



Rotary  
International  
District 9640 Ltd



**District Governors  
Newsletter**

**February 2011**

## DG'S JOTTINGS

### FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

Whilst I recognise that February is World Understanding month I feel compelled to write about the Queensland floods.

January and February certainly proved that the world was aware of Australia and its catastrophic floods. It also provided an understanding of the ravages that Mother Nature can throw at us.

Queensland has suffered enormous loss, physically and emotionally. Whilst material things can sometimes be replaced, those that hold sentimental attachments cannot. More importantly the loss of life – how do those people come to terms with the tragedy. A tragedy that could not be stopped in its path. Our thoughts and prayers have been with all those people.

It has been heart warming to receive offers of financial assistance, along with the offer of clothing, blankets, household goods and the offer of “many pairs of hands” to help with the clean up. All your offers were noted and forwarded onto the areas that really need them.

The cleanup and relocation of families into new homes will take many months, possibly even a year or two. Throughout all of this Rotary will be there assisting how and when is needed. Some of you have family and friends who have suffered and know only too well where the help should be going.

At the time of going to press, we have learnt that Victoria is also experiencing floods and we as Rotarians will support them in their time of need and as further information comes to hand I will keep you informed.

*DG John*

## WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND



In 2009 the iconic Carousel in the Broadbeach Mall on the Gold Coast was threatened with demolition. However in response to widespread concerns by the Gold Coast Community, the Gold Coast City Council decided to renovate the 120 year-old Carousel at a cost of \$180,000.

Southport Rotarian PP Gary Wachter approached the Gold Coast City Council with a proposal that Southport Rotarians would volunteer to operate this Carousel and that all funds raised would be donated to charities. The Gold Coast City Council accepted this proposal

and since November 2009, Rotarians from the Rotary Clubs of Southport and Southport North with the assistance of volunteers have operated the Carousel every day except Christmas day and Good Friday.

At the end of the first year of operations over \$100,000 had been raised from the donations by patrons. Applications were sought from local charities and these funds have been allocated to 19 charities.

Areas of charitable support include assisting homeless youth and homeless families; Meals on Wheels and Christmas hampers; youth and migrant literacy programmes; support for young people who are being treated for substance abuse; support for the disabled; support for kindergartens and the St John's Ambulance; programmes addressing school bullying;

sexual harassment, and programmes to combat childhood obesity.

To help create a greater awareness of Rotary, all children riding the Carousel are given a sticker saying “I Helped Rotary Eradicate Polio”.

PP Gary Wachter is amazed with the success of the programme. Local families and families holidaying on the Gold Coast flock to the Carousel and it has been a great project to promote the values of Rotary. All Rotarians and volunteers thoroughly enjoy the fellowship whilst operating the Carousel and appreciate the interaction with patrons of the Carousel. It is an excellent example of “Rotary in Action”.

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*“still big kids at heart”*

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*Submitted by Michael Irving – RC of Southport*

## STOP PRESS ....STOP PRESS .....

The National Basketball League has transferred our dedicated Polio Plus game to  
**Sunday 13th of Feb tip off 5.00 pm**  
all other details remain the same

## DISTRICT 9640 ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS

The horrendous floods of Queensland and parts of our District will put a tremendous strain of demand for Clubs and individuals to contribute towards rebuilding affected areas. Participation is both understandable and commendable.

However, we ask that you juggle your financing and do not completely overlook some funding towards our Annual Programs Fund. Our response to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal two years ago, was overwhelming in that it meant our District Designated Funds for 2011/12 is about US\$20,000 less than our recent average.

This means our Rotary International involvement for this coming year is severely hampered. We have no funds for Matching Grants or District Simplified Grants and we almost did not have sufficient funding to send out a GSE team.

The Annual Program Funds this year will be available for spending in 2013/14. We could be faced then, with the same limitations as this coming year, if we do not provide some support over the next few months.

We therefore urge Club officials and members to distribute your fund-

raising and donations thoughtfully, bearing in mind our future Rotary International and Foundation involvement in 2013/14.

### **District Simplified Grants**

We still have A\$1800 available this year to be allocated to local humanitarian projects. If your Club identifies a suitable project and can use a Grant, please let me know. Don't forget your Club needs to provide at least an equal amount towards the project.

### **"End Polio Now" Campaign**

This is the third, and hopefully final, year that Clubs are asked to support the US\$200 million campaign, which is now more than 75% accomplished, in order to receive the Gates Foundation pledge of US\$355 million.

