



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



October 2011

## The Incredible Circumnavigation Around Australia for Polio Eradication



**Mick Souter on Polio 2, following Polio 1 up Sydney Harbour to the finish at Darling Harbour**

It took 101 days and 20,000 kilometres to complete the historic circumnavigation of Australia in outboard-powered dinghies. Rotary's Global Polio Challenge is at least a further \$250,000 towards its goal of raising \$200 million for eradicating polio from the world.

Highlights of the voyage by intrepid adventurers, Rob Pennicott, Mick Souter and Zorro Gamarnik included the 300 kilometre, 26 hour crossing of the Gulf of Carpentaria in rough weather, being stalked by crocodiles while anchored at Anson Bay near Darwin, the orca whales at Cape Leeuwin on the southwest corner of Western Australia, the 1,000 kilometre crossing of the Great Australian Bight, and the welcoming flotilla escorting the yellow boats up the Derwent to Hobart.



**Skippers Rob Pennicott and Mick Souter celebrate their achievement**

Rob Pennicott's memories of the trip include the Australians they met along the way, the incredible marine life - sea snakes, turtles, dugongs, seals, dolphins and whales - and the vastness and the beauty of the Australian coastline. The performance of the two Naiad rigid inflatable dinghies was another outstanding facet of the circumnavigation. The dinghies stood up to the rigours of the conditions from flat calm to extremely rough brilliantly.

The icing on the cake was the fundraising dinner at Wrest Point Casino organised by RC Kingston. A fantastic night with another \$31,500 raised to eradicate polio. Congratulations to Paul Jack, John Peterson, Mike Percey and Bill Brundle for conducting a great function. A highlight of the night was the presentation by DG Peter Murfett to Rob Pennicott of a Paul Harris Fellow with the award organised by RC Kingston.

**Rotary District Conference 25 - 27 May 2012**  
**Ideas, initiative, innovation - dotting the I's**

### Rotary Information - the building blocks ... #4

Of course, the very basic building block in Rotary must be people – the members, their families and all those people we come in contact with through our programs and activities. I think the Past President of Rotary International, Bill Huntley, caught this when his theme was, "Be a Friend".

In building our club membership we are encouraged to use a classification scheme that targets a variety of vocations – for we are vocation based. Using a classification of vocations can also be useful when critically examining a club's representation of each community. Besides seeking gender balance, all clubs should also aim for a variety of occupations, professions and businesses while fully considering our multi-cultural base.

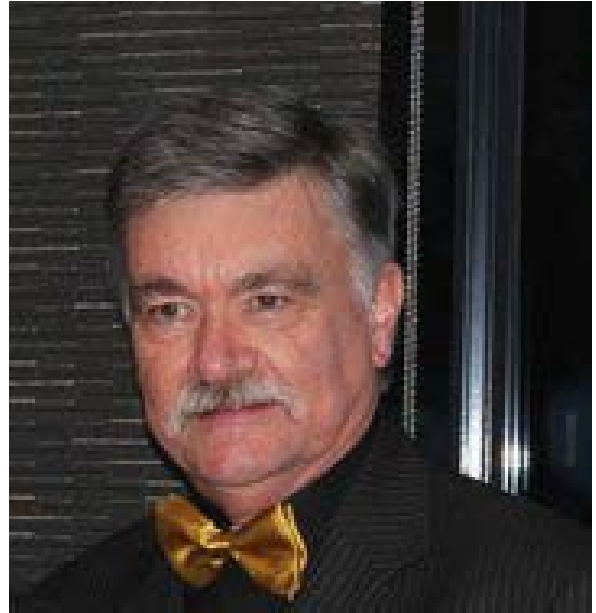
Increasingly this world we live in is digital. Almost everything can be ordered, accessed, filled-in or examined on-line. You can even get part of a driver's licence on-line! Therefore an organisation like a vibrant, active Rotary club should be an oasis of comfort for busy digital people who spend much of each day facing a computer screen – what a wonderful gift we offer for these people to actually speak to a real, warm-blooded person and genuinely "look someone in the eye". People friendly places will become rare.

Here is another reason why Rotary has minimum attendance rules. They encourage people to meet, chat and maybe form lasting friendships.

We all need good friends. Aristotle warned, "The desire for friendship comes quickly. Friendship does not." Let us all guarantee that our clubs are friendship centres for all who join Rotary.

**John G. Thorne – Past Director of RI**

### The Directors - Ken Moore



#### Membership Development and Retention

Ken joined RC Burnie in 1988, was President 2000/01 and served as Assistant Governor for Group 8 from 2009 - 2011.

