



9600 NEWSLETTER



DG 2006/2007 MICHAEL GREGORY



September 2006

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Michael's Message....

*Every commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of great enthusiasm. Without enthusiasm there would be no idealism, and without idealism, or at least the conviction that the world really can be made a **better** place, the human race would slide backwards. (PRIP Royce Abbey 1988)*

Water is life – without it little else is possible, if you are thirsty nothing else matters – and that is why it is the first of our RI Emphases this year. This colourless, odourless and tasteless liquid is essential for all forms of growth and development – human, animal and plant. Water is of fundamental importance of the survival, protection and development of people in the world today. Droughts and unsafe drinking water take a devastating toll on the lives and health of people every year. Consider this; **over 1.1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water**, that's close to 1/6th of the world's population, and 2.4 billion people lack access to basic sanitation. In developing nations 80% of all diseases are water borne, with children being the most susceptible **so that somewhere in the world a child dies from water related diseases every 8 seconds**. In India, for example, the water crisis has been growing at an alarming rate and families are forced to live their lives around a problem that has a simple solution. Children are often forced to walk for miles to fetch water when they should be expanding their horizons by attending school.

With just US\$550, Rotary can provide a hand-well that will supply safe drinking water to 250 people for 15 years!

Increasing access to safe water and sanitation services and improving the management of water resources are critical to helping developing countries fight poverty and hunger, safeguard human health, reduce child mortality, promote gender equality, and manage and protect natural resources. Sufficient water for washing and safe private sanitation facilities are essential to personal dignity and self-respect. Many countries face "absolute water scarcity" – they will not be able to meet the water needs of their people. They include Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Kuwait, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Tunisia and Yemen. Other countries including India have a severe regional water scarcity. More countries face "economic water scarcity" – they must more than double their efforts to extract water to meet their need but lack the necessary financial resources. They include many African countries, Haiti, Paraguay and Papua New Guinea. Other more economically advanced countries including Australia and New Zealand must increase their efforts on water development between 25 and 100% to meet their future needs. Rotarians all around the world are working hard to address the shortage of safe water and you too can be involved – if your Club has not yet undertaken their own water project, please consider those on offer at the Projects Fair to be held as part of The Rotary Foundation Seminar on 15 October.

When choosing the activities that your Club undertakes RI President Bill Boyd encourages us to be practical and to remember that a project's success depends much more on the strength of its planning than on the scope of its ambition. We must continue to identify real needs and address them in an open, co-operative, and sustainable way, not through idealism and wishful thinking but through steady effort and sound knowledge.

In September our focus is on the New

Generations and the many programs Rotary provides for our youth. Sherryl and I attended the RYPEN Camp at Coolum and the Rotarians, Rotaractors and Rylarians involved in the leadership roles are to be congratulated for such a successful outcome and thanked for their hard work in making it so successful. I am sure that being deprived of so much sleep was all worth it when you farewelled all those happy young people on Sunday. Those Clubs that sponsor Interact Clubs should look at their involvement and make sure that a member is rostered to attend Interact meetings – ensure that they have our full support and make a date to attend the Interact gathering at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Nundah on 11 September. I encourage Clubs without an Interact Club to consider sponsoring one, sometimes it is not easy but if we persevere we succeed in the end. The Adventure in Citizenship Program has just concluded in Canberra and I know from my Club visits that some Clubs support this excellent Program, but it would be great if more Clubs came on board next year. Thanks to our hard working District Committee, we have again managed to get more students to the NYSF than we had expected and it has been a real pleasure to hear these exceptional students make their presentations to their sponsor Clubs. Youth Service is certainly alive and well in our District, but are we making full use of the opportunities for membership growth that this provides? Please consider all the grateful parents as potential members of your Club, tell them about Rotary, find out their passion and see if Rotary can satisfy it.

A big thankyou to the Membership Development Team that staged a very successful Seminar on 27 August – several new initiatives were promoted and there was great fellowship and sharing of ideas and success stories. Those Clubs that were represented were very

enthusiastic about the outcomes while those that did not attend, thinking perhaps that there could be nothing new, missed a perfect opportunity to foster their Club development. All is not lost however, because the Membership Team are available to visit your Club as Guest Speaker, to bring you up to date – so give them a call and make a booking now.

Registrations for the Kingaroy **World of Opportunity** Conference in April 2007 are coming in thick and fast, so remember, if you want a choice of accommodation, register early!

Be daring! Be not afraid to take a new road, to do new things and discover new programs! With Service as your light, **Lead the Way** to discover a new world for your Club and for Rotary.

