



DoveTales

NEWSLETTER

**Newsletter of the Rotary District 9700 Peace Communities
Program February 2012**

**2012 Rotary Peace Communities
International Conference
21-23 September 2012**

***“Co-operative Community Action for Peace
and Harmony”***

The organizing Committee

The February meeting of the sub-committee chairs accepted offers of assistance from the following: Sponsorship (Marie van Steyn), Registrations (Kevin Watts), Concert Liaison (Barry Francis), MUNA Co-ordination (Alan Sharp), Sunday Peace Ceremony Chairman (Bruce Duffy), Mayoral Reception (Norma Gray), and Official Dinner Chairman (Doug Masterson). Positions yet to be confirmed are a back up for the IT support, Home Hosting coordinator and the on floor manager for the conference.

Exciting aspects of the conference

2012 marks the 10th anniversary of the foundation of the Rotary Peace Fellows International Training Program. To celebrate this occasion the conference will provide an opportunity to hear the latest developments in training for peace and conflict resolution and the excellent work of Rotary Peace Fellows in the field.

We will learn about how Rotary Peace Fellows are trained from Jenn Weidman, Deputy Director of the Centre for Peace and Conflict studies at Bangkok, Kevin Clements, Director of the National Centre for Conflict Studies in New Zealand and Jake Lynch, Director of the Centre for Peace

and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney.

We will learn about the fieldwork of Rotary Peace Fellows from Joseph Hongo (Kenya-see November edition of DoveTales) and Tania Miletic both plenary speakers at the RPCIC conference.

Tania is an Independent Consultant in peacebuilding and a faculty member with the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, based since 2004 between Melbourne and Phnom Penh. She completed a MA in Public Administration (International Studies in Peace and Conflict) from ICU in Tokyo, Japan. She has a BA and Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology from Melbourne University where she worked with the Victorian Transcultural Psychiatry Unit and



later the Centre for International Mental Health. Her PhD with the Institute for Social Science Research, at the University of Queensland explores contemporary conflicts

from the perspectives of emerging leaders in China.

A reminder

The Rotary World Peace Symposium in Bangkok, Thailand together with the Rotary Alumni Celebration, will be held 3-5 May, immediately preceding the 2012 RI Convention.

Peace ceremonies for 23rd February

Wagga Wagga

Peace ceremonies were held in a number of locations. The Wagga Peace Ceremony held in the morning of 19th February chaired by Alan Sharp, was extensively illustrated in the local papers. It was attended by the Mayor, Federal Member for Riverina, and Wiradjuri Elder Sandy Warren who presented the "Welcome to country".



Sunrise President Alan Sharp presenting a Community Service Award to John Mueller

Forbes

The ceremony in Forbes was held in the evening of 23rd. Keith Rawsthorne reports that the youth presentation "What peace means to me" was excellent. One of the guests was Steve Karitiana, father of a boy now serving in Afghanistan. At the meal following, Nathan Smith expressed his gratitude that, his wife was recognised in the award. He said no one realizes the suffering of army wives -- the separation, loneliness, responsibility for all the family business and

care of the children, and always waiting for the dreaded phone call.



Forbes Peace Certificate recipients at the Forbes Peace monument

District Peace Committee

Monthly meetings of the committee are held at 14 Rowe Street in Wagga Wagga from 12.00 to 2.00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Ring Chairman Bruce Duffy on 0412906592 or 69225835 or Secretary Reg on 69263310 (and see DoveTales Mailbox).

RI President Kalyan Banerje writes:

"We build Peace by dealing with the problems that disrupt people's ability to live normal peaceful lives-whether those problems are a lack of water or sanitation, or safe, affordable housing, whether they stem from a shortage of education or health care, or a need to build productive and positive connections between communities."

DoveTales Mailbox

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