



9600 NEWSLETTER



DG 2006/2007 MICHAEL GREGORY



January 2007

District 9600 Website: www.rotary9600.org
Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Ivess,
P O Box 5170, Maroochydore, BC Qld 4556
Ph/Fax: 5443 6668
E-mail: dgnweditor@rotary9600.org

Michael's Message....

Tolerance is Understanding.

I saw the above quote outside a school near Kingaroy while on my way to the Official Visit with the Kingaroy Club and it struck me immediately as summing up one of our basic objectives – that of world understanding and peace. We tend to think of this as only applicable to international service, but it is as much a part of our home, work, club and district life, and we need to take it to heart and practise what we preach. Let us all include a hearty dose of tolerance in our New Year Resolutions and see what a difference it makes to our personal, business and Rotary life.

Successful Clubs offer opportunities for friendship, fellowship, networking, and meaningful service and my Club visits have confirmed that these Clubs all have certain features in common:

- They listen to each other and find out what members want.
- They emphasise the social aspects of Rotary, for this is the glue that binds us.
- They don't sell their Club as a product – they market it – they find out what people want and do their best to meet their needs.
- They bring new members into the Club with dignity and class.
- They make the whole family part of Rotary and don't let it be another committee that takes members from their spouses and children.
- They make sure that seasoned Rotarians help new members get

started and stay involved for at least a year.

- They provide education continuously, a little at a time. There is a lot to learn about Rotary and it can be overwhelming.
- They show enthusiasm openly! Rotary should be fun!

December was a quiet month for Official Visits – only two, to the Rotary Clubs of Gizo and Honiara in the Solomon Islands. After our experiences in PNG we allowed some leeway in case of unforeseen events and we are very glad we did, because this is the time of year when everyone goes back to their villages for the festivities taking everything, including the kitchen sink, with them! See separate report from Sherryl for more details. The imminent chartering of a Rotary Community Corps at Munda is on track and, with the wholehearted support of DGN Wayne Morris and the Rotary Club of Honiara, I am certain that we can charter more over the next couple of years. Ideally we would have one in each of the seven Provinces. Talking of quotes, a sign in the main street of Honiara read, "Health is Wealth" – how very true! On our return we attended the farewell function for our outgoing GSE Team to D3300 hosted by the Rotary Club of Albany Creek and very well organised by Chris Goninon and Darryl Gomersall. The Team's presentation was most impressive and they will do us proud in Malaysia – Team Leader Lorelle Holcroft is to be congratulated for bringing a set of individuals together as a very effective team, and you should see their uniforms! I am hopeful that, as a result of this exchange, we can enjoy closer ties, friendship exchanges, and joint projects with Rotary Clubs in D3300.

As reported in the January 9600 WCS Newsletter, the consignment of 100 Shelter Boxes arrived safely in Rabaul, were transported to Sikut, and erected with the assistance of a ShelterBox Team. Accommodation for many had been open sided tarpaulin shelters in the lower temperatures of the mountain location with tropical rain every afternoon – not good for the old and sick! The happy smiling faces of

the women and children say it all! For more information, visit www.shelterbox.org and have a look at their January Newsletter "Out of the Box". Wouldn't it be great if every Group of Clubs undertook to fund at least one ShelterBox? Now there's a challenge for you!

What is Rotary? You may have been asked this question before, but did you have a good response? Because January is Rotary Awareness Month, thinking about this simple question is a good first step toward sharing Rotary with your community. Even though there are over 32,000 Rotary Clubs in the world, many people still do not know what Rotary stands for, so make a special effort to share Rotary with your community this month – our District PR Committee is eager to help.

- Share your Club and District website link and a simple news release about Rotary Awareness Month with your local media.
- Invite the local media to one of your meetings or club events and host a question and answer session.
- Invite a friend or co-worker to a meeting.
- Write a letter to your paper's local editor about your Club's local and international humanitarian efforts.
- Co-ordinate a community service project with another organisation in your community.

There is so much going on and one of the best ways to become more aware ourselves of what is happening in the Rotary world is by participating in the Rotary Friendship Exchange Program. This can be with another Club or District in another country but it can even more easily be within Australia or even within our District. One of our Clubs regularly exchanges with a Club in Tasmania while a Club in Noosa is exchanging with one in Brisbane. Consider also participating in vocational exchanges that offer

opportunities for Rotarians to share their skills and experiences with one another, build local capacities, and strengthen understanding, goodwill and peace.

Under the leadership of IPDG Charles Guesdon, a committee has been diligently preparing the Constitution for the Incorporation of our District (as agreed by resolution of the 2006 District Conference). This document will shortly be forwarded to every Club for comment. Please take the time to thoroughly review this document with your members and have any issues clarified by IPDG Charles or your AG. A ballot by mail on the acceptance of the Constitution will be carried out in March/April and the District Leadership Team strongly urges you to support it. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the Committee and in particular IPDG Charles and PDG John Ker for the immense amount of work they have done in preparing for our District Incorporation.

Accommodation at the Kingaroy **World of Opportunity** Conference in April 2007 is filling fast so do not delay any further – register now so as not to miss meeting our GSE Teams.

