



DISTRICT LIGHTHOUSE



DISTRICT 9820:

ISSUE 12:

JUNE 2015

From DG Charlie

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Well here we are in our last epistle for the Rotary and DG Year, what a marvellous experience it has been. We have travelled the length and breadth of the District and shared in celebrations, major fund raising events and heaps of general Rotary fellowship. It has been a delight to see the many ways that Rotarians go about Lighting Up Rotary in their communities, both at a local level and the broader international community we all make up.



It is most appropriate that June is Fellowship Month because it is an opportunity to reflect on the fact that Rotarians are a diverse group of people, with as many interests, hobbies and personal pursuits as we are in number.

At the same time, as we conclude another Rotary year, we are able to celebrate our achievements as Rotarians who have a common goal to make the world a better place. So as a group of people drawn together to use our diverse range of skills, abilities and attitudes to make a difference in our community we can find fellow Rotarians that share our passion and share time to develop our personal interests. The size and international nature of Rotary makes this a unique organization and helps us to enjoy our Rotary even more.

I cannot let the opportunity pass without making sure every Rotarian in the District is thanked for their efforts in making this Rotary year a success. We have done many projects at the local community level and also participated in the International efforts of Rotary through our giving to End Polio Now and Youth Exchange, Group Study Exchange, International Aid and Disaster Relief. We have participated in Developmental projects, both by giving financially and by using our skills on work parties that have travelled overseas. Well done District 9820! I am sure the world is a better place for the efforts of so many in so many ways as we have attempted to Light Up Rotary.

As I conclude, may I wish Merv and Chris every success and enjoyment as they undertake their 'time in the Chair!' Merv has prepared well and I am sure, will have a wonderful year. Please remember that Sunday, June 28th is District Changeover at Pakenham and we look forward to seeing a good roll up.

From Janne and myself, thank you again and we look forward to maintaining friendships made as we have travelled the District during the year.

IMPORTANT DATES:

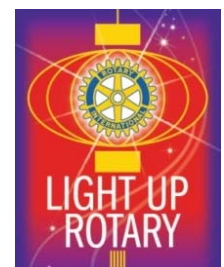
JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

District Changeover

28th June, 2015

Success conference (Canberra)

5th – 6th September, 2015



AROUND THE DISTRICT – JANNE SPEIRS

Here it is, the final Lighthouse! Thank you everyone for all your support with the articles for the newsletter over the year – your input has been much appreciated. As we come to the end of our year, I would also like to thank everyone for the welcome we've received everywhere we've gone during the year - it has really contributed greatly towards the fantastic fun we've had. I'm sure Merv and Chris will get just as much enjoyment and fulfilment from their year and I wish them all the best. A number of Club changeovers have already been enjoyed and the next couple of weeks are full on – to all new Presidents and Boards, have fun! Photos from climbing a rockwall at RYPEN, to our first changeover of the year, a full complement at the YEP applicant day and Tim and Jan A'Hearn at the Indian celebration for Pakenham Inner Wheel and RC Pakenham



GIVE A DAMN, GIVE A CAN



Give a Damn. Give a Can, an annual collection of tinned food, is a project run by the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central. The food is donated to the local Vinnies Food Bank and distributed to needy families.

The club has just completed its 2015 program with over 12 000 tins being collected. Of this collection, 7700 were accumulated by the Traralgon Primary Schools. The balance of the collection is made up from street collection points, monetary donations, work place/ sports clubs collections and a doorknock appeal conducted by Rotarians, scouts and secondary college students.

During the program's 20 years history, the club estimates 120 000 cans of food have been collected.

The 12 000 cans making up the 2015 collection, will last the food bank just 6 months.

