

DISTRICT 9690 NEWS

DG DAVID COOK

RI PRESIDENT KALYAN BANERJEE

Issue 7 January 2012



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



The Uniqueness of Rotary – or is it?

We know and love our organisation for what it is, what it has done, what it stands for and what our personal experience with Rotary has been.

We are familiar with the Four Way test, established in 1932 and our motto, 'Service above Self', created in 1950, both standing the test of time.

When we compete in the community market place for recognition and support by the public, consider those other service organisations around us and how their values and ideals compare with Rotary.

Rotary International

Founded: 1905 Chicago USA

Motto: Service Above Self

Size: 1.2 million in 33,000 clubs worldwide

Membership: open to individuals of good standing

Vision: A worldwide network of inspired individuals who translate their passions into relevant social causes to change lives in communities

Areas of Focus: local communities and worldwide projects. Polio eradication.

Youth: Interact in High Schools and Rotaract 18 to 30

Charity: The Rotary Foundation

Lions International

Founded: 1917 Chicago USA

Motto: We Serve

Size: 1.35 million in 45,000 clubs worldwide

Membership: Open to all people of the community in good standing.

Vision: To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

Areas of Focus: Fighting blindness; community projects for the environment and disadvantaged

Youth: Leo program, introducing young people to the benefits of volunteering and community service. (Leos can also be Lions at the same time.)

Charity: Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) - supporting Lions humanitarian projects around the world.

Apex Australia

Founded: Geelong, 1931.

Motto: Citizenship, Fellowship and Service. (The three sides of the Apex triangle)

Size: Currently around 2000 members in 200 clubs across Australia.

Membership: Men and women aged 18 to 45.

Vision: Apex is a volunteer service organisation that offers fellowship, fun and fabulous opportunities for personal development.

Areas of Focus: Medical research sponsorship, outback education, and community

Youth: Apex has no specific younger group as its membership retires at age 45.

Charity: The Apex Foundation, the main beneficiaries of which are children.

Rover Scouts

Founded: Scouting was founded in 1908 and Rovers commenced in 1918

Motto: Service.

Size: Globally, Scouting has over 28 million members in almost every country in the world.

Membership: Young men and women aged 17 and a half to 25.

Vision: Fun, Fellowship and Personal Growth as well as adventure, excitement, mateship, challenge and achievement.

Areas of Focus: Challenging activities in the arts, outdoors and relationships to develop leadership and an appreciation of the value of helping others both within Scouting and the wider community.

Youth: Rovers is the senior section of Scouting where membership begins at age 6

Charity: None

Ranger Guides

Guiding is the sister movement to Scouting. Ranger Guides are similar to Rovers. Guiding has 10 million members in 145 countries. Its mission is to enable girls and young women to grow into confident, self respecting, responsible community members.

Jaycees - Now known as JCI Australia

Founded: 1915 in St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Motto: Be Better.

(Continued over page)

Size: 200,000 young people in 5,000 communities and more than 100 countries around the world.

Membership: Open to people 18 to 40.

Vision: To provide development opportunities that empower young people to create positive change. To be the leading global network of young active citizens

Areas of Focus: Creating positive changes in the world resulting from people taking "collective action to improve themselves and the world around them."

Youth: JCI has no specific younger group as its membership retires at age 45.

Charity: None specific

Inner Wheel

Founded: 1924, Manchester England. Originally known as Rotary Ladies or The Service Club,

Motto: Think ahead – aim high

Size: 4,000 members in Australia across 15 districts. It is active in many other countries of the world.

Membership: Open to women over 18 who have a connection with Rotary.

Vision: To promote true friendship; to encourage the ideals of personal service; to foster international understanding

Areas of Focus: Cord Blood Research. Local community projects.

Youth: Assists with Rotary youth projects

Charity: Cord Blood Research and The Rotary Foundation

Note: Locally its district chairman is Jill Lawrenson, wife of Brian Lawrenson of Breakfast Point club.

There are many more organisations with similar purpose and ideals to Rotary. Other female service clubs are Quota, Zonta and Soroptomists, each of which has their place in our society.

Rotary is not the only service organisation in Australia, nor are we necessarily the most recognised, but we are OUR organisation. It is good to remember that these other groups are our colleagues, not our competitors, in "doing good in the world".

Finally welcome to our latest Rotarians, Clive Jones from Blackheath and George Germanos from Liverpool West.

David

Carolyn's Commentary

Reflections on the Holiday Season.

Life is getting back to normal after the Christmas/New Year break. Our Rotary club is meeting again with lots of focus on the plans for Australia Day in Glenbrook Park. Our family has returned to their homes and work and the "motel" in Cox Street has closed down for another season. And the calendar for February is quickly becoming crowded.