...Victory is often a thing deferred, and rarely at the summit of courage...

What is at the summit of courage, I think, is freedom.

The freedom that comes with the knowledge that no earthly power can break you;

that an unbroken spirit is the only thing you cannot live without;

that in the end it is the courage of conviction that moves things, that makes change possible.

(Paula Giddings)

Lead the Way.

Michael Governor D9600

Council on Legislation

Evanston has issued Volume 1 containing the first 318 items of Proposed Legislation to be considered by Delegates at the Council on Legislation to be held in Chicago 22-27 April 2007. The balance of the items of Proposed Legislation is expected to be available sometime in February. All items included in Volume 1 have been posted to Rotary's website: www.rotary.org/events; click Council on Legislation, then click Proposed Legislation 2007 in the box titled 'More Information'.

I would be pleased to receive an advice or opinion from any member or club in the district on any Legislation that has been proposed. This will greatly assist me to formulate an opinion in advance as to the merit of any proposal that is of particular interest to the district.

Please direct your advice to me by email at: dethlefs@hotmail.net.au
PDG Bill Dethlefs – District Representative

District Conference Resolutions

Deadline is Monday 12th February 2007.

Each year clubs have an opportunity to amend the "Standing procedures for the management of District". Clubs are now invited to submit their proposed amendments or additions to procedures for the management of District.

Clubs need to give adequate notice prior to District Conference of any resolutions to be placed before the conference. Accordingly please ensure that your club resolutions are submitted to Legislation and Resolutions Committee Chairman RIDN John Lawrence on or before Monday 12th February 2007.

Clubs will be formally advised (by post and / or certified email prior to 13 March) of all proposed amendments and additions – i.e. not less than 30 days prior to District Conference resolutions session scheduled for Saturday 14th April. At the same time Clubs will be also advised of voting procedures for that session. If you require assistance in formulation resolutions please ask any PDG or experienced Rotarian for guidance.

Current "Standing procedures for the management of District" are published on our website at: www.rotary9600.org/

Contact details for submission of proposed resolutions are:
RIDN John M Lawrence
7 Porchester Street
Fig Tree Pocket, Brisbane Qld 4069
Phone: 3378 5649
Fax: 3378 4134
Email: jlawr@bigpond.net.au

Please send articles to
dnewseditor@rotary9600.org
Deadline for articles – The last week of the previous month.

Happy New Year
to you all
for 2007

District Diary

January – Rotary Awareness Month

DG Club Official Visits January 2007:

Mon 22 – Noosa

Wed 24 – Kenmore

Thurs 25 – Brisbane Planetarium

Tue 30 – Samford Valley

Wed 31 – Ashgrove / The Gap

DG Club Official Visits February 2007:

Thurs 1 – Fortitude Valley

Mon 5 – Cooroy

Tue 6 – Redcliffe City

Mon 12 – Gympie

Tue 13 – Gympie-Cooloola

18 Feb – Review & Renew Seminar - Kingaroy

21 Feb - International Mother language Day

23 Feb - World Understanding & Peace Day

8 March – International Women's Day

12-18 March – World Rotaract Week

21 March – International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

22 March – World Day for Water

7 April – World Health Day

4-6 May – PNG and SI Forum (note changed from Directory)

15 May – International Day of Families



2007 Rotary International Convention – Salt Lake City.

Head to the mountains of Salt Lake City for the 98th annual RI Convention, slated for **17-20 June 2007**. There, you'll join family, friends, and fellow Rotarians from around the world at Rotary's largest annual get-together. This year's convention is fun, informative, and affordable, with new features such as the World Peace Symposium.

"No word or pictures can describe the great feeling of being at a RI Convention. You have to go to see it for yourself".

75th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lismore Inc

When: **24th February 2007**
Price: **\$50** per person
Where: **Lismore Workers Club**

The form of this celebration will be a **Dinner Dance**.

Cheques can be sent to RC of Lismore
P O Box 59
Lismore NSW 2480

Direct any questions to:
PP Joanne Cooper
email: coopers1@ceinternet.com.au
or phone: 02 6625 1611

*Official Visit to the
Solomon Islands:* December 2006

We flew into Honiara on Saturday 9 December and stayed overnight, flying to Gizo the following day and found out that plane services in SI are similar to PNG. When we saw the amount of bags and packages that other people were checking in, we knew it would be a physical impossibility to get it all, and us, on one small plane – and we were right. We eventually arrived late afternoon in Gizo, via Numda – taking 9 hours for a 1 hour flight! We found Gizo to be a really lovely place where the water is crystal clear and the fish abundant, and we were fascinated to watch the fresh fish for the market being brought in by canoe. We had a lunch meeting with the Gizo Club at the PT109 Bar and were fined for wearing shoes (they call themselves “the barefoot club”). We visited the school at Ngari village (part of a Rotary Volunteers project of the Sunshine Coast Clubs) where we delivered some of the children’s books that clubs had donated. At Titiana school (a Rotary project of another district) we were treated to the most beautiful singing from a group of Gilbertese teenagers. We spent time on Babanga Island to inspect the kindergarten that Brisbane Planetarium has helped to build and at the Gizo primary and secondary school (where we delivered more books and saw the desks that Trevor Taylor had helped to make) and at the Gizo hospital we visited the wards as well as the malaria research office. At the hospital a sign near the jetty saying, “Welcome to Gizo, now go home” intrigued us. We wondered if they feared that too many visitors might spoil their island paradise. We stayed in Gizo for 2 days and flew back to Honiara on Wednesday the 13th. It wasn’t all work and no play in Gizo and we managed to get to the fabulous Fatboys Bar on Babanga Island for lunch. We also visited the Worldfish Centre on Nusatupe Island where Trevor Taylor spent some time helping with marketing aspects.

