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# Town & Country Weekly

Your e-Zine from District 9800

Volume 3 Issue 6 12 August 2006

## DG Bernie's Message



### ROTARY KNOWLEDGE

How much do you know about Rotary?

Every association and club has rules and regulations set down about their workings and there is usually a fair amount of tradition and history as well, depending on the age of the organisation.

After 101 years of service to the communities, both local and global, Rotary International has a vast store of knowledge to improve our operations, assist with the methods of communication and leadership and, particularly, to make us feel proud at belonging to such a sensational fellowship.

But we find that many members, even including those in leadership roles, flounder when it comes to having knowledge about the history of Rotary through the past 101 years. I am not talking about knowing what all the acronyms mean, although this kind of knowledge would certainly streamline our communications. For instance, the Presidents Elect Training Seminar is called PETS – so much easier, providing you know what it means.

The knowledge I am talking about is that which helps us to immerse ourselves in the warmth and embrace of Rotary, what it is and what it stands for. It is about the assistance that has been given to millions around the world and the programmes for working on improving lives in the future. If you do not know or understand the workings of Rotary, how can you influence others to want to join us in this massive work for mankind?

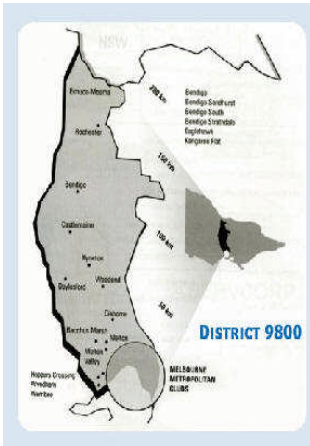
On my visits to the Clubs, I am relating the way we can answer the question of "what does Rotary do?" We do not want to be stumped in finding an answer nor do we want to stumble or mumble because we are not sure. Tell them that "Rotary does good in the world!" (the initial object of the Rotary Foundation in 1917) – That would be a good start to the conversation and you can take it from there, providing you know enough about Rotary.

Don't let your friends and colleagues say, "...you are a Rotarian, aren't you?"

In our District, we are going to promote the knowledge of Rotary, to attempt to educate all Rotarians about the fundamentals of Rotary and Rotary Service so that you will not be struck dumb when somebody asks, "What does Rotary do?" A good place to start is by opening your District Directory which contains much information about our many programmes and details our structures, particularly in our District.

Together let us **Lead the Way** through knowledge of who we are.

**DG Bernie Walshe**



## Ambassadorial Scholarship

The District 9800 Committee has unanimously selected **Ms. Holly Bannon-Murphy**, sponsored by the RC of Castlemaine as our outgoing 2007 Ambassadorial Scholar.

Holly proposes to study International Development & Political Science at the University of Ghana for a 12 month period.

Holly has recently worked in Eastern Uganda, Ghana and the UK as a volunteer teacher & care worker. Her hands on work with HIV infected adults & children, mentally & physically disabled children and local community groups was most impressive.

We have every reason to believe that Holly will prove to be an outstanding Ambassador for our District.

### 1. RAWCS CAPE YORK SHELTER PROJECT

There has been a sudden and very welcome change in programming of the Shelter project. After several false starts, we are now geared up and ready to go.



PERSPECTIVE

### All we need are the volunteers to do the work!

We hope to find teams to build 5 shelters, at various locations, starting mid September through November. The first team is ready to go on the 13th September.

We are particularly looking for builders/tradesmen for later teams, but others with building skills would be welcome. Volunteers only need to find their way to and from Cairns, from where they will be transported to the sites. Camp facilities will be ready for them and they will be fed by the aborigine families. Locals will assist in building the shelters.

This is a great opportunity for cultural exchange while Leading The Way. If your Club doesn't have any volunteers, but would like to be involved, you could sponsor an advanced apprentice or two. Although in Australia, this is an approved RAWCS project, unfortunately expenses are not tax deductible.

David Barkley of the R C of Geelong is co-ordinating the teams:  
[dbarkley@barwonwater.vic.gov](mailto:dbarkley@barwonwater.vic.gov) Tel: H 52223378 W52269240 M0417310197

For further information contact David Barkley or:  
PP John Steven, R C of Camberwell, Email: [johnsteven@bigpond.com](mailto:johnsteven@bigpond.com) Tel: 98826184

- 2. Rotary Friendship Exchange Bus Tour:** Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – Sun 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006  
D9800 has a team of 24 Rotarians and partners visiting us from Sweden and Iowa USA, from 14<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October. At the end of the Exchange they will be taken on a bus tour - [Click here](#) for details. D9800 Rotarians and partners are invited to join us for a great International Fellowship experience. There is a limited no. of seats available, so get in early.

