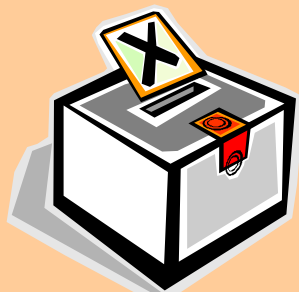


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



Adjourned AGM & Club Assembly

Chair: President Margaret

Attendance/Fellowship:
Russell Crofts; PP Peter Tresidder;
Gordon R. King; David Limburg

MARGARET'S MUSINGS

What a terrific turn up to last week's meeting on India, with many partners, several visiting Rotarians with their partners, as well as invited guests. It was an honour to present a PHF to Gordon R King in recognition of his support of the Rotary International Foundation, as well as his commitment to many of the club's projects. It was also a pleasure to formally recognize PP John Steel, David Dean, Megan Tilley and Dinah Crofts for their support of the Foundation, and ongoing commitment to the club.



This year we celebrate Rotary's 103rd Birthday and in the Rotary Calendar, February is classified as "World Understanding" month. This week we have the Group Study Exchange Team coming to talk to us. Michael MacQuillan is the team leader, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chatswood. With him will be Louise Duff, Matthew Moore, Sophie Stephen, Daniel Odman and our very own Evan Burrell from Rotaract, who we have sponsored. The team is going to New Jersey. Read more about it inside the bulletin.

Last December, we adjourned our AGM due to the changes that are being made in District regarding bringing in a new Club Leadership Plan. This entailed changing our By-Laws and Constitution. Because of the changes being made, it was felt that members needed time to digest the changes. Therefore this week's meeting will also include a Club Assembly to pass the new By-Laws, and to elect Office Bearers and Directors for 2008-2009.

Last Friday, two events were scheduled at the same time. Several members and partners attended the Welcome Home dinner for the returning Youth Exchange students. It was a great opportunity to hear the students' enthusiasm for Youth Exchange. The rest of the club members and partners enjoyed a social night out at the Limestone Café. The photos that Brian Coleman has put on the website show that you all had a great time!

Upcoming events:

February: 20th -- Trivia night, so please invite your partners, friends, and relatives.

February: 21-24 – Rotary Awareness at the Shopping Village. Please sign up with Chris de Zylva.

March: 6-9th -- District Conference. There will be a group of twenty four of us going to this years District Conference. Thank you to all of the members who have signed up to go. Guest speakers include Duncan Armstrong, Dick Johnson, Caroline Pemberton, and John Dowd.

March: 12th – Finland Night. Our Youth Exchange student Eeva will give her presentation on her homeland, and on her Youth exchange experience to date. Pirjo Leino, the Finnish Consulate will be attending as well as Joanne Atkins, Principal of Brigidine College where Eeva is attending school. Please invite your partners and friends to attend.

Yours in Rotary

Margaret



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The Bulletin of
The Rotary Club
of St Ives Inc



NEWS REVIEW

Why I am a Rotarian ...



Travelling Vietnam, a non-Rotary country, makes me acutely aware just why I am a Rotarian and why I want to spread Rotary, the story of Rotary and what it stands for,

Many Americans still think of Vietnam as a war. Indeed we should not forget our war experience here.

We should study our past so we can avoid making the same mistakes over and over.

Rotary had a presence here before 1975. Although it did some humanitarian things, it was not strong enough to be a factor in peace. Achieving our mission statement of promoting world peace and understanding will take more effort than just doing a few projects. To be a factor in peace we would have to foster person-to-person contact such as Youth Exchange.

Trang Nguyen was the first Rotary Exchange Student from Vietnam to the US - and that didn't happen until 1999. I understand there has been a trickle since then. To be effective in peace we would have needed thousands of Exchanges. I believe there would have never been a war if there had been a Trang in every village in Vietnam. The host families would not have let it happen.

I am a Rotarian because Rotary brings people together and I want a better world. Our small presence in Vietnam hopefully will grow large and make a difference in promoting peace and world understanding.

PDG Kent Converse, RC of Kinsley, Kansas USA

Courtesy of the Rotary Global History Fellowship

Rotary Awareness Week

The Board has decided to go ahead with promotion of Rotary at the St Ives Shopping Village, but for four days only. The promotion will now be from Thursday 21st February to Sunday 24th.