Back in Honiara we were invited, with AG Nathan and the President of the Honiara RC, Bill MacGregor, to meet the Governor General of the Solomon Islands, Sir Nathaniel Waena, for a cup of tea (in gold-rimmed cups with the Queen’s insignia. My Mum always taught us good manners for when the Queen came to our place for tea. When I saw those cups I thought – this is the closest I am going to get). Sir Nathaniel reinforced his gratitude for the work that Rotary was doing in the Solomon Islands and he was particularly interested to hear of Michael’s hopes for the formation of a Rotary Community Corp in every province of the SI. He and his wife also joined us at the meeting that evening of the Honiara club. While in Honiara we spent 2 days ‘in the field’ visiting RAM bed net and microscopy projects in clinics and villages to the east and west of Honiara, and met Albi, the Director of the Malaria Research Centre in Honiara, “Mr RAM as AG Nathan calls him.

We saw the different kinds of nets in use in villages houses and heard of the significant difference the nets have made to the incidence of malaria in the provinces where they are being used. We visited a school about an hour out of Honiara to the west called the Aruligo School where the Honiara Club has provided a water tank and books and chairs from DIK – we gave them more of the books we had, and they put on a lovely afternoon tea of fruit – pawpaw, melons and the sweetest pineapples. We found time to visit the Botanical gardens and do a tour of the war memorials and WW2 battle fields of Honiara – one called “Bloody Ridge” – it was all very interesting and gave us a picture of the extent of the battles that went on there during the war – there are so many wrecks in the passage between Honiara and Savo Island that it is called “Iron-bottom Sound”.

We are grateful to DGN Wayne and AG Nathan for organising things for us in SI and for the hospitality of the Honiara Club, particularly President Bill and Rose (who saved us by rushing out to the airport with a picnic the day we were stuck there on our way to Gizo), and to the Gizo Club members, in particular our guides, Hall and Patrick. Seeing the Solomon Islands first hand, albeit for a short time, has given us a better understanding of the situation there and in particular, the needs and priorities for Rotary service.

Sherryl



Adagege Island gets water

Submitted by Arthur Wate on 19 December, 2006 – this article appeared in the Solomon Star recently and was forwarded by DGN Wayne.

ROTARY International and Hervey Bay Water Board members last week changed the lives of the people of Adagege Island with the completion of a \$50,000 water supply project. Since the first human inhabitants settled on Adagege Island, people especially women, had to paddle to the mainland daily to collect water for drinking, bathing, washing and cooking. However, last week that all changed after the group from Wide Bay Water Corporation (WBWC) of Hervey Bay in Queensland and Rotary Club International completed the water project to the island.

Member of Parliament Baegu Asifola Toswell Kaua said the water supply is the reward to the hardship and tiring efforts experienced by women from the island. "This is a huge change in life where we have learnt to live with and adopt new ways of doing things to replace the many hours of having to paddle canoes to fetch fresh water from the mainland. Paddling canoes at odd times at night where there is a feast or gathering of one way or another is now over," Mr Kaua said during the opening of the water supply last week. He said now the people on the island would concentrate more on doing other things that are more worthwhile instead of spending time paddling to collect water. "We need to involve in activities where everybody enjoys to avoid pardon. I am confident that we can overcome this as time goes on."

But most importantly, Mr Kaua urged the community to look after the water supply with care.

"This is your water look after it with care. As you can see that this is the first of its kind to be built in our constituency."

The project started after Mr Kaua met a close friend and former SIWA manager Jimmy Wolden in Honiara last year who contacted WBWC executive manager Peter Care about the Adegege plight.

This prompted Mr Care to call on the local community and Rotary Club members in Hervey Bay to raise funds for this water project.

Early this year Mr Care travelled to Adegege to assess the project and last week he was part of the group that witnessed the official opening of the water project.

Speaking to Solomon Star upon his group's arrival in Honiara from Malaita recently, Mr Care said the project was a success.

"The project consist of several solar powered pumps pumping water from a natural spring to an elevated tank. There the tank with a carrying capacity of 5000 litres distributes water to the families living on the artificial island – covering more than 800 meters from the mainland to the island," Mr Care said.

Rotary Club Queensland representative Dave Hanson said the project turned

into reality because of the eagerness of the club members to help.

Mr Hanson said their association with WBWC also made it possible for them to participate in funding the project.

"This is not the first time we've assisted our friends here in the Solomon's, eight years ago our Queensland group was also involved in helping out at the Auki Medical Centre. Now we are happy with the current project and are looking forward to helping out in similar projects in the future."

