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## ALT Chief's Visit

*Message from Peter Daly*

There has been a relationship with Rotary International Districts 9520 and 9500 since Calperum and Taylorville Stations were purchased from the Australian Federal Government in 1995, now 22 years!



**Peter E. Daly AM**

The initial work done by Rotary was in the Bookmark Biosphere Project and involved putting up track signage around the Oak Bore Outstation.

Since that small and valuable beginning we now

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## Message from Chairman Dick

Since our last newsletter planning, organisation and work continue at a great pace.



The most pleasing aspect is the almost full booking sheet for next year. If you or your club is looking for a slot, contact Elliott Dwyer (see P5) as soon as possible - you may still be lucky. Alternately, check with your friends who are going, or another club, and see if you can join in with them. This gives not just 'Calperum' friendships, but new and ongoing Rotary friendships as well.

In October a number of Rotarians attended the volunteers evening and dinner, hosted by the board of the Australian Landscape Trust, the 'owners' of Calperum. My thanks to those who attended. Our numbers demonstrated our commitment to Calperum, if that was needed, and was recognised by the ALT Chairman, Peter Daly. We all enjoyed the event, and Don Will and I were able to talk at length with every board member between us. One of the initiatives they are undertaking is to bolster their digital presence, and we will be invited to share our information as well. Thanks you to Peter and the board, not just for their oversight and support, but for their willing ears as we move forward with them.

Please read Peter's message (opposite). I think it is the first time we have had a report from the board. It underlines Peter's comments made during the dinner, and the value the board places on our contribution to Calperum. I thank him for both his comments, and the report.

On a personal basis, I have been involved

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## Calperum News

Is issued periodically and is intended to provide up to date information about Rotary at Calperum. Please let us have the stories and photos of your times at Calperum

*(ALT Chief's Visit from P.1)*

have a Memorandum of Understanding between the Rotary Calperum Committee and ALT. This MOU reflects the ideas of both organisations and supports the enthusiasm of all the volunteers.

Who could of imagined back in 1995 that the wonderful work done on Calperum now includes:

- Rotary Club Work Parties
- Health of the River Forums
- Camp Calperum Programme
- RYWELL – Rotary Youth Wellbeing
- Youth Exchange Schoolies Week
- International Student's Groups
- RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
- ROTARACT activities
- Revegetation support
- Mammal survey support
- Bushfire response support.
- And many, many more activities on and around the property.

In addition to physical support, Rotary has provided financial assistance to many projects undertaken at Calperum. For example, modernising the water treatment plant, House 3/ Rotary House upgrades, etc.

Volunteers are said to be the backbone of society and we, Board of Trustees at ALT warmly acknowledge Rotary Calperum's support of our programs. You are certainly a major part of our 'backbone'.

We thoroughly enjoyed catching up with you all at the volunteer get together on Saturday evening at Calperum. I personally express our thanks for the wonderful work and support. As for the future, it is always good to talk about our respective plans, for no other reason than to strengthen the Rotary relationship at Calperum and it is also our hope that the broader Rotary Clubs share this wonderful opportunity to visit Calperum.



*Manager of Calperum, Dr. Peter Cale with volunteers*

*(Chairman's Dick's Report from P.1)*

with two student groups at Calperum in September. One of these is a new initiative from RC Onkaparinga, where we combined with our two local Lions Clubs to hold a leadership camp for year 8 and 9 students from Birdwood High School, Oakbank Area School and Hills Christian Community School. Our first camp was successful, and we all look forward to expanding this concept during 2018. A great experience for the students, and also for the adults.

Early next year will see the return of Caitlin Polack from Oxford. From an English winter to



*Caitlin Polack*

a Calperum summer, but I am sure she will cope. Her return will be appreciated by our work parties, and particularly by visiting school students.

Also starting in the new year will be a post-doctoral fellow, involved in a three year research project, funded by the Potter Foundation. It is

wonderful to see them back and providing support for our Calperum projects.

