

# rotary

## DOWN UNDER

**Lae Rotarians**  
have been  
trailblazing for  
**50 years**



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**COVER:** The Rotary Club of Lae, PNG, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary with a colourful celebration of its achievements throughout the country. Our cover story gives readers an insight into the special role Rotary has carved out for itself with a long list of community service projects.





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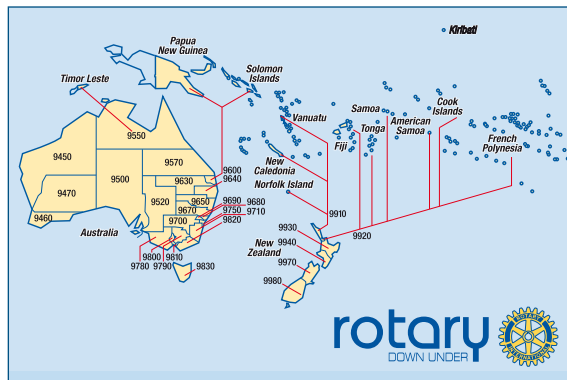
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## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

- 1) Is it the truth?
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



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### ROTARY AT A GLANCE

**Rotarians:** 1,210,555 in 33,586 clubs in 532 Districts in 210 countries.

**Rotaractors:** 184,046 in 8002 clubs in 162 countries.

**Interactors:** 284,418 in 12,366 clubs in 109 countries.

Down Under there are 33,675 Rotarians in 1168 clubs in Australia and 10,074 Rotarians in 244 clubs in New Zealand. Aust & NZ

Districts include American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu, where there are 763 Rotarians in 40 clubs.



# Simply caring often helps most of all



**John Kenny**  
President  
Rotary International

My Fellow Rotarians,

In February, I attended the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. After dinner that evening, a young lady came up to me and asked, "Of everything you have seen this year in Rotary, what has touched your heart the most?"

For such a simple question, it was nearly impossible to answer – only because I have seen so much that has touched my heart so deeply and made me so proud to be a Rotarian. These past 12 months have given me the opportunity and the privilege of observing first hand how our service touches the lives of others, and how great are the needs we address.

It is one thing to see photographs of the devastation in Haiti caused by January's earthquake. It was another thing entirely for me to walk among the rubble, to see the collapsed buildings, to understand that the true scope of the tragedy will never be known.

In Banda Aceh, Indonesia, where Rotary has done so much to rebuild the city



A year as President of Rotary International has presented many experiences that have touched John Kenny's heart, such as his tour of the devastation in Haiti.

shattered by the 2004 tsunami, I thought I understood the scale of the disaster before my visit. But I was not prepared for the sight of a large freighter in a field 3km inland, swept there by the tsunami.

In China, at a Rotary-supported orphanage, I held a two-month-old girl who had been abandoned on a train. With that baby in my arms, I realised that what Rotary provided to the orphanage – food, warm clothing, a clean and safe home – was only one part of what was needed. What that child wanted most of all, in that moment, was simply to be held and to feel loved, and that touched me very much.

There is so much we can do as Rotarians that will mean so much to others. And as important as it is to give material assistance

– to help in the areas of water, health and hunger, and literacy – it is equally vital that we give that help freely, with true caring for others. Because often, simply caring is what helps others most of all.

As this Rotary year and my term as RI President draw to a close, I thank you all for your service to Rotary and your support. I have been honoured to serve as your president, and remind you that *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*.

**John Kenny**  
President  
Rotary International ■

## Foundation exists to support the good we do



**Glenn Estess Sr**  
Chairman,  
The Rotary Foundation

In Rotary, we are guided by the three simple words of our motto, *Service Above Self*. That motto forms an important part of our identity as Rotarians. It reminds us why we are here, why our every action matters, and why we take the time and the initiative to help others wherever and however we can.

Our Rotary Foundation has its own motto: *Doing Good in the World*.

*Doing Good in the World* is more than a slogan. It is our goal, our mission, and our reminder. It expresses in the clearest terms why we have a Foundation, and it challenges us to reach as far as we can to do the most good possible with everything we have.

Our Foundation exists to support the good that we can do through Rotary. It expands our reach, increases our strength, and makes our service more powerful and more effective. Because of our Foundation we can, very simply, do more of our Rotary work.

In May, I marked a personal milestone: 50 years as a Rotarian. In that time, I

have seen so much achieved through Rotary, and seen very clearly how much of Rotary's ability to do good is drawn from our Foundation. Through our Foundation, every one of us has an opportunity to be a part of all the good that Rotary does.

This month marks the end of my service as trustee chair of our Rotary Foundation. I am grateful for the opportunity to know so many of you, and I thank you all for your support and encouragement. Please join me in welcoming our incoming trustee chair, Past RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, and in wishing him great success. ■

# Mental health leaders



**From where I sit**  
Bob Aitken

Dedicated supporters of Australian Rotary Health will have read the annual feature (pages 29 – 32) in the May issue of *Rotary Down Under* with pride.

If you have not done so, take time to turn to page 30 and run your eye down the incredible list of financial allocations during 2009-10.

- Eight Mental Health Research Grants (up to three years per project) – \$367,850.
- Seventy Health Scholarships for indigenous Australians studying a Health Related profession - \$350,000.
- Ten Mental Health Pilot Studies (one- year projects) researching the mental health of young Australians from birth to 17 years - \$292,292.

It is an impressive and diversified list – rural health scholarships of varying types, mental health evaluable grants, funding partners research grants, special scholarships

in the name of Rotary leaders.

I won't reproduce the entire list here but please check it out. The total value of ARH research funding for the Rotary year about to end is \$2,732,637!

Remember, this is funding for vital areas of medical research – by Australians for Australians. Areas of research that, before the

on, caring community service organisation!

This amazing program, that has opened the way for care and understanding of a problem previously kept behind closed doors, has changed the thinking of society. The program has been wound down now but the Federal Government recognised the vital nature of ARH involvement in Mental Health care

**“THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THE VITAL NATURE OF ARH INVOLVEMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND HAS ASKED THE TEAM . . . TO LAUNCH UNIQUE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSES.”**

birth of ARH in 1981, were long neglected because of lack of funding.

The work of Australian Rotary Health has been acclaimed by Federal and State Governments – indeed the value of our funding is multiplied many times over by government grants and partnerships.

More than 500 Mental Health Forums have been conducted in recent years – involving 50,000 to 60,000 Australians and their families. Imagine Rotary's soaring public image with these people – a hands

and has asked the team based in Parramatta, NSW, to launch unique Community Mental Health First Aid Courses.

Again, Federal funding will match Rotary giving and contracts are about to be signed.

For Rotary clubs and Districts looking to fund projects that offer complete transparency and real value in service when dispersing their funds, contact Joy Gillett, Terry Davies or Jenny Towe at Australian Rotary Health – (02) 8833 8338 or (02) 8837 1900. ■

## Council gives e-clubs the green light

After more than an hour of debate, representatives from Rotary's 531 Districts at the 2010 Council on Legislation voted on April 26 to make Rotary e-clubs a permanent part of Rotary International.

“This will allow Rotarians with physical disabilities or scheduling restraints to meet regularly and conduct service projects through the Internet,” said RI Director Antonio Hallage as he presented the proposal to the Council.

Submitted by seven Rotary e-clubs along with the RI Board of Directors, the measure makes permanent the eight-year-old Rotary e-club pilot project, which is set to end on June 30.

Two Australian Rotarians have played significant roles in the pilot project.

A long-standing champion of the Rotary e-club concept, Chris Joscelyne (a Past

President of both Rotary eClub One and the Rotary Club of Sydney) said, “This historic decision will end uncertainty and provide a boost for the further growth of Rotary membership worldwide”.

Past President of Rotary eClub One and a former member of the Rotary Club of Sydney Angus M. Robinson worked closely with Chris Joscelyne shaping administrative policies that address the unique aspects of managing an online Rotary e-club that has a worldwide membership.

A separate amendment now allows for two Rotary e-clubs per District. Commenting on this decision, Rotary International Director John Lawrence said that this move is likely to be warmly applauded by Rotarians in Australia and New Zealand who have been strong users and drivers of the Rotary e-club concept.

PP Chris Joscelyne also referred to the success of the Rotary e-club pilot project in demonstrating the ability to meet each of the key objectives prescribed by RI which are:

- use of the Internet to retain Rotarians otherwise lost to Rotary,
- attract new Rotarians, facilitate meetings, manage service projects, and
- generate fellowship by creating a friendly community of like-minded Rotarians.

Rotarian Joscelyne said: “As pioneers of the concept of Rotary e-clubs, it is now our duty to set a fine example to all who follow us, as Rotary Districts around the world establish up to two Rotary e-clubs per District”.

Visitors are always welcome at [www.rotaryeclubone.org](http://www.rotaryeclubone.org) ■

# Towards a stronger Rotary

Stronger Rotary clubs can raise the profile of Rotary in the Australian region and ensure our service efforts are as effective as possible in meeting the needs of our communities here and overseas.

How can this be achieved? The Conference "Towards a Stronger Australian Rotary", to be held in Canberra on August 21-22, will focus on ways to achieve this objective, with speakers and discussion groups providing the best opportunity for participation by all attending.

Incoming RI President Ray Klinginsmith and RI Director-elect Stuart Heal, supported by Zone 8 Rotary Coordinators Rob Wylie and Rob Crabtree and Public Image Resource Group Coordinator Richard Garner will lead discussion by Rotarians from all levels within Australia.

This is an opportunity to share ideas and best practices on how we can make Rotary better. Particularly we hope to see District and Club leaders from all over Australia and our neighbouring countries within Zone 8.

A number of welcome dinners will be held on Friday evening hosted by clubs within District 9710.

The conference proper starts on Saturday morning and will finish around lunchtime on Sunday. An affordable conference package is available including registration, morning and afternoon teas, Saturday lunch and dinner, all for \$100.

Venue will be the Hellenic Club in Woden, ACT. A number of hotels/motels in the Canberra area have offered discounted accommodation to Rotarians attending.

On line registration is available at [www.rotarydownunder.com.au/australianrotaryconference](http://www.rotarydownunder.com.au/australianrotaryconference). For more information contact Rob Wylie by email: [robwy43@bigpond.net.au](mailto:robwy43@bigpond.net.au). We look forward to seeing you in Canberra! ■

## Wrap with Love

Wrap with Love is a volunteer organisation that organises the crafting and sending of hand knitted wraps to countries all over the world where people in distress need warmth and comfort.