In thanking the funders, Mr Kaua said he wanted the project extended to other parts of Baegu Asifola.

Therefore, he asked the funders to spread the word about the difficulties and challenges facing the constituency especially on water supply to turn that thought into reality. "Our women, folks are eager and keen to see that you wipe out their sweat and tears and replace them with a drop of water as you have done to the Adagege community.

"We wish you to take this humble request with you to your good people in Hervey Bay and other organisations who may wish to help the needy in this regard. We hope and pray that with God's divine intervention our needs can be answered by our good friends from overseas," the MP said.

GSE Team News – December 2006

Hi everyone,

Finally we are able to get an email out of Malaysia. The earthquake in Taiwan has interrupted all network/email communication and this is the first day I could send anything – or even get online to Oz.

Well what can I say. This is amazing, the hospitality is just wonderful. we were met with a huge group and large Rotary banner at the airport (after the lightest touchdown by a pilot any of us had ever experienced). We were then taken into town – about an hour from the airport and taken to our hotel (Holiday Inn) owned by DG Jimmy Lim. Anything at all is possible – drivers available to take us places – anything we want appears. we are not allowed to pay for anything! (won't Brisbane be a shock when we get home). The first morning we walked around the city, they have quite impressive twin towers. We are staying just down the road from the Palace of the Sultan of Brunei.

Lunch was with DG Jim and he is such a character. Quite hilarious not that that hides his very astute business sense though. The KL Rotarians are very powerful people and do quite amazing things under the name of Rotary. Club fines range up to \$100 (thank goodness they didn't fine visiting Rotarians). This lunch also included a local television and news press and we were photographed and interviewed from all angles.

Apparently we will see the result on a CD and get a copy of the newspaper report. Yuen is just lovely and has done

a wonderful job of organising this. I am the very first female team leader they have had since they started their first GSE exchange in 1966! And Nigal is getting some very special treatment and often asked how he enjoys being the rose amongst the thorns. We have had lunch with the incoming team and they are a wonderful group.

That night we were taken to a combined meeting in a local hotel of 2 clubs. A very short meeting but we were plied (and I mean 'plied' – I had about 4 glasses of red wine around the room as I tried to avoid too much) and then karaoke and dancing till quite late – boy could they party and boy did we enjoy it. We tried to go home several times but they just wanted us to stay. We had a ball. A very 'rich group' too where money and power does a lot of the work of Rotary.

We are finding the hospitality here is something very special.

We were up at 5 am the next day and on the 'economy' (like Jetstar) flight to Kota Baru – a little piece of paradise. Now this club is one of the most wonderful groups so friendly, as humorous and funny as our team can be (several of them have signed onto the district conference just to see us again and have a dance at the DG's dinner). This group is a mixture of Muslim, Christian, Hindu ... you name it but everyone gets on so well. The guys who transported us around were so open – we could ask any question we liked. Do you know that if a Muslim man takes a second wife, the first one has to agree. Could you see that happening here. We were put up in a lovely hotel as it is a holiday weekend and too many Rotarians were going off on holidays. But that was good as it let us be together for a night or two. We have had two lunches at family places – President Jega whose father was a good friend of the Sultan. And the PE Hadi. Both had traditional food – and it was delicious. I have eaten some things I have never even heard of before. At Hadi's place, he brought in a man and his monkey to get coconuts out of the tree and they cut the green ones and let us drink the fresh juice and eat the soft coconut. Delicious! The people are so generous. One of the single Muslim men, Musta drove us around all of one day. He told Juanita that he would kill to marry her but knew she was taken. That afternoon, one of the women took her to our place and dressed us all in beautiful formal saris – we have the photos. A sari makes you feel so elegant (yes, even me). The young girls looked fabulous. Nigal is wonderful and fits in so well. However, he sat and enjoyed the sari session – helped choose the sari's and took photos for us. He fits in so well everywhere and has all the women and men eating his every word.

We went to an International school which was very interesting as the Malay 'owner' set it up in his vision – quite a vision. His first wife gave us a beautiful 'high tea'.

Everyone speaks very good English as well as at least Malay. And many have studied in Australia to masters or PHD levels – or their kids are there now.

Today it was so sad to say goodbye to these lovely people but we caught the bus (have just eaten snake skin fruit) to Kota Tregganu. This state of Malaysia has the Sultan who is now the ruling Sultan for Malaysia (they all take turns). I am staying in the house of a lovely Indian (Hindu) couple who are both GPs and lovely people. Wendy, for your benefit, she comes from Putaparti – just near there and soon we have a dinner where we will also make our presentation – and time with a computer but no data projector. The Malaysians are very IT literate which is good.

Tomorrow they have organised a huge party with 250 people and dancing etc to help us celebrate New Year's Eve. The theme is cowboys and cowgirls. Our aussie hats are just the thing.

The team is superb and getting on so well. All the Rotarians are commenting on it and the message is spreading fast which is great. If we'd had 100 applicants, we couldn't have picked 5 better people. all have strength and help everyone else.

