Rotary International

District 9680

Annual Report

2011-2012

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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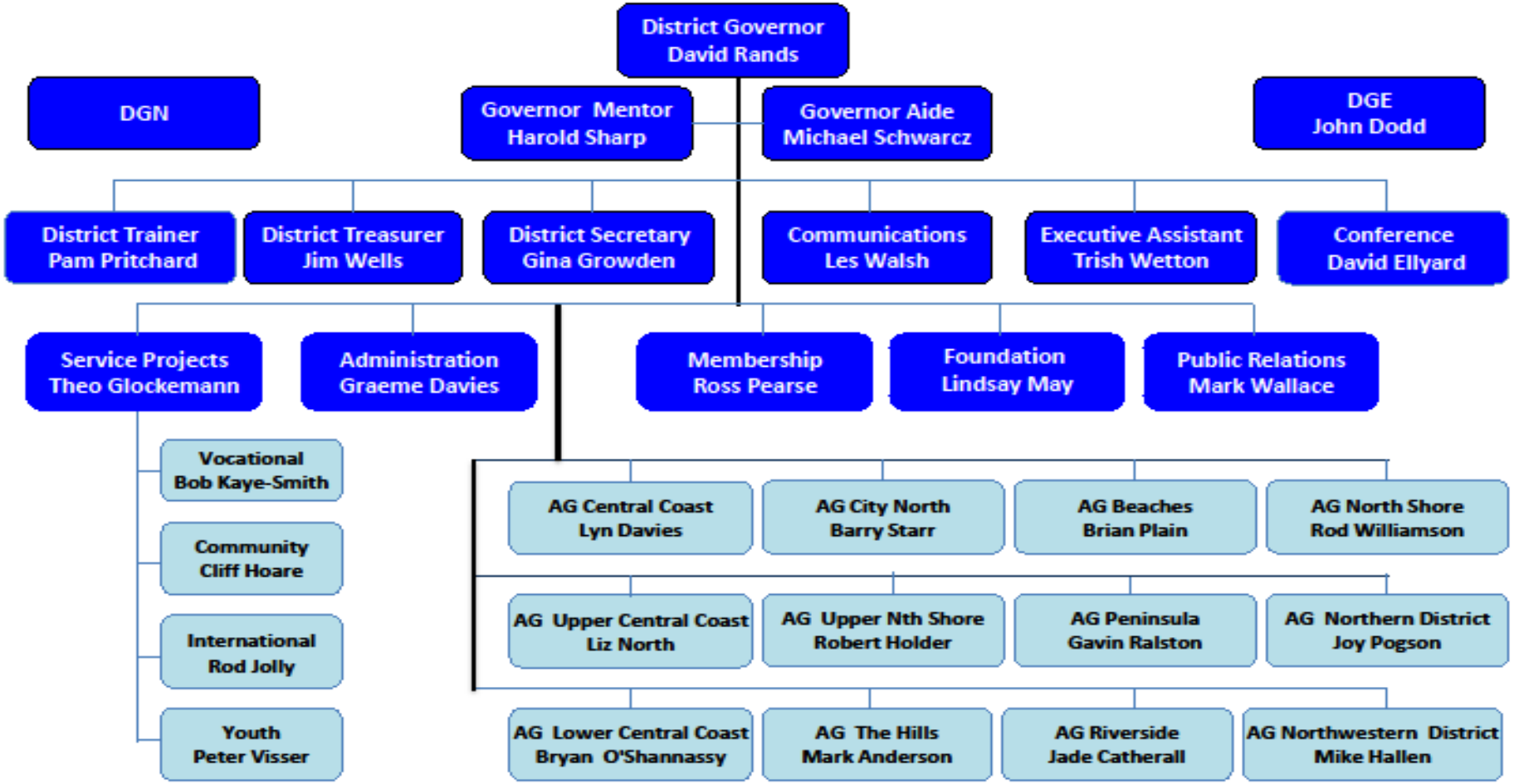
District 9680 Team 2011-12



DISTRICT TEAM 2011-2012

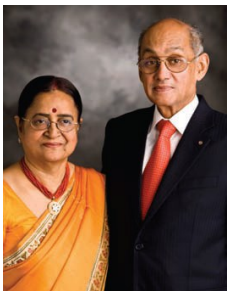
Back row: Rod Williamson, Bryan O'Shannassy, Cliff Hoare, Lyn Davies, Bob Kaye Smith, Lindsay May, Mike Hallen, PDG Pam Pritchard, Gavin Ralston, David Ellyard, Brian Plain, Joy Pogson, Mark Anderson, Rod Jolly, Peter Visser, Jade Catherall, Barry Starr, Mark Wallace, Ross Pearse, Graeme Davies, Jim Wells, Liz North, Bobby Holder, Theo Glockermann

Seated: Gina Growden, Trish Wetton, Micheal Schwarcz, DG David Rands, Anne Rands, DGE John Dodd, PDG Harold Sharp, Les Walsh

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

DIRECTORS

Rotary International President 2011-12
Kalyan Banerjee and Binota
Vapi, Gujarat, India



District Governor 2011-12—District 9680
David Rands and Anne
Rotary Club of Beecroft

DISTRICT TEAM 2011-12

Executive

District Governor	David Rands
District Governor's Partner	Anne Rands
Governor's Mentor	PDG Harold Sharp
Governor's Aide	Michael Schwarcz
Secretary	Gina Growden
Treasurer	Jim Wells

Directors

District Governor Elect	John Dodd
District Governor Nominee	Graeme Davies
Executive Assistant	Trish Wetton
Training Chairman	PDG Pam Pritchard
Communications Chairman	Les Walsh
Conference Chairman	David Ellyard
Administration	Graeme Davies
Membership	Ross Pearse
Public Relations	Mark Wallace
Foundation	Lindsay May
Projects Director	Theo Glockemann
Community Service	Cliff Hoare
Vocational Service	Bob Kaye-Smith
International Service	Rod Jolly
New Generations	Peter Visser

Assistant Governors

Beaches	Brian Plain
Central Coast	Lyn Davies
City North	Barry Starr
Lower Central Coast	Bryan O'Shannassy
Northern District	Joy Pogson
Northwestern District	Mike Hallen
North Shore	Rod Williamson
Peninsula	Gavin Ralston
Riverside	Jade Catherall
The Hills	Mark Anderson
Upper Central Coast	Liz North
Upper North Shore	Bobby Holder

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT—DAVID RANDS

Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee this year asked all Rotarians to **Reach Within to Embrace Humanity;** to look within ourselves, to practice peace and harmony in our own lives and in our own families in order to be effective in reaching out to others. Once we have a strong family, we have a strong base on which to build, and the inner strength to better serve humanity and bring peace to the world.

In District 9680 this year we had four key objectives in support of this theme and the Rotary International Strategic Plan –

- To strengthen our Clubs – add and retain members, improve and modernise our meetings
- To increase our level of Humanitarian projects, both at home and abroad
- To increase our support for the Rotary Foundation – including the campaign to rid the world of Polio
- To have fun, and make sure all Rotarians are involved and enjoying their service.

The directors', chairs' and assistant governors' reports which follow in this report will demonstrate that in 2011-12 we have had a strong year of service in District 9680, and achieved many of the objectives we set ourselves.

Training

Our District training was led very effectively by PDG Pam Pritchard, and in this year we held our first Multi-District President-Elect's training. Four districts (D9680, D9690, D9750 and D9710) combined for a day at Liverpool and our special guests included the then world president, Ray Klinginsmith and our zone Director Stuart Heal who both added greatly to the event. The feedback we received from this first effort was very positive and as a result it was determined to continue the following year with Multi-district training.

Foundation Director Lindsay May conducted a Foundation seminar, and Membership Director Ross Pearse a membership seminar early in the year, and as a new initiative a Club Service seminar was run by Admin / Club Service Director Graeme Davies. This included a section on conflict resolution which was well received.
As a further initiative to improve the Rotary knowledge and leadership skills of Rotarians in the district, we joined the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) on the 1st July 2011. PDG Barry Philps agreed to lead this program and within the first half year he had selected and trained a team of experienced Rotarians as faculty members, and commenced our first RLI course. This was completed by the year-end and in the 1st quarter of 2012 three more courses were conducted, all with excellent feedback. Courses 5 and 6 will commence in Quarter 3 this year. I hope sincerely that through this training we will fill a gap in Rotarians' Rotary knowledge that has been growing for many years, and strengthen our leadership teams both at club and district levels.

Change Management

The RI board approved a Club Pilot scheme to take effect 1st July 2011 to allow some clubs to experiment with the way they operate in order to increase vibrancy and effectiveness and to address the membership drift that has been happening across the western world in Rotary for many years. Worldwide there were 4 pilots of 200 each clubs nominated and our district was proud to have three clubs as part of this program. They are Turramurra (Associate Membership pilot), Gosford City (Corporate Membership pilot), and St Ives (Innovation and Flexibility pilot). The pilots will run for three years at which time the clubs will report to Rotary International on their results. During this year all three clubs completed their plans and started their implementation. My thanks to their presidents, Paul Rickard, Diana Hanks and Bhuvan Unhelkar for leading these pilots.

Many other clubs have moved during the year, with strong encouragement from our RI director Stuart, to modernise meetings, language and to de-ritualise Rotary. Research has shown clearly that younger people are deterred by practices that have little relevance in today's world and we

see that the new clubs being formed are almost ritual–free. I expect these winds of change will continue to blow over the years ahead as we seek to keep our wonderful organisation relevant and effective.

President Mike Morgan (Carlingford) accepting the Community Service Award for large clubs from DG David at the District Awards Night

Further to these progressive changes, the 2011-12 governors from across Australia and New Zealand formulated for consideration by the Rotary International board a template for radical change in the way Rotary is organised in Australia/New Zealand. The key elements of the District Revitalisation Plan included the formation of an entity that would give Rotary across both countries a national/regional voice, allow young people to join a Rotary cause as well as a club, and to simplify the roles of governors and make them more effective. The pilot proposed was not approved by the Rotary International board on its first submission, but work will carry on to encourage the board to trial alternative structures as a means of increasing relevance, membership and PR exposure.

During this year a start was made on plans to ensure a smooth district merger in 2013 between District 9680 and 12 clubs from District 9690 as we form the new district, District 9685. Graeme Davies will be the first governor of this larger (79-club) district and early indications are that the two new Sydney districts will get off to a good start.

Membership and Extension

Our extension activities have been effective with the Chartering of four new Rotaract clubs during the year – Lower North Shore, Central Coast, ICMS at Manly, and The Hills. I congratulate the Rotaractors involved, in particular District Rotaract Representative Dani Fogarty, and the sponsor clubs and groups of clubs that have made this possible. It has been especially pleasing to see so many RYLA alumni joining and leading these clubs. If we nurture our Rotaractors we will encourage them in the years ahead to become Rotarians.

We also have a new Rotary club – the Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney, the first E-club to be chartered in Australia. Thanks go to charter president PDG Tony Castley whose energy and determination enabled the club to be chartered and operating in record time. The club chartered with 28 members in October 2011 and at the year end has 42 which shows it is being well received, particularly by younger people. The club is also active in humanitarian projects – ShelterBoxes and the Katuuso school in Uganda.

Membership director Ross has contributed now for a third year in this role and been tireless in his support for our existing clubs. While many clubs have experienced the attrition in membership that has become a trend over many years now, several clubs have demonstrated that with focus and some energy and bright ideas they have been able to attract large numbers of new members. The clubs of Pittwater, Dural, Macquarie Park, Chatswood international . . .have all during the year inducted over 10 new members. Congratulations to you all.

President Bruce de Graaf (Crows Nest makes a presentation at a President's meeting

Foundation

Once again we have met our target of last year's Foundation giving which was a staggering 34% up on the previous year. We have more major donors and more Paul Harris Society members joining all the time and this has made a big

difference.

Rotarians in D9680 continue to support the Polio Plus program, and in January of this year on the international scene two significant milestones were reached. Firstly Rotary achieved the $200m challenge set by Bill Gates nearly 6 months ahead of plan, and secondly, twelve months passed without any new cases of polio being reported in India. By the end of January India was declared by the World Health Organisation to be a non-endemic country. So while complete eradication will still take a lot of dedication and effort, the success in India indicates that with governments working with the Polio partners, the job CAN be done!

