

District 9650 E-News

District Publicity & Public Relations 2009-10
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- **END POLIO NOW**

RI President John Kenny has set us a challenge to increase public awareness of the "End Polio Now" campaign.

1. To coincide with Rotary's Birthday on 23 February 2010, he would like every Club to be involved in some fund- raising/promotional activity at this time to give the program a big global push. I need your assistance, please, with ideas for:

- **An activity for individual Clubs;**
- **An activity for Districts;**
- **Nationwide activities in which all Rotarians can join.**

DG Neville in speaking to all Clubs is emphasising that we must continue the thrust towards the eradication of Polio within the next 18 months if we are to have any success in overcoming this dreadful disease.

PDG Jane Bradford is responsible in the District for our Polio Plus program so please let her know of any ideas that you have for fundraising in your own Club or activities which may be useful for the District. Jane can be contacted at jbmail@monelu.com

- From Brian Beesley after recently returning to the District from Germany where he led the 2009 GSE Team

The most recent member for Kempsey Rotary Club is Ben Paix. Ben has just returned as a team member from the Group Study Exchange team to District 1850 in Northern Germany. Ben had been wanting to join the Club but realised that he could not do the GSE trip as a new Rotarian. The GSE experience confirmed in Ben the opportunities to serve his community and enjoy the Fellowship afforded by Rotary on an International level. He is joined in the photo by Juliane Werdin visiting Australia from one of the Host families the team stayed with and Team leader Brian Beesley.

The experience of a past GSE team member continuing their association with Rotary is not new but reinforces to all of us the importance of taking a personal interest in the young leaders in our towns. Each of us as Rotarians need to identify young men and women aged between 25 and 40; invite them to our Clubs and encourage them to try out for GSE.

Each of the returning team from Germany are more than happy to speak at one of your Clubs either on a special night with a broad section of the community invited or better still several Clubs grouping together and inviting some interested young people to attend. For the contact details of the nearest GSE member to your town contact Team Leader Brian Beesley on 0419634275 or e-mail gsebrian@gmail.com

- *Rotarian Reg Pierce of the Rotary Club of Wauchope has been penning some thoughts that he has about what Rotary is and what Rotary means to him and Meg as they work in the Wauchope community.*

The governing structure of Rotary is quite simple:

- The head body is Rotary International, or "RI";
- Then there is The Rotary Foundation, known as "TRF" This is the financial arm of Rotary;
- Rotary divides the world into Zones. There are 34 Zones worldwide;
- Each Zone is divided into Districts. The Hastings area of coastal New South Wales falls into Zone 8, District 9650;
- Each district has a leader, known as The District Governor, or "DG.";
- Several Assistant Governors or "AG's" assist each Governor. In District 9650 there are 9 AG's who each look after a Cluster of Clubs numbering between 4 and 6;
- Each cluster has its "Rotary Clubs." There are 6 clubs in the Hastings Cluster including The Rotary Club of Wauchope, or Port Macquarie, & so on.

The strength of Rotary comes from its clubs, the grass roots.

The highest rank in Rotary is the International President.

Below the President is a governing body, the Board of Directors. Like any business, this body is the administrative heart of Rotary.

Next in the chain of command come the Governors, then the Assistant Governors, then the Club Presidents.

Each Rotary club is an incorporated body, subject to certain conditions and rules set down by Rotary International at charter. Apart from that they are completely autonomous.

Although Rotary is not a charity, it is a not for profit organization.

So does any Club President, Secretary or members have thoughts about this? We welcome your comments.

- Rotary alumni are uniting behind Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. From a helicopter golf ball drop to Purple Pinkie Week, the family of Rotary is coming up with creative ways to support the global effort to end polio. [Read more](#). Read what the alumni are doing through their online magazine Reconnections.

- **Club Visioning** - Cluster 2 had a special visit from the District Vision Facilitation Team last week.

We were lucky enough, after hearing about Club visioning at the Wauchope Assembly, to be able to lock in some dates for the Kempsey West, South West Rocks and Bellingen Clubs.

Most of us were very familiar with the implications of not maintaining nor increasing our numbers, but not too much was understood about the process we were about to embark on. Should we do some homework, did we individually and as a team, know where we wanted to be in five years' time? Not likely!!

Kempsey West was first off the rank. Three hours went quickly, members had lots of ideas, and the evening was fun. South West Rocks followed with a productive meeting and lots of laughter. Bellingen, too, had the same successes. After all the ideas that were floating around and only half an hour to go, many of us wondered how the meetings could pull together. Amazingly, they did and there was clear consensus between members and a great sense of ownership.

Well done and thank you to the Vision Facilitation Committee of Jo Wilkin DGE, Garry Johnson PDG, Ken Hall, PDG and Ian Dyball, PDG. They worked tirelessly after each presentation to fine tune the process and we are indeed indebted to them. They have injected great enthusiasm. Most other clubs in the Cluster are keen to follow on when the opportunity arises.

- **Sydney 2014 Rotary International Convention Host Organising Committee.**

The 2014 Rotary International Convention is to be held in Sydney. The Host Organising Committee (HOC) is seeking expressions of interest from Rotarians who would like to play a role in the organisation and conduct of the various activities which are the responsibility of the HOC. The skills needed are summarised as follows –

Finance and accounting	Promotion and public relations
Arranging and running special events	Fund raising
Recruiting and training Rotarian volunteers	Organising a business expo
Organising entertainment	Catering , arranging and supervising
Relationships with RI, TRF & Governments	Security
Organising medical service	Assistance with obtaining Visas
General assistance	

Interested Rotarians can obtain more information by contacting the chairman of the HOC at the address shown below. It would be appreciated if responses could be

Get your new Rotary year theme gear now!

Changeover season begins in June, which means clubs and Districts all over the country will be out to update their Rotary International theme paraphernalia, from banners to ties and scarves. It's also that time of year when club Presidents become Past Presidents, so new pins are required. Whatever your Rotary needs may be, you'll find them in the Rotary Down Under Merchandise and Promotions catalogue, printed as a lift-out supplement in the May edition of Rotary Down Under, or you can read it online by clicking on the link below.

It's 16 pages of Rotary fashion, jewellery, gifts and souvenirs, as well as pull-up banners, flags and stationery. Pull it out and keep it for the year ahead. You'll find everything you need to order either on-line, by fax, phone or surface mail.

[Let's go Shopping!](#)

