

February is World Understanding Month

The year has started with a great display of the power of nature and the extremes of our weather systems both here and overseas.

The scale of the devastating floods in Qld and Victoria and cyclone Yasi has overshadowed the ongoing flooding and need for recovery in many parts of NSW and D9700.

In contrast to the floods we also have had the fires around Perth in recent days with many people losing their homes.

I congratulate the many Clubs and Rotarians of D9700 who have responded to these disasters by supporting the Flood Appeal and raised considerable funds, which will be reported in detail next month.

Thank you to PDG Fred Loneragan who has taken on the big task of coordinating efforts in D9700 and liaising with the Rotary Coordinators in the flood affected Districts so that we can be assured that the funds will be used most effectively under the supervision of Rotarian volunteers.

AG Con Bunnik is also organising a fodder drop to assist farmers with



livestock feed until pasture and crop regrowth occurs.

These types of disasters are not confined to Australia. The earthquake in Haiti and the floods in Pakistan last year are just two examples of millions of people being affected. In these two instances alone, Rotarians around the

world have provided shelter to 150,000 people in Pakistan and 275,000 people in Haiti through the delivery of over 40,000 Shelter Boxes. In addition there is considerable activity with rebuilding projects underway funded by the Rotary Foundation.

The fourth object of Rotary is the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace. World

Understanding Month is an opportunity for us to engage in the wider Rotary world of over 200 countries. February 23 is also Rotary's birthday and celebrates the founding of our great organisation in 1905.

Attending the District Conference is also a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary beyond your Club. There are some great speakers lined up, many with considerable international experience. I would urge you to register now (early bird rates apply to 1 March) and come to Orange for a great weekend. I would particularly encourage newer Rotarians to come and be inspired. DG Neal

*TOP: We have all seen the TV images of the floods but there has also been significant damage to infrastructure like this coal rail line west of Rockhampton
LEFT: At times like these Rotary shows its full strength. Oberon ladies Suzanne and Robin helping the flood appeal.*



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

Rotary Rounds

Group Study Exchange (GSE)

Philippines Team

The Team to D3830 Philippines, led by Graeme McLean, arrives in Manila on 20 February and will be reporting back to the D9700 Conference on their return.

The GSE Team from D3830 Philippines arrives in Wagga Wagga on Monday 7 March and there will be an Official District Welcome that night hosted by South Wagga Wagga.

Keep in touch with the Philippines Team:

<http://www.gse2011philippines.blogspot.com/>

GSE Team to D1010 Scotland

D9700 will be sending a Group Study Exchange Team to D1010 in Scotland from 4 September to 1 October 2011. Team Leader applications close with GSE Chair Dennis Bishop on 18 February 2011. Team Member applications close on 1 April 2011, with selections held on 16-17 April at Young.



GSE Team to D3830 Philippines – Dane Hendry (Parkes), Joanne Barton (Oberon), Team Leader Graeme McLean (Orange Daybreak), Libby Skipworth (Lake Cargelligo), Frank Dyrssen (Griffith)

Oklahoma Team

The Team to D5770 Oklahoma, led by Gary Roberts, arrives in Oklahoma USA on 21 March.

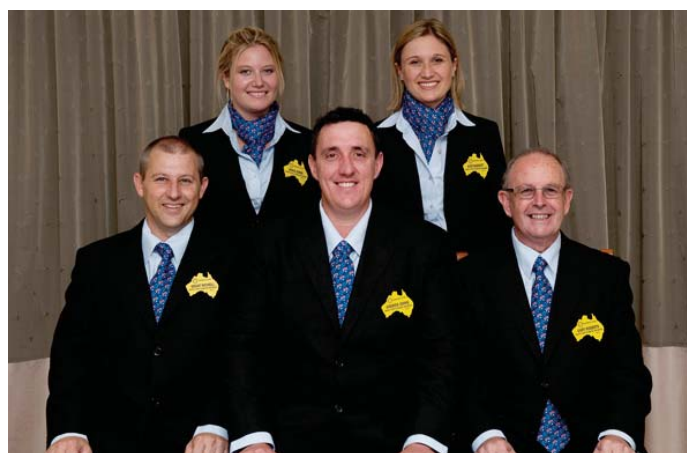
keep in touch with the team:

[http://www.facebook.com/group.](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=156042737752896)

[php?gid=156042737752896](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=156042737752896)

The return Team from Oklahoma will be in D9700 in March 2012.