Projects

As always, in all avenues of service, our clubs have been very active. I have been delighted and impressed at the level of humanitarian service we provide to communities at home and overseas. This year we compiled a simple spread-sheet listing the projects carried out by each club in each avenue of service and that document can now be updated regularly by clubs and by the district team. Bigger zone projects have been harder than envisaged to get off the ground, but there have been some very good examples where two or more clubs have been working together. I am sure effective multi-club projects will become more common in the years ahead.

Once again District 9680 was a leading contributing district to Australian Rotary Health, and our purchases of Shelterboxes continues to be of immense benefit to those often disadvantaged people around the world affected by natural disasters.

We have had clubs reviewing their project activity and have seen as a result some innovative projects started – e.g. Dream Cricket for handicapped children (Riverside Zone clubs), increased humanitarian support in various African countries (Kenthurst, E-Club and others). And we continue to assist those less fortunate than ourselves in our neighbouring countries particularly including Vanuatu, Timor Leste and PNG.

Under the chairmanship of Helmut Buss that wonderful Community service project Probus has seen a new club added in the district this year just a week and a half ago at Beaumont Hills. The sponsor club is Rouse Hill.

Project director Theo Glockemann has continued his passion for achieving sustainability for our RYLA program in Timor Leste which has now successfully run for a second year, and will run for a third course in September 2012. A relationship has been established with Macquarie University where there is potential to engage students in social work as part of their required curricula and as a first step there is a plan to have students from MQ mentor RYLA alumni in Timor Leste. Secondly Theo has sought and obtained substantial funding from Woodside Petroleum for RYLA ET. Both of these contributions will be of benefit in the years ahead as there is huge potential in the Macquarie University relationship to benefit projects across all avenues of service.

Conference

Go for Gold at the Gong was the theme of our annual conference – held at the WEC function centre at Wollongong. While registrations were disappointing at about 550 people, the conference was able to operate at a surplus and those that did attend thoroughly enjoyed it and considered it to be among the best. Speakers were varied, mainly young, talented and the production of the whole event was tops - a credit to the hard working committee and the support of the Beecroft club members. Thanks again to all those involved, particularly Chairman David Ellyard, John Melville, Les Walsh, Peter Holst, Angelo

The Masked Ball at the District Conference

Raveane, Tim Fenton and Michael Schwarcz.

Thanks

I must thank all our Rotarians and club presidents for the very warm welcome accorded to Anne and me as we visited all the clubs, including the Rotaract clubs. Like our predecessors, we have been amazed at the huge amount of work that Rotary does at club level – working to improve the lives of the disadvantaged and to bring peace and understanding to the world. We would not have been able to feel and witness this in any detail without the opportunity to get to know you all and to visit all your wonderful clubs. We have both felt privileged and humbled by the experience.

I also extend heart-felt thanks to our hard working district Team. Thirty dedicated Rotarians who give that extra bit of their time and their lives to supporting and strengthening our clubs when often they already carry a big load in their own clubs.

In the administrative area we have made great advances. Les Walsh has again edited our web sites, and ClubRunner is now well established for district. It is used as the platform for our e-news which is published regularly in a very professional manner, and is also used for event registration very effectively. We are now routinely using electronic banking, and Treasurer Jim Wells is planning to further refine the financial reporting process. Gina Growden, as district secretary, has been of great support, and the monumental task of producing our district directory was carried out efficiently and very cost effectively. Thanks to my Aide, Michael Schwarcz, and my Mentor, PDG Harold Sharp for the constant support, advice and encouragement they have both given.

Avenue of service chairs, Membership, Foundation, Admin and PR directors have all made a big contribution and their reports follow. Likewise I have been delighted with our 12 Assistant Governors who have been diligent in their support of their clubs, and have been able to quickly react when clubs have needed any sort of help or guidance. My sincere thanks to you all.

Anne and I have been overwhelmed by the generous support of Anne's project of assisting the development of a library in the Ermera district of East Timor and a short report follows.

Finally, special thanks to Anne for her wonderful active support during the year. The job would have been very much harder without her alongside me.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve this wonderful District 9680 as Governor for 2011-12 as we have *Reached within to Embrace Humanity*. Thank you all.

David Rands
Governor,
District 9680, 2011-12

I Love Lucy devotees at the Masked Ball, District Conference

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S PARTNER'S REPORT—ANNE RANDS

Thank you from Anne

It has become accepted now, following the lead given by past district governors' spouses, that a donation to a chosen cause would be appreciated rather than a gift of flowers at the time of the Governor's club visits. As a result, Biblioteka Ermera, the library in the Ermera district of Timor Leste, has benefited by an enormous $22,443 this year, which, when added to last year's $13,000, makes a wonderful total of $35,443.

This amount of money has been able to make a significant contribution towards improving literacy and raising education and health standards in the district of Ermera. From a standing start using one room of a school as temporary premises, the library now has a purpose built main branch, with the first sub branch opening in August.

The volunteers on site, Dan and Beth Gilfillan, have published three books in Tetum, one of which is a guide for parents on reading to their children, co-written with the women's group. Over 1000 parents have so far participated in program activities at the maternity ward of the hospital, where Beth runs short sessions on how to use books. A fair proportion of the mothers are illiterate, so there is potential for mothers to learn to read alongside their children.

They have trained 25 teachers in how to use books in the classroom and have tried out various ways of encouraging interaction with people in the villages. A new development has been the opening of village libraries. A volunteer keeps several books in their home so that neighbours can borrow from them. The books are changed regularly by library staff. This is one way of overcoming transport problems in rural areas. Another innovation has been a book-reading on the radio on Friday nights, followed by a competition with book prizes for correct answers that are texted in. This has raised the profile of the library considerably. In one instance two schools held a combined assembly for one of the students to receive their prize.
These few examples may go to show how highly the library is appreciated and what wonderful progress they have made in a relatively short time. Many many thanks to all of you who have given so generously to this cause.

This year has been both challenging and rewarding. Many people imagine that having to visit all 67 clubs might be a chore: I can truthfully say that the visits were a highlight. To be welcomed in and invited to discover what all these clubs are doing is a privilege and an eye-opener. The pity is that so much of what Rotary does seems to be almost invisible to the outside world.

The Biblioteka Ermera Library, Timor Leste

Anne Rands
DG Partner 2011-12
District 9680

TREASURER'S REPORT - Jim Wells

Rotary District 9680 Management Accounts 2011/12 (not audited)

DG **David Rands**	Actual $	Budget $
Member Nos	1,892	1,950
Income		
Members' dues	197,897	205,628
Interest	10,322	8,000
Public Relations Grant	12,321	15,000
Rent (Thornleigh)	4,868	6,818
Donations	148	-
Total Income	225,556	235,446
Expenditure		
Governor Expenses	4,184	16,750
Badges etc	5,172	6,000
Zone Institute	9,079	10,000
Insurance	40,644	38,000
Functions - Conference - levy	39,000	39,000
- Conference - (surp)/def	(15,395)	1,000
- Presidents' Meetings etc	(2,021)	-
Training (note 1)	45,949	51,000
Public Relations	16,244	15,000
Directory	8,158	10,000
Thornleigh Office	15,708	16,818
Administration	3,568	8,150
Audit Fee	980	1,200
Membership	-	5,000
Club Service	-	1,000
Foundation (GSE)	2,243	5,500
Avenues of Service (note 2)	3,687	6,500
Contingencies	-	4,000
Total Expenditure	177,200	234,918
Surplus/ (deficit)	48,356	528

	Actual $
PDG **George Papallo**	
Expenditure	
Conference	832
Membership	(4,104)
Ave of Service	1,561
Total Expenditure	(1,711)
b/f 2010/11 Surp / (def)	(25,110)
Final Surplus / (deficit)	(23,399)
DGE **John Dodd**	
Expenditure	
Badges etc	4,503
Training (note 1)	36,759
Total Expenditure	41,262
c/f to 2012/13	
G **Not attributed**	
Special item	
Plant write off	5,551
Surplus / (deficit) - accounts	3,254

Notes

1. Training		
Management	2,836	
PETS	5,507	
Assembly	35,858	
Other	1,748	
	45,949	
2. Avenues of service		
Community	11	1,000
Vocational	1,979	2,000
International	-	500
Youth	1,697	3,000
	3,687	6,500

1. Training	
Management	5,510
PETS	17,797
Assembly	13,452
Other	-
	36,759

Jim Wells
District Treasurer 27th July 2012

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT— LES WALSH

Key issues - Communications Director

The 2011-12 year has mostly been one of managing change

District Communication Intranet (ClubRunner):

- All clubs authorised integration of their membership data with RI at a relatively early date
- Towards the end of the year, we have confidence that the membership data was more correct than RI's database. There are some clubs that will need to correct the RI database.
- 2012-13 Club Executives & Board were mostly entered directly into ClubRunner for the District Directory
- A District e-Directory has been made available to logged on users
- The District Calendar is now published on ClubRunner via the Events Listing
- EventRunner was successfully used for the following events:
  - ◊ 2012 District Conference
  - ◊ 2012 District Assembly
  - ◊ 2012 District Changeover
- ClubRunner publishes all news on the home page
- ClubRunner produces our District E-News fortnightly
- The 2012 District Assembly included a significant ClubRunner component
- Targeted communications to club officers or the general membership is managed via ClubRunner's email service to maintain best practice standards
- An 'easy' transition to Rotary District 9685 is anticipated

District Websites

- The district website portal (rotarydistrict9680.org) has been enhanced as a gateway
- The 'rotarynews' site home page has been transitioned to a PR/Membership focus.
- All new stories for E-News are first published on ClubRunner (rotarydistrict9680.org.au)
- ClubRunner content needs constant review beyond what is on the homepage
- Improved results via Google searches are evident
- Key Rotary District 9685 domains have been secured

District Directory

- A District e-Directory has been made available to logged on ClubRunner users

E-News

- District E-News has published mostly each fortnight using ClubRunner's District eBulletin feature to email the newsletter to all members
- All stories are first published on ClubRunner progressively
- Forthcoming club and district events are published in E-News
-

Club Websites

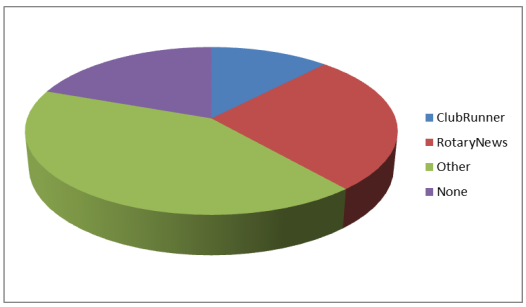
- 12% of clubs have adopted ClubRunner
- 19% of clubs either do not have a website or may as well not have one as the content is non-existent or out of date
- Some websites are very good but the quality of many is poor with:
  - ◊ Contact details not clearly visible
  - ◊ Out-of-date content
  - ◊ Current club bulletins not available
  - ◊ Content not addressed to existing/potential members and the general public

- A number of presentations have been made to clubs considering change
- The annual website award results were:

Ryde – for the second year - has the most comprehensively designed website that should appeal to members and the public alike.

Ku-ring-gai's site presents cleanly and attractively to the viewer.

Both the above sites are developed independently although Ku-ring-gai utilises a Joomla template.



Wahroonga & **Kenthurst** are the best examples of clubs adopting ClubRunner for their website.

Norm Roach Web Site Memorial Shield	Overall design. including features listed in Bulletins, plus: Visual appeal, legibility, ease of navigation Links to Rotary District and RI websites Does the website have a Password protected area for members' information?	RYDE	KU-RING-GAI WAHROONGA KENTHURST EPPING CROWS NEST WEST PH & C

Club Bulletins

- Only a limited number of clubs made application for the bulletin awards
- The results were:

Noel McDonald Bulletin Award	Presentation and content – does it inform members? e.g. President's, Directors' and Meeting reports, rosters, attendance, information about future meetings and future Club activities, information about Rotary as an international organization What impression does it make on a prospective member?	RYDE	
Bulletin Award for Small Clubs		THE HILLS-KELLYVILLE	NORTH SYDNEY SUNRISE
Best Produced Bulletin	•While meeting more than the minimum criteria for content, may not be as good as the major award winner • Content exceptionally well produced, with very good layouts	RYDE	

District & Club History

There was little activity during 2011-12 to advance the publication of district and club histories/archives.

