



JANUARY 2011

January is Rotary Awareness Month

Welcome to 2011 and I trust that you had a great break over Christmas and it was a joyous time. We now look forward to the next year and the opportunities to serve and build stronger Communities, locally and overseas.

There has been continued flooding in D9700 and responses from Clubs have indicated that while there were isolated incidents of destruction the major effect was damage to crops and slowing of the harvest and the real costs are still to be realized. However this heartbreak for many in our communities comes on top of the prolonged drought. I reiterate what I said in the December Newsletter.

In our Rotary Clubs we need to provide support for our fellow members and others in the community who are doing it tough. We need to be aware of the strain these hardships can bring and be aware of

and SW Qld. The flooding has been particularly devastating for some whole communities and is still ongoing in places such as Rockhampton and St George, which have been flooded more than once in the last year.

Most of the damage is occurring in D9570 (Emerald, Rockhampton) and D9630 (Darling Downs and St George) and I have been in contact with the DGs Judith Henderson and Anne Brand respectively, who have each established District Flood Relief Appeals. The funds will be used for rebuilding projects generally through local Rotary Clubs.

D9570 Governor Judith Henderson said *"There will be many cases of genuine need that will fall through the cracks, that Rotary may be able to support. It will not be clear as to where the most important need will be after the floods for a while yet. But the 2008 experience demonstrated that the communities will need counselling, motivational and inspirational events at about 3 months, 6 months and 12 months after the disaster."*

"This is where Rotary can do a really good job that will benefit many rather than just a few. Also, we found that the Government/Red Cross

controlled process will cater for the immediate needs of flood victims including cash handouts."

I encourage Clubs to undertake an appeal for funds to help in the rebuilding from the flood damage. It is preferable and easiest if these funds are remitted



to D9700 Treasurer Geoff Tancred, for consolidation and forwarding to assist specific rebuilding projects when they are identified by the appropriate District and Clubs. This way the use of the funds will be visible and not go into a hole and be lost as far as reporting back to donors.

DG Neal



any signs of deteriorating mental health among individuals in our Clubs and the community. Recognition of the hardship and a friendly word of support can help.

As well as the floods in NSW there have been severe floods in Carnarvon WA and currently record floods in central

A little reminder - District Conference Orange 1-3 April 2011

Meet many Rotary friends, make new ones and have a great weekend.

Come early and enjoy a round of golf on the magnificent Duntry League course.

Further details are on the District website, where on-line registrations are now open. The list of speakers and their CVs will be on the website shortly. Go to the district website to register.

Rotary International President – Ray Klingensmith

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

Youth Exchange

The excitement mounts for the four 2011 Youth Exchange students, who have now completed their training and depart for their year overseas on 22 January. Emily McClure, sponsored by Leeton is off to Germany, Catherine Romeo (Narranderra) is travelling to Belgium, Jacklyn Hush (South Wagga) is going to Germany and India Rauchle (Parkes) is spending her year in Peru.

Emily, Catherine, Jacklyn and India with District Committee Chair, George Thomas

And.....

Last years outbound students are also arriving home. If you would like to hear some amazing stories from their experiences overseas come to the Debriefing at Grenfell on Sunday 6 February (at Henry Lawson High School)



A Christmas message from 'The Deep North'

Hello Parkes Club, John and George,
I wish you all a joyous and wonderful festive season!
I will be forever grateful for this wonderful experience!
I will be enjoying a TRUE Danish Christmas, white snow and all !
With Love, Jacqueline Irvine

Congratulations to Jacqueline who was awarded the "Most Outstanding Student" in District 1440.

Photo: Jacqueline's feet in a great photo showing a TRUE Danish Christmas

Group Study Exchange (GSE)

DGE Ian Simpson has announced that D9700 will be sending a Group Study Exchange to D1010 in Scotland from 4 September to 1 October 2011. The Exchange is funded by the Rotary Foundation from funds returned to the District (DDF).

