



TALON TIMES



Volume 8 February 2002 Rotary District 9640



Neil Maxwell DG
PO Box 200
Warwick Qld 4370
Ph: 07 4661 3080 (h)
Ph: 07 4661 8822 (w)
Fax: 07 4661 1890 (h)
Mobile: 0408 717 828
neilmax@flexi.net.au

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DO WE UNDERSTAND?

This month, February, Rotarians around the world celebrate World Understanding Month.

This provides us with an opportunity to reflect on recent world events and on the impact terrorism, war and unrest has had on the lives of so many unfortunate innocent people.

It is not always easy for Rotary Clubs here to justify providing support to those in far away places when we have in our own back yard serious social problems and serious social injustices crying out for our help.

Nevertheless it is all a matter of balance. Balance between our duty to our local community and our duty to our international community.

This month calls for an acceptance and a realisation that as Rotarians we are all part of a large international global organisation and that we can work successfully, together, for the good of Mankind.

Polio Plus is a shining example of the cooperation of the global Rotary community.

However, whilst we all might quite rightly think we have done a good job with Polio Plus, we haven't yet finished the job. Many new Rotarians have not had the opportunity to add their support to that program and if asked, I am sure, would along with every other Rotarian be only too pleased to contribute.

Polio Plus is surely the most significant humanitarian effort ever undertaken by a

service organisation. It has been made possible because Rotarians around the world have pooled their resources and their efforts. Let's finish the job.

If we expect to see peace and harmony in the world our effort and commitment is needed.

Already many Rotarians in our District have seen the value in personally supporting The Rotary Foundation through the Centurion Club. This month I repeat my call for more support. Do it now.

Model United Nations, MUNA, is to be conducted at Robina on the 16th March, providing our youth with an opportunity to better understand the culture and politics of another country. Adding to the prospect of world peace and understanding in the next generation.

Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange, Student Matched Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and the Rotary Centres for International Study in Peace and Conflict Resolution are further initiatives of Rotary aimed at furthering the fourth object of Rotary namely, ***"The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a worldwide fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service."***

I hope every club in our District makes the effort to celebrate or acknowledge this special month.

Together in Rotary Service
DG Neil

Calendar of District Events

Feb	21 st	ROMAC Dinner – GC Arts Centre
	24 th	District Team Training Seminar
Mar	16 th	MUNA - Robina Community Centre
	23 rd – 24 th	PETS
Apr	13 th – 14 th	RYPEN
Apr	19th – 21st	District Conference
May	19 th	District Assembly
June	30 th	District Changeover

INTERPLAST NEWS.

In January INTERPLAST conducted two successful programs in the Philippines.

Thirty seven operations were carried out at Cagayan de Oro including cleft operations on 12 children under 9 months of age and another on a baby girl weighing less than 2 kilograms.

Some patients traveled more than 50 kilometres hoping to be selected for surgery.

Even though 87 is a good number, it saddened the team and Cagayan de Oro Rotarians that a further 38 hopeful patients could not be treated.

The second team to Bohol carried out 60 operations and worked closely with the Rotary club of Tagbilaran.

Another team led by Dr Harold McComb and including surgeon Chris Bennet, anaesthetist Chris Lowry and Nursing sister Leonie McNamara left for Laos on the 9th February, they will operate in the city of Pakse.

Call for exhibitors

The District Conference at Goondiwindi from 19th to 21st April affords a good opportunity to share projects with fellow Rotarians.

Clubs are invited to display an exhibit of a successful project, preferably a replicable project.

Contact Conference Display Manager Andrew Thomas fax (07) 4671 2670.

Email: andrew@fox-thomas.com.au by 15th March to apply for display space

Hop out to Gundy

2002 - The Year of the Outback



IMPORTANT

Book your accommodation now for this exciting District event. Don't miss out. This will be a "Friendly Conference".

**Contact Conference Chairman Lew Verney
0419 798 or
fax 07 461 3632
or**

lew.verney@goondiwinss.qld.edu.au

Aitape Rehabilitation

Most of us remember that in July 1998 a major tsunami struck Aitape in Papua New Guinea resulting in the deaths of 2200 people.

Rotary Clubs and Districts in Australia and overseas contributed significant amounts of money for the relief and rebuilding effort.

