

District Matters

April 2016

2015-2016 District Governor
Monica Garrett

Fellow Rotarians and friends

On 5 March, I had the pleasure of attending the 60th anniversary celebration of the Rotary Club of Bombala, which was also attended by charter member and still current member, Nicky Spoljaric and his wife. I presented a number of Service certificates to Club members including Nicky, and also to former member, Claus Zimmer, the founder of the very successful Bombala Rotary and Community Choir

The following weekend I was present at the “finish line” of the Trek for Timor, an endurance feat in the over 30 degree heat the two Rotarians experienced on their Trek from Sydney to Canberra. This was a cooperative endeavour between District 9685 and our District, with Assistant Governors in both Districts marshalling support from Rotary Clubs along the way. I would particularly like to thank AG Mark Wallace and AG Judy Ford for their role in ensuring the walkers were given both moral and physical support by Clubs in our District.

We have given two pages of this edition of *District Matters* to a report on The Asha Foundation by its President, Pauline Gleeson. I asked Pauline to provide the report on how \$10,000 given to the Foundation’s Nepal Earthquake Appeal from the District Emergency Fund last Rotary year had been spent. I am sure you will agree after reading Pauline’s report that the District’s money has been well spent in re-building the Shree Bachhala Primary School in Nepal.

The official charter event of the Interact Club of Kingsford Smith School took place on 15 March. This was a highly successful event, with many of the school community – including parents – attending the evening. I was left in no doubt that the school appreciates the involvement of Rotary, and welcomes the opportunities that the Rotary youth programs will provide for their students. Five of the Interactors will attend a camp at Wee Jasper during the April school holidays, where they will undertake training leading to the award of a Certificate II in Active Volunteering.

DG Monica



District 2015-16 Team

District Governor Elect

Steve Hill

District Governor Nominee

Mark Wallace

District Secretary

Steve Fielding

District Treasurer

PDG Phil Mewett

Assistant Governors & Group

Bob Antill	1
Debbie Harris	2
Julia Pedler	3
Jan Southcott	4
Graeme Kinraid	5
Mark Wallace	6
David Bisiker	7
Fiona Kibble	8
Judy Ford	9
Steve Fielding	10
Paul Roger	11
Brian Goldstraw	12
Barbara Baikie	13

District Calendar

April 2016

FOCUS: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

- Su 3 RLI Session 3, Holt, ACT
- Sa 9 District Board & Finance C'tee
- We 13 Eddie the Eagle Polio Plus Preview Season begins
- Sa 16 RLI Session 2, Bombala, NSW
- Sa 30 Malaria Awareness Day
- Sa,Su 30,1 May District Assembly, Berry

May 2016

FOCUS: YOUTH SERVICES

- Su 1 Rotaract Club of Canberra 45th Anniversary
- Rotary Club of Canberra North 45th Anniversary
- Bowelcare program commences
- Su 8 RYPEN applications close
- Fr-Su, 13-15 RYPEN Camp, Mogo
- Sa 28 RI Convention opens, Seoul
- Tu 31 Final day for NYSF applications to District clubs
- Final day for applications for Rotary Peace Fellowships

June 2016

FOCUS: ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

- Sa 4 District Board & Finance C'tee
- Th 23 Rotary Club of Moruya 60th Anniversary
- Su 26 District Changeover
- Bowelcare concludes
- Th 30 NYSF Club nominees to District Chair

July 2016 (provisional)

FOCUS: THE NEW ROTARY YEAR

- Fr 1 Semi Annual District Fees due
- Sa 2 YEP interviews, Greenhills, Canberra
- Sa 23 Inbound YEP students begin arriving
- Fr 29 MUNA closing date for payment

August 2016 (provisional)

FOCUS: MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION

- Sa 1 NYSF District selections, Locality TBA
- Fr-Su 19-21 MUNA, Old Parl't House, Canberra
- Sa-Su 27-28 YEP inbound students Orientation, The Pines
- YEP outbound Briefing 1, The Pines, Tuross Hds
- Mo-We 29-31 Governor Elect Training Seminar, Penrith

September 2016 (provisional)

FOCUS: BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY

- Th 1 Zone 8 Institute, Penrith
- Fr 30 Semi-finals of Four Way Speaking Contest

Batlow Rotary's Fiji Challenge

The Rotary Club of Batlow has donated \$500 to the Fiji appeal. Our members have requested me to challenge other clubs to match or beat our donation on a per capita membership challenge. Batlow has 12 members and this amounts to nearly \$42 per member.