GSE Team to D5770 Oklahoma, USA – Jenna Gibbs (Wagga Wagga Sunrise), Kate Barrett (West Wyalong), Grant Michell (Orange North), Andrew Johns (Parkes), Team Leader Gary Roberts (Wagga Wagga Murrumbidgee)



Incoming Club President Training (PETS)

All incoming Presidents for 2011-12 should attend the President Elects Training Seminar (PETS) on 26/27 February 2011 at Young

Report incoming Officers to RI

All Rotary clubs should report incoming officers for the 2011-12 year online through Member Access at www.rotary.org. In order to have your club's 2011-12 officer information printed in the Official Directory, please submit this data no later than 15 March 2011.

District Changes

Negotiations between all the DGs in NSW and Qld are ongoing and DG Neal will be reporting to Club Presidents and members in the near future.

New RI General Secretary

The Rotary International Board of Directors has announced that John Hewko, formerly an international partner with the law firm Baker & McKenzie and, more recently, the Vice President for Operations and Compact Development at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, will officially replace retiring General Secretary Ed Futa on July 1, 2011.

Rotary Foundation – Haiti Earthquake Appeal Report

Funds contributed to The Foundation's Haiti Recovery Fund are being used to support a wide range of recovery programs instigated by Rotary clubs around the world and progress has been good.

These include a range of clean water, health and school building projects.

The website link below will bring people up to date on progress and give some comfort in the knowledge that Rotary has once again risen the challenge.

The website link is <http://haiti-task-force.blogspot.com/>



2011-12 Rotary Theme

Incoming RI President Kalyan Banerjee has asked us to Reach Within to Embrace Humanity in the 2011-12 Rotary year.

Unveiling the RI theme during the 2011 International Assembly for incoming District Governors, including D9700's Ian Simpson, Banerjee 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. Once Rotarians find their inner strength they can accomplish great things in their communities and around the world.

Rotary Celebrates Inspirational Women Award

Martha Brown has been selected as the District 9700 Inspirational Woman. The award recognises Martha's outstanding contributions to the community over many years and in particular to Camp Quality.

Martha was nominated by the Rotary Club of Orange Daybreak and was selected from seven finalists who were all very worthy candidates. The Committee comprised PP Denise Martin (Convenor), PDG Irene Jones and Presidents Rita O'Conner, Merveen Sjollem and Denise Flockton

Martha will be presented with her award, along with those selected by the other seven NSW Rotary Districts, at a special Celebration Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney on 10 March 2011. Rotary International President Ray Klinginsmith and his wife Judie will be attending the Dinner. All are invited to the Celebration Dinner (\$100) and bookings should be made urgently with District Secretary Peter Byrne email: byrne@nsw.chariot.net.au

A gentle prod - District Conference Orange 1-3 April 2011

Be inspired, see the impact of your Rotary at work, meet and hear some great speakers who are doing inspiring work, meet some new friends and have a great weekend.

- Hear inspirational speakers
 - Meet old friends and new
 - Enjoy the wine tour or golf at Duntry League
 - Learn about Rotary programs and achievements
 - Share experiences of Rotary in Action in the Clubs of our District
 - Early bird discounts close 1 March (be in the draw for free accommodation)
 - Limited home hosting available to keep the cost down
- Further details are on the District website, <http://rotanet.com.au/users/9/9700Dist/> where you can register on-line.

RYDA

Congratulations to PDG Peter Chivers who recently received the 2010 RYDA-BOC Champions Award. Peter has done a great job in establishing RYDA in D9700 and is a worthy recipient, along with Ken Patterson from D9650.

Peter started the RYDA program in D9700 and has guided its development since 2005/06 when 190 Year 11 students participated. Numbers rapidly increased in successive years to 1040, 1434, 1800 and 2250 last year. This year, RYDA is scheduled to run over 22 days in 8 centres, with some 2800 students. The national target for this year is 50,000 students.

Cost to students has been "pegged" at \$10, which has covered costs to date. The principal expense is the allowances paid to presenters who are primarily chosen for their skills. Venue presentation costs then pivot around the expertise available to each venue and the emphasis placed on securing sponsorship. Overall, within various RYDA accounts it appears sufficient funds may be available to commission a second Little Blue Trailer (LBT). A second LBT will enable north and south to become more flexible in date selection and lessen the transfer logistics without creating problems because of availability of presentation material. This year there has been a major upgrade of



materials now required to run the "new look" programme.

