



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



Rotary District 9700 Newsletter



JANUARY 2012

TO ALL ROTARIANS IN DISTRICT 9700 - WELCOME BACK TO ROTARY IN 2012

As we focus on Rotary Awareness Month, how can we spread the word and inform the wider community about Rotary and what it does to benefit our local and world communities.

While visiting Clubs, I have been amazed at the nature and extent of Rotary support to the local communities in so many ways, both physically and through financial contributions.

Club members willingly support their local sporting and recreational events, organise local markets, garage sales and a range of festivals in all types of venues and weather conditions.

Whether it is serving a barbecue or simply gate duty, Rotarians have a reputation for honesty and integrity

that is valued by local community organisations.

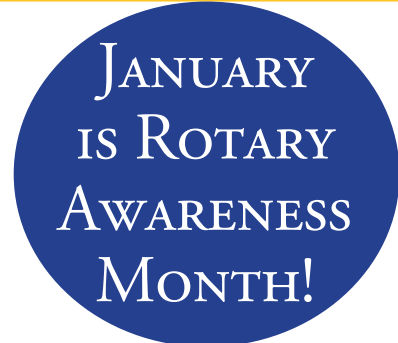
As members of Rotary, we are trusted and people know that we deliver on any job undertaken.

There is an expectation that we are active in our communities - but - it is getting increasingly difficult to 'attract' new members to join Rotary to carry on the good work.

As Rotarians, we have a lot to be proud of so let's share our achievements and promote Rotary in the months ahead.

Tell people your story about our worldwide association and what it does.

New people may then find the time to 'join' our active organisation, especially if we 'relax' some of



our conditions of joining to make membership more achievable to working families.

I would like to wish DGE Greg Brown and Lyn all the best as they travel to San Diego for the International Rotary Assembly and look forward to Greg's return and the release of the Theme for 2012-13.

Enjoy the remainder of this Rotary year.

*Ian Simpson
District Governor, 2011-12*



FIRST 100% ALL CENTURION CLUB

Congratulations to Orange Daybreak Rotary - our 1st all Centurion Club for 2011-12.

This is largely due to the persuasive efforts of Club Centurion Coordinator, Dennis Morgan.

To celebrate Dennis surprised the 41 members at the final meeting for 2011 with a guest appearance as a 'Centurion'.

Donations to the D9700 Centurion program are a personal contribution of AUD \$100 to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust.

Anyone can join the District 9700 Centurion movement - already we are over 200 strong.

Donations made through the Trust are tax deductible and count towards personal Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

When Centurion contributions are submitted through District Centurion Chair PDG John Egan, a Tax Receipt is issued by the Trust and mailed direct to the contributor.



Photo: What a fine sight! Orange Daybreak Centurion Coordinator Dennis Morgan celebrates the Clubs 100% contribution with DG Ian



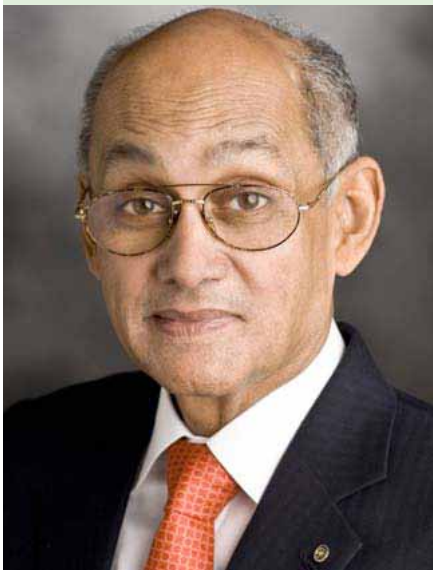
THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ROTARY

SHARE YOUR ENTHUSIASM FOR ROTARY

Rotary's first century was a fantastic time of growth and development, as the Rotary movement spread throughout the world.

Almost every year brought more clubs, more members, more reasons for optimism about Rotary's future.

It was a time of great ambition and



vision, filled with a sense of limitless opportunities and potential.

Today, Rotary is as full of opportunities and potential as it ever was – and yet, as we all know, we are no longer on the fast-track trajectory of our early decades.

