



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Go for Gold at the Gong!

*Celebrate the Golden Jubilee
of our District Conferences*

16 to 18 March 2012

**WIN Entertainment Centre,
Wollongong**

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Rotarians of District 9680

Binota and I are pleased to extend our greetings and very best wishes to you as you participate in your 2011-12 Conference. We wish we could share in each of the more than 500 conferences around the world this year, but that is just not possible. However, with the able leadership of your District Governor David Rands and his wife Anne, we are confident that this will be a very special and memorable experience for you.



The District Conference is a wonderful tradition and a great opportunity to share information and learn about the projects and activities of other Rotarians in your District and around the world. While our Clubs are the heart of Rotary, it is at the District Conference where Club members can become even more aware of the ways in which Rotary is making the world a better place.

When Binota and I began our life of service through my local Rotary club, we had no idea where our desire to serve would lead us. It is the same for all Rotarians, as none of us knows where service will lead. Rotary has accomplished so much, yet the world needs us more today than ever. I encourage you to renew your dedication to your Clubs, your District and Rotary ~ to *"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"*.

At the International Assembly I said, *"In order to achieve anything in this world, a person has to use all the resources he can draw on. And the only place to start is with ourselves and within ourselves."* As you participate in your District Conference I ask you to remember why you chose Rotary and let service to others continue to motivate you. We wish you an informative, inspirational, fruitful and enjoyable District Conference.

Rotary Club of Beecroft

David was born in Auckland, New Zealand and educated at Auckland Grammar School and Auckland University.



He worked in the manufacturing industry for 40 years, initially with Phillips Electrical and ICI and then for longer periods with Taubmans Paints and Coates Brothers. The latter firm manufactured printing Ink and eventually became part of DIC, the largest ink company in the world. David continued his career with DIC and retired from full time work as the CEO of its Australian and New Zealand operations at the end of 2008.

David's involvement with Rotary began in 1973, when he became the Charter Secretary of the Rotary Club of Western Hutt in 1973. He served as its President in 1976/7. In 1989/90 he served as President of Beecroft Club where he remains a member. He has also been a member of the RC of Baulkham Hills in 1981/2, and of Jurong Town Club in Singapore 1994/7 when business took him to that country. David is a Paul Harris Fellow and a major donor to the Foundation.

At District level, David was a member of the GSE District Committee 2007 and 2008, Assistant Governor for City North in 2008/9 and Information Director in 2009/10.

David married Anne in 1968 and they have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. The family moved permanently to Sydney in 1986. David's interests include swimming, sailing, canoeing and music.

Welcome from District Governor David Rands 5.

Anne and I take great pleasure in welcoming you to this Conference and to the city of Wollongong. This year marks the Golden Jubilee of Conferences in our Rotary area. 2012 is also an Olympic Year. That guided us in the choice of our slogan, *Go for Gold at the Gong*, with its emphasis on the pursuit of excellence in all we do as Rotarians.

We have planned this Conference to be both familiar and innovative. Enjoy the traditional mix of fellowship and inspiration, sharing the company of your fellow Rotarians and their partners. Hear some outstanding speakers and learn more about the wide range of programs in which we are involved, as individuals, as Clubs, as a District and throughout Rotary globally. The *Masked Ball* on Saturday night, with a swing band of outstanding young local players, will be a social highlight. There will be a lot of music to enjoy throughout the weekend.

But there are some new ideas as well. One is *Club Showcase*. We have invited every Club to participate and promote the best of its projects and skills. The most impressive presentations will be acknowledged in the closing session of the Conference. Then you can *Speak your Mind* over lunch on Sunday. Here you will be able to participate in small group discussions facilitated by experienced Rotarians. You will have spent much of the weekend being talked to, now will be your chance to talk back.

We would like to express our thanks to the Conference Organising Committee, chaired by PP David Ellyard, and all its hardworking members. Our thanks also go to the members of the Rotary Club of Beecroft for their whole-hearted support and involvement. And of course to all you, for being here to participate.

We hope you have a memorable weekend, as together we *Go for Gold at the Gong*.

Past District Governor Manjit Sawhney (Rita) 6. Rotary International President's Special Representative (RIPPR)

Rotary Club of Delhi

Manjit comes from a family of freedom fighters from Rawalpindi (Now Pakistan) who migrated to Delhi in 1947. He won the coveted Best Cadet award of the National Cadet Corps and was a student leader, keen debater and cricketer. He graduated in international marketing, specialising in construction & tunneling equipment.