District 9600 in whose District the disaster occurred has been involved over the years in helping restore hospital services to the area utilising the funds contributed and assistance from The Rotary Foundation.

Another major disaster almost occurred when an earthquake registering 6.7 on the Richter scale struck the coastal area near Aitape on 10th January 2002. Fortunately there was no tsunami following the earthquake and it appears there was only one girl killed when a local house collapsed.

However initial damage reports indicate that about 200 local bush material houses collapsed and over 300 water supply tanks were either destroyed or severely damaged. While at present during the monsoon season this has not caused any immediate drinking water problem there will be a severe water shortage problem once the dry season starts. The Aitape Hospital also sustained major damage to the hospital water tanks and this will impact on operations in the dry season.

An inspection of the Aitape and Sissano area by Rotarian Charles Guesdon, the Project Engineer who arrived in Aitape on 12th January, revealed that the earthquake damaged none of the houses constructed by RAWCS Project Volunteer teams in 1998-99.

Furthermore there was no damage of any consequence to the current construction work being carried out at the Aitape Hospital by the Aitape Rehabilitation Committee, a committee of dedicated and committed Rotarians in District 9600.

Currently work is progressing on a Paediatric building, an X-Ray building and raised concrete walkways.

A satellite telephone has been installed and this will provide reliable communication by telephone, facsimile and e-mail and provide a safety net for Rotarians working at Aitape.

It is expected that the Paediatric building will be completed in the second quarter of 2002 and the X-Ray building during the third quarter. The electrical reticulation and staff houses will commence as soon as the construction sites and areas are available.

The committee will monitor the water supply situation closely, and if sufficient funds are available they hope to assist the villagers and the Hospital restore their safe water storage facilities.

Be a Centurion Club Member

We invite you as Rotarians to make a personal contribution to The Rotary Foundation

A \$A100 donation to the Australian Rotary Foundation Trust will allow you to be a member of the Centurion Club

Non Rotarians also may like to be Centurions

Your donation is tax deductible

Consider the following:-

- 80% of the world's population live in substandard housing
- 70% of the world's population are unable to read
- 50% of the world's population suffer from malnutrition
- 50% of the world's population live in houses with earth floors

Consider also:

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, the pangs of starvation—you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

You and I are part of:

- 25% of people with food in the refrigerator, clothes on our back, a roof over our head, and a place to sleep
- 1% of people who own a computer
- 1% of people who own a microwave
- 1% of people who have a tertiary education.

Post to:
DG Neil Maxwell
PO Box 200
Warwick Qld 4370
Ph: 07 4661 3080 Fax: 07 4661 1890

Centurion Commitment Form

I would like to become a Centurion so that I may personally support the great humanitarian programs of The Rotary Foundation. To achieve this end I commit myself to a contribution of \$100 per year, as long as I am in a position to do so.

Date:...../...../2002
Please Print Clearly

Name _____
First Name _____ Surname _____
Address _____

Phone _____

Rotary Club of _____

Member ID Number _____

Club ID Number _____

Signature _____

Please find *cheque* enclosed for \$100.00 made payable to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust

OR
Credit Card Donation Visa, Mastercard, Bankcard

Amount: \$100.00
Account Name _____

Card No _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature: _____

World's First Cyber Rotary Club is Chartered

Almost a century after Paul Harris founded the first Rotary club a group of Rotarians from Colorado USA has made history by forming a club that our founder could never have imagined. On 4 January, RI officially chartered its first-ever Internet-based Rotary club in the world, Rotary e-Club One of District 5450.

RI President-elect Bhichai Rattakul recognized the historic “e-club” at a Quad District Foundation Dinner in Denver, Colorado, on 18 January, with more than 600 Rotarians in attendance. Many of the e-club members met face-to-face for the first time at this event.

The first Rotary cyber club, which takes as its theme “Service Above Self on the Internet,” is just like a traditional Rotary club in many respects. However, rather than having a set meeting time and place, the club meets on the Internet, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <http://www.rotary5450.org/eclub>. “Our meetings are asynchronous — they do not require participants to be online at the same time,” said Rotary e-Club One charter President John Minter, who used to be a member of the sponsoring Rotary Club of Boulder, Colorado.

