



Rotary District 9830  
Tasmania  
District Governor's  
**Newsletter**



May 2011

**Group Study Exchange in action**  
**Amazing experiences half a world apart**



**BBQ Montana-style  
for the Tassie GSE team**



**Karen Drake of the District 7570 GSE  
team (centre), meeting with Mayors,  
Deidre Flint of Central Highlands and  
Adriana Taylor (right) of Glenorchy**



**Travelling western Virginia in style -  
the Tassie GSE team**

**District Assembly**  
**Sunday 15 May at Archers Manor, Launceston**

## From the DG

The District Conference has come and gone. It was a great weekend. With 387 Rotarians, 105 guests and 35 Rotaractors and Interactors plus three GSE teams in attendance, it was certainly well attended; everyone fitted comfortably into St Brendan Shaw College.

The speakers were magnificent. Colonel Pamela Melroy made a thrilling presentation, then stayed around for the whole conference, met and mingled, did photographs and charmed every person she met with her friendly and approachable nature. She made many, many friends in Tasmania and has promised to come back.

Past Rotary International President Bill Boyd brought us up to date on Rotary and the Rotary Foundation and Past District Governor Bernie Rodgers did a great presentation on his youth, living with polio. Kellie Walker had us in tears as she related her story. Every person in the room wanted to adopt the "Bright Stars". I believe I may be remembered for making Carrie Smith speechless.



**Carrie Smith is stunned to read that she has been made a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotaract Club of Central Coast.**

Our GSE team has returned from District 7570 where Glen and his crew did a great job and were so popular that we were lucky to get them home again, while the team from District 7570 is heading home after being here for a month. They were a great bunch, well lead, well organised and very friendly. The whole exchange has been so successful and a true reflection on what GSE is really about with so many new friendships.

Our team in District 5390 (Montana) is having a fantastic time. They are representing us in a spectacular fashion and introducing their hosts in "Big Sky Country" to a real taste of Tasmania. I have heard nothing but praise about our GSE teams and team members, including an unsolicited email from a past president in America who told me our team was the best he had seen in forty five years of Rotary. We can all feel proud that our District is so well represented with such great team leaders and such great teams.

The flood appeal closed on the 31<sup>st</sup> March with the staggering total of \$718,000 donated. It was an incredible effort by all Rotarians and all clubs. I cannot congratulate you enough; it was an outstanding effort. The amount of contribution from the State Government has not been announced as yet but it should be substantial and will certainly give us enough to carry out the proposed project of a community centre at Murphy's Creek in the Lockyer Valley. This is still in the planning stages and I will keep you up to date as it eventuates.

DG Ted



**The Bright Stars performing at Conference**

**Rotary builds "Youth Space in Kinglake"**

Rotary often sees its role in catastrophes to come in after the initial emergency response and address key community needs that may have been overlooked by government and relief organisations. Kinglake lost most of its community infrastructure in the devastating bushfires.

After extensive consultation and negotiation between the local community and Rotary's Victorian and Tasmanian Bushfire Recovery Committee, a meeting and activities centre for the youth of the Kinglake areas was agreed upon as an important need for the Kinglake community. The total cost of the project was \$350,000, split between District 9830 and two Victorian Districts. RI President Ray Kliningsmith journeyed to Kinglake to open the "Youth Space".



**RI President Ray Kliningsmith (second from left) opens the Kinglake "Youth Space", watched by DG Alan Anderson, PDG Michael Perkins and Brad Quillam, Charter President of RC Kinglake Ranges.**

**National Youth Science Forum opens the international door for five Tasmanian students**

Five young Tasmanian college students who attended National Youth Science Forums (NYSF) in January have been chosen to attend international forums in Russia, Canada, Germany and Thailand.

District NYSF chairman, PDG Ian Shuey, said that normally one Tasmanian student was offered a place at an international forum, but that the quality of the Tasmanian students this year resulted in the five students being chosen.

While the programs will be invaluable in assisting the students to make career choices, it comes at a cost. Each student has to find \$10,000 to participate. Naturally, each student would appreciate any financial assistance Rotary Clubs could provide. The chosen students are:

James Newlands	Elizabeth College	Canada
Tristan McCarthy	Launceston College	Russia
Georgia Jaffray	Marist Regional College	Russia
Max Rintoul	The Friends School	Germany
Tiege McCarthy	Elizabeth College	Thailand



**The Rotary Foundation**

Speakers are available on the "Gift of Sight" project in Nepal. Hear how a grant from The Rotary Foundation together with a donation from several clubs has restored the sight of many people. See some great photos of Nepal. Please contact a team member - John and Lesley Dare, Lew Pretorius, Lesley Perkins, Kevin and Anne Shadbolt.

Kevin Shadbolt, Foundation Chairman

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### Inaugural Jenny Sewell Memorial Award and Perpetual Shield Presented

RC Youngtown has instituted the Jenny Sewell Memorial Award and Perpetual Shield in honour of their late President, Jenny Sewell, who died in office. The award is presented to the student who writes the best essay about participating in the annual Science Experience at the University of Tasmania. Jenny Sewell was a strong supporter of the program.



The inaugural winner was Hayley Purcell of Riverside High School. RC Youngtown President Ian Smith presented the award to Hayley at a school assembly. The award is conducted in conjunction with the University of Tasmania.



**The District Conference Chairperson, Graeme Snare, has reason to smile**

### GSE One Year On

Spending five weeks on a study tour of provincial France conjures up images of good food and top quality wines - an idyllic existence. But these were just the icing on the cake for the D9830 GSE team that toured the Loire Valley last year.

The GSE experience has been life-enhancing for Gill Whitehouse's team. All members have a deepened respect for Rotary and the things that it does. They also have a much broader understanding of cultural diversity.

