



# The Governors Newsletter

District 9700 Australia



RI President : Frank J. Devlyn

November 2000

District Governor: Ray King



## Message from DG Ray

November is The Rotary Foundation Month  
Grenfell Club launched TRF Month with a well attended Foundation dinner on 1st November with PRID and Treasurer Barry Thompson as speaker. On 18<sup>th</sup> November, D9700 will hold its first day-long FOUNDATION WORKSHOP at the Wagga Wagga RSL. It will be followed by a FOUNDATION DINNER and ALUMNI REUNION to which all the GSE members over the last 20 years, and Ambassadorial Scholars have been invited. The speaker is PP Chris Joscelyne, of the Rotary Club of Sydney (314 members), Leader of the Sydney GSE team to D1120 in England April/May 2000, Accredited Speaking member of the National Speakers Association, Member of the Paul Harris 711 Club in Chicago and PHF in recognition of his contribution as executive producer of the Sydney Opera House Rotary fund raising concerts, Chairman of Sydney's classical music station 2MBS-FM.... and there is more but what an interesting Rotarian he is. The Rotary club of South Wagga Wagga has kindly agreed to run the dinner. Come along and share some home hosting by a Rotarian family. I'll see you there. For more information contact your DGA or PDG Peter Walsh.

### **Appreciation**

Clare and I have completed our official visits and would like to thank all clubs for their kindness and hospitality. This was a very enjoyable time for us. We miss the great fellowship and value the strong friendships we have made.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE DGE \_ (Ed Chenery)**

The Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange next year with District 9700 will be with District 1240 in Essex England. Our team will leave Australia approximately 12<sup>th</sup> September 2001 and return after the D1240 Conference (19-21<sup>st</sup> October 2001).

Applications from local Rotarians for the position of Team Leader will be called early in the new year (January 2001) and applications for Team Members shortly thereafter. Interviews for Team Leader will be held in Young on Saturday 17 March 2001 and the GSE Team selection will be held also in Young on the weekend 28 - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2001.

Could I urge all Clubs to start thinking about prospective members for this exchange in the next few weeks prior to the Christmas holiday "slow down" period.

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**PROUD PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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## **CHILD PROTECTION ACTS AND ROTARY COMPLIANCE**

### ***What are the Child Protection Acts?***

In response to the recommendations from the 1997 Wood Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service, the NSW Parliament enacted a number of Acts which came into effect on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2000. These laws are intended to reduce the risk of abuse of children and young people by those entrusted with their care by checking on the suitability of people who work with children. The Acts say that people convicted of a serious sex offence are prohibited persons and so are not allowed to work with children in either a paid or an unpaid (volunteer) capacity.

### ***What specifically do the Acts say that might concern Rotary?***

All volunteers who are engaged in child-related activities must make a "prohibited person" declaration that is, they must sign a paper saying they are not a prohibited person in terms of the relevant Acts. This is a legal requirement for those who are or are likely to be, engaged in child-related activities.

### ***What do Rotarians do that could be classed as child-related activities?***

Child-related activities in Rotary would include activities with children such as those associated with RYPEN, ROMAC, MUNA and YOUTH EXCHANGE as well as the less formal hosting and transporting  
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and counselling of children. In fact, "child-related activities" in Rotary, would include all Rotary activities where Rotarians

*The year 2000 is The United Nations  
Year for a Culture of Peace*



GSE Team members from left Ruth Gamble, Kimbalee Cheney, Nick Cooper, Jennifer Fisher, Michael Coombes and David Mills.

#### Errata/apologies

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Lake Cargelligo's President Peter McFadyen has not changed his name to John as suggested in the photo caption in October's Newsletter. My apology to Peter (and to John?).

**News snippets** On 25<sup>th</sup> October, Forbes Rotary Club had a Vocational dinner at which 90 people attended. Congratulations to Forbes on this terrific effort. RTI President Frank Devlyn has appointed Louis Piconi (Pennsylvania) as his Vice President and Noel Fryer (UK) as Treasurer.