Members log on to the Web site and review topics under discussion, and are expected to join a forum. The club’s 18 members, who come from specified Colorado counties, are expected to participate in at least 25 such meetings, asking questions, and sharing views and suggestions with other members. Attendance is measured in a unique way. “We require a minimum average of 12 hours of hands-on community service per quarter in place of ‘seat time’ in a terra club, so the member determines the activity, time and place,” Minter said.

Though the e-club represents a bold high-tech step for Rotary International, the original idea for the club came out of the desire to reach out to those who, for a variety of legitimate reasons, cannot regularly attend meetings of a Rotary club that meets weekly at a physical location. “Membership is open to individuals who cannot meet traditional attendance requirements due to travel or business restrictions or reside farther than 25 miles away from a traditional Rotary club, or whose personal mobility is limited,” said Minter.

Minter and a design team that consulted extensively with the district leadership took more than six months to craft a “community” model that can be extended worldwide in Rotary. The RI Board approved the e-club as a New Model Rotary club, one of a number of existing and new clubs worldwide, participating in a pilot project authorized by the 2001 Council on Legislation.

A Note on Suicide Prevention

Dear DG Neil,

As a result of my association with District 9640 Youth Suicide Prevention Program and Raylee Taylor, I was invited to join a Suicide Awareness Working Group to raise awareness of the continuing high rate of suicide by older men.

A special Presentation Kit was developed by the Ageing Branch, within the Queensland Department of Families. It is an initiative of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS).

While there has been significant media attention given to the rising rate of male youth suicide in Australia, there has been very little attention given to the continuing high rate of suicide by older men. The rate of suicide by men 65 years and older is higher than the rate of suicide by men of all ages in Australia. The statistics also showed five times as many men suicide as women in Australia.

The primary target audience for the presentation is older persons. Other target audiences for the presentation are people in the community who work with older people, care for them or have regular contact with them. The presentation will be relevant to people who are younger as well as much older than 55 years of age.

The Suicide Prevention Working Group is currently developing a mailing list of Organizations and Clubs to be approached offering guest speakers.

Committee members of district 9640 Suicide Prevention Program are making themselves available for presentations covering this subject. Interested clubs can contact me on 07 5529 2227 or via email cressey@ozemail.com.au.

Margaret Cressey - Rotary Club of Parkwood.

RYLA 2002

This will never be forgotten.



David Rolle,
Anita Cooper
& Wayne Dunn

Steven Poole,
Broock
Penrose,
Bianca
Hunter,
Tiffany Cox,
Sarah Cox
& Rob Stork.



Roy & Lisa cut
the cake.

Table at
Graduation.



Table at
Graduation.



Attendants at
Graduation.



Attendants and
Rotary Team at
Graduation.

Roy Hornsby
&
Lisa Beesley
were thanked
by the Team.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards



This shows some of the group of Rotarians and RYLA Awardees at the Club Night at Camp Bornhoffen on Tuesday 5th February.

The night was extremely well attended by Rotarians who sat with their Club Awardees during the dinner. Rotaract was also well represented showing the close bond between Rotaract and our youth seminars.

The entertainment during and after the dinner was excellent, showing the visitors the depth of the talent of our young people.

Rotaract News



Our four Rotaract Clubs combined for a special meeting together at Nerang on 31st January to start the new year.

Here is a group of Rotaractors showing they are ready for a great time in 2002.

Paul Harris Fellow



Lisa Beesley was presented with a certificate, medallion and badge after being named a Paul Harris Fellow by DG Neil at the Club night at RYLA on 5th February. Lisa has been heavily involved in the RYLA District

Committee for five consecutive years, the last four supporting the Chairman Roy Hornsby. She initiated and conducted the District Member Satisfaction Survey which culminated in the distribution of the survey results to all 54 clubs in the District. This was a significant effort involving not only expertise but also hours of voluntary work. The District recognised her contribution to Rotary and to our youth.

Ambassadorial Scholar



Melanie Gantz shown above is an Ambassadorial Scholar from USA studying at Bond University. Melanie is a keen Rotaract member and has been active in the Bond University Rotaract club since arriving here last year.

Melanie is interested in becoming involved in some Rotary projects and interacting with Rotarians. She is also available to speak to clubs. Please contact Melanie by email at MFG98@aol.com

Rotary Youth Transition Seminar-What a Success!



