

# District Governor's Newsletter



D9670

[www.rotary9670.org.au](http://www.rotary9670.org.au)



## ROTARY DISTRICT 9670 ADMINSTRATION 2010-2011

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967 is correct)

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## Message from the DG

Welcome aboard Rotarians of District 9670 as we set out on our Rotary adventure for 2010-11. I am looking forward to the challenge of assisting you to build **Bigger, Better, Bolder** clubs in our district as per the challenge set for us by International President Ray Klinginsmith. Ray is from the Rotary Club of Kirksville, Missouri, USA. The theme he has chosen for this year, Building Communities, Bridging Continents is designed to convey to Rotarians and Non Rotarians alike the message of what Rotary does. We go about our projects helping local and international communities with health, education and basic living needs. We have programs like Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange and Foundation Scholars that cross international boundaries and help build better relationships between countries. I believe the theme conveys this message to us and the community.

R.I. President Ray has also challenged us to examine some of the traditions we have in Rotary and if we then consider there are better ways to do things then we should not be afraid to start some new traditions. Are there practices in your club that could be changed for the better? Are there practices at district level that you think should change? We are open to suggestions.

A date for your diaries: 21st-22nd August. This is the date for a very special conference in Canberra. Cost is only \$100 for a full 1.5 days program plus Saturday Night dinner. The program is designed to give all of us ideas on how we might build our **Bigger, Better, Bolder** clubs. I would urge each club to sponsor at least one member to attend as I am sure the information, ideas and enthusiasm that member will bring back to your club will make it money well spent. R.I. President Ray Klinginsmith will be in attendance and will be one of the presenters.

The District Changeover has come and gone with 178 Rotarians and guests in attendance. I thank you all for your tremendous show of support. It was particularly pleasing to see so many new presidents attend many of whom had travelled long distances to be there. A big thank you to the many Past District Governors who attended and to RC of Dubbo West for hosting the night. It has been a practice in the past for the wife of the District Governor to promote a project and to raise funds to support that project. This year Marjorie has chosen to support Interplast. This is an Australian Rotary project where funds are raised and used to send surgeons to nearby countries to carry out cleft palate operations on children and to train local surgeons in cleft palate surgery. This allows children who have become outcasts because of their condition to smile again and to rejoin society. Marjorie will supply more information and explain how you can assist as we come around on our visits

The District Directories are printed and in the hands of your Assistant Governor for distribution.

We look forward to meeting up with our Rotary Friends as we make our official visits to clubs over the coming months, and together we continue to Build Communities and Bridge Continents.

Your Friend in Rotary  
Don Stephens



A selection of photos from the Changeover Dinner on 3rd July 2010  
Hosted by Rotary Club of West Dubbo  
Photos courtesy of Roger King and Lyn McDonald





DGN Greg Bowen has sent this report from RAWCS.

## Rotary Australian World Community Service Eastern Region

**ROTAPLAST\_EGYPT Sohag** June 27-July 12 2010

Project No 63/2009-10

Rotary Districts represented were D1560, D2050, D5000, D5120 and D9670

The team was made up of 32 volunteers 12 of whom were Rotarians. Team members were from Cuba, USA, The Philippines, The Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, The Czech Republic, Russia, Egypt, and Australia. The funding came from District 5120 and the Smile Train at a cost of approx US\$80,000.



The team met at Cairo airport and were transported by bus with police escort 10 hours south to Sohag on the Nile. The hospital was supposed to be new but it had only undergone extensive renovations which were far from complete, making it a construction site with lots of problems.

The days were very hot with temperatures always at 45-47C but our accommodation was at a 4 star hotel with air conditioning. We brought along all our surgical equipment and disposable supplies but faced many problems of power surges and water supply.

First day at the Pre-op Clinic we processed over 200 patients many not suitable for operation as they suffered from inoperable congenital deformities and chromosomal disorders which were a field day for our geneticists. Many patients were malnourished as this is Egypt's poorest area. Very disappointing for those who travelled a long way to see us. Through our interpreters we tried to explain the nature of their problems.

We did manage to operate on 102 patients repairing cleft lips and palates revising burn contractures and excising extra digits. This was also a teaching program for the medical students and doctors associated with Sohag Hospital. They were keen to learn and demonstrated a desire to gain as much experience as possible.

Our activities were controlled by the local police who insisted that we only move from hotel to hospital in their presence. We did attend a Rotary meeting where we were told that great improvements were about to happen in Sohag but they didn't mention what century!!!

It was a great experience demonstrating again that the Rotary family can come together in "Service Above Self" bringing smiles and changing faces by extending the hand of friendship in building communities and bridging continents.

I always feel very proud and special to be part of this Rotaplast Program which sends out 15 teams per year to third world countries under the banner of Rotary.