Team Leader applications close with GSE Chair Dennis Bishop on 18 February 2011, with selection interviews on 6 March 2011. Team Member applications close on 1 April 2011, with selections held on 16-17 April at Young.

Other GSE dates are:

February/March 2011: D9700 Team visits D3830 Philippines.

March/April 2011: D3830 Team visits D9700

March/April 2011: D9700 Team visits D5770 Oklahoma

March/April 2012: D5770 Team and D1010 Team visit D9700



District Changes

Following the 2010 Council on Legislation resolution, the Rotary International Board has adopted the criteria that Districts with fewer than 33 Clubs or 1200 members will be merged. Currently there are 5 Districts in NSW (including D9700) and Qld that have less than 1200 members and have been notified by RI that they may be merged from 1 July 2013.

The NSW (and Qld) DGs have met and agreed that a combined submission on our Districts will be made to RI.

We saw it as an opportunity to strengthen and future proof Rotary in NSW into the future decades as well as remove some anomalies and inequities in current District boundaries. Rotary needs to adapt to change with some of that change reflected in the new RI Strategic Plan and the Future Vision for the Foundation which will come into effect on 1 July 2013. These changes mean we need to have stronger and better resourced Districts, especially to be able to effectively engage in larger projects that are more cost effective and have a greater impact on those people in need.



We need to be on the front foot with a plan for the Districts in NSW and Qld that suits our needs, rather than have something imposed from RI. Over the next few months the DGs will be working with their District and Club leaders to develop a combined submission to RI.

For most Rotarians there will be little impact of any changes that may occur to the District. Club projects and activities supporting their local communities will not be affected. Any existing inter Club activities and relationships can be maintained and there may well be new opportunities to expand on these.

There will obviously be some changes to District Committees and these will need to be worked through. It also means that the nominations for DG (2013/14), which were scheduled to be called soon, will be delayed for a few months until the District boundaries for 2013/14 and beyond are clarified.

Any comments on this would be welcome by DG Neal.

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) - Win two luxury 'Peppers' holidays!

If your club donates \$1,000, up to two of your members could be going on a 5-night luxury holiday at a Peppers Resort! Each \$1,000 donation is entered into two lucky draws by 5 February and 5 August 2011!

ROMAC is a Rotary program that provides medical treatment for children from developing countries not accessible to them in their home country. It is run by Rotarian volunteers, just like you, surgeons donate their expertise and they have minimal overheads - no office, no



paid staff and even the prize holidays were donated - so you receive great value for your donations. ROMAC currently has 7 children being treated and a further 8 scheduled to arrive in early 2011.

Further information at: www.romac.org.au.

Photo caption: Six year old Gregory was born in PNG with Crouzon's syndrome

ShelterBox Aust.

2010 has seen ShelterBox face some of its toughest challenges yet, from January's Haiti earthquake to widespread flooding in Pakistan. The year also marked ShelterBox's ten year anniversary and has proven to be the charity's most successful year yet. ShelterBox continues to make a significant difference through its international aid efforts and ability to respond swiftly to disaster situations.

Rotarian Action Groups

Rotarian Action Groups are groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who join together to conduct projects in a particular area of service. They possess valuable expertise and capacity to help clubs and districts plan and implement effective projects. They can enhance the scope and impact of the humanitarian service projects, improve Rotary's public image and awareness, and attract and retain members who are motivated by involvement in service.

There are currently 14 recognized Rotarian Action Groups, with over 27,000 members in 100 countries, that address

the following issues:

AIDS; Blindness Prevention; Blood Donation; Dental Volunteers; Diabetes; Disaster Relief; Health Fairs; Hunger and Malnutrition; Malaria; Microcredit; Multiple Sclerosis; Polio Survivors; Population and Development; Water and Sanitation.

For more information on Rotarian Action Groups, visit: www.rotary.org/actiongroups.

ProjectLINK

ProjectLink is an online, searchable database which provides the following sources of information:

- Rotary Club and District community service projects in need of funding.
- Volunteers.
- Donated goods.
- Partners for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

Rotarians can search for projects by country, project type, requirements and project status.