Up to August 20 contact: Jeanette Lynch D9800 RFE chair:  
(h) 03 9390 5400 (m) 0419 568 639 Email: [m\\_j\\_lynch@msn.com.au](mailto:m_j_lynch@msn.com.au)  
**August 21 – Oct 18 Contact Leon Lewi or John Steven**

- 3. The Rotary Group Study Exchange Program**

Another reminder that applications are now open for Team Leader and Team

Members for the exchange with District 1580 in the Netherlands. The Exchange will take place approximately during the period 28 April 2007 to 2 June 2007. You can visit the D1580 website at <http://www.rotarydistrict.nl/d1580/>

The Team leader interviews will be held on Sunday 8 October 2006 at International House. The Team leader once selected must immediately join the D 9800 GSE Committee and be available to attend the selection process for the outbound team on 22 October & 29 October 2006 at International House.

The Application Form for Team Leader is available by clicking [here](#) and for Team Member click [here](#).

4. **RYLA Report** - Read a report from Michelle Blanchard, Co-director Rotary Youth Leadership Award for District 9800 who attended the 2006 International Rotary Youth Leadership Award (IRYLA) program in Helsingborg, Sweden and the Rotary International Convention in Copenhagen, Denmark - [Click Here](#)
5. **News from ROMAC and INTERPLAST** Australian Rotarians were disappointed when Rotary had to be removed from the ROMAC acronym. It is therefore good news to report that Rotary International has advised that they have no objections to the use of 'Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children'. This matter will need to be ratified by voting members (the current 29 DG's) at the next AGM in November in the Gold Coast and in Auckland. This will mean changing ROMAC By-Laws and company registration details for 1st July 2007.

To read the latest INTERPLAST newsletter [click here](#)

6. **2<sup>nd</sup> West African Fair and National Immunisation Day**  
PDG John Wigley has received a communication from PDG Robert Atta of District 9100 Accra, Ghana inviting Rotarians from District 9800 to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> West Africa Project Fair and National Immunisation Days in Accra Ghana from November 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Details of the Fair are available at [www.westafricaprojectfair2006.com](http://www.westafricaprojectfair2006.com) or by contacting PDG Robert Atta at [robertatta@yahoo.com](mailto:robertatta@yahoo.com)

7. **Improving Rotary's Image** - Application for Grants now open  
[Click here](#) for details

8. **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLUBS**  
**RC Bacchus Marsh**

From President Bob Levy:

Hello Folks - Looking for a night out? I bet it is just what you needed. How about even if you don't need it? This is a fundraiser for our club that looks to be a great night. Just want you to feel welcome and not forgotten. Hope to see you there.

**Making Dough!** - a special dinner with Tom O'Toole "the Baker from Beechworth" Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at Witchmount Winery - [Click here](#) for details

**RC Kew Fundraiser**

- Great informal night of **FUN + Spit Roast Dinner & Auction.**
- **Three courses only \$35.00/person. Wine** at very reasonable prices.
- Funds raised to **RCH Neurological Department** Date: Friday **18 August** at 7:00 pm (no footy in Melbourne)
- Venue: Holy **Trinity Hall** - High St, Kew (**Ample Parking** Peel St.)
- Tickets: **Barry Minster on 9816 9713** or 0428 876 038

**RC Altona:** The 29th Annual Art Exhibition & Sale is on again - 19 & 20 August at Williamstown Town Hall - [Click here](#) for details

**Rotary Club of Carlton** - regular meeting of Tuesday 22 August 2006 cancelled & to be replaced by a Joint Meeting with **RC Collingwood** on Friday 25 August 2006 at MaiVy Vietnamese Restaurant, 174 Rathdowne Street Carlton, 7pm for 7.30pm.

### **New Members**

There has been quite a fall in the rate of new member inductions but a big Rotary welcome to the following new Rotarian:

#### **RC Richmond**

Jenny Crofts

### **RI Exchange Rate**

The August Rotary exchange rate for the AUD is 1.31

Don't forget - you can always check the back issues of Weekly News if you missed something: 2005-2006 [Issue 01](#) [02](#) [03](#) [04](#) [05](#) [06](#) [07](#) [08](#) [09](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#) [16](#) [17](#) [18](#) [19](#) [20](#) [21](#) [22](#) [23](#) [24](#) [25](#) [26](#) [27](#) [28](#) [29](#) [30](#) [31](#) [32](#) [33](#) [34](#) [35](#) [36](#) [37](#) [38](#) [39](#) [40](#) [41](#) [42](#) [43](#) [44](#) [45](#) [46](#) [47](#) [48](#)

2006-2007: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#)

**Speakers Bank Update:** [Click Here](#)

**District 9800's website:** [www.rotaryd9800.org](http://www.rotaryd9800.org)