



Rotary International District 9640
Governor's Letter
Number 8, Sunday 20 Oct. 2002

District 9640
Governor 2002/2003
Ross Smith
32 George Street
BURLEIGH HEADS
Queensland 4220
AUSTRALIA
T (B) 07 5533 9299
T (H) 07 5576 6893
F 07 55 34 8332
M 0438 930 860
E ross.smith@
elanorashs.qld.edu.au

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

October affords us the opportunity to celebrate and embrace what I believe to be one of the major strengths of our organisation - other's vocations and ours. October is Vocational Service Month.

I particularly enjoy meeting and talking with Rotarians about their vocations and careers. I learn much which I am able to use in my own profession and am reassured that many of the challenges I face during a working day are the very same ones which others face.

This month is also the opportunity for Rotary clubs to recognise outstanding business people in their communities.

To be invited to a Rotary presentation of business awards is an **honour** for the recipients. Equally it provides us the opportunity to have the **Rotary Wheel** on the walls and desks of quality places of business. Further, it also provides Rotary clubs the formal opportunity to seek out **prospective** local Rotarians.

Finally, this type of activity encourages us to examine the balance across the vocations in our club membership. Does your club have a minister, undertaker, jeweler, hairdresser, ICT specialist or a caterer? If not -why not?

Ross Smith

Three Different Outstanding District 9640 Youth Programs

RYLA Rotary Youth Leadership Award

RYLA aims to engage enthusiastic young people in their personal growth and the development of their leadership potential. It aims to produce young people who are able to succeed in many aspects of life and to contribute to the community.

Target Group: 18 - 28 year old
Dates: 1 - 7 Feb 2003
Venue: Camp Bornhoffen, Numinbah Val
Cost: \$340 + \$34 GST.
Numbers: 95 max
District Chair: Col Makin, RC of Broadbeach
T 07 5539 9513 M 0428 216 947
F 07 5539 9079
E nikam@ozemail.com.au

RYTS Rotary Youth Transition Seminar

RYTS aims to provide real-life experiences and challenging presenters to motivate and develop school leavers who are able to become role models and leaders amongst their peers as they move on to the world of work or further study.

Target Group: Year 12, 2002
Dates: 30 Nov - 6 Dec 2002
Venue: Camp Bornhoffen, Numinbah Val.
Cost: \$350 approx
District Chair: Judy Aitken, RC of Kingscliff
T 02 6674 3893 M 0409 476 566
E judya@better.net.au

RYPEN Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment

RYPEN is a live-in long weekend providing speakers and experiences to motivate and carefully focus school-aged teenagers on making sound choices and on future success.

Target Group: 14 - 16 years
Dates: 28, 29 &-30 March 2003
Venue: Camp Bornhoffen, Numinbah Val.
Cost: \$175 approx
Numbers: 72 max
District Chair: Neville Woodforth, RC of Boonah
T (H) 07 55635 822
T (B) 07 5540 5157

All clubs are encouraged to Select, Nominate and Sponsor (in part or in whole) one or more local young people for each of these programs today.

In Memoriam

It is with the deepest sympathy that I advise District Rotarians of the tragic death of Megan Stallman on the morning of 2 October. She lost her life in a car accident not far from her home at Condamine.

Megan was a YEP student to Japan in 2000. Her sister Kelly was an exchange student into Belgium. She was twenty years old and studying at university.

Megan is the daughter of Bill and Pam Stallman of Condamine and also the granddaughter of PDG Ken and Betty Smith.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Megan's family and friends.

Wedding Bells

1994 Japanese YEP Student Toshiko Shibata married Shota Arano back here in our District at Sanctuary Cove Chapel on Saturday 4 October 2002. Her host parents, from the R C of Stanthorpe, Angelo and Mary Puglisi, Rob and Judith Paskins and Steve and Debbie Baldwin were in attendance at the ceremony.

Toshi was a Year 12 student at Stanthorpe High and as a result I knew her well. YEP Rebounder Kimberley Smith, who stayed with the Shibatas in Japan, translated at the ceremony. The Aranos are honeymooning on the Gold Coast and will live and work in Yokohama.

Bali Bombing Tragedy

I have written to District 9640 Club Presidents under separate cover this week with a proposal by way of a concrete response to this demanding challenge for us all.

Australia is a country with a small population and a solid reputation for being travelers. Bali has been both a popular and welcoming destination for our young people over many decades now. Indeed, few families would not have personal experience of visiting Bali or knowing someone who has.

Words do not adequately express the heartbreak and torment at the loss of and injuries to so many vital, beautiful young Australians.

I continue to be in contact with the District Governor in Bali and will keep Presidents informed as needs arise.

Red Cross Blood Bank information and advice is available on **13 14 95**. Clubs are asked once again to commit to assisting with planning for blood donation appointments right up into the month of November.

Stanthorpe Bushfires

Fire Emergency Services from Queensland and New South Wales are continuing to fight a severe bush fire as I write.

It has been raging south of Stanthorpe in the Ballandean area since Thursday and has now moved into Bald Rock National Park.

Reports of loss of life, injuries, loss of property and livelihood are still coming in.

Our hearts go out to our fellow countrymen and women at this terrible time.

I will be looking to district Rotarians for advice as to how we might respond to and assist with this dreadful burden on a local community.

Farm Hand

Drought continues to seriously affect the district and the country.

Hand feeding of cattle is common. Though feed is still available it is becoming ever more expensive. Goondiwindi cotton farmers are planting only 40% to 50% of their regular crop this season. Nursery and gardening trades are being crippled.

We love our 'sunburnt country' but it does bring with it significant challenges. Families on the land contend with these each year. This year is an exceptional challenge.

Our district has responded to needs such as this previously and we will do so again.

The Farmhand Donation Line is **1300 792 992**.

RC Ashmore Polio Support

I am proud to report that RC Ashmore President Rob Harcourt presented me with a cheque, this week, to the value of \$5920 toward the eradication of Polio on our planet.

This represents \$160 per club member and is a substantial boost to our great cause.

Stamps

Russell Thomson, RC Burleigh Heads, will gladly accept your used stamps. This is an easy project to assist **Donations in Kind** with sending containers overseas. Just tear them out and get them off to him.
07 55 352 544

National Youth Science Forum

Today, I had the honour of recognising our twelve District 9640 NYSF recipients for 2003. They gathered with their families at International House at the U of Q. I will publish their names and sponsoring clubs next time.

New Members

A warm welcome to:
Donald Conson
RC of Ballina
Neil Bray
RC of Ballina
Debbie Fry
RC of Ballina
Kenneth Barker
RC of Glen Innes

DG Official Visits

21 Oct Casino
23 Oct Goondiwindi
28 Oct Glen Innes
29 Oct Tenterfield

* * * * *