Clubs keen to join this challenge should contact:

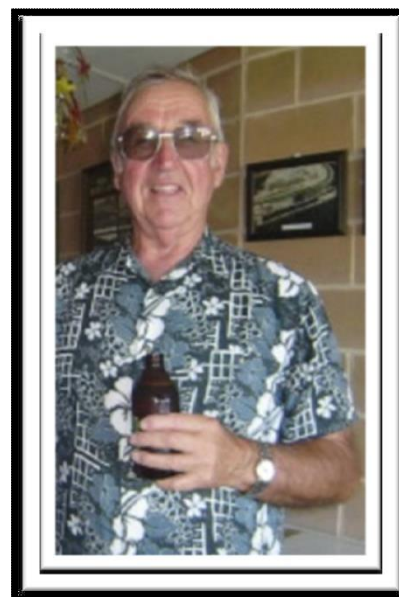
Margaret Isselmann
Secretary
Rotary Club of Batlow
margaretisselmann@webone.com.au

Called to Higher Service

Pambula Club recently lost David Wait, a Charter Member and all-round nice guy.

David was a very special member of both Merimbula and Pambula Clubs and played an integral role in the rapid evolution of the Pambula Rotary Club. A fellow club member commented that he was "a generous and warm human being who cared much for his family, community and environment. And, he was always cheeky to boot!"

His loss will be felt by many Pambula Rotarians, aware though they are that he "can now join the love of his life, Heather."



ROTARY SUPPORTING YOUTH IN TIMOR LESTE

Trek-4-Timor

District Governor Monica was present to welcome the Trek-4-Timor walkers Libby Bleakley (RC of Blackheath) and Teresa Beck (RC of Aurora Gungahlin), when, on Saturday, 12 March, they completed their 10 day, 357 kilometre walk from Martin Place in Sydney to Parliament House in Canberra.

Aurora Gungahlin hosted an Afternoon Tea on the Grounds opposite Parliament House to welcome the "Trekking" and their support team, as they finished 10 days of walking. Representatives from the AFP, Timor Leste Embassy, work mates and family were also present.

Apart from rain on the penultimate day of the Trek, the trekkers and their support team had enjoyed good weather. The first day proved to be difficult, with temperatures in the high 30's, and walking along pavements from Martin Place to Liverpool resulted in severe blistering of the feet for Teresa. However she soldiered on and completed the Trek, albeit with the aid of an ice bucket on arrival.

Libby and Teresa are extremely grateful for the support provided by members of the Clubs whose towns they passed through. The President of the RC of Goulburn Argyle and his wife walked 12 kilometres with the trekkers from one side of town to the other. DG Nominee Mark Wallace (RC of Bowral/Mittagong) met the ladies at Colo Vale and home hosted dinner.

The Trek was successful with in excess of \$31,000 being raised towards the RAWCS Project – "Learning Centre for Youth" in Dili.

L-R. Libby Bleakley (RC Blackheath) , Alan Hurdle (President, RC Aurora Gungahlin), Monica Garrett (DG - 9710), Teresa Beck (RC Aurora Gungahlin), Abel Gutierrez (Ambassador, Timor Leste).



Still making plans for 2016?

Here's an idea!

CONNECT WITH KOREA – TOUCH THE WORLD

Seoul 28 May -1 June 2016



Connect with new friends, new ideas, and new technologies at this life-enriching convention.

Don't miss it! Be sure to register at www.riconvention.org



EXCHANGE STUDENTS NEED HOSTING

John Britton, D9710 YEP Chair 2013-2017

It is again time for your club to consider hosting an Inbound Exchange Student. The student lists have been sent to each Club President and President Elect and the earlier a club elects to host, the more choices there are.

It is an exciting time for these students who, we know, will benefit so much from having an exchange experience in D9710. Propose that this becomes a beneficial project for your club or perhaps consider sharing a student with another club. Engaging a non-Rotarian family as hosts may well lead to an application for membership. The current 'Inbounds' are gaining a lot from their exchanges and thank their host clubs and generous host families. The students are now on their 3-week Safari and will depart by mid-July, back to their homelands.