In 2009 Wrap with Love asked Rotary to



Rotary Club of Gosford City's motto is "We Deliver" — Barry McDonald, Sandra Walsh and Trudy Dunn unload a trailer full of knitted squares to a warehouse in the Sydney suburb of Alexandria.

assist with the delivery of knitted squares and completed wraps following the state-wide ABC Knit-in in early August. The call for help went out to around 70 Rotary clubs to expedite the delivery of local volunteer knitters' work to the central Wrap warehouse in Alexandria, Sydney. The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie had to deal with nine pallet loads of knitting while Gosford City Club organised a flotilla of vehicles to transport 77 bags of knitting from the Central Coast.

Other clubs formed alliances with community groups, while Rotarians like Rae Watson at Shoalhaven Sunshine, and Noel Edgell at Kiama, amongst many enthusiastic Rotarians, took it upon themselves to deliver large quantities of knitting to the warehouse in their own time.

The Chairperson of Wrap with Love, Jayne Goodes, declared 2009 a bumper year with Rotary's involvement, with more than 40,000 squares and 7,500 completed wraps received.

This has been a fantastic example of Rotary clubs co-operating across their Districts to the benefit of some many people in the national and international community.

Meg Gervay, of the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, said her Community Services Committee had been contacting Clubs

since April 2010, to seek help this year. The contact is [meg.gervay@austartlink.com.au](mailto:meg.gervay@austartlink.com.au). ■

## Bundoora celebrates

The Rotary Club of Bundoora combined with the Victorian State Government to fill a long time void in community resources for the city of Whittlesea on March 27.

Police and Emergency Services Minister, Bob Cameron opened the new Victorian State Emergency Services Unit before an enthusiastic crowd of citizens, Rotarians and representatives of the various emergency services groups. The unit cost \$650,000 and Bundoora Rotary Club contributed close to \$20,000 since the Appeal commenced in 2001.

One of Victoria's fastest growing municipalities, Whittlesea has not previously had the security offered by an official full-time SES unit and has been serviced by units from neighbouring centres including Broadmeadows, Craigieburn, Eltham and Kinglake.

Bundoora Rotary has been pushing for the Unit for some time and PP Ian Bushby, who was leading the club when the appeal was launched in 2001, said "This is a proud moment for the club and comes to fruition after a great deal of hard work".

A bonus for the new Whittlesea Unit was the addition of a brand new storm trailer,



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Bundoora Rotary President Alex Shaw, left, SP AusNet's Craig Watt, Whittlesea City Mayor Mary Lalios, SES Regional Member Ray Jasper, Parliamentary Secretary for Police and Emergency Services, Danielle Green, Victorian Minister for Police and Emergency Services Bob Cameron, and Acting CEO of VIC SES Trevor White.

partly funded by local electricity distributor, SP AusNet. The new Unit is located within the 'Emergency Services Precinct' with CFA next door and the likelihood of the addition of an Ambulance Victoria Station in the near future. ■

### PP Bruce honoured

Past President Bruce Vitnell of the Rotary Club of Newcastle, NSW, was one of five Hunter volunteers and fundraisers recognised by the NSW Minister for Ageing, Paul Lynch, at a ceremony in Sydney in March. Bruce was honoured in NSW Seniors Week 2010 Achievement Awards and was recognised in his role in raising funds for Alzheimer's Australia, NSW, to establish The Newcastle Family Resource Centre. The Rotary Club of Newcastle, supported by other clubs within District 9670, has enjoyed a long association with Alzheimer's Australia, NSW. ■

### New Club fills The Gap

District 9600 Governor Walter Buchanan chartered a new Interact Club at The Gap State High School in Queensland in February.

The charter was officially performed at a ceremony in front of the Senior School Assembly.

Members of the sponsoring Rotary Club of Ashgrove/The Gap had worked for six months with the High School Principal, Russell Pollock and Teacher/Facilitator Amanda Woolmer to establish the new club.

Governor Walter presented the Interact Club President for 2010, Peter Park, with his President's collar, and 24 charter members received induction certificates and lapel/tie pins. The President of the Rotary Club of Ashgrove/The Gap, Peter Rufford, presented

badges of office to the other Interact club officers, Secretary Rhiannon Brooks and Treasurer Daniel Cheung.

Interact, Rotary International's service club for young people aged 14-18, provides them with the chance to make new friends, develop leadership skills, improve their community and make a difference in the world. The Interact clubs are sponsored by Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance.

The new Interact club has already formulated its plans for 2010, which include supporting three local projects and one international project.

The Rotary Club of Ashgrove/The Gap has also sponsored a successful Interact Club at Mount St. Michaels College at Ashgrove, with Phillip Blakey as Rotarian Adviser.

Both clubs sent delegates to the Rotary District 9600 Interact Conference held at Clayfield College in March.

There are 24 Interact Clubs in District 9600, which takes in northern Brisbane suburbs, Sunshine Coast, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. ■

### Never too young

Bowelscan month in District 9630 and in District 9600 is well and truly launched and its theme is 'You are never too young!'

A highly successful seminar was recently conducted at the Wesley Hospital in Brisbane, Qld, at which Professor Julie Campbell, (Wesley Research Institute), Dr Russell Stitz (Colorectal Surgeon), Cr Geraldine Knapp (Councillor BCC), Tracey Young (Community Psychologist), Tim Logan (Pharmacy Guild Qld), Professor Gerald Fitzgerald, (QUT) spoke about the various issues of Bowel cancer and the need for early detection and regular testing. James Pollock,



Chairman of the Bowelscan committee in Brisbane also featured on a couple of early morning interviews.

James and his team then followed this up with an amazingly innovative clip in which (in the words of the ABC) a well-toned (if under-dressed) lady comes on with four equally under-dressed grandfathers to the song "I see you baby – shakin' an ass!" . . . which most of the team managed to do very well! The message was clear, you are never too young to get Bowel cancer so

with the appointment of 41 coordinators to offer guidance on youth programs, Rotary Fellowships and Rotary Action Groups.

PDG Rob Crabtree will service New Zealand (Zone 7a) but will also take in part of eastern Australia. PDG Rob Wylie is the Zone 8 Coordinator for the rest of Australia. Both Rotarians have recently returned from intensive training at One Rotary Center, Evanston, USA.

RI President Elect Ray Klingensmith said "The Coordinators will also advise clubs

with each other and the RI Director for the Zone. ■

## Shoulders at the wheel

Pouring beers for hundreds of petrol heads while V8s whiz around them doesn't sound like the best way to spend a weekend, but Rotarians in Waikato, NZ, don't complain.

In their spare time, members of the Waikato Sunrise Rotary Club manage and work at the refuel tents to raise much-needed money for various Waikato charities.

This year 50 Rotarians will be working between 8.30am and 5.30pm over the three-day weekend at the eight tents scattered around the track in the hope of raising \$20,000 to buy a van to transport patients from the new Cancer Lodge at the old Braemar Hospital site to Waikato Hospital for treatment.

Gary Robertson and fellow member Bryce Weal, who are both qualified bar managers, said there was nothing in it for them.

"We all have full-time jobs and all enjoy our weekends. Rotary is a service club – if you are going to fulfil your obligations, you are going to give up your time. We do have fun – it's a good day but a long day."

The remaining 60 staff required to work throughout the ITM400 are made up of volunteers raising money for Hamilton Girls' High School, Horsham Downs School, Family Wise Trust, Karapiro Water Ski Club and the Waikato Fiat Club.

Montana Catering pays each organisation a percentage of the turnover.

Last year the club raised \$100,000 from working at the V8s, the Fight of the Century and the rugby games at the stadium.

Montana Catering general manager Peter Stark could not fault the Rotarians' work ethic and said over the years the relationship had grown and Montana called on the experienced bar managers to work at other events, including the AIGP in Taupo. Montana works with a number of schools and non-profit organisations in the region, but the contract with the Waikato Sunrise Rotary Club is the most significant.

"There's a lot of people in the community who are Rotarians – even our current mayor. I saw him serving beers a few years ago."

– Nikki Preston, *Waikato Times* ■



Bob Wearne, left, John Kolcze, Brian Russell and James Pollock as they appeared in the *Courier Mail* newspaper. (Ed: Good grief!)

buy a test kit from Rotary today and live to see tomorrow!

The story was taken up by Channel 7 and the ABC as well as several local radio stations. It also featured in the *Courier Mail* and for several days on the ABC website. The story even made it to the UK where it was linked to a cancer program over there.

This is the first time that the two Districts in Brisbane have worked together to promote Bowelscan month across Brisbane and we hope it is the start of a successful partnership.

For those who missed the show, the clip can be seen on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfs9q4BcRnI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfs9q4BcRnI).

At the last count, it had been seen by more than 2500 people. ■

## Coordinators' July debut

Rotarians will soon have help navigating the myriad programs of Rotary International

and Districts on strategic planning, effective public relations, leadership development, and building membership.

"We want clubs to be assured 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," he said.

The Rotary Coordinators, whose three-year terms begin on July 1, will help implement the priorities of the RI Strategic Plan; support and strengthen clubs; focus and increase humanitarian service; and enhance public image and awareness. The coordinators will assist at Zone level meetings and plan workshops with the support of District leaders.

They will serve the same geographical areas as the regional Rotary Foundation coordinators, with at least one Rotary Coordinator for each Zone. Those serving in two positions will work closely

# 'Me' generation alienation

I read with interest the letter of Past President Frank Flowers from the Rotary Club of Mt Eliza, SA in the Dec/Jan edition of *Rotary Down Under*.

The letter highlighted the move to push Rotary into an over-regulated corporatised organisation.

Such a move would further alienate Rotary from the "Me Generation" which I define as the 40 to 45-year-olds (Me, me job, me wife, me kids etc and blow everyone else). The bulk of Rotarians appear to be in the 60-plus age group and if Rotary is to survive we will need to tap into the "Me Generation".

Many of these young people conduct business with a laptop computer, a Blackberry and an airline ticket. Often they do not have an office or secretary and they would find a formal Rotary meeting rather stuffy. They probably would prefer to meet via YouTube, Facebook, Skype, MySpace or some other form of communication. Perhaps we could start our own "Rotary In Your Face" networking site.

There is an old saying, "Don't find fault, find a remedy".

I suppose we have been trying to crack the "Me Generation" for a long time. Perhaps we need to interview many young people to find out why they are not interested in Rotary and also interview anyone who has only stayed in Rotary for a short time. Honest answers and intelligent listening might lead us to modernising Rotary rather than over-regulation.

The cornerstone of Rotary has always been fellowship. So this might be a good selling point to younger people who live life on the edge. I was once told that if you are not living on the edge you are taking up too much space. Young people might appreciate the opportunity of fellowship provided it is in a friendly and not too structured environment.

If Rotary is to survive we need to convince younger people to join us and carry on our good works. These are my views, not necessarily those of my club or District.

