

District 9650 Weekly mailing update 29

12 February 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>



February is World Understanding Month.

Secretary

- ✓ Reserve the date: District Changeover 2010 date is now Saturday 12 June 2010 at Wauchope RSL Club 6.30 for 7 pm.
- ✓ District Governor Nominations for 2012-13 will close at 4pm on February 19.
- ✓ RYLA nominations are due. Contact Ivana Agapiou , Port Macquarie Sunrise ivana.agapiou@gmail.com

Significant Achievement Awards

- The deadline for the Significant Achievement Award is **15 March**. The Significant Achievement Award recognizes Rotary clubs for outstanding community service projects. To be eligible, projects must:
 - address a significant problem or need in the local community
 - involve most or all of the club members in personal rather than monetary service
 - be commensurate with the club's size and resources
 - be capable of emulation by other Rotary clubs
 - be currently active or reach a conclusion during the Rotary year for which the award is given
 - be carried out by a single Rotary club

No club may receive the award more than once for the same project. District governors may select one outstanding project from the district and forward **one** nomination to RI for consideration, to arrive no later than 15 March 2010. Multiple nominations from a single district will not be considered.

Please encourage your clubs to submit their nominations to you in a timely manner to enable you to meet this deadline. Information and nomination materials for this and other award programs can be found at www.rotary.org/awards.

We appreciate your efforts to recognize an outstanding club in your district for its achievement. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Any Club wishing to nominate a project for Consideration should submit their Proposal and the detail to address the required conditions as per the email from RI to Secretary Laurie prior to Sunday 28 Feb to enable District to meet the deadline for finalising submission.

Incoming GSE Team

The web site for the incoming GSE team is www.gsewalkabout.com

Please find the Final exchange rates for January

Due to the recent movements in the Australian dollar against the USD the AUD was changed from

District 9650 Conference Information

Greetings Club Presidents and Secretaries,

Can I ask that, at your Club meeting this week and over the next few weeks, you encourage your members to come to the 2010 District 9650 Annual Conference at Panthers Port Macquarie, Thursday 11 March to Sunday 14 March. That's just over 5 weeks away!

Would you please go to the District 9650 web page at www.rotary9650.org.au and click on the District Conference link to find out all about the Conference including how to register. Would you then speak to your members about how to register and how easy it is. It would be a great relief to our Registrar if your members register very soon and not leave it to near or after the closing date (when a late fee kicks in) so our Registrar can promptly and efficiently process the registrations (and also get enough sleep each day!).

Here's a few points you may like to make to members:

Note the Keith Abraham special Friday seminars "The Leader Within" – Keith is a top-line Nevin Award winning professional speaker and author. DG Neville has personal knowledge of Keith's entertaining and inspirational style. Click on the "Seminar" link for comprehensive information on the seminar and the man. Excellent value-for-money!

Guest speakers for Saturday and Sunday come from New Zealand and many parts of Australia and their topics relate to our Rotary International President's themes of clean water, literacy, health and hunger.

There are 2 accommodation links on the Conference web page that detail over 80 resorts, apartment buildings, hotels, motels, B & Bs and caravan parks in and around Port – something for everyone! But there's a lot on in Port around that time so members needing accommodation are urged to book early.

I do hope you will be at the Conference in Port in March. Please help us by promoting the Conference to the members of your Rotary Club.

Trevor Gilson
Conference Chairman

CALL FOR ROTARY PEACE FELLOW APPLICATIONS

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION INVITES ALL DISTRICTS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2011-12 ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS. COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION BY 1 JULY 2010.

Contact rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org for further information or click below:
<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/RotaryCentersForInternationalStudies/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

Long Term Youth Exchange

Early February saw the Youth Exchange Committee meet with the Exchange Students that departed for their year long term exchange January 2009, and their parents. Students were: Jess Portsmouth RC Woolgoolga, hosted by Germany, Reyna Sommerville RC Bellingen, hosted by France, Emily Holland RC Port Macquarie Sunrise, hosted by Belgium, Ryan Williams RC Woolgoolga, hosted by Mexico and unfortunately unable to attend Elsie McKenzie RC Port Macquarie, hosted by Austria.

All Students report having a wonderful cultural experience and wish to thank Rotary District 9650 and in particular their respective sponsoring Clubs for an experience they will carry for the rest of their lives

With applications now being called for from Students participating and departing January 2011 the Committee would appreciate Clubs approaching their Schools over the coming weeks seeking suitable Students

India and National Immunisation Day Update (From PDG Ken Hall)

Travelled South East for about 5 hours as the Rotarians of Hyderabad wanted us to see the efforts that Rotarians needed to put in to meet the most disadvantaged groups in rural India. We started off in a coach on very good roads which deteriorated into sealed country roads that gradually got less and less wide. Finally we all had to get off the coach and continue our travels in four wheeled vehicles over very bumpy and often indistinguishable tracks in a landscape that reminded me of the Oodnadatta track.



When we finally reached our destination at the edge of the lake we were met by the villages on the banks – the first Indians living in very primitive conditions. We had the opportunity to vaccinate children from this village before boarding a boat to travel to four other villages to vaccinate the children – the last village being in the dark. Then we travelled over water in the dark to arrive about 1 hour later at a landing platform where we walked up into a village to be met by the bus. We were then taken back to a resort which we had used on the way out to use the toilets where we had a typical Indian buffet of rice, chicken and fish before returning back to the hotel in the bus – a journey of about 5 hours (I slept most of the way) arriving back about 2am.

What a day!! What will I remember about it!!

1. The sheer enormity of the task in completing the vaccination of all children – That Final Inch
2. It was a fantastic adventure which I will treasure for the rest of my life
3. It was hard and long and we all arrived back exhausted
4. It was about the kids and making sure that they are all protected from the scourge of Polio
5. The trust of the village people in allowing their kids to be vaccinated
6. Their lifestyle – they have so little and yet are so industrious, obviously quite well fed and that they are so happy with their lot

More from the team later!!!