They loved the surf camp at Mollymook area earlier in the year (above).

I hope that by the time of the District Training Assembly in Berry, most of the new Inbound students will have a host club. If any more information is needed please see me at Assembly or **contact me (h) 02 4443 4207 (m) 0400 702 123 or email; jonbritton.yep@bigpond.com**

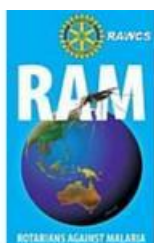
Is your Club supporting an outbound exchange student?



A payoff for D9710 clubs hosting inbound students is that it gives our home-grown Aussie kids an equal chance to have a Rotary Youth Exchange. The numbers we host are the numbers we can send out on exchange. Currently aspiring exchange students are sending preliminary forms to clubs and asking for support. The notional closing date with clubs is mid-April but this can be extended by a few weeks so if extra time is needed please ask. Interviews are being held on 2 July and those selected will then start their training.

It won't be long until a new crop of Outbounds will hit the trail in January 2017. The picture is a reminder of the D9710 Outbounds of 2016 who are already settled into their new homes abroad.

April is Malaria Month



Rotarians Against Malaria are proudly working in partnership with Rotaractors Against Malaria during Malaria Month
www.malaria.rotaract.org.au



D9710 Emergency Fund helps rebuild a remote school in Nepal - from Pauline Gleeson, President of The Asha Foundation

Following the devastating earthquakes in Nepal last April and May, D9710 Emergency Fund donated \$10,000 towards The Asha Foundation's Nepal Earthquake Appeal. By July 2015 that appeal had reached an amazing \$90,000, thanks to the support of D9710, Rotary Clubs within the District, primary & high schools and the general public.



The Shree Bachhala Primary School in the village of Bhadratar 60 kilometres north of Kathmandu, was severely damaged by the earthquake and was demolished by the Nepali army within weeks of the second earthquake. Makeshift classrooms were constructed from tin and tarpaulins and the students attended their lessons (at right), uncomplaining during the relentless monsoon period followed by the harsh Himalayan winter.



Construction of the new classrooms was hampered due to monsoon rains, landslides, fuel shortages and political turmoil.

Following the end of the monsoon in October, the villagers cleared the road to the school by hand (at left), allowing trucks from Kathmandu laden with building material to make the five hour journey to the village.

APRIL 2016

Construction commenced on 25 November (at right), and the new classrooms and toilet block were officially opened by The Asha Foundation President Pauline Gleeson on 19 February 2016.

The total expenditure for this rebuild project, including earthquake relief for the villagers by way of tarpaulins and food, was A\$23,637.57, an amazingly low figure for such a wonderful outcome. The Asha Foundation prides itself on strict budgeting and total transparency.



The Asha Foundation will be funding the rebuild of a further two remote schools and we are presently in negotiations to rebuild a third school should the budget allow.

The Asha Foundation, along with our staff in Nepal, the Principal, teachers and of course the students of Shree Bachhala Primary School, Bhadratar, would like to thank DG Monica Garrett, PDG Rowley Tompsett, everyone associated with D9710 Emergency Fund and the Rotary Clubs within the District who helped make the rebuild of this school possible.

Pauline hands over the classroom block to the Principal (at right)

For further information:

Pauline Gleeson

President, The Asha Foundation

president@ashafoundation.org.au

PO Box 300 Moruya NSW 2537

www.ashafoundation.org.au

ABN 19 235 956 280



DISTRICT CLUB NEWS

Members working, having fun, meeting friends and enjoying the privilege of service

Canberra South's Vocational Visit to Snowyhydro SouthCare Emergency Helicopter Base

DG Monica, AG Brian and ROMAC's Sandra joined the Rotary Club of Canberra South for their vocational visit to the Snowyhydro SouthCare emergency helicopter base on 24 February. The club had a quick meal at Canberra South's normal venue at the Capital Golf Club, then adjourned to the SouthCare base in Hume.



At the SouthCare base, the Rotarians and visitors were given a 20 minute presentation on the services provided by the Snowyhydro SouthCare and some of the history of its operation. SouthCare serves 21 local government areas covering an area from Hay in the west, the Victorian border to the south, Orange to the north and the coast between the Victorian border and Ulladulla to the east. Most of this area can be reached within 60 minutes flying time from the base. Experience has shown that in medical emergency trauma, victims have a much higher likelihood of survival if they receive medical treatment and stabilisation during this 'golden hour'.

