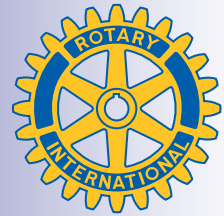




Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



Rotary District 9700 Newsletter



MAY 2012

DISTRICT PUTS OUT THE WELCOME MAT FOR RI PRESIDENT

May 22nd was a big day for District 9700 when the Rotary International President Kalyan and Binota Banerjee honoured us with a visit.

This is the first time that a serving RI President has visited our District and was part of a three day visit to inland NSW and it marked a major change from the usual practice of visits to Capital cities only.

PDG Neal and Barbara Fogarty were the Aides and were responsible for driving the party from Dubbo to Canberra via Parkes, Grenfell and Wagga.

The route travelled was mainly through country areas so that our RI President could experience some of the distance and spread of the population that is a feature of the District.

The day included:

- Declaration of Parkes as a Rotary Peace Community
- Introductions of to 26 new members of Rotary
- Meeting Youth and Group Study Exchange program



participants

- Tree planting in Grenfell
- District and Mayoral receptions in Wagga
- Rotary 'Service Above Self' Award to Wagga Rotarian Alok Sharma for 'Darkness to Light' Program

Around 450 Rotarians and Friends of Rotary took the opportunity to attend the various functions and activities.

Informality, meeting Rotarians and a focus on youth and young people was the main emphasis for the visit and both Kalyan and Binota appreciated this.

"Those of us who attended the reception for Kalyan Banerjee thought it to be a great event".

"Well done and thank you to all involved in the organising and conducting the evening reception in Wagga".

Ian Simpson

District Governor, 2011-12

Photo above: RI President Kalyan Banerjee presented the Rotary 'Service Above Self' Award to Wagga Rotarian Alok Sharma for 'Darkness to Light' Program

Photo left: RI President Kalyan Banerjee & Mayor Ken Keith declare Parkes a Rotary Peace Community

EXTRACT FROM RI PRESIDENT KALYAN'S SPEECH DELIVERED AT WAGGA WAGGA

"A bit over a year ago, Rotary had exactly 1,214,264 members.

This number is about what it was back in June 1997 (14 years ago).

Overall in Rotary, only 11% of our members are under the age of 40, 68% are over 50, and 39% are over 60.

If we don't do something about this now, it's not too hard to see where this is going, and what it will bring us in 10, 20, 30 years down the line.

So how do we grow, in a way that will keep Rotary active and effective?

How can we be more attractive to younger members, who are so different in many ways to the young professionals of a generation or two ago?

This really is a challenge.

Young professionals today, young business people, are much more pressured than before.

We have to show them that Rotary is a good use of their time, a valuable use of their time – something that will enrich their lives, deepen the meaning of their days, something that they will want to be part of.

We have to talk in a way that other people will understand - because you know, sometimes we don't even realise how much we in Rotary speak our own language.

So we need to modernise our language and seek out the people we think would be good members, and if they aren't interested, or if they come to a meeting and say it's not for them, you don't



have to push but just ask – ask the questions, find out why, and you might learn some valuable lessons.

We talk about the cost of Rotary, and this is absolutely something to look at, but let me say today that I don't think the cost of Rotary is high.

Or more accurately, the cost of membership need not be high if you don't want it to be.

Each year we pay Rotary International only about \$55 per member.

Even a young member can afford to pay that amount every year, provided that you don't increase the meeting cost in your club.

How do we keep these costs down?

If your meetings are not held over a meal at an expensive hotel, you can save a lot of money.

Find an auditorium, an office area that is not used in the evening, a quiet pub, somewhere you can meet for not much money or even for free.

Just because this isn't the way things have always been done, doesn't mean we can't change.

And it doesn't mean we can't sponsor a new club of young members who

might want to do things differently, in a way that works better for them.

Rethink your clubs, look at them with fresh eyes, talk to non-Rotarians and see how you can make your clubs more attractive and stronger.

It isn't easy to change.

It isn't easy to do things differently, and sometimes it's all too easy to think that if a thing doesn't seem broken, it doesn't need to be fixed.

But I am telling you today, if you do love Rotary – if you love your Club, your organisation, the experiences you have in it and the things you can do through it – then you will not let it die.