Let us have the love to share
Let us have the vision to see what is needed
Let us have the faith to believe
Let us have the wisdom to dream new dreams, and
Let us have the courage to do whatever it takes to make them come true as we **Lead the Way** towards a better future.

Michael Governor D9600

From a Partner in Service *BRIDGING THE WORLD*

Michael has been speaking on official visits about the opportunities that Rotary provides. One of those is to attend an international convention. Despite being an expensive exercise these days – it is an opportunity of a lifetime to visit another country as a Rotarian as well as a tourist. We had never been to Scandinavia, yet had hosted several exchange students from there – so we decided that the 2006 Malmo-Copenhagen convention would be a great opportunity to catch up with some of our exchange students as well as see this part of the world.

We spent 3 days in Stockholm and caught up with Tom who had been hosted by the Pine Rivers Club in 1988 – we spent a lovely day with him, visiting an island in the Archipelago. We also spent a day with Elin and her family in Vasteras, the day before her graduation from high school. Elin was hosted by the Maleny Club in 2003/04. We then caught a train from Stockholm to

Copenhagen – a 5 hour journey and were met by surprise by Frank – a young Danish Rotarian who was to be our post-convention host.

The convention was held at the Bella centre in Copenhagen with many functions across the 12 km Oresund Bridge into Sweden (a 30 minute journey). We ended up travelling across the bridge 7 times. We took advantage of pre and post convention tours (a Copenhagen / Malmo tour and a Vikings tour to Roskilde), as well as the Host Hospitality night where we were hosted by the Rotary Club of Lund-Dalby in Sweden to a fantastic dinner – preceded by a civic reception with the mayor in the town hall. We also went to a Swedish night in Malmo (with 5000 other Rotarians) where we had lots of schnapps and herring (and if you were at the district changeover you would have heard all about that!). To be honest, the highlight of the convention, for us, was the entertainment – it was absolutely first class – the opening ceremony (attended by Crown Prince Frederick and Princess Mary) was highlighted by the stories of Hans Christian Anderson. To see 50 little drummer boys marching in, plus the Little Mermaid and the Little Match-Girl – the stories just came alive.

The best part for us though was our post-convention home stay with Frank and his young family in Naerum – we were treated to a Danish BBQ and many other treats plus tours to several famous castles – just a weekend, though now lifelong friends we hope. "*Bridging the World*" was a truly fitting theme for the convention and to experience this annual pow-wow of Rotary International was really awe-some.

PARTNER'S PROJECT

It has become a bit of a precedent of late that the partner of the DG has a small project to support, and in lieu of flowers etc at official visits – a small donation is made, if wished, to the project. At PETS I spoke to partners and suggested a literacy project as my focus. After this I went to PNG for the Forum and saw first hand the Kohi Preschool and Library started by Dame Carol Kidu and decided that when we returned in late Sept/Oct for the official PNG visits, I would like to come armed with materials for the preschool. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the clubs who have already donated materials for this little project. I do not expect any-

thing – I am just happy to meet you all at the official visits I am able to attend – but if you wish to do so – one or two simple reading books suitable for a preschool or primary school student would be a great aid to the literacy of the children in the Kohi Area (near Boroko) of PNG.

Thanks
Sherryl



Please send articles to
dgnewseditor@rotary9600.org

and NOT to Mike on webmaster email

**Deadline for articles –
The last week of the
previous month.**

**Annual District
Conference
at Kingaroy
13 – 14 – 15 April, 2007**
see Website
for Registration Forms (and
for accommodation deposit)
www.rotary9600.org

National Youth Science Forum

Approximately fifty students who applied to attend the 2007 NYSF, and who were nominated by clubs in our District, were interviewed on Sunday 23 July. The quota for our District was eighteen, and those selected, and their nominating club are:-

Session A

Fiona Albert – Hamilton
Morgan Lennard – Caloundra
Aaron Chong – Sandgate
Jacqueline Stacey – Kenmore
Aaron Winterhoff – Glasshouse Mtns
Rachael Collins – Kawana Waters
Georgina Clutterbuck – Nambour
Amanda Corbett – Noosa Heads D/B
Jeremy Hart – Brisbane Planetarium

Session B

Carson Au – Brisbane Mid City
Matilda Burford – Woombye Sunrise
Jason Wight – Redcliffe City
Lisa Marshall – Brisbane High Rise
Philip Chan – Indooroopilly
Michael Horn – Mitchelton
Kathryn Noakes – Sandgate
Nicholas Holden – Murgon
Samuel Humbert – Noosa Heads

Congratulations to the clubs, which identified these outstanding students, especially Sandgate which nominated two. Congratulations also to the clubs whose students were not successful. It would have been possible to select twice our District's quota. To meet fifty really great students on the day, was most rewarding for our Selection Team.