I guess from all of that you can realise that we are having the best time. None of us are going to want to leave and we are all trying to come up with a reason Nigal can tell his principal that he is 'sick' or something so he can stay.

We've all had very interesting experiences – some of which will stay on tour. but all good and some very funny. We have hundreds of photos between us and are collecting what we call 'quote of the day' something silly that one of us might have said. We are talking about our presentation to our district conference and think we might have a humorous section called 'Ten Tips for outgoing GSE Teams'.

All in all our humour and fun are becoming well know. We are not finding any problems with culture other than it is different. That includes clothing, manner. Even the Muslims are really no different and even though the 'book' says not to hug or things like that, we all got hugs and a kiss on the cheek from the last group. Even Juanita has now been 'initiated' and used an eastern toilet. (Luckily there are lots of western ones).

It's not too hot mostly since its monsoon season and sometimes cloudy. Not too much rain but water everywhere. The Malaysians are quite fascinated when we tell them about our level 4 water restrictions.

Well, must go. We spent the afternoon swimming at the local big golf club and drinking fresh juices – it's a hard life but someone has to do it. Have to get ready for tea.

Thanks Mike – this is a great country and the best place to travel where you get to know the locals. Hope this gets through – love to everyone, Lorelle (and the team).

PS: There is royalty coming to the DG's dinner – it's a really flash one and we have been asked to stand near the stage and let off those large Chinese crackers that fire glittering stuff into the crowd. We have been asked not to hit the Sultan or the Prince.



An update from our GSE in Malaysia.

On the vocational side we have had interesting experiences. For the 3 of us who are teachers, school only went back on Wednesday but we have been in both an International school with its own philosophy aimed at improving educational opportunities for Malays and a small Tamil school on the plantation. This was the kids first day at school and a great delight to talk with the principal and teachers. Tomorrow we are visiting 3 more schools. For Linda, we spent a long time (and stayed 1 night) on a large rubber and palm oil plantation looking at how it was managed to protect the environment and planting, propagation and care of the community of workers. We saw rubber tapping, the nursery and palm oil harvesting – so interesting. For Nikki & Juanita, Nikki stayed with a doctor and went on New Year's day to the hospital to see the newborn babies. There are many doctors in the Rotary clubs so both have had many discussions about health care. Nikki stayed with one doctor whose son was physically impaired. Juanita has been interested in the health care but not gone to a specific one though has lots of information about the health care system in Malaysia. So in all, very successful vocational experiences. We have a large vocational experience planned for tomorrow for 5 each of us.

We are still being overwhelmed by the wonderful hospitality of the Malaysians. The Rotary meetings are very like ours though the toast is with water and to the king/sultan. We have introduced heads and tails to at least one Rotary club and plan to teach the audience at the conference tomorrow at the Friday night dinner. I have seen lots of good ideas and can certainly contribute a lot to the planning now for our incoming GSE team.

Lorelle

Report on the Concentrated Language Encounter Leader Training Workshop Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Introduction

A Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) Leader Training Workshop was conducted at the Moresby South Learning and Development Centre within Koki Market in Port Moresby from Monday October 9 to Thursday, October 12 2006. This was the first CLE Workshop conducted Papua New Guinea.

The Workshop was let by PDG Dr J Neil Adamson, Adviser, Rotary International Literacy Resource Group and attended by PDG Ross Forgione, Zone 7 co-ordinator, Rotary International Literacy Resource Group. Dr Adamson was invited to lead the workshop by Dame Carol Kidu, Minister for Community Development, Government of PNG.

According to the latest figures available approximately 40% of the 6 million people in PNG are unable to read and write. There are 820 different languages in the country with English, Pidgin and Hiri Motu being the most widely spoken.

Even though Dame Carol is a very busy person attending to her ministerial and electorate duties, she found time each day to attend the workshop and addressed the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. This was appreciated by all participants.

All participants were delighted to have Governor RI District 9600 Michael Gregory and Sherryl attend the workshop on Wednesday, October 11. They observed the groups at work and DG Michael provided an encouraging address to the participants.

It was also pleasing to have Willie Jonduo, Director, National Literacy and Awareness Secretariat, Curriculum Development Division PNG Department of Education present during the Opening Ceremony and speak at the Closing Ceremony.

Aim of The Workshop

The general aim of the workshop was to train the trainers so that these people, could in turn, train teachers of adults.

Cooperating Rotary District & Clubs
Materials for the workshop were supplied by District 9600 and sent to PNG from Australia by PDG Bill Waterfield. The Rotary Clubs of Port Moresby and Boroko coordinated workshop activities and members supplied visual equipment and computers.

Participants

Twenty four leaders from a number of organisations in PNG attended the workshop. Whilst the emphasis of the workshop was on Adult Education, other groups included representatives from religious groups, pre school education and those involved with older children not attending school (Street Children). Special mention must be made of representatives from the Bomana Correctional Centre which included two printers and a Rehabilitation Officer. As well as having representatives from pre schools attending the whole workshop approximately 25 pre school teachers attended the last afternoon of the workshop when Dr Adamson spoke about the teaching of young children using the CLE methodology.