If you live Rotary, you will want it to be there – not just for you, but for those who will come after you, who will also be seeking the very things that brought you to Rotary in the first place.

And if you believe that a world with Rotary is better than a world without, if you want Rotary there for future generations – then the time to act, the time to move, the time to change, is right now.

Reach within. Find your strength.

Use that strength – to embrace humanity, now and in all the years that are to come.

Thank you"

Photo above: RI President Kalyan addressing 320 Rotarians & Friends of Rotary at the Wagga Reception

Photo left: The RI President met with recently joined Rotarians in Parkes



RI PRESIDENT BRINGS ON THE SMILES ...



While in District 9700 Rotary International President Kalyan and Binota Banerjee did not let the grass grow under their feet. Kalyan was kept busy making speeches, planting a tree, attending civic receptions and meeting many, many Rotarians. Here are a few photos of their visit:

1. Chatting with Youth Exchange students currently in Orange, Wagga & West Wyalong
2. Introduced to Lauren Slater CSU Pharmacy Graduate and former Rotary Scholarship Holder by Wagga Sunrise Rotarian Peter Gissing
3. Meets the group from Henty Rotary
4. Meets Orange Rotarians in Parkes

5. Attended a Mayoral Civic Reception in Wagga
6. Planted a Red Flowering Ironbark in Rotary Park Grenfell
7. Briefed by PDG Fred Loneragan (far right) on the worldwide Rotary Peace Communities Program started in Wagga by Koorngal Rotary
8. Hosted by DG Ian and Jean Simpson
9. Looked after by Aides Neal and Barbara Fogarty
10. Inspected the District 9700 Mobile Advertisement for Rotary and Ending Polio
11. Meets President Barry Francis of Wagga Wagga Rotary
12. Met Primary and Secondary School Captains in Parkes



OUR WONDERFUL WORLD OF ROTARY

DISTRICT GIFT TO GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION

Foundation Director PDG Fred Loneragan came up with the idea of a District 'gift' for RI President Kalyan to celebrate the visit to our District.

Clubs were invited to contribute to the Polio Plus Challenge during the Month of May.

The result:

■ District 9700 Rotary Clubs contributed \$30,000 to Polio Plus in May and

■ \$20,000 was donated to The Rotary Foundation from the District 9700 Designated Funds (DDF) and with a Matching contribution of 50cents in each \$1 from The Rotary Foundation. This amounted to an additional

\$30,000

The District 'gift' amounted to \$60,000 and at the oral vaccine cost of 60cents per child treatment – 100,000 children will receive the oral polio vaccine as a result of our RI President's visit to the District.

RI President Kalyan acknowledged this 'gift' as a wonderful example of 'Reaching Within to Embrace Humanity'.



In accepting, RI President Kalyan said that he would "visit our District on any occasion that a gift like this was made to END Polio in our world"

MAY IS AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH MONTH

Australian Rotary Health (ARH) is one of Australia's largest independent health research organisations.

It was formed in 1981, as a means of researching Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and is now a multi-district project

approved by Rotary International.

Australian Rotary Health has contributed more than \$29 million towards health research, funding projects in areas as diverse as Alzheimer's, arthritis, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, multiple sclerosis and spinal injury.

Since 2000, our focus has been on mental health in communities.

ARH is dedicated to creating better health for all Australians by improving the level of education and advancing knowledge through medical research, awareness and education.

ARH funds research and community education programs and supports the next generation of health practitioners.



www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au

CELEBRATING HAT DAY IN D9700

Hat Day is Australian Rotary Health's newest event and the first community action and awareness day for Mental Health Research.

This year Hat Day was on Friday 18th May with Rotarians having some fun by wearing a favourite or unusual hat to Rotary.

The bonnet (pictured) is part of the 'Roses from the Heart' project, a concept of Christina Henri, an artist from Tasmania.

The bonnets are created to commemorate the life and contribution of each of the 25,566 convict women transported to Australia between 1788 and 1853.

Women in Henty have contributed

20 bonnets to this unique worldwide memorial.

Our photos show Nadine Fogarty wears a bonnet at Henty Rotary Fish-n-Chip night and Janet and Leon Bowyer kept it simple at Orange North



TAKING THE MYSTERY OUT OF ROTARY ACRONYMS

WITH NANNETTE STEVENSON



ARH – AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH

Supporting healthy minds, bodies and communities through research, awareness and education

May is a special month in the Rotary Calendar as we acknowledge and celebrate the role in which Australian Rotary Health has helped so many people to achieve better health through health research undertaken in various areas.

