



Rotary International District 9640  
*Governor's Letter*  
Number 22, Sunday 4 May 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>  
  
Brisbane Convention  
[www.rotary2003.org](http://www.rotary2003.org)

**From the Governor's Desk**

RI President Bichai Rattakul has asked me to share this, his current message, with all members:

"My Fellow Rotarians,

I want to assure you that all of Rotary International, including myself, is concerned about the recent outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and its effect on Rotarians and Rotary's work around the world. We are also concerned about its potential impact on the 2003 RI (Brisbane) Convention.

A large part of everyone's uncertainty is due to the fact that this is a new disease and therefore has many unknown factors related to it. As a result, the potential impact of SARS on Rotarians around the world and at the RI Brisbane Convention cannot be known.

To date, the Australian government has not

instituted automatic quarantines or banned entry of citizens from any certain countries. Visitors to Brisbane should stay informed of any further developments as reported by reliable

sources, such as the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, USA ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)), the World Health Organization ([www.who.int/en](http://www.who.int/en)) in Geneva, Switzerland and their own

national department or ministry of health. Also, it is important to communicate with the local Australian consulate in case of a change in the country's admission policies.

It may help to put the risk of SARS in perspective by comparing it to other illnesses with which we are more familiar. The number of deaths caused to date by SARS, for example, is minimal in comparison to the quarter of a million deaths caused by influenza annually.

Nevertheless I certainly appreciate your concerns. The RI Board of Directors, many Rotary leaders, thousands of Rotarians and myself are still planning to attend the 2003 RI (Brisbane) Convention.

I offer my sincere wish to see you and all of my other Rotarian friends, not only in Brisbane for the

**RI International Membership Recognition 02-03**

As of **15 May 2003**, I must report to RI in Evanston on three RI Membership Awards for clubs in our District for 2002/2003.

**A**

**Highest Growth Rate**

(The net increase number of members at 15 May 2003 divided by the number of members on 1 July 2002 multiplied by 100.)

RC Broad beach – 18%  
RC Runaway Bay – 15%

**B**

**Most Inductions**

(The gross number of inductions between 1 July 02 and 15 May 03.)

RC Broadbeach – 9  
RC Ashmore - 6

**C**

**Highest Retention Rate**

(The number of members at 15 May 2003 who were members of the club to begin the year on 1 July 2002 divided by the opening membership number on 1 July 2003 times 100.)

RC Allora – 100%  
RC Stanthorpe – 96%

I have noted, above, some outstanding club results according to data available to me currently. This data may be incomplete or incorrect by 15 May 2003.

Clubs are asked to check their data for me and to let me know **prior to 15 May** if their figures make claims that are superior to these shown above. Many thanks.

Ross Smith  
D 9640 G 2002/2003

“We cannot do great things on this earth. We can only do little things with great love.”

Mother Teresa

“Sow the Seeds of Love”

Bhichai Rattakul

“Even if it is a little thing, do something for those who have need of help – something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.”

Albert Schweitzer,

“Service above Self”

RI motto

**Support The Rotary Foundation  
- our own charity!**

**Become a Centurion - commit one hundred (\$A) dollars per year.**

convention, but throughout the world as we **Sow the Seeds of Love** in a more healthy and peaceful world.”

*Ross Smith*

### History of Rotary Project

“Thinking of Rotary, I visualize a series of concentric circles which, starting with the smallest and going to the largest, I denominate as the community, national and international influence. In the center, I see Rotary International as a generating force of incalculable value.”  
FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

The History of Rotary can help us to realize our prominence and importance in the world. In our first fifty years, Rotary held the world's attention in ways that the world needs us to once again.

RC of Parkwood was the first club in Australia to create a link to this project. Today, there are thousands of such links around the world, but Australia remains one of our most important areas of history awareness.

Several suggested ideas include the single page of history, ideal for posting on your website: [www.onepagehistory.org](http://www.onepagehistory.org). The page, with links to the site, has been carefully edited to give a Rotarian a quick view of Rotary's beginning through to

modern times. It can be copied and pasted to a single page of your own website. Also, a subscription to the popular "Rotary minute,"

[www.whatpaulharrissai.d.org](http://www.whatpaulharrissai.d.org) would be another good addition for Rotary members. This weekly 60-second publication features a quote from the remarkable writings of Rotary's founder with contemporary references. You may also wish to receive the monthly newsletter by visiting [www.historynewsletter.org/](http://www.historynewsletter.org/)

The "History of Rotary" Project is not a dusty library shelf. Reading about the early leaders of Rotary and the stories of the many early clubs will help you lead Rotary into the future. Many of the books and writings are out of print. However, they can be found on the 1,200 pages of [w.historyofrotary.org](http://w.historyofrotary.org)

### March 2003 Attendance -Top Ten-

100%	RC Lismore
94%	RC Beaudesert
93%	RC Tamborine Mt
92%	RC Lismore West
91%	RC Ashmore
89%	RC Mullumbimby
89%	RC Broadbeach
88%	RC Byron Bay
86%	RC Jimboomba
87%	RC Boonah

### New Members

A warm welcome to:  
Dianne Saffigna  
RC Cool Tweed Hds  
Paul Saffigna  
RC Cool Tweed Hds  
Robert Rothwell  
RC Cool Tweed Hds  
James Hulse  
RC Cool Tweed Hds

**District Assembly**  
Richmond River High Lismore  
**Sunday 18 May 03**

### ROMAC QLD LAUNCH

The Rotary ROMAC *Celebration!* Dinner Dance

Sat 10 May 2003  
\$75 per head  
Southport RSL  
Contact:  
Bryan Mason  
07 5531 5179

*Happy Mothers Day*  
11-5-03

### Group Study Exchange 2004 Date Claimer

GSE To District 3290 India  
January 2004

Team Leaders And Team Members

Applications Close  
16 May 2003

Details and forms on the District Website