Dome participants were from towns outside Port Moresby including Madang and Kuni.

continued page 6

Venue

The venue at Koki was adequate for the needs of the workshop.

Learners

Approximately 36 people, selected by Dame Carol, were used for demonstrations and practice teaching. Many were unable to read and write whilst others had had little schooling. All learners were provided with snacks and lunch.

Workshop Program

Initially, the standard suggested program devised and used by Rotary International Task forces for the training of teachers of illiterate adults was used, however during the course of the workshop, the program and some content was changed to meet the needs of the disparate groups represented. Changes to the program did involve additional evening preparation by the leader however these changes were very beneficial and enhanced the understanding of the CLE methodology of the participants. A greater amount of time during the workshop was also devoted to the development of Draft Strategic Plans which will prove a good starting point for the projects organised by the participants when they return to their respective areas.

The new program was innovative and I believe that this approach was the first ever taken with CLE Leader Workshops. It is suggested that similar programs organised in the future should be over a period of five days.

Activities

Research has revealed that literacy programs for adults, special groups and street children in developing countries will not succeed unless they are directly related to real-life situations. These programs are generally activity based.

In this workshop participants were divided randomly into groups and each group decided upon their own activity for the team practice teaching periods.

Flower arrangement; How to make paper bricks; How to make a coconut and paw paw sweet; How to make a coconut and fruit salad.

Participants in each group volunteered to supply their own equipment and ingredients.

Summary of results of workshop

The participants appeared to grasp the methodology very quickly and were enthusiastic about implementing CLE projects in their own areas. I was informed that there was considerable interest in learning to read using CLE by inmates of the Correctional Centre.

After lunch time meeting with Dame Carol and representatives of the two Rotary Clubs, it was agreed that three people be appointed to assist with the coordination of CLE in PNG. At some suitable time one responsibility of these people will be to arrange a meeting of the workshop participants to discuss progress in their areas.

Two groups taught the learners in Pidgin and produced their Big Books in that language and in English.

Three of the illiterate learners were able to read and write basic worked after one and a half days of teaching. They were very excited about this achievement.

A lady learner brought her 4 year old son to the practice teaching session as she was

unable to leave him elsewhere. The child was able to participate in the group's activities. This situation is similar to that in many developing countries including Turkey, Egypt, the Philippines, India and Nepal where women need to bring their young children with them as they desperately want to learn to read and write.

Most participants had developed plans so that their projects could commence immediately they returned home.

There appeared to be a general "thirst" for information on the methodology by all participants.

The learners used by Dr Adamson in the demonstrations returned each day to participate in the practice teaching sessions because they found the learning activities "good fun".

Publicity

The workshop received national newspaper and radio coverage.

Resource Materials

Each participant was presented with the following basic texts:

Rotary International Literacy Task force "A Teachers Manual for CLE Teaching of Beginners" (Courtesy of the RI Literacy Resource Group); Walker, R.F, Rattanavich, S & Oller J.W. "Teaching All the Children to Read Concentrated Language Encounter Techniques" (Courtesy of RI District 9600); Dr Adamson also provided copies of his presentation notes and overhead slides.

Certificates

All participants were presented with a Certificate of Attendance by Dame Carol.

Suggestions

Whilst it is acknowledged that Dame Carol and the participants have control over the progress of CLE Projects according to their needs, the following suggestions are made:

That arrangements be made to monitor the progress of each project.

That the three "coordinators" arrange for a meeting of the participants to discuss progress.

That some kind of pre project and half term evaluation of the learners take place.

That a consultant be invited to return to PNG to visit the project sites to assist teachers if required.

That Rotary Clubs in Port Moresby be kept informed of the progress.

That the Lighthouse concept be investigated after a period of twelve months to enable extension of CLE into other areas in PNG.

Appreciation

PDG Bill Waterfield – initial arrangements and providing materials for the workshop.

Dame Carol Kidu – for her invitation to visit PNG, her warm welcome and for her assistance in so many ways.

The Rotary Club of Boroko for the arrangements made for the visit of PDG Neil Adamson and PDG Ross Forgioni.

President Craig Brouggy and PP Lionel Melville for supplying equipment and

certificates.

The Rotary Club of Port Moresby, especially Margaret Hansell. Margaret's help with transport and advice was very much appreciated.

PDG Ross Forgioni for his interest in attending and assisting in workshop activities.

It was a pleasure to visit PNG to launch this project and if I can be of any further assistance in the future it would give me great satisfaction to be able to do so.

Best Wishes,
Neil Adamson

Dr J Neil Adamson
Adviser, RI Literacy Resource Group
PO Box 53
Armidale NSW.



Group Photo



Demo Team



Flower Making



Making Books

Update email from **Ambassadorial Scholar - Kate Del Mar, in Geneva.**

Greetings from Geneva!

It's turning into that time of year when Queenslanders based in Europe catch themselves dreaming of hot, sunny days in Brisbane; of warm nights that are only interrupted by the sun which is so hot that it wakes you up in the morning... In contrast, it is dark in Geneva at 5pm, and quite cool. The flaming reds and oranges of autumn are slowly decaying on the ground, making the blue and purple hues of the mountains seem more and more ominous. Little wonder that there is such a trade in Christmas decorations! There is nothing more comforting when struggling home in the dark with a bag full of books strapped to my back, than to see strings of small fairy lights strung up along the streets, and big, bright Christmas trees glowing in the shop windows. Thank goodness for Christmas!