Further information: ian57@wideband.net.au

YEP ROCK TO REEF

Recently the twelve inbound exchange students located throughout our District headed off on their three week 'Rock to Reef' trip throughout Central Australia and along our east coast. They were joined by twenty nine other exchange students from Districts 9500, 9520 (SA & NT), 9630 (QLD) and 9830 (TAS) and four Rotarians from 9820. The initial week of the trip saw the students visit Adelaide, before heading up into the outback to explore Gladstone, Coober Pedy, Kings Canyon, Uluru, and Alice Springs. During this time students got to sleep in cells in an old gaol, a 'dugout', and even had a night sleeping out under the stars before a few rather cold nights in tents. Thankfully the sleeping bags were rated to minus 5 degrees although the students may argue otherwise! From Alice springs they flew across to Cairns and worked their way down the east coast over the remaining two weeks. Places visited included Airlie Beach, Raglan, Surfers Paradise, Byron Bay, and Sydney. Highlights of this time included snorkelling and diving on the Great barrier Reef, swimming under a waterfalls, ocean rafting from Airlie Beach out to Whitehaven Beach, visiting a working cattle station followed by a night of karaoke, roller coasters at Dreamworld, and exploring Sydney. Aside from having the opportunity to explore our wonderful country it proved to be a time where many new international friendships were forged, and a ridiculous amount of fun was had by all, including the Rotarian leaders who were all sad to see the trip come to an end. All up there were 41 students hosted across 5 Australian Districts, coming from 16 countries. Rotary Youth Exchange – Building international friendships, creating a greater understanding between cultures, and forging international friendships. It really is *Rotary in Action!*



DISASTER AID AUSTRALIA – NEPAL UPDATE

THE FIRST STAGE OF DEPLOYMENT COMPLETED

And Australian DARTs continue with the vital relief effort ...

Dave Tuzewski (South Australia) and **Peter Hazell** (UK) have handed over to Australians **Di Holland** (Team Leader) and **Jenny Greer**, and **Michael McKeever** from the USA. Their task will be to adapt our deployment to the impact of the forthcoming monsoon using local solutions where possible. **Di Holland** (from Echuca Vic.) was recently on a long-term deployment with **Disaster Aid Australia** in **Vanuatu**.



Brief report on our work to date. **Building** materials and other aid items, including 123 tents have been distributed to previously identified villages. While there is some semblance of 'normality' in Kathmandu, in contrast to the hope that greeted our team, this has now turned to impatience and panic as people, still in need of shelter, face the imminent monsoon. It will bring serious difficulties with many villages now cut off by damaged roads and significant landslides.



Because of an embargo on permanent construction while new design procedures are implemented, we have to focus on transitional shelter solutions. The deployment of more tents is largely impractical given the lack of suitable space, so we are looking at providing appropriate building materials (such as corrugated sheeting). Another option is to fund local brick making. And we are constantly assessing the best deployment of our water filtration solutions.

The road ahead

Along with local Rotary clubs, we are working with our partners, Community Development & Relief Agency (CDRA) in this deployment. Stage 2 of our deployment will take place in September – after the monsoon – when more permanent shelter solutions will be required.

We are once again in this for the long haul to help Nepalese people in such distressing times.

PLEASE LOOK FOR NEWS ON www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au or <https://www.facebook.com/disasteraidaustralia>

The website will also allow you to donate to the DAA Nepal (or, I am sure, Vanuatu) appeal.)

MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY – AG John Caruana

On behalf of D9820 and the MUNA Committee I thank all the Clubs who sponsored teams in this year's MUNA. The delegates representing 28 countries, the diplomatic couriers, and those officiating and judging the performances over the weekend, all had a most enjoyable and satisfying weekend. I have also had a large number of messages of congratulation and support for the MUNA programme and the beneficial effects it has on participating students. Many of these messages came from those watching, the visiting Rotarians, parents and teachers.

Prizes were awarded at the conclusion: **Best Overall Delegation Trophy:** Delegation from Berwick Grammar representing Republic of Korea (South), sponsored by the Rotary Club of Casey. **Best Overall Delegation (Runners-up):** Delegation from Nossal High School representing Israel, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Berwick. **Most Popular Delegation voted by the students:** Delegation from Nossal High School representing Israel, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Casey. **Best Costume representing their country:** Delegation from Woodleigh School representing DPR of Korea (North), sponsored by the Rotary Club of Somerville-Tyabb. **District 9820 Peace Trophy:** Delegation from Gippsland Grammar representing Kenya, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sale Central

The Best Overall Delegation gets the opportunity to travel to Canberra in August to take part in MUNA from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 August at the Museum of Australian Democracy (the Old Parliament House).

