

Rotary Club of Lismore West Inc  
Rotary District 9640

Chartered 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1961 Charter Night, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1961, Masonic Temple, Magellan St, Lismore

Report on the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2011 – Lismore Workers' Club, Keen Street, Lismore – 6.00 pm

by PP Norm Robinson, PHF - Club Historian

President: Ross Hayes Secretary: PP Norm Robinson, PHF Treasurer: PP Ron Chittick, PHF

Master of Ceremony: Rtn Russ Cassidy, PHF

Photography – Rtn Barry Mason

**Welcome:** President Ross welcomed the 160 guests present, including nine representatives of our Sister Club, the Rotary Club of Yamato Takada, Japan. Distinguished guests were: District Governor John & Sue Randel (Rotary Club of Mullumbimby); Mr. Thomas George, MP, State Member for Lismore & Mrs. Debbie George; Councillor Jenny Dowell, Mayor of Lismore; District Governor Elect Graham & Marion Jones (Rotary Club of Southport), District Governor Nominee Sandra & Sam Doumany (Rotary Club of Hope Island); Assistant Governor Col & Julie Lee (Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond); President Leon & Jan Horan (PROBUS Club of Lismore Heights – Chartered 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 by the Rotary Club of Lismore West); President Nea & John Knapman (PROBUS Club of Goonellabah); President Gloria & Russ Cassidy (The Inner Wheel Club of Lismore); Helen Rea (Principal, Wilson Park Public School for Special Purposes); Bernie & Ngaire Wills (parents of Outbound 2011 – 2012 Ambassadorial Scholar, Hannah, who is sponsored by Lismore West); the Rotary Club of Lismore (our Mother Club) was represented by Rtn Lorraine Ryan and President Elect, Carol Wheatley; other Rotary Clubs represented were: Alstonville, Goonellabah, Kyogle, Lismore Central and Summerland Sunrise. The sons of Charter member, the Late PP Hugh & Marge Reading, Frank (Lyn) and John (Bronwyn) also attended.

**Rotary Club of Yamato Takada representatives** were welcomed by PP Graeme Hargreaves who acted as our Club's "envoy" with the Japanese Rotary Club: Mr Masahiko Sakamoto (President), Mr Sadayoshi Yoshimura (Secretary), Mr Seichiro Murashima (Rotary Club of Yamato Takada 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony Committee Chairman), Mr Toshiaki & Mrs Ikuyo Hayashida (Vocational Service Director), Mr Yoshikiyo & Mrs Kayoko Wakimoto (Youth Service Director), Mr Akira & Mrs Tomoko Yoshida (International Service Director).

**Note:** Rotary Club of Yamato Takada celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 with Lismore West being represented by President Ross & Rhonda Hayes, Rtn Doc & Christine Dorahy, PP Graeme Hargreaves, President Elect Laurie Orchard & Penny Orchard (International Service Director) and Rtn Elio & Coralie Zambelli.

**Former Club Members present:** Geoff & Val Cawley, PDG Jim & Helen Dowling (Inaugural Governor of Rotary District 9640 1991 - 1992), Greg & Del Ezzy, Philip & Helen Feros, Ian & Pam Frith, John & Betty Hanger, John & Nea Knapman, Peter & Dorothy Newton, John & Bronwyn Reading, Eric & Norma Robbins, David Rutherford,

**Apologies:** Lorna Lancaster (widow of Charter member PP Frank), Janelle Saffin, MP, Federal Member for Page, PRIT Brian & Nancy Knowles (Rotary Club of Parkwood), PDG Ian & PDG Heather Yarker (Rotary Club of Ashmore), PDG Dug & Judy Graydon (Rotary Club of Mullumbimby), PDG Max & Gillian Wortman (Rotary Club of Nerang). Former Club members: Harold & Margaret Astle, Graham & Yvonne Bathgate (Grindelwald, Launceston, Tasmania), Mike & Noelene Berry, Harold & Nan Crozier, Lindsay Doust, PP James & Elaine Gordon, John & Betty Hanger, Trevor Hattersley, PP Trevor & Fae Hopf (Wynyard, Tasmania), Philip & Maree Hunter, Lloyd & Connie Roberts, John & Nora Ryan (Whistler, Canada), PP Jim & Barbara Tamai, Neville & Colleen Wheeler. President Terry & Carol Brown (Rotary Club of Lismore), Lyn Arnett (widow PP Ian), Joanne Cooper, Helen Gates (widow Rtn Bob) & Keith Fry, Andy & Helen George, PP Greg Hjelmstrom, PP Bruce & Laurie King, PP Rod Sproule, PP Peter & Barbara Swain,

**Toast to Rotary International** was proposed by Rtn Laurie Orchard, PHF (International Service Director & President Elect).