RYDA was run at Parkes late last year and is flagged to run again in April for up to 4 days and include Forbes, Condobolin, Peak Hill and other satellite schools which will now give the opportunity for every school in D9700 to attend. Attendance then depends very much on school attitude and especially the enthusiasm of the

Year Advisor. Tribute must be paid to the Rotarian leaders and their supporters across the District.

Their level of enthusiasm, professionalism and belief in RYDA will carry the programme well into the future. You are all doing a great job!

Our photo shows RYDA-BOC 2010 Champions Peter Chivers and Ken Patterson

Youth Exchange

The 11 returning Rotary Youth Exchange students got together for their debriefing at Grenfell recently. For those of you who were not there you missed some great (I wouldn't dare say awesome) stories of their adventures in Europe and Brazil during 2010. They have all matured and grown as individuals through the experience. Their experiences are summed up by the following extract from Nick Beecher in his last report to the Gumtree Gazette:

"I'd like to thank Rotary for this very important experience; you can't gain an education like this anywhere else in the world, and it has proved invaluable to me.

I've been on a rollercoaster of emotions, learning and travelling over the past year, and it's a bit unreal that it's coming to an end.

But I still have two weeks left to make the most of Finnish life here and enjoy the Finnish winter! Brrrrrrr!

Kiitos kaikille, toivon että kaikkilla on mahtava kesä loma, ja nähdään pian!"

The Rotary Youth Exchange is a great opportunity for a young person (generally in Year 10 or 12) to spend a



year overseas at school, learn a language and be immersed in another culture. It is a great learning experience for the student and Rotary provides an invaluable support network.

Applications for 2012 close in April and Clubs should be seeking applicants now. 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/>

Photo above: Inbound exchange students: Valentin Ehrenguber (Austria, hosted by WW Koorngal and South WW), Clara Levine (Germany, Parkes), Emilie Andersen (Denmark, Griffith East), Gerson Moncada (Peru, Young)

Photo below: YEP Chairman George Thomas with 2010 rebound exchange students, Michael Irvine, Sarah Groves, Laura Tibbetts, Lachlan Wood, Nicholas Beecher, Mitchell Reinke; front: Sally Kable, Milli Butt, Diana Nixon, Jacqueline Irvine, Brad Storm and DG Neal



2011-12 District Simplified Grant (DSG)

District Simplified Grants are available to support local community service activities or humanitarian endeavours by Clubs. The money for DSGs is part of the funding that the District receives as a result of the donations made to The Rotary Foundation three years ago.

In 2011-12, a grant of US\$3,500 will be available and a project that focuses on

'Community enhancement for recreational activities' will be considered more favourably.

An application for a District Simplified Grant needs the following:

- Local community support;
- Contain a brief (less than 50 word) description of the benefits;
- Present project outline including a budget showing income and expenditure, other funds or in-kind donations from partners;
- Support of the President and Board; and
- Involve a majority of the Rotarians in the Club.

The Project must be completed and final report submitted by 1st May 2012.

Submissions close with District Grants Coordinator John Roberson: johnroberson@bigpond.com on Friday 1 April 2011.





Australia Day Awards

Congratulations to PDG Bernie Huxtable OAM (Orange North) who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to medicine, and to the community of Orange through a range of disability, service and arts organisations.

Congratulations also to the recipients of the Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards in Orange, Paul Cox (Orange Calare) and PDG Ray King in Wagga Wagga (WW Koorinal).

Do you want to make your mark on medical research?

The Global Financial Crisis has left its mark on health and medical research funding agencies around the world. Local disasters such as recent droughts, cyclones, floods and bushfires also have an effect.

However, thanks to the dedication of a number of Rotary Clubs and Districts around the country, Australian Rotary Health is pleased to announce that its Funding Partner program continues to grow from strength to strength, despite its supporters many competing priorities.



This year Australian Rotary Health is delighted to welcome 12 new PhD scholars into its Funding Partner program. Researching topics as diverse as epilepsy, cancer, motor neuron disease and depression, these scholars are providing vital new insights into a number of health and medical fields important to Rotarians.

