



Rotary  
International  
District 9640 Ltd



**District Governors  
Newsletter**

**June 2011**

## DG'S JOTTINGS

June is Rotary Fellowship Month and if the list on page 43 of the Directory is anything to go by, there are some very busy and active Rotarians. A large proportion of these Fellowships were on display in the House of Friendship in New Orleans at the International Convention. If ever you have the opportunity to attend an International Convention, do it – even if it is only once. The fellowship, catching up with overseas friends, being in a new city, learning the local culture and experiencing the environment is worthwhile. Go to RI website at [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) to see pictures and hear some of the presentations.

Well they say time flies when you are having fun and this past Rotary year certainly has flown by. Whilst there have been a few hairpin bends and speed humps along the way, with the support of the Board, the District team and club members, the District has managed to keep afloat.

A new club, Fassifern Valley was chartered, a new Interact club was formed in Maclean High School by RC of Yamba, this, along with the many other projects that clubs throughout the District undertook, overall made for a successful Rotary year.

Thank you to all the clubs that participated in the Indian Desk Fund, this was proof of what can be achieved when we join forces and work together.

I take this opportunity to thank the Board, the AG's, all the Chairs, Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers for all their commitment, hard work and support throughout the past year.

I wish incoming DG Graham and Marion all the best for their year.

Be the best Rotarian you can be and keep on "DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD"

*DG John*

## DISTRICT 9640 ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS

### Annual Giving

June is with us and this is the last chance to organise this year's tax position. We urge you again to think of our charity, The Rotary Foundation, especially now the RI exchange rate against the US Dollar was A\$0.95 or 105 PHF credits per A\$100 in May.

Please be aware that this year's Annual Giving will determine the District Designated Funds (DDF) for the year when all districts convert to the Future Vision Program, i.e. 2013/14. Under the proposed plan, this year's contribution will provide up to 50% of the DDF for our local community projects (currently it is 20%).

The more funds our district generates this year will allow us to give more generously to local programs selected at our discretion in 2013/14. This makes it a powerful incentive to contribute,

particularly as it is also a tax deduction. Your club has the correct contribution forms.

### Rotary World Peace Fellowships

The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees has selected Uppsala University in Sweden, to host a new Rotary Centre for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution. Uppsala is a well-renowned educational institution and is a welcome addition to the existing six other Centres including the University of Queensland.

The first intake at Uppsala will begin in September 2012; therefore the application deadline for all Centres has been extended until 15th August 2011, from the 1st of July. Our District has already interviewed this year three worthy candidates to be nominated for a Fellowship, however we now have time to consider others. Should you know of a potential candidate, please discuss with Catherine Bonifant on (07) 5571 1194.

### Ambassadorial Scholars

As indicated last month, we intend to award a Scholarship in 2012/13 and are seeking candidates. Applications also close on 15th August. If you are aware of an exceptional student in the District that may wish to complete his studies off-shore, please contact Neil Russell on (07) 5594 6649, and discuss his or her credentials with him.

Please note that under the Future Vision Plan, the Ambassadorial Scholar program may become somewhat different, therefore it is essential we find a student to uphold the tradition in what, maybe, its final year.

### PolioPlus Update

The struggle to eliminate this dreaded disease continues, with great progress made in India and Afghanistan whereby only one new case each has been reported this year. Nigeria has now had eight cases but it is holding relatively steady. Where there were minor outbreaks in other countries last year, they have been all clear so far this year. Tajikistan, which had a major outbreak of 458 cases, has had no new cases since July 2010.

However, Pakistan remains a problem with 33 cases this year, although it is believed that their position is being well managed.

The challenge to raise US\$ 200 million in order to receive the full US\$355 million pledge from the Gates Foundation for the "End Polio Now" campaign, will need to continue in 2011/12. Clubs are still reminded that contributions to the campaign will still be necessary this coming year in order to hone in on this amount for Rotary's No.1 priority.

### 2010/11

With this Rotary year drawing to a close, the District's TRF committees finalised the following:-

- an Ambassadorial Scholar to go to Oxford University in September,
- an outbound GSE team to Missouri,

- two inbound GSE teams, from Arizona and Missouri,
- two matching grants, totalling US\$65,000 (including funds from 44 of our clubs and US\$7,000 DDF ) and involving districts and clubs in India, Thailand and the Netherlands,
- four District Simplified Grants totalling A\$6800,
- a donation of US\$5000 from DDF to PolioPlus,
- collected over A\$2000 for PolioPlus at a Gold Coast Blaze dedicated basketball game and displayed five Rotary programs to their patrons,
- raised over A\$3000 for PolioPlus at various theatres for a special screening of the movie “Conviction.”

To those Rotarians who participated in any of these above committees, I sincerely thank you for your time and efforts in assisting to make this another successful year, by helping our District to continue to “Do Good in the World.”