During 2014-15 they flew 509 missions with the crew on each mission comprising the pilot, an aircrew person, a doctor and a paramedic. Crews are available at the base 24/7, ready to be deployed - they are airborne within 10 to 15 minutes from the time the call is received. During this time the aircraft (helicopter) has to be fuelled with the appropriate amount of fuel, depending on the type and distance of the mission, and loaded with the appropriate medical and rescue equipment. Total annual operating cost is about \$7 million, and the operating cost is about \$6,000 per hour

SouthCare performs three types of missions:

- Primary – where the crew attends an accident
- Secondary – where patients are transferred for more specialised treatment than can be provided in regional hospitals
- Non-medical – usually search and rescue or bushfire assistance.

The service is only partially government funded, and it relies on corporate and community support. Rotary is a supporter of the Southcare Service - can you spot the Rotary wheel on the helicopter above?

Attention all clubs [and dashing ducks]

Sussex Inlet Club has a new trophy for the **Annual Duck Dash** – impressive!



Bombala Club's 60th Birthday Party

A total of forty-four Rotarians and guests attended the Sixtieth Birthday of the Club. Members were delighted to have a founding member Nicky Spoljaric, and Lena, in attendance. Others present included District Governor Monica Garrett, Mayor Bob Stewart, Lions President Graham Hampshire, Assistant Governor Julia Pedler, Choir Leader Claus and Choir.

President Jak and District Governor Monica spoke of the highlights of Rotary's sixty years in Bombala. These included building the first ambulance station and setting up the retirement home, Currawarna. It was noted that Bombala has reached its sixtieth birthday shortly before Cooma Club. Further examples of its achievements were given by Mayor Bob and Lions President Graham, and others added personal anecdotes.

DG Monica presented Service certificates to Glen, John T, Claus and Nicky



Gungahlin Rotary forming new links to Timor Leste



Gungahlin Club is developing Play and Learn programs in Timor Leste in partnership with a local group, FOKUPERS. As an early step in this initiative, the first collection of toys, purchased by the Club and donated by individual members, has been dispatched through Rotary's Donations in Kind organisation, based in Melbourne. It is intended that this be the first of many shipments. Rotarian, Gordana Morphett, has led the toy group and thanked all those who saw it through.

District Asset Register Update Reminder

This is a very large task but one which needs to be done for Insurance purposes and each club has been sent the complete D9710 Asset Register from 2014 to assist them (seeing what other clubs list may prompt some memories). Please submit your **updates to Alan Russell, District Insurance Officer; alanrussell@live.com.au by 1 May.** (*This is the second day of the District Assembly.*)

A new Interact Club for Ginninderra Rotary

On Tuesday, 15 March, Ginninderra Rotary members were hosted by Kingsford Smith School – a Kindergarten to Year 10 “super school” in West Belconnen – to charter the new KSS Interact Club.



The Interactors provided a guided tour for the 25 Rotarians, partners and friends in small groups around the school facilities, before joining the 60 members of the Junior and Senior Choirs in the primary school gym. With students, parents and families, staff and Rotary guests, over 150 people enjoyed a short concert by the combined choirs, all looking resplendent in their new vests provided by Ginninderra Rotary – with even the Principal and Choir Master proudly wearing the vests with KSS and Rotary logos.

The Interact Club charter ceremony was introduced by Rotarians Sue Lloyd and Michael Malone and Executive Teacher- Pastoral Care Nghi Perrim, who have guided the establishment, growth and early achievements of this Interact Club. Commencing the year with 11 members, it has increased to 21 at Charter – and another three members by the end of the night!! District Governor Monica Garrett and Club President Pauline Hore handed the Charter to the inaugural Interact President Chanvadee (at right), and certificates and badges to each of the members.



A delicious meal was provided by the Catering and Hospitality unit of the school for their Rotary guests. (at left)



Club Vice-President Barry Howe later presented a perpetual shield for the Rotary Citizenship Awards to Principal Paul Branson, who praised the contributions made by Rotary to KSS and the relationships established over several years.

This was one of the most satisfying and significant experiences for Ginninderra Rotary at the local community level, reaffirmed by the many parents, staff and friends of the school attending. A great success!

