

DG Newsletter - District 9650

DG Neville Parsons and Patti



2009 - 2010

September is New Generations Month

From the DG's desk

At the time of writing this month's article on Wednesday 2 September I am preparing for my 41st Official Club visit and reflecting on the theme for September "New Generations" month. I will come back to the more traditional message for New Generations but I want to firstly align this as the month in which we should all commit to 'The Future of Rotary' as we all know that the Future of Rotary is in yOUR Hands.

My thinking is that this month should become the month that we individually and, with the commitment of each Rotarian in our own Club, determine that we will all be part of the New Generation of Rotary.

Individually as we embark on periods of change, we can actively choose to be part of the solution or possibly become part of the problem or of course we can sit back and do nothing and then in a later time ask "What happened?"

As we know, the need for Rotary in our communities is far greater today than it was yesterday in terms of the things that add to the quality of life in our community. I also note that the need will be far greater in the future and that truly is the reason why we must become part of the New Generation of Rotary.

The Rotarians that will offer their time, energy and effort in 20 years will be fundamentally different to the members that make up our clubs today. Bridging this 20 year gap is our immediate challenge and one that can only occur if we engage today with the Rotarians of tomorrow.

Thus I come to the New Generations – the youth of today who indeed will be the foundation stone of Rotary in 20 years

time.

How do we make Rotary responsive to their needs in terms of looking after the wellbeing of their community and them personally?

This then becomes our key question to answer as we meet our key challenge this year of positioning the future of Rotary.

I suggest to you that every Youth program that we offer in this District and those as defined within our District Youth Service portfolio, is indeed a stepping stone to the future of Rotary. We, as individual Rotarians, have an opportunity, through the Youth activities, to actively promote Rotary and its deliverables and most importantly, its values.

I have over the last 2 weekends experienced first hand the positiveness and the enthusiasm of our Youth having been part of the current Youth Exchange Inbound students briefing at Uralla on the 22 August and the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) orientation at Walcha on 29 August.

It is indeed our responsibility to educate and encourage these young people to identify with not only the Rotary Values and Ideals as a background for life but to also educate them as to the role that Rotary plays in making our world a better place to live and work.

I observed in my welcome to the NYSF students and their parents that it was indeed these young people that will ultimately play leading roles in addressing the Health and Hunger, Water and Literacy challenges that our International president John Kenny has

positioned as the key areas to address in the world if we are to achieve a world that is truly at peace.

I refer you to the following extract from our International President John Kenny's message in the September Magazine:
In Rotary, September is New Generations Month – a time to focus our attention on our programs for youth and the role they play in shaping the Rotarians of tomorrow.

Our youth programs – Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange – are some of the most important programs of Rotary. I say this because of the unparalleled potential they have to influence young minds and souls toward peace, goodwill, and harmony. That potential is the greatest in youth because the experiences of our early years never leave us; they shape who we later become.

I reflect on the value of growing up in Rotary in terms of my own development and I am sure that it was the observation and experience of Rotary and its programs and ideals while growing up in Wauchope that has shaped my desire and commitment to Rotary and the power of Rotary in making my community, my district, my country and my world a better place.

Indeed it is the sense of personal achievement and personal wellbeing that I believe is the sense that we must seek to influence in those that will be tomorrow's Rotarians.

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From the DG's Desk Cont.

Indeed it is the sense of personal achievement and personal well being that I believe is the sense that we must seek to influence in those that will be tomorrow's Rotarians. To me the way to do this may be a little different to what it was 40 years ago when I first became aware of Rotary but I am sure the outcome can and will be the same.

So as we enjoy the oncoming of Spring and Summer I encourage each and every Rotarian in each and every Rotary Club in our District to accept the challenge of being part of the New Generation of Rotarians and in so doing to positively influence the members of the younger generations to warm to the ideals of Rotary and to understand

the role that our individual Rotary Clubs play in making each of our communities a better place to live, work and play. Continue to position the Future of Rotary in everything that we think say and do and most importantly continue to enjoy Rotary.

DG Neville
2 Sep 2009

Wrap with Love

Moree on Gwydir Rotary

Recently, the Rotary Club of Moree on Gwydir was approached by the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove to help organise the delivery of a huge quantity of knitted wraps following the ABC Knit-in in August. Since late July, the organisation WRAP WITH LOVE INC. have received more than 4,000 wraps and they are still arriving by the truckload courtesy of Rotary Clubs from across the state.