We need to find ways to bring back that infectious Rotary excitement and enthusiasm, and spread it throughout our clubs and communities.

Perhaps, as we begin 2012, we should take time to reflect on our history that gives us so much to be proud of, and inspire us to grow.

As we look to the past to build our future, let us remember the words of Paul Harris.

“Individual efforts may be turned into individual needs, but combined efforts should be dedicated to the service of mankind.

”The power of combined effort knows no limitation”.

Photo: RI President Kalyan Banerjee – we must find ways to bring back the Rotary excitement & enthusiasm

ROTARY HELPS REBUILDING OF CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

A year after the Kerang (Vic) Floods, the rebuilding of the children's playground flattened by floodwaters at the Lake Meran Recreational & Community Facility is almost completed.

Our District contributed \$30,000 to the Rebuilding Project from contributions by 32 Clubs in the Appeal following the devastating Queensland and Victorian floods early in 2011.

PP Sharon Champion from Kerang Rotary Club said the reconstruction has been a partnership between the Lake Meran Foreshore committee working closely with Rotary and the Shire Council.

“Kerang Rotary undertook some of the restoration work with new equipment installed and ready to use by Christmas.

“The entire recreation area was also refenced to give a new and welcoming image.

“Community involvement in the project has helped rebuild the mental health of everyone involved as it provided a common goal and a sense of purpose working together to rebuild a community resource that will continue to be used and shared by families for years.

“We sincerely thank District 9700 for supporting our community and us.”

Photos below show the Lake Moran 2011 – purple zone (centre) is the childrens playground area

The devastation is obvious in this photograph of the playground equipment which was completely destroyed by flood waters



THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS ROTARY CLUBS IN OUR DISTRICT CONTINUE GIVING

Every Club hosted a gathering of members and friends in a range of venues and with most dressed in a little bit of Christmas attire. Some Clubs even took a bus for a trip to places far far away. Morgan Collens, a guest of mum Jennifer Collens of Orange Daybreak, arranged for a big decorated Christmas box to be filled with un-wrapped gifts for the Salvation Army.

Photo - Rotarians give the Salvo's a hand at Christmas – DG Ian with President Russell Martin & Morgan Collens



COWRA ROTARY OPENS 'COMFORT STATION'

Here's a question for you What do Cowra Rotary and Club No 1, Chicago have in common?

The 1st Rotary Community Service Project was the building of a 'COMFORT STATION' in Chicago, by the members of Rotary Club No 1 and opened in 1907.

104 years later, visitors and Cowra residents alike will now benefit from the building of a new amenities block at the historically significant Europa Park, located at the town's eastern gateway entrance.

Cowra Rotary has shown great foresight in taking on the task of developing Europa Park as the Centennial year of Rotary (2004) project and progressively adding to its facilities.

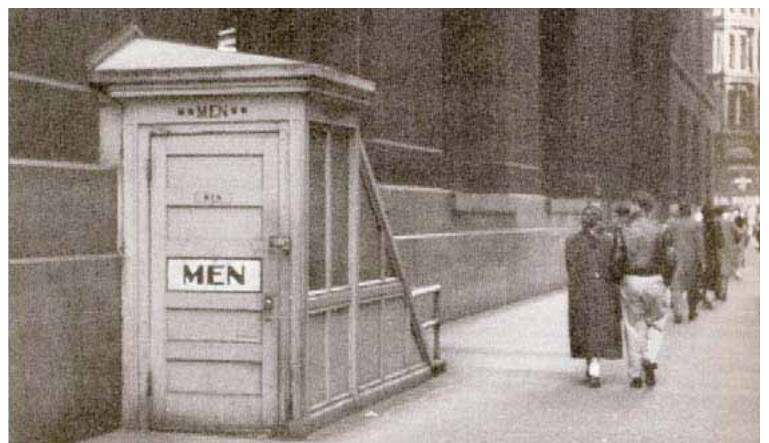
The park commemorates 17,000 migrants from 27 European Nations who passed through the Cowra Migrant Centre between 1948 and 1955.

The commemorative park is a tribute to their courage, resolve and invaluable contributions to Cowra and Australia.