The week of 21st to 27th February, will see many Clubs participating in raising funds for TRF's No.1 priority. Gold Coast Clubs will be again manning railway stations and canvassing shopping centres for spare change support while I'm sure there will be many sausage sizzles around the District.

Don't forget there are also two District initiated ways of helping our cause:-

#### **1). Basketball DATE CHANGED SEE FRONT PAGE**

Club President's and AG's now have booking sheets to obtain tickets to our dedicated NBL game - Gold Coast Blaze vs. Adelaide 36'ers. This is NOW ON SUNDAY 13TH at the Gold Coast Convention Centre at 7.30pm. This is an ideal way for members, families and friends to enjoy fun and fellowship while supporting the cause. Tickets are at discount prices and the District will have a full display in the foyer of Rotary's many activities for the public to view.

#### **2). Film night**

We have arranged with many theatres in our District to have an advanced screening of "Conviction" starring Hilary Swank. This will be on Wednesday 23rd February around 6.30pm. This is an Australian-wide event using the cooperation of 20th Century Fox and RI in Parramatta. Clubs in those areas of the theatres participating have been contacted, but if you are unsure, please contact your Group AG.

I understand some clubs are transferring their meeting to one of these events, something your club could consider, too.

*Submitted by DRFC Doug Brown – RC of Surfers Paradise*

### **~ PRÉCIS OF CONVICTION ~**

CONVICTION is the true story of Betty Anne Waters, an ordinary working-class woman, who embarked on an extraordinary 18-year quest to prove her brother innocent of a heinous murder he swore he didn't commit.

In 1980, waitress Katharina Brow was found murdered in her trailer home and robbed of \$1,800 dollars. Kenny Waters, who lived near Brow had a reputation as a troublesome kid, was questioned, and denied he was involved. Two years later the confessions of two ex-girlfriends helped to seal his conviction for murder, despite the lack of concrete evidence, he received a life sentence without parole.

Betty Anne never believed her brother was guilty. Driven now to get him out of jail, and clear his name, she dedicated her entire life - sacrificing everything else - to freeing Kenny. After gaining her high school diploma then her college degree, she went to law school. She steadfastly continued her quest on the slim hope that if she could just get him an appeal and could show the witnesses were coerced into lying, her brother might have a shot at freedom.

As Kenny tried to hang on in prison, Betty Anne doggedly followed the shoddy evidence that had put him behind bars, following up on every clue that might possibly hold a key to proving his innocence.

A MUST SEE FILM ..... support this and you'll be supporting Polio Plus – we are so close to reaching our goal of eradication – let's make it HAPPEN

The expected screening locations; Harbour Town, Gold Coast Arts Centre, Warwick, and hopefully Yamba . Your club will be contacted by organisers within these District Groups in order to obtain bookings.

## **YOU COULD WIN A LUXURY 'PEPPERS' HOLIDAY!**

If your club is planning to make a donation to Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) at the end of the Rotary year please consider donating now for two reasons: you could win a five-night holiday and ROMAC, a Rotary project, really needs the money now to continue saving underprivileged lives.

ROMAC currently has seven children being treated and a further eight scheduled to arrive in the next few months. In addition they have 59 pending, subject to a variety of confirmations and clarifications.

If your club donates \$1,000 one of your members could be going on a five-night luxury holiday at a Peppers Resort! Each \$1,000 donation is entered into a lucky draw. If you can afford to donate more, each \$1,000 will separately be entered into the draw thus increasing your chance of winning.

Whilst the draw will take place during the third week of August, please consider making the donation now rather than wait till the end of the Rotary year as it truly will be appreciated.

ROMAC is a Rotary program that provides medical treatment for children from developing countries in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country. It's run by Rotarian volunteers, just like you, surgeons donate their expertise and they have minimal overheads - no office, no paid staff and even the holidays were donated - so you receive great value for your donations. Plus it's heartening to know that your donations are spent in our country supporting our local communities.

ROMAC has sent informative brochures to all clubs, but if you'd like to download one simply go to their website [www.romac.org.au](http://www.romac.org.au).

*Submitted by Phil Rosenberg RC of Gold Coast Central*

## **ROTARY YOUTH TRANSITION SEMINAR 2010 CAMP DEC 4 – 10, 2010**



The RYTS Camp 2010 saw 55 great kids come to Bornhoffen for a week to learn a lot of skills and attitudes they will need as they leave the shelter of home and school, and venture out into the big wide world. Rather than my words describing the camp, I feel the comments from the attendees say it all:

#### **Sarah King wrote:**

I believe that RYTS is the most valuable learning experience that could ever be offered to a teenager as it encourages us to develop a perspective to what is truly important in life. As individuals, we each experienced an invigorating kind of personal growth that allowed us to clarify our goals, open our minds and aspire to be the best person we can be. Together, this collective spirit created a crazy, fun and inspirational journey filled with friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. I think I speak on behalf of all 53 of us when I say that the RYTS camp was undoubtedly the best week of my life.