The proposed display is being developed and volunteers are required for each of the four days. PP Chris de Zylva is coordinating manning the display and President Margaret would welcome good ideas on how we can best promote Rotary in general and our club in particular.

Although most of our neighbouring clubs have withdrawn from the programme, there are a number of advertisements appearing in local newspapers in the next couple of weeks.

Foundation Fact File

In recent weeks we have discussed the financial results of the Foundation. The annual accounts are of course audited in the usual manner for incorporated and other corporate bodies. But this audit only covers the financial results.

What happens about the myriad of projects the Foundation finances? Over the years there have been many suggestions that much of the money granted by the Foundation has not been utilised well and, indeed, at any one time there are many projects in progress which, for one reason or another, are not proceeding at the intended pace.

This is of course a matter of considerable concern to the Trustees, so it has procedures to ensure that all funded projects are brought to a conclusion as quickly as possible and that the funds granted are spent in the manner specified in the grant application.

Everyone initiating a grant project is required to submit a formal report at the conclusion of the project. There is a limit on the number of incomplete projects a District may have. In addition, the Foundation appoints independent Rotarians to carry out random audits "on the spot", to ensure that the project is as specified in the application. All done to protect the Foundation's resources!



What Paul Harris said:

I have no hesitation in saying that world peace could be achieved and made permanent if reared on Rotary's firm foundation of friendliness, tolerance, and usefulness.

RI Convention, Havana, Cuba, 1940



Attendance Report – Wk 30

Members present	38
Visiting Rotarians	3
Club Guests	1
Members' Partners	8
Members' Guests	5
Total Present	55
Total Members	
Attendance – week	76.6%
Attendance – year	67.5%
Members on LoA	3

Last Week ... The team who travelled to India reported on their experiences. PDG Brian Coleman gave an overview of the itinerary, David Dean reported on Rotary projects in Bangalore and Hyderabad, PDG Brian covered the D9680 tsunami programme in Zinkapalem, PP Gavin Laws talked about the toilet project in Guntur and Surya Patel and PDG Peter Perry gave their impressions of the tour. President Margaret summed up. A fuller report on the trip appears in a special Supplement to this issue.



KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS

Charter Member Wal Edwards was born in 1916 at Hamilton, NSW and educated at Newcastle Boys High School. He moved to Manly in 1932. Wal walked over the Sydney Harbour Bridge the day after it was opened. The Great Depression was on and money was scarce. In his long career, Wal has been a grocer, in the wine industry, a dairy farmer, a real estate agent, a motel and restaurant owner, a builder and an investor. He also served four years as a soldier in World War II.

Wal has had three wives, five children, fifteen children and seven great-grandchildren, the eldest of whom is 26. He belongs to three golf clubs. He is also the Welfare Officer for the Harbord Diggers Club, a member of the Manly Fishos and a pastoral partner of St Matthew's Church, Manly, plus, of course, being the sole surviving Charter Member of our club.

As Wal says, he would need a book to fill us in so many interesting and unusual experiences, but he hasn't got time to write it!



My proudest achievement is being still able to call on and help so many sick, sad, lonely and poor people in convalescent homes and aged care facilities, as well as DVA pensioners in trouble in War Veterans Homes.

My life won't be complete until I have hit a hole-in-one at golf.

My favourite book is the Holy Bible.

The three things I'd want with me on a desert island are my wife, plenty of water and enough food.

My most devastating moment was at 7 am on 6 Jun 1985, when I had a phone call from Hornsby police asking if I was the owner of a certain car, which I was. The policeman asked me to come and identify the driver who had been killed in the accident – he was my son Ross!

My favourite part of our Rotary meeting is the opportunity to have continuing fellowship with people who want to give Service Above Self and do so.

I was drawn to Rotary because Rotary is world-wide and there is immediate fellowship anywhere you travel, plus great opportunities to help serve. Rotarians are leaders and workers, NOT drones.

If I hadn't joined Rotary I would never have known about the great work that Rotary continues to achieve world-wide in all avenues of service.

My favourite cartoon character is (or rather was) Mickey Mouse.

The person who has made the greatest impact on my life is Jesus Christ.

Congratulations to our newest Paul Harris Fellows



Last week, President Margaret presented Paul Harris Fellow badges, collars and certificates to Gordon R King, PP John Steel and David Dean in recognition of their personal contributions to The Rotary Foundation. President Margaret praised their generosity and the example they gave to all Rotarians to support the Foundation with personal donations.



