

Wheels just keep on turnin'

By David Hulme

When most New Zealanders will be thinking about going to the polls, more than 10,000 of their countrymen and women will be pedaling their way around the scenic Lake Taupo.

This year's Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge, owned and organised by the Rotary Club of Taupo Moana again promises to be the leading cycling event in the country.

This in no small part is due to the fantastic organisation from the Rotarians involved, as anyone who has taken part in the event will attest to.

The LTCC is New Zealand's premier cycling event, having achieved UCI Golden Bike Series Status in 2006, making it one of the six top rides in the world.

Participants are offered a multitude of different ride options from completing the various individual events (once, twice, four or eight



times around the Lake), relays and mountain biking options, making this a truly multi-purpose event.

But the Contact Energy-sponsored event is not just for Kiwis.

In 2010, almost 500 riders from 21 different countries gave the event an international flavour.

More than 1000 volunteers add to the number of people involved in this iconic event, doing everything from dropping relay bikes out to the change-over points, manning registration, acting as guides and taking part in traffic control, to name but a few of their tasks.



The recent introduction of mountain biking has again added more diversity to the event.

LTCC is now solely-owned by the Taupo Moana Rotary Club and in the last 15 years more than \$1.2 million dollars has been distributed to the community through volunteer payments and through the club.

Once again in 2011, the charity of choice for the event

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is @Heart, the organisation dedicated to providing life long support to all those affected by a childhood heart condition.

Entries close on November 19. Why not get a team together from your club. It is a great experience. You will not forget the atmosphere or colour associated with the simply suburb Rotary event.

For more information, simply log onto

www.cyclechallenge.com

Nation's eyes on World Cup and stranded ship

By DG Raewyn

So – October is almost finished. A month that has seen both the terrible grounding of the Rena off our eastern coast, and the nation's joy at winning the rugby world cup.

A month where some Rotarians have suited up and helped with the clean-up of the beaches and others have hosted visiting rugby fans from overseas.

Life is interesting!

Geoff and I completed our club visits mid October, and while it is nice to have a bit more time at home, we have really enjoyed getting around all the clubs.

I know that I have said to many clubs in my talk that Rotary is all about the clubs, and it is one of the privileges of being a DG that you get to visit them all.

Every time we sit down for a meal at another club we hear about community projects, fellow-



ship activities and fundraising events that are so innovative and inter-

esting, and the range of causes we support in the district is staggering.

One of the highlights in recent weeks was the opportunity to plant a tree – a beautiful 2 metre high kauri – on the Rotary Walk at the top of the gondola in Rotorua.

This is a tradition that 22 DGs have participated in thanks to Rotorua North Rotary.

Special too were our return visits to Te Puke to induct three new members in one night – and I was sorry I couldn't be there a few weeks

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Don't forget it is Foundation month

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later for the induction of another five members - and to Otumoetai to present 10 members with their very own Rotary Rock as a result of them pre-registering for conference.

And, to spread my wings, I have visited Probus and Rotaract this month as well.

November looks to be busy – AG training and PETS, our own attendance at Governor Training and Rotary Institute for a week,

two visits to Tauranga for events run by Tauranga Sunrise, to Turangi for a combined Area 12 meeting, playing in the Otumoetai Charity Golf Tournament.... its all great fun.

Of course November is also Rotary Foundation month, so this is the time for all of us to make a commitment to personally contribute to the Foundation – talk to the Foundation champion or chair in your club or contact District Foundation Chair Susan Campbell for a contri-

bution form and make a difference in someone's life.

Planning is progressing well to bring you a great conference in May next year – we have a number of great speakers confirmed and others in the pipeline as well as some excellent entertainment and some great priced accommodation deals – you won't want to miss the Rotary Rocks Conference!



WORLD AFFAIRS SEMINAR

Students from around the globe attended a recent World Affairs seminar in the United States, aimed at deepening young people's understanding of the inter-relationships in the issues affecting peoples of the world.

International speakers were a feature of the week-long course, attended by 300 students from 19 countries.

Organisers say a key aim of the seminar is to create critical thinkers and try to present as many views on an issue as possible.

