

District 9650 Weekly mailing update 22

13 December 2009



From District Secretary PDG Laurie Barber (2 pages)

Prepared and Edited by Publicity & Public Relations 2009-10 Director Ken Hall and circulated to all Club Presidents and Secretaries.

e-mail : khmail@bigpond.com

Please ensure this information is available to all interested members of your Club.

Please Note that all prior editions of this weekly news together with the Monthly District Governors Newsletter are available on the District website at <http://www.rotary9650.org.au/Newsletter.htm>

December is The Family of Rotary Month.

The idea of the family of Rotary is a simple one, and one that we celebrate every December during Family Month. Every Rotarian is part of the Rotary family – but our family is much larger than just our 1.2 million members. The family of Rotary includes every one of the men, women, and children who are involved in our work: the spouses and children of our members, our Rotary Foundation program participants and alumni, and all of those who are part of our programs, in the tens of thousands of Rotary communities around the world. The youngest generation of the Rotary family is composed of our Rotaract clubs and Interact clubs, the participants in our Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program, our Ambassadorial Scholars, and our more than 8000 Rotary Youth Exchange students every year. As in any family, our youth are our brightest promise for the future. Of course, it is my sincere wish that many of these young people go on to become Rotarians in good time. But Rotary is a part of them even today – and they are a part of us.

Secretary

- ✓ **PDG Laurie Barber (District secretary) writes concerning the work of John Dale with Pacific Training Aid:**
I support strongly the efforts of John Dale (Gloucester) and others to develop the Pacific Training Aid program. I offer a word of explanation to those clubs that have expressed some confusion about the program and have suggested better value would be obtained from sending trained people from this district. The Pacific Training Aid program developed as something like an extension of the Youth Exchange program. The first question usually asked of the parents of YEP candidates is something like “can you afford to pay the air fare?” The Pacific Training Aid concept was developed to bring to Australia those people who, we knew, could not afford to pay their way except for the generosity of Rotarians here. The idea was that they would be plucked from under-privileged villages to see the Australian way of life and get some skills training while here. They need not be only nurses. I urge clubs to support John Dale and his committee in what they are doing, and to keep in mind what the program set out to achieve.
- ✓ **A reminder to all Clubs that AGM’s are to be conducted before the end of December. Clubs are then required to forward information about their AGM to the Department of Fair Trading, including the names of their in-coming, President, Vice President, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Board members and a copy of last year’s financial Statements.**
- ✓ **Updates and Publications**
The December issue of the District Governor’s newsletter is due to be posted out early this week. Secretaries are reminded to look for it in the PO Boxes before Christmas and the rush to close down. There will not be a District Governor’s newsletter published in January 2010. Weekly enews updates will only be issued during the December and January period as required. All Presidents and Secretaries will be notified if an update is not issued. Copies of the trifold “People Like You and Me’ have been received in the District and will be posted shortly to Assistant Governors for them to Distribute to their cluster clubs. Contact your Assistant Governor if you require copies urgently. We have obtained enough copies for 75 per Club.
- ✓ **The annual meeting of Rotary International District 9650 will be held at Port Panthers, Port Macquarie, at 3.30pm on Friday, 12 March, 2010.**
Any resolutions that clubs might wish to present for the annual meeting are to be submitted to the District Secretary, for attention of the District Governor, by 4pm on Monday, 25 January, 2010. For Further details, refer to Article 2.04.7 in the Code of Policies of Rotary International District 9650 Inc (pages 88-89 in the District Directory).

ROTARY FOUNDATION MATTERS

- ✓ The new calendar year marks the start of the second half of the Rotary year, and a time to take stock of progress toward our goals for 2009-2010.
The \$200m Polio challenge has passed its half way mark – which is wonderful news, but there is still much to do. Has your club done its bit by seeking contributions from your local community? By doing so we are obtaining funds from other than Rotarians' pockets and, in addition, we will be informing the wider community about Rotary and its promise to the children of the world.
On the other hand our support of the Annual Programs Fund has been slipping. Because we are supporting the Polio Challenge does not reduce the desperate needs of the hungry, the thirsty and the sick and the illiterate. The looks of joy and hope on the faces of those who benefit from Foundation funded projects to meet those desperate needs are sufficient reward to those who commit through Every Rotarian, Every Year to giving just \$100 per year – less than a cup of coffee a week. The unspoken 'thankyou' in a mother's eyes is more than sufficient to express without words the real value of our small contribution to a child's health and welfare through "OUR" Foundation.
Your gift and mine at this level (or a little more if you are able) can make the difference between life and death, or health and sickness, or between a sound educated mind and a wasted life. We, who have so much, can offer hope to those who have so little through actively supporting "OUR" Rotary Foundation.
"TRF Direct" forms from your District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair (or from PDG Bruce Allen at RI Parramatta) will enable you to make a regular (tax-deductible) monthly, quarterly or annual contribution from your bank account or credit card. So little can mean so much.

For more information go to www.rotary.org/foundation

- ✓ On 7 November, over 1,600 representatives from the United Nations, Rotary clubs, and Rotary programs attended [Rotary UN Day](#), an event dedicated to celebrating the close relationship between Rotary and the United Nations, including their progress and continued efforts toward achieving the [UN Millennium Development Goals](#).
The UN has recognized the work of Rotary's international service programs in achieving these goals. In countless World Community Service projects, Rotary clubs from different countries have become partners in tackling large-scale issues in areas such as poverty, education, gender equality, and the environment. Rotary Volunteers from around the world have administered the polio vaccine during National Immunization Days, an integral part of Rotary's work to eradicate the disease. Through efforts such as these, Rotary is doing its part to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.
- ✓ **A NEW WAY TO END POLIO NOW,...CALL 1300 4 POLIO**
YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS NOW A WEAPON FOR POSITIVE CHANGE. A minimum donation of \$8.80 (including GST) will immunize ten children and you can give more if you wish. Please also promote 1300 4 POLIO to your friends and acquaintances, which will not only help reach our \$200M challenge, but you will be extending Rotary's image around Australia ... DONATIONS WILL BE CREDITED TO ALL ROTARY CLUBS IN AUSTRALIA

✓ PHF Medallions now a purchase item.

Clubs and Districts are reminded that as of July 1st this year, the Paul Harris Fellow medallion is now a purchase item and does not automatically come with the PHF regalia. This change was introduced as a cost saving measure as The Rotary

Foundation battled its way through the serious financial down-turn and will remain in place as we go forward. The cost of a PHF has remained unchanged at US\$1,000 for the past 52 years but the cost of providing badges, certificates and medallions has increased enormously. With tens of thousands of PHFs being issued each year, the financial burden of providing this medallion is staggering and it was with great reluctance that The Trustees took this decision.

Not all clubs will want the medallion while many will. If required for the presentation, clubs should ensure that they order at the time they submit their PHF request and send a separate cheque made out to Rotary International. The cost is

US\$15 (plus GST in Australia). For more information please contact Kristenne.AureCanson@rotary.org