That said, I have no justification for complaining about the weather which has been unusually warm for winter - it is claimed to be the warmest winter Geneva has experienced in a hundred years! So global warming is having an effect here as well, although in a much milder way than our droughts in Australia!

The Masters course has been keeping me extremely busy. I have had five papers due in the last couple of weeks, some with very short turn-around times, so sleep was lacking - to say the least. The work is extremely interesting. In my International Humanitarian Law subject (otherwise known as the 'law of war'), we have been discussing the applicable law governing the detainees held at Guantánamo Bay. It is very interesting to compare this body of law to that of human rights law. Whereas the latter considers each human being to enjoy a 'right to life' in all circumstances (including armed conflicts), under the former law it is perfectly lawful for combatants to kill one another in armed conflicts. How these two subjects interact is not without controversy.

Mitchelton Christmas Party

The Rotary Club of Mitchelton hosted its 10th Annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Party at the Arana Hills Community Centre on Sunday 10th December.

President Brian Basson and the members of Mitchelton RC, together with their partners, were at the centre bright and early on Sunday morning to set up, and decorate, the venue. Other Rotarians were acting as "taxi drivers", picking up some of the attendees.

Around 11.00 am, the first of 120 invited senior citizens arrived.



I celebrated the completion of my mountain of assignments last week by having a lovely weekend relaxing with my husband (Max) and another friend from law school in Australia, who both visited me in Geneva. It was lovely to show them some parts of the Old Town they had not yet visited, but which I am now very familiar with. The city is in the midst of celebrations of l'Escade; when the city of Geneva was successfully defended against an invasion led by the Duke of Savoie in 1602. A myth that has arisen from this historical event is that of the 'Mère Royaume'; a Genovese woman who, when she saw the French troops at the city walls, grabbed a pot of vegetable soup she had been making, and tipped the boiling contents onto the unsuspecting troops below. She, together with Isaac Mercier, is attributed with defending the city.

In her honour, all the 'chocolatiers' (chocolate makers) create elaborate soup-pot-replicas from chocolate, bearing the city's coats of arms (also in chocolate) and fill them with small vegetables made out of marzipan. These chocolate pots (called 'marmites' in French) may be bought in various sizes, the smallest being a bit bigger than a coffee mug (costing around 20 CHF from a very good chocolatier; cheaper if bought at a supermarket) to one the size of a beach ball and costing several hundred Swiss francs. These large marmites are extremely elaborate and have small chocolate canon and canon balls perched on top of their lids.

Winter in Geneva is a lovely time to go to the theatre; to step in from the cold, peel off four layers of coats, and to have a hot chocolate, just before the start of the first Act! I have seen two excellent productions from a local, but very good, theatre company called 'Théâtre de Carouge'. The first was a Shakespeare play (Troilus and Cressida) performed in French and Serb (each of the belligerent parties speaking a different language).

The centre was buzzing with laughter as the invitees were entertained and treated to a well-prepared meal. Of course, no Christmas function is complete without the visit of Santa Claus and Santa's arrival and presentation was very well received.

All members and partners of Mitchelton RC were involved in a most enjoyable day, filled with fun and fellowship.



The other was 'Oleanna', a play by an American (I think) playwright called David Mamet. This has some very fiery language, and I learnt some French words that I can thankfully say I will have no use to ever incorporate into my daily conversations!

I have also been attending lunchtime Rotary meetings of my host Rotary Club, and assisting them in a fundraising activity to help raise money for an organization that trains dogs to help handicapped persons (specifically those with mobility problems). The training is very costly (about 20,000 CHF per dog). Through Rotary contacts, the club was able to use a stand for no expense, at a huge home and garden exhibition at the convention centre, to explain the concept to members of the public and to sell bottles of wine (which had been donated at cost price) in support of this cause. The puppy that was 'in training' was a very popular draw-card (please see photo)!

Kate Del Mar
2006/7 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar
Sponsor District 9600
Host District 1990



Deployment of ShelterBox's, at Sikut



District 9600 Governor's Newsletter — January 2007

Col's Comments

D9600 Membership and Attendance Report October and November 2006

When the November returns closed on 17 December, there were 26 clubs (the same number, but not quite the same clubs, as last month!) which had not put in their monthly return by the due date. It didn't matter quite so much this time as there was no December meeting of the District Consultative Committee and so no early post-17th-of-the-month report for me to prepare. **But watch out next week!** The important December return (consolidation of half-yearly figures) is due by Wednesday 17 January, and there is a meeting of the DCC on Friday 19 January. On Thursday 18th I shall be preparing my report, and those clubs from whom I have not heard at that stage (and there are quite a few who are consistently one day late, thinking it doesn't matter) will be reported as a "No Return". Let's hope that there will be considerably fewer than 26 on this occasion!