Anyone wanting to learn more can log onto www.worldaffairsseminar.com

Kiwi Rotarians good givers

New Zealand Rotarians can feel justifiably proud of their giving to Rotary Foundation in the 2010-2011 Rotary year.

With a total of just over 9000 Rotarians in 242 clubs, New Zealand was ranked 21st from all Rotary nations with a total giving of \$1,013,046.

This equated to \$75.43 per Rotarian

and in terms of the per capita rate put us ahead of the likes of the United Kingdom, India, Italy, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Denmark and Sweden.

The aforementioned countries all gave more in the total giving but have many more Rotarians than there are in New Zealand.

Our 21st placing overall meant we were

ahead of countries like Belgium, Argentina, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland and Spain.

Not surprisingly, the USA topped giving with a mammoth \$104 million given while Hong Kong Rotarians gave the most individually at \$273.49 per member.

Australia was ranked at ninth, giving our region an incredibly good result overall.

Hamilton clubs set to find region's top cop

During October, the combined Rotary Clubs of Hamilton are seeking nominations for their inaugural **Police Person of the Year Awards**.

Tauranga Clubs are also making an award.

The award is modelled on that introduced by the Rotary Club of Rotorua in 2007.

The Rotary Club of Te Rapa is initiating the award in Hamilton. President Les Christo-

pher says that it is aimed at recognising someone in wider policing who has made a noteworthy contribution.

"We want to recognise police officers or police volunteers who have contributed to policing excellence through outstanding service and dedication to duty in their everyday work.

"It will give the general public the opportunity to record their appreciation

and gratitude for Police service in their community."

The award is not aimed at acts of bravery or heroism.

However, it will recognise aspects of compassion and understanding, special devotion to duty, situations or events when the police person involved makes a significant difference to the community without thought of reward or

publicity.

This is consistent with Rotary's objective of "Service above Self".

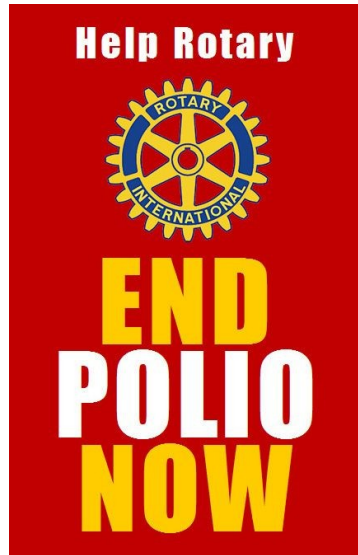
The award has been warmly welcomed by Police Area Commander, Superintendent Win van der Velde.

Selection of the recipient, based on nominations submitted, will be made jointly by the Rotary Club President, the Hamilton City Mayor and the Area Police

Commander.

Nomination forms are available at any police station in Hamilton from October 1 or from the Rotary Club of Te Rapa, (contacts are Geoff Brazier, ph 849 1978 or Neil Fitzsimmons, ph 854 0700, who will also answer any queries).

Completed forms should be sent to the Rotary Club of Te Rapa, PO Box 10058, Hamilton by November 14, 2011.



Rotarians from around District 9930 hit the streets to help Rotary International's End Polio Now awareness day. Great success was reported from the October 25th day but at time of going to press, it was still too early to say how much money had been raised.



Rotary at a brief glance

PEACE SCHOLARS: Of 591 former Rotary Peace Fellows, 565 (96%) have reported their current positions to The Rotary Foundation: 233 (41%) work for nongovernmental organizations, including 36 at United Nations agencies; 104 (18%) work for government agencies; 63 (11%) are pursuing additional advanced degrees in peace-related fields; 43 (8%) are teachers/professors; and 11 (2%) are journalists. Some interesting stats here.

The Rotary Club of Otumoetai is hosting a golf tournament on Sunday October 13 with proceeds going to the local branch of the Child Cancer Foundation. All club presidents have been sent details of the event. Entries close on November 6 but limited late entries will be accepted. For more information call Clyde Stewart on (07) 578 7157 or Bryan Rosoman on (07) 579 1697.