Many of the wraps have already been repackaged and are on their way to needy people overseas as well as nationally. For more information on the project www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/Wraps.htm.

Pictured: Rotary Club of Moree on Gwydir's representative, Don Waghorn accepting Tamex Manager, Glen Holland's offer of free delivery to Sydney of a bag of wraps knitted by Moree locals.

Invitation to the Charter of a new Club for D9650 from Past President Chris Sheppard

I am writing to you to advise that we are in the process of Chartering a new Rotary Club in Tamworth.

This new Rotary Club was a project commenced last year in my term as President of the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light. We have been in the position for a number of years whereby we were growing without trying and starting to become too large. Whilst there are five existing Rotary Clubs in Tamworth, there was a need for another breakfast club as many busy business people often find it difficult to attend evening meetings.

Through the support of PDG Ken Hall and the hard work of four other past presidents of our Club (Brian Thompson, John Treloar, Phil Lyon and Vicki Cooper), the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light embarked on a project to start a new breakfast club in Tamworth and are sponsoring this new Club.

This project has now been underway for four months and we are in the final stages of Chartering the Club which will be known as the **Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise** and will meet on Friday mornings at the Best Western Sanctuary Inn at 6:45am for 7:00am.

The new president of this club is Steve Gribbin who works with Tamworth Regional Council and was a past National President of APEX. We have 32 people signed up to become Charter Members.

Save the Date: we are holding the Charter Dinner with the District Governor of Rotary District 9650 on **Saturday, 24 October** at 6:30pm.

Once details are finalised we will send you a formal invitation, however we thought advance notice may assist you in being able to attend this wonderful occasion of the birth of a new Service Club in Tamworth and District 9650

Chris Sheppard

2008-9 Membership Recognition Awards

Congratulations to the following Clubs who have received certificates from Rotary International 2008-09 MEMBERSHIP GOALS & RECOGNITION AWARD for achieving a minimum 10% net increase in membership last year. They were:

Inverell, South West Rocks, Barraba, Armidale North, Armidale A.M., Coonabarabran, Port Macquarie on Hastings, Warialda, Wauchope, Manilla, Coonamble, Tuncurry-Forster, Coffs Harbour South, Woolgoolga, and Taree on Manning.

Rotary International Convention – Montreal in 2010

A 20 day trip of a lifetime to the International Convention, Montreal, June 2010. Join PDG Ken Hall and Di with an experience of a lifetime... for just \$5784 pp AUD net Twin Share (\$7583 AUD Single).

5 June 2010 – leave Sydney for New York USA. Qantas. Chartered arrival transfer. Accommodation Hotel Wolcott (5, 6,7,8,9 June)

10 June 2010 – Travel to Elmira by charter bus. Holiday Inn Elmira 10, 11 June 2010. Visit RC Elmira and glass museum at Corning.

12 June 2010 to 17 June 2010 – Travel to Rochester. Home hosting by Rotarians in Rochester and associated suburbs. Basis of a future friendship exchange.

18 June 2010 – Rochester to Niagara Falls. Accommodation Hotel Oakes, Niagara Falls.

19 June 2010 – Travel to Montreal by chartered bus. Montreal 19, 20, 21,22, 23 June 2010. Quality Downtown Hotel opposite the Convention Centre.

23 June 2010 – depart Montreal Qantas Montreal to Sydney via New York. Arrive back in Sydney 25 June 2010.

Additions: registration for the International Convention (www.rotary.org website); Air taxes approx \$413 per person. Hotel portorage unless already specified. Gratuities to tour directors, coach drivers or local guides; Meals and beverages.

Sightseeing, Optional excursions, travel insurance, visa fees, items of personal nature. Deposit upon confirming participation: \$1500 pp. The remainder may be paid off and completed 60 days before departure to reflect updated exchange rates, at which time prices become definite. Contact PDG Ken Hall for further details on hallkr@bigpond.com.au



RYAG Dairy

Dates 4–9 October at Wingham showground. Information and nomination forms were posted to High Schools throughout the District on 20 August 2009.

Clubs are asked to follow up and contact schools to ascertain intending participants.

Please email names to: wmfree9@bigpond.net.au Forward completed application form with cheque for \$150 to: RYAG Dairy, PO Box 57, Wingham 2429 . As maximum number of places is 16 these will be filled in order of receipt of applications. Further info: d9650 youth – follow link to dairy or contact Co-ordinator Bill Freeman at Wingham on 65570019.



