

# ROTARY CLUB OF NAROOMA INC

## BEACON

VOLUME - 55

EDITION - 4

DATE  
26 JULY 2012

RI PRESIDENT  
SAKUJI TANAKI

9710 DG  
PHIL ARMSTRONG

PRESIDENT  
TERRY IRVINE  
MOB 0415 414 980

SECRETARY  
JACK WIGHTMAN

TREASURER  
JACK WIGHTMAN

APOLOGIES AND ADDITIONAL  
GUESTS TO  
JOHN RUNGEN THE TUESDAY  
BEFORE THE MEETING ON  
4476 5932 OR BY  
EMAIL  
RUNGEN@IPRIMUS.COM.AU  
OR YOU WILL BE CHARGED  
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ROTARY CLUB OF NAROOMA

PO Box 151  
NAROOMA 2546

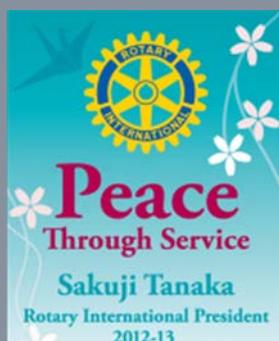
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### *Tappings from Terry.*

Thank you all for a wonderful planning meeting, it was a long haul but I am confident it will be worth it. One thing we still have to agree on though is a major project for the year, although I believe getting a Community Notice Board to make people more aware of what Rotary is, what it stands for, and what we are doing in the world, will be some achievement. I had a telephone conversation with Warren Sharpe on Friday. We do need to ensure our fund raising is in place to be able to finance any bigger project, although it might be like the "Field of Dreams", build it and they will come – so identify the project and the finance will come.

One of the highlights of the evening, if not the highlight of the evening, was the contribution of \$800 as proceeds from the Christmas in July event organised by Chris and so ably assisted by her happy band of helpers, thanks for the big effort ladies! Kim Armstrong has had her prize, I gave it to Phil but he realised it would not be a good look for him.

I write this early on Sunday morning, we left for Canberra on Friday and the Australian Rotary Success conference got off to a great start early yesterday, with the dinner concluding the day at 10.30 last night. It has been a great conference, about 400 in attendance from all over Australia and New Zealand, it is the best of the 3 Rotary events I have attended this year, and a number of ideas have come from it that I will share with you in detail as soon as I have time. But briefly: an inspiring address by the RI President Elect Ron Burton, breakout sessions attended: Membership recruitment and Extension; Flexibility and Innovation; Future vision; Public Image; Social Media. During dinner last night a presentation by the Rotary Club of Mareeba – population of town, 2000, 43 members in Club, one Early Act club, one Interact Club, and one Rotaract being formed! Two more breakout sessions today then a Plenary including Kirsty Sword Gusmao.



## Tonight

Vere Gray – Assistant District Governor

## Coming Events

Date	Event
<b>2 August</b>	Kim Bush on 'Youth'
<b>9 August</b>	Orit Karney-Winters. "This is my Life"
<b>16 August</b>	Board meeting
<b>23 August</b>	Martin Howard from India. Founder of the school which we supported with a Matching Grant, giving us an update on progress. Partners' Night
<b>26 August</b>	Narooma Rotary Market
<b>30 August</b>	Charmaine White. Report on Rotary International Convention in Bangkok

## Duties

Duty	26 July 2012	2 August 2012	9 August 2012	16 August	23 August
<b>Chair/Rotary History</b>	Ian Thomlinson	Jack Wightman	Bob Antill	George Barker	Charmaine White
<b>Cashier/Wheel</b>	George Barker	John Rungen	Charmaine White	Laurelle Pacey	Orit Karney - Winters
<b>Invocation</b>	John Rungen	Chris O'Brien	George Barker	Orit Karney - Winters	Bob Aston
<b>3 Minute Talk</b>	John Rungen	Rolf Gimmel	Orit Karney - Winters	Jack Wightman	George Barker
<b>Fines</b>		Ian Thomlinson		Bob Aston	



Rotarian Chris O'Brien presents President Terry with a cheque for \$800.00 being the proceeds from a very successful Christmas in July function.