Hear & Say Centre Sunshine Coast

by: Lionel Ash

The Hear and Say Centre Sunshine Coast which was opened in Nambour in May 2004 resulted from the initiative of Rotary Club of Nambour 2002-03 President Peter Clark, who had the backing of PDG Doug Biggs. It provides for hearing impaired children and their families in the Sunshine Coast region to receive support locally instead of having to be taken to the organisation's centre in Brisbane.

The Rotary Club of Nambour funded the purchase of a suitable parcel of land, and was able to secure the backing of the Reed Property Group who with the assistance of many of their suppliers and trades people con-

structed the building and fitted it out. In addition, the project was aided by in-kind support and financial donations from a wide range of community groups, including other Sunshine Coast Rotary Clubs, and many individuals, plus several Grants including one for \$107,000 made under an Australian Government programme.

In the two years to 30th June 2004, the Rotary Club of Nambour contributed \$64,387.75 to the project, and it was estimated at the time of handover that it would have cost in excess of \$500,000 had the project been done on a commercial basis.

The children who attend the Centre need much specialised instruction if they are to overcome their hearing impairment, and in particular that this be commenced from or by their first birthday so they can take their place in a normal school environment by the age of 6. Ongoing contact with the Centre resulted in the Nambour Club Rotarians being aware that the Centre's library of therapy resources needed to be improved through the acquisition of a range of stimulating toys, games, puzzles, picture resources to engage the children in meaningful language situations.

As a consequence, the club submitted an application for funds from the District Simplified Grant 2005-06 to assist with purchase of the needed items. A Grant of \$1,000 was awarded. Some of the items acquired are shown in the photo below.

The Rotary Club of Nambour received Best Co-operative Projects Award for 2005/06 from Rotary International for the Hear and Say Centre project.



Medical GSE team from D9600 to D9920

Our medical GSE team is now ready to undertake the study tour of D9920 visiting Fiji, American Samoa and New Zealand (Auckland). It has been quite a challenge to assemble this first ever GSE team involving our three countries making D9600. AG Chriss has done an excellent work against such enormous challenge and the team is now ready to represent our District. I am sure we will be good ambassadors for RI, our District, clubs and our countries.

I am deeply honoured to lead the team and I am pleased with our preparations. I have contacted our host coordinators including Charles Warren in American Samoa and I am very much looking forward to the tour. I know I and all team members will greatly benefit the GSE and we will do our utmost best to represent you all.

Once again my sincere thanks to you all for your support and encouragement and especially Chris Goninon who has put in much to get the team prepared. Our special thanks to sponsoring clubs, Pine Rivers Daybreak, Boroko, and Honiara.

AG Nathan Kere
Team Leader.

Below is the full team. From right, Team Leader AG Nathan Kere (Doctor-SI), Team Members Brianna McGuinness (Clinical Audiologist-Aust), Jerry Kena (Doctor-SI), Sibona Egi (Nurse-PNG), and Elton Loea (Dental Technician-SI).





Congratulations!

Thanks to your help the Australian Rotary Health Fund has received a record level of donations of **\$1.7 million** for 2005-2006. District **9600** contributed **\$55,464.45** towards this marvellous total.

The Fund proposes to spend over **\$3.5 million** on research and its other activities in the coming year.

In our 25th Anniversary Year we gained **462 new Friends** of the Fund giving us a total of **4052 Friends**.

We applaud the initiative of immediate Past Governor Arthur Manser who used his conference surplus to make his 54 presidents Friends of the Fund.

We now also have **366** Companions, **90** Gold Companions and **24** Corporate Companions. As well, we have confirmed **25** Wills indicating a bequest to ARHRF.

In 2006 we were able to make 18 Research Grants into Mental Illness and as well we had 2 Post Doctoral Fellows (Royce Abbey Fellow and Geoffrey Betts Fellow) and 9 Ian Scott PhD Scholars.

Funding Partners was enthusiastically taken up by clubs and districts and we had 20 PhD Scholars and 8 Research Grants researching a wide variety of diseases and medical conditions.

Indigenous Health Scholarships reached a record level of **58** and we now have some 40 graduates from this program.

2007 is shaping up to be an even more exciting year as your Fund embraces a number of new initiatives in response to the needs of the Australian community.

District Diary

September: New Generations (Youth Activities) Month

- 8 - International Literacy day
- 17 - Last day for submission of the August membership and attendance figures.
- 18 - Incoming "Neighbouring Country" GSE Team, focussing on Health, arrives from Fiji and Tonga, D9920. Returns 22 October.
- 22 - District Consultative Committee meeting, St Columban's College, Caboolture.
- 29 - Closing date for entries for the Siemens Science Experience in Jan 2007.
- 30 - Final date for Club Annual Meetings for the purpose of approval of the audited 2005/06 accounts and submission to the Office of Fair Trading.

