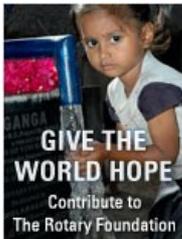


**Register Now!**[Click Here](#) District
Conference 2013

District Events

Oktoberfest (The Wiesn) 2012
The Austrian Club
Sep 28, 2012 06:30 PM

DG's Official Zone Visit - Upper North Shore
Hornsby RSL
Oct 10, 2012 06:00 PM

Presidents' Meeting
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Oct 12, 2012 06:00 PM

Exhibition Opening - The Monday Art Group
Art Space on The Concourse
Oct 15, 2012 06:00 PM

Rotary Foundation Dinner (Tri-District)
The Epping Club
Oct 15, 2012 06:30 PM - 09:15 PM

Art Exhibition - The Monday Art Group
Art Space on The Concourse
Oct 16, 2012 10:00 AM - Oct 28, 2012 04:00 PM

Hornsby PCYC Dinner Dance
Hornsby RSL
Oct 20, 2012 07:00 PM

28th Annual Charity Golf Day
Pymble Golf Club
Oct 22, 2012 11:00 AM

2012 Police Officer of the Year Awards
Doltone House Darling Island Wharf - Pyrmont
Nov 02, 2012 07:00 PM - Nov 03, 2012

40th Birthday party for

Stories

Governor's Message

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 27, 2012



Dear Rotary Friends and Friends of Rotary

I have commented before that not only does Rotary do great things, but Rotary does fantastic service in the world. What I have in mind is where Rotarians have looked beyond direct service (food, shelter, water, sanitation, care, compassion, assistance) and taken a very long range and expansive view. Rotary is prepared to invest in the future, not just by looking for "bang for the buck" for the dollars we raise, but long term investment towards making the world a better and safer place.

Examples of this approach are:

- Rotary Youth Exchange which has been running for 50 years and is by far the biggest worldwide, over 8,000 each year, which seeks to give young people a wider view of the world and influence their approach to international understanding for a life time;
- Ambassadorial Scholars which takes the same approach to post graduate education;
- Australian Rotary Health, where punts are taken on basic medical research that might have massive benefits (or not) and has extended to enormous research and hands on forums for Mental Health, and Indigenous Scholarships;
- Group Study Exchange teams providing vocationally oriented international experiences to our younger generation;

Rotary has a distinguished history in the quest for global peace. The RI Convention in Havana passed a resolution stating Rotary's belief in the importance of Freedom, Justice, Truth and the sanctity of the pledged word. Much of its wording was adopted by the United Nations in the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights.

In the riots that followed the Declaration of Independence in India in 1947, Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Bombay went into the streets as peacemakers between the Hindu and Muslim communities. In 1980, a Rotary –convened conference resolved a border dispute between Argentina and Chile that was heading towards a war. In the first 12 years of the UN, Rotarians served as presidents of the General Assembly.

Janelle and I had the privilege of attending the Rotary Peace Communities International Conference in Wagga Wagga over 21 – 23 September 2012. The Conference was addressed by an amazing standard of mostly PhDs and professors on subjects as wide ranging as:

- Education, Democracy and Peace

Carlingford Rotary
Pennant Hills Golf club
Nov 03, 2012

BOLLYHILLS - Bollywood in the Hills
Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Facility
Nov 10, 2012 06:00 PM - 10:30 PM

Roger Woodward in Concert for ROMAC
The Concourse, Chatswood
Nov 17, 2012

District 9685 Team Gathering
Kiosk, Kincumba Mountain Reserve
Nov 18, 2012

Presidents' Meeting (with Partners)
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Dec 07, 2012 06:00 PM

PDGs Meeting
Dec 08, 2012

RYLA 2013
Vision Valley
Jan 13, 2013 - Jan 19, 2013

International Assembly
San Diego, California, USA
Jan 13, 2013 - Jan 19, 2013

Presidents' Meetings
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Feb 15, 2013 06:00 PM

Youth Exchange Weekend
Feb 22, 2013 - Feb 24, 2013

District Conference (information)
Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre
Mar 15, 2013 - Mar 17, 2013

District Conference 2013
Mar 15, 2013 - Mar 17, 2013

PDGs Meeting
Mar 18, 2013

Presidents' Meeting
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
Apr 19, 2013 06:00 PM

Council on Legislation
Chicago, Illinois, USA
Apr 21, 2013 - Apr 26, 2013

PDGs Meeting
May 18, 2013

Presidents' Meeting (Awards)
Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
May 31, 2013 06:00 PM

Rotary International Convention
Lisbon, Portugal
Jun 23, 2013 - Jun 26, 2013

Changeover - D9680 to D9685
Hornsby RSL Club
Jul 05, 2013 06:00 PM

Rotary International Convention
Sydney, Australia
Jun 01, 2014 - Jun 04, 2014

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[The Gateway to District 9680](#)

- The Pygmies' Success story in the Congo
- Promoting health as a pathway to peace
- Australia's role in world peace
- Restorative Justice
- Building Peace across diverse ethnic communities
- Food and Water security (this was by Dr John Skerrit who was in Rotaract around my time and was proposed by Carlingford Rotary as an Ambassadorial Scholar).