**Gerry Dee**

**Rotary Club of Adelaide Parks, SA ■**

## Railroading Rotarians

In recent years, the escalation in natural disasters has stretched donors and emergency response organisations beyond limits previously encountered. Rotary clubs have been coerced into responding to Rotary emergency response programs as well as those of independent NGOs. Competition is not a palatable word in this context but, in reality, this is exactly what Rotary clubs are being subjected to in the promotion of emergency response.

The Emergency Response Kit program, developed and tailored to provide immediate relief to families in our own region, at their most vulnerable following cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and the like, is the first and foremost program that New Zealand clubs should be supporting.

With this support for our near neighbours, a conversation needs to take place as to whether Rotary should be supporting other emergency relief programs as clearly they are diverting the organisation away from The Rotary Foundation annual and other programs, PolioPlus and other approved Rotary International worldwide activities.

Whilst clubs are autonomous, it begs the question, was Rotary established as an Emergency Response organisation when Red Crescent, Red Cross and other specialist NGOs are recognised worldwide and supported in no small measure by governments and the public in general? RI President Elect Ray Klinginsmith's goals for 2010/2011 most notably do not include emergency response.

Emergency response creates situations far above that for which Rotary is able to comprehend or take initiatives to prevent. Crime, prostitution and abuse of women and children are a by-product of dislocation into tent cities and emergency shelters. Rotary does not have the resources to ensure the safety and security for the inhabitants whether they are refugees or persons displaced through natural causes.

Yet there is a growing trend for Rotary clubs to respond to other than our own Emergency Response Kit program in greater measure. It is so easy, when motivated by professionally managed emotive marketing, to write out a cheque

and move on without considering the broader picture. The feel-good factor for the donor may not be supporting the same experience for the recipient. Unless donors are willing to accept the downstream consequences in these circumstances, it should be left to governments and agencies that are equipped or have the legislative power to deal with such issues.

Rotarians can best support disaster relief with programs, such as Emergency Response Kits, which allow recipients to remain safely in their own communities. Attention can then be given to projects for the long-term rebuilding and sustainability of the community.

Emotion should not be a factor in the consideration of any project, be it emergency response or other. Sustainable economic development projects create a better world when measured in terms of poverty reduction. Rotary has built its reputation on this for the past 100 years. Let us not be railroaded into changing direction.

**Morris Robertson**

**Rotary Club of Wellington North, NZ  
Past Governor, District 9940 ■**

## Appalling management

I read that ShelterBox Australia is no longer affiliated with ShelterBox Trust UK and reconciliation between the two is "clearly off the table".

This is an appalling piece of management and intransigence on somebody's part. I have no idea where the "fault" lies but I do know that Rotary should never have let this happen.

Just a reminder of the *Four-Way Test*

"Of the things we think, say or do

"Is it the truth?

"Is it FAIR to all concerned?

"Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

"Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"

Or how about the fourth *Object of Rotary*?

"The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the idea of service."





Australia, and my Club, have supported ShelterBox wholeheartedly.

It is a wonderful project that meets a very real need and it is an extremely attractive project for donors.

How can Rotary have let things come to this pass?

**John Scotford**

**Rotary Club of Swan Valley, WA**

*Ed: Tom Henderson's reply on behalf of ShelterBox Trust UK is on Page 19. ■*

## Daryl needs your help

Identifying a real need and then working until that need is met, is something we should all try (*Rotary Down Under*, April, "Is Daryl the world's busiest Rotarian?").

In November, 2001, I had to go to East Timor, to clear Customs and unload two containers of requested goods I had loaded and shipped from District 9800 Donations In Kind, West Footscray.

I registered Rotary Australia World Community Service as an NGO in Timor L'Este.

I realised that with this emerging new country (independence came in May, 2002, and the Rotary Club of Dili was chartered on November 30, 2002) that if Rotary in Australia was to do effective projects to help the people of Timor Leste, then we could not do them effectively from Sydney or Melbourne.

I drafted and had Southern Region RAWCS unanimously approve the "Rotary Liaison Officer in Timor L'Este," position and duties.

**December 2002:** Chris Trueman, of the Rotary Club of Southbank, Vic, self-funded, was our first Liaison Officer.

**May 2003:** Tony Devlin, a past Rotarian from WA, was our second.

In August, 2003, I was speaking at a District 9800 RAWCS Seminar at Bendigo, Vic, calling for a Volunteer to take over from Tony Devlin, for a few months!

A member of the Rotary Club of Footscray, Vic, Daryl Mills, spoke to me and later stated "he may be interested".

The rest is History! Seventh year and counting.

**December 2003:** Daryl Mills did a changeover with Tony Devlin and developed and expanded the Liaison Officer position to what it is today.

Without Daryl Mills, hundreds of Australian Rotary (and some overseas clubs') past and current projects to assist the people of Timor L'Este would not have been effective and certainly not sustainable.

In May, 2006, when disturbances occurred in Timor L'Este, the then National RAWCS executive, called Daryl by mobile and informed him that as they were concerned about their liability for the Liaison Officer's safety, they would no longer support him.

Past President Bob Glindemann, of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic, and the Rotary Club of Balwyn, Vic, later donated significant funds to cover ongoing day-to-day and living expenses incurred on behalf of Rotary.

All clubs and Districts that are doing, or plan to do, projects in Timor L'Este, must understand that Daryl must be financially supported, by you paying the expenses he incurs to help you do your project and budget your project accordingly.

Paul Harris recognition is a great way to do this (Daryl has been honoured with at least three) but you cannot eat PHFs or get the Rotary vehicle filled with fuel, renew your mobile phone credit, pay Container Dili dock charges or care for your family and yourself, with a PHF.

I strongly urge all clubs involved in Timor L'Este, to contact Past President Bob Glindemann (bob.glindemann@bigpond.com.au) to see what amount is appropriate for your project, to cover these expenses.

The Rotary Club of Dili has neither the membership nor time to do what the Liaison Officer does full-time, seven days a week for us. But without the Rotary Club of Dili (Daryl is the only constant lynchpin Member) there would be no Matching Grants for your Timor L'Este projects.

If you read one of Daryl's monthly reports, (available from Bob or myself) you will see why "Daryl is the world's busiest Rotarian".

**Past President Bill Dagg**

**District 9800 Donations In Kind**

**bdagg@tpg.com.au ■**

## Got something to say?

Send your letters to the Editor's Mailbox:

Email: [editorial@rotarydownunder.com.au](mailto:editorial@rotarydownunder.com.au)  
Post: PO Box 779, Parramatta, NSW, 2124, Australia  
Fax: 61 2 9891-5984

Letters of 200 to 250 words are preferred.

## Professional resource tool

I've just received a copy of the revamped and updated March 2010 *Programs of Rotarians 'Down Under'* and write to compliment *Rotary Down Under*, along with PDGs Barry McConville and Dick White and your entire production team for this outstanding and very professional resource tool.

The variety and extent of the programs covered in this new edition is truly inspiring. For clubs looking for new programs to implement they should utilise this valuable resource.

Again, well done in promoting Rotary programs to Rotarians and also providing a document that can be used to promote Rotary to those outside Rotary. Another wonderful initiative by *Rotary Down Under*.

**David R. Bamford, OAM**

**Rotary Club of Blacktown City, NSW ■**

## Delete rubbish journalism

The opening article in this March 2010 issue by Rotary International President John Kenny suggests "Our Convention is Rotary at its Best".

This is followed by thoughts from Glen Estess, "The Importance of Literacy and Education". Sadly, further on is a discussion with Megan Jones and Francis Rossi from rock band "Status Quo". Whilst this band may have sold millions of records and presented thousands of shows, unfortunately in the two and a half pages of discussion, every sentence or paragraph contains offensive language.

So much for literacy and education. What must Glen Estess think?

I have enjoyed receiving and reading *Rotary Down Under* from its earliest days to today's quality product. I believe, as editor you need to delete rubbish journalism, not cover up with noughts and crosses.

An apology to readers might suffice.

**Frank Jacobs**

**Rotary Club of Parramatta, NSW ■**



# Multi-District training

The Governors for New Zealand Districts in 2011-12 have unanimously agreed to trial a Multi-District President Elect Training Seminar at the Waipuna Lodge Hotel, Auckland, on March 5 and 6 next year.

The idea was raised by Rotary International President Elect Ray Klinginsmith at the NZ Institute at Waitangi in November, 2009 and has been discussed and reviewed in detail since then.

RI Director Elect Stuart Heal attended a Multi-District PETS in Arizona and became totally supportive of the concept as a result. RI Past President Bill Boyd has also visited many Multi-District PETS and is keen to see it introduced in New Zealand.

The concept has grown from a recognition that the training for club leaders in New Zealand has grown out of alignment with the RI strategic plan as more emphasis has gone into training at Governor and District level. This is not a criticism of club training already in place in the Districts, in fact that will continue within this model, but a

recognition that we need the economies of scale to attract senior Rotary leaders.

To this end President Elect Klinginsmith has agreed to attend this trial Multi-District PETS in March.

There are at least four hours of District specific training in breakout sessions planned, organised by the District trainers, while also introducing some mixed District training sessions. All plenary sessions will be for all involved.

There will also be a specific training program for Assistant Governors.

It is anticipated that all Districts will support the initial event but attendance cannot be compulsory and the challenge for organisers will be to make it attractive enough for club Presidents Elect to attend.

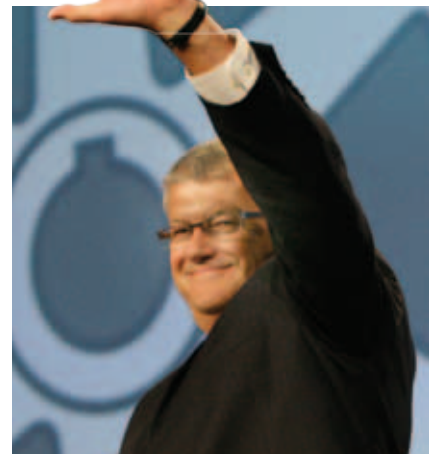
Already the Governors Nominee have established a travel equalisation scheme in an attempt to even out travel costs and another plan to help attract our Pacific Island clubs to attend.

The organisers are aiming for at least 180 Presidents Elect to enrol. The concept will allow our newly appointed Rotary Coordinator (Rob Crabtree, District 9920) and the Rotary Foundation Coordinator (John Cole, District 9940) to address all clubs directly. This has not been possible in NZ in the past.

Once the trial Multi-District PETS has been held the event will be evaluated and clubs will then be asked to vote on whether or not to continue in the future.