Thank you all for your support in 2017. I am certain that we will continue to increase our work and commitment during 2018. One way of doing this is to support the Riseley Forest project at Calperum. Trees will be available next year for planting. Contact me for further information.

Compliments of the season to you all. Let's make 2018 the best Calperum year yet!

*Dick*

Please contact me, at 0418106673 or [dickcuttle@gmail.com](mailto:dickcuttle@gmail.com) for more information or to arrange a guest speaker about Calperum



## The Revegetation Project at Calperum Station

David Gooley (RC Mitcham)

With the completion of planting at the 13 Sites by July 2012, the focus shifted to an area called Pipeline. This site is accessed by turning left into the property from the Old Wentworth Road through the gate leading to Pipeline Track, approximately 6 kms from Rotary House. The site is immediately on the left with seven shuttles positioned along a sand ridge roughly parallel to Old Wentworth Road.

During late July, I was shown the site by Carey, an ALT employee, who was doing the preparation work at the site. Carey had positioned 3 of the 7 shuttles. Having not positioned all of the shuttles as expected, he wanted to continue positioning them but there was some urgency to run out some of the irrigation lines and fit the drippers in preparation for a planting group the next week. Over two days, he and I ran out 8 irrigation lines. I had always found this task fairly difficult when there are only 2 people, one person controlling the feed of pipe from the rotating table with the coil of pipe on it while the other pulls the pipe out through the saltbush to the final plant location and then work back towards the shuttle along the line of plant positions, pulling more pipe as needed as the line of plants weaved its way through the saltbush, pinning the pipe to the ground. The plant positions are identified by coloured stakes, different colours for the different species. Sometimes, especially at Pipeline, the stakes were difficult to see because the saltbush was higher than the stakes. After laying the pipe, Carey went back to the shuttle positioning while I inserted the drippers along the lines.

*This is the sixth in a series of articles, written by David Gooley of the Rotary Club of Mitcham, covering the revegetation program of the Floodplain and the Semi Arid Woodland at Calperum Station. The author went to Calperum Station in 2009 on a weekend visit where he was introduced to the diversity of the restoration and conservation project at the station. He was particularly enthused regarding the revegetation part of the project. The success of the planting of the seedlings themselves and the weather (rainfall and temperature) but also flooding, grazing by animals, both native and introduced, and introduced weeds among other things.*



By the end of the week, Carey had installed 5 of the 7 shuttles and we had run out 4 lines of irrigation pipe for each of 2 shuttles and fitted the drippers.

Another task requiring attention at Pipeline was the removal of Match Head weed. Growth of this weed was extensive around a number of both alive and dead trees. I spent a few hours during the week removing as much as I could. The dug up weed was taken back to the office area to dry and then burnt.

Planting of the site began in earnest in August. With help from 2 or 3 from each group of volunteers, Carey ran out the remaining irrigation lines and fitted drippers. The reminder of each group planted. The species planted were the same as the earlier sites, the canopy species being Native Pine, *Callitris gracilis* and Sugarwood, *Myoporum platycarpum*, the sub-canopy being, mainly *Pittosporum angustifolium* and *Hakea leucoptera* and the shrubs being two Wattles the *Acacia ligulata* and *Acacia nissophylla*, and two Saltbushes *Enchylaena tomentosa* and *Rhagodia spinescens*. By the end of the month, 6 of the shuttles were planted. The Mitcham Club visited in early September, planting the 7<sup>th</sup> shuttle. Guards were fitted to every plant. Because the site was

6kms from the homestead, they were partially made in the Woolshed, fitting the shade cloth to the guard material leaving the material flat to ease the transport to the site. At the site the ends of the material was stapled together to form the circular guard. We also completed the Match head weeding. Dr Cale wanted the site completed before the end of September, which was achieved. He had decided to finish planting by September's end because the survival rates of plantings in October were lower than the rest of the planting season.

