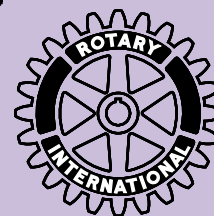




TALON TIMES



Volume 3 January 2002 Rotary District 9640



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Bushfires, Awareness and Image

January is generally a quiet month for Rotary because it is holiday season and many Rotarians are relaxing.

However, the terrible fires in New South Wales have dominated our thoughts and at the time of writing the situation is still critical. The misery and despair associated with injury and loss of property is something we are all thinking about and which we will all be anxious to assist in alleviating.

The District Governors of the Rotary Districts affected have initiated an appeal for money. This District is contributing to the fund, which will see money distributed for food, clothing and necessities.

Our Clubs are encouraged to dig deep and to contribute to this appeal. The article herein entitled "Bushfire Appeal" has details of where to send money. Otherwise send donations to our District Treasurer, Paul Gillett at PO Box 2316, Nerang MDC, Q 4211 marked for the Bushfire Appeal.

January on the Rotary Calendar is Rotary Awareness Month and it is a good time to focus on opportunities to spread the word of Rotary's good work throughout the communities in which we live.

There are so many simple ways of letting non-Rotarians know what Rotary clubs are doing in the community and in the world. Obviously displaying the Rotary

wheel prominently at all club projects will go a long way to identify these worthwhile activities with Rotary. Pride in what we do is critical to the promotion of a good Rotary image.

Passion, People, Pride and Participation. Do you remember the four P's which introduce principles that if applied will lift our image and promote success?

Passion for Rotary and for what we are doing.

Recognition that people are critical to our activities; a clear understanding that we must look after our existing members and at the same time seek new members.

Pride in our activities and our ideals.

And the participation of each and every Rotarian in Rotary activities.

Success breeds success and an organisation which promotes a successful image will grow and prosper.

Dell and I are now ready to work with everyone for the second half of the year. As you and I refocus on our goals, the district goals and the individual club goals, I know we are all keen to see that our hard work and planning in the first half of the year is brought together to successful conclusions under the theme of "Mankind is Our Business".

Together in Service

DG Neil

Calendar of District Events

Feb	2 nd – 8 th	RYLA
	5 th	RYLA Club night
	17 th	Rotary Peace Scholars – Seminar
	21 st	ROMAC Dinner – GC Arts Centre
	24 th	District Team Training Seminar
Mar	16 th – 17 th	MUNA
	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

Centurions by the half dozen + 1

One club at least in the District has a serious approach to the call for members to become Centurions. The Rotary Club of Broadbeach did it in style with six being presented with their recognition pins and Certificates by DG Neil at their club meeting on the 4th December.



Broadbeach Centurions

**CAN ANY OTHER CLUB BOAST
SUCH NUMBERS YET?**

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 Chairman Lew Verney 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

Rotary Youth Transition Seminar (RYTS)

Well what a seminar!

RYTS at Bornhoffen was held from 1st to 7th December and was a great success. Awardees will be addressing their sponsoring clubs and everyone will then become aware of the value of this program.

Judy Aitken from the Rotary Club of Kingscliff led the committee. The attendants were a wonderful and lively group who had as much fun as the awardees.

Here are some photographs taken at the seminar.



A table at RYTS Graduation



Chairman Judy Aitkin at RYTS



RYTS Bornhoffen

Fiji Rotahomes Project -

Peter Drysdale



In January 1985, the western division of the main island Viti Levu was devastated by two major cyclones in two days.

Thousands were left homeless and the worst hit were the landless Cane Cutter families and destitute families. Their shacks were death traps in a cyclone and had to be rebuilt after every

cyclone.

In response the Rotary Club of Lautoka designed a basic one-room shelter that is cyclone resistant, has good cross ventilation and gets the family up out of the mud. These are strong, wood framed, steel clad homes.

Rainwater tanks are attached. Kitchens, toilets, septic tanks and shower units are added. Mains electricity or benzine lights are installed to enable the children to study at night. These are the add-ons that can attract Rotary Foundation Matching Grants.

Peter Drysdale, who is heavily involved in the project in Fiji, will speak to the District Conference on the Rotahomes project and also on a new concept that involves a subdivision with Government assistance of seven acres of land on which it is planned to build 59 permanent homes. Into these homes will be settled the many displaced families who are the victims of the recent unrest in the country.

The concept differs from the Rotahomes concept in that it provides a legal and permanent solution to housing the destitute. Tenure to the land will be secure unlike the tenure of the land on which the removable Rotahomes are placed.