If the decision is to continue the suggestion is the event will be rotated between Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

The Chair of the first organising committee is PDG Judy Bain, from District



RI Director Elect Stuart Heal has thrown his support behind the concept of a Multi-District PETS training weekend in New Zealand.

9940 and the management committee will consist of PDGs Tony Fortune (D9920), Neil Reid (D9910), Ian Holyoake (D9930), Dexter Bambery (D9940), PP Lindsay Crossen (D9970) and DG Lionel Wilson (D9980).

The Training Chair will be PDG Sandra McKersey (D9910). RI Director elect Stuart Heal (D9980) will remain involved as an adviser to the organising committee. The current District Governors Nominee will also remain in a governance and advisory role.

Director Elect Stuart Heal said in indicating his total support for this initiative that, "it will help strengthen our clubs and ensure we have improved alignment between the RI strategic plan and club plans.

"This will ensure that Rotary clubs in New Zealand have an opportunity to share ideas, connect people and identify resources.

"It certainly signals a significant change in how we will prepare our future leaders in Rotary in this country." ■

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for special envelopes.

## Multi-District PETS contacts

**Judy Bain**

[bainjr@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bainjr@xtra.co.nz)

**Brian Tuck**

[briant9910@xtra.co.nz](mailto:briant9910@xtra.co.nz)

**Alan Eyes**

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**Joan Kiernan**

[joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net](mailto:joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net)





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### Your Reward:

- You will have the pleasure of knowing that your contribution is significant in ensuring that Australians of all ages, from all walks of life, will lead healthier lives
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**The Friends donor program is for individuals.  
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### Australian Rotary Health

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Email: [admin@australianrotaryhealth.org.au](mailto:admin@australianrotaryhealth.org.au)  
[www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au](http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au)

### Make a start today!

Make a single donation or authorise a regular deduction, monthly, quarterly or annually via your credit card *or* online via our website *or* contact the office to make other arrangements.

Australian Rotary Health will keep a record of all donations you make and your standing will be upgraded according to your total contributions.



*Supporting healthier minds,  
bodies and communities  
through research, awareness  
and education*

# Dancing with the Cars

The Rotary Club of Sydney, NSW, organised a fabulous fun(d)raiser for The Australian Children's Music Foundation in February. The inaugural "Dancing with the Cars" was held at the Audi Lighthouse Showroom in Sydney.

Guests were dazzled by the shining new range of Audio cars dotted around the room. The purpose of the event was to raise funds for the Youth, Drug and Alcohol Court Program that includes an ACMF music program run by Josh and Ben Banton, hip-hop artists who teach music weekly to a group of students in western Sydney.

Step Up Professional Dance Studio sent 10 dance instructors whose task for the night was to get all the bodies moving in the room and by the end of the night guests felt like they had channelled Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire! Along with the dancers, guests enjoyed a performance by Don Spencer, Founder of ACMF, an acoustic song by the Banton Bros and then



Ross and Nicola, otherwise known as Fred and Ginger, at the Dancing With the Cars night.

really got grooving with the band, Tall Pop Syndrome.

Not only does this Rotary club really know how to rock, it raised some serious money which will benefit disadvantaged youth.

Special thanks to Karen Loblay, Mark

Dyer, Geoff Wilbow, Ross Colquhoun and John Given, as well as the wonderful Rotaract volunteers.

We do have one question . . . when is the next one?

For information on the ACMF, visit [www.acmf.com.au](http://www.acmf.com.au). ■

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# Rotarians back humanitarian aid ... again!



The new Disaster Aid Australia tent and transport container, currently in the final stages of development

Following the termination of ShelterBox Australia – a project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills [D9820 Vic] – as the Australian affiliate of ShelterBox UK, club members met in late April to show their support for an entirely new, home-grown Australian humanitarian disaster aid project. At the meeting, Rotarians voted unanimously for the continuation of what they began in Australia in 2003, but now with a new name, a new product, and as a totally Australian ‘endeavour.’

And that support was accompanied by personal pledges for more than \$175,000 as seed funding to ensure they remained in the business of assisting those in developing countries who had lost everything after natural or other disasters. This impassioned commitment was accompanied by a firm resolve to supply an innovative Australian-based humanitarian aid package: one that provides those in need with a new start in family units within their communities.

**Disaster Aid Australia** (a company limited by guarantee, formerly known as

ShelterBox Australia) has been unveiled. It has the same Board, management and office as the former company, and retains its recently attained Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) tax status.

**A home + water + power = vision + a helpful start for survivors**

In 1972, Rotary District 1050 in the UK launched Emergency Box – now known as Life Box, and in 2001, ShelterBox began. Now, in 2010 **Disaster Aid Australia** (a project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills) offers a new generation Australian humanitarian aid solution.

**Disaster Aid Australia**, as an AusAID preferred supplier, has placed an order for humanitarian aid kits with production continuing for the packing of many more to follow. The first packs will be ready for deployment from next month.

Disaster Aid Australia General Manager and Rotarian Jenni Heenan said, ‘it’s business as usual for us. That business is humanitarian aid, and we are able to provide a new product which we are very excited to

**disaster aid**  
**australia**  
bringing all the pieces together

show to our fellow Rotarians as well as to the corporate markets of Australia.’

‘We are currently in meetings with three international humanitarian aid agencies who approached us to discuss mutual partnerships and funding. The true winners will be those who have lost everything in a disaster,’ Jenni said.

‘The first stage of the launch by Disaster Aid Australia will see a family survival pack with a tent, cooking utensils, bedding and building equipment for a sponsorship of \$800. A state-of-the-art water unit and solar power unit will also be offered to ensure that villages will be self-sufficient for many years to come.’



Our new products meet Sphere and UN Standards and are already creating plenty of discussion and interest amongst other international humanitarian NGOs,' Jenni said.

'We sincerely thank our fellow Rotarians for their support during a very testing time, and assure everyone that we are committed and passionate about providing the best aid project Australia and, we are sure the world has ever seen.'

'This support also extends to our response team members who have been an integral part of re-designing existing disaster aid kits in the market and also to IPWEA engineers who last year suggested a container with wheels – thank you; we now have wheels!'

Jenni Heenan concluded, 'Disaster Aid Australia will first and foremost be a project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills, and we are certain Rotarians, especially in Australia will continue to provide support and encouragement in many ways.'

*"I was saddened by the ending of the agreement with ShelterBox Australia by Shelterbox UK but, knowing the commitment and energy of the Rotarians at Endeavour Hills, I am certain their new humanitarian project, Disaster Aid Australia will be well received and supported. I wish them every success."*

**Brian Norris**  
Governor, D9820 [Vic]



Our water pack provides up to 10,000 litres of clean water a day without the use of chemicals or power.

**Yes, I want to help with Australian humanitarian aid.  
Please sign me up to help with Disaster Aid Australia.**



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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary District Number: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Please send me a Tax Receipt

I wish to pay by ☐ Cheque ☐ CreditCard Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number:                 Expiry Date:   /

**Disaster Aid Australia** PO Box 790, Endeavour Hills Vic 3802 PH:1300 881 913

# For auld lang syne

I was asked at the beginning of the Rotary year what I would like to leave at the end, and the answer was quite simple: I wanted to leave Rotary stronger, more vibrant, and more caring. The things I've tried to focus on are membership, public image, and service to others – water, health and hunger, and literacy.

For membership, I set what I thought was a realistic target: for each club to add one more qualified Rotarian. That would be 33,000 more members, almost a 3 percent increase. Certainly the recession has had an impact, and with that in mind, I have tried to be mindful about containing costs. I've always been conscious that dues are Rotarians' money – not dollars that fall from the sky.

I haven't travelled as much as my predecessors because I wanted to spend more time in the office here in Evanston. But one of the places I wanted to go to early was China, to see the situation there for myself. There are clubs in Beijing and Shanghai, but until the government allows Chinese nationals to join, membership is limited to expatriates. I had meetings with government ministers, and they are aware of the good work Rotary is doing. As we continue, maybe other clubs will form.

I also went to Indonesia – to Banda Aceh, the epicentre of the devastating tsunami in 2004. It was incredible to see a large freighter beached in the middle of a field about two miles from the sea, driven there by the force of the tsunami. Over 200,000 people perished in the disaster; we will never know the exact number. Rotarians have done such a wonderful job in helping to rebuild the area – so much so that the government gave Rotary a parcel of land on which clubs have built an orphanage. I had the honour of opening the second phase of the project, a medical clinic with equipment donated by Rotarians.

I went to Haiti after the earthquake to see what could be done for those in dire need and to show the world that Rotary was there to help. It's sad enough to see the devastation on TV, but to actually be there is heart-rending. Rotarians are responding magnificently, and I thank them for all they have done.

I have been most impressed this year to see the good work of Rotarians who are working quietly – in their own clubs, for their own communities, and for people in other countries whom they will never see. I make no apologies for emphasising the importance of the individual Rotary club. No matter what the Rotary International Board of Directors may decide or what action may be taken in a District, the club is the fundamental unit of Rotary.

I have had three main emphases this year: water, health and hunger, and literacy. I think water will become the most important commodity in the 21st century, and we must ensure the purity of our supplies. And while it is the hope of all mankind that there should be peace in the world, how can there be peace when so many will try to sleep tonight without having eaten today?

Literacy, too, is essential, and I believe education – especially the education of the girl child – is the key to banishing poverty in our world.

Rotarians have always been modest about the service we provide. We should no longer be hiding our light under a bushel, and I think we are becoming more successful in making others aware of what we do.

In China, my wife and I visited an orphanage funded by the Rotary Club of Beijing. Two baby girls were brought to my wife and me, and we were told that they had been abandoned on a train. They were named Dragonfly and Strawberry. While I was holding Dragonfly in my arms and she looked up at me, so content, and maybe in wonderment, I had a simple but profound realisation about Rotary: We can give more than money. We can give care. ■





# ShelterBox responds

It was with disappointment and shock that I read an article in the April *Rotary Down Under* magazine, *Aussie representatives seek clarification from UK headquarters*.

The tone, content and “questions” in the article appeared to have been written with the sole purpose of discrediting and undermining ShelterBox UK and the ShelterBox project in general.

The grossly misleading article is littered with deliberate innuendos and gross inaccuracies and the “author” did not have the professional or personal courtesy to put their name to it! I have been retrospectively advised that the article came from the General Manager of SBA in Melbourne and I must assume that it was written and authorised by the leadership of SBA.

Is this the real view of 100-plus “Aussie representatives seeking clarification from UK headquarters” who this article purports to represent?

Specifically from the article:

“ShelterBox Australia (SBA) has been sending ShelterBox UK £600 for each ShelterBox.”