Les Walsh
Communications Director

CLUB SERVICE / ADMINISTRATION - GRAEME DAVIES

This report outlines some of the key achievements and developments in the area of Club Service / Administration throughout 2011-12.

A renewed focus on Club Service: Although mention of "Avenues of Service" is not found in any formal RI constitution document, the five "avenues" are widely adopted as a means to implement the Objects of Rotary. Under the Club Leadership Plan however the new role of Club Administration resulted in Club Service being neglected in many clubs. Club Service traditionally involved all activities necessary for Rotarians to make their club function successfully. This included the Secretariat, Treasurer, Sergeant, membership development, guest speakers, club bulletin, public relations, club history, and attendance. District Governor David requested greater emphasis be placed on Club Service and especially the weekly meeting as this was Rotary's window to the local community and prospective members.

Club Service / Administration Seminar: This was held in September 2012 and was attended by over 50 Rotarians. Topics addressed included the weekly meeting, the role of the sergeant, the club assembly, the concept of regarding the Club as a club project, PR, membership, the Z Factor tool, and conflict resolution.

Z Factor Tool: This was developed in response to DG David's emphasis on club service. It was designed to provide a simple and quick way to measure the club's "zippy" factor and engage members in discussion and planning improvements to the Club's operation. It was best used in conjunction with the RI publication, ***Vibrant Clubs: Your Club Leadership Plan***.

District Insurance: There was a seamless transition from John Dodd to George Condell as District Insurance Officer. Our thanks go to George for the efficient support he has given clubs on insurance matters. There have been no major District or Club level insurance issues.

Child Protection: Our thanks to Ray Campbell for undertaking this role. Changes to legislation have resulted in some changes to our District Child Protection policy. Two related areas that will grow in importance in future years are harassment awareness and conflict resolution.

Risk Management: The District is indebted to Barry Edmundson and John Collins for developing an online risk assessment and management tool. There is a need to provide ongoing training in the use of this tool by clubs.

Implications of changes to **WorkSafe Australia** legislation caused some concern. It was determined however that because a club does not employ people directly, the changes did not apply to Rotary Clubs.

The role of the District in Club Service / Administration is to support and strengthen clubs. Most clubs welcome the support that can be provided. An area that needs to be strengthened in this regard is maintenance of the **District Speaker Bank**.

It has been an honour to have been District 9680 Club Service / Administration Director for 2011-12.

Graeme Davies
Administration /Club Service Director

TRAINING—PDG PAM PRITCHARD

Team Training

Two team training seminars were organised for the 2011-12 District Team. The first was held at the Macquarie School of Management on 13th November 2010. It involved the presentation of DGE David Rands' goals for the year; roles and responsibilities for team members; workshop role play; presentation skills; District and RI information and presentations from committee chairs. A professional consultant, John Townsend gave an excellent presentation on, 'Effectively Managing and Motivating Rotarians'.

The second training day was held at Jacaranda Lodge, Sydney Adventist Hospital on 19th February, 2011. DGE David gave a report on International Assembly; Committee Chairs gave updated reports and a further session on roles and responsibilities was given to the Assistant Governors.

President Elect Training (PETS)

The three Sydney Districts plus District 9710 from the Canberra area took the initiative of running a Multi District PETS on 12th March 2011 at the Liverpool Catholic Club. One of the benefits was attendance by then Rotary International President, Ray Klinginsmith and RI Director Stuart Heal. It also gave the opportunity for Rotarians from different Districts to get to know one another. Presentations were given on all areas of responsibility and breakout sessions gave Districts the opportunity to deal with District matters such as budgets and goal setting. In the breakout session the Assistant Governors met with the Presidents Elect in their zone.

The day culminated with a dinner where Ray Klinginsmith gave the keynote address.

RI President Ray Klinginsmith addressing the MultiDistrict PETS dinner

District Assembly

District Assembly was held on 9th April 2011 at the Macquarie University with some breakout sessions held in the E5A block lecture rooms.

North Shore Zone at MultiDistrict PETS

DGE David Rands showed the RI theme video and presented the goals and plans for the year. Breakout sessions were held for all areas of responsibility conducted by the relevant Team Directors and Chairs. Board meetings were held in the afternoon to give the opportunity for discussion on the information received in the morning sessions.

Participants could view the Expo display booths promoting Club and District projects and programs either before Assembly or in the breaks.

PDG Pam Pritchard
Training Chair, 2011-12

MEMBERSHIP—ROSS PEARSE

I would like to start this report by thanking DG David Rands for the opportunity to serve on the Board this year. David and the other members of the district board have been very supportive in putting forward membership as an important part of Rotary. The Assistant Governors have also worked very hard with the clubs to ensure membership is front of mind.

I also need to thank those individuals who sat on the membership committee this year. The job can only be done with a strong membership committee to share the workload. The members of the committee this year were PDG Harold Sharp, Richard Green, Ted Waters, Bruce De Graaf, Phil Isaacs, Tegrin Pather and Adrian Gale. All enthusiastic members who made a contribution to membership this year. In particular I would like to mention Harold, Richard and Ted have served on this committee for two years. I also need to mention Tony Castley who as new clubs coordinator has this year started the very successful E-club.

Membership was involved in team training, PETS, and Assembly. All members of the committee helped with the assembly training. This certainly made the day more interesting for those who attended.

Early in the year with the three Central Coast AGs we ran a stand at the Central Coast Flora Festival promoting membership for Rotary. Membership results were poor but it did get some publicity for Rotary.

A membership day was run at The San. Some Eighty Rotarians from the district attended this day which showed the interest from the clubs in growing membership. The feed back from the attendees was that they most enjoyed the case studies from clubs that had managed to grow membership. I thank all those who presented on this day.
Membership had a small role in the club service training also conducted at The San. That role was to remind the audience that making the club the best it can be is the first step to growing membership.

I, and other members of the committee. have been out speaking to many clubs including but not limited to, West Gosford, North Rocks, Neutral Bay, Winston Hills, West Pennant Hills, Manly, St.Ives, Rouse Hill, Norwest Sunrise, Berowra. Again the list of invitations shows the interest in membership in this district.

Late in the year we ran an evening for the Foundation Alumni. The idea of the night was to reconnect this group with Rotary and hopefully to encourage the Alumni to join a Rotary Club. The speaker at this meeting was The Hon. Chris Hartcher, minister for energy, himself a Rotary Foundation Alumnus. The main learning from this was how quickly the address database changes and how difficult it is to stay in connect. We did have many connects with Alumni who had good feelings about Rotary but had not joined. I would like to see that clubs from now on would keep in contact with this group.

Sue Tee (Woy Woy)& Annona Pearse (Erina) at the Alumni Dinner

We did do some planning for a promotional day in Martin Plaza Sydney in conjunction with the other Sydney districts.
As this was not supported by one of the districts it did not proceed

The winner of the membership growth award for large clubs was Northlakes Toukley. The winner small clubs was Chatswood International with two runners up in this category being Dural and Pittwater. At the time of writing current membership for the district is 1916 members up from 1882 at the start of the year. We will not have a final figure for some months.

Ross Pearse
Membership Chairman

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION – LINDSAY MAY

The work of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) sub Committees don't have clear start and end dates. Contributions from Clubs and Rotarians in 2008-09 were used to fund GSE, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Matching Grants in 2011-12 and the planning for these programs may have been underway for years. After year end, programs continue with projects and reporting to be completed.

Our District Designated Fund (DDF) for 2011-12 was US$101,098 representing 50% of 2008-09 contribution. With balance carried forward from unused DDF and District Simplified Grants (DSG), provided a total US$154,075 for TRF activities.

Goal 1 "Heighten the awareness of The Rotary Foundation and its Matching Grants program."
Success: At 1 July four MGs carried over from previous years. Below $US figures relate to new MGs with contributions ex District 9680 DDF, match from TRF World Fund, Total funding for the project.
4 MGs were approved this year;

	Dist DDF	TRF	Total
Chatswood to Thailand – Dialysis Machine	$1500	$6055	$15666
Wahroonga-Sewing training to villagers Mongolia	$4000	$8053	$20160
Kariong Somersby – Manilla Gen Hospital FACS Blood Machine HIV	$267	$15789	$48053
Combined Districts NZ Christchurch Mobile Library	$5000	$40000	$80000

- Especially pleased to secure closure of 4 MGs from; 2008-09 Galston Indian Cataract operations, 2008-09 Mosman Timor Water, 2010-11 North Sydney India and 2010-11 St Ives India Milch Cow MGs. Ryde to Brazil sewing MG still underway but all reporting up to date.
- A real win was the Kariong Somersby MG approval where the Manila General Hospital is in a Future Vision Plan District. Using contacts in the Philippines we had a non-FVP District in Manila partner with D9680 and despite significant pushback from TRF after considerable persuasion they agreed to approve the MG, I believe a first in the FVP Pilot for a non FVP District to instigate a MG in a FVP District. This was quite a coup!

In summary, note that Clubs can combine to achieve humanitarian projects; they require effort and resourcefulness to overcome challenges. I thank the Grants sub Committee and in particular chair PDG John Cameron for his thoroughness, experience, patience and positive approach in engineering solutions to maximise results.

Goal 2: "Promote personal giving to support Club contributions and exceed the 2010-11 record."
Success: We have encouraged personal giving via the Centurion program at AUD$100 per annum and Paul Harris Society at US$1,000 per annum. With Major Donor support we will be very close to the 2010-11 record levels.

Major Donor Sub-Committee Chair, Margaret Dean with PDG Bruce Allen from TRF Office, Parramatta

Goal 3, "Present a District TRF seminar to educate Club Foundation Directors."
Success: A seminar was held at The San Hospital in June but attendance was poor with 42 members from only 20 Clubs. Feedback was positive and all were better acquainted with Foundation programs but it leaves in question the knowledge in the remaining 46 Clubs which

probably explains why many Clubs seek no benefit from Foundation programs or offer no financial support.
Not surprisingly those Clubs represented form the bulk of TRF funded program beneficiaries.

Goals 3 & 4: "support Clubs executing one GSE with D1260 UK and increased GSE Team nominations"

Success: GSE Exchange was completed with D1260 UK. Mark Wallace (Crows Nest) was team leader and did an excellent job of building a cohesive team of journalists. This exchange from both sides was highly successful with wide acclaim as to the calibre and presentations of the teams. The GSE Team was funded by the World Fund at US$13,000.

Inbound GSE Team from D1260, UK

Clubs that become involved with hosting GSE teams demonstrate incremental enthusiasm each day, such that the opportunities for vocational and cultural visits miraculously appear. I thank all Clubs and hosts who opened their homes, workplaces and contacts to enable great GSE experiences.
I now encourage Clubs to find GSE nominees for April May 2013 exchange with Turkey.
Thanks to chair Julian Gregory (Roseville Chase) for outstanding work with organisation of selection panels and coordinating districts, zones, Clubs and hosts, co-ordinating demanding schedules.

Goal 5: "Select and Deploy a one year Ambassadorial Scholar" *and* take up DDF expense in one year."

Triple Success: Currently two Scholars are deployed; Dr Paul Benitez-Aguirre (Lane Cove) a paediatric endocrinologist at Westmead Children's Hospital is at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge UK and Toby Collis (Macquarie Park) is studying Law at Oxford University UK.
Robert Clark (Belrose) returned from Oxford University (Law).
From an impressive candidature, three Ambassadorial Scholars were selected in September 2011 to deploy from February 2013.
Dr Alp Attic, (Ryde), a medical researcher will study Ophthalmic Science at the Sheens Eye Research Institute (Harvard), in Boston USA. Alp's interest in diseases of the eye, and in public health means he intends working, on his return, with remote communities lessening the incidence of preventable blindness especially that caused by trachoma.
Matthew Smith (Lane Cove) a lawyer with interests in politics and economics plans to study at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is interested in pursuing a career in global humanitarian and environmental issues.
Claire Hammerton (Nth Sydney Sunrise) lawyer with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council. Wishes to undertake a Masters of Laws specialising in International Human Rights Law in Geneva. She has volunteered with; Oxfam, the Cape York Land Council and the Australian Human Rights Centre and undertook an internship in India developing programs and examining issues of discrimination against women and lower castes.