As a charter member of the Rotary Club of Delhi South Metropolitan, he served outstandingly as its President in 1992-93 and Governor of District 3010 in 1997-98. He is a Major Donor and Benefactor to The Rotary Foundation.

His involvement in the Rotary polio eradication program covers nearly 20 years. Currently chairman of the South East Asia Regional PolioPlus Committee and a member of the India National Polio Committee of Rotary International, he also takes a strong interest in the issue of preventable blindness and in the provision of low cost shelters.

Manjit's work for Rotary has been widely recognised. In 2011 he received the *Regional PolioPlus Award for Exemplary Service towards Polio Eradication*; in 2002 the *Service above Self Award* and in 1997-98 the *RI Presidents Citation as a distinguished Governor*. In 2004 he was honoured by the Crown Princess of Thailand for helping to provide 2400 prostheses for the physically handicapped.

Manjit is married to Rita, a Past President of Inner Wheel and a Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation. They have two children, one a doctor, the other working with the former Spastic Society of India. Their three grandsons are all Paul Harris Fellows.

District Governor Elect John Dodd (Janelle) 7.

Rotary Club of Ryde

As a teenager John joined Ryde Rotaract and was Rotaract 9680 District President in 1979-80. He was invited to join Ryde Rotary in 1985 and has been Director of International, Youth (twice), Vocational and Club (twice) Service, Rotaract Chairman, Red Shield Area Director (three years) and Youth Exchange Chairman (three years). He has served twice as President in 1992-93 and 2001-02. John's Rotary service has been acknowledged by his Club twice with a Paul Harris Fellow and sapphire pin.



John and Janelle have been heavily involved in Rotary Youth Exchange with Janelle being an outbound student to Japan sponsored by Epping Club. They have hosted seventeen inbound students and their three children have participated in the program.

At District level, John has served as Administration Adviser for two years (2008-10) and Insurance Officer for four years (2007-11). In 2010-11, he served as Assistant Governor for the Northern District Zone. John has spoken at many District Training events and conducted Ethics "hypotheticals" at many Clubs.

He began his legal career as a Judge's Associate in the District Court while still studying and after admission was employed by Hunt and Hunt Solicitors for four years. He has practiced continuously at the Bar since 1984, specialising in personal injury, insurance and commercial law. Outside the law, John and Janelle have been owner/operators of Childcare Centres since 1988.

After 32 years of marriage, John and Janelle have two daughters: a solicitor and an interior architect; their son is studying computers and business. John enjoys tennis and relaxing on his part-owned yacht as well as good music.

**District Governor
Nominee Graeme
Davies (Lyn)**

**Rotary Club of
Kincumber.**



Graeme Davies joined the Rotary Club of Griffith (D9700) in 1990. He was President in 1994-95. A highlight of the year was the celebration of the Club's 50th Anniversary. He and his wife Lyn were members of the District Youth Exchange Committee for many years and have escorted students to New Zealand and the USA as well being host parents on numerous occasions. The family moved to the NSW Central Coast where Graeme joined the Rotary Club of Kincumber (D2680) in 1999.

He has held all Board positions at Club level with the exception of Treasurer. He has been a member of D9680 Australian Rotary Health committee (2002-10), editor of the DG Newsletter member of the District Conference Committee (D9670; 1995-96), Assistant Governor in 2007-08 and again in 2009-10, DG Special Representative (2008) to form the Rotary Club of Gosford City, D9680 Community Service Chairman in 2010-11 and D9680 Administration Director in 2010-11.

He and his wife Lyn (also a Rotarian, President-elect of the Rotary Club of Griffith Central and currently PP Rotary Club of Terrigal and Assistant Governor 2011-12) have had a long association with MUNA. In 2009, 2010 and 2011 they have visited Timor Leste with a RAWCS team from D9680 to establish RYLA in that country.

Graeme was principal of Griffith High School and Kincumber High School. Lyn was also a school principal. They have three children, Jon, Bronwyn and Stuart and two grandchildren, Kobi and Isla. They both enjoy travelling and have a range of other interests including reading, canoeing and boating.

Message from Conference Chair PP David Ellyard

9.

Rotary Club of Beecroft

It has been my privilege over the last three years to serve as Chair of the Organising Committee of this Conference. I have been able to work with some very talented and dedicated Rotarians, and we all hope that you will be pleased with the outcome of our labours.



