



Rotary International District 9640
Governor's Letter
 Number 20, Sunday 6 Apr. 2003

District 9640
 Governor 2002/2003
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Favourite Websites

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

District 9640
<http://rotary9640.org>

Rotary Down Under
<http://rotarnet.com.au>

Brisbane Convention
www.rotary2003.org

From the Governor's Desk

April is the time of year when Rotary International recommends that Rotary clubs concentrate their attention on the benefits and importance of **The Rotary World Magazine Press**.

Latest figures reveal that there are now 30 Rotary magazines circulating throughout the Rotary World - in 22 languages.

Magazine subscription is a requirement of Rotary membership - and for a very good reason. The Rotary World Magazine Press is the only means of direct contact between the R I Board of Directors and individual Rotarians!

The Rotary World Magazine Press is recognised as the most valuable resource and educational tool available to Rotarians - and the April issue of Rotary Down Under provides convincing evidence of that claim.

Pgs 14/15 provide an interesting insight into the mechanics of preparing a magazine, along with some interesting ideas and tips for the future.

Pg 10 carries plans for a second Rotary Awareness Week this Rotary year - from May 25 to 31 - to take advantage of the publicity surrounding the R.I. Convention in Brisbane. Australian Corporate Alliance Program CEO, David Arakie, announces another McDonalds

Polio Eradication Campaign tray mat release and several other initiatives.

Pgs 11/13 carry colourful photographs and the story behind President Bhichai Rattakul's inspirational two day visit to assess Rotary in Action in Perth, W A.

Pgs 17/ 22 highlight the many attractions and advantages of a R.I. Convention within our own nation!

Pgs 24/ 25 provide an absorbing article on the much debated issue of multi-District or single District PETS - not to mention preliminary information on the proposed R.I. Strategic Plan.

The April issue of Rotary Down Under contains all the regular columns and features, along with a great variety of feature articles from all parts of the "down under" circulation area.

Ross Smith

RI Exchange Rate

New rate at 31/03/03
1.64
 (the old rate was 1.78)

Peace & Ambassadorial Scholar Applicant Dates

The closing date in District 9640 for applicants for the next round of scholarships is Fri **15 August 2003**.

Interested potential applicants will find relevant information on the RI website.



District Awards

Applicants for District Awards are due to District Chair PDG Keith Robson on **15 May 2003**.

T 07 5577 5802

ROMAC Update

Brian Mason, Chair, ROMAC, Northern Region has informed me that Shinta Devi, the eight year old girl from Bali came out of the Brisbane Royal Children's Hospital operating theatre at 6.30pm on 27 March.

She had a Choledochal Cyst removed from the liver and her gallbladder removed. Dr Ong, her surgeon, said everything went according to plan.

Her relieved and happy father said she is sitting up in bed watching TV.

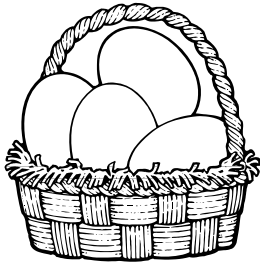
Another excellent outcome of the work of ROMAC! Help support this work by attending the ROMAC Celebration Dinner Dance.



You simply can't afford to miss out on this magnificent evening. Join us to recognise

and support the work of this outstanding Rotary initiative.

Contact:
Phil Rosenberg
T 07 5538 0254
M 0412 374 363
E philtini@hotmail.com
Kerry
M 0409 741 747
Tony
T 5574 0073



Rotary Community Survey

The Sydney based company Market Attitude Research Services (MARS) recently included questions about Rotary in "Canberra Pulse", a random community survey conducted regularly across the ACT and nearby rural areas in southern NSW.

The outcomes provide some food for thought for us all. I find data useful not just to answer questions but often to ask them!

Some preliminary findings include:

- **95%** of people were aware of an organisation called Rotary.
- **95%** agreed that Rotary is an organisation that does community work in local areas.
- **79%** agreed that Rotary is an organisation that helps people both locally and

overseas (5% disagreed)

- **21%** felt that Rotary was an organisation for men only (Note: 62% disagreed)
- **21%** believed that Rotary is comprised mainly of people aged 50 years and over (Note: 56% disagreed)
- **27%** felt Rotary was an old fashioned organisation that has outlived its usefulness (Note: 59% disagreed)
- **15%** felt that Rotary was an organisation that only "high powered" business people or senior public servants can join (Note: 74% disagreed)
- **70%** said they would consider supporting Rotary in its activities.
- **19%** said they would consider joining Rotary.
- **1%** thought Rotary had secret handshakes and passwords - but 76% disagreed.

It is always interesting to see ourselves as others see us.

Unsung Community Heroes

ENERGEX is seeking Rotary's assistance in discovering and recognizing unsung heroes in local communities in southeast Queensland.

More than 30% of Australians aged 18 years and older participate in voluntary

work - much goes largely unrecognized.

The outstanding volunteer will receive a \$10,000 reward to be spent on their community activity and there will be four smaller rewards of \$2,500 each.

The five volunteers will be judged on the basis of a written submission of up to 500 words.

Do consider nominating a local Rotarian who has had their heart in a special project for some time (over 12 months). Entries close 16 May 2003.

For details, contact
Jo Thompson
T 07 3407 4553
T 1800 137 637
www.energex.com.au

Attendance February 2003 Top Ten

92% RC Byron Bay
91% RC Boonah
87% RC S'thport North
86% RC Mullumbimby
86% RC Glen Innes
86% RC Ashmore
86% RC Mermaid Bch
84% RC Nerang
83% RC Lismore West
83% RC Jimboomba
83% RC Robina

RI Institute '03

The RI Zones 7A & 8A Institute is to be held in Wagga Wagga on 14 - 16 November 2003.

The Institute exists to inform and enthuse PDGs, DGs, DgsE and DGsN. It is a formal, gathering of some hundreds of RI Officers at a central venue. District 9640 has applied to host a future Zone Institute.

RI Convention District Booth

DGN Margaret Hayes is keen to finalise the arrangements for the District 9640 Booth at the Brissie Convention. She wishes to access posters, videos, brochures and 3D examples of club activities from around the district.

Further, she will need a considerable workforce to staff the booth during the convention. Non-convention goers who have a half-day available would be most appropriate for this purpose. Do please assist us.

T 02 6674 1941

"Relay for Life" Club Challenge

The Rotary Club of Ashmore is challenging Gold Coast Rotary Clubs to mount a relay team of (10 to 15) runners, (walkers or strollers but certainly stayers!) to take to the track for 24 hours at Evandale on Sat 17 and Sun 18 May in support of the Queensland Cancer Fund.

There will be entertainment, games, challenges and treasure hunts throughout the evening. TV presenter, Rob Readings, will be the MC.

Contact Denise Payne:
T 5539 1041
www.austcountry.com.au/relay.html

New Members

A warm welcome to:
Andre Sedran
RC of Runaway Bay #