Now in its ninth year, Australian Rotary Health's Funding Partner PhD program provides a tax-free stipend of \$29,000 a year to a researcher who is conducting a study into a particular area of health. The field of choice is determined by the Rotary Club who sponsors the research project, allowing Rotarians even more influence over how their donation is spent.

If there is a field of health research that your Club or District would like to support, or if you would like to find out more about our Funding Partners program, please contact Australian Rotary Health's Research Officer, Kelly-Anne Martinez, by emailing kellymartinez@australianrotaryhealth.org.au or calling 02 8837 1900.

Rotary Adventure in Citizenship – scholarship offer

The Rotary Club of Queanbeyan, has generously offered a scholarship (\$1000) for a Year 11 student to come and join the Rotary Adventure in Citizenship program in Canberra 7-14 May 2011. The Adventure aims to give 45 delegates an in-depth understanding of Australia's Parliamentary democracy. This is during the Budget session of Parliament and will be an exciting time for delegates. See details at the website: <http://www.raic.org.au/>

The Rotary Club of Queanbeyan, offers the Year 11 student scholarship with the following guidelines:

1. They have never visited Canberra before
2. Their family is financially stretched (possibly not entitled to welfare)
3. They are a school and community leader (maybe shown initiatives in recent flood/drought with helping others)

Applications close with Ian Tooke on 15 March 2011.

Come and celebrate
Rotary's Birthday at a
Special Screening of
the award winning film

CONVICTION

23 February 2011

Enjoy a night out & support
Rotary's on-going campaign to
eradicate polio
Ask your Rotary club for details

*We're waiting to hear
from you.....*

If your club has news or
information on projects, let us
now so we can tell the world!
email: Ian Davison -
caa@cirruscomms.com.au



On the Wallaby

News from from Around the Clubs in District 9700

RAWCS trip to Nepal

Mary Brell (Orange Daybreak), Denise Flockton (Wagga Wagga Sunrise) and Graham and Judy Tyson (Bathurst Daybreak) recently joined a Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) project with the Rotary Club of Wahroonga to provide specialized training for teachers in remote mountain village schools in Nepal. They travelled to Arupokhari which is 6 hours from Katmandu. Mary described this experience as awe inspiring and she worked with people who may appear to us to have nothing but are the happiest people in the world. Some of the teachers walked up to 6 hours to attend the training. The team gave the teachers strategies for learning as well as assessed the resource needs.

One of the participants summed up the training and wrote:

"I swear I have not got this effective and significant training as well as before. I hope this training may change our teaching style and ideas for better in coming steps. I assure you that this training supports us in various subjects. Everyone is feeling that this is a unique



technique for teaching. Probably if we follow this rules and ways in our classroom, we will reach in our success. There is no doubt."

Photo: Rotary members from 9700 joined with Rotarians from Wahroonga in the Nepal Teacher Training Program.

Orange Daybreak – Brendon Sturgeon Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Orange Daybreak - Brendon Sturgeon Scholarship was recently awarded to Scott Bouffler who successfully completed his second year at the Orange TAFE campus. Scott is the first recipient of this scholarship.

At a recent Club meeting, President Jill Everett presented Scott with a cheque for \$1000 as a reward for his impressive efforts and success in completing his studies. The Scholarship is named in honour of Brendon Sturgeon and directs funds to reimburse one year's TAFE fees.

At the presentation, Scott recognised and acknowledged the fine work and community respect Brendon Sturgeon had gained and hoped to be as successful as a builder.

The Brendon Sturgeon Scholarship



is available to students undertaking the second year of the Certificate IV in Building Studies Residential at the Western Institute of TAFE, Orange Campus.

Photo: (left to right), At the recent TAFE graduation - Graham Fahy (TAFE) Scott Bouffler and Orange Daybreak PP Denise Martin



The Bathurst Club recently celebrated the 90th birthday for PDG Jack Aubin, who has 48 years of service with the Club and Rotary. It was a great occasion with many stories from some of the old hands. Unfortunately Jack missed the party as he had a fall and was in hospital. However his wife Ruth was on hand to do the honours and cut the cake. Congratulations Jack!