**Rotary Information** RI Reports that 8% of Rotary Clubs are breakfast clubs, 40% are lunch meetings and 52% meet in the evenings. In Australia and NZ almost 79% meet in the evening and 10% for breakfast. In the US and Canada, evening clubs present a minority (about 15%). In District 9700, 86% meet in the evening while 7% meet for breakfast and 7% meet at noon.



PDG Tony Ronnfeldt is presented with a Paul Harris recognition by DGA Jim Tweddle. PP Tony Ronnfeldt is presented with a Paul Harris recognition by DGA Jim Tweddle with (from left to right) PDG Wal Breust, Lockhart Rotary Club President Alan Eldridge and Jeanette Ronnfeldt

#### RAWCS – Project #85 – Sponsoring Education for Children in East Timor

PDG Alan Still has asked that we bring to your attention the need for children living in Salvation Army Homes or outposts in the islands of Nias, Bali, Sumatra, Java, and Sulawesi. He says that 430 children have been supported by 295 sponsors from Rotary, Inner Wheel, Rotaract, and **Interact clubs**. \$110.00 per year will assist with school fees, books and uniforms for a year. Donations to Alan Still at P.O. Box 1200, Burleigh Heads. Qld. 4420, phone 07 55 760669 Email: [afstill@winshop.com.au](mailto:afstill@winshop.com.au)

#### Membership and development

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RI is completing a worldwide database which will provide clubs and districts with accurate membership reports and a secure online access to their membership data via the Internet. Clubs are being requested to submit their membership data to RI with the **January 2001** club billing statement using a special report form seeking information about members' names, contact details and names of spouses (partners) or on a 3.5-inch floppy disk.

#### Recruitment

Welcome to Norman Alchin (Marie) and David Yapp to Wagga Wagga Club, Gary Kenney (Jeannie) to Henty Rotary Club, Joanne Gardiner and Patricia Forde to Orange Daybreak, and Stephen Darlington (Gabrielle) inducted to Blayney Club. Our total of new members is 34. **Nominating Rotarians be sure to get your red buttons from Kathryn Bowman or Thomas Graham.**

#### Retention

We have lost Margaret O'Dwyer due to business pressures and Madonna Grant (Sunrise) after 2 months with the club. Earnest Miller has resigned from Condobolin after a marvellous 42 years to live elsewhere and the Club mistakenly reported Dan Maddocks as a new member.

#### Recognition

The top three clubs in the District for their Annual Contributions to The Rotary Foundation in 1999-2000 were **Wagga Wagga-Wollundry** (\$3,559.00), **Wagga Wagga-Koorringal** (\$2,664.41) and **South Wagga Wagga** (\$2,182.65). What a marvellous contribution from all three clubs. But there is more. When we look at the *per capita* giving we have one of our smallest clubs taking the top award: **Lockhart Rotary Club** with \$139.07 per capita contribution, **Yenda** with \$86.54 and, **Wollundry** again, with \$65.91. Those are tremendous contributions and all five clubs receive our congratulations and thanks. The awards will be presented at the Foundation & Alumni Reunion dinner on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. at the RSL in Wagga Wagga.

#### PDG Nevin's Challenge

PDG Nevin Hughes reports on the latest D9700 figures on Annual Giving to The Rotary Foundation in his year 1999-2000. In comparison with other Australian Districts, his year brought us up from 23<sup>rd</sup> position to 18<sup>th</sup> position. This is a big improvement but of the 23 Districts in Australia, 17 are still doing better than we are. Our per-capita annual (not including special programs) giving has ranged from \$19.19 in 1995-96 to the highest figure for the last five years, which is \$25.13 achieved in PDG Nevin's year. Previous best was \$24.82 in 1996-97.

