

“The Future Of Rotary Is In Your Hands”

FROM WHERE I SIT; THE MONTH IN REVIEW



D.G. PAUL REID

R.I. PRESIDENT JOHN KENNY

9690 DISTRICT NEWS

Well where has the first six months gone to. Whilst Julia & I are like kids in a Lolly shop having had the opportunity to meet a great many of you, the time has really flown.

December is “Family of Rotary” month, and as Rotarians committed to our local communities, still the most important thing in all of our lives is family. How many times have you heard at a meeting that my three priorities in life are Family, then Work, then Rotary. Whilst priority two and three are sometimes interchanged our top priority must remain our families.

And so too must it be within our Rotary life where the “Family of Rotary” is most important. But just who make up the Family of Rotary. Is it just those members within our Club and sometimes extend to those other members within our District or is it much more.

I would suggest that our Family of Rotary includes, our club members, their families and extended families, spouses and or partners of deceased Rotarians as well as Honorary members and those whom we class as Friends of Rotary.

Our Rotary family should also include our inbound and outbound Youth exchange students and their families and host families who may not be Rotarians.

Many clubs have a Rotarian who is responsible for sending cards to members for birthdays and the like and also include members special dates in their bulletins, but hopefully our “family ties” extend far beyond that.

A consoling or how are you going phone call or better still a personal call can sometimes be all the difference a person needs to feel wanted.



The District has a very well functioning “Family of Rotary” committee lead by Chris Hunter (Wetherill Park) recently held a very successful Pantomime. I know I had a great time and from the looks and smiles of those who attended I was not alone.



The committee will also be hosting the District Annual Family of Rotary Picnic in the new year so look out the dates so come along, I guarantee you and yours will have a fun day.

Chris Hunter also has the not so pleasant job of letting the District know when one of our Rotary family has passed away.

We are a close knit District and if possible many of us would wish to show our respect and support in these sad times but this can only be achieved by clubs advising Chris of such things.

Please also note that each year the District holds a Reflection/Memorial ses-

sion at District Conference and I ask all clubs if you have had a member, partner or spouse pass away since the last conference, then please pass on the details and a suitable photo to our Conference Chair Warwick Tester .

Christmas is fast approaching and it is a great and exciting time, well it is for me, it is fantastic to see the joy and expectation on the faces of our children and grandchildren.

Just this week Julia & I had the great pleasure of joining the members of Blacktown City Rotary and Blacktown Inner wheel as they hosted a Christmas lunch for approximately 400 senior citizens and their carers. An event, truly in the spirit of Family of Rotary.

It is Julia & my sincere wish that all of you and your families have a very safe, happy and holy Christmas and that Santa finds all of you.

For those of you who may be traveling over this time do so safely, and I look forward to the second half of our year and sharing with you the spirit of our Family of Rotary by making 2010 a year to remember.

Paul



The View From the Other Side

With Christmas fast approaching I used the Christmas Presidents' meeting to unveil our Conference Sock Tree.

In the house of friendship at Forster it is my hope to see this tree covered in black or navy school socks

(children aged 5 to 15) that we can send to the School of St Jude in Tanzania.



Socks are the only part of the School uniform that cannot be sourced locally by the school. So, with your help, our sock tree could help the school.

Take care and keep safe over Christmas also don't forget the January Sock Sales.

Julia

ARH PRESENTATIONS

During the presidents meeting at Panthers on Friday 4th December. ARH Chairman Sue Wakefield made special presentations to clubs for attainment of membership.

Those clubs recognised were.

St Mary's	\$500 per member
Holroyd	\$1000 per member
Nepean	\$1000 per member
Liverpool	\$2000 per member
Liverpool West	\$6000 per member
Parramatta City	\$8000 per member



ARH Chair Susan Wakefield, with D.G. Paul and the club representatives.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH

"Australian Rotary Health exists because of generous Australian Rotarians. Its evolution into Australia's largest independent provider of funds for mental health research is a tribute to Rotary clubs and Rotarians. Our funding of research in other health areas is made possible because of your generosity, foresight and commitment. We thank you most sincerely and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peace-filled start to the next 20's decade".
Joy Gillett CEO



A Few Highlights of 2009:

- The Top Eureka Award for Leadership in Science was awarded to Prof Michael Good. Australian Rotary Health funded Prof Good's Malaria Vaccine Research from 2005-2008.
- \$3,378,163 was allocated to Research Grants, Indigenous Scholarships, Rural Medical & Nursing Scholarships, Programs, Post Doctoral Fellowships and PhD Scholarships
- The 7 month Great Australian Bike Ride raised over \$200,000 for mental illness research and promoted Australian Rotary Health throughout Australia
- Dame Elisabeth Murdoch endorsed the work of Australian Rotary Health in television and radio community service announcements
- World Swimming Champion Michael Klim became an Australian Rotary Health Ambassador

For more information on research funded by Australian Rotary Health, contact:

Gerardine Grace - (02) 8837 1900 or

email: gerardinegrace@australianrotaryhealth.org.au

Donations to Australian Rotary Health are tax deductible and can be made online at:

www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au or by snail-mail to: PO Box 3455

Parramatta, NSW 2124.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday 2nd December saw almost 300 Rotarians and partners from the three Sydney Districts enjoy an evening of fellowship and entertainment at the Epping Club.

The guest speaker and entertainer for the evening was Peter Cousins and he kept the audience enthralled with his story and a number of songs.

Vice Chairman Phil Lacey updated those present of the year that has gone and apart from the economic dilemma that everyone has been affected by the fund is travelling well.