But the best was hearing from the six Peace Scholars attending about how the program had enriched their work in a variety of fields. Keep in mind that all scholars have degrees and some years in their work, so for most it was a matter of returning to service. It is 10 years since the program accepted its first scholars – 95% of scholars obtain employment in their chosen fields. It became clear that the Master of Peace Studies has a profound effect on their ability to contribute.

In case you have the impression it was all a bit high falutin', we were brought back to earth by Past RI President Bill Boyd's closing "Third Royce Abbey Oration" (from which I gleaned the historical details above). Bill emphasized that EVERY act of service, whether locally or overseas, was a building block towards peace. By making one person's life better, we make the world a better place.

Back in 9680 territory, Camp Breakaway celebrated its 30th birthday in style. It was great to see PDG (big) Ted Atkinson in attendance who was influential in getting every Rotary Club in the District involved and then spent many more years as Chair. The Central Coast Clubs had a big representation amongst the distinguished guests.

West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook hosted Galston and Kenthurst Clubs for a fantastic presentation of "Tears in the Jungle", a remarkable effort by two brothers in years 8 and 10 (the eldest with cerebral palsy) to save the habitat of orangutans in Borneo. Their presentation belied their years and disability: many books, posters and stuffed toys were sold!

Coming up, there are two big events on successive days in October:

- Sunday 14th – Warringah Concert Brass at Dee Why RSL – put on by all of the Clubs of the Peninsula Zone plus Dee Why
- Monday 15th – Rotary Foundation Dinner at the Epping Club with Incoming RI President Ron Burton

I'd suggest booking early for each – other Rotary functions have been a sellout!

Yours in Rotary

John Dodd

District Governor 2012-13

[Read more...](#)

Trip Report - FOMU, Eastern Highlands Province, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 26, 2012

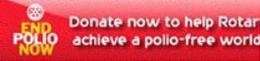
The Rotary Club of Kenthurst has a long association with the Fomu community in the Eastern Highlands of PNG. In 2008 we constructed classrooms and helped the community establish a Primary School in an area that had been without educational and health services for



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more than 25 years. We have continued supporting the Fomu community particularly with education. When North Ryde Rotary Club developed so-lar computers for developing countries we were keen to have Fomu as the pilot site.

Phill Isaacs from the North Ryde Club has been working with Castle Hill TAFE to develop....

Why not download the attach files to read this trip report on how our district was able to help a remote community in PNG.

[Garden of Secrets](#)

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 24, 2012

Mr HAWKE (Mitchell) (09:36): I rise today to speak about the generous spirit of another family in my electorate who have worked alongside local community clubs and volunteers to raise financial support for charities over many years. Families in my electorate of Mitchell have a longstanding tradition of taking pride in their homes and gardens, both small and large. Our shire is known as the 'Garden Shire'. Many in our community today think this term is an anachronism, but more than two-thirds of our shire is still rural land used for farming and other agricultural industries.

[Click here to read the full message](#)

[Exchange students 10 years on](#)

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 20, 2012



Hello! Two weeks ago, I was in London and met up with 6 other rotary youth exchange students who were also in 9680 during the same year as I! It was so great to see them again and it was as if exchange was just last year! Through exchange, we all formed a special friendship that will last forever!!

Thanks to Rotary! I thought I'd send you a picture and if you can, let Lane Cove RC know that 10years later, exchangees still talk about their exchange and consider it the best time of their lives!!! - Martina Heiniger, former exchange student of Lane Cove Rotary

[Read more...](#)

[Short Report on Sewaid project Mindanao](#)

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 20, 2012

Well, how does one describe this once in a lifetime experience we have just had here in the Philippines? It is Sunday morning and we are packing up ready to travel back this afternoon to Cagayan de Oro and then fly to Manilla.

Except for the one night we spent in Cagayan de Oro (CdO) which was an experience on it's own especially when we had an earthquake in the middle of the night, we have spent the last twelve days here in Gingoog (pronounced Hin-og) a small city on the North coast of Mindanao. Mindanao as you may know is an Island in the South of the Philippines which I think is about the size of Tasmania, but has the population of Australia (22 million). Unfortunately it is best known internationally for it's so called terrorists, which live in the central and western area, and while the whole island is tard with this reputation, here nothing could be more peaceful. In fact we are staying at a very peaceful resort, and like most mornings we have been swimming in the lovely

[Click here to read the full story](#)

Oktoberfest (The Wiesn) 2012

Posted by Haran Ramachandran on Sep 17, 2012



The Rotary Club of Chatswood will be host Oktoberfest (The Wiesn) 2012 at the Austrian Club on Friday 28th of September from 6:30pm. Contact Dieter on 0413 539209 to be part of this evening.

District 9680 E-News is reviewed weekly for publication on Thursday at least every two weeks. You will find important club and District announcements. To include your club's announcements or other news for the District, please submit your article, announcements or letters by Tuesday evening to [the Editor by email to editorial@rotarydistrict9680.org](mailto:editorial@rotarydistrict9680.org) with your copy and photos. Your submission will then be considered for immediate publication on the [District Website](#) and in the next edition of E-News.

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