



APRIL 2011

April is Magazine Month

We all need to focus on making our members and the community at large more aware of what Rotary does. We need to wave the flag more. There are some great projects being done in all our local communities as well as the wider world. The recent TV ads on WIN and PRIME TV throughout the District (funded by the District and RI) help to create a general awareness in the community of Rotary.

However Clubs need to follow up with local media to publicise their local projects and get more people involved with their Club activities and bring them into membership. Clubs need to capitalize on the enthusiasm generated from the District Conference and other projects.

This Newsletter highlights activities of Clubs. The Rotary Down Under magazine also is a great source of information about what is happening in Rotary all across Australia and New Zealand. Read it and share it with others to show what Rotary is

doing – both are available on the net.

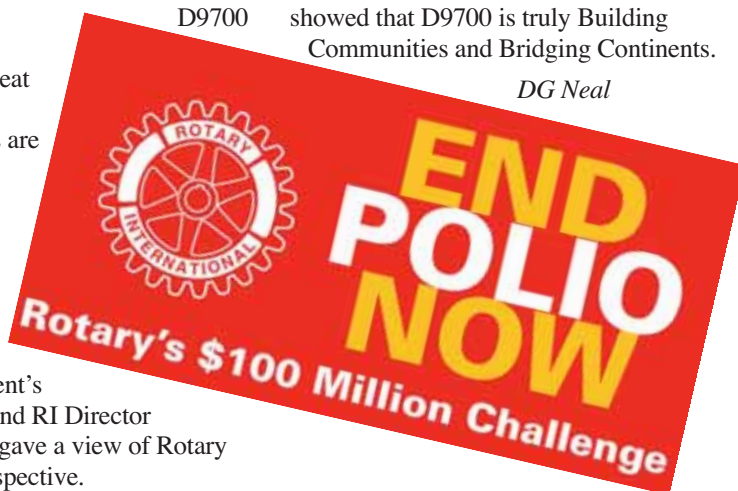
The Conference last weekend was a great success and more details and photos are below.

Over 400 delegates had fun and were inspired by outstanding speakers. We were privileged to have RI President's Rep Cathy Roth and RI Director John Blount who gave a view of Rotary from a global perspective.

A huge thank you to Conference Chair Michael Tindale and his Committee and to all the members of Orange North and friends who did a magnificent job in organising and hosting the Conference. Thank you to all those who attended to

make it such a success. The Conference showed that D9700 is truly Building Communities and Bridging Continents.

DG Neal



Rotary's End Polio Now campaign is one of the great humanitarian programs ever undertaken but it is not widely known that it is a Rotary initiative. Clubs may like to publicise Rotary in their community to increase awareness of our organisation.

Thank You from Japan

Dear our Friends, Rotarians, in the world,

Thank You very much for your stimulating.

Although we had the tragic disaster we have never experienced, we are doing the best for everything we can do. This crisis gives us a great sorrow.

We have no words affected by the earthquake and tsunami. Many people suffered this disaster died or lost their house. It was a grievous disaster. We all are in deeply sorrow. We prepared for the earthquake and tsunami because of living in Japan. But It was a larger than our expectation. It was far too big to prevent tsunami.

It was a dreadful. It is like the hell near the seaside area after it happened.

We (D2530) are now in a big fear

that is the problem of the nuclear power plants.

One of Rotarian who is one of Assistant Governor in 10-11 our District is working on the front line to relieve our mind and go back to normal the nuclear energy. We all trust him and pay one's respects to him. He said, "I MUST DO IT." "I AM A ROTARIAN!"

This crisis teaches us important things again. Those are water, electricity, gas, petrol...and helping each other, LOVE, the strength of human beings.

We pray it the serious case will be safe. Thanks, Thanks so much for Rotary friendship.

Bonds of Rotary friendship.

With love to Rotarians

Hiroji Ohashi

D2530 Governor,

Late News ..