While many people have made a significant contribution, the core group has been small enough for me to name them all personally: DG David of course and Anne, Michael Schwarcz, Di Hammond, Tim Fenton as treasurer, Les Walsh who has overseen registration and accommodation as well as maintaining an excellent website, Angelo Raveane in charge of venue liaison, our production manager John Melville, our MC Tom Sweeney, Brian Banfield who has organised the *Club Showcase*, Jim DeMartin who has fulfilled the same role in the *Expo*, Peter Holst who has coordinated Beecroft Club involvement in a very wide range of tasks and Bill Grant in charge of promoting the event to other Clubs.

My deepest thanks to all of these fine Rotarians.

The Conference would not be possible with the whole-hearted involvement of Beecroft Rotarians and their partners. Three years ago, when we undertook to support David Rands in his nomination for District Governor, we were aware that as a consequence we would have the responsibility of delivering *his* Conference. We have done our very best. We hope that this weekend will linger in your memory, as that once again we are reminded of the special privilege we all share in being Rotarians.

FRIDAY 16 MARCH

10.

Master of Ceremonies PP Tom Sweeney

1820: SESSION ONE: CONFERENCE OPENING

Delegates are encouraged to wear their Club shirts

Pre dinner drinks in northern foyer, then sit-down dinner.

Welcome Music by Wollongong Conservatorium of Music

Jazz Group in auditorium

Program:

- Acknowledgment of Country
- Welcome to District 9750 by District Governor Phil Whyte
- Welcome to Conference attendees:
by District Governor David Rands and Anne
- Proposal of Loyal Toast:
President Di Hammond, Rotary Club of Beecroft
- DINNER
- Proposal of Toast to Rotary International:
Past RI Director John Carrick
- Response to Toast to RI:
RIPPR Past District Governor Manjit Sawhney
- DESSERT
Entertainment by Wollongong Conservatorium of Music
- Entertainment by Di Hammond:
President Rotary Club of Beecroft.
- Introduction of Group Study Exchange (GSE) teams
outbound and inbound to District 1260,
Milton Keynes, UK.
- Keynote Speaker:
Inspector Charles Allen, Peace Scholar;
“International Peace Experience Impacts Locally”.

SATURDAY 17 MARCH

11.

Master of Ceremonies PP Tom Sweeney

0830 SESSION TWO: YOUTH SERVICE

- Parade of Flags by Youth Exchange Students
- National Anthem
- Introduction of Past District Governors
- RIPPR Past District Governor Manjit Sawhney

Chair PP Peter Visser

- RYLA and Indigo Foundation (Ali Yonsepour)
- Rotary Youth Exchange (TBA)
- RYPEN (Mitchell Robinson and Ben Reyden)
- MUNA (TBA)
- ROTARACT

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Superintendent Deborah Wallace, NSW Police Force; "My Life of Crime"

1030 MORNING TEA.

1100 SESSION THREE: VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Chair: PP Bob Kaye Smith

- Presentation of awards for Vocational Excellence (PP Margaret Sachs)
- Presentation of award for Apprentice/ Trainee of the Year
- *Four Way Test* Public Speaking Competition

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Michael Kirkwood-Smith and Kate Crocker, WorldSkills Gold Medallists, "WorldSkills Excellence".

1230 LUNCH AND CLUB SHOWCASE

Music by the *Cats O'Plenty* Street Band
From the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music

1345 Music by Wollongong Conservatorium of Music in Auditorium

1420 SESSION FOUR: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chair: PP Cliff Hoare

- Australian Rotary Health (Dr Kevin Loo)
- Northern Territory Project (Rotary Club of Carlingford)
- Food Bank (Gerry Anderson, CEO)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Associate Professor Felice Jacka, Australian Rotary Health, "Can We Prevent Depression?"

1600 BUSINESS AND VOTING SESSIONS

1820 Pre-dinner drinks in Northern Foyer

1900 MASKED BALL AND DINNER

With The Wollongong Conservatorium of Music *Jazz Orchestra*



Judging of individual and Clubs masks will take place throughout the evening

SUNDAY 18 MARCH

13.