CONCEPT

Australian Rotary Health is Australia's largest non-government funding body of mental illness research. Research in other health related areas is also funded.

The genesis of Australian Rotary Health in 1981 was the mystery of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The Late Ian Scott, from the Rotary Club of Mornington, established Australian Rotary Health to support research into SIDS. As Australian Rotary Health grew so did the vision of medical research possibilities. Supported by Rotarians Australian wide, Australian Rotary Health was soon in a position to sponsor health research in areas that did not readily attract funding.

STRUCTURE

Australian Rotary Health has been approved by the Board of Rotary International as a multi-district project and is registered under Corporation Law as a company limited by guarantee. It operates through a Constitution which provide for Membership to be restricted to Rotarians and for control by a Board of Directors elected by and drawn from the Members. Membership entitles Members to receive all Newsletters and the Annual Report and Accounts.

VISION

Australian Rotary Health has a broad vision of health; it is a catalyst for projects that improve the quality of life for people who are least able to assist themselves.

Here is just one of the many programs:

KidsMatter which is a primary school mental health promotion, prevention

and early intervention initiative developed in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, beyondblue: the national depression initiative, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council (APAPDC) and supported by Australian Rotary Health.

The KidsMatter initiative aims to:

- Improve the mental health and well-being of primary school students
- Reduce mental health problems among students (eg. anxiety, depression and behavioural problems)
- Achieve greater support and assistance for students at risk or experiencing mental health problems.

Schools have a significant influence on students' emotional, social and behavioural development. There is a growing understanding that the primary school years represent a significant opportunity for mental health promotion, and the prevention and early intervention of mental health problems in children.

For more information about ARH, check out this month's edition of Rotary Downunder Magazine and/or go to the website www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au

SMILES ALL ROUND AT CARCOAR

Blayney Rotary Club has been moving its meeting venues to visit the villages in the Blayney Shire, and having already celebrated with dinners in Neville and Millthorpe, it was time to go back and learn some more of the history in the village of Carcoar.

Speaker on the night was John Burke from the Carcoar Historical Society who outlined some of the history, the buildings and families, notable events from the past, and a vision for a thriving village that celebrates its past.

The induction of the 6 new members made this another successful meeting run by Blayney Rotary.

A further 7 members were inducted in early June with another two prospects to join Rotary soon.

Blayney has shown what is achievable in a small community with a determined membership drive supported by a plan for membership growth.

Membership has grown from 23 at the start of the year to 37 by Changeover.

Photo: Back (L> R) Blayney President Alex Kruczaj, Stephen Wright, Bill Burdett, Anton Franze Front (L>R) Sean Duong, Margie Adams, Lee-Anne Rigney





SUCCESSFUL, FUN FILLED RI CONVENTION AT BANGKOK

In May, an estimated 36,000 Rotarians and friends attended the 103rd annual Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.

This is the third largest attendance on record.

Around 20,000 attended the Convention Opening session and there was a second session to cater for all other attendees.

On 7th May, exactly 2,012 participants put on yellow and blue jackets and hoods to form Thailand's Biggest Smile at the Impact Arena for Ripley's Believe It Or Not.

The number 2012 reflected the convention year and the year Rotary members celebrated exceeding Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge for polio eradication.

The activity also fitted in with the RI Convention concept of "The Land of a Thousand Smiles" which conveyed the friendliness of the host country and its people as our photograph at the top of the page - BIG Rotary Smile to the world from Bangkok - displays.

Can you see anyone you know?

Attendance from D9700 was at an all-time high with 26 attending the four days of presentations, plenary discussion sessions and displays.

One of the advantages that our District had over others was that we all stayed together in the same Hotel and attended a number of convention sessions and social functions together.

This was all facilitated by Marilyn Roberts who used her experience of attending previous RI Conventions to guide us 'First Timers' through the booking process and decisions on what to attend and what to miss.