Youth Exchange - **URGENT**

Applications for 2012 close in April. Further information is available from District YEP Chairman George Thomas and under Committees/YEP on the District 9700 website: <http://rotarnet.com.au/users/9/9700Dist/>

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) – **URGENT**

Applications for teams to Denise Flockton urgently:
edflockton@yahoo.com.au

Rotary International President – Ray Klinginsmith

District 9700 Board Members:

District Governor – Neal Fogarty

Governor Elect – Ian Simpson

Governor Nominee – Greg Brown

IPDG - Irene Jones

Dir. Administration - Fred Loneragan

Dir. Membership & P.R. - John Egan

Dir. Foundation – Bruce Barber

Dir. Service Projects – Ian Tooke

District Secretary – Peter Byrne

District Treasurer – Geoff Tancred

District 9700 Conference Roundup



A Rotary International Polio Service Award was presented by John Blout to Sue and Terry Metcalfe from Griffith Avanti for their efforts to increase awareness of the End Polio campaign, through their bike rides around the District and Australia. *(Pictured left)*

An RI Club Builder Award was made to David Benn from Wollundry Wagga Wagga for his efforts to build Club membership over several years. *Picture below David with RI President's Rep Cathy Roth and DG Neal.*



Outstanding District Awards

The District Awards were presented on Saturday night. These were:

1. Nevin Hughes Outstanding New Project Award

Winner: RC of Orange - Sustainability Living Week

A week of activities for students and the community with TAFE and other partners to highlight where energy efficiencies can be made in home design and all aspects of living.

Highly Commended

Murrumburrah-Harden - Volunteer's Gala Day

Wagga Wagga Murrumbidgee – End Polio Now lighting on Wagga Wagga Council Chambers

Young: Musica Internationale

2. Alf Gillespie Community Service Award

Winner: RC of Orange Daybreak – Experience Orange Expo

An opportunity for diverse interest groups to showcase their activities to the community.

Highly Commended

Bathurst Daybreak: Support for Headspace from the B2B Bikathon
Griffith area: Portable oxygen converters

Lake Cargelligo: Took over and resuscitated the Christmas Carnival

Leeton: MS Mega Swimathon

Orange Calare: Community Awards Dinner

Orange North: BBQ Shelters at Lake Canobolas & Care West Lodge

Wollundry Wagga Wagga: Renal dialysis units

3. International Service Award

Winner: RC of Wagga Wagga - Darkness to Light

Dr Alok Sharma and teams of volunteers have conducted several eye clinics in India over the last 6 years to undertake cataract operations and screening.

Highly Commended

Blayney: Support for the Foundation, Matching Grant application for hospital in Bangladesh

Griffith Avanti: Practical support for an orphanage in Rwanda

Lockhart: Support for Learn Grow
Orange North: RAWCS projects for clean water in PNG

Wagga Wagga Murrumbidgee: RAWCS team to Vanuatu hospital and schools

4. Graham Barber Vocational Service Award

Winner: RC of Bathurst Daybreak - 2010 Carillon Business Awards

Highly Commended

Blayney: Business Network, vocational visits and student mentoring program

Griffith East: Rotary Police Officer of the Year Awards

5. Alan Josey Youth Service Award

Winner: RC of Blayney

For outstanding support for local & D9700 youth programs, billycart bash
Highly Commended

Canowindra: RYAG (Beef), RYAG (Grain), Murray-Darling Freshwater Fish, RYDA

6. District Conference Attendance Award

Winner: RC of Henty

7. Best Club Bulletin

Winner: RC of Griffith Avanti

Highly Commended

Bathurst Daybreak,
Coolamon,
Orange Daybreak,
Orange North,
Parkes,
Wollundry Wagga Wagga,
Young

12. The District Peace Communities Award

Winner: RC of Parkes

For establishing initiatives and partnerships that have significantly contributed to world peace.

■ Team to Fiji to build Rota homes

■ 100% Life membership of RFFA

■ Supporting a local artist to develop a Filipino & Wiradjuri artists exchange program

■ Development of adventure playground for children with challenging behaviours

■ Sponsoring ARH Indigenous scholars & research scholarships

District 9700 Conference In Pictures

It was a fun weekend with great entertainment on Friday night and the 20 piece Central West All Stars Band providing great music for dancing on Saturday.