Europa Park will ultimately be a lasting tribute to the on-going partnership between Cowra Rotary, the Shire Council and the people of Cowra who support Rotary with its community projects.

Photo above : Now open declared by Cowra Mayor Bill West (left), DG Ian Simpson & President Harry Howard

Photo below: Original Rotary Comfort Station - opened Chicago 1907



EVER WANTED TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS AT RYPEN?



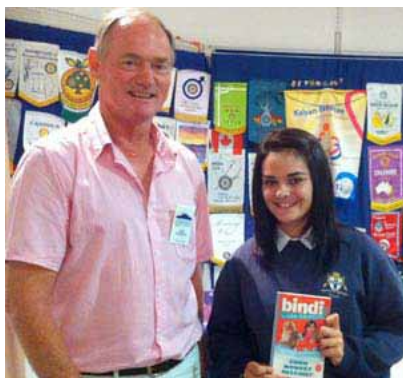
The 2012 Rotary Program for Enrichment (RYPEN) was an outstanding success with 59, Year 9 students attending the Borambola weekend.

Thanks are due to Committee Chair Neil Pinto and Rotarians who assisted with the leadership development at the Sport & Recreation Centre.

Parkes Rotary sponsored seven Year 9 students from the Parkes Christian School.

The following summary is by Brittany Rudd of Molong Central School, sponsored by Orange Daybreak Rotary.

“I’d just like to say a big thank you to



Orange Daybreak Rotary who gave me the opportunity to go to the RYPEN 2012 leadership challenge weekend.

“The camp was a fantastic experience that I’ll never forget”.

Topics that really made an impression

- We shouldn’t judge a person by our first impressions - get to know them before you form an opinion. I went out of my way to speak to the people who didn’t seem to be “my kind of people” but I actually found that I had something in common with nearly all the people.

- The NRMA spoke to us about getting our licence, road safety and basically everything you need to know about having your licence.

- Taking responsibility in your life - have organisation and initiative as we can’t rely on our parents forever.

A Wagga paramedic spoke to us about his important role in his

community. One mistake with Alcohol and drugs can ruin your life or you can begin to fall down the wrong path.

- A representative from GTES a not-for-profit organisation in Wagga spoke about traineeships and apprenticeships.

- Toastmasters spoke about public speaking, gave us tips to overcome nerves such as being prepared, knowing your topic, not worrying about what others think of you, engaging with the audience and speaking loudly and confidently.

- Rotary Youth Exchange - we met two students (from Germany and Peru) who were on exchange in Australia. We also heard about experiences of exchange students living in another country.

- National Youth Science Forum - A girl came and spoke to us about the Rotary science camp NYSF. She told us about what she got to do at the camp such as wild experiments, going to different unis, learning about different careers there are for you if you are interested in the science field and pretty much all the little activities they got to do whilst on the camp.

- MP Michael McCormack the representative for the Riverina came and spoke to us about politics and his role in parliament.

- On the Saturday night an aboriginal dancing group come and performed traditional dances for us.

“The camp was an all round amazing experience.

“I met some great people and made friends I’ll keep for many years to come.

“THANKS Rotary for giving me this opportunity”.



Photo left- Orange Daybreak Rotarian Bob Derrick congratulates Brittany Rudd
 Photo top- Raft building was fun – Brittany’s team blitzed it and won
 Photo middle - Rock climbing challenges those petrified of heights
 Photo bottom - Tackling the low ropes was great fun in Teams of 5

MEET OUR YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS - WE'RE REALLY PROUD OF THEM!



Our outbound Youth Exchange Program students for 2012 are now settling in to their new countries and surrounds for the next 12 months.

The program furthers international goodwill and understanding and enables students to advance their education and broaden their outlook.

This year students will be situated in Austria, Belgium and Germany (2) in Europe; Denmark, Finland and Sweden in Scandinavia; and, Brazil and Peru in South America.

Joshua Love from Temora is spending a year on the Faeroe Islands, which are located in the Norwegian Sea, close to Iceland but a part of Denmark. How cool is that!