Port Macquarie Rotary got into the Wrap with Love Project



On Sunday 29/08/09 a team of around a dozen Rotarians from Port Macquarie Rotary descended on the work premises of Wauchope Rotarian Reg Pierce in Commerce St. Wauchope in 10 vehicles. On board were many "garbage bags" full of blankets & knitted articles as part of the "wrap with love" campaign. All rolled their sleeves up, & in short time 9 pallets were packed, cling wrapped & loaded onto an R&T Trucking semi-trailer. The truck & trailer departed Sunday night, arriving in Sydney at "Wrap for Love" headquarters in Alexandria around 6am Monday. Reg confirmed that Meg Gervay from the Rotary club of Lane Cove, who is the co-ordinator of this exercise, & her team were there to unload. So from Saturday morning, to Monday morning, 9 pallets were packed, loaded, & transported to Sydney. A great effort from the Port Macquarie team and D9650 International Chairman Reg Pierce.

THE GRAND SOUTHERN CROSS MODEL AERO RALLY THE LARGEST MODEL RALLY IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE, IF NOT THE WORLD

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 27th & 28th March 2010 . at the LUSKINTYRE AIRPORT (26 klm from Maitland, 4 klm from Branxton on the New England Highway).

The event is sponsored by the Rotary club of Tuncurry Forster and all proceeds will be donated to the Breast Cancer Foundation, the Prostate Cancer Foundation, the Lochinvar Public School, and towards the surgical correction of the legs of two Fijian children.

National Immunisation Day to India is not happening in 2009. With two weeks notice to get organised, it just became a little too hard. PDG Ken and Deb Farquhar are looking into alternatives and maybe we can do it in 2010.

September 2009

I am the fencing coordinator for the "Beechworth" Fire area and President-elect of the Rotary Club of Myrtleford, hence my role includes coordinating the distribution of the extraordinarily generous donation from District 9650. To do this we have a small committee of 2 non Rotarians- locals not impacted by the fires, and myself (1/3 pasture and fencing loss), plus 4 Rotarians from our club and one from RC Belvoir-Wodonga (who have been a marvellous support to our community). Note that only the people who have lost houses have received any of the \$400m Red Cross fund (as most people here are registered as businesses), although that may change as the Federal government have flagged an exemption in the Charities Act. We are planning a major publicity push for the 17/ 18 September - local TV, papers etc. Some details for you are:

The "Beechworth" fire started at 6.25pm on the 7 Feb about 4 km south of Beechworth, then built up to a huge conflagration that swept south to Barwidgee (a locality of farmers) then with a wind change roared north east through the Mudgegonga Valley, south east across into the next valley, then over the Kiewa river where it was finally pulled up on the following Tuesday.

To give some scale: four major valleys impacted in an area approximately 20km x 50km. A total 33000ha of (mainly bush) and farmland was scorched and several houses had fireballs of gas roll over them. No one, even the CFA tankers could slow down the fire, as the temperatures melted aluminium and steel, and the speed at times exceeded 100km/h. Even houses with many hectares of bare ground around them were attacked. A total of 14 houses were lost (including two Rotarians houses), about 400 cattle and two lives, with many other lives saved by the CFA members, police and others alerting residents as to the severity of the fires. In total 180 families were impacted, some losing all their fences, many animals and in some cases their whole business (a tree farm lost all their propagation stock and trees set for sale for the next 3 years).

Within days we had three feed depots set up and over 5000 tonnes of hay donated (mainly through the Victorian Farmers Federation), along with a feed mixer wagon (valued at over \$80,000). Also a 'supermarket' was set up in the Mudgegonga Hall to cater for all the food, clothing and household items donated- this ran for about 6 weeks, run by the locals people with a lot of assistance from the Myrtleford Red Cross and other volunteers. Rotary and Lions worked extremely hard to assist those in need, and this included organising and running two major gatherings at the hall (and a third on the 4 September- giant screen for the first (AFL) football final), fuel for the tractors and trucks involved with the hay distribution, volunteer labour to help rebuild the fencing, and Lions distributed many vouchers for people to replace items lost in the fires. Other firms donated steel for the fences including 16 tonnes of box section posts from one Wodonga firm and 13 tonnes of steel and concrete from the Benalla drought and bushfire fund (the RC Benalla is

a key contributor to this fund). Elders organised agistment for 1500 cattle as far away as northern NSW and Queensland.