*Submitted by Doug Brown - DRFCC – RC of Surfers Paradise*

## **GROUP 9 - AG BILL BONNER**

### **Allora**

What a wonderful club – traditional, happy and effective. It seems that every member is involved in every activity and everything that happens in Allora seems to have their support. Partners play a strong role. Following a membership drive, with the AG involved, the current dinner bulletin lists 16 members, a rise of 5 – almost 50%!!

The club has, recently, launched its major fundraising activity, the raffle of a side of beef plus a barbecue, and is, currently, organising a fun run. Allora’s rebound exchange student recently gave an excellent speech to the club, supported by presentations from two students who attended RYPEN.

It is very pleasing to see the amount of cooperation that exists between Allora and the two Warwick clubs.

### **Tenterfield**

With 29 members, Tenterfield has had a great year under the leadership of Grahame Braid. Sadly, they recently lost member Helen Smith (transferred to north Queensland). Helen was a recent GSE team member to North Carolina, and wasted little time in joining Rotary.

Recent events have been a pre-Easter street stall and a trivia night, and the club organised a number of flood relief functions. The club was, as usual, heavily involved in Oracles of the Bush. Two excellent Rotary occasions were combined meetings with Glen Innes club at Deepwater and with Stanthorpe club at Ballandean.

### **Glen Innes**

Glen Innes club, in its 72nd year, seems to be involved in every dog fight in the town. A trolley dash on Christmas eve raised some \$3000. They are involved with the regular visit of a breast screening bus, a project that would be recommended to all clubs. The AG notes that president, Dick Hartmann, had a separate district conference chairman prior to the conference, whose job was to give reports on the upcoming conference and to cajole members into attending. What a good idea, and another thing that should be recommended to other clubs.

Glen Innes is a great supporter of youth programmes, with two candidates for RYTS and RYLA, in addition to having a member of the GSE team to North Carolina.

The club has a formalised Friends of Rotary group for people who

have reasons for not joining the club at the present time. While a small group, it is an excellent way of keeping people interested and involved. Friends of Rotary pay a subscription of \$30, and are expected to attend a minimum of four meetings a year.

### **Goondiwindi**

One thing that Group 9 clubs have in common is that they seem to be involved with the majority of their town’s activities. Goondiwindi is no exception, and their ‘Bozo Bus’ is in demand at numerous events during the year.

There is no doubt that the ‘tyranny of distance’ causes Goondiwindi club to miss out on some important and enjoyable Rotary activities. The three Warwick area clubs work (and play) together on projects, while Tenterfield has combined dinners with both Glen Innes and Stanthorpe. However, with 34 members, Goondi is an extremely strong and vibrant club.

### **Warwick**

Warwick club had a change in leadership during the year, with Peter Read taking over. The club put a huge amount of effort into flood relief, both physically and financially, as the city was badly affected by the floods.

The club’s major activity, the ‘Roll the Dice Run’ was held in March and, among many other activities, a successful food stall was run on Australia Day.

Another annual activity is the club’s community awards dinner, which, over the years, has become a big and popular function for the city.

An unusual outing for the club was a train ride to Clifton in early December.

### **Warwick Sunrise**

The club’s 10th anniversary dinner was a wonderful occasion, with DG John Randel, Sue Randel and AG Bill Bonner attending.

A Polio Plus movie night was held and, as usual, the club manned the show gates.

The club is heavily involved in Youth Exchange, and always manages to get a good number of applicants. It is good to see several members involved on the YEP district committee.

Perhaps it is because they meet before the pressures of the day take effect, but the AG notes that there is always a lot of fun and laughter at Warwick Sunrise meetings. This is, of course, a good thing, and does not detract from the efficient handling of Rotary business.

### **Stanthorpe**

This year’s ‘Opera in the Vineyard’ was held on 1st May and, with a brilliant day and a big crowd, was a huge success. However, ‘Legends in the Lavender’, with James Blundell the star performer, was a big disappointment, and the club actually lost money on the venture. The function is expected to be held again in a new format.

The club catered again on Australia Day. This activity gets bigger each year, and has become a significant fundraiser.

With assistance from Warwick club, Stanthorpe decided ‘go big’ with its community awards dinner. This proved to be a wise move, as it received great community support, and it will, certainly, remain on the club’s calendar.

The club was delighted with the selection of Tony Heading as District Governor for 2013-14.

*Submitted by AG Bill Bonner – RC of Stanthorpe*

## OVERSEAS NEWS.....

### Letter from Ambassadorial Scholar in Mexico

I will be back in Murwillumbah from the 28th June and look forward very much to seeing you all and sharing my experiences of Mexico. The thought that my departure date is fast approaching has created a strong impetus to make the most of every opportunity that I am presented with. I am working hard to fulfil to the best of my ability all of the goals I had for this year as a Rotary Foundation Scholar. It has becoming increasingly clear in my mind over the past months what a grand responsibility and gift I have been rewarded by the Foundation and your club. I hope that I am showing my appreciation through my actions over here.