ProjectLINK is updated monthly and is available on the RI website at: <http://www.rotary.org/en/serviceandfellowship/projectresources/projectlink/Pages/ridefault.aspx>



On the Wallaby

News from from Around the Clubs in District 9700

Orange North - \$50,000 for CareWest Lodge

The CareWest Lodge, which is being built at the new Orange Base Hospital, received another boost recently with a \$50,000 donation from the Orange North Club. The Lodge will provide accommodation for patients and their families from a wide area of the state, especially those undergoing radiotherapy treatments. Work has started on the site of the lodge which will have 14 Units in the first stage. It is expected to be finished by the end of June.

Photo: Orange North Treasurer John Brennan and President Roy Ferguson look at the plans and site preparation for CareWest Lodge with Jan Savage and Dr Stuart Porges. Photo Steve Gosch CWD



Young – Books for overseas

Recently it was all hands on deck at Young to sort and pack books for to forward to Donations in Kind for distribution to schools overseas to help improve literacy.

Photo: President Rosalie Byrne and members sorting and packing books

Wagga Wagga – Eye Clinic in India

Alok Sharma will be conducting another eye clinic in Yamunanagar in India from 12 to 14 March 2011. It will be another camp in the Darkness to Light Project. If you think you may be

interested in joining a team, the expected duration of the trip will be 2 to 3 weeks including some sightseeing. Please contact Alok for further details if you are interested in going

A fundraiser for the Darkness to Light Project is planned for Saturday 26 February, 2011 at the Mater Dei Primary School Hall, with proceeds to the Eye Camp.

Parkes – Aust. Rotary Health Scholarships

Parkes Rotary Club has sponsored another PhD research project that may help solve some of the mysteries surrounding brain disease and malfunction. Chantal Leigh Duffy has been awarded a scholarship at Sydney University to investigate the anti-inflammatory and neuro protective effects of omega 3 fatty acids. The Club contributed \$11,000, supported by \$7,000 from Australian Rotary Health and \$11,000 from the University of Sydney.

The Club has PhD research scholarships active in the areas of Mental Health, Parkinson's disease and spinal injury. They also have two indigenous doctors in training, with Shaun White, having completed his studies and is in his residency at Orange Base Hospital



Bathurst Daybreak - \$20,000 support for Hespa

Hespa opened in Bathurst in 008 as a free service where young people can discuss their concerns and receive support and information in a confidential, non-judgmental environment. Bathurst Daybreak recently presented the Service with \$20,000 from the proceeds of the Bathurst 2 Blayney cycling challenge. More than 1400 cyclists from a wide area took part in the event in April. Over the past two years the event has provided Hespa with \$38,000 which has allowed them to expand to bigger premises. Club President and B2B Committee Chairman Paul Field said the event had been a very successful partnership between community groups, business and cyclists.



Hespa's Narelle Stocks (centre) accepts a cheque from President Paul Field (Photo courtesy of Bathurst Western Advocate)

Orange North - Meeting PNG villagers water needs

In the spirit of Building Communities - Bridging Continents and with Cholera and other water borne diseases an ever-present threat, 100 PNG villagers now have a reliable source of clean, safe drinking water.

A team of D9700 Orange North Rotarians - Team Leader Peter Davis, AG John McKenzie and DGE Ian Simpson, installed a simple water supply system in partnership with people of the Magare village on the Sogeri plateau inland from Port Moresby.

The project, completed over five days in December 2010, consisted of building a small retention dam across a permanent waterfall and piping the water into the village through 850 m of 32mm poly pipe. The villagers have protected the water pipe from regular burning and other hazards by clearing a pathway with bush knives and hand digging a trench to bury the poly pipe.

Students of Cherrybrook Technology High School in western Sydney and the trekking company Adventure Kokoda™ provided funds. There was also a substantial discount on plumbing materials bought through a business link with the Rotary Club of Port Moresby.