Witnessing French agriculture and viticulture at first hand really opened the eyes of the three agricultural scientists in the team to the potential benefit of French agriculture systems if applied in Tasmania.

Job changes have been one of the outcomes of the GSE experience for some of the team. But changes have not been limited to work. Relationships have developed and deepened with the first "team baby" on the way. No shortage of potential God Parents!

For team leader, Gill Whitehouse, watching the way the GSE experience has transformed the lives of the five young adults over the five weeks of the exchange and beyond, has been deeply satisfying. Gill noted that the team members were deeply touched by the Rotary kindness and friendship extended to them. One thing all the team agree upon is that they have developed a greater tolerance for others.

One bit of advice from the team to any business or professional Tasmanian aged between 25 and 40 - apply for the next GSE team when applications are called.

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### Royal "Okehampton" Rustic Golf Day

RC Spring Bay created a rustic golf course on "Okehampton", the property of club members, Paul and Jean Weeding.



Ninety four golfers lined up for the inaugural event. Most eventually negotiated two rounds of the nine hole course, using irons only; definitely a course for the accurate golfer. Wayward shots were swallowed up by water hazards and the rough. Funds raised were divided between the District End Polio Now Campaign and the Queensland Flood Appeal.



RC Glenorchy members dwarfed by the Mount Pleasant Radio Observatory during a club vocational visit.

### Ulverstone West Celebrates its 25th Birthday

Nostalgia was the theme at the RC Ulverstone West 25th Anniversary Dinner. Attendees included the Club's Charter President and PDG Peter Blesson.



### Charter President Peter Blesson cuts the 25th Anniversary birthday cake, watched by current president, Jenny Simms

Highlights of the night included interviews with charter members and playing videos sent from past Exchange students from Mexico, Argentina and Denmark.

Looking back on the history of this progressive Rotary club, the following achievements come to mind:

- Hosting the District Conference in 1994
- Chartering the Rotaract Club of Central Club
- Hosting of RYLA each year
- High level involvement in local events e.g. Festival in the Park



A ruptured Achilles tendon and leg in plaster couldn't stop Barry Pearn of RC Westbury "riding for life" to District Conference

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### Rotary at Targa



Navigator Tim Ritchie in an ex-Jim Richards' Porsche



The RC Launceston food stall providing a front row view of the Targa cars queued before being flagged away in Launceston



Targa crews being fed lunch at the George Town Prologue by RC George Town. 700 meals were served over a couple of hours.

### Rotarian Action Group Another Step Forward for the Learn Grow Project

The Learn Grow project that originated in Tasmania, has taken another step forward with the approval of the Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group (FPSRAG). The FPSRAG will be launched at the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans.

Rotarian Action Groups (RAG) conduct and support hands-on international service projects that advance the Object of Rotary. They're organised by committed Rotarians, Rotarian spouses and Rotaractors who have the expertise and a passion for a particular type of service. The Learn Grow team exemplifies these qualities.

The FPSRAG is the latest RAG to be established. Other RAGs include Fighting AIDS, Volunteer Dentistry, Blood Donation and Water and Sanitation.

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### Westy approaches 100 blood donations



"Westy", alias Chris Westlake of RC Youngtown, has just donated blood for the 88th time. It all started when Westy heard a talk at his Rotary club about donating blood. Twenty six years later, he's still providing the life-giving fluid. He also donates plasma every month.

Westy urges every Rotarian to consider giving blood to keep emergency blood supplies in stock.

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**December 2010 Club  
Attendance Report – Top Twenty**

| Club                    | Attendance | Rank  |
|-------------------------|------------|-------|
| Howrah                  | 97.90%     | 1     |
| Brighton                | 97.14%     | 2     |
| Claremont               | 96.40%     | 3     |
| Devonport North         | 89.00%     | 4     |
| Lindisfarne             | 88.69%     | 5     |
| Youngtown               | 88.20%     | 6     |
| Ulverstone West         | 87.00%     | 7     |
| Spring Bay              | 85.60%     | 8     |
| Bellerive               | 85.00%     | 9     |
| Sandy Bay               | 84.84%     | 10    |
| City Central<br>Hobart  | 83.32%     | 11    |
| Ulverstone              | 82.03%     | 12    |
| Georgetown              | 82.00%     | Eq 13 |
| Devonport South<br>East | 82.00%     | Eq 13 |
| Longford                | 80.87%     | 15    |
| Sullivans Cove          | 79.17%     | 16    |
| Latrobe                 | 79.00%     | 17    |
| Moonah                  | 78.42%     | 18    |
| Central<br>Launceston   | 78.00%     | 19    |
| Salamanca               | 77.00%     | 20    |

**Congratulations to RC Howrah**

**Welcome to new Rotarians**

| New Rotarian     | Club                |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Alex Vandervelde | Tamar Sunrise       |
| Katherine Dent   | Ulverstone          |
| Debbie Burgess   | Hobart              |
| Rob Mann         | Hobart              |
| Martin Daniel    | Ulverstone West     |
| Bec Finch        | Ulverstone West     |
| Anne Zeeman      | Salamanca           |
| Annie Maloney    | Salamanca           |
| Diana Purcell    | Salamanca           |
| Melanie Parsons  | City Central Hobart |



**Jill Gatty is made a Paul Harris Fellow by  
Salamanca President Rosanne Burton  
Smith**



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Wearing the height of Nepalese fashions, the recently returned "Gift of Sight" team of Lesley Perkins, Lesley Dare and Anne Shadbolt with Lew Pretorius, John Dare and Kevin Shadbolt (back row)



Keynote speaker at District Conference, NASA Space Shuttle Commander, Colonel Pamela Melroy (ret) delivering her presentation "Pioneering the Future", an enthralling account of the missions she commanded to the International Space Station.



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