President Margaret also congratulated Megan Tilley and Dinah Crofts, who had received sapphire pins to their original PHF recognition.

Our club is fast becoming a leader in personal support of the Foundation through the various mechanisms available. such as major donors, the Paul Harris Fellow Society and the Centurion programme.



In TRF Chairman PP Lindsay Smith's absence, it is appropriate to remind Centurion Club members that their 2007-08 donation is overdue.

If you haven't made this year's instalment, Treasurer Richard Ames will be delighted to receive your tax deductible donation and issue you with a formal receipt!

Act now!

GSE Team to visit

The D9680 2008 GSE Team to New Jersey, led by Michael Macquillan and of which Evan Burrell is a member, will be visiting us this week. More information about this exchange can be found on their blog site d9680gse.blogspot.com, which will also allow you to follow their journey in the United States.

NOTICE BOARD

Celebrations

Birthdays:

Feb 19: PP John Steel
Feb 20: Anne Isaacs
Feb 20: Carol Anne Macaulay

Wedding Anniversary:

Feb 15: Surya & Sharda Patel

Club Anniversary:

Feb 14: David Limburg



Congratulations Grumpie, OAM



It was a pleasure to see recognition in the Australia Day Honour List of the tireless, dedicated work undertaken by PDG Ken Nicholls, particularly in the time demanding role coordinating Donations In Kind, which has contributed so much to the success of RAWCS Eastern Region. His work with RAWCS, The Rotary Foundation, the D9690 College of Governors and his own club Granville have been outstanding - well done, Grumpie!

For your Diary



Thu 21 to Sun 24 Feb
Rotary Awareness Display
St Ives Shopping Village
Contact: Chris de Zylva

Thu 28 February
District Leadership
Seminar - 6.30 for 7pm
Jacaranda Lodge, SAH
Contact: DGN John
Cameron 9487 1508

Friday 29 February
**Hornsby Rotary Charity
Golf Day**

\$425 per team of 4
(Ambrose - includes
Lunch, Golf & Dinner)
Contact Tem Elliott

Thu 6 to Sun 9 March
District Conference,
Bathurst
Contact: PE Greg Rappo

Friday 28 March
Rotaract 40th Anniversary
Dinner
7 for 7.30 Black Tie \$55
Asquith Golf Club
Contact: John Tainsh

Sun 17 June
Festival on the Green
Contact: Pres. Margaret

Sat 28 June 6.30 for 7
District Changeover
Hornsby RSL Club
Contact: PE Greg Rappo

Future programme

(Changes from last week are underlined)

Date	Programme/Speaker	Chair	Vote of Thanks
20 Feb	Trivia Night Combined Peninsula Clubs	PP Derek Molloy	-
	<i>Duties: Grahame Rivett; Bhuvan Unhelkar; Geoff Fallow; John Tainsh</i>		
27 Feb	RYLA 2008	John Tainsh	-
	<i>Duties: Tem Elliott; PP John Steel; Varun Batra; PP Derek Molloy</i>		
5 Mar	Nepal School Project Allan Waldon	Barry Barnes	<u>Bev Paton</u>
	<i>Duties: Lance Kirkwood; Dee Stewart; Deirdre Agnew; Steve Cartland</i>		
12 Mar	International Night: Finland YES Eeva Lehtonen	John Tainsh	<u>PP John Steel</u>
	<i>Duties: David James; Ann Thomson; Don Murphy; PDG Brian Coleman</i>		

Please contact BEV PATON with your apologies or intention to bring guests by 6pm Monday on 9449 8897 or email attend@stivesrotary.asn.au. Those on attendance and fellowship are reminded that the task includes set up/pull down of the meeting regalia. If you cannot make a duty, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement.

The Rotary Club of St Ives Inc

Meetings: Wednesdays at Pymble Golf Club, Cowan Road, St Ives at 6.30 for 7.00pm

Address: PO Box 113, St Ives, NSW 2075. Web site: www.stivesrotary.org.au

President: Margaret Dean

Directors: PP John Steel (Immediate Past President); PP Roger Corbin (Vice-President);
Greg Rappo (President-elect/Club Service); Tem Elliott (Vocational Service);
Marcel James (Community Service); David Dean (International Service); John Tainsh (Youth Service).