WAGGA SUNRISE VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD TO PARAMEDIC

At its 20th Anniversary Dinner, Wagga Sunrise Rotary has recognised the contribution to the community of a dedicated paramedic.

Ambulance Service paramedic Phil Hoey was surprised with this inaugural award presented by President Alan Sharp.

The citation stated that Phil Hoey “continually exceeds the required standards when dealing with the community and patients”.

“He is also seen to provide an extremely high level of care to all patients and volunteers and spends many hours of his own time to give public displays and presentations”.

In response Phil said “Helping others is what brings me joy and gives my day fulfilment”.



Wagga paramedic Phil Hoey receives the award from Sunrise Rotary President Alan Sharp



Artistic Directors of the National Boys Choir, Peter Casey (left) & Philip Carmody with Orange Rotary President Alyson Tilston

NATIONAL BOYS CHOIR VISITS ORANGE

Orange Rotary hosted the National Boys Choir of Australia on a recent tour of southern NSW.

The Melbourne based Choir was founded in 1964 and has established itself as one of Australia's finest treble choirs.

It consists of around 200 boys aged between 7 to 15 who commence with a two year training period before moving into the Performing Choir.

The Choir is known for the Qantas commercials and the Peter Allen song "I Still Call Australia Home" which undergoes some minor musical changes to make each version unique to the advertisement.

The latest version was the finale to the Orange Concert and most found it a 'spine tingling' experience with the choir surrounding the audience to sing this distinctive song.

RYLA 2012 SHAPES TO BE A GREAT SUCCESS

"Take a Chance on RYLA" is the Theme calling young adults to invest in a week that may change their life at the 2012 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Hosted by Parkes Rotary and with the experience of Colin Offner to guide the planning, RYLA will be held from Monday, 16th to Saturday, 21st April 2012.



The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a program that seeks to provide 18 to 28 year olds with an opportunity to develop their skills and character while exposing them to Rotary's values of Service, High ethical standards and Peace.

A team led by Ken Engsmyr has developed a RYLA Information Package that was released to Clubs at the Presidents Forum.

This contains a message to Employers and an invitation to potential Rylarians to 'Take a Chance'. An electronic printout of the RYLA Registration Form is available on the Clubrunner version of the District website.

SUPPORTING YOUNG MINDS

Mental illness is the leading cause of disability in young people worldwide.

Australian Rotary Health has commissioned seven new projects in 2012, all of which will centre on the mental health of young Australians.

The studies vary from a look at the social costs of young Australians with mental illness, self-help intervention for young people experiencing suicidal thoughts, to a look at intervention strategies for young people witnessing a parent undergoing cancer treatment.

The studies will also look at associations between mental ill health and drug and alcohol abuse and new treatment therapies for first episode psychosis patients who subsequently develop post traumatic stress disorder.

The success of these studies will help relieve the burden placed on young Australians by mental illness.



IF YOUR CLUB HAS NEWS ABOUT EVENTS, FUNCTIONS, PROJECTS, OR JUST SOME GOOD NEWS YOU WOULD LIKE TO LET OTHER ROTARIANS KNOW ABOUT, CONTACT THE EDITOR AND WE WILL TELL THE WORLD.

EMAIL: IAN DAVISON:
CAA@CIRRUSCOMMS.COM.AU

TAKING THE MYSTERY OUT OF ROTARY FREINDSHIP EXCHANGE



WITH NANNETTE STEVENSON

The Rotary Friendship Exchange program gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to host and visit Rotarians around the world. In addition to experiencing other cultures and making lasting friendships, an exchange provides a strong foundation for carrying out other international activities and service projects.

Goals

The primary goal of a Friendship Exchange is to build greater international understanding and goodwill among Rotarians and their families. In addition, exchange participants can:

- Learn how their vocations are practiced in other parts of the world
- Observe new customs and cultures
- Promote an appreciation of cultural diversity worldwide

Types of Exchanges

There are two main types of Friendship Exchanges: the visitor exchange and the team exchange. In both types, the participating districts agree upon the number of people or couples participating, length of stay,

and other details. Rotary Friendship Exchanges are expected to be reciprocal.

i. Visitor exchange: The visitor exchange gives individual Rotarians, who may be accompanied by family members, the opportunity to spend a few days in the home of a Rotarian in another country. The typical visitor exchange lasts from three to seven days.

ii. Team exchange: The team exchange allows several Rotarians or Rotary couples to travel to different communities in a host district for a period of up to one month.