From top left: Ilyasi Siraji with DG Neal, Mayor of Orange John Davis with the GSE group from the Philippines, Liz Wall, DG Neal with Michael McQueen, Sue and Terry Metcalfe and Griffith Avanti members, DG Neal and Barbara, The Wollundry mob enjoying the dinner dance, RI President's Rep Cathy Roth shows her true colours, The Big Band kept the dinner dance hopping, RI Director John Blount and Maria Bargwanna, Some of the 'Red Shirts' from Orange Inner Wheel, Orange North and friends who kept the weekend running and catered so well, with Royce Abbey Scholar Thida Hing.

District 9700 Conference Roundup

Orange - April 1-3, 2011

If you weren't there you missed a great Conference in Orange.

We were privileged to have RI President's Rep Cathy Roth and RI Director John Blount who gave a view of Rotary from a global perspective.

Other outstanding Keynote Speakers included:

Ilyasi Siraji, who spoke movingly of his journey with younger siblings from the war-torn Congo to a Uganda refugee camp and to Adelaide, where he is active in several Rotary programs.

David Copley – a former ARH indigenous nursing Scholar, spoke on the positive impact on aboriginal health of education.

Liz Wall – a former NYSF student and mining engineer, spoke of her experiences in working with communities, companies and governments to reduce poverty through the development of mineral resources in countries as diverse as PNG, Armenia, Guinea and Niger.

Ben Smith – a former Youth Exchange student to South Africa and now a mining engineer and manager of Ulan coal mine, gave an insight into the transition to President Nelson Mandela.

Michael McQueen – a social researcher gave some valuable tips on engaging generation Y and the implications for Rotary.

The Conference also heard from the inaugural District Vocational Excellence Awardees:

Professor Patrick Ball, who established the CSU Pharmacy courses and is responsible for several initiatives in remote and indigenous communities and continuing education for rural pharmacists.



Dr David Michalk, who is Director of the Orange Agricultural Institute, has worked extensively in rangeland research in China and Australia to improve productivity and sustainability of grazing systems to help alleviate poverty while mitigating environmental degradation.

Several other speakers from the District

gave excellent presentations on: Darkness to Light in India, Training Teachers in Nepal, Friendship Exchange, Clean Water in PNG, Agricultural Development in Cambodia, Cow for orphans in Rwanda, Rota homes in Fiji, Learn Grow. The AGs also presented summaries of the activities of Clubs throughout the District.



Who said Rotary is all work and no play? This was proven wrong by the 300 who attended the Saturday night Dinner Dance. Pictured above are some of the members of the Orange Daybreak club and friends who showed what a good time can be had in Rotary.

District Conference Pictures



From top left: The Philippines GSE group Team entertained the convention with a wonderful dance, MC Graeme Flemming, PDGs, Philippines GSE group presenting flags, John Blout, David Copley, Denise Flockton and Mary Brell, Patrick Ball, Group at the Mayoral Reception.

Rotary Rounds

District Fodder Drive Assisting Benjeroop, Vic.

In early January, large areas of Central and North Western Victoria were devastated by a rain event, not seen in those areas before, resulting in a huge inland sea finding its way to Benjeroop two weeks later. This little town sits at the convergence of the Loddon, Murray and Little Murray Rivers and the area has remained under water since that time. Twenty five houses were inundated and having been soaked in rancid water for so long most are unlikely to be salvageable. Many dairy farms remain under water, forcing them to move their cows to other dairy farms on higher ground causing overstocking and a desperate need for hay. Milking machines are running 24 hrs a day to cope. As the water slowly subsides, the season changes to winter, there will be minimal chance for these farmers to grow any decent feed for their stock.

There are two other locations where we will be supplying hay from our District Fodder Drive, Pyramid Hill near Bendigo, Victoria, and Oakey in Queensland. These



areas have a similar scenario to those above where flood water has remained since the January downpour and farmers are desperate for stock feed.