Inbound Ambassadorial Scholar, Jordan-Lee, entertaining at the District Changeover

This scholarship is highly prestigious and a valuable opportunity to further humanitarian work.
Each Ambassadorial Scholarship is worth US$27,000 and both will be funded from the 2012-13 DDF.

Thanks to Ryde and Belrose Clubs who provide counsellors to inbound Ambassadorial Scholars at Macquarie University. Scholars are available as guest speakers.

Goal 6: "Select a Rotary World Peace Fellow (RWPF) for nomination to TRF for selection."
Success: Rotary World Peace Fellows are funded by the World Fund up to US$65,000 and the candidate Sophie Ford (Lane Cove) was selected by the TRF Trustees for the three month certificate course at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and deployed 20 June 2012.
Rotarians are encouraged to seek candidates, they could be; work colleagues, fellow parishioners, associates, friends or colleagues of your children and grandchildren, etc. Potential Scholars and RWPFellows are out there, they just need to be identified and nominated.
Thanks to Gina Growden (Terrigal) and her committee for diligently working with Clubs to find candidates, arrange selection panels and administration that is required once a scholar is nominated.

Goal 7: "Encourage Clubs to transfer Foundation Recognition points"
Success: Transferring points is a simple way to direct a PHF Recognition Award to a Rotarian or non Rotarian and some Clubs have utilised this opportunity however many Club officers are unaware that of their accumulated tens of thousands of points each 1,000 are available for a Paul Harris Fellow recognition. I have worked hard to break the misconception that the PHF is Rotary's "highest honour" but the simple fact is that it is recognition for a contribution of US$1,000 to TRF.

Goal 8: "Promote Matching Grant projects to Clubs who have not previously participated"
Success: Grants Chair PDG John Cameron has met with Clubs who had shown interest in both Matching and Simplified Grants to assess their application and help them write applications. We had four Matching Grants approved (see Goal 1) and three were from Clubs new to MGs. There a number of others underway but they involve Future Vision Plan Districts which has some barriers to implementation. To this end we have set up a link with D9500 South Australia (a FVP Dist) and they are assisting us set up Grants under FVP for projects (Lane Cove) to Indonesia which is now a FVP District. Clubs are encouraged to use The Foundation for Humanitarian Projects and utilise the power of the TRF match to augment their project budget.

Goal 9: "Distribute US$20,248 through Clubs by

Mosman	Vietnam, repair of Audiometer for a school for hearing impaired children in HCMC	$1600
Ku Ring Gai	Eagles Bus Doonside, to support long-term unemployed and troubled youths	$2000
Glenhaven	Thailand, water filters to assist flood victims	$2,000
Turramurra / Wahroonga	Cambodia kayaks to employ local youths as tour guides	$1023
Winston Hills	Vanuatu, Sewing education project for people with disabilities	$895
Gosford North	Madagascar, water filtration project	$4200
Kenthurst	PNG Fomu, supply of solar powered laptops	$2000
Turramurra	Sierra Leone Bo Children's Hospital, supply of mediation and equipment	$1350

District Simplified Grants (DSG) and maximise interest earned on the account"
Success: 20% of DDF can be allocated to DSGs. These grants follow the Matching Grant guidelines, are approved by the District Grants subcommittee, simpler to apply, administer, implement and report. Our allocation converted to AUD$20,114 DSG.

DSGs in AUD$ were allocated to;

A total of AUD$15,068 spent and we will finish with about AUD$5,300 unused to returned to next year's DDF. We earned additional $260 interest. Next year's DSG budget will be US$23,097 so Clubs should be working to access

these funds.

Goal 10: "Provide direct support to Clubs and zones in the form of funding application expertise"

Success: PDG John Cameron and members of the committee have provided assistance to Clubs to enable them to better understand the Grant application and approval process and meet eligibility guidelines that can sometimes be problematical.

We have also worked with Clubs wishing to work in Future Vision Plan Pilot Districts which proves very confusing and problematical under the TRF guidelines however come 1 July 2013 the Rotary world will transition to FVP and hopefully Clubs and the District will be qualified to undertake Grants under the FVP structure.

Goal 11: "Conduct the third tri-District 9680 9750 9690 Sydney Rotary Foundation Luncheon"

Success: On November 29, 2011 RIPE Sakuji Tanaka addressed over 270 about his philosophy on world peace based upon his Japanese background.

The event promoted contribution of funds to TRF and seven Major Donors and five Paul Harris Society members were recognised by RIPE Sakuji along with four Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions to nominees from Woolworths, Navitas and Blackmores.

Excluding contributions, the event made a small surplus and will be run again at The Epping Club Monday October 15 2012 with guest speaker RI President Nominee, Ron Burton of the USA.

A special thank you to PDG Tony Castley for organising this event, building relationships with Rotary and 'corporates' encouraging donations to TRF and recognising employees with PHF Recognition Awards.

Goal 12: "Conduct an exclusive function for Major Donors and Paul Harris Society members."

Deferred: Apart from the tri-District Rotary Foundation function which was well attended we were unable to conduct an exclusive function however Ross Pearse as Membership Chair organised a Rotary Foundation Alumni dinner with 40 attending and addressed by Chris Hartcher MP (GSE 1976 to South Africa) who spoke on the impression GSE made and its influence to stand for parliament.

Goal 13: "Secure 20 additional Paul Harris Society members contributing US$1,000 per annum."

Partial Success: To end May, The Paul Harris Society grew 13% to 45 members contributing US$1,000 per annum however Major Donors have more than made up for the equivalent of the 5 PHS shortfall. An email promotion campaign in May 2012 has sourced 2 additional PHS notifications so await year end to asses this goal.

Thanks to Margaret Dean (St Ives) for her administration of the PHSociety and Major Gift opportunities. Thank you to the Major Donors who have provided significant funding to Polio and the Annual Programs Fund.

Goal 14: "Gain an additional 250 Centurions or renew lost Centurions at $100 per annum, a 50% gain."

Partial success: As at June 30, 550 Centurions renewed for the year and over 50 new members enrolled. Foundation Directors are encouraged to follow up non-Centurions. Receipts are mailed as contributions are received and Centurion badges sent to Club TRF Directors for presentation.

Thanks to Vicki de Carle (Gosford City) who has done a great job managing this complex portfolio.

Goal 15: "Secure an additional 20 Benefactor notifications, a 20% increase."

Unknown: As this is a confidential matter many bequest notifications are not advised to us, however we are aware of requests for more information or the wording required to be included in a Will and received two bequests for total of $52,631 during the year from Rotarians who

Polio Eradication at work

have sadly passed on. Barry Freeman (WPH Cherrybrook) has run the Bequest Society and been successful in encouraging Rotarians to remember TRF in their wills and we anticipate future notifications. All are encouraged to consider this method of supporting The Foundations' programs in perpetuity.

Goal 16: "Extend the Paint your Pinkie to schools in order to raise funds for PolioPlus"
Success: Thank you to PDG Pam Pritchard, Polio Eradication chair for actively speaking to Clubs and visiting schools, educating students about Polio, most of whom are unaware of the ravages or risks of polio and raising funds by 'painting their pinkies'. We made contact with a number of schools this year to promote the Polio awareness.

Summary – This year saw a big increase in the involvement of Clubs with the Foundation. The increase in candidates for GSE, Ambassadorial and Peace Fellows was encouraging but we can handle more. District Simplified Grants was on par with last year but Matching Grants presents great opportunities for funding.

Our target for Polio is to reach last year's total of US$95,868 but as 30 June approaches we might exceed $110,000. Our Annual Programs Fund goal is to exceed last year's record of US$312,894. 50% of APF comes back as DDF in 2014-15. YTD June was US$329,085, a fantastic result, and thank you to all the Clubs and members who supported The Rotary Foundation.

There has been an increased understanding of TRF Programs and funding, building upon the work done by past TRF Chairs and will continue to enable future District Governors and their TRF sub Committees carry out important Humanitarian and Educational programs funded by The Rotary Foundation. I acknowledge my mentor and previous District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair PDG Bruce Allen and his team at RISPPO Office at Parramatta, for the strong Foundation in this district and the impressive funding available to the Clubs and Foundation sub Committees.

Thank you to DG David and Anne for continued support and promotion of TRF.

Lindsay May
District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair

PUBLIC RELATIONS—MARK WALLACE

It's been quite a year for Rotary Public Relations in District 9680.

It began with a raft of local newspaper reports of successful changeover events at both club and District level. Clubs in the Hills District and Central Coast zones in particular garnered many reports throughout the year, a reflection of the relationships they have built up over the years with their local media outlets.

As District public relations chair I visited several clubs in our District to preach the Rotary public image message. Publicity in newspapers is, indeed, important, but it is far from the cure-all for Rotary's declining membership. The best public relations is, of course, the message that ordinary Rotarians can and must broadcast to all those non-Rotarians they meet in their daily routines. To do this well, Rotarians must be educated, and the bulk of the presentations I have given have stressed this point. I have also stressed the need to bring websites up to date and the importance of clubs engaging through social media such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. This would still appear to be a problem as clubs tend to leave it to their PR chairs. The whole point of using social media is, of course, for everyone to engage. Still, we made a start and several clubs are making significant progress in this regard.

George Richards and Sue O'Neill examine the Humanity In Motion Book

The Golden Quill Award for 2011-12 for Public Relations was won by the Rotary Club of Chatswood International, whose President, Maria Chan, did wonders to raise her (still relatively new) club's profile in its local community. Her efforts have stressed the diversity of Rotary membership, with more than half the club's membership being female and a majority from cultural backgrounds reaching well beyond Australia's borders. Diversity is key to Rotary's public image, and Chatswood International's efforts to obtain media coverage in conventional suburban media as well as the appropriate ethnic media, was the factor that swayed the judge's opinion against the usual strong field of competitors.

They took a while to get to us, but when they did, the Rotary 4WD wheel covers went like hotcakes. The covers were part of our District's successful Rotary International Public Relations Grant application, and we now have more than 200 mobile billboards driving around the District and beyond, promoting the fact that Rotary is keen to obtain new members.

Along with the wheel covers, District 9680 also contributed to a national PR campaign that involved a 30-second TV commercial which began airing in April.

District 9680 was also heavily involved in the production, promotion and distribution of PDG Tony Castley's second *Humanity in Motion* coffee-table book, stocks of which were taken up by many clubs throughout the District. This time *Humanity in Motion* took contributions from 10 Districts around Australia, and distributed accordingly. This is widely recognized as one of the best Rotary PR projects of all time in Australia, and credit goes to PDG Tony and D9680 Rotarians George Richards (editor) and Ted Sheedy (creative director). Look for Volume III in the lead-up to the Rotary International Convention in Sydney in 2014.

Our Group Study Exchange team and the team from District 1260 in the UK were comprised of journalists. As a result, there are now nine more working media professionals who have had intensive Rotary experiences and been educated into the work Rotarians do all over the world. Our team was comprised of Louise Schwartzkoff, of the Sydney Morning Herald, Julia Holman, of the ABC, Steve Spierings, of the Hills News, and Claire Thompson, media adviser to the Hills Shire Council. It was my privilege to lead this team, and I look forward on behalf of Rotary to the dividends this long-term investment will bring.

Mark Wallace
Rotary District 9680 PR Chair

PROJECTS—THEO GLOCKEMANN

While "Projects" lies at the very heart of Rotary, as far as I am aware Rotary has no "job description" for the role of Projects Director. Given that in our District the AoS Chairs have always performed their function admirably (as was the case this year), it means that the Projects Director is able to explore new avenues relating to Projects.

This year I have had two main aims –

Firstly to investigate sponsorship, grants and corporate funding. Many clubs have been successful in attracting finance from outside of Rotary. What is obvious however is that we need to co-ordinate our efforts and be more proactive in sourcing funds. Rotary projects like RYLA, RYPEN, Science and Engineering Challenge, NYSF have a lot to offer potential sponsors.

Personally, after six months of negotiation, our East Timor RYLA Project has attracted considerable funds from Woodside Petroleum with every likelihood that our association could be extended into other areas in future.