The truth is that the average donation over the 7000 “ShelterBoxes” that SBUK has received from SBA is £475 per box (due to exchange rate fluctuations this has on occasions been as low as £430!)

“The cost to produce a box is £299”. This is an intentionally misleading “snapshot” and does not reflect the true cost of a box or its contents which vary day to day, there is no mention of storage, insurance, handling, purchase price fluctuations or many other items or actions associated with box “cost”.

“Has been able to source the same material for a lower cost”. Not possible – for example the bespoke ShelterBox tent is only available to SBUK – SBA has yet to produce any evidence of this “lower cost” or box inventory.

“Staff in UK approaching 30, from a base of about 8 last year”. Well currently we have 26, some part-time and we make no apologies for this. This is and was fully planned and in keeping with our published *Five-Year Strategy (Building and growing our organisation)* document that we shared with SBA and all our affiliates well over a year ago (published in June 2008) and our stated

aim to be, “The world leader in Emergency disaster relief Emergency Shelter within five years”. Helping 500,000 people a year worldwide and certainly in keeping with a multi-million pound, worldwide organisation of 10 international affiliates.

In the past twelve months alone ShelterBox has operated around the world in 25 countries, 30 disasters, deployed 60 “ShelterBox Response Teams” (SRTs) and delivered approximately 25,000 ShelterBoxes delivering aid for over 200,000 needy people and, importantly, put Rotary and our work in front of many millions of people worldwide.

“Excess of £3 million in assets including the purchase of a building.” True. At financial year end (2009) a “snapshot” on the day reflecting the ever changing year-end situation(s) in the disaster relief business, most of this amount was stocks of materials or funds subsequently used to buy materials for boxes. If we took a “snapshot” today because of the huge surge in income from the Haiti disaster we would have more than £9 million in assets (most probably spent on box material etc by the time you read this).

“Purchase of a building.” Yes, we did – nearly six years ago (not as implied recently) struggling to get a mortgage to do so to secure the future wellbeing of “ShelterBox” (building now doubled in value).

“Has raised only £23 million” – Actually well over £40 million at today’s date.

“The second issue is financial transparency.” This has been fully addressed with SBA and all our worldwide affiliates over the past month or so and all SBA questions have been fully and comprehensively answered.

Interesting to note a financial review of SBUK activities undertaken a few weeks ago by ShelterBox USA treasurer, until recently the General Manager and Chief Financial

Officer of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, Wm Laddison (Ladd) Waldo, CPA MBA, states:

“I am thoroughly satisfied that ShelterBox UK demonstrates a successful, legitimate and economical organisation and I am fortunate to be affiliated through the US affiliate in the delivery of this mission.”

ShelterBox prides itself on being an efficient organisation representing excellent value to and for donors.

Fact: For the 2010 financial year 90 per cent of expenditures were spent on Box materials, freight, storage and handling.

ShelterBox Trust UK terminated the Australian affiliate agreement on March 31, 2010, as a result of numerous differences, but central among them was the SBA stated aim to “go it alone” and supply an alternative “ShelterBox”.

ShelterBox Australia, by way of our Rotary friends and our “ShelterBox Representative Network”, has over the past seven years, been a strong supporter of the global ShelterBox project and has contributed significantly to ShelterBox efforts worldwide. Recent differences are, of course, regrettable, however our work continues uninterrupted and we are fully focused on our current relief efforts.

ShelterBox is and will continue its work in Australia and “down under” and intends to get back to business as usual in Australia and looks forward to the continued support of our many Rotary and other friends.

At the time of writing we have Australian and New Zealand SRTs deployed on disaster relief work in China and Australian and New Zealand ShelterBoxes have been deployed into this area to assist the needy.

For further information on ShelterBox Australia going forward please contact me by email at: [tomhenderson@shelterbox.org](mailto:tomhenderson@shelterbox.org)

**Rtn Tom Henderson OBE**  
**ShelterBox Founder & CEO ■**



## ShelterBox Australia contact

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PO Box 122, Rundle Mall, South Australia 5000  
Ph 0488 996640 | Email: [timklar@xentech.com.au](mailto:timklar@xentech.com.au)

# Battle goes on, drop by drop

By **Graham Black**

**Rotary Club of Gosford North, NSW**

Putting two drops of Polio vaccine in the mouths of Indian children gave me and 42 Rotarians from around the world a wonderful feeling that we were changing lives in this hugely populated northern part of India.

We were generously home-hosted by Rotarians in Chandigarh, our base for three days over the National Immunisation day on February 7.

On the first day there were 77,000 children up to age 5 immunised in this city alone. We worked in the poor slum areas, side by side with health workers to put the drops in those tiny mouths.

Locals lined up in the streets for the drops on the first day. The next two days were spent systematically knocking on doors to ensure children did not miss out on the first day.

An indelible mark was put on the left hand little finger to indicate they had received the polio drops as there is no national identification system.

This feet-on-the-ground experience of working with struggling communities was truly rewarding as Polio is still a major health problem in this area with 730 cases reported last year.

Rotary has played a major role in bringing together the World Health Organisation, the Centre for Disease Control and UNICEF to formulate a



Two drops to change a life. Graham Black, of the Rotary Club of Gosford North, NSW, administers polio vaccine to a child during the National Immunisation Day in India in February.

plan that all were happy to adopt. Apart from financial support, Rotary has a role of advocacy and our mission included some fascinating visits to the company that manufactures the vaccine, WHO, CDC and several Indian hospitals. Polio victims were in calipers or in traction to straighten limbs and we saw them receiving physiotherapy. Some were crawling around the corridors.

Irrespective of their circumstance we found the Indian people very accepting of

their struggling way of life and generous with their smiles.

It is sad that many thought Aussies did not like them because of a few student issues in Melbourne. We set them straight and “bagged” the exaggerated media stories.

Our 10-day Rotary mission included visits to several major hospital, health and school projects which are built, owned or heavily supported by large local Rotary clubs in the region.

Most projects support the poor communities and provide services and support that otherwise would not be available. Rotary’s work in India is truly amazing!

We also had time to enjoy tourist attractions and the vast variety of wonderful food in Delhi and Agra, where we stayed in a fabulous hotel just a short stroll from the Taj Mahal.

The team included seven District 9680 and 9690 Rotarians and partners in David and Dianne Waterhouse, Ian Kilpatrick, Dianna Hart, Barry Antees, Megan Upton and myself. This was a fabulous annual mission led by Noelle Galperin from Florida. If it excites you please contact me for more information: [grahamblack@iprimus.com.au](mailto:grahamblack@iprimus.com.au) ■



The Taj Mahal from a particularly curious vantage point as seen by one of the 42 Rotarians from around the world who took part in the National Immunisation Day in India in February.





Jenny Horton, right, addresses a community meeting in India as part of her work in the fight to eradicate polio.

## Seven consecutive weeks

*By Past President Jenny Horton  
Rotary Club of Kenmore, Qld  
Volunteer consultant, WHO*

I am in the middle of debriefing the medical officers in Punjab, India, when the news of our sixth consecutive week with no polio case gives cause to stop and appreciate all the work done by so many around the country and the globe to reach this significant goal. (ED: now seven weeks).

The group breaks out with loud applause and congratulations all round.

Since 1994, (when polio eradication activities commenced in India) this is the longest period with no new case. The news brings renewed energy to all those field staff who work tirelessly on monthly campaigns, often in extreme conditions, reaching every child with oral polio vaccine.

This particular District has participated in five campaigns already in 2010, a huge task.

To most involved with polio eradication the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Bihar are familiar when discussing the

epicentre of virus, but neither of these states have reported a type 1 wild polio (WPV1) case for five months now!

All the WPV1 cases in India are in non-endemic states, where the virus has found vulnerable children, so activity has been intensified in the affected areas to prevent further virus and the reintroduction to UP and Bihar.

Across the globe in Nigeria there are just two WPVs in 2010 compared to 193 for the same period in 2009.

The traditional leaders in Nigeria are taking leadership in their communities for polio eradication to ensure all children are vaccinated.

Having spent many months in both countries, I know the fine tuning efforts that are taking place to reach this point. Until the virus circulation is broken non-endemic countries remain at risk as we have seen this month in Tajikistan, which was polio-free for 13 years and now has reported cases, as we saw in Indonesia and Yemen in 2005.

Bivalent vaccine is in use in the endemic countries and the impact of this will be seen fully in peak season.

Rotarians in polio-affected countries are playing a vital role in advocacy, awareness activities and the provision of social mobilisation materials. I see the results of fundraising from Rotarians through Polio Plus as I serve in this program.

The provision of whistles for children increased booth coverage by 3 per cent in one area, while advocacy meetings supported by Rotary for the religious leaders and medical officers addressed the concerns of a refusal community. Do not ever underestimate the importance of each dollar given, it is well utilised and it is only through this team effort will we win this war on polio.

Thank you Rotary International Past President Sir Clem Renouf for your leadership with this program, we look forward to the day when Rotary fulfils its commitment to the children in announcing a *polio free world*. ■

# Sir Clem's great quest

By Ted Latta

*Rotary Club of Ashgrove/The Gap, Qld*

On April 6, a five minute segment on the ABC's *7.30 Report*, centred on Sir Clem Renouf and Dr John Sever, focused world attention on the Global Project to Eliminate Polio Initiative (GPEI).

Even President Obama was moved to comment, "We work on things far beyond the war on terrorism".

World Health Organisation spokeswoman Sona Bari said. "Polio is endemic in three Muslim countries — Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan — but some Muslim leaders have been suspicious of vaccination efforts."

Last year, this difficulty was largely resolved when the Organisation of the Islamic Conference — an association of 56 Islamic states promoting Muslim solidarity in economic, social, and political affairs — and religious scholars at the International Islamic Fiqh Academy issued a *fatwa*, or religious decree, that parents should vaccinate their children against polio.

John Fitzsimmons, the deputy director of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, said the centres also had begun working more closely with local Islamic leaders in northern Nigeria, a network that previously had been overlooked.

In the last 10 days of May, 2009, a total of 222,270,331 children in 22 countries were immunised against polio. This included more than 74 million children in 11 West African countries immunised by 400,000 polio vaccinators in a synchronised response to a wild polio virus outbreak from northern Nigeria that had swept as far westwards as Guinea.

In addition, more than 85 million children under the age of five were immunised against polio earlier this year in 19 countries across West and Central Africa in a massive example of cross-border cooperation aimed at stopping the perceived year-long polio epidemic.

The campaign began on March 6 in a number of countries including Benin, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, and Togo. This complex logistical operation was largely made

possible by \$US30 million in funding from Rotary International.

Mr Fitzsimmons (CDC) said that although health officials were reluctant to assign credit to any one action, new polio cases in Nigeria fell from 83 during the first quarter of last year to just one so far this year (as of late April).