Donated hay from our District will be despatched to the Benjeroop/Murrabit area shortly and as soon as transport arrangements are finalised will be forwarded to Bendigo and Oakey. The requirement for hay by these farmers will

possibly last over a long period of time so we are still requesting Clubs to source donated hay. Any Club unable to source donated hay may consider contributing towards transport costs. Your funds would still be assisting flood relief. If you are able to assist please contact AG Con Bunnik, District Fodder Drive Co-ordinator. bunnikbrae@activ8.net.au ,63 45 0060 or 0402 155 415

Royce Abbey Scholar - Thida Hing

The D9700 Royce Abbey Scholar for 2011 is Thida Hing, a soil scientist from Cambodia (pictured with her first host Don Saville from Orange).



The scholarship provides a 4-month customized training and work experience program for agriculturalists from the Pacific and near Asian countries. Thida has been in Orange at the Agricultural Institute and University for the past month and will be in Leeton and Wagga Wagga for during April and May. She is gaining advanced skills and experience which will be invaluable on her return to her teaching and farmer extension roles with the Royal University of Agriculture in Cambodia.

Inspirational Women Award

Martha Brown was presented with her Inspirational Women Award by Rotary International President Ray Klinginsmith at a gala dinner in Sydney in March. There were over 400 Rotarians and friends present to acknowledge the contribution of the Awardees and other finalists from the 8 Rotary Districts in NSW.



District Governor (2013-14)

Nominations

Nominations are called for Governor for District 9700 for 2013-2014. Applicants need to complete the Governor-Nominee Data Form, which is available from the RI website, and forward to District Secretary Peter Byrne by 31 May 2011.

A Governor-Nominee must:

- Be a member in good standing of a functioning Club in D9700.
- Have served as a Club President for a full term
- At the time of taking office have completed seven years of Rotary membership

Council on Legislation 2013

The delegates to the 2013 Council on Legislation were elected at the Conference. The Delegate elected for D9700 was PDG John Egan and the Alternate elected was PDG Irene Jones. Congratulations for taking on this responsibility.

ShelterBox Aust. – Multi-District Project

Following the unanimous support from Clubs at the Special General Meeting at the Conference, D9700 will join with several other Australian Districts to support ShelterBox Australia becoming a Multi-District Rotary project.

International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians

If you ride a bike, and would like to meet fellow Rotarians, Contact President Robin Nuttall
rnuttall@giant.net.au
03 53413490/ 0427413490

Rotary World Convention - New Orleans 21-25 May

Bill Gates, Jr. will be a featured speaker at the RI convention in New Orleans. Registrations are still open – DG Neal and Barbara are attending and would like know who else from D9700 is planning on being there.

RISPPPO moves location

The Rotary International South Pacific & Philippines Office (RISPPPO) has moved to: Level 2, 60 Phillip Street Parramatta NSW 2150 The phone numbers and postal address remain the same.

Rotary Foundation Peace Scholarships – apply NOW

Rotary Peace Fellows are awarded 15-24 month fellowships to earn Master's degrees in Peace and Conflict Resolution. They study at one of five Rotary Peace Centers all over the world and complete a summer internship in the field. Applicants may also apply for the 3-month professional development certificate in peace and conflict resolution. The program is located in Bangkok, Thailand and runs twice a year. For more information on the Rotary Peace Centers, please visit our website at www.rotary.org/rotarycenters.

Group Study Exchange (GSE)

John McKenzie (AG for Group 2) has been selected as Team Leader for the GSE team to D1010 Scotland in September. The Team will be selected later this month.



The Team to D5770, led by Gary Roberts, is currently in Oklahoma USA. Follow their adventures at:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=156042737752896>

"We want Clubs to be assured that they are the most important thing in Rotary, if we don't take care of the Clubs, the Clubs won't take care of Rotary International"

RI President Ray Klinginsmith

Hat Day – Australian Rotary Health

It is predicted that by 2020, Depression will be the main cause of disability – meaning lost days at work and inability to function in a family situation.

Australian Rotary Health is fighting to reduce the impact of mental illness.

This year 140 applications were received for funding – only 12 new grants could be made. Rotary clubs have been magnificent in their support and funding – now we need the help of the community and business, if we are to be able to help more researchers. That's why we have planned Hat Day.

What exactly is Hat Day meant to achieve?