#### **Maddie Lacy wrote:**

I saw RYTS to be a life changing experience. I feel it was like a doorway into the next stage of my life. It has really opened my eyes to some of the most amazing things in life, which we so often take for granted. I am

so privileged to have been part of RYTS 2010, I honestly had the time of my life.

**Zoe McCosker wrote:**

RYTS was a week I will never forget. Full of tears, laughter and memories that will never be erased. It was a fantastic opportunity to not only get back in touch with myself, but with many new people that are now like family to me. It's a fantastic camp that has not only changed my life but many others.

**Lachlan Tulloch wrote:**

RYTS was the best week of my life. I never knew so much emotion, friendships and good times could be jammed into one week. This week allowed me to come out of my comfort zone and do things I wouldn't ever try.

The RYTS team would like to thank all our guest speakers, the clubs who sent kids and sponsored kids from other clubs, and a special thanks to all the great kids who came to RYTS 2010.

*Submitted by Ken Barker RC of Glen Innes – Chairman RYTS*

## **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL D9640 DISTRICT AWARDS**

District Awards Committee Chairman, P.D.G. Dugald Graydon reminds all Clubs that now is the time to consider submitting entries for the various District Awards.

The closing date for all award applications, other than, Club Attendance; Conference Attendance; The Rotary Foundation; Membership Increase and Best Club Program / Project; is 12 noon on 28th February, 2011.

Full details of awards available and the requirements for submitting entries can be found on pages 53 to 57 of the District Directory.

Submitting entries for the various Awards is the perfect opportunity to showcase the activities of your Club.

All entries should be forwarded to P.D.G. Dugald Graydon, 34 Pine Avenue, Mullumbimby. N.S.W. 2482; Phone. 02 6684 2057; Fax. 02 6684 2057; Email. [dugald.graydon@bigpond.com](mailto:dugald.graydon@bigpond.com).

*Submitted by PDG Dugald Graydon – RC of Mullumbimby*

## **GROUP 4 – AG BRENDA**

**R.C. of Coolangatta –Tweed Heads**

65 years of service, 29 members and 3 new members this year. Tweed Early Intervention values the work of club members. This year four members travelled overseas taking computers, printers and gifts of clothing and toys and other items, too numerous to name. Three schools and an orphanage in the impoverished areas near Pokhara, Nepal are grateful for the clubs support

A donation towards the construction of a "Tiffin" (small food) hall at Pokhara Shree View Point Primary school will ensure the children have shelter when it rains and from the cold winds of winter. In their spare time the group managed to paint rooms in an orphanage and brighten the lives of children.

A Melbourne Cup Day saw the Club's new event the winner. Rishworth Beach Competition is an annual public speaking competition held in New Zealand, and the prize is a holiday in Australia. The club supports the event by opening their homes. Geoff Lance, the club's longest serving member resigned to take up residence in Toowoomba, members were happy to know he was in no danger during the floods.

**R.C. of Tweed Heads South**

27 years of service, 22 members with a prospective new member to be inducted. Hearing the Chinderah Scouts needed help to renovate their hall, without haste Rotarian Don sought the help of his club. What are Rotarians good at? Applying for grants of course. The most appropriate grant was selected, paperwork completed and soon the near \$80,000 grant was successful.

They also support the Salvation Army by sponsoring young people to

attend a 'Salvo's camp. Youth is important to this club and sponsoring young boys to attend, gives youth clarity and direction which changes lives and changes the world. Speaking of youth, two members celebrated the arrival of grandchildren.

**R.C. of Kingscliff**

40 years of service with 10 members. Last year saw the 40th birthday party where neighbouring clubs joined in the celebrations. The ongoing support for the youth in the community is important to the club and four young people were selected to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and Rotary District 9640 Youth Transition Seminar (RYTS) camps. Fellowship is an important aspect of Rotary and is the key to membership retention.