Uni-vocational exchange: A unique aspect to incorporate into either the team or the visitor exchange is the uni-vocational exchange, where both the guest and host Rotarians are members of the same profession. A uni-vocational exchange gives participants the opportunity to explore a common interest.

Volunteer/service exchange: Volunteer or service exchanges include opportunities for visiting Rotarians to participate in the service activities of a host club during an exchange.

Guidelines

• Only Rotarians and their immediate families are eligible for the visitor program, and participation in the team program is limited to Rotarians and their spouses.

• Spouses or children must always be accompanied by Rotarians on an exchange.

• Rotarians interested in participating must apply through their club president. Not every district participates in Friendship Exchange, so prospective applicants should ask their club president about the program.

• District governors from participating districts appoint a district Friendship Exchange chair, who is responsible for coordinating exchanges through a list of chairs from around the world. E-mail friendshipexchange@rotary.org to identify your district chair.

For more information www.rotary.org scroll down page & select Rotary Friendship Exchange then click on Service and Fellowship/ Make connections.

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST E-CLUB NOW ON-LINE

The Rotary 'E-Club of Greater Sydney' is operational with 34 members, most of whom are new to Rotary.

The club is a hybrid one with members drawn from the Sydney basin as well as from country NSW interstate, and overseas.

E-clubs generally ask for a small contribution from those Rotarians who wish to make up on line.

P M Schwarcz, Secretary
Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney



Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney

Australia's first Rotary e-club

E-CLUBS

Discover all about e-clubs. Check us out to see what a live and vibrant e-club can do, what we are involved in, and where we fit in to the world of Rotary.

MAKE-UP AT

Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney

Now you can make up on-line at Australia's first e-club by spending **30 minutes** with us.

A make-up advice confirming your attendance will be **emailed** immediately to your home club.

It's fun and easy to make up. Just remember to:

VISIT the website
CLICK 'Meeting Makeup'
FOLLOW the instructions

To find us you can Google
Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney
or go to

www.rotary-eclub-greatersydney.org

FEEL YOUNG AT OUR ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Young Rotary Club invites you to attend the Annual District Conference to be held in Young from Friday, 23rd to Sunday, 25th March 2012.

The town of Young is centrally located in District 9700, with a population of around 8000 in the town and 12000 within the shire of Young.

Conference speakers will include:

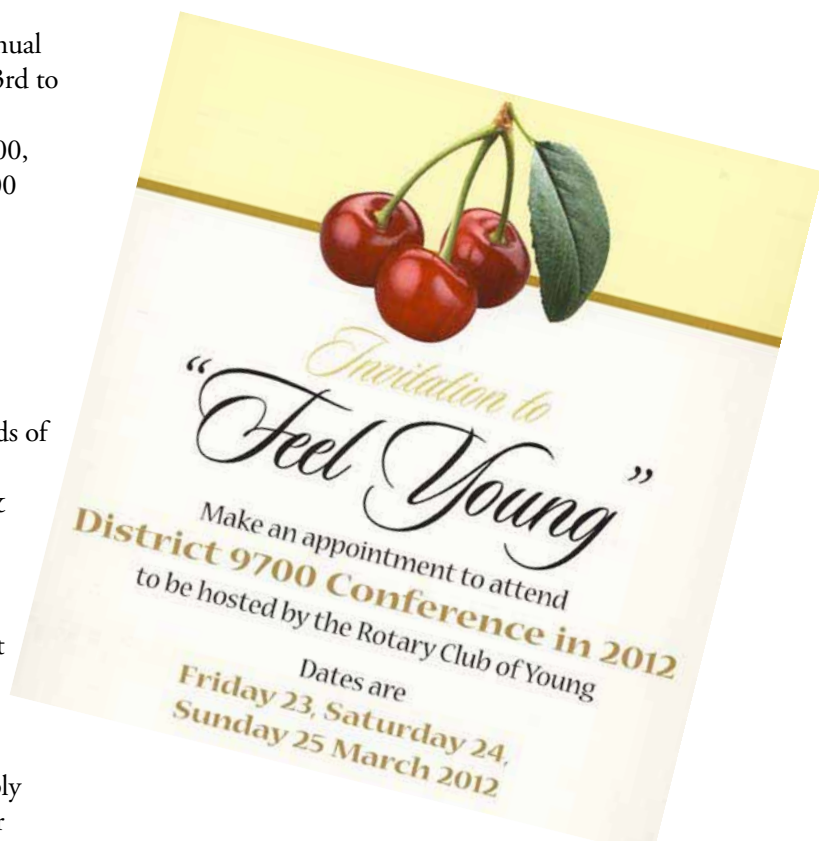
- Author, film maker and television journalist, Jeff McMullen who is Honorary CEO of the Ian Thorpe 'Fountain for Youth' Foundation
- Brian Egan of Aussie Helpers who transported hay donated from our District to Victoria following the floods of January 2011
- Patricia Harrod, Volunteer Red Cross Aid worker & South Wagga Rotary 2011 Peace Day Nominee
- David 'Rabbit man' Croft - an expert on vertebrate pests
- Western Australian Glenys McDonald who was part of the team that discovered HMAS Sydney in March 2008