It is a day planned by Australian Rotary Health to raise awareness of Mental Health and as I have said, more particularly to raise funds to assist Mental Health Research.

The aim is not to raise money from Rotarians and clubs whom we hope will continue to assist Australian Rotary Health by the ongoing annual donations made to Australian Rotary Health over the years. The aim of Hat Day is to raise money from the community.





On the Wallaby

News from Around the Clubs in District 9700

Orange – Hospital Furniture

The combined Orange Clubs recently packed and dispatched 12 containers of hospital furniture and equipment worth over \$1.5m for shipping through RAWCS. The first two containers were furniture from Bloomfield Hospital that went to Port Moresby and Lai Hospitals in Papua New Guinea. That was just a practice run. With the recent opening of the new \$250m Orange Base Hospital all the furniture and equipment from the old Base Hospital is being removed and packed into containers for shipping to countries in need in the Pacific and near Asia. The Rotary Clubs in Orange are sorting and packing the huge amount of equipment following decommissioning, with the costs of transport and shipping being generously met by Hansen & Yuncken, who built the new hospital.

The four Orange clubs combined to 'clean out' the old Orange Hospital's equipment for dispatch to New Guinea.



Wagga Wagga - Darkness to Light Extravaganza.



The project that has Dr Alok Sharma and teams of volunteers regularly travelling to India to undertake eye clinics was given a great fundraising boost recently before his latest sojourn. The dinner with Indian traditional dancers and special guest Her Excellency Mrs. Sujatha Singh, High Commissioner of India to Australia, raised over \$35,000 through very generous sponsorship. This provided much needed equipment for the latest clinic which was held in March.

Photo: Dr Alok Sharma and friends with the Indian High Commissioner

Orange Calare – donations to Emerge Youth and Camp Quality

Half the proceeds of \$14,000 from the successful Bike Ride from Tumut to Orange were provided to Central Tablelands Housing Association, for Emerge Youth & Family Services and purchasing a much needed washing machine & dryer, a television to use when conducting outreach and the Healthy Shelter program and a deep fryer and rice cooker for the kitchen. Emerge has been providing crisis accommodation for 15 years. Their role also involves family mediation and provision of living skills training which includes health issues, budgeting and education. The remaining proceeds went to Parkinsons research (\$2000), ARH (\$3000) and Wyangala Public School (\$500). The Club also donated \$10,000 to Camp Quality, from the proceeds of their Christmas Ham Wheel.

Griffith Avanti – Solomons RAWCS project

The Club has registered a project with RAWCS to repair and refurbish the existing Medical Clinic, install new rainwater tank and provide medical equipment & supplies to the Tinaghulu Medical Clinic, Guadalcanal Province, Solomon Islands. The partner Club in the Solomon Islands is the Rotary Club of Honiara in D9600.



Things go 'just swimmingly' down South



Leeton – MS Mega Swim

The event saw 102 swimmers in 6 teams swimming over 24 hours to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis research. The event was highly successful with some remarkable swimming efforts and over \$35,000 raised.

Photo: The Leeton Mob celebrate a great day out on (in) the water.

and another great donation ...

Wagga Wagga Koorinal Swimathon

A cheque for \$8,600 was presented to the Schizophrenia Fellowship following the recent successful Swimathon.

Henty – Japan exchange connection

The wonderful lasting friendships made during exchanges were renewed recently in Henty. When Julian Morison and his wife Jenny studied and worked in Japan, they befriended Osamu and Reiko Koike who organised for their son, Kenichi to travel to Australia to stay with hosts Joan and Bruce Morison. Now 24 years later, Kenichi and his wife Fumiko, accompanied by his parents, are visiting. Whilst Julian recalled his experiences of cultural differences, Kenichi recalled his memories of living in Henty, some humorous and some a culture shock for the young Kenichi. The evening



concluded with the family singing, 'Kimi Ga Yo.. (May 1000 Years of Happy Reign be Yours)-the official National Anthem of Japan. Another unforgettable evening!