Because of the secure nature of the land tenure, Peter has been successful in having the project classified as eligible for Rotary Foundation matching grants as low cost shelters.

Hear Peter at the District Conference explain this in more detail and provide an enlightening insight into life in Fiji



Rotahome, kitchen and rainwater tank.



Squatters shack deathtrap in cyclone.

INTERPLAST - AN EARLY START

Interplast's 2002 program got off to an early start when two teams flew out of Sydney on January 6th. The teams, bound for the Philippines, were led by Dr Michael McGlynn and Dr. Peter Haertsch both veterans of some 20 Interplast programs. One team will operate in the city of Cagayan de Oro and the other on the island of Bohol. There is a great need for their skills among the poor in this Southern part of the Philippines which has a large Moslem population and has experienced some civil unrest.

In both locations Rotary clubs play a significant part in the success of the programs and assist in publicising the visits, helping with transport and assisting patients and parents in the wards.

Last year Interplast did more than 600 operations even though two programs to Indonesia were cancelled due to civil unrest. 24 programs are planned for 2002.

District Supports

Rotary Centre for International Studies

A Seminar will be held in the Wesley Hospital Auditorium, Auchenflower, Brisbane on Sunday 17 February 2002.

The purpose of the seminar is to provide information to Rotarians and other interested persons on aspects of the Rotary Peace Scholars program.

Past Rotary International President Glen Kinross will provide the keynote address, which will include his vision of the program and Rotarian involvement.

Issues that will be addressed include an overview of the program and curriculum, and issues in hosting Rotary World Peace Scholars.

District 9640 is one of the three Host Districts for the scholarship program at the University of Queensland.

Registration will be from 9.00am for a 9.30am start. The seminar will finish at 3.30pm.

Advance registrations are required for catering purposes.

Initial inquiries to Marjorie Carss, (Ph) 3378 4212 (Email) m.carss@uq.net.au

The Seminar is free and includes Morning & Afternoon Tea as well as Lunch.

More information on the District web site at www.rotary9640.org

GSE TEAM TO BRAZIL

– A FINE START

The Group Study Exchange team going to Brazil were guests at a special meeting of the Rotary Club of Broadbeach on 4th December.

The team members led by Rotarian Col Makin spoke of their expectations.

District Governor Neil presented the members with District badges and wished them well in their preparations.



GSE Brazil Broadbeach

GO HUNGRY FOR A WHILE

Don't forget one of the District Goals is that every member "give up a meal" for Polio Plus Partners.

Now is the time to do this. This is a "painless" project to conduct and most clubs have been doing it for several years now. Charge members the usual meal fee but settle for a simple inexpensive meal.

Send your money to Treasurer Paul Gillett making sure that it is clearly identified as being for this very needy project. Paul's address is PO Box 2316, Nerang MDC, Qld 4211.

What is PolioPlus Partners?

Through PolioPlus Partners, Rotary members in polio-free countries can walk side by side with those who are actively working in their

communities to find the children, educate their parents and distribute vaccine to immunization posts. PolioPlus Partners provide the necessary tools to achieve a world without polio.

Providing items for immunization activities

Rotary members can assist with immunization activities by providing items that preserve or help distribute the oral polio vaccine, T-shirts, caps and other promotional items to identify the health workers and volunteers.

Other items for immunization activities include radio and television advertisements, balloons, battery operated megaphones to communicate with the villagers on immunization days

and billboards and posters to announce the time and place of the immunization.

Here is How Your Gift Can Help

US\$30 can provide ten vaccine carriers, which keep vaccine at the right temperature. US\$100 can provide a bicycle to distribute vaccine to villages.

US\$250 can provide 25,000 pamphlets to inform the public about a National Immunization Day.

US\$500 can provide a fax to help polio medical officers transmit crucial data regarding poliovirus circulation.

US\$1,000 can purchase a motorcycle, which can be used to distribute vaccine as well as transport specimens of suspected cases of polio to laboratories.

The Rotary Club of Palm Beach through its various fundraising efforts has provided the Palm Beach Surf Life Saving Club with much needed transport for the Schools Surf & Environmental Education program.





Girls dominate Shell LiveWIRE awards

It was an all girl affair at the Queensland Shell Livewire small business awards announced at Parliament House on 27th November with all six finalists representing the talent and depth of Queensland's highly motivated young business women.

In a first for Shell Livewire, now in its fifth year in Queensland, all finalists were women selected from a field of entries received from throughout Queensland.