Many clubs have set a target of \$1.00 per member, per week, per year for 2000-2001. PDG Nevin's challenge to us is to better his score. **We can do it fellows.**





Many Rotary clubs have already donated \$540.00 towards a matching grant for the provision of low cost shelters for the cyclone devastated Orissa area on the East Coast of India. The Indian shelters pictured above have white plaques above the doorways inscribed with the names of the donating Rotary Clubs.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November

18<sup>th</sup> Rotary Foundation Workshop and Alumni Reunion dinner  
20-25<sup>th</sup> Australian Rotary Awareness week  
19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> The 35<sup>th</sup> Rotary Institute, Townsville  
21<sup>st</sup> Lockhart 45<sup>th</sup> birthday dinner

### December

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> RYPEN at Griffith  
2<sup>nd</sup> College of Governors and Finance and Administration committee meeting  
16<sup>th</sup> Leeton 60<sup>th</sup> birthday  
17<sup>th</sup> DG's birthday (no age information supplied)

### March

Golden Jubilee Conference  
30<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2001

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and counselling of children. In fact, "child-related activities" in Rotary, would include all Rotary activities where Rotarians would be unsupervised while working with children.

I would think that those who are not going to be engaged in any unsupervised child-related activities, would not have to sign the form. However you can imagine the problems of keeping records of those who have signed and those who have not signed and having to have access to these records when you are faced with a quick decision to transport a child from point A to point B. My view is that all Rotarians should sign.

***I don't see any stigma in having to sign the form and so I would encourage all Rotarians to sign.*** Of course Rotarians have the right not to sign and I respect that right. It is not intended to discourage people who are capable of making a worthwhile contribution to the community in other ways but who may perceive the checking process as intrusive or intimidating. Rotarians who have not signed the form will be advised that they do not have the consent of the President and Board of their club and the District Governor, to be unsupervised with children. The President of the Rotary Club will have to see that this procedure is followed.

#### ***When are we required to complete the form?***

The Act prescribes that the forms must be given out no later than six months after the Act was proclaimed (ie six months after 3<sup>rd</sup> July) which makes the date of compliance, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. However, volunteers have to complete the signing of the forms within four weeks of receiving the form so I think that 3<sup>rd</sup> of February would be the last deadline.

#### ***Do non-Rotarians have to comply with the law?***

If a Rotary club uses a non-Rotarian host family that are relatives of the child being hosted or relatives of the Rotarian who is organising the hosting, they do not have to sign the form. "Relative" as defined in the legislation includes grandparents and uncles and aunts as well as members of the immediate family. Non-Rotarian host family volunteers that are "unrelated" (within the definition) to the child (ren) being hosted must sign the forms. The adults in the host family must sign and also probably all adults living in the host family. Filling in the form is a condition of being engaged in child related activities such as hosting. If a non-Rotarian family or persons are to host a child, (or transport the child or have any child related activities in respect of the child) and Rotary is organising the activity, Rotary must see that the adults involved sign the forms.

#### ***What steps need to be taken by Rotary?***

The action I am asking Presidents to take is as follows:

1. Discuss the enclosed statement with your Board and club members,
2. Make sufficient copies of the enclosed form for each member of your club
3. Distribute the forms to each member and ask them to sign the form and return it to you within four weeks of distribution. All the forms need to be signed before the 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
4. Collect the signed forms and keep them secure with access to the DG or his nominee
5. Make a list of the names of members of your club who refuse to sign the form.
6. Advise members who do not sign the form, that they do not have your authority to engage in child related activities unless supervised at all times during these activities by a person who has signed the form.
7. Undertake to ensure that the actions in respect of note 6 are carried out
8. Ensure that all adult non-Rotarians who are requested by Rotary to undertake child-related activities on behalf of Rotary, eg transporting, hosting, supervising children other than their own or children of Rotarians, where these child-related activities are unsupervised, have signed the form.
9. Ensure that Rotarians who join the club after the distribution of the forms are given a form and requested to sign it.
10. Advise the District Governor or his nominee (ie a District Governor's Assistant) that these actions have been taken.

