogle	75.00	75.00	13	13	
Lismore	80.61	80.61	22	21	-1
Lismore Central	89.00	89.00	16	16	
Lismore West	98.87	98.87	44	44	
Maclean	85.16	85.16	48	48	
Mermaid Beach	81.50	81.50	24	24	
Mt Warning AM	82.69	82.69	26	26	
Mudgeeraba	88.75	88.75	24	24	
Mullumbimby	84.50	84.50	21	21	
Murwillumbah	80.00	80.00	36	36	
Murwillumbah Central	99.30	99.30	38	38	
Nerang	95.00	95.00	20	20	
Palm Beach	74.38	74.38	23	23	
Parkwood	57.00	57.00	24	26	2
Robina	86.00	86.00	9	11	2
Runaway Bay	72.20	72.20	42	42	
Southport	74.00	74.00	43	42	-1
Southport North	72.20	72.20	22	22	
Stanthorpe	77.02	77.02	44	44	
Summerland Sunrise	no report		19	19	
Surfers Paradise	53.82	53.82	38	36	-2
Surfers Paradise Central	56.72	56.72	53	54	1
Surfers Paradise West	85.00	85.00	31	28	-3
Surfers Sunrise	71.66	71.66	30	30	
Tamborine Mountain	69.09	69.09	11	11	
Tenterfield	87.00	87.00	21	22	1
Tweed Heads South	75.30	75.30	17	17	
Warwick	79.20	79.20	17	17	
Warwick Sunrise	89.00	89.00	18	18	
Yamba	74.16	74.16	16	16	
Totals			1446	1442	-4



Nerang turns to local issues with Heritage Walk

This year we are concentrating our efforts in the local Nerang area. The prime reason for this attitude is to boost the image of Rotary in the local community.

We obtain the vast majority of our income from this community and if we can show them that if they support Rotary, then their support is returned into their community with benefits to themselves and others that they live and probably work with.

Currently we are working with the Gold Coast City Council on a "Heritage Walk" around Nerang and this should become reality over the next four months.

Our next project is to accent Youth Issues in Nerang, and this is our reasoning behind wanting to involve Youth in the District Conference next April.

Grahame Ward

President, Rotary Club of Nerang, Inc



The water well the Rotary Club of Nerang provided in India in 2005. Simon McDonald was President that year.

District Directory Addition

Pat Fleming, Rotary Club of Ashmore
PO Box 1516, Oxenford 4210
ph (w) 07 5502 7418 (h) 07 5591 3503
mb 0438 436 704 fx 07 5502 7538
em patf@proudaccountants.com.au
or patf1215@optusnet.com.au

Editor's note

Closing date for the October DG newsletter is **2 October** : <carolcheshire@mac.com>

Please ensure all photos are good definition. I can reduce the size to fit, but can't enlarge them without loss of quality.

Thanks. Carol Cheshire



Anyone know this pin?

I came across a Rotary pin in the estate of a PDG and wonder if anyone knows the origin of the design. I am a Rotary memorabilia collector and like to know the stories behind the items. The pin is shown here beside an average paper clip for size comparison.

Can anyone throw any light on the matter?

Peter Brown

A BIG thank you!

Thanks to your help the Australian Rotary Health Fund received a record level of donations of \$1.7 million for 2005-2006. District 9640 contributed \$112,040.00 towards this marvellous total.



The Fund proposes to spend over \$3.5 million on research and its other activities in the coming year.

In our 25th Anniversary Year we gained 462 new Friends of the Fund giving us a total of 4052 Friends.

We applaud the initiative of immediate Past Governor Arthur Manser who used his conference surplus to make his 54 presidents Friends of the Fund.

We now also have 366 Companions, 90 Gold Companions and 24 Corporate Companions. As well, we have confirmed 25 Wills indicating a bequest to ARHRF.

In 2006 we were able to make 18 Research Grants into Mental Illness and as well we had 2 Post Doctoral Fellows (Royce Abbey Fellow and Geoffrey Betts Fellow) and 9 Ian Scott PhD Scholars .

Funding Partners was enthusiastically taken up by clubs and districts and we had 20 PhD Scholars and 8 Research Grants researching a wide variety of diseases and medical conditions.

Indigenous Health Scholarships reached a record level of 58 and we now have some 40 graduates from this program.

2007 is shaping up to be an even more exciting year as your Fund embraces a number of new initiatives in response to the needs of the Australian community.

Joy Gillett

Australian Rotary Health Research Fund





HAPPENINGS WITHIN CLUSTER 4

We are now into the second month of the new Rotary Year and I would like to report on various 'happenings' within my Cluster.



Tweed Heads South has been busy. The Club has had good Guest Speakers and I hear that its Christmas in July was a great success, as was a fellowship breakfast at a member's home and a Tugun Theatre evening. In addition the members have had contact from a past German exchange student who, through the Web, discovered Coolangatta Tweed Heads' new website. Congratulations to Libby Holcomb who gave birth to daughter, Katie, 9 weeks ago.



Kirra Currumbin, which over the years has supported Road Safety, organized an evening for the general community and various Rotary Clubs to hear Russell White from the Holden Performance Driving Centre talk and demonstrate safe driving techniques. The evening was a great success with many questions being answered effectively by Russell.



Mullumbimby moved its dinner meeting off-site to the Victory Hotel in Mooball for a change, with partners and friends invited. The evening was a Mystery Box Auction. Rotarian Russell Siwicki, a professional Auctioneer, worked the 40 and more guests into a fantastic buying mood. With the boxes being good value for money, the fundraising result was treble what was hoped for.



Palm Beach once again held its mid-year 3-day Antique Show at the Waterways Centre, Broadbeach. I was very impressed with the various displays and it was fun to see club member Virginia and a friend parading clothes from earlier in the last century. President Peter certainly looked the part with his white apron on behind the coffee machine, busy churning out cappuccinos. The members are now preparing for the big yearly event at Jupiters Casino in January 2007. Congratulations to the two new members inducted last Monday, Palm Beach's 30th Birthday.



Burleigh Heads put together a Charity Golf Day held at Kooralbyn Resort Golf Club. Teams attended from Mudgeeraba and Robina. What a great day it was — the weather was perfect, lots of laughter could be heard across the fairways, one lady hit her ball, which travelled along the tail of a kangaroo, up his back, through his ears and onto the Green!! Naturally she was awarded a special prize. All teams are looking forward to a repeat event.



Coolangatta Tweed Heads held its fifth successful Galaxy of Stars in the Showroom at Twin Towns. The roomful of Rotarians, guests and friends enjoyed a wonderful mix of performers singing their way through the afternoon. The effort to put an event like this together is to be applauded. The event is a major fundraiser for the Club.

Continuing to "Lead the Way" by having lots of fun and fellowship,

AG Loraine Pearce
Cluster 4 D9640

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