The great Bike Ride has brought in approx \$200,000 which is a wonderful effort.



Lower Blue Mountains set to hold a Gnomes convention

Conference Winner



Australian Gnome Convention

Australia Day 2010
- Glenbrook Park

An initiative of the Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountains.

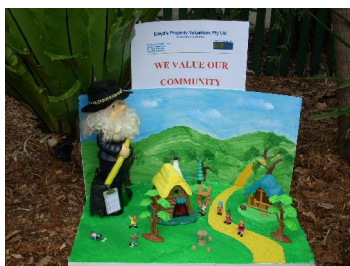
This year we are expecting the arrival of nearly 2,000 gnomes to come and enjoy a day out with fellow gnomes while their carers spend time at the human activities.

Clubs in D9690 are encouraged to enter a gnome in their own special category - Service Above Self. Simply buy or borrow a gnome, dress him up or paint him up to highlight your club's special event (or make him an Australia Day Gnome) and bring him or send him along. The Chief Gnome, David Cook, DGN, has announced he will make a special award at the Conference to the winning club. Indeed, it may even extend to a trophy the winning club can keep until it wrested from them the following year.

Get into the sprit, get into the fun and bring your gnome.

If you cannot get to Glenbrook on Australia Day, you may get him to David or Bob Aitken at RDU at an earlier time in January.

Best wishes for the gnome year ahead



A quote from our Founder Paul Harris

The very strength of a nation eventually proves to be its weakness.



At the last presidents meeting before Christmas, the lucky prize was drawn for Conference registration fees to be free.

Janina Linfoot was the lucky winner of the early bird conference registration draw and will now have some extra spending money when she comes to Forster.

Congratulations Janina.

Conference Chair Warwick Tester advised at the Presidents' meeting that there are 221 registrations for conference as at 30 November 2009.

There are only a handful of places available on both the Wine Tour and Boat Cruise, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Ken Linfoot was there at the night for the draw, as you can tell by the smile on his face.



Ranfurly Library Service Inc.

Ranfurly will close for its Christmas break on 17th December 2009. We will return on 14th January 2010.

Ranfurly volunteers have managed the move well (for a bunch of older persons).

As we have a reduced area and as our outlet for discarded books now charges to collect our pulpable discards we now more than ever need to ask book deliverers to pre-sort what they deliver to us. We can supply a list of what we can use and what we cannot use.

We are all getting older and our regular volunteers might reduce in the new year. We need new persons for our Monday book sorters and we need new blood for our Thursday receiving, packing and despatch team. The work is interesting, the company is -we think- good and there is not much lifting involved for most functions. An interesting task for some person not able to commit to regular attendance is for persons to collect books from regular sources for us. We would prefer volunteers who can commit to a reasonably regular attendance as familiarity makes the tasks easier.

Ranfurly also needs funds to keep operating. Shipping costs from Botany Bay to destination Ports, plus discarded books are our only costs and our shipping costs have increased, in some cases, quite substantially. The new cost for us is the cost of having our discards removed to a pulping operator, this is not a substantial amount however it is a new cost and it adds up.

We need to be in the club budgets of our normal supporters and we would welcome new financial supporters. We still believe that this is the easiest International project for a club or for an individual male or female.

Contact PAG A D Brawn PHF* Secretary/Public Officer Ranfurly Library Services Inc. 02 94995530 or 0412 051 399.

January is Rotary Awareness Month

**R.I. PRESIDENT JOHN KENNY
D.G. PAUL REID**

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***The Future Of Rotary Is In Your
Hands***

We're on the Web!
www.rotary9690.org.au

CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

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

Tony Orr Prospect Rotary Club
email address trmf@internode.on.net

District Governor's Calendar

President's Meeting February 12

A thought from the past

Anybody can make history. Only a great man can write it.

-- Oscar Wilde



District Membership

CLUB	1-Jul-09	Change	30-Nov-09
Bankstown	11		11
Blackheath	16		16
Blacktown City	53	3	56
Breakfast Point	27	-2	25
Burwood	43	-4	39
Cabramatta	15	1	16
Central Blue Mount	23	1	24
Chester Hill	13	-1	12
Concord	36	11	47
Granville	20	-2	18
Hawkesbury	17	2	19
Holroyd	35		35
Katoomba	22		22
Kurrajong/Nth Rich	18		18
Liverpool	30		30
Liverpool Greenway	32	-2	30
Liverpool West	25		25
Lower Blue Mount	56	-1	55
Mount Druitt	18	-1	17
Nepean	27		27
Padstow	43	-2	41
Parramatta	27	1	28
Parramatta City	31	1	32
Parramatta Daybreak	15		15
Penrith	34		34
Penrith Valley	44	-1	43
Prospect	8	2	10
Revesby Wirrimbirra	0	20	20
Richmond	44	-2	42
Springwood	33	1	34
St. Mary's	21	-2	19
Strathfield	63	-1	62
Upper Blue Mount Sun	20	-2	18
Wallacia/Mulgoa Valley	12	2	14
Wetherill Park	34	-5	29
Windsor	39		39
Total	1005	17	1022

Welcome our latest Rotarians

Congratulations and welcome to each of you. May your membership with your new clubs be exciting and full of great fellowship.

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|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ATOY SAYAS | Rotary Club of Blacktown City |
| TESS SAYAS | Rotary Club of Blacktown City |
| DENNIS WHITING | Rotary Club of Blacktown City |
| SARAH RICHARDS | Rotary Club of Hawkesbury |
| LINDSAY COLLINS | Rotary Club of Padstow |
| KATH KATALINIC | Rotary Club of Padstow |