#### **Source of further information**

Commission for Children and Young People

92867276



## NEW GSE Team Leader

**David Mills** has been selected to lead the GSE team for D9700 to Orange County (California) in May of this year. David is currently Manager Business Development (International Training) with Land and Property Information New South Wales. He was commissioned in 1966 in the Royal Australian Engineers, completed 21 years service, was stationed in South Vietnam, Papua New Guinea and Germany gained extensive experience in the management of multi skilled teams, the development of adult training programs and in mounting and managing projects in remote areas. His final military appointment involved the management of projects in the order of \$300m.

## October Attendance and Membership

CLUB	July	Oct	Mtngs	Percent	Rank
Bathurst	32	29	5	94.7	3
Bathurst Daybreak	22				
Bathurst East	30	25	4	90	7
Bathurst Macquarie	23	23	4	74	24
Blayney	25	25	4	66.3	31
Boorowa	11	10	4	70	28
Canowindra	13	12	4	81.6	15
Condobolin	13	11	5	86	10
Coolamon	25				
Cootamundra	19				
Cowra	60	60	4	88.7	8
Forbes	28	29	4	73.5	26
Grenfell	33	34	4	73.2	27
Griffith	53	52	5	77.9	20
Griffith Central	21				
Griffith East	34				
Hay	23	22	4	64	32
Henty	26	27	4	85.5	13
Junee	7	9	5	86	11
Lake Cargelligo	18	20	5	92	5
Leeton	45	45	4	81.7	14
Leeton Central	23	23	5	86.1	9
Lockhart	8	8	5	97.4	2
Molong	8	9	5	69.4	29
Murrumburrah-Harden	25	25	4	69.2	30
Narrandera	26				
Oberon	25	24	4	77.3	21
Orange	40	40	4	85.8	12
Orange Calare	20	20	4	94.7	4
Orange Daybreak	30	32	4	100	1
Orange North	48	45	4	79.1	17
Parkes	45	45	4	63.5	33
South Wagga Wagga	48	50	4	90.9	6
Temora	29	29	4	75.6	23
Wagga Koorringal	53	52	4	79	18
Wagga Wagga	54	54	4	75.8	22
Wagga Wagga Sunrise	44	44	5	73.8	25
West Wyalong	16				
Wollundry Wagga	57	56	5	80.4	16
Yenda	24	24	4	78.9	19
Young	38				
TOTALS	1222				

## YOUR AGM

The AGM for your Rotary Club must be held before 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2000. (Please consult your club's constitution and by-laws and the letter from Harley Tarrant to all clubs on, 30.6.92). The Manual of procedure will not help you here.

At a normal meeting one month before the AGM, the club notifies members of the date of the AGM and calls for nominations for all positions of executive and Directors.

### A suggested AGM agenda:

1. Minutes of Previous AGM read and moved to be confirmed. (one does not have to have been at the previous AGM to move such a motion)
  2. Treasurer's report (usually given by the Public Officer from the audited balance sheet and with the assistance of the past Treasurer. Copies of the Balance sheet should have been previously circulated to members)
  3. Election of Public Officer (PO) Normally the Secretary is the PO but the board may choose another board member preferably someone who will hold the position for some years. If neither the secretary nor anyone on the board is willing or suitable, you may appoint any member and co-opt them to the board.
  4. Moving of motions (a) naming two members to sign Form 12. and authorising the Public Officer to lodge the following documents with the Department of Fair Trading (DFT): (1) DFT Form 12, (2) the financial statement, and (3) the Insurance Certificate. These lodgings must be made within one month after the AGM.
  5. Directors' reports (these may be tabled rather than read)
  6. Election of office bearers for the following Rotary year. In most clubs, Presidents-Elect choose their Board and arrange for them to be nominated. Nominations can also be received from the floor. PEs need to get the board they want to work with.
- If the Rotary Club fails to lodge the renewal of its incorporation, in the case of litigation, members become liable individually instead of the club as a whole.*

*Thanks to PP Ken Downey's notes and DT Geoff Tancred for confirming the details*

October Attendance Winner  
**Orange Daybreak**