Three of the finalists were from District 9640, the District which gave the greatest support to the program.

Entrants aged between 18 and 28 were asked to prepare comprehensive business plans to show how innovative ideas would stack up in the real world.

Business men and women from Rotary lent their support and mentored their charges during the three month business plan preparation process.

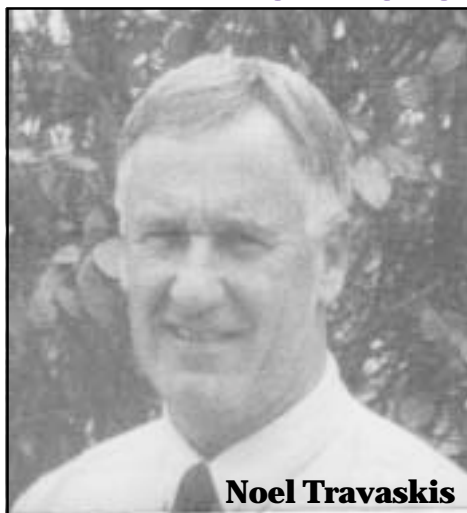
Shell Livewire commenced in Western Australia in 1987 and has been running in Queensland for five years. The next Shell Livewire program will be calling for applicants in May this year.

Shell Livewire 2001 Finalists



Left to right:
Runner up, Michell Howel "Australian Gold Fish Farm"; finalist, Emma Hunt "Baskets of Hope"; first prize winner, Clea Hamlin "Grind Espresso"; finalist, Monica Thompson "Total Essence"; finalist Kate Thompson "Neon Media"; third prize winner, Samantha Muscat "Go Jump Australia".

Profile of a Conference Speaker



Noel Travaskis

One speaker at the District Conference in April at Goondiwindi is Noel Trevaskis a Goulburn businessman and the current District 9710 Chairman of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

At the age of 34, Noel suffered a severe bout of depression and spent a

considerable time in hospital.

"It was really hard to live," he frankly acknowledged. "But don't write us off!" depression is manageable and can be cured.

One of the hardest things for me was to return to a small country town where I had quite a high profile. When I met people in the street, we would have very sterile conversations. It felt to me as if friends were turning their back on me... they just did not know how to deal with the issue."

Three years ago when the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund was considering funding research into mental illness, Noel began telling his story. He was motivated to help the community better understand mental illness and to assist others better understand how to manage it.

Since then Noel has reached 8,000

people through various avenues including the series of community forums being run by the Fund. These Forums are run in conjunction with Rotary Clubs and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care under the National Mental Health Strategy and beyondblue: the national depression initiative.

Ultimately, 300 forums will be presented over the next two years throughout Australia, with the focus on reducing the stigma within the community and to help people better understand mental illness.

Often, after a community forum, Noel receives letters and phone calls. He finds it particularly satisfying to see others draw strength from his experience.

"I am living proof that people do recover, and life does roll on," he said. Make sure you hear Noel tell his story at the District Conference.

YEP Combined Camp Tamborine Mt



Inbounders & Rebounder Adam Zaniewski at the YEP camp held at Thunderbird Park Tamborine Mt in December



Yuri, YEP Committee Chairman Stuart Fairley, Ayumi & Gam at the YEP Concert Saturday evening.

Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members

Our District has no Rotary Foundation Sustaining members listed on the current report.

We do however have Rotarians who have contributed US\$100 or more towards PHF credits.

Rotarians who have contributed US\$100 in this Rotary Year may like to become a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member and should notify Terry Davies at the Parramatta office.

In November 1998, the Foundation's Trustees redefined the Sustaining Member program. No longer directly tied to recognition, the new Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member program encourages every Rotarian to make a minimum gift of US\$100 to the Annual Programs Fund every year regardless of the recognition they have or will achieve. In other words, as annual donors, they help sustain all of the Foundation's programs.

The Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member program continues to allow donors to achieve

Paul Harris Fellow or Multiple Paul Harris Fellow status over time.

Better yet, it provides a mechanism in which contributions and pledge commitments are tracked, and Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members are reminded of when their commitments are due.

All that has really changed is that Rotarians are now asked to put their Sustaining Member commitments to the Foundation in writing. Rotarians can sustain the many wonderful programs of their Rotary Foundation with a gift of US\$100 or more every year to the Annual Programs Fund even after they have become a Paul Harris Fellow, Multiple Paul Harris Fellow or Major Donor.