The Sogeri district was a major staging area for Australian soldiers in WWII and with the local villages providing many of the porters there are strong links with trekkers walking the Kokoda Track. his project fits into the 'Water and sanitation' focus of the Future Vision of The Rotary Foundation.



Rotary hands of Peter Davis, John McKenzie and Ian Simpson provide safe drinking water for Carla the Magare village community leader

Koorinal – National Youth Science Forum

Alice Bauer recently gave the Club an overview of her NYSF experience early last year in Perth WA, which resulted in her being selected to go to South Africa later in the year as part of their science experience. Highlights of her trip to South Africa included:

- Flight over Antarctica en route to South Africa
- Pretoria Aquarium and Forensic Laboratory
- Safari/Cultural village stay
- Game Reserves including Kruger National Park
- Shanty Towns
- Visits to Botswana, Zambia and Victoria Falls during the dry season.

Alice has just completed year 12 at Koorinal High School and hopes to study Zoology. Alice thanked the club for sponsoring her to attend NYSF.

*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

Young - Regional School of Music

To date the Club has provided scholarships to the value of \$15,000 for students at the Young Regional School of Music. Part proceeds from the highly successful Musica Internationale held in August contributed to the scholarships. The scholarships supported 8 students in 2010 and they provide half the standard lesson fee and a waiver for examination fees. They are awarded on musical ability and a very comprehensive application process adjudicated by an external Conservatorium.

The School is a non-profit organisation



and has 800 students aged three to eighty with 19 part-time tutors in voice, piano and a gamut of instruments.

Stuart Bruce from the Regional School of Music with Margaret Fathers and President Rosalie Byrne

Oberon - Catering for all seasons

The Rotary Club of Oberon, assisted by the Rotary clubs of Bathurst catered over 3 weekends for the Mayfield Open Garden during a very wet November. Proceeds will be used to sponsor Australian Rotary Health Indigenous Health Scholarships. Although the conditions were very trying at times because of the weather, and visitors were well below expectations, we still raised enough money to sponsor two scholarships. Members of the Bathurst Rotary Clubs helped swell the workers catering for the Mayfield visitors, and their support is greatly appreciated.

The Club also held an Open Garden day in Chatham Valley on about the only sunny weekend day in November and had a wonderful turnout. We were raising money for Orphan Rescue Kits. Rotarians and non-Rotarians support at risk children (principally orphans) in African communities where Rotarians and HOPE Worldwide are working side by side to supply nutrition and school supplies, uniforms and fees to orphans and neglected children. It is estimated there will be 25 million

orphans living in Africa by the end of year 2010.

Adding to our already very busy November the club also catered for a Car Rally at Shooters Hill.



Kevin McGrath and Malcolm Graham cooking sausages for the car rally at Shooters Hill.

Orange North – Shelters at Lake Canobolas

Recent working bees have resulted in completion of 5 shelters at Lake Canobolas. They are an improvement to the amenities at the picturesque lake to cater for greater usage by the community and groups such as the Dragon boat crews. It is a great community project undertaken in partnership with the Orange City Council.

Australian Rotary Health Award for Bike Ride

Congratulations to Australian Rotary Health who won the Category A Special Events for New South Wales at the recent Fundraising Institute Australia (FIA) awards. The award was for the Great Australian Bike Ride fundraising event.

This award is one that we can all be extremely proud of and is a great reward for all the hard work and team work that made the Great Australian Bike Ride such a huge success.



Lots of helpers, lots of advice, lots of laughs. Rotarians at Orange North have really enjoyed building shelters at Lake Canobolas, But just who is the boss?

Henty – History is our story



Footprints of the Pioneers. will be launched at Henty on 21 January 2011. The launch of the book is the culmination of a 20 year project which has demonstrated the qualities of determination, perseverance, motivation and cooperation which characterised the pioneers of Henty and surrounding districts. One can see the progress made in the grain industry, however, the personalities both past and present, share common ground, having faced circumstances that each season bestows. The Rotary Club of Henty congratulates the many people involved in the



publication and is proud to have played a role in the preservation of the past for the future. The involvement of the Club included maintenance of the cemetery, financing plinths, assistance with the publication of the book and co-hosting the launch.