Despite having a busy household with lots of cooking, cleaning and entertaining, the two weeks over the holiday period were a very relaxing and recuperative time. There is plenty of energy and keenness for the next six months of David's time as District Governor.

I was pondering why I become re-energised each year at this time and I think it's got to do with family. The joy of sharing our home and our time with them is also a time for both learning and reflection.

I had my mother, a fairly sprightly 85 year old, staying and she and I did some visiting together. It was fun to catch up with people from my childhood (and almost feel like a child again as Mum and her friends reminisced). But there was also the chance to reflect on some of the issues that we all will have to address as we age. It made me ask the question - are our Rotary clubs sup-

porting the elderly in our community in ways which are to their best advantage?

I also spent quite an (exhausting) period of child minding for my grandchildren. There is nothing I enjoy more than being Granny. Having spent over 40 years as a teacher of young children our house is a treasure trove of "junk" that young boys enjoy. The simple joy of watching them play, learn, wonder, exert their growing independence while at the same time seeking adult comfort and support is enriching.

It confirms the utmost importance of Rotary's work with youth both in Australia and in areas of poverty, war, oppression around the world, so that many more children can grow up healthy, literate, optimistic and curious and with time just to be children.

RI president Kalyan says that a peaceful world – Rotary's ultimate aim – begins with family and over January I've had a wonderful time with mine. I hope you, too, have enjoyed the holiday season.

Carolyn



Partners Project

Thank you to all the clubs and individuals who have taken tickets to sell in the Gnome Quilt Raffle.

If you would like to assist, more tickets are available from Carolyn on 4739 5868.

Please return ticket butts to 12 Cox Street Glenbrook and make any cheques payable to **The Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountains.**

Extract from Kate Cornford, January 2012

....as of today, I have completed 6 Rotary presentations and have two organised for when I return to NY. I attended the Rotary Club of Gerrards Cross & Chalfont St Peter today in the UK as I am based in Gerrards Cross with Simon & his parents during the Christmas break. I had previously written to clubs in the surrounding area offering to speak or just attend. The Rotary Club of Gerrards Cross & Chalfont St Peter already had an Ambassadorial Scholar studying at Oxford lined up for today, so I volunteered to just come along and listen to her. However, as I stepped into the room, I was asked if I could stand in as the guest speaker. The Ambassadorial Scholar had literally pulled out 5 minutes before the Rotary meeting was to begin. Needless to say, the International Convention in Sydney has been prompted to a new audience, although I fear most of the audience of 25 have already been to Oz (as they are British), so my recruiting statistics may be down for this meeting! I have speaking engagements at the Rotary Club of Yonkers and Wall Street lined up for March.

GSE Exchange

I am pleased to now confirm that our exchange has been approved by RI and the District our team will be visiting is District 2400 in Sweden.

District 2400 comprises the southern parts of Sweden – stretching from the west coast to the south-east part of the country. There are 60 clubs and approximately 3000 members in the District.

I will meet with my colleague from Sweden in San Diego and arrange the details of the exchange, we both would prefer a mixture of vocations in our teams and the tentative dates are; Swedish team visiting 9690 4th March – 4th April 2013 and the Australian team visiting 2400 1st May – 1st June 2013.

Keith Roffey

Youth Exchange

It has been a busy few months with the Youth Exchange Programs with both our Inbound and Outbound students participating in activities.

The Inbound students were involved in an overnight hike with the students from District 9750 through the Royal National Park, with thanks to the assistance of Revesby Wirrimbirra and Padstow Rotary Clubs for organising this event.

With the assistance of Blacktown Rotary Club they also went on a Hawkesbury River cruise. Bob Gardiner kindly offers his boat each year so the students can have this experience. The students also attended the annual surf day at Manly Beach where they were able to learn about the Australian surf conditions, as well as try their skills at surfing.

During November our Outbound students for 2012 had their final briefing weekend at Stanwell Tops which is run in conjunction with District 9750. The weekend was a wonderful success with it finishing with the students being presented with their uniforms and name badges. The students will be leaving during January for their year away. Thank you to the following clubs for sponsoring the outbound students: Blacktown City, Concord, Kurrajong/North Richmond, Liverpool West, Lower Blue Mountains and Springwood Rotary Clubs.

Youth Exchange Safari – 2 Chaperones required

Each year the exchanges students in Districts 9690, 9750 and 9670 are given the opportunity to tour around parts of Australia on the annual Safari trip. This trip is chaperoned by 3 Rotarians with approximately 30 students taking part in the trip.

