

# District 9650 Weekly mailing update 27

31 January 2010

From District Secretary PDG Laurie Barber (3 pages)

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

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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>



## January is Rotary Awareness Month.

### Secretary

- ✓ Hugh McCrindle (Rotary Club of Taree North) has submitted his resignation from Taree North Rotary club due to Health issues of his wife May.  
Hugh is well known to many of you and has been a member of our club for 42 years serving as president on 2 occasions. He has led a district GSE team to the USA and has sat on a number of District committees during his time with our club. His outstanding singing voice has graced many a Rotary celebration.  
Our club has granted Hugh an Honorary membership and will be acknowledging this and thanking him for his wonderful service to the club on the occasion of the GSE combined clubs meeting on Wednesday 10 February at Club Taree.  
I have had enquiries from many local Rotarians as to this event and have no doubt that many of Hugh's Rotary friends from around the District may not yet be aware. I ask that you publicise his retirement and this event through your clubs so that those wishing to attend are aware of the event. Further details contact Ken Sheather, President, Rotary Club of Taree North.
- ✓ **Reserve the date: District Changeover 2010 date is Saturday 3 July 2010**
- ✓ **Reserve the date: 4pm on Saturday, February 6, for the District management c'tee meeting at Taree**
- ✓ **District Governor Nominations for 2012-13** will close at 4pm on February 19. Notes are available if interested on Page 3.

### RAWCS – Eastern Region

- ✓ Our District is part of the Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) Eastern Region. This body meets every quarter and in each of the seven (7) Districts in rotation. The next Eastern RAWCS meeting will be held in our District at Taree (Club Taree, 121 Wingham Road) on the weekend of the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010.  
This is an ideal opportunity for Club International Service Directors and club members (new and experienced) to learn and appreciate the scope of RAWCS activities. I urge you to attend the whole or part of the weekend.  
A training session will be held on the Saturday afternoon between 2pm and 3.30pm. Sessions will be lead by:  
Rod Illidge - Nias Hospital & School in Indonesia (a tsunami project);  
John Dale - Pacific Training Aid (training people of the pacific - nurses, mechanics, carpenters);  
Ray White - The District Project at TAFEA, Vanuatu;  
PDG Bob Young - Papua New Guinea projects (Kokoda Hospital and school projects);  
Greg Moran - Timor Leste (Solar Lights) - perhaps also Daryl Mills from Timor Leste.  
A Dinner will be held on the Saturday evening (\$35.00 per person, 6.30 for 7.00pm) - Guest Speaker Daryl Mills who is the RAWCS coordinator in Timor Leste.  
(Please contact Ted Lewis - [lewisted@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lewisted@ozemail.com.au) if you wish to attend the dinner)  
On the Sunday commencing at 9.00am, the Eastern Region General Meeting will be held. All Rotarians in the District are invited to attend this meeting and everyone gets an opportunity to speak if they wish.  
For more information please contact Bob Newling of the Rotary Club of Taree (6552 1595) - [newling@tpg.com.au](mailto:newling@tpg.com.au)

## Community Service – Probus

The purpose of this Newsletter is to remind Rotary Clubs about the value of keeping in touch with the PROBUS Clubs within their area of responsibility. PROBUS is a Community Service project of Rotary and is truly one of Rotary's greatest success stories. PROBUS has filled a need for today's active retirees, so much so that the growth has been phenomenal and is now a worldwide movement in 23 countries. In fact, there are 2,256 PROBUS Clubs within the South Pacific area with an estimated membership of 189,000 people. There are 58 PROBUS Clubs within Rotary District 9650, 73% of which reside on the eastern seaboard. As you are all aware, PROBUS is an association of active retirees who join together in Clubs, the basic purpose of which is to provide regular opportunities to keep their minds active, expand their interests and enjoy the fellowship of new friends. The word "PROBUS" is an amalgam of the words **PRO**fessional and **BUS**iness.