With over 1000km of fences destroyed (in some cases even steel posts had buckled beyond belief), including 220km of boundary with the government, replacement of these fences will cost around \$3-4m for materials alone. About 25% of farmers had fencing insurance, all have received some materials and volunteer labour assistance (over 10, 000 hours to date). The funds donated by District 9650 will be distributed in vouchers of \$500 denomination to everyone directly impacted by the fire, the amount each family/ person receives depends on the level of devastation (area, km fences burnt, house/ sheds lost). A total of 180 letters will be sent out in mid September, the minimum payment will be \$500, the maximum \$2000. The vouchers can be redeemed at 5 local stores- farm supply, hardware and farm equipment, to replace equipment lost in the fire.

Hugh Forrest

Rotary Club of Myrtleford

District 9650 Youth Exchange Inbounders 2009



The Inbounders briefing weekend was held at Uralla recently and even though there are still some to arrive in our district, the group set out on their District Tour with Don and Margaret Phillips who have been the 'adopted parents and bus driver' for something like 25 years showing our students this district. The tour took them to Gunnedah, Bingara, Inverell, then to Woolgoolga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

They experienced horse riding, kissed a koala, patted a kangaroo, snorkelled and surfed on the coast. 'Awesome' !!

Back Row: Elisabeth (Norway), Felix (Sweden), Kevin (Austria), David (Switzerland), Vini (Brazil)

Middle Row: Ninon (Austria), Laura (Germany), Vigga (Denmark), Sini (Finland), Jessica (Indonesia)

Front Row: Selva (Mexico), Bai Fern (Thailand)

Armidale Central Rotary Club farewell Wendy Swain, Ambassadorial Scholar



PDG Ken Hall, Wendy Swain, PDG Harry Durey and
Foundation Scholarships Chairman Alan Francis

At the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Armidale Central, our Ambassadorial scholar, Wendy Swain, was farewelled and presented with Club banners, a diary among other items prior to her departure for Wales. Wendy leaves for University study on 19 September 2009 for 12 months. Her tuition fees, accommodation and living are supported by a scholarship awarded to Wendy by The Rotary Foundation with the funds being provided by District 9650 jointly in Governor Neville's year and Immediate PDG Ken Hall's year. Wendy was accompanied by her parents. Also present at the meeting was PDG Harry Durey, chair of District 9650 The Rotary Foundation committee and Assistant Governor Joyce Durey. We congratulate Wendy and wish her well with her studies in Wales for the next twelve months.

GSE Team Leader Wendy Mulligan – Guyra

I was born in Armidale and grew up in Guyra, went to primary school in Guyra and high school in Armidale. I went nursing after completing year 12. I did my general training in Tamworth and my midwifery training at Royal North Shore– Sydney. I am a registered nurse and a certified midwife. I also have a Bachelor of Health Management and Masters in Rural Health which I completed at the University of New England. I am currently employed as the General Manager of the Tablelands Cluster, Hunter New England Health. In this roll I manage 6 health facilities. I have worked in health for 36 years and in Leadership and Management rolls for 20 of these years.

I am a member of the Rotary Club of Guyra, and am currently the International Service Director and The Rotary Foundation Director. I have previously been the President, Secretary, Community, Vocational and International Service Directors.

I am married to Peter and we live on a cattle property west of Guyra. I have two adult sons Matt, a Journalist and Sam who is in his last year of Environmental Management at the University of Queensland. My hobbies are gardening, bushwalking and travelling. I also love animals and have 4 pet dogs.

I applied to be the GSE Team Leader for several reasons, last year I was asked to participate on the GSE selection team and found the experience to be extremely rewarding. I enjoyed working and interacting with the young people and realised I had a lot to offer them with my experiences as a leader and a manager. Many years ago as a young girl I had a series of books that I loved to read, they were about the adventures of a young boy and his horse on a property in Wyoming. Last year I found the books on DVD and I purchased them and watched them, the scenery was breath taking. So when I received an email advising that the GSE team exchange was going to Wyoming in 2010 and was calling for applications for team leader the decision was made for me.