MC PP Tom Sweeney

0900 SESSION SIX: INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Chair: PP Rob Jolly

- *Biblioteka Emera* (Beth and Dan Gilfillan)
- Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS)
(Sue O'Neill)
- UFF Uganda (Annabelle Chauncy)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Ramesh Ferris, Polio Plus Ambassador
"Surviving Polio"

REMEMBRANCE OF DEPARTED ROTARIANS

1030 MORNING TEA

1100 SESSION SEVEN:

Interviews with *Club Showcase* winners.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Professor Fred Watson, Astronomer
"In the Face of the Sun"

- DGE John Dodd
- DGN Graham Davies
- Closing remarks by RIPPR
Past District Governor Manjit Sawhney
- Promotion of Conference 2013 by DGE John Dodd and
PP Bob Kaye Smith
- Handover of Conference Flag from President Di
Hammond (Beecroft) to President Ken Allen (Ryde)
- Thanks and official close (DG David Rands)

1245 LUNCH for "SPEAK YOUR MIND" registrants

1300 "SPEAK YOUR MIND" in President's Room

Inspector Charles Allen - Victoria Police***Global Peace
Experience
Impacts Locally***

Charles has been with Victoria Police for 30 years. He is currently Local Area Commander for the City of Greater Dandenong. This is the most culturally diverse local government area within Australia with 156 recognised settled cultures.

In July 2010 he was a member of the *Rotary Peace Fellow* cohort, undergoing training in Thailand. This program is funded by The Rotary Foundation.

“As a Rotary Peace Fellow alumni, I have applied the learning actively in my professional career”, Charles says. “This has included applying sustainable conflict resolution processes to local issues, such as fears of retribution following a murder, racially- motivated arson and criminal damage, and dissipating community anger following a fatal police pursuit”.

**Detective Superintendent Deborah Wallace APM
New South Wales Police*****My Life of Crime***

A police officer for nearly 30 years and holder of the Australian Police Medal, Debbie has substantial experience in reducing the impact of drug use on youth, and in cutting the supply of drugs on the street. She has also worked with Father Chris Riley's *Youth off the Streets*.

She has been much involved in Rotary youth programs such as RYLA and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Kate Crocker and Michael Kirkwood–Smith
WorldSkills Australia Gold Medalists



The Pursuit of Excellence.

Michael and Kate are WorldSkills Australia gold medalists, Michael in IT and Kate in hospitality. Both have represented Australia internationally as "Skillaroos" team members in WorldSkills International competitions, Michael in Japan (2007) and Kate in London (2011); both won international medals.

Michael and Kate have outstanding records through their TAFE and TVET studies and have secured many other prestigious awards, regional and state. Their presentation will highlight the links built between our District and TAFE. They will be "bringing Gold to the Gong".

Associate Professor Felice Jacka

Medical Researcher



***Can We Prevent
Depression***

Dr Jacka is an outstanding young medical researcher supported by Australian Rotary Health.

Over the last six years she has developed an innovative program of research that examines how a person's diet can change the risk for mental health problems.

Her research was named one of the top ten most important research studies in mental health in the world in 2010.

Ramesh Ferris***Surviving Polio***

Born in India, Ramesh was paralysed by polio at the age of six months, and was later adopted into a Canadian family.

Whilst in India in 2002 to meet his biological mother, Ramesh learnt of polio survivors forced to crawl for lack of medical care. To raise both awareness and money for the global eradication of polio, Ramesh hand-cycled across Canada in 2008.

Today he is a vigorous promoter of Rotary International's outstandingly successful *Polio Plus* initiative. Ramesh is a member of the Rotary club of Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.

Professor Fred Watson

Astronomer



***In the Face
of the Sun***

Professor Watson is the astronomer-in-charge of the *Australian Astronomical Observatory* (AAO) near Coonabarabran in outback NSW.

Well-known through his work in radio, TV and the print media, Fred promotes greater awareness of astronomy and of our place in the cosmos.

Through stunning images from space to support his vivid anecdotes, he will open your eyes to the wonders of the universe, promoting the view that the night sky and the wider cosmos are on show for everyone to enjoy.



Cheryl Law (Team Leader) was Charter President for the Rotary Club of Wendover and District, after 10 years in Rotaract and another 10 in Inner Wheel. She runs a charity called *Great Lakes Outreach* which operates in Central Africa, providing sustainable aid, education and homes for orphans.



Daniel Stewart is 26. He works for the Alzheimer's Society, helping staff and volunteers to share the information they do need to do their jobs well. He also works with "rough sleepers" in London.



Steve Nolan is 26, and a senior reporter for Johnston Press in Luton, Buckinghamshire. He researches and writes for both print and online. He enjoys taking on various "charity challenges" to help local causes.