Griffith – Oxygen generators

Thanks to assistance from Gino Musumeci, two oxygen concentrators were purchased Griffith Club for \$4,000 each. Two others will be purchased with support from the Rotary Clubs of Griffith East, Griffith Avanti and Yenda as well as Soroptimist International and other sources. A great combined Club effort.

Wollundry Wagga Wagga – CSU Scholar

Charles Sturt University Scholarship Awardee Lauren Slater has completed her third year studies in the Bachelor of Pharmacy course, achieving three Credits and one Distinction. Lauren travelled to Elcho Island on two occasions in the year to work with the Menzies School of Health Research. Lauren concluded “I am very grateful for the Rotary Club of Wollundry’s support over the last three years. I have only one year left to study in my degree and my time at CSU is drawing to a close. This is both exciting and terrifying for me but I wouldn’t have been able to get as far as I have without your support and for that I thank you”.

Orange Daybreak – Farmers Market Award

The Orange Region Farmers Market has been voted one of the 10 best markets in Australia by the ABC Delicious magazine. The national magazine recognizes the efforts in trying to stay as authentic and fresh in ideas as well as in the produce. Orange Daybreak can be proud of the efforts together with the stall holder representatives for the time put into this challenging work.

Bathurst Daybreak at Citizens Ceremony

On Wednesday 26 January 2011 (Australia Day), Paul Field, President of the Rotary Club of Bathurst Daybreak, took part in a Citizenship Ceremony organised by Bathurst Regional Council held at the Bathurst Goldfields on Mount Panorama. Twenty one new Australian citizens were welcomed from Czechoslovakia, Fiji, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States and Zambia. Each new citizen was given a native Australian plant from Rotary.

Dates for your diary

18 February 2011 – Applications for GSE Team Leader to D1010 Scotland
 23 February 2011 – Rotary Birthday & Polio film night “CONVICTION”
 27 February 26-27 Feb 2011 – President Elects Training Seminar (PETS) – Young
 27 February 2011 – Experience Orange Expo (Orange Daybreak)
 6 March 2011 – Selection for GSE Team Leader to D1010 Scotland
 7 March 2011 –GSE Team from D3830 Philippines arrives Wagga Wagga
 1 April 2011 – Applications for GSE Team members to D1010 Scotland
 1-3 April 2011 – District 9700 Conference – Orange
 11-16 April 2011 – RYLA – Parkes
 16-17 April 2011 – Selection for GSE Team members to D1010 Scotland
 1 May 2011 – District Assembly – Grenfell
 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

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 Geoff Tancred (sapphire pin) – Orange Calare
 Greg Hocking – South Wagga Wagga
 Darren Tannock – Wagga Wagga Murrumbidgee

It’s a great pleasure to welcome New Members

Ian Campbell – June
 Ian Smyth – Yenda

Welcome to Rotary!

Club Attendance

DECEMBER 2010

Bathurst	23	0	60.99
Bathurst Daybreak	27	0	75.00
Bathurst East	22	1	76.90
Blayney	26	0	79.00
Boorowa	16	0	75.00
Canowindra	12		
Condobolin	15	1	79.60
Coolamon	19	0	70.00
Cootamundra	22		
Cowra	54	0	81.00
Forbes	23	0	66.60
Forbes Ipomoea	9	0	78.00
Grenfell	29	-1	60.00
Griffith	61	1	86.14
Griffith Avanti	25	0	95.15
Griffith East	31	-1	79.76
Hay	4		
Henty	18	0	85.18
June	7		

Lake Cargelligo	19	0	76.31
Leeton	40	-2	78.05
Leeton Centra 1	24	0	78.70
Lockhart	13	0	79.48
Molong	7	0	100.00
Murrumburrah-Harden	32	2	70.00
Narrandera	21	0	76.12
Oberon	19	1	73.00
Orange	39		
Orange Calare	26	1	95.00
Orange Daybreak	42	2	82.00
Orange North	51	1	72.00
Parkes	39	0	75.00
South Wagga Wagga	37	0	70.00
Temora	27	0	72.80
Wagga Wagga	49	0	76.37
Wagga Koorringal	33	-1	78.84
Wagga Murrumbidgee	18	0	68.52
Wagga Wagga Sunrise	41	0	75.00
West Wyalong	13	0	77.00
Wollundry-Wagga	74	1	75.40
Yenda	28	0	77.70
Young	39	1	64.47
Total	1174	7	76.76