So what do I expect to achieve from this experience? I expect to develop a life long relationship with some exceptional young Australians. I will provide leadership, direction and support for these team members, while we all have the experience of a life time. I hope to meet many Rotarians and to develop friendships, be able to visit some health facilities and to experience the American culture. I hope to be an excellent ambassador for Rotary District 9650 and Australia. On my return I will be able to share my experiences with my fellow Rotarians from District 9650.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to represent my club, district and Rotary International. Thank you.

Wendy

Outback Links Volunteers are needed

Isolation, drought and the financial crisis that has swept across Australia, is proving to be too much for many people living in the bush. Rural suicides are on the increase as a result of prolonged hardships in rural Australia. We as Rotarians can help to make a difference by becoming Outback Links volunteers. Outback Links places people for short periods with remote rural families who are “doing it tough” and could use a helping hand. Over recent years, the areas where volunteers are needed are becoming less remote as the tough times become closer to regional Australia. Places like Bourke and Finley in New South Wales and St George and Roma in Queensland are common places where assistance is required. Rotarians throughout District 9650, who feel they could help to make a difference in rural Australia, are encouraged to go to the Frontier Services Outback Links website and register on-line as volunteers. www.frontierservices.org/outbacklinks . Should you require further information, contact district committee chairman Barry Hacker on 6582 1775 or email bhport@bigpond.net.au

Important Dates in September & October 2009

- 9–11 Sept Siemens Science Experience University of NSW
- 11 Sept Closing Date for RYAG Beef
- 18 Sept Please note—RYAG Aquaculture not running this Rotary year
- 21 Sept Closing Date for RYAG Dairy
- 26–27 Sept GSE Team Member Interviews – Round 1 10 – 11 Oct – Interviews Round 2
- 30 Sept Cluster Finals Public Speaking Competition completed
- 4 – 9 Oct RYAG Dairy
- 9 – 11 Oct Australian Youth Exchange Chairmen Conference
- 4 – 9 Oct RYAG Dairy at Wingham

For Your Diary



October is Vocational Service Month – Past RI President Raja Saboo referred to Vocational Service as the Forgotten Avenue of Service – Let us re-emphasise this in October

Seen the new Rotary Television Commercial?

You can watch it at RDU or click on this link.
<http://rotarydownunder.com.au/RDU/home-page-videos/join->

Change of Meeting Time & Place for Dorrigo Rotary

Ken Tyson President

The Dorrigo Rotary Club are now meeting at the North Dorrigo Restaurant on the every second Tuesday 6 for 6.30 pm. We have the catering for the Cattle sale at the Dorrigo Yards on the alternate Wednesday and makeups can be had there for visiting Rotarians. This is for a six months trial period.

NYSF Taree North Success

Omitted from the list in the August Newsletter's list of successful applicants was the Taree North Rotary Club's Thomas Banks of St. Clare's High School. Apologies to Taree North and to Thomas for this omission. Have a great time Thomas!!!

Interplast Update

As of 30/6/09, our District has \$6350 held at Interplast headquarters in Melbourne. Wauchope Club have kindly donated \$500 since then. It is not feasible to consider raising the full amount (\$40000) needed to send a team overseas. In speaking with Marion Wright, the General Manager overseeing Interplast the sponsorship or a subsidy to help train overseas surgeons would seem a possibility. David is awaiting more information to arrive on this subject.

As well, Interplast are planning a Bus/Roadshow promoting Interplast (similar to the previous ARH buses on Mental Health.) Planning is at the early stage, so this may be someway in the future.

As far as Club donations go, these are to be encouraged. Patti Berrigan this year is promoting Operation Cleft. This is not an Interplast program but does have a similar aim, and Clubs are asked to consider supporting this program as well.

David Healey (District Interplast Committee Chairman)



Christmas Trees

for sale

Gloucester Rotary Club is offering Christmas Trees as a Fundraiser. Traditional Beautiful 6ft Radiata Pines tipped and shaped. Order

your trees now for your Club – At the wholesale price of \$20 each (in lots of 20)

Make this your Christmas fundraising project. Your Club can sell them easily for \$50 each – well below retail.

All trees are specially bagged ready for delivery to your customers. Club Collection/delivery by arrangement in December; Orders to be placed by middle of November. Contact Valda Barron 0265582992 Email valdabarron@cirruscomms.com.au

Rotary International Exchange Rate for September

2009 —Currency per US \$ is 1.20

US Dollar equivalent 0.83333333

See what \$250
can do for a
child in
Bangladesh



 **Operation Cleft**
"Gift a smile for life"

www.operationcleft.org.au