The Rotary Club of Nerang sponsored Rebecca Collins to attend RYTS. Rebecca recently wrote a letter to the Nerang Rotary Club thanking the club. Rebecca wrote:-

“I have benefitted unbelievably.

I now realize who I am, that I can achieve my goals and I’m a worthwhile person. It was mainly a self discovery camp for me.

Only the attendants and awardees made this possible for me. All the attendants were fantastic, they really cared about us and it showed.

Straight after camp I was told about a childcare centre looking for casual workers. Usually I would make an excuse about not investigating this job. But I was booming with confidence after the camp, so I rang and was invited in for a voluntary day. I went in, not nervous at all, only because of my new found confidence, and started working with the children.

At the end of the day I was told I would be a casual worker by March, because they were so pleased in my initiative and confidence with the children.

I couldn’t believe it! I’ve have wanted to work with children all my life, but have always been very nervous and have had no self - esteem thinking that I could never get a job. But because of RYTS I have realised what I want out of life, and that I can do it.

I don’t know how to thank you, the change has been amazing. I am so grateful towards you all”

Books for Savu Savu, Fiji

This District is involved in an exciting project putting books into the Savu Savu Secondary School library.

Savu Savu on the island of Vanua Levu, the second largest island in the Fiji group, has a population of just less than 4000 about 600 of whom are High School students. The High School is a community school run by a committee consisting of parents and community leaders.

Savu Savu is a very poor town with many locals out of work since the coup. Few homes have radio, much less TV. Many of the students are drawn from the surrounding villages that are “Third World”. Although these people are poor they are rich in culture and love. Bob & Anne Sincalir who now live in the hills behind the Gold Coast have set about the task of helping the school equip the library with books. They called on Rotarians for help in collecting the books and were able to put together enough books to send over a container load.

The Rotary Club of Stanthorpe has contributed \$500 towards the cost of shipping this container to Fiji through Donations in Kind. The District will provide the balance of the funds if necessary but we are calling on clubs who would like to be involved in this wonderful project to contribute towards the shortfall of \$1200. Can your club help?

The container will also include wheelchairs produced by the Wheelchair Program of the Rotary Club of Surfers Sunrise.

These have already been assigned to children in Fiji. Please contact DG Neil if you can contribute something, any amount, to this project.



Called to Higher Service



Michael DERHAM Burleigh Heads

Welcome to New Members

Denise BROTHERTON	Kingscliff
Michael BROTHERTON	Kingscliff
Ian HARRIS	Kingscliff
Anne BROWNJOHN	Mt Warning AM
Leonie HUGGINS	Mt Warning AM
John GILMORE	Nerang
Ron WOOD	Nerang
Glen PALMER	Nerang
Jane KELLY	Nerang
Mark GRIERSON	Robina

THANKS TO OUR CENTURION CLUB MEMBERS

Chris Thomsen	BROADBEACH
Tony Lewis	BROADBEACH
Russell J Hutchison	BROADBEACH
John Harding	BROADBEACH
Richard Holland	BROADBEACH
Peter Grayburn	BROADBEACH
John V Mann	BROADBEACH
Jim McClymont	ILUKA
Chris Macdougall	MUDGEERABA
Susan Randel	MULLUMBIMBY
John Randel	MULLUMBIMBY
Patrick Quinn	MULLUMBIMBY
Max Wortman	NERANG
Ross Smith	PALM BEACH
William Pavey	PARKWOOD
Leanne d'Almeida	SOUTHPORT
Mervyn Powell	SOUTHPORT
Tony Pritchett	SOUTHPORT
Fay Hopf	SUMMERLAND SUNRISE
Chas Clarke	SURFERS PARADISE
William J Crouch	SURFERS PARADISE
Gary Russell	SURFERS PARADISE
Phil Dunsford	SURFERS PARADISE
Harry Page	SURFERS PARADISE
Alan Midwood	SURFERS PARADISE
David Bonifant	SURFERS PARADISE CENT
Neil Maxwell	WARWICK
James Irwin	WARWICK
Herb Angell	WARWICK
Dell Maxwell	WARWICK SUNRISE

PLEASE REPORT EVENTS

Club Presidents and Secretaries please ensure that I am advised when a member is "called to higher service", when new Rotarians join Clubs, when Paul Harris Fellows are recognised and other special awards deserving of recognition are presented either within Rotary or in the community. I wish to acknowledge and refer to these events in Talon Times, but details need to be provided.