Emma Eyles

Emma lives in Aylesbury. She works in the Marketing and Communications Department of the Aylesbury Vale District Council. She enjoys jogging, reading, listening to music and driving holidays in Europe.



Andrew Kay

Andrew was a broadcast journalist for six years before joining the *Bucks Herald* in Aylesbury, covering entertainment as well as hard news such as crime. He is a keen follower of Formula One racing.



Nikki Hall

Nikki is the senior press and public relations officer for the Hertfordshire Constabulary, just outside London. Her work includes operations and events that have been the focus of national and international media. She enjoys keeping fit, eating out, reading, music, and photography.



GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE OUTBOUND 21.



Team Leader - Mark Wallace is a Past President and member of the Rotary Club of Crows Nest, currently Membership and Public Relations Director and District Public Relations Director. A journalist for 34 years, he has worked at the Old Sydney Sun, the Canberra Times and was editor of the Hornsby Advocate. He is now Editor of Rotary Down Under; the magazine serving Australasia Region (7B & 8)



Louise Schwartzkoff

Louise lives in the inner harbourside suburb of Kirribilli and works as a feature writer for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. She is sponsored by the Rotary Club of North Sydney Sunrise.



Steven Spierings

Steven lives in the north-west Sydney suburb of Eastwood and is a journalist and sports editor with *Hills News*, a local weekly newspaper. He is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Castle Hill.



Claire Thompson

Claire lives in the inner Sydney suburb of Glebe and works as Media Advisor for The Hills Shire Council. She is sponsored by the Rotary Club of The Hills-Kellyville.



Julia Holman

Julia is based in Sydney's northern suburb of Willoughby and is a Rural Reporter for the ABC (Radio & TV) and works throughout southern NSW and the ACT. She is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chatswood.

	From	Hosted By
Marie Bak	Denmark	Northlakes/Toukley
Victoria Blichfeldt	Norway	Ryde
Guillermo Castiglione	Spain	Gladesville
Grace Cheng	Taiwan	Castle Hill/ Glenhaven
Victor Dallacosta	Brazil	St Ives
Marie Deneufbourg	France	Waitara
Caterina Gregorio	Italy	Carlingford
Alexandra Huver	France	Belrose
Aleksi Koivisto	Finland	Lane Cove
Louise Lastein	Denmark	WPH/Cherrybrook
Joanna Lirvall	Sweden	Roseville Chase
Charlotte Marique	Belgium	Glenhaven
Mateus Moraes	Brazil	Gladesville
Laura Morel	Belgium	Crows Nest
Manuel Perez	Chile	Mosman
Sofia Pozo	Chile	Northbridge
Jana Reiter	Austria	Turrumurra
Alexandre Roberge	Canada	North Sydney
Suvi Siltala	Finland	Thornleigh
Majken Solvin	Sweden	Dural
Birgit Stubenschrott	Austria	North Ryde
Patricio Suarez	Mexico	Mosman
Nina Tornow	Switzerland	West Gosford

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE OUTBOUND 23.

	To	Sponsored by RC of
Evan Bailey	Belgium	Epping
Caitin Gilchrist	Spain	WPH/Cherrybrook
Evan Di Poalo	Italy	Glenhaven
Gerri Friend-Ngui	Brazil	Beecroft
Will Frohlich	Sweden	Lane Cove
Jonathon (Jono) Gilliam	Canada	Thornleigh
Phillipa (Pip) Hodgson	Chile	North Sydney
Dan Hudson	France	Mosman
Jonathan Kwan	Finland	Castle Hill
Sienna Lake	France	Roseville Chase
Jordan Lewis	Austria	Belrose
Jacqueline Lillyman	Switzerland	Carlingford
Agatha Lossy	Denmark	North Ryde
Jacqueline (Jac) Madsen	Norway	Turrumurra
Lauren McKee	Taiwan	Mosman
Joseph Mendozona	Mexico	Thornleigh
Killian Renney	Finland	St Ives
Emily Phillips	USA	Terrey Hills
Nicola Rammers	Belgium	Dural
Jacqueline Smith	Mexico	Gladesville
Tom Snowden	Brazil	Crows Nest
Matindi Twyford-Moore	Ecuador	Northlakes-Toukley
Ellen Williams	Brazil	Waitara
Katherine Graham	Denmark	North Rocks

OUR SPONSORS

24.

From the 2012 Conference Committee and
The Rotary Club of Beecroft,
a huge Thank You to all our Sponsors.

Please Support their Business.