We congratulate all students who participated. It takes courage and some hard work to be prepared to step forward in such an event. All these students can rightly be proud of their achievements and of the contribution they have made to the understanding of several of the most important global issues.

For those interested in seeing some of the action and the participants, photos taken by our official photographer Keith Payne can be found at the district web site www.district9820. Or log into the MUNA page face book. (if you have any difficulty connecting please email our MUNA IT manager Anthony Mayer (anthony@mayrae.com.au))

We recommend that all clubs sponsoring a delegation should invite their team to one of their meetings to talk about their experiences, their impressions, and the outcome of their involvement in the MUNA weekend. I would appreciate it if you let me know this date as I would love to make a visit to the club if I'm free and catch up with you and the delegates.

ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship groups offer Rotarians around the World a huge variety of opportunities. Many within our own District are involved in the 4WD, cruising (yachting) and caravan fellowships and indeed, over this year, it has been our pleasure to introduce the new cruising (as in liners) fellowship group, which now has 127 members. To view their latest newsletter or to catch up with any other information, please go to their facebook site which is www.facebook.com/groups/cruisingrotariansfellowship. If you had the good fortune to visit the Billabong House of Friendship at Convention in Sydney – or indeed at other Conventions – you would have seen an assortment of wonderful fellowship opportunities for every interest from history to motor bikes, from singing to house sitting. If you have an interest and wish to expand it, I am sure you will be able to find an outlet within Rotary.

MT ELIZA MUSICAL PRESENTATION

(full size flier on website at www.district9820.org)



A musical presentation by
George Charters,
international recital
pianist, and selected
students from the
Peninsula School and Toorak College.

An exceptional
afternoon's
entertainment in an
exceptional location: the
Tallis Pavilion of Beleura
House, featuring the Stuart piano.



Rotary
Mt Eliza



Saturday 15 August 2015 2pm

After welcoming drink, the performance commences at 2pm in the acoustically brilliant Tallis Pavilion at Beleura House & Garden, Mornington, followed by complimentary afternoon tea.

As parking on the grounds of Beleura is very limited, bus transfers are necessary. All guests are asked to meet at the Peninsula Centre carpark, Bungower Rd, Mornington (next to Bunnings; enter from Bungower Rd) - refer ticket for timetable. The costs of the bus, welcoming drink and afternoon tea are included in the ticket price.

Tickets \$35per person. Proceeds to Rotary's community projects

Contact Rotarian Paul Harvey, Rotary Club of Mt Eliza
03 97874376 pandpharvey@bigpond.com

OPERATION CLEFT

Thank you to everyone who has supported my project over this year. The response has been incredible and I am very humbled by the number of Clubs and indeed individual Rotary families who have donated to this cause. At this moment, we are sitting in the high \$13000's and this money will allow more than 50 children to have life-changing surgery.



(Before and after – meet Araf – the photos were taken only a few weeks apart!)

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH – A SNAPSHOT

In 1981, Mornington Bank manager Ian Scott, a member of the R C Mornington, concerned by the prevalence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, spoke to his Club, resulting in the formation of a Club committee set up with a club commitment to raise \$10,000 for SIDS research. In 1981/82 the concept of a Rotary supported health and Research fund gained District support and began to move into other Australian Rotary Districts. Don Gordon (School Principal) was President and campaigned with Ian Scott and other Club members to 'sell the idea to the Clubs in our District' embarking on many Club visits. Royce Abbey (DG and later world President) appealed to every DG in Australia to appoint a Rotary Health representative. In 1988 a \$2 million target was reached for SIDS research. The example of Ian Scott is notable. He became a Paul Harris fellow in 1984 but never served as Club president - but he certainly made a difference to our world. This homegrown D9820 "project" has now become a major Foundation with Research (particularly in mental health) and Scholarship funding its main focus. Please help with continued funding of ARH – more articles and how to donate can be found on the website at www.district9820.org, access the ARH website - www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au or contact our District representative John Renowden