Aurora Gungahlin recognises a long-serving member

Club Christmas parties are particularly happy events. At their celebration on 5 December, Aurora Gungahlin Club recognised long-serving Rotarian **Shirley Williams by granting her Honorary Membership of the Club.** In the photograph, Shirley is flanked by the other honorary members of Aurora Gungahlin, Fred Fawke and PDG Bob Greeney, both from RC of Belconnen.



Hall Rotary – Vocational links to Rotaract

Recently, Hall Club welcomed a dozen members of the Rotaract Club of University of Canberra (RCUC) and several District 9710 dignitaries. Many in the club were puzzled by the unexpected number of visitors, and wondered at the reason for the gathering. After dinner, it all became clear with the presentation of the **Rotaract Australia Partners in Service Award** to Rotary Club of Hall's Youth and Vocational Director, **Janine Linklater.**

Rebecca Bamford, District 9710 Representative at Rotaract Australia, presented the Award (see below). She acknowledged Janine's lifelong passion for youth development and strong support for the formation of the Rotaract Club of the University of Canberra, which chartered in 2013.



The following is a short excerpt from the RCUC's comprehensive nomination of Janine for this award:

'To integrate RCUC into their sponsor club, Janine initiated a scheme whereby two different RCUC Rotaractors attend Rotary Club of Hall meetings once a month and ensures there are networking opportunities for both sides, levels of sharing and mutual trust. She has been described as a "mentor", "coach" and "close friend" by Rotaractors contacted about the nomination. Janine has been a steady sounding-board for many an idea, a source of enthusiasm and even at times a source of food and accommodation to Rotaractors in need! This has been well beyond her 'official' role, proving she will always go the extra mile to assist Rotaractors and Rotaract to prosper.'

Congratulations, Janine.

Yass Club celebrates with Bal Kama - Commonwealth Pacific Young Person of the Year 2016, and Regional winner in 2016 Commonwealth Youth Awards for Excellence in Development Work



The Awards recognise the efforts of people under the age of 30 who have significantly contributed to local, national, regional and global development, and attracted 300 nominations from countries across the Commonwealth.

The Awards were announced in London on 17 March and Bal wrote to Yass Club:

"I just wanted to let you know that I've been selected as one of the four finalists in the Region for the Commonwealth Secretariat Youth Awards 2016. The support of your club (**Yass Rotary and Interact Club, and Canberra Rotary Club**) to **Kama Scholars Foundation** in its community projects over the years plays a big role in the work the Foundation is doing, and contributed largely to this Commonwealth nomination. I therefore would like to convey my most sincere **THANK YOU** to you and all the members of your Club. I believe the credit for this recognition at the highest level of the Commonwealth goes to people like you who are willing to believe with me in the vision to make village communities a better place. Please convey our gratitude."

Batemans Bay Rotary Recognised in Manila – a press release to be proud of!

The 2016 Presidential Conference on WASH (Water and Sanitation Hygiene), hosted by **RI President KR Ravindran and TRF Chair Ray Klingingsmith**, has just completed its deliberations in Manila, Philippines.

Fifty water projects, from across most of Asia, were included in the competition that was held in conjunction with the symposium. The competition judges were headed by the chief of the World Bank, Moto Konichi, and the head of Unicef, Louise Maule, and their panel selected the best twelve of the fifty projects. Third in the twelve was the 2015-2016 water drilling program by **Batemans Bay Rotary and its twin, Intramuros Rotary, Manila**.



Every year since 2004, the two clubs have drilled water wells for schools and villages, and a large hospital, under a program entitled "Handog poso ng Rotary", meaning "A gift of water from Rotary". Some awards have been given to the two clubs over the years, but this latest is significant because the competition was fierce.

The Manila basin, a very large area, has a shallow water table and many creeks and rivers. The water is so heavily contaminated that the incidence of deaths among children

from water-borne disease is very high. **In the areas where the two Rotary Clubs have provided water, the death rate among children from water-borne disease has plummeted to acceptable levels.**

Please enjoy your April issue of District Matters and keep your suggestions, articles and club journals rolling in to editor.rotary9710@gmail.com - Editorial Team: Ian Foster (Gungahlin), assisted by Sue Lloyd (Ginninderra)