The World Health Organisation reports that there have been no new cases of polio in India in the past month following intensive vaccination programs there. It should be noted that that is the area in which Jenny Horton, of the Rotary Club of Kenmore, Qld, is currently working.

Since it was officially launched in 1988 the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) (earlier known as PolioPlus) has reduced the number of polio cases by 99 per cent, from more than 350,000 cases worldwide annually in 1988 to an estimated 1600 in 2008 and cut the number of polio endemic countries from 125 to four — Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Rotary has been joined in its multi-million dollar polio eradication campaign by global partners, the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the US Centers for Disease Control and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation,, as well as national governments, including Australia, and other major donors.

## PolioPlus from 3H

Sir Clem Renouf has recorded that PolioPlus really grew out of the 3H program — Health, Hunger and Humanity.

Although most Rotarians have heard the story of how discussions between Sir Clem and Dr John Sever crystallised the program, few realise the introduction of PolioPlus changed the way that Rotary operates.

Sir Clem officially launched the 3H program at a camp for handicapped people on Long Island, New York, on his first day in office as RI President — July 1, 1978.

"It wasn't long before we received from The Philippines our first proposal — to immunise 6.3 million children against polio, at a cost of about \$640,000. Never, in Rotary's long history, had we done anything like this — and it wasn't long before opposition to this new radical idea emerged," Sir Clem said.



"A group of very senior Rotarians (including several Past Presidents and a former General Secretary) did all they could to strangle the program in its infancy.

"They declared Rotary had no business trying to solve the world's problems. For more than 50 years Rotary had operated under a Board policy, which actively discouraged what was called 'corporate action' — clubs combining to undertake major projects.

"Their fear was that the autonomy of individual clubs would be threatened when they joined forces with others to undertake such major projects as were envisaged with 3H," he said.

Sir Clem encouraged clubs to join forces and combine resources to mount projects too big for one club during his time as RI President.

"Otherwise, Rotary was dissipating resources on a multiplicity of relatively small and unrelated projects, building walls instead of bridges, when all around were pressing problems, which could only be resolved by clubs combining to undertake projects too large for any one of them," Sir Clem said.

The Western Pacific was declared Polio Free in 2000, but there is always a risk that an undetected international traveller could unknowingly carry the disease and spread a polio infection for up to 60 days from the point of contact.

The current Rotary International President, John Kenny, has charged each Rotary club to mount their own initiative to support the 'End Polio Now' campaign. ■



# Things to do in Montreal

District 9830's solution to global malnutrition, the Learn Grow project, is gathering momentum. It has been selected for a break-out session at this month's Rotary International Convention in Montreal.

This will enable the Learn Grow team leaders, Buz Green and Bruce French, to promote to a worldwide audience this innovative approach to global malnutrition and security of food supplies in the developing world.

The break-out session will be held at the Palais des Congress on Tuesday, June 22 from 3.45pm to 5.15pm. It will be opened by RI Past President Wilf Wilkinson. Down Under Rotarians attending the Convention are encouraged to show their support for this Australian initiative by attending the break-out session.

The Learn Grow team invites Rotarians to visit them at the Health and Hunger Resource Group Booth #1905 in the House of Friendship.



The Learn Grow project continues to gain recognition in other ways. It has been awarded a Matching Grant to deliver the Learn Grow program in the Solomon Islands.

It's full steam ahead preparing the printed material to be distributed. Partnering Rotary Clubs in the Matching Grant are the Rotary Club of Devonport North, Tas, and the Rotary Club of Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Further support for the project has come with a just announced grant from the Crawford Fund.

For more, call Buz Green – 0419 306 900.

## Down Under Breakfast

RI Director John Lawrence and Janet invite Convention goers to join their Australian and New Zealand Rotary friends for the "Down Under Breakfast" at the Rotary International Convention in Montreal.

John has invited Don Cox to Chair the event with District 9790 as the Host District. This unique breakfast will promote attendance at the Rotary Institutes for Zone 8, to be held from December 3-5 in Perth, WA, and Zone 7B to be held from November 19-21 in Tauranga, Bay of Plenty, NZ.

We encourage you to invite your friends from other countries in the Rotary World to share this unique event with us. Have some fun and fellowship before the Convention opens.

**Chairman Don Cox says there are still places available. To book online go to [www.rotarydownunder.com.au/events](http://www.rotarydownunder.com.au/events) and follow the prompts. ■**

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To advertise your project or business, contact Sam or Gay on 02 9633 4888 or email [advertising@rotarydownunder.com.au](mailto:advertising@rotarydownunder.com.au)

This picture of Graham Black immunising a child in India will now go into the final round of judging for the Digital Camera Warehouse prize of a sensational 10 megapixel Fuji Finepix J20 camera.

## Get your photo published – AND WIN!



Graham Black, of the Rotary Club of Gosford North, NSW is the sixth monthly winner of the *Rotary Down Under* Digital Camera Warehouse Photographic Competition.

Graham's picture was taken during a trip to India by 42 Rotarians and friends of Rotary as volunteers for the National Immunisation Day conducted in February. Our photographic competition's objective is to

get good pictures to go with the stories we publish each month. One photograph that has been published in *Rotary Down Under* or *Rotarian Life* (provided the latter has a Rotary angle), taken by a Rotarian or member of the Rotary family will be adjudged that month's winner and each monthly winner will receive two free movie tickets and go into the final round against every other monthly winner. The grand prize is a sensational new Fuji Finepix J20 10 megapixel camera courtesy of Digital Camera Warehouse, the only place to get all your camera gear.

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# Lae Rotarians have been trailblazing for 50 years



Ahi Mira leading the local Sing Sing Group.

During his period as Rotary International President in 1994-95, Bill Huntley encouraged Rotarians to venture off the beaten track of Rotary experience.

"If the way ahead is not your way, then do not follow the path. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail behind you."

Since its Charter in May, 1960, the Rotary Club of Lae, PNG, has done just that.

The club has served the community, not only in Lae, but in other areas of PNG. Victims of the Rabaul volcano, Aitape tsunami, Kaiapit landslides and Milne Bay cyclones have all received assistance, as has the Kokoda Hospital. The club also

chartered the Huon Gulf Rotary Club in Lae.

The club's 50th anniversary celebrations were a resounding success and a great time was had by the 120 guests who attended. Paul Harris Recognition was given to Buddy Sabeniano and Aihi Miria, long-standing club members recognised for their significant contribution over many years. Sir Bob Sinclair, of Lae Builders and The Lae International Hotel, was also recognised for his support of Rotary and the community. Jacob Luke, owner of Mapai Transport and a big supporter of Rotary, was also recognised. Whenever there is a Donations in Kind


container to be moved Jacob has supplied the transport.

President Chris Wakelin presented a cheque for K35,000 to Doctor John Niblett, head of Oncology at Angau Hospital. This will go towards funding some much needed equipment for the cancer ward.

While the club celebrates 50 years it continues to move into new projects and is currently engaged in the installation of water tanks in the parishes around Lae.

While PNG continues to develop, assistance from organisations such as Rotary is vital in achieving its goals.

The provision of essential medical




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supplies – equipment, beds, wheelchairs, theatre equipment, crutches, etc – has been an ongoing focus of the Rotary Club of Lae, benefiting many provincial hospitals, aid posts and health clinics. The club was also involved in the construction of the Kokoda Hospital, Buna Health Centre and the Sairope Health Centre.

Angau (Australia New Guinea Government Administrative Unit) Hospital has been a major beneficiary of the club's efforts over many years.

In 1985 a project to extend and improve the hospital's children's ward was launched. The hospital originally serviced Lae's 62,000 people and an overall regional population of 400,000. The children's outpatient department dealt with about 500 patients a day and the two children's wards held 30 beds in a space for 20.

In 1988 an appeal was launched to raise 100,000 kina to complete the project. As it progressed, the project grew and eventually an entire new ward was built. When the two wards were completed, they were valued at over 500,000 kina.

During the 2009/2010 Cholera epidemic,

the club supplied and installed water tanks in affected areas.

Along the way many young Papua New Guineans have been helped by the club in all kinds of surgical procedures, from heart operations to surgical restructuring of features. Many projects have helped the PNG health services and this remains high priority.

**"IF THE WAY AHEAD IS  
NOT YOUR WAY, THEN  
DO NOT FOLLOW THE  
PATH. GO INSTEAD  
WHERE THERE IS NO  
PATH AND LEAVE A TRAIL  
BEHIND YOU."**

The club has helped build school libraries in many areas, including Mutzing, Zumara and Ragiampun. Desks and books have been provided, and competitions and prizes have been organised to promote literacy.

The club has often visited high schools with advisers to guide students in their

vocational choices, and has also printed and distributed 100,000 comic books highlighting the dangers of alcohol, drugs, smoking and betel nut.

A current major project worldwide for Rotary is Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) and a more appropriate project for PNG is difficult to imagine. In 2000 at least 3000 people died each day from malaria worldwide. The Rotary Club of Lae has developed a strategy called "Adopt a Village" in an effort to achieve the desired outcomes. It is estimated the project will save many hundreds of lives each year in PNG alone.

The Rotary Club of Lae has sent many young Papua New Guineans away to Rotary Youth Leadership Award courses in Port Moresby and Australia.

The club has also assisted top students further their studies through exchange programs and scholarships in countries as wide-ranging as Canada, the US, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, to name a few.

The club is currently in receipt of wheelchairs that are being made available to individuals in need. ■

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# Our first new fleet in 10 years

An international Rotary boating fellowship fleet was formed in Mandurah, WA, recently, the first in Australia in 10 years.

The new fleet was chartered by the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians International Commodore Terry Stretton, who visited WA from New Zealand. IC Terry and Meryl Stretton were en route to Hong Kong and Japan visiting fleets and the Philippines where IC Terry will charter another new fleet.

The newly chartered fleet is known as the IYFR South West Western Australia Fleet.

The last fleet formed in Australia was the IYFR Melbourne Fleet.

The fellowship is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting all aspects of boating as an opportunity for fellowship and service.

The International Yachting Fellowship is the largest and oldest of all the Rotary Fellowships. It began in England in 1947 and has grown to 89 fleets, with more than 2600 members in 21 countries. Western Australia had a fleet formed 30 years ago drawing members from the Perth metropolitan area Rotary and boating clubs. There are many fleets around the Australian mainland.



The Bridge of IYFR South West Fleet Commodore PP Murray McNally, Int. Region WA Commodore PDG Reg Willis, Vice C. Roger Lingard, Rear C. PP Allan Rowe

IC Terry Stretton inducted new members into South West WA Fleet from Rockingham to Waroona, including past and present Rotarians and families from Rotary Clubs in Pinjarra, Mandurah and Rockingham. In all, 28 new members and their partners joined the fleet all having an interest in boating and many owning boats being yachts, power and other. There is further interest from people

around the south west of WA.