All Rotarians have to do is complete and submit to the Foundation a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member Pledge Card (137EN or 137CAP). Many Rotarians will want to include The Rotary Foundation each year as one of their preferred charities.

Rotary Foundation Sustaining Membership should not be confused with the Centurion Club. To be a Centurion you pledge to give \$A100 per year for as long as you are able. Donations are still credited to the individual and also to the Annual Programs Fund for the District. Details about the Centurion program have appeared in previous issues of Talon times. Centurion enquiries and pledges should be directed to DG Neil.

Congratulations Heather

Immediate Past District Governor Heather Yarker will be representing RI President Rick King at the District Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh in January. This will be an exciting event for Heather who will also visit parts of India during her travels to that part of the world.

Bushfire Appeal

There are two Rotary funds operating

1. NSW Fires Emergency Assistance Fund

The account has been set up at St George Bank and here are the details:

BSB of 112-879 account number 107026438 and it is called Rotary Sydney Tri District Emergency Assistance Fund

The three Sydney District Governors who will be working in conjunction with organisations such as the Salvation Army are controlling the account. They will not be advancing cash to bushfire victims, but instead will be providing food, clothing etc.

DG Phil Lacey District 9690 would appreciate an email to placey@bigpond.net.au from the Clubs that donate direct to the fund so as he can reconcile and track the deposits. It is the intention of the Sydney DGs to advise Clubs of the people they have assisted and how.

Clubs wishing to send cheques can either send them to DG 9680 Barry Philps, 32 Galahad Cres, Castle Hill NSW 2154, DG 9750 Roger Kilburn, 19 Stanton Rd, Haberfield NSW 2045 or DG 9690 Phil Lacey, PO Box 767, St Marys NSW 1790.

2. J. C. Olsson Relief Trust Fund

As you will be aware there have been devastating bush fires in the Shoalhaven area. The six Shoalhaven Clubs - Bomaderry, Berry Gerringong, Nowra, South Nowra, Jervis Bay and Sussex Inlet have decided that as Rotarians they must respond to the needs of their local community. Over 90 homes were lost in the area and three clubs have decided to implement a program to assist families who have lost their homes to get back on their land. Program "**Return Home with Rotary**" has evolved.

The program is ambitious and requires the clubs providing caravans, connecting the vans to available utilities after level or finding a suitable site. It was felt that the victims would want to return to their land and familiar surroundings as quickly as possible.

An existing registered Trust Fund namely the J C Olsson Relief

Trust Fund is being used for collection of donations. The address is

Rotary Bush Fire Appeal

J C Olsson Relief Trust Fund
c/- Rotary Club of Canberra
PO Box 276
Canberra ACT 2600

Stop Press

The Rotary Club of Runaway Bay on Sunday 13th January collected \$11,200.00 for the Bushfire Appeal at the Magic Million Horse Spectacular at the Gold Coast.

The club became highly motivated at Christmas time to raise as much money as possible for the New South Wales fire victims. Led by a very enthusiastic Rtn. Warren Fowler and coordinated by PP Graeme Duggan a very successful start to the appeal has been made. Congratulations Rotary Club of Runaway Bay.

URGENT ATTENTION – ALL CLUBS PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS ADVICE OF CHANGE TO ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY CONVERSION

A\$1.96 = US\$1.00 effective from 1st January, 2002

Finance Supervisor, Charles Morrison, advises **all Clubs in the District** that as from and including 1st January 2002 all payments to Rotary International in Australian Dollars will be converted to the "**Official Currency**" United States Dollars at a conversion rate of **A\$1.96** Australian Dollars equal **US \$1.00**. This change is due to changes in the market value of the Australian Dollar.

Any Donations to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International or to the Australian Rotary Foundation Trust will also be converted using the new exchange rate. The rate will apply to **ALL payments received at Parramatta** in Australian Dollars **from and including 1st January 2002** and will remain in force until further advised.

Australian Clubs are reminded that GST of 10% is payable on all transactions with Rotary International and to add the GST to all US\$ amounts for Semi Annual Dues or on invoice from WHQ (World Head Quarters).
Foundation Donations do not add GST.
Please make all RI and TRF(The Rotary Foundation) payments to Parramatta NOT Evanston.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kevin KEMP	Broadbeach
Graeme JACKSON	Broadbeach
Brad MORGAN	Broadbeach
Stephen OSBORNE	Broadbeach
Keith SMITH	Ballina on Richmond
Peter TRUER	Boonah
Ernest SHEFFIELD	Mermaid Beach
Christine WEST	Summerland Sunrise

CLUB PRESIDENTS PLEASE NOTE! ROTARY'S GLOBAL QUEST

In the November issue of the Rotarian, the top districts for each zone based on membership gain were listed. I also received updates from Rotary International on membership. One report compares figures submitted to RI by the membership coordinators for the districts from July 1st to 31st October, and the second report reflected the starting figures for districts compared to figures from information on the RI database at World Headquarters. The database figures will be the basis for determining the Global Quest winning districts and clubs.