He is married to Lois with 2 adult daughters and two granddaughters, plus a Llasa Alpo/Maltese cross dog. Ken has operated his own civil/structural engineering consultancy in Burnie for 20 years. He is a life member of the Hospice Care Association NW, is active in the Anglican Church (Member of the Diocesan Council, Synod and Diocesan Property Board). Ken's other interests include reading, movies, listening to music, travel, and wining and dining with family and friends.

Ken is very passionate about Rotary and sees his role as Membership Development Director as an opportunity to encourage District clubs to become more appealing to potential members, especially women and the under 50's. He would love to assist all clubs seeking to develop their membership.

Ken can be contacted on 0418 144 034

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## From the DG



The big news is the completion of the wonderful effort by Rob Pennicott, Mick Souter and Zorro Gamarnik (see photo above) which has been covered in detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

Words cannot describe the effort (and from Rob his funding of costs of staff, his own time and fuel) put in by these intrepid adventurers, and we thank them sincerely for recognising the good cause of the Rotary Polio eradication effort and supporting it so well.

Like any big event there are many who should receive praise for their contribution: PDG Ted Richey for the early contact; the Rotary clubs around the Australian coastline; PDG Muriel Heron's assistance with organisation; RC of Kingston members and partners for the dinner organization and securing so many auction items; and all those who donated.

An additional benefit for Rotary Australia-wide has been the level of publicity obtained – Rob commented that he had given some 400 radio interviews and 150 TV interviews during the trip with all having some reference to Rotary. And my colleague DGs in other Districts were most grateful. Rotary International published the story on their website.

[http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/110930\\_news\\_yellowboat.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/110930_news_yellowboat.aspx)

And speaking of publicity I have just read the following from our RI Director, Stuart Heal:

*"...our brand does really start in our clubs. It is how our communities see us and our most recent survey results are a bit disappointing in that recall of our name is higher than the last survey but what we do is lower. We have plenty to do in this critical area yet."*

*"The [RI] board has also increased the spend on PR around the eradication of polio to ensure we get the credit we deserve for this huge project. Expect to see more from RI in this area in the [next] 12 months or so."*

Clubs I have visited will recall my comments about our **"Tassie's Biggest BBQ – all about your community"** on 4 February next year – this is one way of sharing with our communities that we exist and that we are doing good things in our local areas – let's all get behind this promotional day.

Stuart also went on to comment on Future Vision, the intended changes to the way the Rotary Foundation operates. He comments:

*"The pilot of 100 [Future Vision] districts is continuing but now roll out plans are beginning as well. The plan is to have all programs and supporting software ready by July 1 2013 ... and that is only a little over a year away. Plans are currently on time and on budget but there is a lot to be done to get the 430 non pilot districts up to speed."*

We have established a District Future Vision Committee under the chairmanship of DGN Bruce Buxton. That committee will be providing information to clubs as it comes to hand.

Looking ahead we move to **celebrate the Rotary Foundation in November**, a key plank in the Rotary world. Without funding from the Rotary Foundation many worthwhile projects around the world would not get off the ground. Many scholarships and vocational opportunities would not eventuate. District Simplified and Matching grants would not be available.

This all happens because Rotarians and clubs around the world make contributions each year. Last year D9830 contributed some \$143,000, a record for this District. Let us learn more about the Rotary Foundation in November.

DG Peter

October 2011

### Koroipita Model Town Project in Fiji

Rotarian and Past President, Peter Drysdale has had a dream for more than 26 years to develop a model town to provide a better and more secure future for the many displaced families in the Western region of Fiji. The dream is coming to fruition.

The official opening of Phase 2 of the Model Town Project will be held on 22 October. The ceremony will be held at Koroipita in the Great Hall of the People which was built by local people, Rotary and community volunteers.

The vision for Koroipita is for "A peaceful community where residents break free from the cycle of poverty and create a sustainable future for themselves and their children".



Work in progress on Koroipita Phase 2



The RC Central Launceston construction crew of back row: Lew Pretorius (with hat) and Tony Montauban; front row: "Oscar" Dominguez (left) and Ron Thomas on site at Koroipita

Rotary is combining resources with the New Zealand Aid Program (NZAP) and the NGO, Habitat for Humanity. The construction of all houses in Phase 2 will be staged over 5 years.