The Charter Dinner was held at the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club with special guests Acting Mayor, Councillor Darren Lee and his wife, Jan, representing the City of Mandurah.

MOFSC Commodore Gerry and Christine Pietersen witnessed the Chartering of the Fleet, induction of members and appointment of the Bridge, Murray McNally as Charter Commodore, Roger Lingard as Vice Commodore and Allan Rowe as Rear Commodore.

The sponsoring WA Fleet Commodore Kerran and Carol Campbell and many members of the IYFR WA Fleet visited Mandurah for the weekend for the charter and other functions to celebrate the new fleet. International Regional Commodore WA, Reg Willis hosted the Charter night dinner after assisting with the formation of the fleet over the last many months.

All past and current Rotarians can join IYFR. The only requirement is an active interest in boating (ownership of a boat is not required).

Local fleets are located worldwide. If there is not a local fleet one can join as an independent member. Go to [www.iyfr.net](http://www.iyfr.net) or contact the new South West WA Fleet on 08 9535 9990 or 08 9537 8000 and the IYFR WA Fleet on 9450 5772. ■



Vice Commodore Roger Lingard, left, Meryl Stretton, Fleet Commander Murray McNally, IYFR International Commodore Terry Stretton, PDG Reg Willis, WA FC Kerran Campbell.



# Flying high in New Zealand

Motueka Aerodrome at the top of the South Island of New Zealand was working at near full capacity when 35 Flying Rotarians and their wives flew in from all parts of New Zealand, Australia, Scotland and the United States in March.

They were welcomed by the Rotary Club of Motueka, NZ, which hosted them to a dinner and a weekend enjoying the local sights of Golden Bay and the Abel Tasman National Park.

The New Zealand arm of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians holds two events each year at various venues around the country, and is dedicated to promoting aviation as an opportunity for fellowship and service.

Amongst the group were Roy and Marlene Marsden, who made the trip from Taupo, New Zealand. Roy is Secretary of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians who number 1000. He has attended "fly-ins" all over the world, including two trips to USA and Australia plus one to the UK. Peter Smale did a tremendous job coordinating the event, which was a great opportunity to showcase what the Motueka region had to offer by land, sea and air. ■



Marlene Marsden from Taupo, Alisma and Angus Clark from UK in the Ngarua Caves

## World festival of Rotary cricket

The International Fellowship of Cricketing Rotarians completed a successful 6th World Festival of Rotary Cricket in Durban, South Africa in March.

There were 14 teams, seven from India, two from Australia, one each from Great Britain & Ireland, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and South Africa as well as a combined team which included players from New Zealand and Nigeria.

Accommodation for all teams was at Blue Waters Hotel on the Durban beachfront, allowing interaction between Rotarians from different countries and cultures.

Convenor of the Festival was PDG Gerald Sieberhagan, assisted by PDG Gordon Dowsett and a hard working committee.

Festival functions raised funds for

various South African Rotary projects and former South African cricketers Pat Symcox and Errol Stewart were interesting guest speakers.

The IFCR AGM was also held and long standing world Chairman Michael Jackson, from England, stood down after 13 years involvement at executive level.

New world IFCR Chairman is PDG David Horsley and new Secretary Graeme Amore, both from Australia. V. (Kittu) Krishnaswami, from India, was elected Vice-President.

The AGM decided the 7th World Festival of Rotary Cricket will be held in Vapi, Gujarat, India from February 19-25, 2012. The Rotary Club of Vapi has an enviable record of rural development, healthcare and education projects since chartering in 1971 and is the home Club

of world RI President 2011-2012 RIPN Kalyan Banerjee. Not only will IFCR be able to celebrate the anniversary of RI on February 23 during the Festival, but will celebrate being hosted by the Home Club of the world RI President in his year of office.

IFCR looks forward to seeing all members in Vapi in 2012.

*\*The dates for the 2010 Australian Festival in Western Australia have been confirmed. The event will be held at Lilac Hill, in the Swan Valley near Perth where there are four grounds available from October 24-29. The Opening Ceremony will be on October, 24, with matches to be played from October 25-29. The closing Dinner will be on Friday, October 29. Accommodation will be at The Vines Resort. ■*

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**Please contact her father,  
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of the Rotary Club of  
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# 100,000 students complete Challenge

The Science and Engineering Challenge commenced in Newcastle 10 years ago. This year the 100,000th student from schools Australia-wide will complete the program.

The Science and Engineering Challenge is a program coordinated by the University of Newcastle with the assistance of Rotary clubs throughout Australia. The program is conducted in 61 regions Australia-wide in partnership with Rotary clubs who are involved with much of the local organisation required to conduct the event. The Science and Engineering Challenge involves 32 Universities, over 687 schools, 19,136 students and 2,100 volunteers from around Australia. It is aimed at addressing our skills shortage by inspiring young people to continue their studies in the enabling sciences during Years 11 and 12 and subsequently take up a career in science and engineering.

The program has been very successful. Research shows that of the students who compete in a Challenge and go on to study the enabling sciences (namely higher level mathematics, physics and chemistry), almost 40 per cent indicate the Challenge was a factor in their choice of subjects.

The Challenge program is made up of three levels of competition: regional, zone and national finals. The National Grand Challenge is the climax of the competition with schools from all over to Australia travelling to compete in this inspirational event.

The venue for the National Grand Challenge rotates with different regional cities applying for the honour. Grand Challenges have been held at the following centres – Newcastle 2005, Tamworth 2006, Toowoomba 2007, Gold Coast 2008 and Bendigo 2009. The National Grand Challenge in 2010 will be held on the Central Coast, the original birthplace of the Challenge.

Rotarians from participating clubs assisting with Challenge events spend a very rewarding day working with young people who will be the future scientists and engineers of Australia. They can assist University science and engineering students to conduct the interesting and innovative tasks or actually run an activity themselves.



Earl Heckman, of the Rotary Club of Ashmore, supervises the work of one of the 100,000 students who have now completed the Science and Engineering Challenge that began in Newcastle just 10 years ago.

Points are allocated at the completion of each task and the climax of the day's events is the bridge building exercise. The bridges, which have been carefully crafted by students, are designed to carry the maximum weight across a ravine and this test often determines the overall winner on the day.

The Science and Engineering Challenge enables state and private schools to complete in an academic competition in much the same manner as they compete in sporting events.

The following extracts taken from "Inspiring Australia" a report to the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (website for full report: [www.innovation.gov.au/inspiringaustralia](http://www.innovation.gov.au/inspiringaustralia)) indicate the value of the program.

The report uses the Science and Engineering Challenge as an exemplar in addressing the issue of decreasing enrolments in Year 11 and 12 mathematics and science subjects, a major contributor to the nationwide skills shortage:

*One tactic for addressing this problem (decreasing enrolments in senior science*

*and mathematics) has been the Science and Engineering Challenge. The number of students involved has risen steadily since 2000; in 2007, there were more than 15,000 participants from about 550 schools, and in 2008, there were 17,400 students from 660 schools. The SCOPE evaluation found that the Science and Engineering Challenge 'has been influential in having participants consider the option of taking up science related subjects in senior high school years.*

The report commends the Science and Engineering Challenge a second time for its links between schools, higher education and research institutions to raise awareness of the role of the science in the future of business and industry:

*This program will encourage schools, the higher education sector and research institutions to support activities such as the following: continuation and enhancement of successful youth-targeted programs, such as the Science and Engineering Challenge, to raise awareness of opportunities in emerging areas of science research and the role of the sciences in the future of business and industry.*

The Science and Engineering Challenge is nationally sponsored by the Australian Constructors Association and supported by the Federal Government through the Department of Innovation, Industry and Research.

If your club or local school has not yet had the opportunity of participating in this wonderful program please seek further information from Katie Brown – Science and Engineering Challenge, email: [Katie.Brown@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Katie.Brown@newcastle.edu.au) Phone: (02) 4921 8603.

**Don Whatham**

**Rotary Club of Nelson Bay, NSW  
Past Governor District 9670 ■**

## Scholar's tribute

Ambassadorial Scholar Thomas Stoner, of the USA, completed his Master of Arts in International Relations at the University of NSW, Sydney, in 1998.

In the early weeks of his stay, his finances were accessed by an unscrupulous new acquaintance and he was left without funding for the entire year of study.



District 9750 leaders were quick to respond and then Immediate Past Governor Grahame Jones liaised with Rotarian (now PDG) Roger Kilburn, who was a senior NSW Police officer and he quickly apprehended the villain, minus the funds.

A member of the Rotary Club of Sydney, NSW, was a senior executive within American Express and arranged for a total refund of Thomas's loss and he was able to proceed with his ambassadorial year studies.

PDG Grahame Jones and his wife, Belinda, maintained a strong friendship with Thomas in the subsequent years and last Christmas they received a letter from him which included a cheque for \$US6700.

The accompanying note read: "It has been 10 years since that day that my future hinged upon an honourable

man who adhered to the Code of a Gentleman. Your example of accountability, integrity and friendship continues to be an important influence in my life. I have met many who call themselves leaders, but you were only one of a few in my life who stepped forward and showed what that word meant. Please find enclosed a cashier's cheque for \$US6700. Consider it a repayment, a gift or a donation."

When Grahame Jones pressed Thomas on how he would like the funds used, he replied "to benefit a Rotary Scholar". Grahame conferred with District 9750 Governor Glen Wran and arrangements are now in place to utilise the funds to finance another ambassadorial scholar within the District.

Another wonderful Rotary Family story. ■



Ambassadorial Scholar Thomas Stoner pictured during a 'tramping holiday' in Alaska.

## Newcastle on tour

The Rotary Club of Newcastle, NSW, enjoyed a vocational visit to the TUNRA Bulk Solids Handling Research facilities of the School of Engineering at the University of Newcastle.

Long-standing member of the club Emeritus Professor and Founding Director Alan Roberts introduced his team to his fellow Rotarians, one of whom was Professor Mark Jones, who gave an informative address about the history of the centre and the essential research it conducts.

The centre's reputation has spread far and wide; it is unique in being able to test a variety of bulk solids handling methods. Its team members are often asked to work on huge international developments. Between 150 and 200 major projects are completed each year.