Rotary's role is to assess the need and viability within the local community to form and charter new PROBUS Clubs. Once clubs are formed by Rotary, they are then formally accredited by Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc at Parramatta. Rotary Clubs need to maintain a friendly liaison and interest with their sponsored club but should stand aside to allow the PROBUS Club to self govern, develop its own identity and programs. PROBUS Clubs are simple in structure, operating and adhering to a basic set of rules of operation in order to preserve the integrity and reputation of the PROBUS movement. PROBUS Clubs are free from the constraints and obligations of service clubs. PROBUS Clubs are non-political, non-sectarian, non profit making and non fundraising bodies. PROBUS membership involves minimal cost and is primarily directed at providing the opportunity for extension of acquaintance and interests with like minded individuals. On occasions and by invitation, PROBUS members may be able to assist your Rotary Club with local and even international projects as volunteers. There may also be an avenue for finding new Rotarians through the relationship with PROBUS, their members and families. The PROBUS WEB SITE ALSO SUPPORTS a LINK FOR Rotary projects.

If your Club would like more information about PROBUS and how to go about establishing new PROBUS Clubs and Information Days, please contact the Rotary District PROBUS Chairman John Robson. He may be contacted on 65854370 or by email at [jrrobson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jrrobson@optusnet.com.au)

## Youth Service – Long Term Youth Exchange

As a result of an enquiry from a current Inbounder Host Club re procedure/activities for our Inbound Youth Exchange Students I wish to advise/confirm the following arrangements for the District Conference.

### Registration Details

All Inbound Student Club Counsellors are requested to complete the usual Conference registration form (either in written form or electronically) and forward direct to the Conference Registration P.O. Box 6184 Port Macquarie with suitable payment. For castings I would assume at least Friday Welcome dinner \$45. Saturday District Governor's Dinner \$60. As far as Morning teas and Lunches are concerned at this stage I understand the Port Macquarie Club is arranging some off site activities for both the Saturday & Sunday when students are not required at the conference and therefore these costs may not be required. Following our meeting Sunday 7th February hopefully I will be able to better inform you all.

### Student Requirements and Activities

All students are required to attend the conference as part of their exchange and responsibilities. All Students will be billeted by Port Macquarie Rotarians. All Students are requested to arrive late Friday afternoon and assemble at the YEP display within the Friendship room in the foyer of the Port Panthers Club. Whilst dress over the weekend will be smart and casual all students must wear their YEP Blazer for the Friday & Saturday Nights and for the opening ceremony. As previously mentioned other than the official parts of the conference it is anticipated an agenda will be forthcoming that will occupy the Students over the weekend when not required at the conference. Again hopefully more detail as to this will be available prior to mid February.  
John Sawyer, Secretary/Treasurer, District 9650, Rotary Youth Exchange Program

It is pleasing to report 14 Outbound Students departed Sydney International Airport last Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January for an exciting and memorable year abroad in 13 different countries.

Simultaneously with the recent arrival of Maria (Tati) Giorgis from Argentina and Nana Matsuda from Japan and Ana (Nani) Silva from Mexico mid February 2010 and the current 13 Students the District will then have 16 Inbound Students attending the Port Macquarie conference.

**2011 Promotion.** All 56 Clubs and Schools within the District by now have received notice and application forms/promotion material for prospective Outbound Students January 2011. Please assist the committee in encouraging students from your area of influence to apply before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

## WHAT IS A DISTRICT GOVERNOR? - SOME NOTES FOR PROSPECTIVE GOVERNORS, DISTRICT 9650

Rotary District 9650 wants Rotarians with experience to consider serving their district in the position of governor. These notes are designed to answer some common questions.

**Calling for nominations:** Toward the start of each calendar year clubs will be asked to submit nominations for the position of governor. Those people interested will receive a form asking them to outline some of their personal details including their Rotary experience.