RYLA in East Timor

Secondly to foster the link with Macquarie University that was given to me by President Deidre Anderson of RC Macquarie Park. We have had numerous meetings with Prof Gail Whiteford and her team. As each student at Macquarie needs to do some sort of community service on which they are assessed as part of their degree, there is huge scope for Rotary to partner with MQ Uni. To date some of the projects undertaken by MQ have included 4 or 5 overseas projects, Street Kids in Western Sydney, Remote Aboriginal Settlements. MQ are very keen to be involved with Rotary. We offer them huge respectability, probity, trust etc. They are also very keen to be involved in East Timor.

To get the ball rolling, we are organising a "pilot" project which involves trained MQ students mentoring Rylarian East Timor Uni students. Apart from academic advantages, the cultural understanding for both sides is seen as very important. We now have 120 Rylarians in ET from RYLA 2010 and 2011, and will have another 90 after RYLA 2012 at the end of September. Many have joined Rotaract in Dili, but there is a very pressing need to instigate a "RYLA Alumni" to maintain the interest and stimulate Rylarians to keep progressing on the leadership ladder. We see MQ Uni as pivotal in the Alumnis development.

The MQ students were to have travelled to East Timor with our team in September. Unfortunately they have received 3 negative risk assessments about East Timor and are therefore unable to visit ET this year. The mentoring however will still proceed with ET students who our team will help in selecting during our visit in September.

However, MQ have plans for a "Youth Lead Development Forum" possibly in February next year at Macq Uni. It will cover various development topics and MQ expect up to 500 students to be involved. We expect that places will be available for some (depending on finance available) ET students to attend. The selection of the ET students will be on a competitive basis, and our team will select the successful candidates when we visit.

In conclusion I would like to thank all my colleagues who helped make this year a memorable one in my Rotary life. A special thanks to DG David who trusted me to "do my own thing".

Theo Glockemann
Projects Director 2011 - 2012

COMMUNITY— CLIFF HOARE

Community Service is the shop-front to Rotary in the eyes of many people within our communities.

During the past year I have endeavoured to encourage Clubs to connect with their community, raise awareness of the fact that Rotary is out there providing a service and building better communities through the many hundreds of projects. To drive through a local community and see as well as feeling the presence of Rotary is an indication that "Rotary" is truly connecting with that area.

The Kenthurst Community is one such area which is serviced by its Rotary Club. Starting with the Orange Blossom Festival, Carols by Candlelight, Australia Day, Anzac Day, the Kenthurst Literary Institute Property and the Men's Shed, all provide entertainment, park facilities and a time to remember those who went before them. It would be fair to say that without Kenthurst Rotary, nothing would happen in the area.

The Rotary Club of Carlingford also provided excellent community service by the many and varied projects they provided with special emphasis on the recognition of Volunteers within the community and the aid provided to an Aboriginal Community in the Northern Territory.

Beecroft Club provide blankets for the homeless

Christmas Lights shining bright in the Belrose area is yet another project which our community looks forward to every year.

One could mention the many special projects undertaken by the 67 Clubs in the District but space does not allow this to take place.

The jewel in the crown of Rotary is once again **"Australian Rotary Health".** It is now one of the largest Organisation within Australia catering for research and awareness of Health issues. To date, over $29 million has been raised by Rotary Clubs since it's inception 31 years ago. Almost $3.2 million has been raised in District 9680. Mental Health First Aid Workshops and School Forums were held in the District to promote the Awareness of Mental Health. Hat Day will again be celebrated on the 12 October to further promote Mental Health Awareness.

The **Graffiti Removal Project** is gaining momentum with many more Clubs coming on board, so much so that the State Government has undertaken to assist Turramurra Rotary Club to promote the project by providing financial assistance.

Probus is growing at a very fact rate with many more Clubs being chartered thus giving our active retirees another outlet to find new friends.

Bowelscan under the guidance of Walter Leijten is again proving to be a much need project and is better than the Federally funded scheme, Congratulation to Walter for his dedication.

I have enjoyed working with the District Board throughout the year but it is exciting to visit clubs to see their projects coming to fruition and I look forward to another year in the role as Community Chairman.

Cliff Hoare
Community Service Chairman

VOCATIONAL SERVICE— BOB KAYE-SMITH

It has been a great year in Vocational Service all the District programs that were presented to our Clubs have been taken up. All clubs participated in three or more of the programs.

Vocational Excellence Awards

This year we had a good number of candidates from the clubs to be considered for this award. From the candidates presented to the Vocational Excellence Awards Committee the following three were chosen as being worthy of this award , Doctor Felix Chan - Gynaecological Oncologist, Professor Marea – Vice Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University and Professor Susan Clark Epigenetic Researcher, each were recognised and presented with a medallion at our District Conference.

District Apprentice/Trainee Award

Again with this award the clubs put forward a wonderful group of young people that made it very difficult to choose the winner however after much deliberation we chose an outstanding candidate Chris von Schomburg an apprentice electrical fitter. Also Chris was a team leader at our District RYLA and has volunteered to assist with RYLA in East Timor later this year.

Pride of Workmanship

With out a doubt the most popular program undertaken by our clubs and once again has been extremely successful.

Australian Business week (ABW)

This Program is conducted over one week in High Schools for year 10 and 11 Students. The program involves participants in teams learning about business by running their own computer simulated company. They are supported by mentors from local business and **Rotarians** who volunteer as mentors, speakers and judges.

Four Way Test Speech Competition

This year we had 16 schools participate at various clubs, the clubs then forwarded the winner of their heat to the District semi finals which was held by the Rotary Club of Ryde. The two finalists from those competitions were Tom St John from Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore) and Danielle Bennett from Brigidine College, the Grand Final was held at our District Conference the winner being Tom St John

Terrigal Club conducts a Four Way Speech Competition and congratulates the participants

Professional Ethics

Unfortunately Matthew Campbell was transferred interstate due to his work in January however during his 7 months as Ethics chair he was invited and presented to more than 20 clubs produced 3 newsletters on Ethics that was distributed to club members. Matthew did an outstanding job. From January Ian Kilpatrick took on Mathew's role and has presented to a number of clubs.

It has been a privilege to work with the District team, and a special thank you to the District Governor David for his great leadership. I look forward to, if the situation is presented, to working with him again.

Bob Kaye-Smith
Vocational Director

INTERNATIONAL– ROD JOLLY

International Service is a vital component of Rotary's activities. Part of the Object of Rotary is "to encourage and foster … the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service."

This year, the clubs of our District listed 205 International projects in their plans and 24 clubs listed their support for Shelterbox. There were many medical projects and these covered Polio, Malaria, Diabetes, dental, general practitioner services, cardiology, audiology and hearing aids, neurology, ophthalmology and optometry including spectacle supply, psychology, speech therapy, nursing, midwifery and supply of medical equipment and wheelchairs. Nine clubs listed ROMAC (Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children) projects. Bo Children's Hospital in Sierra Leone was well supported as were orphanages in Krushi, Thailand, Johannesburg, Mongolia, Ukraine, Indonesia and Sri Lanka and a centre for handicapped in the Philippines. There were also a number of projects concerned with educational facilities, including St Jude's School in Tanzania (sponsored by 6 clubs) and at Katuuso in Uganda. A range of projects were under-

David & Dianne Waterhouse (Terrigal) on a RAWCS trip to Mongolia

taken to give support in East Timor including RYLA and Biblioteka Ermera which was chosen for support by DG David Rands' wife Anne.

The District Conference in Wollongong witnessed three interesting, informative and challenging presentations on International Projects. The first, by Beth and Dan Gilfillan, who are running the Biblioteka Ermera project, informed us of the setting up the 2 libraries and the writing of books and training programs for using the books.

A new Cath lab is installed in a hospital in Nepal thanks to RAWCS

The second presentation was by Sue O'Neill from Kenthurst Club who spoke on RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) and a RAWCS project in New Guinea. RAWCS provides a structure and support network as well as travel insurances and tax deductibility. RAWCS was formed in 2002/2003 and in that year in the Eastern Region processed $300,000 in project donations compared to $8 million this year. Kenthurst Club donated foetal dopplers to Vanimo Hospital in Sandaun Province in Papua New Guinea. Up to three babies died each month during childbirth, but since receiving the foetal dopplers in August 2011, they have not lost a baby.

The last presentation was by Annabelle Chauncy, a member of the E-club, on United Future Foundation, an organisation that she and Dave Everett founded and to which Anabelle has devoted her full time effort.

The Foundation aims to use education as a tool for breaking the poverty cycle. New School buildings at Katuuso School in Uganda are required as the initial group of students moves to the next grade at school and accommodation for orphan children who are taken in every year is an increasing need. Future plans include medical facilities to allow the extension of the community support provided by the United Future Foundation.

The Rotary Club of Carlingford won the District

Award for International Service for Large Clubs and have conducted a wide ranging program with great potential for ongoing impact. They supported the Handicapped Centre Lourdes in Manila which provides a refuge and school for handicapped children, Carabez Alliance which provides services for deaf children in Fiji by a scholarship for training of a teacher, funding medical and dental equipment for use by their sister club Timog, Quezon City in the Philippines, support of a speech discrimination test for deaf children in Indonesia, provision of water wells in Ho, Ghana and provision of funds for water filters in Thailand.

Woy Woy club also undertook a wide range of projects in a variety of countries including assisting a student from Bagong Bario slum in the Philippines to become a teacher, support of the Mukti project to help HIV positive children from the streets, PNG mosquito net projects, water filters from Thailand and assistance with projects championed by other clubs such as Bo Children's Hospital.

Many clubs supported Romac during the year

The award winner for small clubs was Winston Hills who have lead 6 teams on projects to Vanuatu, given much assistance to the Donations in Kind program, supported building at Wasgamuwa School, Sri Lanka, funded a Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) project in which a 3 year old was flown from New Guinea for facial reconstruction, provided materials for Rotarians Against Malaria and funded two shelterboxes. Amazing achievement by a small club, but indicative of the commitment of many of the clubs in our District. The runner up, North Ryde

ShelterBoxes provide emergency shelter in disaster zones

was involved in seven projects including one involving Baulkham Hills TAFE students in preparing computers to run off 12 volt batteries for use in PNG at places such as Fomu and Vanumo. They also supported the training of a teacher in Timor.

Rod Jolly
International Director

NEW GENERATIONS—PETER VISSER

It has been a pleasure to serve as Youth Chair these last twelve months. The continued success of all the District programs is something of which we can all feel proud. Our future is in good hands – especially under the leadership of the Chairs and their hardworking committees in each program.

Rotary Youth Exchange Program

Rotary clubs in D9680 sponsored and hosted a total of 24 students to and from 16 countries. The committee continued to develop and conduct two detailed briefing sessions for outbound students including a 'live in' weekend training session. The committee conducted a briefing session for inbound students to provide them with appropriate local knowledge and clarification of the expectations of district. The newly introduced selection weekend for outbound students has been further developed and the Safari camping tour has undergone significant modifications involving itinerary changes, addition of two extra flight sectors to reduce the time spent travelling by bus and enhancement of the indigenous cultural component. During this year's Safari, students particularly enjoyed the bush campout, which took place in below freezing temperatures. Members of an indigenous community near Alice Springs conducted it and the information provided on Aboriginal kinship, bush tucker, boomerang throwing and didgeridoo playing was well received. During the year the Publicity and Promotions sub-committee prepared a promotional DVD, which was shown at the District Conference and will be utilized in future public relations endeavours. I wish to particularly thank District Governor David and Anne for their incredible support and commitment to the Youth Exchange Program during the past year. They have both attended nearly every Youth Exchange event and their genuine interest has been truly appreciated by the members of the committee. David's steadfast encouragement throughout the year has been especially appreciated. Thank you to the Publicity and Promotions sub-committee for its efforts. Finally and most importantly I wish to thank the members of the Youth Exchange District Committee who have worked tirelessly and diligently to ensure the program's success. Their dedication, care and compassion are truly amazing and respected by all who deal with them.

