



Rotary International District 9640
Governor's Letter
Number 4, Sunday 25 Aug. 2002

District 9640
Governor 2002/2003
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Favourite Websites

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

District 9640
<http://rotary9640.org>

Rotary Down Under
<http://rotarnet.com.au>

Brisbane Convention
www.rotary2003.org

From the Governor's Desk

Drought conditions in New South Wales and Queensland are quite desperate and deteriorating more rapidly than anyone expected.

Farmers can keep buying stock feed as long as they can afford it but buying water is a different matter. It would cost thousands of dollars daily to provide drinking water for cattle as fast as they need it.

These two states have 60% of their shires experiencing the dry.

What makes this drought different is that the city is feeling its impact just as severely as is the bush.

Sprinklers on the Gold Coast are banned and beachside showers in the nation's fastest growing city have been turned off.

Yet, cities in southern Russia and central Europe are being devastated by flood waters.

Thousands of people in the ancient city of Dresden and surrounding areas fled their homes this week to escape the deadly floodwaters along the fast rising Elbe River.

Efforts to save historic buildings in Dresden and the hinterland have been abandoned.

Mud slides are reported in Nepal as are tragic dam bursts in China. International News broadcasts seem to highlight such tragedy.

Where does this serious degree of need, around the planet, leave us as Rotarians?

Rotarians are responsible. This is the spelling that Stephen Covey uses in his book "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People". Respons-able as in "able to respond".

We are challenged by this need around the world but not hamstrung by it. We respond in the best way we can at all times – as we must.



How do we respond on these special occasions? Covey's fifth habit guides us in this regard – "**Seek first to understand - then to be understood**".

We must seek the best advice we can from those who know. Equally, we must avoid imposing an opinion on what it is we believe they may need.

Ross Smith

District Resolutions 2002/2003

Resolutions to District Conference must be submitted to the District Governor prior to the Conference.

Accordingly I wish to advise clubs that the closing date for submission for consideration of Resolutions for District Conference is to be: **Friday 4 October '02**

After receipt of these the Governor will arrange to have them to each club to allow six weeks for their discussion by members prior to the Conference.

Natty Notions - Club

R C of Summerland Sunrise regularly has a "**RAT**" session at its breakfast meetings. RAT stands for **Rotary Acronym Time**. Each week a member chooses an acronym and enlarges upon it for the enlightenment of all members. A clever and quick educational Rotary awareness-raiser.

R C of Murwillumbah has designed and printed a professional and polished **Postcard** for the International Toastmaker at its weekly meetings. The photo is a stunning one of the area and the reverse has some words of greeting from the President to the President and members of the toasted club.

The toast maker simply completes the necessary information in the "blanks", fills out the address and drops it in the mail.

This is an easy, achievable and well thought-through international project for goodwill at the club-to-club level.

Rotary Centennial Community Projects

As Rotary's 100th anniversary on 23 February 2005 approaches, it is not too early for your club to begin planning for the grand celebration.



In the next few months, Rotary clubs are urged to plan a new community service project that will commemorate Rotary's 2005 Centennial.

To participate in this effort, clubs must register their project with RI by 1 Jan 2003 using the online registration form. All projects must be completed by February 2005.

To qualify as a Rotary Centennial Project, clubs must meet the following criteria:

- Fulfill a clearly identifiable need
- Provide a solution that has measurable results
- Involve the active participation of Rotarians
- Create a permanent sign, plaque or inscription at the project site that identifies both the sponsoring Rotary Club and Rotary's Centennial Year.

Projects that meet these criteria will be publicly recognised at the 2005 Convention in

Chicago and in major RI publications.

Ambassadorial Guest Speaker

Ambassadorial Scholar and Paul Harris Fellow **Lynne Adams** is an excellent guest speaker for clubs.

She is from Jacksonville Florida and is studying at Bond University this year.

She does not have transport and this would need to be arranged for her. She has offered to speak to as many members as possible during her stay with us. Her contact details are:

lynne_adams@hotmail.com

I would commend her to all club program directors. She lives at Robina.

Macdonalds Polio Tray Mat Promotion

Some 720 Macdonalds Family Restaurants around Australia have utilised more than four million tray mats, commencing 16 August, promoting Rotary's Polio Awareness Week in September.

This promotional opportunity has been secured by Rotary's Australian Corporate Alliance Program (ACAP) and was announced in Sydney on 21 July.

This has been as a direct result of the challenge from Rotary International for all Rotary Clubs and Districts to conduct

one final fundraising drive to eradicate polio from the planet..

RI Director John Thorne has promoted the concept of Rotary Clubs using Awareness Week activities to promote and assist the final fundraising efforts for Polio Eradication.

"In line with RI President Bhichai's policy, major programs such as Rotary Awareness must start at club or grass roots level."

Queensland Cancer Fund Relay for Life

The Queensland Cancer Fund may approach clubs about supporting its Relay for Life promotion for 2003/2003 in the near future.

I understand that it has the potential to be a sound fellowship opportunity as well as taking the opportunity to recognise the courage and determination of cancer survivors as well as the impact on the community and its families.

Rotary clubs in the USA and Australia have been strong supporters of this project. Individual clubs would need consider this project within their annual planning cycle.

Attendance Top Ten July 2002

95% RC of Lismore

94% RC of Beaudesert
93% RC of Nerang
90% RC of Boonah
89% RC of Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah)
89% RC of Mermaid Beach
89% RC of Warwick Sunrise
87% RC of Mullumbimby
86% RC of Ashmore
86% RC of Murwillumbah Central

Paul Harris Fellows

Kerrie Ellis
RC of Summerland Sunrise

Margaret Hayes
R C of Kingscliff

Doug Lavers-McBain
R C of Beaudesert

Graeme Budd
R C of Grafton Midday
Terry Bradley
R C of Jimboomba

New Members

A warm welcome to:
Ann Brownjohn
RC of Mt Warning AM
Leonie Huggins
RC of Mt Warning AM
Peter Jones
R C of Jimboomba
Phillip Yates
RC of Tenterfield
Brian Murray
RC of Tenterfield
Graham Braid
RC of Tenterfield



DG Official Visits

26 Aug Stanthorpe
2 Sep Surfers Paradise
3 Sep Jimboomba

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