Secretary: Megan Tilley. **Treasurer:** PP Richard Ames.

Editor of The Waratah: PDG Brian Coleman **Deputy Editor:** PP John Isaacs

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Thanks to Gordon R King
and **CLUB**

INNOVATIONS, who
arrange for copies of
The Waratah to be
distributed at our meetings.



We thank our Sponsors for their support of our community programmes

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Village



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Planners

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Ronald Smith
Chartered
Accountant

PRICE'S
PHARMACY

Serving West
Pymble since
1958



THE WARATAH SUPPLEMENT



Our Passage to India

The St Ives Team: President Margaret & David Dean, PDG Brian Coleman, PP Gavin Laws, Surya Patel, PDG Peter Perry, Grahame & Marie Rivett.

Accompanied by: DG Monica (Epping) & PP Geoff Saville (Carlingford), Heinz (Neutral Bay) & PP Eva Wicki (Mosman) and PDG Bruce Allen (Castle Hill) who joined us in Hyderabad, Guntur and Zinkapalem.

The Itinerary:

Jan 10: Flight from Sydney to Trivandrum, via Singapore

Jan 11: Bus trip to and from Kanyakumari, site of the Vivekanand Temple and Monument.

Jan 12: Bus trip to Thekkady in the hills east of Cochin. Here we visited a spice farm and saw a performance of a Kathakali Dance Group.

Jan 13: An early morning trip on the lake, followed by a bus trip to Alleppey, where we boarded three houseboats.

Jan 14: A further hour cruising, then back on the bus for a shortish drive to Cochin. There we did a city tour, saw the Dutch Palace, Jew Town and took a harbour cruise.

Jan 15: A morning tour of the Bangalore took in the State parliament, the Big Bull Temple, Lalbagh Gardens, and the local silicon valley. We visited three Rotary projects (described on page 2) and in the evening were hosted at a meeting of the RC of Bangalore Orchards

Jan 16: A bus trip to Mysore for the day took us past a silk worm business and the Diriya Daulat Bagh Palace at Srirangpatna, and in Mysore, the Shri Chamun Deshwari Temple, another Big Bull and the Maharajah's Palace.

Jan 17: We flew to Hyderabad and attended a meeting of the RC of Hyderabad Airport.

Jan 18: Visit to Ramoji Film City and Hyderabad Fort for a Sound & Light Show.

Jan 19: Long Drive to Guntur, stopping on way to meet Rotarians at Nagarjuna and to see the Ettipottala Falls.

Jan 20: Bus trip to Zinkapalem to see D9680 tsunami project (described on page 3). Returned to joint meeting with four local Rotary Clubs in Guntur.

Jan 21: Visits to 5 of the 10 schools covered by the Matching Grant project (described on page 4). More Rotary hospitality in the evening.

Jan 22: Bus trip back to Hyderabad and flight to Mumbai.

Jan 23: Sightseeing in Mumbai – Dhobi laundry, Jain Temple, Hanging Gardens, Gateway to India and Taj Mahal Hotel. Flight to Jaipur.



Jan 24: Sightseeing in Jaipur (the Pink City) – Amber Fort (elephant ride to top), the Astronomical Observatory and the City Palace. Dinner at Rambagh Palace Hotel – gold cutlery and table settings!

Jan 25: Drive to Agra, via Fatehpur Sikri, famous for its palaces. Sightseeing at Agra Fort and a demonstration of marble inlay work.

Jan 26: Visit to the Taj Mahal at dawn. Drive to Delhi.

Jan 27: Sightseeing in Delhi – Humayun's Tomb, the Qtab Minar, the Parliament and Government building complex, the Lotus Temple and a final opportunity to shop at Connaught Circus. Flight to Singapore

Jan 28: Flight from Singapore to Sydney.

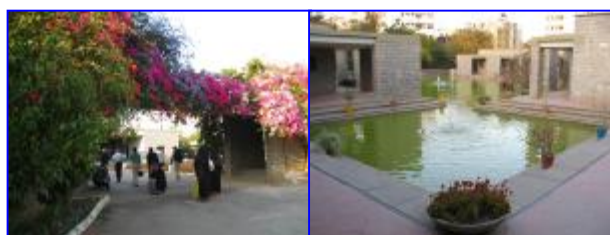


BANGALORE/HYDERABAD

The Rotarians of Bangalore were very keen to show us some of their projects and we spent an afternoon touring three of them. Also, while in Hyderabad, David Dean was invited to see some of their projects, while the rest of us went to Film City. Here is a summary of what we saw.