Gnome Convention

As part of the Partners Program to raise funds to supply 'Street Swags for the Homeless' and 'Simple Water Filter Systems' for the villagers of Luro in Timor Leste, Jean Simpson and her local helpers will also be coordinating the Gnome Convention while the Conference is in progress.

The Gnomes will come in all shapes and sizes and could represent the interests and professions of the many of the 2011-12 Board, Assistant Governors and Club Presidents who support this initiative.

The most travelled Gnome will be 'Murray' who seems to be an Honorary member of Wagga Murrumbidgee Rotary, but accompanies members on their travels and is photographed at various locations.



Attendees at Conference 2011 will recall the talents of the Singing Cherries

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Special Pre-release film screening of 'THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL' to raise funds for the \$200 Million Polio Challenge – week of 23rd February 2012
- President Elect Training Seminar (PETS), Young – 25 & 26 February 2012
- District 9700 Conference, Young - Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th March 2012
- District Assembly, Grenfell – Sunday, 29th April 2012
- RI Convention, Bangkok - 6-9 May 2012 (join the District 9700 party)
- D9700 Rotary Rovin – Boorowa to Blayney via Baranald – 20th to 27th May 2012
- District Change Over Dinner, Leeton, 30th June 2012



MC Nicholas being prepared for the Gnome Convention

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY ROTARY AS MUCH AS WE ENJOY HAVING YOU!

Margaret Everett – Griffith Avanti

Sue Reynolds – Griffith Avanti

Robin Murray – Orange Daybreak

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW PRESENTATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROTARY FOR RECOGNISING HARD WORKING MEMBERS OF CLUBS AND COMMUNITIES WITH THE AWARD OF A PAUL HARRIS FELLOW.

Mike Holloway - Cowra

VALE

PDG Werner Pohl

LAST GOVERNOR OF DISTRICT 270 IN 1976-77

A HARD WORKER AND PROMOTER OF ROTARY IN THE COMMUNITY, INTRODUCING OVER 80 NEW MEMBERS OVER A PERIOD OF 50 YEARS ACTIVE SERVICE.

HAY ROTARY

The Rotary Club of Hay has resolved to hand in its Charter.

The prolonged drought and decline in agriculture has had a big impact on the population of Hay. The Club steadily lost members and is no longer viable in the community.

POLIO FUNDRAISER MOVIE PROMISES TO BE THE BEST YET

Don't miss this years End Polio fundraising movie, the sensational British comedy *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*.

It will be a lot of fun and raise dollars for the End Polio Campaign.

The dates available to us are from Thursday, February 23rd through until Sunday, February 26th and as this movie will not be released in Australia until March 22nd, Rotary has really scored a genuine 'sneak preview'.

Options are for clubs to make the Thursday night their meeting night for the week but for those that prefer something else, the Friday, Saturday and Sunday are available.