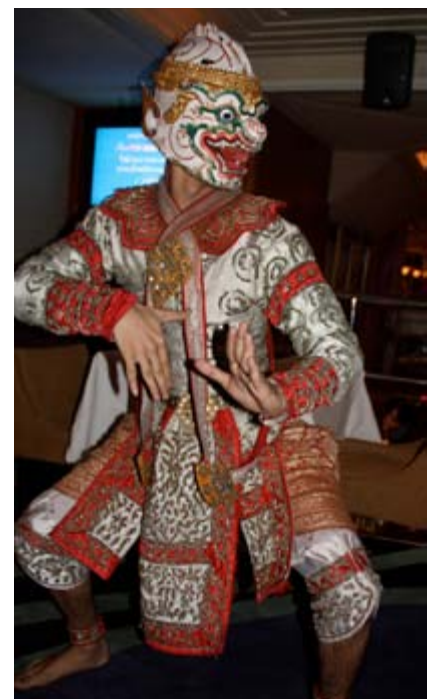
The Convention was held about 40km out of Bangkok in a place called IMPACT Stadium, a purpose built Convention city.

Travel by bus was well coordinated, comfortable and took between 45min to 2.5 hours depending on the time of day and traffic density.

The following Snapshots share some the Conference Scenes and our experiences.



*Happy Hour at the local pub after a day at the Conference
Demonstration of traditional Thai dancing - male*





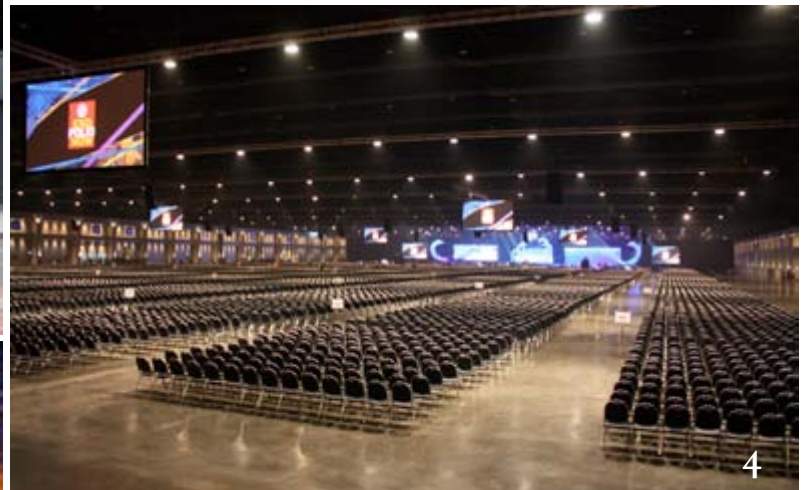
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Photos:

1. District Dinner Cruise along the Chao Phraya River
2. Demonstration of traditional Thai dancing - female
3. Arrival at the IMPACT Stadium Convention area
4. 22,000 capacity Convention Hall
5. RI President Kalyan Banerjee addressing the Bangkok Convention
6. Chair of the Foundation Trustees Bill Boyd with the Flags of the Rotary World
7. Youth Exchange Program participants attended



8



10

Photo 10. Foods of the world were honoured and sampled at the Host Hospitality night

11. Even Elvis made an appearance as part of the entertainment



9

Photo 8. Bill Gates talked about the eradication of Polio in our world via video link

9. New friendships were made and Banners exchanged



11

Australian Rotary Success Conference
Canberra 2012
 A Conference for your Club's best and brightest talent
 July 20-22, 2012

WHO DO WE WANT? **ROTARY LEADERS!** **WHEN DO WE WANT THEM?** **JULY 20-22!**

- *Presidents
- *PR Chairs
- *Membership Chairs
- *Future Leaders

www.rotarydownunder.com.au/events/AustralianRotaryConference2012

Australian Rotary Success Conference in Canberra is your opportunity to hear success stories and to share your own success stories.

Venue – Hellenic Club, Woden A.C.T., Australia.

RI President Nominee Ron Burton and his wife Jetta will be in attendance.

Who could benefit by attending?

All Rotary Leaders, Presidents and Presidents Elect, PR Chairs, Membership Chairs and Future Rotary Leaders and Rotarians who want to be involved in the continuing success of Rotary in Australia.

At this conference you will be able to participate in breakout sessions on various topics such as Membership Retention, Membership Recruitment & Extension, Diversity in Rotary, Flexibility and Innovative Clubs in the Future, Leadership, Public Image and Media.