The Blood Bank, Bangalore

India has no national Blood Bank service, such as we have in Australia, so local communities are dependant upon local organizations establishing units in their particular locality. This unit has been particularly successful and has a regular supply of donors. The set up is relatively primitive compared to the Red Cross facilities, but nevertheless fulfils a valuable function, supplying the hospitals in Bangalore with essential blood and platelet supplies. Donated blood is of course thoroughly tested for Aids and other abnormalities.

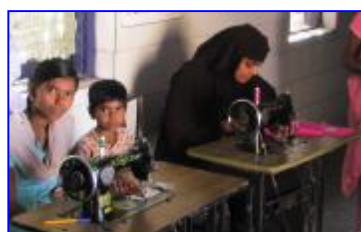


Respite Centre, Bangalore

This is a remarkable facility, providing respite care for cancer patients. Over 5,000 patients have received loving palliative care in their final days in the 50-bed facility. This magnificent project is a joint initiative of the Rotary Club of Bangalore Indiranagar and the India Cancer Society. The general ambience of the building is one of tranquillity and peace. The architect, a Bangalore Rotarian, won a national award for the project.

Heart Tissue Storage, Bangalore

One of the problems of replacing heart valves in young children with artificial valves is that they do not grow with the child, so frequent replacement is necessary. By using natural donated valves, the valves grow with the child and generally only need replacement once when the child reaches adolescence. Donated valves come from Organ Donor programmes and have to be stored in strictly controlled conditions, which is what this unit is designed to achieve. The unit, which is due to be commissioned this month is located in the massive Manipal Hospital, which has extensive facilities for the treatment of heart disorders.



Sewing Machine Training Workshop, Hyderabad

In this project, training is given in basic skills, such as using a sewing machine. This gives the beneficiaries an opportunity to earn a living otherwise not available to them. At present the centre has four sewing machines and ten students, but this can be expanded as more machines become available.

Home for the Aged and Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad

This home is run by the Integrated Welfare Society, which houses about 80 men and women with mental illness, who would otherwise be on the streets. Their club, Hyderabad North, is seeking assistance in fitting out a third floor of the facility to provide a better environment for the residents, some of whom are sleeping in the hallway each night. Items required range from basic cots and kitchen pots to television sets and could be the focus of our next matching grant programme.



The Sri Baba Orphanage and School, Hyderabad

This facility has about 200 students through year 10. It is a model of a self-help organization, which provides a home for elderly women who assist as grandparents for the orphan children. The Hyderabad North club has provided a modern water storage tank and washing facility to the school, and has set up a computer centre for the students.

Rotary Meetings

In Bangalore we attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of Bangalore Orchards, which was organised despite the fact it was a public holiday and about 50 members turned up to welcome us. Rotary meetings in India follow a different format from ours in that the meeting is held and members then generally go home to their families for their meal. On special occasions they have cocktails and a meal after the meeting, which they did in our honour, the cost often being sponsored by one of the members. As a token of our appreciation of their hospitality, we donated Rs12,000 (c\$360) to buy 10 desks for one of their school projects. We received similar hospitality from the RC of Hyderabad Airport, although we actually missed the formal part of the meeting due to our late arrival.



ZINKAPALEM



Zinkapalem, which the locals pronounce Jinkapalem, is located on the west side of a small island, just off the east coast of India, about 100kms from Guntur. It is some 2km from the Indian Ocean and reached by a short ferry trip from the mainland. When the tsunami arrived on Boxing Day, 2004, although the waves had lost their main force by the time they reached the village, they were still powerful enough to devastate the village's prawn rearing industry and to destroy several of the village houses, which were constructed mainly of thatch and odd pieces of metal, etc.

In early 2005, clubs in our district, including ours, raised money for the tsunami victims and District Rotary Foundation Chairman, PDG Bruce Allen, did a lot of research to ensure the funds were spent wisely. Zinkapalem was one of the projects he selected as worthy of our support. As a result, the former prawn farms surrounding the village have been cleared and new boundary earthworks created. Instead of prawn farming, these plots are now devoted to rice growing and producing healthy crops to help support the village.