Lyn Thorpe OAM  
Rotary Club of Newcastle Sunrise  
NSW Senior Australian of the Year 2010

(Congratulations goes to Howard and Lyn Thorpe, both of whom have received an OAM, editor)

From Wendy Stein comes this report.

## "Save the Kula Babies" Losuia Trobriand Islands, Papua New Guinea.

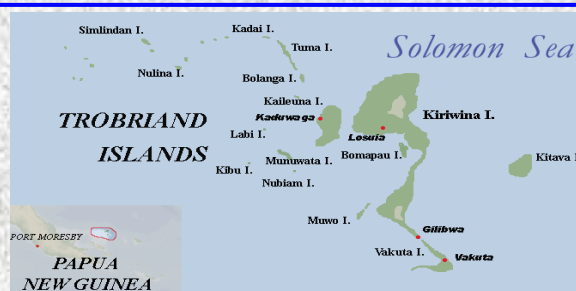
Rotary Club of Salamander Bay – 18/2009/10



Recently Wendy Stein and Grace Hull worked on the above project and provided the Rural Health Centre with vaccine fridges for drugs and vaccines, Equipment, drugs and other essential supplies, implemented Rotary Malaria bed net programme at Centre and Villages, as well as dental programme.

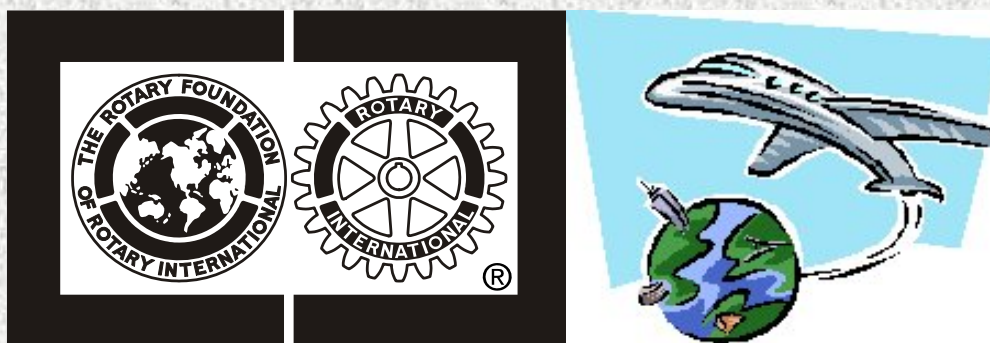
The Global fund has provided 127,000 bed nets, which are not stored at Alotau, for distribution to Milne Bay Province. A team will in the coming months assist with this distribution. A container has been shipped from Australia to Alotau, with hospital beds and much needed equipment for the upgrade of the Health Centre.

A DVD of this trip is available on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) search – wendystein1





This month we have a special message from Helen Ryan  
Chair of GSE



## Travel time is here again!

We are talking about our next Group Study Exchange visit to and from America, District 5220 which encompasses all of New Mexico and western Texas, the whole district being situated in the United States. There are 69 clubs in this district which geographically is one of the largest in the world with a 'small' population of 2.5 million people. Culturally Santa Fe and Taos are two of the foremost artistic communities in the States and the business environment spreads from agriculture to computers with Intel having its home base in the district. All English spoken!

Information will be sent to all clubs in early July re the make up of the team and the hosting possibilities.

I am keen for many clubs to offer to host as this is a very rewarding experience and always brings new life into the hosting club.

The Team Leader is essential. This person is a Rotarian who has good Rotary knowledge, leadership skills, is able to manage 'off the cuff' situations and has a sense of humour! There are many Rotarians in our District who would fit this role so please apply.

The team consists of 4 young people between the ages of 25 and 40, who are looking to enhance their professional skills, are looking for an adventure and interested in travelling to another country to widen their horizons and knowledge of their profession. These people are in your community so please encourage them to apply.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Hosting expression of interest

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2010**

CLOSING date -

Team Leader and Team Member **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2010**

### TEAM DATES

VISITING TEAM

11<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 – 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2011

OUTGOING TEAM

2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2011 – 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2011.

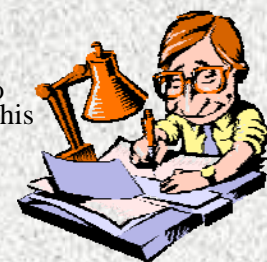
**Helen Ryan GSE Chair**

## From the Editor's Keyboard

Welcome to the very first edition of the District Governor's Newsletter for 2010—2011.

Firstly I would like to thank Colin Kelso of the RC of Cessnock for handing over the keyboard to me so that I can attempt to produce a publication that is worthy of all that has been published in this district previously.

I have been fortunate to have had a look at some of the previous newsletters and I hope I can get the message out to show what a wonderful job the Rotary Clubs in our district are doing.



**Please remember that publishing deadline is by the 7th of each month.**

If you have any articles or reports for publishing, they make a more interesting read if there are photos or sketches included.