Youth Exchange Students with Paul Wynn and DG David

RYLA

The week-long Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program was held in January at the new venue at Elanora Heights Uniting Church conference facility attended by seventy nine engaging Rylarians. The strength of RYLA lies with a team of young [ex-Rylarian] facilitators presenting RYLA to their peers, after undergoing year long training to do so. The quality of the speakers and the challenging curriculum for the week gives the same result each year – motivated young people many of whom nominate their

International RYLA students at Gallipoli on ANZAC Day

RYLA experience as a pivotal point in their lives. And it is fun! Those Rotarians and volunteers who participated in the 'Leadership in Crisis' scenarios can attest to the results achieved. This year for the first time we added a number of Rotary and Rotaract awareness sessions to the program. This has resulted in a greater bond and understanding between the Rylarians and Rotary and many have gone on to join existing Rotaract clubs and helping to set up new ones. But it doesn't happen without a lot of hard work. Program Chair Andrew Hansen and his facilitator team together with the Rotary District team from the Lindfield, Terrey Hills and Crows Nest clubs, led by PP Angelo Raveane, delivered a week to remember. After 8 years as a Rylarian and facilitator, and Program Director for the past 4 years, we bid farewell to Andrew (Gus) Hansen who stands down after another great year. We are all indebted to Gus for his leadership and expertise in running RYLA for the past 4 years. To produce a project of this standard, apart from effort needed, takes money. This year the cost was $799 per attendee and while this may seem unaffordable for many small clubs, a program such as this at corporate level would cost in excess of $8,000. It is my hope that in future years much of the cost is borne from outside of Rotary – from employers who reap the benefit of the training given, and from companies which recognize the value of RYLA to future leaders. Whilst everyone in Rotary says they know what RYLA is, it is not until you experience the RYLA effect first hand that you realize that it is a program that should be supported no matter what the cost since all Rylarians are potential Rotaractors and future Rotarians.

RYPEN

This weekend, Friday night to Sunday afternoon - leadership training and personal development camp - is for young people entering Year 10. RYPEN Camp was held at The Collaroy Centre at Collaroy from 3 February, to 5 February. The young people who attend District 9680 RYPEN came from a broad range of high schools and colleges, both public and private, and as usual, there was a very strong involvement on the part of Central Coast Schools. Seventy-two young people joined together for the Camp under the direction of Jon Phegan, (Camp Director) his technical assistant Michael and his team of eight young facilitators. In addition there were two camp parents and another Rotarian participating, all from the Rotary Club of Wahroonga. The Collaroy Centre provided leaders for the Centre's outdoor activities. A RYPEN camp is often the first time a young person ventures away from home without the support of friends. After ice-breaking games, they begin to bond with the members of their colour group team and by Sunday afternoon have 18 or so new 'best' friends from whom they can hardly bear to be separated. The knowledge that one can find oneself in a totally new situation, on one's own, and not only survive but have the 'greatest weekend', is probably the best lesson learned.

RYPEN Students

NYSF and SCIENCE PROJECTS

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) is the premier Rotary project to advance science in our young folk. About two hundred budding scientists are selected Australia wide to spend two weeks, in either Canberra or Perth, with some of Australia's leading scientists as lecturers, and participating in hands-on projects. Our District's allotment of placements is approximately 25. After being interviewed by Rotary Clubs, the sixty or so applicants are again interviewed by a District selection panel. While the cost is currently shared between the applicant's family and a Rotary Club, it would be an appropriate activity to attract outside funding given that these young people represent the future of science in Australia.

The Science and Engineering Challenge is a school-based project, which challenges school kids in a fun way with different science projects at a one-day activity. The idea for the Challenge started at Newcastle University and has enthusiastically been adopted throughout most states. Chair Gavin Ralston has steered this project since its

infancy and with sponsorship is seeing substantial growth each year.

MUNA

The Sydney Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) took place at Knox and at Niagara Park Community Centre. MUNA gives an opportunity to Year 11 and 12 students to take their place as ambassadors of various countries in the United Nations and debate controversial resolutions in a realistic forum. Teams dress in the national costume of the country they represent and research that country's stance on each of the resolutions. Thanks to members of the Rotary Club of Wahroonga, all participants gained a first hand knowledge of UN practices. MUNA remains a cost effective way for clubs to support local schools.

RYDA – making our roads a safer place

The Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program provides young people with the knowledge to stay safe as a young driver or passenger. RYDA was initiated in D9680 in 2001 and has now grown to be the largest national road safety education program for young people in Australia with around 50,000 students participating each year. In the past year nearly 10,000 Year 11 students from District 9680 attended RYDA at venues located in St Ives, Sydney Olympic Park and Wyong. RYDA has a focus on "attitude and awareness" and is delivered by professional facilitators under the theme of 'My Life – My Choices'. Thanks to the many Rotarians who gave of their time to help coordinate the delivery of the RYDA Program and to guide students attending from their local high school. The program is also supported by Rotoractor and Probus members and sponsored by BOC, NRMA, TOYOTA and Kmart Tyre and Auto Service. This support has helped to make our roads a safer place for all in the community.

INTERACT

While Interact may be a secret to many Rotarians, it is not a secret to the some180 members of James Ruse Interact Club, or the 150 members of PLC Interact or the members of the Interact clubs at Henry Kendall High and Narara Valley High Schools. The results achieved in all spheres of service are simply remarkable. It is hoped that the new Rotary year will see more Interact Clubs as Rotary Clubs realize the value of securing their own future through youth. We have 6 Interact clubs in the district and would love to have many more.

ROTARACT

Rotaract has had a great year, with reinvigoration in key areas of the District. There has been membership growth in all of the continuing clubs, the chartering of three new clubs (Lower North Shore, Central Coast and ICMS) and one potential club (the Hills) as work in progress. The relationship between Rotaract clubs and their sponsoring Rotary clubs and other District projects such as RYLA, has been flourishing. Outstanding projects conducted around the District include Splash for Cash raising funds for the Royal Institute of Deaf and Blind Children, a RAWCS volunteer trip to a children's refugee in Thailand, Red Cross blood drives and a Harbour Cruise raising funds for Polio Plus. Rotaractors represented their clubs at the Rotary District Conference, the Australian Rotaract Conference, the Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference and the Rotary International Convention and Rotaract Pre-convention. Dani Fogarty as our District Rotaract Representative has made a great contribution, and by being an active RYLA facilitator has helped to strengthen the bridge between these two wonderful youth programs.

Rotaract members at the chartering of Lower North Shore Club

YOUTH INSEARCH

Apart from the flagship District programs it has been pleasing to see that the have-nots have

not been ignored. Various clubs have visited a Youth Insearch camp at Kurrajong during the year to cook for the weekend. Apart from seeing first hand how some kids are overcoming their disadvantage these generous clubs save the organisation some $1500 allowing more kids to be helped. It is a disappointment that there are many issues pertaining to it that make continued support difficult for individual clubs.

OPERATION HOPE

Various clubs also supported Operation Hope, a week-long camp for younger kids who need help at Vision Valley.

JUNIPERINA JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRE

The Rotary Club of Roseville Chase continues to visit the female inmates on a regular basis at the Centre.

CLUB INITIATIVES

There are so many wonderful club initiatives for youth that to highlight some would be unfair to others. Clubs have worked with and for school groups across the years, local community youth programs and organizations such as Girl Guides and Scouts. I would like to congratulate all clubs on their many initiatives and sponsorship of youth in schools and various clubs in and around D9680.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The team of young presenters in the Youth segment of the Conference showcased just what young people can achieve when given a challenge - from Ali Yunespour – ambassador for schooling in Borjegal to Charlotte Marique – Exchange student and MC of a section of the Youth segment at the Conference itself - and many others from MUNA, RYPEN etc. They presented themselves extremely well and I know we were all so very proud of them.

Lastly, I would like to sincerely thank all who have helped make Youth so special during the last twelve months – the sterling efforts of all who have been involved in Youth / New Generations across D9680 are greatly appreciated and felt far and wide. In conclusion, I would like to echo the thoughts of the various directors of Youth in the District and particularly thank District Governor David Rands – for giving all of us the opportunity to promote and highlight Youth in District 9680.

Peter Visser
New Generations Chairman 2011-2012

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS' REPORTS

Beaches—Brian Plain

Clubs in the Beaches Zone successfully promoted the Rotary brand, providing service and demonstrating high ethical standards through their projects and community activities from the Harbour Bridge to Brookvale. Thank you to all Rotarians from the Rotary Clubs of Brookvale, Balgowlah, Dee Why Warringah, Manly and Manly Sunrise for a job-well-done and a great year of service.

While these 5 Beaches Zone Clubs continue to roll out an impressive array of projects across Rotary's avenues of service, far too numerous to review here, the emphasis on outdoor activities must have something to do with 'the Beaches' weather.

The Manly Fun Run has gone from strength to strength since the inaugural run three years ago. That year roughly 900 participants registered, and on a cold and wintry morning barely 600 turned up. But the heavens were consulted, event plans were revised, and on the morning of May 20, three times that number gathered on Manly's sun-drenched ocean front for the Scenic Fun Run (or walk) of their lives, in the process netting over $100,000 from entry fees and sponsorship. Benefits to the community and the Rotary brand were evident in a report from the Manly Area Police Commander Mike Darcy in his post Fun Run de-brief, "I want to do everything we can to assist you in growing the Manly Fun Run ....we see this event as very important to the community....and will commit our resources if necessary to achieve that goal."

Further from the bridge, the Pub to Pub event, now in its 20th year is held annually in August. Last year 5,000 runners left Dee Why beach, bound for the Newport Arms, in the process raising in excess of $250,000 for charities. The strength of the Pub to Pub project is the broad community support bringing together Surf Clubs, the Road Transport Authority, NSW Fire Service and NSW State Emergency Services, Scouts and the public to support and coordinate the event.

A little less energetic but loads-of-fun and a marvellous promotion for Rotary is the Rotary Golf Ball Drop, facilitated by the Salvation Army at the local conference centre in celebration of games for children in the local community. The weather cleared on Saturday 9th May for the helicopter to pick up 2 drums of golf balls, releasing them from 50 metres with the winner having their ball closest to the pin. Now in its second year, this project is set to become an annual must-do for children on the Beaches.

Coordination across the Zone was highlighted with the annual Zone dinner, held this year at the Manly International College of Management, with a presentation from the inspirational guest speaker, John Brogden. John is a Director and patron of Lifeline and heavily involved not only with their operations in providing phone support to people in need but also with his personal experiences and challenges with depression.

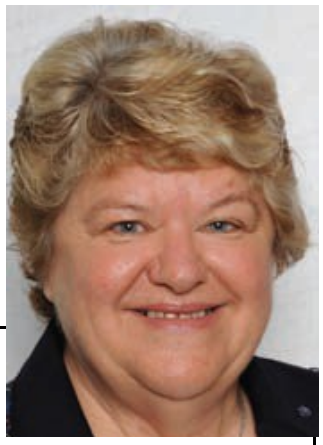
Club Presidents agreed that the Zone dinner would be an 'away night' weekly meeting and took the opportunity to showcase a Rotary meeting with due formality yet minimal 'traditional Rotary protocol'. Thank you to President John Stewart of the Balgowlah Club for volunteering to Chair the night, demonstrating the upside of change.

Membership growth was the focus of a Zone workshop to assist Club membership Directors set and implement recruitment strategies. From the meeting, the Manly Rotary Club adopted an innovative approach to recruitment by targeting new members in an age cohort similar to their existing members (predominantly retirees) and aligning their projects and Club activities with the interests of those members. We will watch their progress with interest.

Well done Beaches – and may the weather in 2012-13 Rotary year be fine and sunny!

Brian Plain
AG Beaches

Central Coast—Lyn Davies



The Five Clubs in the Central Coast Zone have had a successful year. Early in the Rotary year each Club met with the District Governor and shared their goals and their programs. Each Club has worked to make a difference to the lives of people in our community and other countries. A small sample of some of their programs includes:

East Gosford	Community – BowelCare, Gosford Homeless Men Project Youth – Seimen's Summer Science Challenge Club – locating a new venue
eClub	Community- Members linking with their local Clubs International – see the impressive website list of projects and NGOs Club – building membership to over 40 – assisting 2 new eClubs in Au
Erina	Community- The Century Challenge Bike Ride Club - effective membership strategies International - Midwives in East Timor
Kincumber	Community - The ShipBuilders Memorial Walk, The Mountain Fun Run Vocational – Pride of Workmanship Club – membership development program
Wyong/Tuggerah	Youth (New Generations)- Debates Vocational - Heroes Night Club – innovative relationships with the local business community
Rotaract	Community - Splash for Cash Swim International- Clothing Drive, Conferences

The Rotary clubs of Kincumber, Erina and Terrigal met three times for the TEK Factor competition, to connect and have fun. Wyong/Tuggerah launched a Facebook Page and the Rotaracters offered their services to de-mystify FaceBook and raise project dollars. Rotaract also held a Charter Night. The eClub had a number of social gatherings, including a Charter Dinner. East Gosford enjoyed the ARH Race Day.