I will be having dinner at the home of a local Rotarian tomorrow night. He has 6 children who I am keen to meet, and has assured me that his wife is more than capable of preparing a delicious vegetarian meal for me (something not a lot of families are unfamiliar with).

I attended a meeting at my host club, Zapopan Las Fuentes, this week, the same club that my parents visited when they were over here. I had already done two presentations, but the members (some of whom were new or visiting) still managed to ask me questions for around half the meeting. They are a wonderful group of people who I will try to see as much as possible over the coming weeks before my departure. They are planning to throw a farewell party for me the evening before I fly out.

Today I am meeting up with classmates to work on a group project. Our assignment is to carry out interviews and write up a social map of the neighbourhood near the university. It is work that I have never done before, but look forward to becoming familiar with, as I think it will help me in my future career. We will also be going on an excursion to two silver-mining cities in 2 weeks' time to work on a similar project. It promises to be good fun!

Best wishes from Grace Vining - Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar District 9640

*Submitted by Pres. Lyn Sullivan- RC of Mt. Warning AM*

## BROADWATER SOUTHPORT BLITZ ROMAC TRIVIA NIGHT

With stiff competition and against 20 teams, Broadwater Southport and its team making up the brain trust, won the prestigious award this year. They fought hard as they were competing against the champions of the last 5 years, Surfers Paradise Central. Can't take the smile from Tracey's face!



*Submitted by Pres. Tracey Haynes – RC of Broadwater Southport*

## YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS LEARN AUSTRALIAN CULTURE THROUGH DANCE !

A group of Rotary D9640 Youth Exchange students recently attended an Aussie Bush Dance organised on their behalf by the Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM. The International students thoroughly enjoyed the dances that were <called> by the Playing Possums Bush Band. They danced the night away, with some complaining of sore feet later in the night. The students were amused by the funny names of the dances and threw themselves energetically into the action, dancing every reel and trying hard to follow the instructions of the caller. The <Pride of Erin> gave some of them problems at first, but once they got the hang of it, they all danced up a storm.

The Rotarians who attended were impressed by the teenagers and the night was enjoyed by all - those aged 14 and those aged 75..... Australian Bush dancing can be enjoyed by all ages.



*Submitted by Denise Payne YEP Committee – RC of Ashmore*

## AUSSIE YEP STUDENT "DOES US PROUD"

At the recent Rotary International Convention in New Orleans, DG John & Sue were able to hear and catch up with YEP student Chanel McCarthy Partridge (sponsored by Mt. Warning AM) who is exchanging with Texas. As mentioned in the March newsletter, Chanel was one of 50 students selected from 200 to sing and then she was the only student chosen to address the International Convention. Chanel undertook her task with the grace and confidence that most seasoned speakers would like to have. Attendance figures for the Convention were approximately 18,000.

It was a proud moment for all the Aussies present to hear her, but most of all for D9640. DG John received many compliments on behalf of the District and Mt. Warning AM should be justifiably proud of their selection in Chanel.

*Submitted by DG John – RC of Mullumbimby*



## OPERA AT THE CHANNON – JULY 24TH

The Rotary Clubs of Lismore and Lismore Central, invite you and your members to help raise much needed funds for both the Life Saver Rescue Helicopter and Our Kids Childrens Hospital in Lismore.

The Opera is being held on Sunday 24th July at the Channon, a wonderful social occasion to enjoy Live performances from young OPERA QLD. You can take your own picnic hamper or order one prepared by The Little Deli in Lismore, which will be delivered to The Channon for easy pick up. Alternatively Patrons dress formally and enjoy a sumptuous, 'silver service' luncheon by Paupiettes, including premium wines in a grand marquee.

Following lunch, you are treated to an afternoon of fine music with selections from famous operas and musicals performed by some of Australia's best young operatic talent. The luncheon is normally a complete sell out so it is suggested you book early to secure your tickets and take advantage of the early bird discount. This year consider travelling to The Channon by bus, with a service picking up from Byron Bay, Lennox Head, Ballina, Alstonville and Lismore. The cost is only \$15 return and a wonderful way to be able to travel and enjoy the day.

Great Prize for Best Fancy Dress Picnic display & raffle prize by Regional Express & Breakers Resort on the Gold Coast.

Funds raised will be supporting the Northern Rivers Rescue Helicopter and Our Kids in Lismore. Tickets can be purchased through NORPA on line at [www.operaatthechannon.com.au](http://www.operaatthechannon.com.au) or 1300 0663 772 or at City Hall Bounty Street Lismore.