Anyway, back to November. In the three weeks since 17 December the overall activity has been a little less than usual (I wonder why!) and only 13 more have come in, leaving the 13 still outstanding as reported opposite. Helen and I, too, have been doing other things, and did not "chase" anyone this time round.

The overall membership position is that District 9600 is holding its own; in terms of trends elsewhere this is very good, but it is still not the result we have been hoping for. Last month the membership at the end of October (with nine "No Returns") was reported as 1905 and there it still remains (now with only five "No Returns"), and now the end of November figure (assuming no change for the 26 clubs yet to report) is still 1905. This static situation closely mirrors what happened last year at this time, but the statistical averages over the past 10 years indicate that there is normally a slight rise from July/August until November/December before the expected drop December to January when subscriptions become due again.

Let's all keep on trying!



Welcome to New Members

As of today, 6 January 2007, there have been four new, rejoined or relocated members advised by clubs since the DG's December Newsletter was prepared on 4 December 2006. All of these refer to the current Rotary year 2006/07. During the same period there were eight termination notice received, again all for 2006/07.

A big welcome, then, to the following new, rejoined or relocated members:

Albion: Jenny Stone.
Brisbane: Kevin Jenkins and Michael Mauger.
Mitchelton: Geoff Wilson.

Club	Club Membership			Attendance Percentages	
	30/6/06	31/10/06	30/11/06	October 2006	Nov 2006
Albany Creek	36	34	34	69.23	73.18
Albion	15	15	15	96.67	93.76
Alexandra Headland	24	25	26	76.09	75.00
Ashgrove /The Gap	42	41	41	78.66	71.70
Aspley	46	48	50	70.00	68.14
Bribie Island	26	22	22	80.28	85.71
Brisbane	67	66	66	51.25	45.31
Brisbane High-Rise	51	50	50	75.00	76.33
Brisbane Mid-City	62	61	59	62.30	64.77
Brisbane North	33	33	33	72.28	63.64
Brisbane Planetarium	71	69	70	84.20	86.88
Buderim	25	26	27	71.03	55.56
Caboolture	31	30	31	77.30	77.40
Caloundra	27	30	30	84.00	89.17
Caloundra Pacific	35	35	34	78.69	80.47
Coolum-Peregian	12	11	11	76.36	72.72
Cooroy	29	27	27	100.00	81.00
Fortitude Valley	50	51	51	74.73	67.52
Geebung	12	13	13	96.36	86.36
Gympie	54	55	55	80.00	80.45
Gympie-Cooloola	45	44	44	74.55	71.21
Hamilton	50	50	50	75.24	64.02
Indooroopilly	18	19	20	68.45	70.00
Karana Downs	21	20	20	77.00	82.50
Kawana Waters	12	15	16	87.99	83.85
Kenmore	48	47	47	59.29	74.48
Kingaroy	21	19	19	73.68	76.32
Kingaroy-Taabinga	15	16	16	70.31	78.75
Kippa Ring	17	17	17	95.59	95.29
Maleny	37	36	36	68.97	69.66
Maroochydore	38	37	37	No Return	70.66
Mitchelton	25	25	25	87.50	88.54
Mooloolaba	51	54	54	77.38	76.67
Murgon	20	17	17	86.66	69.33
Nambour	29	31	31	70.83	68.75
Nambour 76	36	33	32	79.63	74.93
Noosa	39	39	39	70.59	77.21
Noosa Heads	43	37	37	65.64	No Return
Noosa Heads Daybreak	32	32	33	63.28	67.42
Nundah	18	20	20	95.31	88.23
Paddington/ Red Hill	13	8	8	85.00	83.00
Pine Rivers	19	21	20	82.86	76.25
Pine Rivers Daybreak	15	16	16	75.00	79.68
Redcliffe City	50	48	48	84.42	No Return
Redcliffe Sunrise	17	15	15	84.62	No Return
Samford Valley	37	36	34	90.20	80.14
Sandgate	18	19	19	68.49	72.53
St Lucia	18	17	17	56.86	No Return
Stafford	18	18	18	69.44	No Return
Strathpine	16	12	12	85.00	No Return
The Glass House Mtns	19	15	15	No Return	90.00
Toowong	36	33	32	77.05	75.84
West B'ne Daybreak	25	19	19	76.84	No Return
Windsor	19	19	19	70.52	77.63
Woombye Sunrise	23	20	19	89.33	80.59
Boroko	29	32	32	97.66	96.25
Bulolo-Wau	4	4	4	75.00	No Return
Goroka	8	8	8	45.00	34.38
Huon Gulf	21	22	22	82.89	86.67
Kavieng	8	8	8	56.00	59.00
Kokopo	11	12	11	77.08	80.00
Lae	20	19	19	No Return	No Return
Madang	12	12	12	No Return	No Return
Mount Hagen	13	13	13	51.92	No Return
Port Moresby	41	43	44	63.85	75.76
Rabaul	7	7	7	No Return	No Return
Wewak	8	13	13	84.62	64.10
Gizo	7	10	10	57.50	30.00
Honiara	34	36	36	77.78	No Return
Totals/Averages	1929	1905	1905	76.05%	74.73%