The energy in the clubs and the different innovations are great for Rotary International and its future. Strategies targeting new ways of fundraising, sponsor/friend relationships, changes in club meeting protocols and membership development are proving successful.

The three Central Coast Zones and Rotaract met regularly. The Assistant Governors met regularly too. The focus of these meetings was to network - share ideas, support each other, coordinate common projects and develop a PR strategy - a coordinated voice of Rotary on the CC. These meetings have been very successful.

Joint projects: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, CC Young Champions Awards, Springtime Flora Festival, CC Rotaract Club support, Polio Challenge, MUNA and RYDA.

I would like to particularly thank DG David Rands for the opportunity to be an Assistant Governor this year, thanks too to my AG colleagues and the Presidents of CC Zone. The leadership role Presidents take is essential. It is a privilege to see each club in action. Thank you all for your great friendship.

City North—Barry Starr

The 7 clubs in the Zone have had a successful to very successful Rotary year. Some have achieved membership growth and some still struggle to maintain membership. Membership remains the biggest challenge for all clubs.

Mosman, the largest club in the Zone, has again been able to increase membership to 52 and in spite of having several members move away from the area. The club continued with many of its regular projects and extended its international projects to Laos.

The club is very active in Youth Exchange, sponsoring 2 students and hosting 2, Patricio from Mexico and Manuel from Chile.

As well as many club activities, 3 members of the club are active in District.

Neutral Bay Club under the leadership of President Colin Croll has increased membership and is on track to induct further members soon. They changed their meeting venue and this has been a positive move. The club is very active in community affairs and for the first time in many years will sponsor an exchange student; they will host a French student.

St.Leonards is struggling with membership. They have moved their meeting night to Monday but this has not yet made any significant difference. They continue to have their book lending at St.Leonards station each week.

North Sydney, once the largest club in the District, now has an ageing membership, but is trying to attract younger members. They have significant community projects and are keen supporters of Youth Exchange, hosting a student every year.

Visiting the **North Sydney Sunrise** club is a pleasant experience. A very friendly club with a small membership but very active in community projects.

Crows Nest Club is looking to try and find a new venue so that they can connect better with the Crows Nest Community. They carry out good projects and have an active membership. This year they have hosted a Belgium Exchange student who has fitted in well with the club. They have many members involved with District.

Northbridge club does not get very involved with District but have an active membership. Their President is continuing for a second year.

The Zone held 4 meetings this year but the attendance from the Presidents was under 50%. However, the clubs agreed to work together on the Police Officer of the Year Award.

Barry Starr
AG for City North Zone

Lower Central Coast —Bryan O'Shannassy

Firstly, I want to thank DG David Rands for the opportunity to be an AG this year. It has been a most rewarding and educational experience. It also has given me the opportunity to see Rotary from a different perspective and to observe the differences in culture among five clubs.

These differences are probably due to the different ages of the clubs (e.g. Woy Woy is 61 years old and Gosford City only 4 years old), to the ages of the members, and to the different meeting times. Gosford City and Kariong/ Somersby have breakfast meetings, Gosford West has a lunchtime meeting and Umina Beach and Woy Woy have dinner meetings. Each club attracts a different type of member.

The consistent warmth of welcome from Presidents and members made it very easy to work with them. Each club was very engaged in community projects, both local and international, and with various youth projects. The Rotary Foundation was also well supported and clubs made time to have fun and fellowship at partners' nights and other events.

Some examples of the projects of each club are:

Gosford City	Slither and Slumber (a Coast Shelter project for the homeless); Opera in the Garden; Nusa Pineda project (Indonesia)
Gosford West	Wheelchair project (Cambodia); Sunrise Childrens' Village; Youth Exchange; Samoa Clinic; Bay-to-Bay Fun Run
Kariong/Somersby	Matching Grant for equipment for Philippine General Hospital; Vakuta Milne Bay (PNG) Charity project; Bursary for Kariong Mountains High School
Woy Woy	Vocational Awards night; Water filters for Thailand; Senior Citizens Service, Zimbabwe; RYLA, RYPEN and Rotaract
Umina Beach	Bursary for Brisbane Water Secondary College (BWSC); St Jude's School, Tanzania; BWSC Ag farm; installation of Whale Tails at Umina Precinct (with local Council)

As in the past three years, the 14 clubs on the Central Coast met bi-monthly as Central Coast Rotary zone rather than as three Central Coast sub-zones. This promoted co-operation between all CC clubs when working on full zone projects such as the Central Coast Young Champions Award, RYDA, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Springtime Flora Festival and MUNA. It also promoted inter-club co-operation on other local projects.

During the year, the three Central Coast AGs met regularly to review progress of Central Coast Rotary projects and to see how we could assist each other and our clubs. I thank my fellow AGs for their unstinting support and assistance.

Finally, I would like to make a recommendation to any Rotarian offered the opportunity to serve as an AG – grab it with both hands. It will show you how Rotary works at a level beyond the club, expose you to experiences that you would not get otherwise and will reinforce what a great organisation Rotary is.

Bryan O'Shannassy
AG, Lower Central Coast Zone

Northern Districts—Joy Pogson

We were able to form a strong friendship and support network for the five clubs in our zone. Each president brought a unique experience to the meeting and was able to exchange many supportive ideas.

As well as offering a place to exchange ideas and support each other, we also had a topic for each meeting to consider. We began our year with information on running a club and a board meeting, making sure we had all the basics in place. We gathered information on membership and retention and shared the ideas from the district forum. We examined pro formas on evaluating club projects and making a strategic plan. We looked at each club's program to evaluate whether it supported the 'keep the fun in Rotary' ideal. We exchanged information on how to keep records especially for the purpose of a potential membership base.

Each club had a different perspective. At Thornleigh Club, Robin Duce was working through changes to her club's venue and time of meeting. In North Rocks Vi Nutt was working with a small group of dedicated members and was successful in attracting one new member. Beecroft club had their biggest year with the organisation of the District Conference. That did not daunt Di Hammond whose energy carried the club through many exciting community events. Mike Morgan at Carlingford led his club through a great year, which was demonstrated at the District awards night. His highlight was to lead a trip to the Red Centre where his club engaged with the Ulpanyali people and forged links for future projects. Epping Club was enriched by a surge of new members. Chris O'Brien embarked on a program of information and inclusion to help these new members strengthen an already great club. He also gave a personal effort in walking a 50km track through to Jenolan Caves to highlight his club's 50th anniversary and raised $3000!

I found the year to be enriching for me too. It is a great experience to be an assistant governor and to support club presidents. It also helped me in my growth in Rotary. I was able to be part of an efficient and friendly district team and learn about each of the team's contribution to Rotary and our clubs.

Most of all it was an honour to be on District Governor David's team. He was an outstanding district governor who combined strong leadership and supportive pastoral care.

Joy Pogson
AG Northern Districts

Northwestern—Mike Hallen

The role of Assistant Governor for the Northwestern Zone 2011/12 has been a privilege as well as a rewarding and fulfilling experience. The 5 Presidents have all been very welcoming, as have their members, and there has been a cooperative and vibrant atmosphere throughout the year with many significant events, including:

- The establishment of a new Probus Club (Probus Club of Round Corner -mixed)
- Working towards the chartering of a new Rotaract Club (The Hills) to be sponsored and supported by all of the Rotary Clubs in the Northwestern and Hills Zones
- Initiation of a local sponsorship program whereby local businesses provide funding to support the Youth Programs of the Rotary Club of Dural (the RALLY program – Rotary Active Learning and Leadership for Youth). This is an initiative that could have wider applications across the District.
- The ongoing development of an association between the Rotary Club of Galston and the local Chamber of Commerce to work cooperatively to the benefit of the local community. This also included the provision of vouchers as prizes for their Christmas Raffle.
- Significant community projects in the Galston area including one that attracted 10,000 patrons.
- Membership growth of nearly 7% in the Zone. The Rotary Club of Dural added 10 new members.
- The attendance at the Rotary Leadership Institute of the President-Elect plus 2 new members of the Rotary Club of Pennant Hills. This is a membership recruitment and retention initiative that has seen the club to grow by 1 during the year.
- Joint Zone meeting with the Presidents and partners of The Hills Zone to celebrate Christmas 2011 and discuss items of mutual interest/benefit.
- A successful Polio Plus movie night that added $1700 to the fund.
- The initiative by the Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook to invite guest speakers Daniel and William Clarke to address Rotarians and friends from across D9680 to hear them talk about their efforts to save the orang-utans of Borneo. This followed their appearance on the ABC program "Australian Story". The proposed date is 24 September 2012. The club also conducted many local community projects.
- The continuation of significant overseas and local community projects by the Rotary Club of Kenthurst. This included medical aid to East Africa and New Guinea and the establishment of a Men's' Shed in Kenthurst. They also continue play a significant role in the local celebration of Anzac Day.

This is but a short summary of the efforts of Rotarians in the Northwestern Zone where RI President Kalyan's theme of "Reach Within to Embrace Humanity" has been well and truly implemented.

Mike Hallen
AG Northwestern District

North Shore—Rod Williamson

It has been a most rewarding experience to be involved with the Presidents and their respective Clubs of the North Shore Zone in my capacity as Assistant Governor during this past Rotary year. The co-operation and support that I have received from the Presidents with the warm welcome from Rotarians during my Club visits has been exceptional, as have been the numerous local and international projects undertaken by all the Zone Clubs. I take this opportunity to thank all concerned for the support that I have received.

Zone Presidents meetings have been held regularly with all the Presidents sharing ideas and exploring opportunities to work together in recognition of the benefits to be gained for the future growth and success of Rotary and worthwhile projects. Membership retention and growth was always one of the main topics addressed at the meetings. The District Membership Director, Ross Pearce attended the meeting on the 1st December and his input was most appreciated. Our meetings in the main were held at the home of the Roseville Chase Club President Will Rogers and his wife Louise and I would like to thank them for their excellent hospitality.

All the Clubs in the Zone have close working relationships with their Council and local community. As a result they are able to readily identify local needs and implement worthwhile local projects in addition to many international ones. A summary of some of the new projects undertaken by Clubs in the Zone this past year are as follows:

- Lane Cove Club in conjunction with the Lane Cove Council, the Australian Diabetes Council and the Bluefit Foundation organised an inaugural "Walk around the World in March" challenge. The outcome was that 66 million steps were recorded in the month of March by the participants, enough to "walk around the world". The project yielded a profit which will be used to purchase exercise equipment in public parks.
- Lindfield Club sponsored the establishment of the Lower North Shore Rotaract Club.
- Chatswood Club with the assistance of North Sydney Sunrise and Chatswood Sunrise Clubs acted as officials for the inaugural Fun Run organized by the Willoughby Leisure Centre on 24th September.
- Chatswood Sunrise and Chatswood International Clubs are sending redundant uniforms from Chatswood High school to a school in East Timor as a joint project.

Unfortunately the planned Zone PR & Membership event on the 19th November at the new Willoughby Centre had to be cancelled due to lack of support from local businesses. However I would like to recognize the diligence of Chatswood Club President Michael MacQuillan in endeavouring to initiate such a significant innovative event. Michael's tremendous effort in organising a Civic Reception in Chatswood for R.I.P.E. Sakuji Tanaka on Tuesday 29 November should also be acknowledged.

Due to the combined efforts of Presidents Maria Chan (Chatswood International) and Michael MacQuillan (Chatswood) a well organized and supported Zone Rotary Birthday movie event took place on Sunday 26th February. Congratulations to Roseville Chase Club on receiving the District Youth Service Award for the sixth consecutive year.

The Club Presidents of the Zone are to be commended for their leadership and significant contribution to the success of their Club during the past Rotary year. In particular Chatswood International Club President Maria Chan is to be congratulated on her sterling effort and results achieved notwithstanding her short time in Rotary and the mountain of issues that faced this

new Club at the beginning of the year. In addition to the many administrative issues addressed and new projects implemented, ten new members were inducted into the Club during the year. Appropriately the Club received the Membership Growth Award for a Small Club at the District Awards night. The Club was also awarded the Golden Quill Award for Public Relations. Well done Maria and the members of the Chatswood International Club.