*Opera organising committee along with Rescue Helicopter and Our Kids representatives*

*Photo: L-R Back Row (Zeke Huish, Margaret Weatherby, Ludmila Bischoff, Rebecca Battista) Front Row (Paul Denmeade & Kevin Poole)*

**Submitted by Paul Denmeade – RC of Lismore Central**

### NEWEST PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Congratulations to Graham Porter  
(Pres. Of new Fassifern Valley club)

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

R C of Ashmore – Dennis Edwards and Al-Ani Mustafa  
RC of Beaudesert – Mark Lohmann

### CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

The Rotary Club of Grafton change of venue effective immediately. Venue now Valley Harvest Restaurant, Cnr Prince and Fitzroy Streets, Grafton. All other details remain the same.

## Rotary District 9640 - Membership & Attendance: April 2011

Rotary Club	Attendance				Membership			
	This Month		Year to Date		Start of Year	Present	Change	
	%	Rank	%	Rank				
Allora	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	11	16	+5	
Alstonville	80.88	14	74.58	19	24	24	-	
Ashmore	86.00	10	82.62	13	37	37	-	
Ballina	76.40	18	68.15	30	36	37	+1	
Ballina-on-Richmond	90.00	=6	83.52	11	25	21	-4	
Beaudesert	80.00	=15	85.80	9	21	23	+2	
Boonah	69.20	=25	74.92	17	42	39	-3	
Broadbeach	80.00	=15	68.91	27	50	49	-1	
Broadwater-Southport	67.75	31	77.47	15	39	44	+5	
Burleigh Heads	0.00	=36	39.40	46	23	26	+3	
Byron Bay	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	11	11	-	
Casino	85.93	11	43.14	44	15	10	-5	
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	61.00	33	73.30	20	28	27	-1	
Coomera River Middy	68.20	28	70.81	24	23	21	-2	
Coomera Valley	89.60	8	86.61	7	26	24	-2	
Fassifern Valley	0.00	=36	40.93	45	-	24	+24	
Glen Innes	69.89	24	73.14	21	38	40	+2	
Gold Coast Central	0.00	=36	12.40	48	17	17	-	
Goondiwindi	0.00	=36	50.40	40	34	34	-	
Goonellabah	100.00	=1	29.00	47	19	24	+5	
Grafton	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	19	19	-	
Grafton Middy	0.00	=36	6.95	50	23	23	-	
Hope Island	0.00	=36	57.79	37	39	41	+2	
Iluka	0.00	=36	74.72	18	13	14	+1	
Jimboomba	100.00	=1	98.94	1	23	22	-1	
Kingscliff	55.55	35	63.57	32	10	9	-1	
Kirra Currumbin	0.00	=36	84.26	10	13	15	+2	
Kyogle	69.00	=25	46.80	42	12	12	-	
Lismore	75.73	19	67.31	31	13	11	-2	
Lismore Central	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	14	14	-	
Lismore West	100.00	=1	94.51	4	39	38	-1	
Macleay	84.14	13	83.06	12	41	39	-2	
Mermaid Beach	90.30	=6	90.40	6	26	28	+2	
Mt Warning AM (Mur'bah)	87.90	9	94.91	3	32	33	+1	
Mudgeeraba	98.00	4	96.28	2	26	23	-3	
Mullumbimby	66.70	32	70.72	25	21	18	-3	
Murwillumbah	91.67	5	90.83	5	34	32	-2	
Murwillumbah Central	72.50	20	70.25	26	20	16	-4	
Nerang	0.00	=36	68.54	29	16	16	-	
Palm Beach	0.00	=36	43.51	43	25	19	-6	
Parkwood	0.00	=36	58.26	36	20	19	-1	
Robina	0.00	=36	9.80	49	22	21	-1	
Runaway Bay	79.37	17	71.65	23	23	25	+2	
Southport	68.12	=29	61.12	35	46	47	+1	
Southport North	69.00	=25	61.15	34	18	17	-1	
Stanthorpe	72.10	21	72.21	22	42	40	-2	
Summerland Sunrise	60.39	34	50.19	41	12	12	-	
Surfers Paradise	0.00	=36	56.07	38	23	25	+2	
Surfers Paradise Central	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	47	47	-	
Surfers Sunrise	0.00	=36	55.83	39	48	47	-1	
Tenterfield	84.90	12	86.52	8	26	29	+3	
Tweed Coast	0.00	=36	61.63	33	15	18	+3	
Tweed Heads South	68.00	=29	68.86	28	24	21	-3	
Warwick	0.00	=36	0.00	=51	19	15	-4	
Warwick Sunrise	71.00	22	77.03	16	22	20	-2	
Yamba	70.10	23	78.47	14	22	25	+3	
Totals					Totals	1407	1418	+11