We are currently looking for 2 Rotarians who may like to assist in chaperoning the trip from 18th April to 9th May 2012. The tour will go to Melbourne, Cooper Pedy, Uluru, Kings Canyon, Alice Springs, Cairns, Airlie Beach, Sunshine Coast and Byron Bay. Accommodation is provided in bunk houses as well as camping. There is no cost for the chaperones.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Shireen Ryan at Shireen_ryan@hotmail.com

RYDA

Please find attached link to our latest Newsletter which outlines recent events and developments with the RYDA road safety education Program. We encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and friends.

View the Newsletter at: [http://ryda.org.au/images/PDFs/Newsletter%20\(2011-3\)%20web.pdf](http://ryda.org.au/images/PDFs/Newsletter%20(2011-3)%20web.pdf)

Conference Update

With *Marcus Junius Brutus* and *Gaius Cassius Longinus* long gone in history the *Ides of March* will be dedicated to final preparations for our District Conference at Panthers Colosseum (Panthers Pavilion, Penrith) on **23-25 March 2012**. Join the 150 “early bird” Rotarians, Partners and Friends who have already enjoyed a significant saving by registering and paying for a great weekend of fun.” Early Bird 2” Registration closes **Tuesday 31st January** so you need to **ACT NOW** to save \$20 per person on full registration, with savings also available for the Saturday evening dinner and entertainment and Friday and Saturday sessions. Remember you can also choose to stay overnight at the adjacent Panthers Chifley Hotel at a special conference rate.



Now is also the time to reserve your clubs space (or refine your ideas) for the **Rotary Expo** to display your activities to a wide audience of Rotarians, sponsors, potential participants and members of the public generally. Only a few spaces remain and you need to contact Jan Clark jrclark2@iprimus.com.au 4739 1327 / 0419 215 793 asap.

Our Conference location (off Mulgoa Road and adjacent to Panthers Club) lends itself to the external display Rotary banners both generic and club specific and clubs will be contacted direct with more information on how to be involved in this.

Visit the Conference web site www.rotaryd9690conference.org.au for details of the program, to register and pay on line or print off a registration form.



Commonwealth Bank

R.I. PRESIDENT KALYAN BANERJEE

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For changes in Club information and items for
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**Reach Within to Embrace
Humanity**

We're on the Web!

www.rotary9690.org.au

A thought for the month

After the game,
the King and the
Pawn go back in
the same box.

Anonymous

District Membership for November

Club	1st July	1st Dec	1st Jan
Bankstown	9	9	9
Blackheath	16	15	17
Blacktown City	47	47	47
Breakfast Point	28	27	27
Burwood	32	32	37
Cabramatta	15	15	15
Central Blue Mount	22	22	22
Concord	44	40	40
Granville	19	19	19
Hawkesbury	13	0	0
Holroyd	33	34	34
Katoomba	20	20	19
Kurrajong/Nth Rich	17	18	18
Lithgow	7	10	10
Liverpool	34	33	33
Liverpool Greenway	25	24	24
Liverpool West	38	38	38
Lower Blue Mount	60	59	58
Mount Druitt	20	20	20
Nepean	27	25	27
Padstow	38	36	36
Parramatta	29	30	30
Parramatta City	25	25	25
Parramatta Daybreak	14	14	13
Penrith	40	39	36
Penrith Valley	43	42	42
Revesby Wirrimbirra	15	14	14
Richmond	40	42	38
Springwood	34	38	38
St. Mary's	20	20	20
Strathfield	57	55	57
Upper Blue Mount Sun	32	27	27
Wallacia/Mulgoa Valley	10	10	10
Wetherill Park	25	25	25
Windsor	45	43	43
Total	986	971	968

CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

Should you have any alterations to the District Directory details could you please send the correction to D.G. David or editor Melvin Gray and they will be included in the next issue of the District Newsletter.

CHANGE OF VENUE

Kurrajong, North Richmond Rotary Club have moved their meeting venue. They now meet at Panthers North Richmond, Beaumont Road, North Richmond; Tuesday 6.30 for 7.00pm all visitors and make-ups welcome.

D.G Diary Dates

- 26th January Australia Day, various
- 11th February Parramatta valentines Dinner / Upper Blue Gift of a Smile Dinner
- 12th February Multi District New Generations Forum
Upper Blue Mountains Golf Day
- 15th February Liverpool Polio Film
- 17th February Presidents Meeting
- 19th February Selections Interviews (DGN 2013-14)
- 19th-25th February Rotary week
- 22nd February Central Blue Mountains
- 24th February Sydney E-Club Charter, Epping Club
- 26th February Selection Interviews (DGN 2014-15)
- 28th February Lower Blue Mountains Pride Of Workmanship Awards
- 29th February District Committee of Association meeting



VALE

Rotarian Robert Wade, Bankstown Club, passed away January 7, 2012. Robert has been a member for many years and recently succumbed to cancer. His funeral was held on Friday 13 January at Georges Hall.