One of Rotary's major contributions to the project is the constant flow of Rotary volunteers to reduce the cost of building houses. Volunteers saved the Koroipita Phase 1 project \$3,000,000. Savings on the construction costs of Phase 2 are estimated to be \$5,000,000

The Fiji Government is looking to the Rotary-initiated project to be replicated as a viable solution to the burgeoning problem of displaced families throughout other regions of Fiji.

Looking further afield, it could well provide a viable solution for other Pacific Rim countries with similar problems.

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### Playground Equipment Installed at Koroipita Village



Children in Koroipita Model Township now have playground equipment to play on thanks to Clarence City Council who made the equipment available and a number of District 9830 Rotary Clubs who contributed to the cost of freighting it to Fiji. Contributing clubs were RC's Wynyard, Queenstown, Lindisfarne, Central Launceston, Hobart, Moonah, Longford, Devonport North, Latrobe, Bellerive and North Launceston.

The playground equipment was dismantled in Tasmania, shipped to Fiji and reassembled at Koroipita Model Township

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### Donation to Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia



Elaine Nichols and Bert Vanderaa of RC D'Entrecasteaux Channel with a cheque for \$25,500 for the Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Kingston resident, Kathy Rochester, is teaching in Addis Ababa and had heard expressions of gratitude and respect for the work of the Fistula Hospital, established by Reg and Catherine Hamlin.



Smiles all around for the organisers of the Mental Health EXPO in Moonah in September. It was very successful with several exhibits in attendance providing an extensive range of information on mental health issues. Clubs interested in participating in Mental Health projects should contact Lorraine Walker on 0447 298 055

### Tea is served



Rosanne Burton-Smith preparing scones for the Daffodil, Camellia and Floral Art Show in Hobart in September



The City of Hobart in conjunction with Hobart Horticultural Society and the Tasmanian Orchid Society conducts a number of Floral Shows each year. RC Salamanca serves Devonshire Teas, sandwiches and hot drinks at these events.



The Floral Shows are an opportunity to meet up with other Rotarians like Dennis McKercher of RC Moonah and his wife, Barbara (above).

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## Parliamentary Privilege

It's arguably the most successful Rotary - community project in District 9830. In partnership with the Hobart Police and Citizens Youth Club, RC Sullivans Cove funds part-time Street Youth workers who work with the homeless youth of Hobart. The project has been very successful in reducing violence and other problems in central Hobart and has been the recipient of several anti-violence awards. It has also been used as a model for similar projects elsewhere in Tasmania and on the mainland.



**Rotarian Barry Pickard who has been a mainstay of the project since it began in 1991.**

Funding is generated by the club operating the Parliamentary car park on Saturday mornings to cater for attendees at the nearby Salamanca market. After prolonged negotiations with Parliament officials, the club finally received permission to operate the car park in 1991. The first day of operations was on Saturday 1 July. Introduction of a \$1 parking charge ruffled the feathers of a number of market goers, mainly stall holders. Rotarians on duty on that first day were bemused to see cars being driven around the block ten times to avoid donating \$1 for charity. The opposition subsided and motorists currently pay \$5 to park close to Salamanca Market.

Over the twenty years of operation of the Saturday morning Parliamentary car park, almost \$415,000 has been raised to fund the street workers. Revenue collected on Saturday mornings over the past year has decreased with fewer car park spaces being available due to the projected redevelopment of the Parliamentary Precinct.

The Rotary Club of City Central Hobart presents

# STORM THE STAGE

## STATE FINAL

2PM SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER 2011

A unique drama and musical theatre competition for 16-19 year olds

@ Playhouse Theatre

WARNING: SOME CONTENT MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Tickets available from Centertainment  
 Adults \$22 Concession & Groups (6+) \$18 Family \$65  
[www.centertainment.com.au](http://www.centertainment.com.au) Hobart: 62345998  
 Launceston: 63233666 Devonport: 64202900 Burnie: 64305850

supporting sponsors:

media sponsors:

**14 October 2011**

**Closing date for applications for GSE team members to District 5580 (South-western Ontario, Canada, northwestern tip of Wisconsin, northern half of Minnesota and all of North Dakota, USA )**

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**Attendance Report – Top Ten Clubs**

| Club             | Attendance | Rank |
|------------------|------------|------|
| Huon Valley      | 100.00%    | 1    |
| Claremont        | 96.40%     | 2    |
| Kingston         | 95.00%     | 3    |
| Howrah           | 92.11%     | 4    |
| Wynyard          | 90.62%     | 5    |
| Smithton         | 87.06%     | 6    |
| Ulverstone West  | 86.75%     | 7    |
| Devonport North  | 83.97%     | 8    |
| Bellerive        | 83.00%     | 9    |
| Tasman Peninsula | 82.40%     | 10   |

**Congratulations to RC Huon Valley****Moving Experience at ShelterBox Reps' Meeting in Sydney**

Bill Dobson attended a meeting for ShelterBox representatives in Sydney. It was quite a moving experience as he reports.