We were taken aback by the welcome we received! A huge banner with our names thereon was draped across the pathway and the whole village appeared to have come out to meet us. We were enveloped in garlands and then marched to their village, led by a colourful band.

Soon after we arrived, DG Monica Saville was called upon to lay the foundation stone of one of the new houses being built to replace not only the destroyed houses, but also those reconstructed since, where the old materials were once again used. The new houses are basic – two bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen – but, compared to the single room of the current houses, they are luxurious.

Foundation stone-laying is something of a performance, with the use of curry powder, saffron, coconut milk, lighted flames and incantations. PDG Peter and PDG Brian also got to lay stones and became adept at cracking coconuts with one hit! After the ceremony, we met the family who would occupy the house and, in local tradition, were presented with a banana as a token of thanks. As a token of our thanks for the privilege of being there and of the incredible hospitality, we each contributed Rs2,500 (c\$75), sufficient to ensure another house will be built – the Indian government contributes about half the cost of each house.

The afternoon concluded with a performance by a team of dancers financed by an organization called ASSIST, including a special Rotary Song, illustrating all the things Rotary does. We declined to learn it, as we noted that it did not refer to selling raffle tickets! This group also demonstrated work it does in villages throughout the area, teaching villagers basic things like hygiene, general safety, etc.

It was quite awe-inspiring to see the work that Rotary has done and continues to do in this remote part of India. No tourists pass by this way and subsistence living is very much the order of the day. Yet despite their lack of material things, the people remain remarkably cheerful, particularly the children, who charmed us everywhere we went.



GUNTUR



The main purpose of our Indian tour was to visit Guntur, the site of our Matching Grant project. Our club joined with nine other clubs – Gosford, Eastwood, Epping, Gladesville, Hunters Hill, Macquarie Park, North Ryde, Rydalmere and Ryde – to raise a total of US\$26,400, of which we contributed 32%, i.e. US\$8,500. With the addition of Rotary Foundation Matching Grants and a donation from the D9680 District Designated Fund, a total of US\$50,512 was available, sufficient to build ten toilet blocks. Our club therefore effectively financed three of them.

Why toilet blocks? Although the Indian Government built and run the schools, it rarely provided toilet facilities, or where it did they were for teachers only. As you can imagine this is a significant problem for all children, but particularly for girls and it is a reason why many girls are not sent to school and so go uneducated. This is especially so in the Muslim community, which represents about 20% of India's population. Providing these toilets will therefore not only enhance the comfort of the present pupils, but also encourage others to attend.

The photographs above illustrate the "before and after situations." We visited five of the schools to benefit from this programme - those within the city limits. The other five are in the surrounding country and time did not allow us to visit them.

As in Zinkapalem, the reception we received was overwhelming and the children just charming. We were struck by their orderly behaviour and in most cases the high standard of their dress. Our modest gifts of exercise books, pens, pencils and koala bears were received with great enthusiasm and left us with the feeling we could easily have quadrupled our supplies and still some would have missed out.

Because the Matching Grant was only finally approved just before Christmas, the actual funds had not been received in India by the time we visited, so, instead of laying foundation stones, each site was dedicated with a ceremony similar to that we had carried out in Zinkapalem and most of us had a chance to participate. Each toilet block will be marked with a plaque recognising the clubs that contributed and the Rotary Foundation.

Prior to visiting the schools, the previous evening in fact, we were entertained at a joint meeting of the Rotary Clubs of Guntur, Guntur Aadarsh, Guntur Vikas and Chilakaluripet. About 150 people were there and after a few formal speeches and banner exchanges. President Margaret took the opportunity to present Grahame Rivett with Paul Harris Fellow recognition (reported previously), before she and David were surprised by the presentation of a special cake for their wedding anniversary, which they celebrated that day.

Summing up, all of us were overwhelmed by the hospitality we received from the Indian Rotarians. They are a very resourceful group and doing a lot to improve the lot of the less fortunate.

Our thanks to Surya Patel, who put together a great, if sometimes tiring, itinerary and smoothed over the odd thing which didn't quite eventuate as planned. Thanks also to David Dean for his input into the itinerary and he will be following up some of the things we believe we can do next. But above all, thanks to all who contributed to the A\$10,500 we raised for the project. Your money is being put to excellent use!