**R.C. of Tweed Coast**

1 year of service, 20 members and 3 new members this year. Million Paws Walk benefits the RSPCA with a family day filled with fun, concerts, taking the dog for a walk and after a good soak in the tub (for the dogs that is). A fun day raising monies is never complete without a BBQ. A new Club starting a Club?, but a new Probus Club is up and running at Hastings Point due to the enthusiastic members. Well done Rotarians.

One member spent four weeks in Nepal studying the education programs of Nursery classes from nearby schools. Combining the teaching styles and techniques from Australia, a program was introduced expanding the skills of the Nursery class teacher at Shree Pokhara View Point Primary School. President Steve is proud to say the Club supports local youth and the Rotary youth programs.

**R.C. of Murwillumbah**

73 years of service with 30 members. Camp Quality is a favourite with Rotarians. Donning aprons and supplying food for the local camp where fun and laughter create a good time that was had by all. "Squeegees" for Brisbane? President Ralph scrounged around and found a supply of suitable rubber in answer to Bob Gibson's request at the local mill. Bob is making squeegees for Brisbane residents who are facing a massive clean up after the recent floods. Many residents of Murwillumbah know what it's like to have inches of mud in and under homes. Bob kindly donated three squeegees to Ralph so he can spend the weekend cleaning the damage to his family's home

**R.C. of Murwillumbah Central**

32 years of service, 17 members and 1 new member this year. Tweed Palliative Care and Murwillumbah Hospital are just two of the community groups that benefit with members combining building and maintenance skills to keep the hospital deck an enjoyable place to meet for both patients and staff. SPIES was established to give hands on support to community members who, due to ill health of a family member, are in need of a little help from a "friend". SPIES is now a combined club activity and Murwillumbah Central combined forces with other Rotary clubs, helping a family with a small child giving her a better quality of life. SPIES is an imitative of the R.C. of Mt. Warning A.M.

**R.C. of Mt. Warning A.M.**

10 years of service with 33 members and 5 new members this year. The club decided to hold a Short Film Festival and have it in conjunction with the Banana and Harvest Festival in Murwillumbah and encourage the youth from the area to explore their film making talents. The high quality of films submitted and variety of themes made it difficult for the judges to select only four of the best. So next year come join us at the Regent and support our youth.

Financial assistance was provided to R.C. of Pokhara Mid Town, to a small school in Nepal. Shree Pokhara View Point Primary School had raised three quarters of the funds needed for a three room construction housing a classroom, a library and a staffroom. When the A.M. club heard they needed help, they came to the aid of the school. One Club member was invited to inspect the completed three rooms and accept on behalf of the club, the headmaster and teachers heartfelt thanks. Putting books into the library is her next dream.

*Submitted by AG Brenda – RC of Mt. Warning AM*



# Country to the Coast Conference Snippets



## Roberta Cava

Successful author Roberta Cava was born in Canada. In 1982, she opened her first international training and development firm in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; in 1986 opened her US office in Maui, Hawaii, and her third branch on the Gold Coast when she emigrated to Australia in 1998.

She has presented seminars in Canada, USA, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

She's the author of 20 books. Her book "Dealing with Difficult People" has been an international best-seller since 1990 (22 publishers in 16 languages).

Roberta's tributes include being chosen twice as a Canadian Achiever; being nominated for the 1999 and 2001 Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year Awards, Alberta Human Rights Award, the Canada Awards for Business Excellence, the YWCA Tribute to Women Award, three years running for the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce Small Business Owner of the Year Award; and regional finalist for the 1993 Canadian Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Roberta is listed in Who's Who in North America.

At conference she will be presenting a tiny part of her most popular seminar "Dealing with Difficult People" that has been presented to over 52,000 participants world-wide.

## Russell Taylor

Russell Taylor is a co-founding trustee of EcoCARE Pacific Trust, a NZ registered charitable trust focussing on the initiation and facilitation of projects and programmes that support the development of Pacific Island people. Recently he established a Development Network at the University of Canterbury as a vehicle for academics, technicians and students to collaborate on projects that enables the immense amount of expertise that lies within institutions like this to be used for the benefit of those less fortunate than we. The work that the Trust has undertaken in the past four years is the basis of a PHD on Development Funding and Policy that Russell is currently doing. One of their main areas of focus is capacity building. Giving people within these nations the tools that they need to utilise and benefit from the resources that they have available to them. As an example of the types of collaborations that the Trust can catalyse, EcoCARE Pacific Trust and Rotary International in NZ have applied for funding to design and install solar photo-voltaic power generation systems, computers and internet communications in all Government schools in Tonga, an under developed Pacific Island nation with 36 inhabited islands. Russell Taylor holds a Master of Science (Hons.) Degree – Ecology and a Bachelor of Science Degree – Zoology, University of Canterbury. The topic of his PhD research is titled 'EU Funding and Development: Prioritising Information'.