In conclusion I would like to congratulate District Governor David Rands and Anne Rands on a most successful year and to thank the members of the District Team who have assisted me.

Rod Williamson
AG North Shore

Peninsula—Gavin Ralston

It has been a delight and an uplifting experience to act as the District Governor's representative for the Peninsula Zone, in what has been a year of evolution in the Zone.

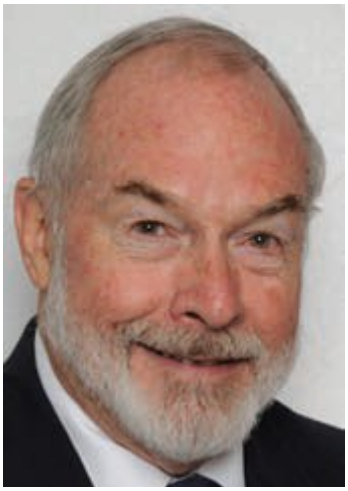
The clubs are all classified as 'small' and membership is a challenge but all have active membership programs, several have had net growth and Pittwater Club was presented with a certificate for membership growth at the end of the year.

During the year, the links between clubs have been developed and enhanced by four significant joint clubs activities from which many local charities benefitted.

1. During the Christmas break, at the request of the residents, Frenchs Forest and Belrose Clubs collected donations from families who came to view the Christmas lights for which Borgnis Street, Davidson has become famous.
2. Throughout the year, Pittwater and Terrey Hills Clubs Club raised funds through activities as diverse as Golf Days and concerts for the Palliative Care unit they are developing at Mona Vale Hospital. This project has generated excellent publicity and community awareness.
3. Belrose Club, together with Frenchs Forest, Terrey Hills and Narrabeen Lakes Clubs organised, publicised and managed a concert by the Warringah Concert Brass Band. The event raised over $3000 for the Band.
4. At the request of the organisers, these same clubs manned a Sausage Sizzle at the Lakes Music Festival to ensure the attendees did not go hungry.

Pittwater Club conducted several high profile events including Christmas Carols and a Symphony Concert which garnered support from local businesses and raised both significant funds and local publicity.

There was regular attendance at club events by representatives of the other clubs and several inter-club debates were a great success.



I believe the groundwork has been laid for on-going cooperation between these clubs.

I thank District Governor David for giving me this opportunity to serve and his Team for their support and encouragement.

Gavin Ralston
AG Peninsula Zone 2012

Riverside—Jade Catherall

Clubs in Riverside Zone have had a busy year with all Clubs engaged in a variety of projects ranging building a school in Afghanistan, celebrating African migrants' contribution to Australia through *Out of Africa: A Celebration*, Carols on the Common at North Ryde, Lunar New Celebration in Eastwood and the Ryde Rivers Festival. Each club has aimed high to 'Reach within to Embrace Humanity'.

The Presidents were challenged by PRI President Ray Klinginsmith and RI Director about Change in Rotary and each of the Riverside Clubs has embraced the concept of change in different ways. Some have dabbled in changing meeting setup and structure, others in meeting formats and 'traditions' like the singing of the national anthem. Each club recognises the need for change and they'll continue to incorporate different ideas into their clubs over the next few years.

Membership has continued to challenge each club in the Zone. Some clubs have lost members due to business commitments, travel and moving out of area. Other clubs have worked hard at connecting with the community, Rotary Alumni Family and different speakers to be involved in Rotary.

Most clubs saw a net growth over the year, special mention to Macquarie Park who had over 30% membership growth.

Congratulations to Ryde who are the leading Communicators in the District, winning the Website Award, Bulletin Award for Large Clubs and Best Produced Bulletin Award at the recent District Awards. Ryde and Eastwood were acknowledged with 2011/12 Changemaker Awards and North Ryde received Certificate of Achievements in International Service and Youth Service for Small Clubs.

I would like to congratulate each of the Riverside Clubs on their efforts during the 2011/12 year and thank all the Presidents and Rotarians in the Zone for their enthusiasm. I have enjoyed the interaction with the Clubs and meeting on a regular basis with the Presidents. Thank you to DG David for the opportunity to serve as Assistant Governor and the District Team for their support throughout the year.

Jade Catherall
AG Riverside Zone 2011-12

The Hills—Mark Anderson

Membership

Unfortunately as a zone there was a general decline in number from 150 to 140. This is based on the official number as reported to RI at the end of May. There are however some highlights and in particular, I would like to mention Rouse Hill. They had a very difficult start to the Rotary year with a number of members exiting along with its President. Through support from the District and PPElwyn Hodges from Norwest Sunrise, there has been a strong turn around and the number of members for the coming year looks very positive. Overall there has been some solid work put in and the dividends will show fruit in the coming year.

Attendance

The quality of club meetings and the general health of the club, can be measured by their attendance numbers. In this regard, it is very pleasing to report that across all clubs the attendance figures are above 75%.

Major Program Achievements

While all clubs have had strong programs across all avenues of service, there are some highlights to report. The Rouse Hill SOS (Support our Students) program, is a refreshing idea that gives great support back to the local high schools, in the form of clothing and meals for students that come from less privileged families.

The community recognition awards as presented by the Winston Hills Club are also worthy of a mention in that this year 3 community leaders were awarded PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS in recognition of their community work.

Also the Tour de Hills bike race conducted by Castle Hill Club, grows and goes from strength to strength. This year saw the race postponed due to weather, however nearly all the riders turned up for the rescheduled event, making it the biggest ever.

Public Relations Activities

With the advent of PR as a board position in the club, the Hills Zone has had an outstanding year for PR. There are two major weekly newspapers the circulate in the Hills, and barely a week goes by without an article in one of the papers on the work of Rotary in the community. Well done to all our PR directors.

Foundation Activities

The Foundation continues to be strongly supported will all clubs making a combined contribution of over $28,000 this Rotary year. It is also pleasing to report that 3 of the 6 clubs now have members of the PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY. The Hill/Kellyville Club also supported the GSE outbound team with a team member.

Summary

It was a pleasure to be the AG for this zone over the past Rotary year. All up the number of meetings attended in support of the clubs is about 30. The Hills Zone has a strong Rotary presence and is well supported by the community.

Mark Anderson
AG The Hills Zone

Upper Central Coast—Liz North

Rotary Club of Gosford Inc
Major Achievements

- Disbursed $18,000 to Central Coast Emergency Service
- RazzaMataz-major fund raiser
- Rotary Race Day
- Initiated the Johannesburg Orphanage clothing project

Rotary Club of Terrigal Inc
Major Achievements

- Invested $20,000 on their Club Hall
- Vocational Award for Large Club 2011-2012
- Book Sale
- Graffiti Removal Project

Rotary Club of Gosford North Inc
Major Achievements

- Project Madagascar (new project)
- Participated in the London Marathon
- Celebrated 40 Year Anniversary
- Ray Southeren awarded “Service above Self Award” for our District
- Membership net increase of 2

Rotary Club of The Entrance Inc
Major Achievements

- Annual Community Raffle $40,598
- BowelCare-sold $14,790 worth of kits
- Hosted GSE Dinner for Central Coast
- Hosted the Central Coast MUNA
- Solid attendance at the Conference and District Assembly
- One participant in the Rotary Leadership Institute
- Membership stayed the same.

Rotary Club of Northlakes Toukley Inc
Major Achievements

- Raised $26,000 to purchase adult and child FEES Scope for Wyong Hospital Speech Therapy Department.
- Hosted exchange student Maire Bak from Denmark.
- Organised to repaint the local Dementia Centre
- Clean-up of the new Woolworths site and raised approx. $9,000
- Annual Golf Day-150 players raised $6,000
- International Night-Oktoberfest-attended by over 200 and raised $4,000
- Christmas Tree Sales-combined with Erina & Kariong raised $15,000
- Sculpture on the Greens-held at Kooindah Waters-over six weeks with 2,000 people passing through.
- Total Fund raising effort for the year in excess of $60,000

PP Liz North
AG Upper Central Coast Zone

Upper North Shore— Robert Holder

The Upper North Shore Zone is a very active, and unique Zone. This Zone is home to the largest Club in the District, and one of the smallest. The thing that all the UNS Clubs have in common; They fight above their weight!

I was very proud to be the Assistant Governor for this zone, and to continually hear of their successes.

DG David tasked all Clubs with challenging the way they do things, from meeting operations to membership growth. The strength with which these Clubs took that challenge was truly in the spirit of Rotary.

By way of example:

One Club had an increase in excess of 12%
One Club started a Satellite Program, a sort of Club within a Club program
Another Club implemented an Innovation and Flexibility Pilot Program
Yet another UNS Club is developing Hybrid Clubs
Multiple Clubs have 100% Centurion Membership

Membership is always a challenge, whether it is how to grow it, how to retain members, or how to manage large numbers. Each UNS Club is dealing with membership in an appropriate fashion.

It is impossible to have total harmony in a group of many diverse personalities, so good negotiation skills coupled with an open mind are essential. I am very pleased to report that the Clubs in the Upper North Shore Zone were lead by Presidents, and Directors, that exhibit these qualities. With the challenges of running a Club, it is as important in how one balances the desires of all members whilst looking forward and ensure Club health. Well, done, to the following Clubs:

- Hornsby
- Berowra
- Kuring-Gai
- St. Ives
- Turrumurra
- Wahroonga
- Waitara

Robert Holder
AG Upper North Shore Zone

PRESIDENTS 2011-12

Balgowlah	John	Stewart
Beecroft	Di	Hammond
Belrose	Kos	Psaltis
Berowra	Trevor	Bailey
Brookvale	Mark	MacMillan
Carlingford	Mike	Morgan
Castle Hill	Stephen	Macquarie
Chatswood	Michael	McQuillan
Chatswood International	Maria	Chan
Chatswood Sunrise	Bob	Selinger
Crows Nest	Warren	Bolton
Dee Why Warringah	Frank	Messina
Dural	Allan	Forno
E Club of Greater Sydney	Tony	Castley
East Gosford	Louisa	Dawson
Eastwood	Tony	Tang
Epping	Chris	O'Brien
Erina	Caroline	O'Shannassy
Frenchs Forest	Graeme	Paul
Galston	George	Truelove
Gladesville	Kevin	Lance
Glenhaven	Neville	Candy
Gosford	Greg	Hooper
Gosford City	Diana	Hanks
Gosford North	Peter	Rubin
Gosford West	Angela	Funnell
Hornsby	Robert	Caldwell
Hunters Hill	John	Verhelst
Kariong Somersby	Peter	Mulholland
Kenthurst	Robert	O'Neill
Kincumber	Sue	Lane
Ku-ring-gai	Caroline	Jones
Lane Cove	Martin	Silink
Lindfield	Hugh	Hamlyn-Harris
Macquarie Park	Deidre	Anderson
Manly	Drew	Johnson
Manly Sunrise	Douglas	Miller
Mosman	Charlie	Barnett
Narrabeen Lakes	Bill	Crowe
Neutral Bay	Colin	Croll
North Rocks	Vi	Nutt
North Ryde	Pamela	Bennett
North Sydney	Ross	Waugh
North Sydney Sunrise	Anne	Henderson
Northbridge	Robert	Shore
Northlakes Toukley	Justin	Dover
Norwest Sunrise (Bella Vista)	Andrew	Vassallo
Pennant Hills	Ian	Huckel
Pittwater	Hans	Carlborg
Roseville Chase	Will	Rogers
Rouse Hill	Arthur	D'Souza
Ryde	Ken	Allen
St Ives	Bhuvan	Unkelkar
St Leonards	Ashak	Nathwani
Terrey Hills	John	Power
Terrigal	Chris	Tyler
The Entrance	Peter	Ward
The Hills-Kellyville	Penny	Hill
Thornleigh	Robin	Duce
Turramurra	Paul	Rickard
Umina Beach	Ian	Figtree
Wahroonga	Rob	Hamilton
Waitara	Simon	Bryan
West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook	Colin	McGowan
Winston Hills	Anthony	Mercieca
Woy Woy	Annette	Karton
Wyong Tuggerah	John	Unicomb

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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