DG Neil

Rotary District 9640 Membership & Attendance report for December 2001

Rotary Club of ...	Attendance		Membership		Year to Date		
	%age	Rank	%age	Rank	Start of Year Present	Change	
Allora	73.26	38	52.31	54	13	15	2
Alstonville	77.17	31	78.60	23	30	31	1
Ashmore	69.30	42	78.39	25	38	36	-2
Ballina	85.20	15	78.39	24	35	34	-1
Ballina-on-Richmond	86.70	12	69.21	44	24	24	-
Beaudesert	91.00	7	88.85	5	34	33	-1
Boonah	91.39	6	91.44	2	34	39	5
Broadbeach	76.27	35	83.88	7	46	50	4
Broadwater Southport	86.21	14	64.69	48	33	29	-4
Burleigh Heads	58.33	50	71.49	40	18	18	-
Byron Bay	64.40	47	81.00	17	12	15	3
Casino	80.00	25	71.55	39	31	28	-3
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	62.00	48	69.83	43	30	30	-
Coomera Valley	89.33	10	79.58	22	26	27	1
Glen Innes	77.46	30	78.12	26	35	36	1
Goondwindi	81.72	22	68.86	45	37	31	-6
Goonellabah	73.16	39	77.65	27	28	26	-2
Grafton	55.85	51	73.16	37	36	37	1
Grafton Midday	75.00	37	71.94	38	27	32	5
Iluka	82.30	21	80.22	20	13	17	4
Jimboomba	89.00	11	83.25	9	19	23	4
Kingscliff	No Detail	52	63.07	49	22	23	1
Kirra Currumbin	90.00	8	81.78	13	15	15	-
Kyogle	78.00	28	61.83	50	11	12	1
Lismore	69.00	43	80.27	19	29	28	-1
Lismore Central	59.42	49	53.30	52	22	23	1
Lismore West	96.56	1	95.35	1	44	46	2
Macleay	81.52	23	84.03	6	45	45	-
Mermaid Beach	No Detail	52	76.65	28	22	24	2
Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah)	86.67	13	82.91	10	29	30	1
Mudgeeraba	78.97	27	83.47	8	23	26	3
Mullumbimby	81.20	24	81.27	15	29	32	3
Murwillumbah	83.23	19	82.16	12	29	30	1
Murwillumbah Central	84.70	17	79.62	21	45	46	1
Nerang	93.46	3	91.21	3	24	26	2
Palm Beach	72.59	40	73.44	35	37	36	-1
Parkwood	68.75	45	73.86	33	23	23	-
Robina	77.00	32	71.33	41	14	13	-1
Runaway Bay	76.19	36	76.51	29	38	40	2
South Grafton	77.70	29	74.13	32	11	12	1
Southport	No Detail	52	67.97	46	40	45	5
Southport North	89.74	9	74.78	31	18	19	1
Stanthorpe	82.31	20	65.00	47	46	49	3
Summerland Sunrise	71.98	41	81.69	14	27	27	-
Surfers Paradise	68.93	44	59.41	51	64	64	-
Surfers Paradise Central	95.14	2	81.05	16	58	58	-
Surfers Paradise West	92.00	5	75.23	30	33	32	-1
Surfers Sunrise	79.78	26	52.49	53	40	40	-
Tamborine Mountain	93.00	4	82.52	11	11	10	-1
Tenterfield	84.10	18	80.70	18	25	24	-1
Tweed Heads South	85.18	16	89.49	4	16	18	2
Warwick	65.22	46	70.13	42	23	27	4
Warwick Sunrise	76.81	33	73.74	34	20	23	3
Yamba	76.50	34	73.39	36	27	28	1
					1559	1605	46

Visit the District Website...

www.rotary9640.org

If you have not looked at our district website recently you may be surprised at the amount of information that is now available.

Webmaster Roy Hornsby welcomes information for the site from the clubs and individual Rotarians

Advertise your club events! Check out the yearly planner!