There is a variance in the starting figure and the gains and losses between the two sets of figures, which appears to be due to clubs not forwarding information on new members and terminations promptly to Rotary International. I would appreciate if Club Presidents could look into this please. New members should be reported to RI Office in Parramatta.

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 November 2001

Rotary Club of	Attendance				Membership		
	%age	Rank	%age	Rank	Start of Yr	Present	Change
Allora	78.92	29	48.12	53	13	14	1
Alstonville	65.95	52	78.88	23	30	31	1
Ashmore	76.42	41	80.20	19	38	38	-
Ballina	79.98	26	77.03	29	35	35	-
Ballina-on-Richmond	92.08	4	65.72	47	24	25	1
Beaudesert	86.50	11	88.42	6	34	33	-1
Boonah	89.40	9	91.45	3	34	39	5
Broadbeach	81.84	20	85.40	7	46	49	3
Broadwater Southport	77.24	36	60.39	49	33	30	-3
Burleigh Heads	81.42	23	74.12	34	18	18	-
Byron Bay	78.70	30	84.32	10	12	15	3
Casino	68.50	49	69.86	45	31	29	-2
Coolangatta Tweed Heads	77.30	34	71.40	41	30	31	1
Coomera Valley	69.00	48	77.63	28	26	27	1
Glen Innes	79.64	27	78.25	26	35	36	1
Goondiwindi	87.90	10	66.29	46	37	31	-6
Goonellabah	75.25	44	78.55	25	28	26	-2
Grafton	80.50	25	76.62	30	36	36	-
Grafton Middy	77.00	38	71.33	42	27	32	5
Iluka	77.50	33	79.80	22	13	17	4
Jimboomba	86.00	12	82.10	14	19	22	3
Kingscliff	75.00	45	75.69	32	22	23	1
Kirra Currumbin	77.00	38	80.13	20	15	15	-
Kyogle	66.00	51	58.60	50	11	12	1
Lismore	86.00	12	82.52	12	29	28	-1
Lismore Central	64.58	54	52.08	52	22	24	2
Lismore West	97.25	1	95.11	1	44	46	2
Macleay	83.34	16	84.54	8	45	45	-
Mermaid Beach	92.00	5	91.98	2	22	24	2
Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah)	85.00	14	82.16	13	29	30	1
Mudgeeraba	89.74	8	84.37	9	23	26	3
Mullumbinby	81.80	21	81.28	17	29	32	3
Murwillumbah	83.25	18	81.94	15	29	30	1
Murwillumbah Central	83.30	17	78.60	24	45	45	-
Nerang	92.30	3	90.76	4	24	26	2
Palm Beach	75.92	42	73.61	35	37	36	-1
Parkwood	77.30	34	74.88	33	23	23	-
Robina	79.00	28	70.20	44	14	14	-
Runaway Bay	75.71	43	76.58	31	38	40	2
South Grafton	78.00	32	73.42	36	11	13	2
Southport	72.22	47	81.57	16	40	45	5
Southport North	76.92	40	71.79	40	18	19	1
Stanthorpe	77.15	37	61.53	48	46	49	3
Summerland Sunrise	90.73	7	83.63	11	27	27	-
Surfers Paradise	65.25	53	57.51	51	64	64	-
Surfers Paradise Central	78.65	31	78.23	27	58	58	-
Surfers Paradise West	84.40	15	71.88	39	33	32	-1
Surfers Sunrise	81.06	24	47.03	54	40	38	-2
Tamborine Mountain	95.00	2	80.42	18	11	10	-1
Tenterfield	82.83	19	80.02	21	25	24	-1
Tweed Heads South	91.18	6	90.35	5	16	18	2
Warwick	68.48	50	71.11	43	23	27	4
Warwick Sunrise	81.66	22	73.13	37	20	24	4
Yamba	75.00	45	72.76	38	27	28	1
					1559	1609	50

Called to Higher Service



Arthur CHEESMAN Ballina Rotary Club
Graeme HUNT Coolangatta Tweed
Dick STEELE Murwillumbah

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!