SUCCESSFUL MOLONG ROTARY FUNDRAISER

Molong had around 120 attend the annual Trivia Night to raise funds for Rotary and community programs.

Apart from the regular rounds of questions, there were novel activities such as a Hat Parade with an Olympic theme in support of ARH Hat Day.

There was also a paper plane competition with a gold coin to buy the paper with proceeds to the Nepal Friendship Project.

Western Care Lodge in Orange that provides accommodation for cancer patients from across the Central West also benefited from the night.



UPDATE - 100 DAY CHALLENGE.....

THE CHALLENGE....

Gain '100 members in 100 days'
Members gained in March, April & May = 64
Total needed to meet our Target = 36



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We hope you enjoy Rotary as much as we enjoy having you!

- Elizabeth Gilchrist – Bathurst Daybreak
- Heather Crawford - Bathurst East
- Tony Pollard - Bathurst East
- Kathy Woodley – Bathurst East
- Margie Adams - Blayney
- Bill Burdett – Blayney
- John Conroy – Blayney
- Sean Duong - Blayney
- Anton Franze - Blayney
- Melissa Humphris – Blayney
- Don Humphris – Blayney
- Lee-Anne Rigney – Blayney
- Vicki Smythe – Blayney
- Grant Turner-Mann – Blayney
- Meg Turner-Mann – Blayney
- Mike Whitten – Blayney
- Stephen Wright – Blayney
- Sam Yeates - Blayney
- Liz Levy - Condobolin
- Megan Ross – Condobolin

- Richard Campbell - Cowra
- Peter Norris – Forbes
- Peter Badoco – Griffith
- Warren Dale – Henty
- Ian Good – Junee
- Rozzi Smith – Molong
- Irene Bishop - Oberon
- David Scott - Oberon
- Brad Collins - Oberon
- Celia Stocker - Oberon
- Tina Philp – Oberon
- Alison Bennett – Orange Daybreak
- Angie Drooger – Parkes
- Cindy Nutley – Parkes
- Chloe Potts – Parkes
- Phillip Snow – Parkes
- Ian Gibson – Wagga Wagga
- Joe Nour – Wagga Wagga
- Ivory Roberts – Wagga Murrumbidgee
- Michael Halloran – Wagga Murrumbidgee
- Wayne Jenkins – Wollundry Wagga
- Ken Taylor – Wollundry Wagga
- Sarah Luff – Young

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW PRESENTATIONS

Congratulations to Rotary for recognising hard working members of clubs and communities with the award of a Paul Harris Fellow.

- Steve Lanza – Griffith Avanti
 - Lyn Sparks – Griffith Avanti
- NON – ROTARIANS AWARDED PHFS**
- Dr Larry Fingleton – Bathurst East; and
 - Dr Roger Hargraves – Bathurst East Both are committed to 'Service Above Self' in their care for patients
 - Doug Benson – Young For commitment and 'Service Above Self' through Angel Flight

VALE ...

ALEX BROWN

Honorary Member of Cowra Rotary
A veteran of WWII he was bright and had great spirit. He was in his 90s and had a nice set of neck ties – he always wore one to Rotary. He will be greatly missed.

PAT BRIDGES

Honorary Member of Orange North Rotary
Joined Rotary in 1981 and was President in 1986-87.
Serving in the Royal Australian Navy from 1940 to 1952, Pat fought for peace and freedom. May he now rest in peace and may people everywhere live free from oppression.

CONGRATULATIONS

**PP BRUNO BITI
OAM PHF - 30
YEARS ROTARY
SERVICE**

Joined the Henty Rotary Club on 10 June 1982
President 1985-1986,
Director on several occasions, District Zone Representative, 1986
and inaugural member of District Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and Vocational Committees 1987-1989. Culcairn Shire Council Citizen of the Year 1994; Paul Harris Fellow 1996; and awarded Order of Australia for service to the community in 2007.



WAGGA BUSINESS CHAMBER'S CROW AWARDS

At the Presentation Night held in Wagga on 18th May, John Studdert of Wagga Rotary was added to the Daily Advertiser newspaper Roll of Honour.
The annual citation is for persons who have made a substantial contribution to the community.
On behalf of the District - Congratulations

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- District Change Over Dinner, Leeton on Saturday, 30th June 2012