October:

- 1 - International Day for Older Persons
- 2 - World Habitat Day
- 5 - Orientation session for 2007 NYSF students, University of the Sunshine Coast.
- 6 - Orientation session for 2006 NYSF students, University of Queensland.
- 14 - District Team (2007/08) Training Session No.1 - AG's & committee chairmen, Shaftesbury Citizenship Centre Campus, Burpengary.
- 16 - World Food Day
- 17 - World Day to Overcome Poverty
- 24 - UN Day
- 31 - Closing date for application of PR Grant

DG Club Official Visits September:

- Tue 12 - West Brisbane Daybreak
 - Wed 13 - Murgon
 - Mon 18 - Windsor
 - Wed 20 - Sandgate
 - Thurs 21 - St Lucia
- Rotary Clubs in Papua New Guinea (12) are scheduled to take place from Monday 25 September, and in the Solomon Islands (2) from Monday 9 October, with the DG returning to Queensland on Saturday 14 October.

More Diary Dates

November 1:

Rotary Club of Camberwell Victoria is celebrating 50 years with a dinner on November 1 2006. Any past member wishing to be invited should ring PP Frank Price on (07) 5492 1824 ASAP.

19 - 23 March 2007

Australian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians Annual Tournament - Warrnambool & Port Fairy
Entries close 18 January 2007 - for further information contact David Richards - Phone (03) 5561 1840 or go to www.rcw.org.au and follow links to AGFR or email David on david.richards@westnet.com.au

June 2007:

1st - Closing date for implementation of PR Grant.

An email between Phil Gresham and John Puttick Tuesday 5 September

From Phil to John -

Hi John,
I suffered a very serious accident at high speed on Cape York two weeks ago and taken by the RFDS to Cairns Hospital for five days only let out when Caroline came up, long train trip home late last week. Major lung injury etc and no flying for 6-9 weeks I was off to NY / Ottawa / Las Vegas next weekend. Regards Phil

From John, to DG's News Editor -

Please note Phil had a serious accident.

I've spoken with Phil last night and he is back home and on the mend. In essence he hit a pocket of bull dust at 100kph and went straight over the front of his motorbike. Broke ribs which then punctured a lung.

John P

Ambassadorial Scholar, Kate Del Mar, leaves for Switzerland.

Indooroopilly Club President Jan Wickham, Governor Michael, Outbound Ambassadorial Scholar Kate Del Mar and Sherryl Gregory, on the eve of Kate's departure for Switzerland.



Don't Forget Registration is NOW OPEN for the next Annual District Conference at Kingaroy 13 - 14 - 15 April, 2007

see Website
for Registration Forms (and
for accommodation deposit)
www.rotary9600.org

District 9600 Governor's Newsletter — September 2006

Col's Comments

When the July returns closed on 17 August there were 23 clubs still missing, getting back to what had been par for the course. And now, as at 4 September, with 10 late ones now to hand, there are 13 "No Returns" for July as listed opposite. This is a fairly normal result at this stage, but what is particularly pleasing is the fact that ALL clubs have now reported their 30 June 2006 membership figure, and the 2005/06 results were in fact "put to bed" in my 21/8/06 report to the District Consultative Committee meeting which took place on 25/8/06.

As will be seen from the table opposite, the Rotary Clubs of Kavieng, Mt Hagen and Wewak have yet to put in their attendance figures for June; but all have advised, on urgent request, the specific club membership as at the end of June.

Over the completed Rotary Year 2005/06 the total district membership fell from 1990 to 1929, a net loss of 61 members or 3.1%. This has continued, but with diminishing severity, the trend begun in 2004/05, when the loss was from 2111 to 1990, 121 members or 5.7%.

The brightest spot on the 2005/06 scene was the performance of the Papua New Guinea clubs, a total gain in membership from 154 to 182 (28 members or 16.2%), getting back to where they were before the 2004/05 slump. During 2005/06 the Solomon Islands membership remained at 41, but the net loss for Queensland clubs was from 1795 to 1706 (89 members or 5.0%).

Now into 2006/07, the drop from June to July was a net 18 members (1929 to 1911), but this is at a time when subscriptions are due and both Rotarians and clubs are considering their options — the average drop from June to July over the past 10 years has in fact been 43 members.