**Reply** by District 9640 Governor, John Randel.

**Toast to the Rotary Club of Lismore West Inc** was proposed by District 9640 Governor, John Randel, saying Lismore West has a proud record of its achievements in all *Avenues of Service* over the past 50 years as well as an enviable reputation for its fellowship and friendship. He presented President Ross with a 50<sup>th</sup> *Year Certificate* on behalf District 9640 and from RI President, Ray Klingensmith (RC Kirksville, Missouri, USA).

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**Reply:** President Ross Hayes said he was proud to be a member of the Rotary Club of Lismore West and its 50<sup>th</sup> *President*. He said "it is appropriate to pay tribute to all our members over the last 50 years, whose tireless efforts have laid the foundations for the Club we are today. We salute the founders of the Rotary Club of Lismore West, whose belief in our shared ideal of "*Service Above Self*" all those years ago, led them to realise that they could make a better world – and gave them the inspiration to take the first step.

I would also like to recognise all our Rotary wives and partners for the work they do "behind the scenes" to help make our Rotary activities, events and fund raisers so successful".

**Congratulations by Government Representatives** the Hon Thomas George MP, State Member for Lismore and Councillor Jenny Dowell, Lismore City Council Mayor, with each acknowledging the community service and other Rotary programs by Lismore West.

**Congratulations from USA and UK:** PP Norm Robinson as Rotary Counsellor for the Club's Ambassadorial Scholars, read out a letter of congratulations from:

- i. Jane Gullickson, Brandon, South Dakota who was hosted by Lismore West in 2010 when she was the first ever Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to study at Southern Cross University, Lismore.
- ii. Dr. Hannah Wills from Oxford, England, our Rotary District 9640 Outbound 2011 – 2012 Ambassadorial Scholar to Oxford University and who is being sponsored by Lismore West.

**SERGEANTS:** PP Bob Barnes PHF, Rtn Doc Dorahy, PP John Egglestone PHF, Rtn Grant Love PHF provided many humorous fines for things Club members and others had allegedly committed.

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – a landscape painting kindly donated by Rtn Barry Mason (Lismore West) and won by PP John Miller (Lismore West).

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – a Hamper kindly donated by DG John & Sue Randel and won by Helen Dowling.

**Lucky Spot Prize:** Each of the tables had a coloured spot under one chair and the lucky recipient won a bottle of wine, a box of chocolates or a packet of chocolate macadamia nuts according to the spot colour.

**Launch of Club History:** PP Norm Robinson spoke about the formation of the Rotary Club of Lismore West in 1961 by the Rotary Club of Lismore (1931). He then launched his Club history booklet covering the 32 years 1979 to 2011, pointing out that the Club's history for 1961 to 1979 had been written by PP Harold Frith. PP Norm expressed his thanks to Rhonda Hayes, PHF for her assistance in editing and setting up the book electronically for sending to the printers.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake** was kindly supplied by Andrea (PP Merv) Bryant, PHF and cut by Rtn Ken Larsson and PP Broughton Weaver, who have been members of the Club for 49 and 46 years respectively.

**Presentation by the Rotary Club of Yamato Takada:** President Masahiko Sakamoto extend congratulations to Lismore West on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the valuable Sister Club Agreement with our two Rotary Clubs. He then read out a message of *congratulations* from Mr Masakutu Yoshida, Mayor of Yamato Takada City Council. He then presented gifts to the Club which were accepted by President Ross. Mr Seichiro Murashima, President of Yamato Takada Lismore Sister City Association also read out a message of *congratulations*.

**Historical Display:** A continuous PowerPoint slide show, prepared by PP Norm covering the Club's 50 years of service to Rotary, was played in the Dining room. In addition, in a room opposite the Dining room, he set up a large historical pin – up display of labelled photos and a table – top display of Club records and memorabilia covering the Club's 50 years, which was extensively viewed by the large gathering.

**Presentations:** President Ross named the following Club ladies as a Paul Harris Fellow for their outstanding support of their Rotary husbands and support of the Club's programs over the years indicated:

Bernice Robinson (38 – PP Norm), Fae Seiffert ( 43 – PP Ray), Merle Thearle ( 32 – Late PP Pat).

DG John placed the PHF pin on the ladies and presented them with their *Paul Harris Fellow Certificate* and medallion. President Ross then called Club Historian & Secretary, PP Norm Robinson forward and asked

DG John to present PP Norm with his second Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire Pin on behalf of Lismore West in recognition of his writing the Club History and organisation of the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary function.

**Vote of Thanks:** President Ross then thanked all who had contributed to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary function in various ways and the large number present for their attendance, which helped ensure the success of the night. The evening concluded with the **National Anthem**.