In November's RDU you will find RI Past President Bill Boyd talking about the importance of letting our members, especially newer ones, know about the Rotary Foundation as part of our club programmes. This issue also tells of the two yellow inflatable dinghies that have circumnavigated Australia in support of Polio Plus. There are many more articles that will provide inspiration and ideas for your club. And this month's Rotarian Life and Leisure sets out to find some of France's best kept secrets.

Matching grants great for clubs

District 9930 clubs are being reminded to think about overseas projects and applying for matching grants.

District Grants coordinator David Dransfield says in conjunction with the Rotary Foundation, clubs had the opportunity to carry out projects around the world.

"As an example one of the clubs in the District is looking at the possibility of a matching grant to erect a couple of school buildings in one of the Pacific Islands," David says.

"At the moment they are negotiating with a club in the island of the proposed project.

"They also have inter-

est from a club in Japan and a club in the United States is also looking to join with them," he says.

A project such as this will not only draw the participating clubs closer together but it also allows them to consult with other outside planning and construction expertise.

"These sorts of projects open up all sorts of interesting options of club service and personal interaction," David says.

Anyone wanting more information about matching grants can contact David on (06) 836 7110 or email djdran@farmside.co.nz

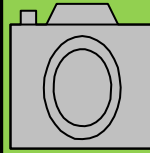
Taveuni Ambulance arrives at new home



A number of District 9930 clubs assisted in the appeal to raise money to send an ambulance to Taveuni Island. As you can see, the former Wellington Free ambulance has arrived on Taveuni to much joy from the locals. All districts and their clubs contributed to this project and can take pride in the ability to work cooperatively and achieve a result that is going to be so beneficial for this Pacific Island community. The project is not just the provision of a well appointed ambulance but also the training of medical and support personnel.



RAVE PHOTO TIME



It's time to get your cameras out and start snapping

Rotary events. District Governor Raewyn has launched the RAVE (Rotarians—Active, Visible, Engaged) photography competition.

To enter, simply send in Rotary photos taken between 1 October 2011 and 31 March 2012. Photos need to be received by close of business on Friday 13th April 2012.

All photos submitted must be the Rotarians own work and individual Rotarians can submit no more than 5 photographs.

All contestants must be current Rotarians from District 9930 but subjects in the photos need not all be Rotarians—in fact it would be great to see non-Rotarians involved in RAVE.

Digital photographs must be high quality (not compressed) to be accepted and must be in a JPEG format.

Photographs may be digitally enhanced but where they are, the origi-

nal photo must also be included.

Entries will be received only by email to rkirkman9930@vodafone.co.nz with RAVE 2011-2012 as the tag line.

They should be accompanied with a short explanation of the club, activity, location, date, people in the photograph etc.

All entries become the property of D9930 and may be used for publicity purposes. D9930 accepts no responsibility for entries not received.

Entries must include the entrant's name, address, telephone number, email and club, and be accompanied by a statement that the entrant accepts the terms and conditions of the competition.

A special judging panel including the District Governor, Conference Chair, PI Chair, DGs Newsletter Editor and a professional photographer will decide the winners. The decision of this panel will be final.

The winning photographs will be announced at District 9930 conference 19-20 May, 2012.

Mercy Ships now in strategic partnership with Rotary

Rotarians will again be able to assist in the delivery of vital health care services through a new partnership between Mercy Ships and Rotary International announced last month.

Each year, more than 1200 surgeons, dentists, nurses, health care trainers, cooks, seamen, engineers or agriculturalists volunteer their

time and skills with Mercy Ships.

Now through the partnership, the Rotary Foundation will offer packaged global grants to Rotary Clubs and Districts that want to assembly vocational training teams of medical professionals.

These teams will perform or assist in life-changing surgeries



in West Africa, while Rotarian volunteers will also work to enhance the skills of local

health care professionals.

The initial projects will take place in West Africa, the area of operations for the charity's 16,500 ton hospital ship Africa Mercy, now based in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

"This strategic partnership with Mercy Ships enables Rotary to work with a globally

recognised leader in the delivery of vital medical and surgical care to the world's most vulnerable populations," Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair William B Boyd says.

To read more of Arnold R Grahl's account on this new partnership www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/111005_news_mercyships.aspx