**A Weekend Out of the Box**

*"Like most conferences you turn up Friday night, register, then get to meet a few of the other conference goers (a group of passionate people on a common cause) and so follows the rest of the weekend. The conference in the main contained some great information on where ShelterBox had come from and more importantly, where it is headed. There were a good number of statistics on boxes to countries, and which countries support ShelterBox. Australia is up there among the top ten. But enough of that; most of the information can be found on the Web.*

*What I believe was the real gem coming out of the weekend was being able to mix with the people from ShelterBox plus those at the sharp end, the Response Team members. Listening to some of the events and experiences they relayed from in the field was at times quite emotional.*

*Take the Kenyan refugee camp. An old African tribesman who over the years has taken ownership and pride looking after his cattle and family, only through no fault of his own by famine, have that taken away from him. To see the pride, stature and hope return to him when given the tent (castle) for him and his family. The response team was saying it was something to behold".*

**Welcome to new Rotarians/Rotaractors**

| New Rotarian   | Club                |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Chee Yung      | Launceston          |
| Marion Cooper  | Sandy Bay           |
| Serene Ashford | City Central Hobart |
| Trevor Weller  | Huon Valley         |
| Fraser Nuttall | South Launceston    |
| Jill Anderson  | Bellerive           |

**New Paul Harris Fellows**

| Recipient        | Awarded by    |
|------------------|---------------|
| Ian Johnson      | Sandy Bay     |
| Ian Hart         | Kings Meadows |
| Richard Gough    | Kings Meadows |
| Rob Pennicott    | Kingston      |
| Michael Churcher | Devonport     |

*"One such old tribesman was caught on camera. He was just standing in one spot all day and was preoccupied, continually cleaning the dust off his walking stick, the only possession that he owned.*

*Another experience was that of a Japanese mother who has lost her husband and part of her family in the tsunami. To see the glimmer of hope return to her eyes when issued with a ShelterBox so that the family she had left, could have shelter, warmth and dignity*

*One thing I heard a number of times over the weekend from the 'SRT's' was that all this was only possible because of the hard yards put in by you (the Rotarians) in raising the funds needed. The conclusion to the weekend; I knew when I first saw ShelterBox it was a brilliant concept and now I am even more convinced. I am now looking forward to doing what I can to help provide more".*

**"Shelter, Warmth & Dignity"**

**Congratulations to Alan Holmes of RC Hobart on his 85th birthday and 50 years in Rotary**

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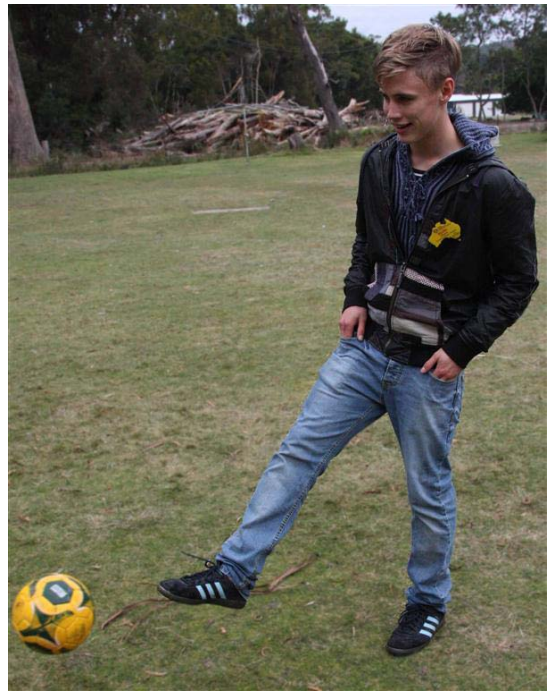
**Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Students  
2011 - 2012**



**Corentin Delabay from France  
Host Rotary Club: Central Launceston**



**Manon Speich from France  
Host Rotary Club: Youngtown**



**Hjalte Jensen from Denmark  
Host Rotary Club: Smithton**



**Lukas Strobl from Austria  
Host Rotary Club: Kingston**

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