



Rotary International District 9640  
*Governor's Letter*  
Number 21, Sunday 20 Apr. 2003

District 9640  
Governor 2002/2003  
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**Favourite Websites**  
  
Rotary International  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
  
District 9640  
<http://rotary9640.org>  
  
Rotary Down Under  
<http://rotarnet.com.au>  
  
Rotary Centenary  
[centennial.rotary.org](http://centennial.rotary.org)

**From the Governor's Desk**

In November 2002, the RI Board of Directors agreed to discontinue RI's Disaster Relief activities, as of 1 January 2003. As a result, RI no longer issues formal **Notices of Disaster**.

At the meeting, the Directors recognized that Rotarians have a strong interest in disaster relief efforts, noting that many clubs offer assistance following a major catastrophe. However, the Board agreed that well-established international relief agencies are far better equipped than RI's district relief committees to effectively allocate resources to victims in need in an emergency.

Further, in January 2003, The Rotary Foundation Trustees agreed to eliminate the SHARE District Designated Funds (DDF) Disaster Relief option for immediate disaster relief to afflicted districts.

The Trustees encourage districts to use DDF for disaster relief efforts through existing Humanitarian Program Grants (such as Matching Grants) to provide long-term support in the aftermath of a disaster.

RI's International Support Section (contact Susan Schneider) will continue to provide information resources regarding disaster relief efforts. When informed of local relief initiatives undertaken by clubs or districts, RI

will share updates about these local efforts on the RI Web site and in the Rotary News Basket. Rotarians wishing to contribute funds and/or donated goods to disaster victims can contact the International Support Section to learn about current relief efforts.

**To support Rotary's Polio Eradication Campaign (and enter the prize draw for a trip to Los Angeles for 2 people)  
Call 1900 999 123.**  
Calls Cost \$4.95 (Inc GST) Higher from mobile phones.

To provide fast and effective relief to disaster victims, the RI Board suggests that Rotarians in disaster-affected areas collaborate with the international agencies leading local relief efforts, such as a local chapter of the Red Cross.

To assist with long-term disaster relief projects, Rotarians are encouraged to develop and support a World Community Service project and to utilize grants from The Rotary Foundation, when applicable.

Rotarians traditionally respond to disaster victims worldwide. This policy change simplifies such responses.

*Ross Smith*

**Wataboshi Music Festival**

Access Arts, hosts of the Asia Pacific Wataboshi Music Festival in November, 2003, may contact your club regarding the opportunity for Rotary to participate in the Festival.

They would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the festival as guest speakers at clubs in the near future. Interested Club Program Directors are asked to contact Peter Vance on 0417 788 170. Alternatively, you may email Marketing Assistant Linda Cupitt on [linda@accessarts.org.au](mailto:linda@accessarts.org.au)

**Suicide Prevention Australia**

Suicide Prevention Australia is proud to announce **Professor Judy Atkinson** as one of the Keynote Speakers at its 10th Annual Conference. She will be presenting one of the 5 pre-conference half day workshops on 12 June 2003 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. She will also give a keynote address on 13 June.

Professor Atkinson is presently the Chair of the College of Indigenous Australian Peoples at Southern Cross University. The half-day workshop will provide a conceptual understanding of suicide and other forms of self-harm in the lives of

Aboriginal people.

Early Bird registration closes on 24th April 2003

<http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org>

For further information please contact:  
T 07 3858 5419  
F 07 3858 5510

## 5<sup>th</sup> Aust Rotary Awareness Week

On behalf of the Rotary Australian Corporate Alliance Program (ACAP) Board, I am pleased to provide further information regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> Australian Rotary Awareness Week Event - 25-31 May 2003.

The ACAP partners and sponsors which are supporting the event include:

Air New Zealand  
APN News Media  
Avis Australia  
Multelink Australia  
CGU Insurance  
Harvey World Travel  
iTouch Interactive  
McDonald's Australia  
National Aust Bank  
Roman Print Services  
SiteSuite Australasia  
t.a.v. Productions  
Shop-A-Docket

The increasing involvement of Rotary clubs has significantly helped broaden Rotary Awareness during Awareness Week in the local communities and thereby enhanced some of the national awareness campaigns being organised by ACAP.

Support of our Annual National Awareness Week event has continued to grow through the tremendous support of

ACAP Alliance Partners which have underwritten the PR and advertising campaign costs.

Each year, we have also seen increasing support and involvement of Rotary Clubs.

This year's Australian Rotary Awareness week campaign will again support Rotary's Polio Eradication Campaign and the 1900 999 123 donation line.

With the generous donation already received by Telstra the 1900 999 123 donation line (including the Federal Government's matching grant through AusAID) has already helped raise over \$100,000 and some 300 telephone calls have been received. Your support in encouraging awareness as well as your family and friends to phone the 1900 999 123 donation line and enter the prize draw for a trip to Los Angeles for two people would be very much appreciated. Call costs are \$4.95 inc GST – higher from pay and mobile phones.

The national stand-alone campaigns which have been organised by ACAP this year, as in previous years are to support the separate individual Awareness Week activities undertaken by Rotary Districts and Rotary Clubs in Australia. This year it also takes advantage of the publicity surrounding the RI Brisbane International Convention.

The key Awareness Week activities which have been arranged by ACAP for this year's Awareness Week include:

1. Shop-A-Docket, 22 April 2003 – 8 week campaign valued at \$343,000
2. McDonald's Traymat, 23 May – 5 June national campaign valued at \$400,000
3. APN News Media (being finalised )
4. Happy Hats Rotary Club Fundraiser – which can be undertaken by Rotary Clubs during Awareness Week to raise funds for their Club's community programs and the Polio Eradication Campaign.

You'll notice that both the generous Shop-A-Docket and McDonalds Traymat campaigns continue after the competition expiry date of 30 May 2003.

Both the Shop-A-Docket and McDonald's Traymat clearly state that the competition runs until 30 May 2003 so that anyone seeing the campaigns in circulation after the 30 May 2003 date are aware that the prize draw would have been made.

Please find attached background

information on all the above initiatives together with an internal Rotary memo from McDonalds which they have asked be circulated to all Rotary Clubs, so as to provide them with details of the national Traymat Campaign organised with ACAP and to ensure that all inquires regarding the campaign are directed to ACAP (**not McDonald's**).

To view the McDonalds Polio Eradication Donation Line 1900 999 123 Traymat or Shop-A-Docket Polio Eradication Donation Line 1900 999 123 artwork and other information please go to the ACAP web site [www.r-acap.org/AwarenessWeek.html](http://www.r-acap.org/AwarenessWeek.html)

## RI Membership Tracking System

RI has introduced a membership tracking system in Australia that has been trialled in North America.

The purpose is to provide former Rotarians the opportunity to continue their involvement with Rotary.

Australia Post will track the new addresses of past members who have terminated their memberships because of moving to a new residence.

This information will be shared with Governors of the District/s. The President of a nearby club will be contacted by the Governor so that an invitation to the person may be extended for a future meeting. #