Thanks Chris on a great effort.

Proceeds go to the Club Account



### *The week that was*

Last Thursday it was into planning for 2012/13 in a big way. Members met in the upstairs board room at the Whale and thrashed out things from fundraising activities, the future of the Rotary Markets, maintenance of old projects such Buckridge Lookout and Ringlands Walk as well as possibilities for new projects to ensure that the Rotary name lives on in the Narooma Community.

We also discussed our contributions to the Foundation as well as ways to increase our membership.

Chris O'Brien donated the proceeds from her recent Christmas in July function and we were joined by Rotary Scholar, Tilly Wood.

Tilly outlined the highlights of her first semester at Newcastle University studying Bachelor of Natural History Illustration. Tilly gave us a short overview of her course, as seems to be the case with most of our scholars Tilly has settled into university life well and has achieved some outstanding results. PP Bob Antill and President Terry presented Tilly with her cheque.

Laurelle reports that our two other current Tertiary Scholars who could not join us during this university vacation are, Alice Hanigan who is studying for Degree in Town Planning at the University of NSW and Joanna Wood who is studying for a Bachelor of Science degree in sports science, nutrition and psychology at the University of Canberra. Alice and Joanna have also achieved excellent results.

Over the years our small club has supported many young people from Narooma High study at university, a wonderful achievement

## *Japan Recovery Fund helps communities rebuild*

By Diana Schoberg

The Rotarian -- July 2012

In ghost towns lying in the shadow of Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant, cows and dogs roam the streets.

Buses and cars sit atop buildings, washed there by the tsunami that hit the country's northeastern coast on 11 March 2011. Debris mars the landscape.

When Kazuhiko Ozawa, Rotary Foundation trustee and chair of the Rotary East Japan Earthquake Recovery Fund Committee, talks about the Rotary-led recovery efforts in the region, his smile masks the heaviness he feels. To deal with the new reality, he says, he must persuade himself to be upbeat.

### **Providing comfort**

Many people affected by the disaster are also coping with difficult emotions, and Rotarian projects have begun to help them. Initially, Ozawa says, funding proposals focused on urgent necessities – food, shelter, clothing. With time, the work has shifted from meeting physical needs to offering emotional support; projects have provided help lines, counselors, and libraries where orphaned children can find comfort.

“We found out that people were depressed. Some wanted to commit suicide,” he says. “They had lost hope.”

The Rotary Japan 2011 Disaster Recovery Fund collected nearly \$8 million by the time the fund closed on 30 June. A little over \$1 million went to Matching Grants in the months immediately after the earthquake and tsunami. Since 1 July 2011, the fund has been managed by Ozawa's committee and has supported more than 160 projects.

The disaster recovery fund covers 25 percent of a project's cost; clubs and districts are responsible for raising the rest. Ozawa expects that the efforts supported by the fund will have a total impact of \$32 million. (Sister clubs and districts in other countries have funded other projects on their own.) The six committee members, all of whom are Rotarians in Japan, cover their own meeting and travel costs.

Projects have supplied schools with items including radiation counters and, in a city where the tsunami destroyed warehouses full of (now rotting) fish, screens to keep flies out. Rotarians have purchased medical equipment for hospitals and vehicles to deliver supplies, remove debris, and provide transportation.

### **Getting back to work**

They are helping residents get back to work by giving new tractors, greenhouses, and dairy cattle to farmers; building a temporary chamber of commerce in one city to help businesspeople map out their recovery efforts; and purchasing fishing nets to replace those that had washed away. The fishermen were so grateful, Ozawa says, they gave Rotarian volunteers the first fish they caught.

“There are countless examples like this,” he says.

In Japan, Ozawa says, the tradition of Rotary has been a philosophical one.

“You talk about the ideal of Rotary, the object of Rotary, or the vocational ethics, those kinds of things,” he says. “This disaster, although it was unfortunate, has awakened people to what they can do.”

In one city, he knows of four clubs that thought they would disband after the disaster.

“But when they saw people from all over the world contributing money and trying to support them, they changed their minds.”



Some Christmas in July photos

Thanks to Bob Antill