To be eligible for the position of district governor, a Rotarian must:

1. Be a member in good standing of a functioning club in the district ;
2. Have full qualifications for such membership in the strict application of the provisions, and the integrity of the Rotarian's classification must be without question;
3. Have served as president of a club for a full term, or be a charter club president who has served a term from the date of the charter to June 30, provided that this period is for at least six months;
4. Demonstrate a willingness, commitment, and ability (physically and otherwise) to fulfil the duties and responsibilities of the office of governor as provided in the RI bylaws.;
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of governor as prescribed in the RI bylaws, and submit to RI, through its general secretary, a signed statement acknowledging a clear understanding of them; this statement shall also confirm that the Rotarian is qualified for the office of governor and is willing and able to assume the duties and responsibilities of the office and to perform them faithfully;
6. Have, at the time of taking office, completed seven years of membership

**Interviews:** At a time and place to be determined, a nominating committee will interview each candidate. The committee in this district will probably include the governor, the governor-elect, the governor-nominee, the past three governors and a representative, possibly the assistant governor, from each zone. The interview will probably cover the candidate's knowledge of Rotary and how this knowledge will be used to resolve various issues that might arise. The candidate's partner will also be expected to attend for part of the interview.

**Governor nominee:** On July 1, the successful candidate becomes the governor-nominee. The main training will come at the national (zone) institute, to be held around November at a place in Australia or New Zealand to be determined. The district will pay for attendance at the institute. Think about, but don't approach, prospective district committee leaders yet.

**Governor-elect:** The following July 1 will see the successful candidate become governor-elect. As a courtesy to the current governor, approaches to prospective district committee leaders should not be made until about October-November, when the current governor has completed his or her rounds of official duties. Attendance at the national institute will be expected and the district, again, will pay for this. You will receive a manual detailing your duties as governor.

**Governor-elect duties:** You will be very busy from January to June. Activities will include the appointment of district officers, a leaders' weekend, compilation of the district directory, a schedule of travel arrangements and dates of official visits to clubs, organisation of the two or three district assemblies and presidents-elect training seminars. You will be expected to attend a training weekend at Rotary Down Under, which is very instructive. You will be giving serious thought to what you hope to achieve in your year.

**International assembly:** Attendance at the international assembly, in recent years at San Diego or Anaheim, is compulsory. Again, your expenses will be met, as will expenses for your spouse. They will check each day to ensure you and your spouse are attending! You might also be invited to participate in some hosting at places such as New York or Orlando.

**Travel:** You will be asked to consider how much travel you are likely to make in your year and what motel accommodation will be needed. The travel in this district could be anything from 40,000 to 80,000 kilometres, depending on where you live and how many times you plan to visit distant clubs. Rotary International will help with your costs for one official visit to each club, one assembly and one presidents-elect training weekend. Clubs generally help with motel costs or home hosting during official visits to clubs. Keep detailed records of all your expenses. You will see the benefits of this at the end of your year as governor.

**Governor:** Your official duties as governor start on July 1, probably a day or two after the district changeover usually hosted by the outgoing governor. Your access to some RI website addresses will start at midnight. You will probably start a very busy round of visits to clubs in the first couple of days of July. You will have to visit all district clubs at each once. Plan to have very little time at home for six months. Each year, governors must visit every Rotary club in the district to:

1. Focus attention on important Rotary issues;
2. Provide special attention to weak or struggling clubs;
3. Motivate Rotarians to participate in service activities;
4. Personally recognise the outstanding contributions of Rotarians in the district

**Other meetings:** In addition to visiting each club once, you will be expected to attend district meetings during the year, as well as other special functions the clubs will organise, including anniversaries. District meetings will include meetings of the management committee and finance committee and meetings of other committees when called, as well as interviews for participants in various Rotary projects. Try to ensure Rotarians in areas isolated from the governor's home town do not feel neglected.

**Responsibilities:** The buck stops with you. You will be assisted by a district management committee, which you have chosen, and you will be able to seek advice from others including past governors and the Rotary International office in Parramatta, but you will be responsible for what happens in your district. A good knowledge of the Rotary Manual of Procedure will help you. With financial support of Rotary Institute and of the district, the costs to you will not be as great as you might have expected, but could still be several thousand dollars. At the end of your year you will need to fill in various forms to justify your expenses – a bit like tax time, only worse! Repeat after me: "Keep plenty of detailed records." In brief, however, your term as district governor will be an undoubted highlight of your Rotary life and a time of fellowship and achievement that you will never forget.