Welcome to New Members

As of today, 4 September 2006, there have been six new, rejoined or relocated members advised by clubs since the DG's August Newsletter was prepared on 4 August 2006. Of these, two refer to the Rotary year 2005/06, and four to 2006/07. During the same period there were nine termination notices received, all for 2006/07.

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

Ashgrove/ The Gap: Andy Graham.
Brisbane Planetarium: Suzanne Quintner.
Huon Gulf: Henry Henari.
Kingaroy: Karen Baron.
The Glass House Mountains: Janice Billett and Vanessa Moller.

D9600 Membership and Attendance Report June and July 2006

Club	Club Membership			Attendance Percentages	
	30/6/05	30/6/06	31/7/06	June 2006	July 2006
Albany Creek	33	36	36	70.31	No Return
Albion	15	15	15	78.85	85.91
Alexandra Headland	24	24	24	77.39	83.50
Ashgrove /The Gap	44	42	42	73.21	68.90
Aspley	42	46	46	75.95	72.55
Bardon	16	—	—	—	—
Bribie Island	23	26	26	88.00	No Return
Brisbane	69	67	67	44.81	54.11
Brisbane High-Rise	46	51	50	70.12	77.55
Brisbane Mid-City	59	62	61	63.18	63.24
Brisbane North	36	33	33	58.33	65.85
Brisbane Planetarium	78	71	71	82.40	83.63
Buderim	24	25	25	72.00	71.00
Caboolture	30	31	30	76.30	85.40
Caloundra	31	27	28	74.07	77.67
Caloundra Pacific	34	35	33	76.00	75.00
Coolum-Peregian	12	12	12	80.55	73.33
Cooroy	31	29	29	90.58	79.26
Deception Bay	11	—	—	—	—
Fortitude Valley	48	50	49	74.48	67.24
Geebung	15	12	13	79.49	80.00
Gympie	54	54	54	86.62	83.33
Gympie-Cooloola	47	45	44	76.09	77.15
Hamilton	56	50	49	70.34	74.37
Indooroopilly	17	18	18	81.48	72.22
Karana Downs	22	21	20	74.60	75.52
Kawana Waters	20	12	14	83.33	83.56
Kenmore	49	48	46	69.44	76.72
Kingaroy	27	21	21	71.92	70.52
Kingaroy-Taabinga	17	15	15	75.00	68.33
Kippa Ring	11	17	18	98.53	88.64
Maleny	40	37	36	80.17	79.03
Maroochydore	37	38	36	74.99	76.72
Mitchelton	24	25	27	83.78	81.31
Mooloolaba	52	51	51	75.25	84.29
Mount Coot-tha	16	16	—	93.75	—
Murgon	17	20	20	63.63	No Return
Nambour	36	29	32	78.75	67.55
Nambour 76	30	36	36	77.50	No Return
Newstead	20	—	—	—	—
Noosa	42	39	39	75.79	79.85
Noosa Heads	43	43	43	64.70	No Return
Noosa Heads Daybreak	43	32	32	63.28	60.94
Nundah	22	18	17	100.00	100.00
Paddington/ Red Hill	15	13	8	71.15	90.32
Pine Rivers	19	19	19	42.11	No Return
Pine Rivers Daybreak	18	15	15	68.33	No Return
Redcliffe City	50	50	49	87.00	74.66
Redcliffe Sunrise	19	17	17	70.47	86.54
Samford Valley	36	37	37	76.35	79.05
Sandgate	19	18	18	87.50	80.23
St Lucia	22	18	18	79.17	70.37
Stafford	18	18	18	84.72	No Return
Strathpine	17	16	14	75.00	68.18
The Glass House Mtns	21	19	16	68.42	80.00
Toowong	—	—	34	—	81.10
Toowong B'ne West	19	20	—	71.50	—
West B'ne Daybreak	23	25	25	77.08	No Return
Windsor	17	19	19	73.68	75.79
Woombye Sunrise	19	23	20	86.67	97.50
Boroko	26	29	30	88.49	88.42
Bulolo-Wau	4	4	4	56.25	No Return
Goroka	10	8	8	34.38	37.50
Huon Gulf	16	21	22	79.76	77.01
Kavieng	3	8	8	No Return	No Return
Kokopo	5	11	11	80.00	81.82
Lae	9	20	20	69.21	No Return
Madang	14	12	12	58.33	59.26
Mount Hagen	13	13	12	No Return	52.08
Port Moresby	43	41	42	61.25	59.88
Rabaul	6	7	7	90.00	82.14
Wewak	5	8	8	No Return	No Return
Gizo	7	7	8	75.00	56.25
Honiara	34	34	34	77.65	61.76
Totals/Averages	1990	1929	1911	74.84%	75.07%