Visiting Rotarian Liz Waters, Reiko Koike, Osamu Koike, Fumiko Koike, Kenichi Koike, Julian Morison & Jenny Morison

Condobolin- Visit from Balgowlah

Recently 11 Balgowlah Rotarians descended on Condobolin by plane and car.

They had a taste of country life, including ploughing with draft horses, enjoyed a combined meeting and presented two Dilly Bags of Early Learning/ Reading material to the Condobolin Primary School and St Joseph's Catholic School in Condobolin.

The Dilly Bags are a unique package of



early learning children's books, DVDs and advice to teachers and parents, focused on literacy and reading for indigenous children in kindergarten years one and two.

Bringing the city to the country grows new and long lasting friendships. Both the Balgowlah and Condo club members had a great time!



Science and Engineering Challenge

Successful Challenges have been held in Wagga Wagga, Young and Forbes, with all the local Clubs assisting the University of Newcastle staff to run them.

The Challenge will also be held for the first time in Orange in June and Young will be hosting the zone finals for the winning teams in August.

It is a fun day of activities for teams of high school students who are given science and engineering challenges to solve.

The activities are challenging, they inspire team building and promote fun - with the students managing them to different degrees.

Get involved with your local Science and Engineering Challenge. It's a great way to promote science and engineering to your local students.

Hay – Information Night

Hay Club President Sam Barnes recently hosted a great Information night with about 30 people from Hay, Griffith, Leeton, Wagga Wagga and Lockhart present. Sam outlined the outstanding record Rotary has had in the Hay and has contributed greatly to the social fabric of Hay, both culturally and financially. He cited the wonderful experience of hosting Rotary Exchange Students and the wealth they gave back to other youth in the town. The various projects of Rotary and its influence in the local and wider community were presented.

Dates for your diary

Club Secretaries – please forward to DG Neal the date for your Changeover

11-16 April 2011 – RYLA – Parkes

16-17 April 2011 – Selection for GSE Team members to D1010 Scotland

1 May 2011 – District Assembly – NB location is Grenfell (NOT Young)

21-25 May 2011 – World Rotary Convention – New Orleans

2 July 2011 – District 9700 Changeover – Orange

Congratulations to the new Paul Harris Fellows in District 9700

Dave Carter – Condobolin

Clive Johnson OAM, Len Wallace - Grenfell

It's a great pleasure to welcome New Members

Elle Palmer – Wagga Wagga

Joanne Tyack – Condobolin

Kathleen Calabria – Griffith Avanti

Julianne Horseman – Wagga Wagga Murrumbidgee

Nick Leywood – Wollundry Wagga Wagga

Club Attendance

FEBRUARY 2011

Bathurst	22	-1	75.26
Bathurst Daybreak	27	0	77.00
Bathurst East	22	0	100.00
Blayney	26	0	89.50
Boorowa	16	0	74.94
Canowindra	12		
Condobolin	15	0	81.20
Coolamon	19	0	70.00
Cootamundra	21	-1	81.00
Cowra	52	0	79.50
Forbes	23	0	65.00
Forbes Ipomoea	8	-1	87.50
Grenfell	29	0	68.70
Griffith	61	0	88.65
Griffith Avanti	24	0	
Griffith East	31	0	73.68
Hay	4		
Henty	19	1	83.41
Junee	7		
Lake Cargelligo	19	0	64.47

Leeton	40	0	85.40
Leeton Central	24	0	56.25
Lockhart	13	0	87.17
Molong	7	0	92.86
M'burrarah-Harden	33	1	67.00
Narrandera	20	-1	80.53
Oberon	19	0	61.00
Orange	39	0	82.00
Orange Calare	25	0	95.00
Orange Daybreak	41	0	89.00
Orange North	50	0	73.50
Parkes	38	-1	79.86
South Wagga	37	0	85.00
Temora	27	0	74.10
Wagga Wagga	49	0	75.69
Wagga Koorringal	31	-2	76.55
Wagga M'bidgee	17	-1	64.00
Wagga Sunrise	41	0	72.00
West Wyalong	13	0	77.00
Wollundry-Wagga	76	2	68.90
Yenda	29	0	66.75
Young	41	0	61.59
Total	1167	-4	77.13