Photo (Top)- Yvonne Booth PHF+, who researched many of the unmarked graves, working on the final draft

Photo: Cemetery working bee

Dates for your diary

6 February 2011 – Youth Exchange – rebound student debriefing – Grenfell

18 February 2011 – Applications for GSE Team Leader to D1010 Scotland

23 February 2011 – Rotary Birthday & Polio film night “CONVICTION”

26-27 Feb 2011 – President Elects Training Seminar (PETS) – Young

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

Join in the Rotary Hat Day

Mental illness affects one in five Australian's every year.

Suicide, a tragic consequence of mental illness such as depression, claims over 2,000 lives each year in Australia. Steps need to be taken to halt this tragic loss of life.

Australian Rotary Health is a multi-district Rotary project that supports finding a solution to Australia's mental health crisis through research. Last year we funded more than 40 studies into various areas of mental health but to continue supporting this vital research we need your help.

This year Australian Rotary Health has launched an exciting new fundraising and mental health research awareness event called Hat Day. This event will provide an excellent platform to raise the profile of Rotary in the community while supporting a very worthy cause.

Your club will soon receive a Hat Day kit that explains this exciting new initiative in more detail. In the kit you'll find information about Australian Rotary Health, facts on mental health, as well as details about Hat Day and how you can become involved.

Hat Day is a fun day for everyone to find out more about mental health and help raise funds to aid mental health research. We would like your help in promoting Hat Day in your community as one of your clubs PR, membership and service projects to help us support more research into this vital field of health.

If you would like to know more, please see your Club President, call 1800 781 878 or email info@hatday.com.au for more information.



Congratulations to the new Paul Harris Fellows in District 9700

Ian Tooke (multiple sapphire pin) – Blayney

Jenny Jewel – Parkes

Michael Rohan, Nick Connor – Yenda

Jane Chapman – Orange

It's a great pleasure to welcome New Members

Judith Hall – Young

Elizabeth Romalis, Wayne Stephens – Orange Daybreak

Ian Blevin – Bathurst Daybreak

Bruce Whiley – Orange North

Wayne Keft - Oberon

Margaret Campbell, Amy O'Brien, Vaughan O'Brien – Murrumburrah-Harden

Paul Fox – Bathurst East

Jenny Somerset – Young (transfer from Parkes)

Club Attendance

NOVEMBER 2010

Bathurst	23	1	66.40
Bathurst Daybreak	27	0	70.00
Bathurst East	21	0	91.65
Blayney	26	0	79.20
Boorowa	16	0	82.81
Canowindra	12	0	77.22
Condobolin	14	0	74.35
Coolamon	19	2	71.00
Cootamundra	22	1	82.50
Cowra	54	0	78.25
Forbes	23	0	63.00
Forbes Ipomoea	9	0	71.00
Grenfell	30	0	74.67
Griffith	60	0	84.33
Griffith Avanti	25	0	
Griffith East	32	1	73.45
Hay	4	0	
Henty	18	0	80.55
June	7	0	

Lake Cargelligo	19	0	73.68
Leeton	42	0	83.80
Leeton Central	24	-1	86.00
Lockhart	13	0	87.69
Molong	7	0	90.48
Murrumburrah-Harden	30	3	76.00
Narrandera	21	0	80.95
Oberon	18	0	65.00
Orange	40	0	77.60
Orange Calare	25	0	94.00
Orange Daybreak	40	-1	83.50
Orange North	50	0	72.00
Parkes	40	3	71.67
South Wagga Wagga	37	2	86.00
Temora	27	0	71.90
Wagga Wagga	49	0	95.11
Wagga Koorringal	34	0	81.73
Wagga Murrumbidgee	18	-1	65.51
Wagga Wagga Sunrise	41	1	67.00
West Wyalong	13	0	77.00
Wollundry-Wagga	73	2	77.60
Yenda	28	0	77.00
Young	38	-1	67.37
Total	1169	12	77.67