**Peter Judd**

Editor

RC of Dubbo West

pljudd@yahoo.com.au

Mob 0437 847 263



Scott Jarman, our District's Shelterbox Australia representative has submitted this letter for publishing.



Dear District Governor Don Stephens, Assistant Governors and Club Presidents District 9670,

I write to you as ShelterBox Representative for District 9670 to hopefully clear up any uncertainty with regards to the structure and setup of ShelterBox and your ongoing support of this global Rotary project.

As you have most probably seen from the recent correspondence and articles in Rotary Down Under, ShelterBox International and the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills (which set up the Australian affiliation of ShelterBox) have parted company, with the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills deciding to produce their own disaster aid under the name of Disaster Aid Australia. Disaster Aid Australia is not ShelterBox.

Shelter Box, with the continued support of the Past District Representatives has continued delivering aid to those in need whilst at the same time establishing a new base in South Australia . Unfortunately some confusion has been caused by us having to use the name of "ShelterBox In Australia" to set up the new company and associated Trust Fund (as ShelterBox Australia was no longer available) but we do hold the intellectual rights of ShelterBox and will be fundraising under that name and all future correspondence and publicity will also be as ShelterBox Australia.

Under the Direction of Past RI Zone 8 Director John Lawrence and with the input of all Australian District Governors and the new board of ShelterBox Australia, ShelterBox Australia has been initiating a proposal of becoming a Multi District Project under the governance of Rotary as opposed to its previous format of an individual club project. It is also great news that ShelterBox Australia in rejoining the ShelterBox International family will again be working with ShelterBox affiliates and Rotarians in the UK, Canada, Denmark, Germany, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA and also Sweden, Brazil, Indonesia and Portugal who are currently going through the process of setting up affiliate offices in their countries.

Through ShelterBox, this is truly Rotary International at work.

Each year every club in our District receives requests for donations. My role as ShelterBox Australia District Representative, together with Peter & Lorraine Croft of the Rotary Club of Dubbo Macquarie is to provide accurate information on what we believe is a truly remarkable Rotary project. Then it is up to each club to make the decision as to which projects they wish to support.

I thank you all for your past donations and look forward to your future support. Please contact us if you would like us as guest speakers to update your club on the work of ShelterBox.

With this truly remarkable product, our highly trained response teams, prepositioned stock throughout the world and ten years of disaster relief experience as well as the joint support of the 14 above mentioned countries and your help as Rotarians, we will be there to assist those in need.

Yours in Rotary Service

**Scott Jarman**  
**District 9670**  
**Shelterbox Australia Representative**







**2010 NEWCASTLE  
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE  
Addressing the National Skills Shortage**



**CALLING FOR ROTARIAN ACTIVITY ASSISTANTS**

We invite you and your partner to be part of the Newcastle Challenge as a daily Activity Assistant from Monday 26 to Friday 30 July from 8:00am-3:15pm. The Challenge will be held at the Newcastle Basketball Stadium, Corner Young and Curly Roads, Broadmeadow.

Be part of this great Newcastle-based national community program conducted by The University of Newcastle and proudly supported by the Rotary Clubs of the Greater Newcastle area from District 9670. In 2009 the program included around 20,000 year 9 and 10 students from 700 high schools across Australia.

This year the Newcastle Challenge has 41 high schools competing over 5 days with 1,600 high school students from the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Lower Hunter and Port Stephens areas. Support your local school and their students in experiencing "The Challenge".

**No cost to your Rotary Club! No cost to you!  
We even supply morning tea and a hot lunch!**

**St Mary's Gateshead, National Gold Division Champions**



**Who Get's The Water**



**ElectraCity**

**2010 NEWCASTLE CHALLENGE DINNER INVITATION**

The Newcastle Challenge Dinner was hosted by Belmont Rotary Club Inc on Monday 19 July at Belmont 16 Foot Sailing Club.

The Newcastle Challenge Coordinating Committee and Belmont Rotary Club warmly invited all rotarians, partners, guests and sponsors to attend the dinner as an **introduction to this amazing nationwide program** and the **announcement of the 2010 Naming Rights Sponsor**. This was a night of fellowship, fun and even the challenge of a table experiment! **A great night of Rotary in action.**

The guest speaker for the evening was **Chancellor of The University of Newcastle, Professor Trevor Waring**, Please contact Belmont Rotary Club or Brian Atkins for more details.

**For more information on the 2010 Newcastle Challenge Program or  
Dinner contact Brian Atkins  
Rotary Club of Waratah and Regional Chair of the Newcastle Challenge  
Coordinating Committee Email: [briankatkins@bigpond.com](mailto:briankatkins@bigpond.com)  
Phone: 02 4952 3220 Mobile: 0447 523 220  
Post: PO Box 357, New Lambton NSW 2305**