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR CONFERENCE YET ?** Don't forget, Friday night is Beach Theme night and Saturday is Country/Western theme

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Peter Moore – RC of Tenterfield

## CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

### Change of Venue

**Palm Beach** have changed their venue to Mirrors Restaurant, (Sth East Cnr) Cnr 7th Ave & Gold Coast H'way Palm Beach effective 24th January. All other details remain the same

**Grafton** have changed their venue to Victoria's Restaurant, Quality Inn, Fitzroy St. All other details remain the same

## Rotary District 9640 - Membership & Attendance: December 2010

Rotary Club	Attendance		Year to Date		Membership		
	This Month %	Rank	%	Rank	Start of Year	Present	Change
Allora	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	11	11	-
Alstonville	77.94	24	74.69	21	24	24	-
Ashmore	85.00	=12	80.70	13	37	35	-2
Ballina	71.70	31	67.57	36	36	39	+3
Ballina-on-Richmond	96.00	=4	84.03	10	25	22	-3
Beaudesert	95.00	=7	87.17	8	21	22	+1
Boonah	71.40	=32	76.75	19	42	41	-1
Broadbeach	67.12	=37	68.93	34	50	48	-2
Broadwater-Southport	78.63	22	77.72	18	39	41	+2
Burleigh Heads	0.00	=43	46.67	43	23	26	+3
Byron Bay	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	11	11	-
Casino	0.00	=43	27.47	45	15	14	-1
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	83.33	=14	74.42	23	28	29	+1
Coomera River Middy	72.00	30	72.07	25	23	21	-2
Coomera Valley	0.00	=43	53.13	41	26	23	-3
Glen Innes	76.76	26	72.54	24	38	39	+1
Gold Coast Central	0.00	=43	20.67	46	17	17	-
Goondiwindi	79.00	=19	70.83	26	34	34	-
Goonellabah	0.00	=43	16.67	47	19	18	-1
Grafton	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	19	19	-
Grafton Middy	0.00	=43	11.58	49	23	23	-
Hope Island	77.48	25	74.66	22	39	42	+3
Iluka	85.00	=12	83.45	11	13	13	-
Jimboomba	100.00	1	100.00	1	23	22	-1
Kingscliff	66.66	39	63.88	38	10	10	-
Kirra Currumbin	96.10	=4	94.94	5	13	13	-
Kyogle	57.00	41	41.00	44	12	10	-2
Lismore	79.50	18	74.75	20	13	11	-2
Lismore Central	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	14	14	-
Lismore West	97.22	3	95.64	3	39	38	-1
Macleay	75.73	27	80.80	12	41	40	-1
Mermaid Beach	94.20	9	88.43	7	26	27	+1
Mt Warning AM (Mur'bah)	95.00	=7	95.17	4	32	34	+2
Mudgeeraba	98.00	2	97.79	2	26	25	-1
Mullumbimby	69.90	35	70.34	=31	21	21	-
Murwillumbah	92.93	10	92.44	6	34	33	-1
Murwillumbah Central	68.17	36	70.69	28	20	19	-1
Nerang	87.50	11	70.57	29	16	16	-
Palm Beach	55.00	42	57.26	39	25	25	-
Parkwood	75.00	28	70.00	=31	20	20	-
Robina	0.00	=43	16.33	48	22	21	-1
Runaway Bay	78.27	23	64.93	37	23	22	-1
Southport	64.45	40	55.45	40	46	46	-
Southport North	80.40	=16	79.26	15	18	17	-1
Stanthorpe	73.90	29	70.77	27	42	40	-2
Summerland Sunrise	67.00	=37	53.08	42	12	13	+1
Surfers Paradise	79.00	=19	68.54	35	23	22	-1
Surfers Paradise Central	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	47	47	-
Surfers Sunrise	71.00	=32	70.39	30	48	45	-3
Tenterfield	95.70	6	86.58	9	26	29	+3
Tweed Coast	79.00	=19	80.23	14	15	18	+3
Tweed Heads South	70.00	34	69.60	33	24	21	-3
Warwick	0.00	=43	0.00	=50	19	15	-4
Warwick Sunrise	80.00	=16	77.88	16	22	20	-2
Yamba	83.00	=14	77.80	17	22	23	+1
<b>Totals</b>			<b>Totals</b>		<b>1407</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>-18</b>