As stated in earlier articles, the spring of 2012, summer and autumn of 2013 were dry after the two wet years previously. Watering of the plants required frequent watering, much more so than in the two wetter years. This combined with the greater distance from the office, required many more man hours. The shuttles required refilling after each watering, carting the water in a shuttle



mounted on a 6 x 4 trailer pulled by a Toyota Hilux from the office area along Old Wentworth Road. The road condition deteriorated, as usually happens, in the drier conditions, causing increased damage to the trailer. Wheel bearings and axles were replaced on more than one occasion. The refilling of the other shuttles in the system was also still occurring. The task had become equivalent to a full time job for one employee, but actually was shared among the employees. The Rotary Club of Prospect donated the money to provide a new,

more strongly built trailer, which was built by Neil Webber from the Berri Club.

The survival rate of this planting was low. In late April 2013, my wife, Helen and I replaced the dead plants of shuttle 7 and in early May, a replacement of the dead plants of the shuttles 4, 5 & 6 was completed by the Mitcham Club.

I am unaware of the current survival rate. I should ask. I know the shuttles and irrigation lines are still in place. They can be seen from Old Wentworth Road. I hope to go to the site next year to have a look at the plant growth and take some photos. I will take a hoe with me to do some follow up Match Head weed removal.

I do not have any photos from the Pipeline site. Those shown here are general photos from Calperum. *(File Photos inserted by Editor)*

David Gooley



## Calperum Rotary Bookings and Availability as at 27 July 2017

“Free” indicates the dates available to Rotary

“Not available” dates have been allocated to researchers, universities, community groups, Calperum programs, or maintenance

Month	Dates	Rotary Club	Activity
2018		<i>Remember to write an article for Calperum News on your experience</i>	
Jan-Feb		Too hot - not feasible	
March	6-8	<i>Not available</i>	
	9-12	RC Murray Bridge & students	Student Leadership
	13-15	<i>Not available</i>	
	16-18	RC Eastwood	Water monitoring/tree planting
	19-23	RC Onkaparinga	
	24-31	<i>Not available</i>	
April	1-3	<i>Easter</i>	
	6-8	RC Adelaide Light & Students	Tree Planting
	9-26	Not available	Student Leadership
	27-30	RC Unley	TBA
		<i>Nominate your scribe to write up your experience</i>	
May	1-9	Not available	TBA
	10-13	RC Glenelg	TBA
	14-17	<i>Not available</i>	With Christies Beach HS, Special Unit
	18-20	RC Adelaide	Tree Planting
	24-27	RC Prospect	Tree Planting
	28-31	<i>Not available</i>	
June	1-3	RCs Eastwood & Strathalbyn	
	4-7	<i>Not available</i>	International YES Activities
	8-11	RC Seaford	
	12-15	<i>Not available</i>	
	16-21	RC Blackwood	
	25-30	<b>Free</b>	

(For dates beyond June 30, please check with Elliot Dwyer)

Please contact Elliot Dwyer ([eadwyer@hotmail.com](mailto:eadwyer@hotmail.com)) for booking and related information

Seasons Greetings and best wishes to all our readers  
for a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year



## Calperum Rotary Activities

- Rotary Club Work Parties
- Health of The River Forums
- Camp Calperum Programme
- RYWELL - Rotary Youth Wellbeing
- Youth Exchange Schoolies Week
- International Student's Group
- RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
- ROTARACT
- District Management Committee meetings
- PETS - President Elect Training Seminar
- Rotary Training Seminars

## Contacts

- ❖ Stories, Reports & Photos for *Calperum News*  
Rodger Hedley [rghedley13@gmail.com](mailto:rghedley13@gmail.com)
- ❖ District 9520 & 9500 Committee Chairman  
Dick Cuttle [dcuttle@gmail.com](mailto:dcuttle@gmail.com)
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### IMPORTANT

When you visit Calperum, **PLEASE** take photos of work activities, social activities, learning times then write a short story and send to the editor.  
Remember, YOU are the link to adding to the history showing how Rotary is making a difference