Members toured the comprehensive laboratories and were given demonstrations of the testing techniques. It was apparent to all that they were in the presence of a highly qualified team of engineers and consultants who have a proven track record of saving industry millions of dollars in the handling of bulk goods. The

organisation is also involved in teaching students, with the professional engineers going out of their way to explain in clear terms what they were doing. ■

## Burke and Wills retraced

The Royal Society of Victoria has entered into partnerships with Rotary Clubs along the Burke and Wills Track in country Victoria, and outback NSW, South Australia and Queensland as part of the commemorations scheduled to begin in August and continue into 2011.

A commemorative expedition will set out from Royal Park, in Melbourne, Vic, on August 20 and contact with Rotary clubs along the Track will be made in the coming months.

Further details of the historic community-based commemorative programs will appear in the next issue of *Rotary Down Under*. ■

## Lou's meritorious service

In February 2010, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia conferred a Meritorious Service Award on

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**Nominations close 4.00pm - 31st December, 2010.**





District 9830 Past Governor Lou Johnson. This award has been developed by the Institute to recognise outstanding service by a Chartered Accountant.

The award was presented by The Australian President of the Institute and recognised Lou's high standards of leadership in the profession and the community.

Many accountants will be aware of Lou's achievements in his profession at a Tasmanian and National level, but it was particularly pleasing for the Institute to pay tribute to his "exemplary work as chairman of Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd (RAWCS)" and to provide some detail of what it is that RAWCS achieves.

"I am enjoying my long association with the Institute of Chartered Accountants with its high ethical standards and a strong focus on the quality of service to clients and the community," says Lou. "It is perhaps not surprising then that I am also enjoying my Rotary membership with similar core values exemplified by the *Four-Way Test*.

"Organisations with such high standards project an image of trust and strength to which the community will respond with unquestioning support. I consider it a privilege to belong to two such organisations at the same time and I am thrilled to receive the Meritorious Service Award from the Institute."

There are many Rotarians achieving great things both within Rotary and beyond. Lou Johnson is an outstanding example and deserves our warm congratulations.

**RI Past Director Ian Riseley**  
*Rotary Club of Sandringham, Vic*  
*Chartered Accountant* ■

## Rod's 90, 60 and 65

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach, NSW, celebrated the life of one of its most treasured members, Rod Radford, when he turned 90 recently.

Rod has had a long association with Rotary and an even longer one with the local area. The Radford family arrived on the Central Coast of NSW on holidays in 1932. Later they purchased land at Wagstaffe Point where Rod and his wife, Pat, eventually settled.

Rod operated a pharmacy in Ettalong and used to make the journey from home to work in an amphibious car. This was one of



Rod Radford, 90 years old, 60 years in Rotary and 65 years married to Pat.

the first in Australia and it was also used to deliver urgent medicines to outlying areas such as Empire Bay, St Huberts Island and Daleys Point.

With around 60 years of service to Rotary, community service has also remained a central pillar in Rod's life as an active member of the Rotary Club of Umina Beach and a former member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Woy Woy. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and received a Sapphire Pin to commemorate his 50th year in Rotary 10 years ago.

Club members appreciate his honour, deftness as a raconteur, his choral skills, and his sense of humour.

Rod may have turned 90 but he is still young at heart and has lost none of his ability to connect with youth and their endeavours. Rod had a lot to do with Woy Woy Rotaract Club over a long period while a member of the Woy Woy Club. ■

## Remuera exposes itself

All too often we tend to hide our successes under a bushel, but February 9 saw the Rotary Club of Remuera, NZ expose itself on one of its rare occasions, with an evening in which we were content to bare all.

Our remarkable wheelchair-bound ex-polio victim, Dr William Tan, was brought back from Singapore to help us remember his outstanding efforts raising \$1m wheelchairs under the banner of "William's Challenge" from Wellington to Auckland, for the paediatric diabetes research fundraiser that the club undertook for our fellow member, Professor Bob Elliott.

William reminded us of the adventure which took the team to many schools, through numerous towns and cities, tandem parachuting over Taupo landing at a local school, jetboat riding down the Waikato River, during which William remained unphased with his usual wry sense of humour mixed with real grit.

William's career as an athlete left us all in awe with his numerous athletic accomplishments, most of which would give mere able-bodied mortals nightmares – completing 10 marathons in seven continents in 65 days!

Wheeling around various countries taking part in marathons, he still found time to pursue his other passion – a real thirst for intellectual excellence in the pursuit of fulfilling his aspirations in medicine and medical research. His burning desire to inspire and help his fellow man is breathtaking.

More under-the-bushel revelations included other paediatric diabetes-related research activities of the past with the aid of Inner Wheel under the direction of Professor Bob Elliott, NZ Children's Transplant Support Trust (helping children needing liver transplants) as a follow-on from the Andrew Ngatuakana Liver Transplant Trust, formation of the "Business is Awesome" program exposing Year 12 and 13 students to all things business, "Breakthrough to Excellence" for 16 to 21 years, "Step Up" – a bold new leadership opportunity for 28 to 35-year-olds.

Many members have the District with information communication and technology leadership in web-site management as well as The Rotary Foundation.

Remuera was the catalyst for many members contributing to the District, including two who went on to hold the office of District Governor.

**Charles Goldie**  
*Rotary Club of Remuera, NZ*  
*Past Governor, District 9920.* ■

## Called to Higher Service

### PDG Eric Copeland, District 9700

PDG Eric Copeland passed away suddenly on February 26 after more than two years with prostate cancer.

He was 78 and is survived by his wife Jan, daughter, Terri-Ann and son, Michael and eight grandchildren.

Eric was born in Bathurst, NSW, and on completion of his schooling attended Bathurst Technical College completing his trade as a carpenter and joiner and became well-known in Bathurst as not only a first class builder and tradesman but also for the pride, craftsmanship and workmanship that became his trademark.

Eric began his Rotary career when he was inducted into the Rotary Club of Bathurst East in 1972 and was actively involved in all facets of club service and administration, becoming President in 1984-1985 and resuming Presidency in 1985-1986.

His love of Rotary and its ideals saw him serve as District Governor in 1993-1994 with his wife, Jan, becoming his District Secretary and it was a year that they both enjoyed attending International Conventions, involvement with PolioPlus, District Conferences and more

importantly attending the official visits to each club in the District. He was a well-liked, friendly and approachable Governor with a thorough knowledge of Rotary.

Eric had 38 years of service and commitment with Bathurst East and attained 100 per cent attendance for 37 years missing out on the perfect score by being hospitalised for an operation.

When his wife Jan became District Chairman of Inner Wheel A50, Eric was always at her side enjoying her term of office and encouraging her to accept the District Chairmanship for the second time to allow District A50 to continue into the future. Together they travelled to Inner Wheel Australia and District Conferences, Eric's friendliness extended to all.

On March 3, All Saints Cathedral, Bathurst, was filled to capacity with a cross-section of Rotarians and community leaders, friends and relatives from all parts of the Western Districts. A Guard of Honour was formed by the Rotarians present.

President Greg Madden and the members of the Rotary Club of Bathurst East have dedicated a ShelterBox to the memory

of Eric. He lived by Rotary's *Four-Way Test* and applied it in all his business and personal endeavours. ■

Past President **Keith B Slee**, of the Rotary Club of Highton, Vic. Keith was president for the club's 25th anniversary and a Paul Harris Fellow. He was highly respected and valued as a club member, and one not afraid to take a stand on an issue. His contributions will long be remembered.

Past President **Kevin Lennon**, of the Rotary Club of Tamworth North, NSW. Joined the club from Leeton, NSW, in 1974. Paul Harris Fellow who held every club portfolio and organiser of the fundraising bowls day in aid of the Northcott Society for 25 consecutive years.

**Robert Montgomerie**, of the Rotary Club of Alfriston, NZ. A Rotarian for 43 years and Paul Harris Fellow originally with the Rotary Club of Manurewa prior to the merger with Alfriston. Rob's generosity and willingness to assist was greatly valued.

Past President **Stanley Heinrich**, of the Rotary Club of Clare, SA. Charter member and Paul Harris Fellow. His willing spirit and contributions to the wider community will endure for ages to come.

**Hugh Heap**, of the Rotary Club of Hawkesbury, NSW.

Hugh was a model of the *Four Way Test*. He continued working on all club projects until the last few months, serving admirably as the club's Sergeant-at-arms, Administration Director, and the secretary of the District 9690 Conference Committee for 2011.

Past President **Michael Lester**, of the Rotary Club of Longford, Tas. A charter member of the Rotary Club of Oatlands, Tas, and Paul Harris Fellow, Michael provided 30 years of committed Service to Rotary. A valued and highly respected member of both clubs.

**Ian Cocks**, of the Rotary Club of Canterbury, Vic.

**Pat Bennie**, wife of Claude Bennie, of the Rotary Club of Five Dock, NSW

Past President **Con Diamond**, OAM, of the Rotary Club of Parkes, NSW. A vocational leader in every way, he practised Pharmacy in country NSW for almost 50 years. Con was also the long time leader of the Parkes Camera Club, Garden Club and Music Club. He was honoured with a Commonwealth Centenary Medal, Premiers Seniors Achievement Award, Parkes Shire Citizen of the Year, Pharmacy Board NSW Centenary Award and Paul Harris recognition (Sapphire pin presented posthumously). ■

## Paul Harris recognition

**Greg Walker**, of the Rotary Club of Claremont, Tas.

Past Presidents **Lesley Bell**, **Malcolm Chiverton** and **Ian Port** (Sapphire Pins) of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central, Vic.

Past President **Eleanor Cunningham**, of the Rotary Club of Cardiff, NSW.

**Vince Ashworth**, of Alexandra, NZ, presented by the Rotary Club of Alexandra, NZ. ■



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# Ageing (dis)gracefully

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant, and resumed their trip.

When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until they had been driving for about forty minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around, in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained, and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up for a single minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. As the woman got out of the car, and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and the credit card." ■

## Actual answers to exam questions

Q: Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink.

A: Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q: How can you delay milk turning sour?

A: Keep it in the cow.

Q: What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty?

A: He says good-bye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery. (The kid gets

an A+ for this answer!)

Q: Name a major disease associated with cigarettes.

A: Premature death.

Q: Give the meaning of the term 'Caesarian Section.'

A: The Caesarian Section is a district in Rome.

Q: What does the word 'benign' mean?

A: Benign is what you will be after you be eight. ■

## Thought for the Day

A married man should forget his mistakes. There's no use in two people remembering the same thing!

*Rotary Club of Howick, NZ* ■

## Thought for the Month

A smile is a sign of joy. A hug is a sign of love. A laugh is a sign of happiness. A friend like me . . . ? That's a sign of good taste! ■

## Do your best, son!

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anaesthesia, he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?"

"Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife." ■

## OBJECT OF ROTARY

*The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:*

- 1 The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- 2 High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- 3 The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;
- 4 The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

