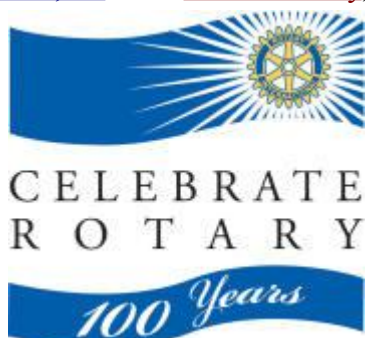


Year: 2004-05

RI President: [Glenn E. Estess, Sr.](#) from [Shades Valley](#), Alabama, USA.



Theme: Celebrate Rotary

Convention held at [Chicago](#), Illinois, USA on June 19-22, with 39,460 delegates.

District Governor: Rob Jeffery, Kenmore

District Conference location:

Club President: Steve Wanmer

Exchange Student:

Inbound: Matt Gisler, Switzerland Host parents

Outbound:

PHFs awarded: Geoff Wright, Tom Mellers

Police Officer of the Year: Senior Constable Wayne Cummings – Petrie

Major fundraising activities this year included the Pine Rivers Show food stalls and Christmas raffles.

Local projects included assistance with cleaning of the shire's foreshores from Dohles Rocks to the Hornibrook Bridge.

On the international front we contributed to a matching grant project to provide school desks to schools in PNG. This was done in conjunction with a number of clubs in Queensland and the Rotary Club of Huon Gulf in Lae.

A new project was started during the year. Alan Head is a local man who has dedicated his life to building a home for children in the Philippines. It is called the Over the Rainbow Children's Home, and it takes in children who have been abandoned by their parents. The aim is to raise and educate these children until they are around 18 years old, and allow them to lead a more productive life when they are adults. Our club donated \$500 to assist in building a bridge to give them all-weather access to the property. The home is situated in the middle of Mindanao, an island of the Philippines.

During the year we had special contact with an Ambassadorial Scholar from Mongolia. Otgonbat Barkhuu (OGI) told us about life in Mongolia. He touched our hearts and was seeking to assist his people at home. We ran a barbecue to raise funds, and also to learn more of their culture. It was enlightening to hear one of his friends throat singing – something that only people from that part of the world can do.

The club made donations to two matching grant projects in PNG. They were to provide mosquito nets to villagers to help combat malaria, and to provide desks for classrooms in PNG. Funds only were contributed, so that local businesses could benefit by the manufacture of the desks. Reducing malaria is soon shown to have a beneficial effect when the health of all villagers improves. Infant death rates reduce, birth rates increase, and the improved health means that less needs to be spent on basic health services, freeing funds to provide additional health care.

On Boxing Day a tsunami struck Indonesia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. Our club contributed where it could to the relief efforts after this event.

The new food van became operational during the year. Its cookers work really well and can cook heaps of chips.

The club presented a Community Service Award to a local man, Merv Hurse, who has been physically handicapped since a young age. He has raised and supported a family and makes some income from writing and selling books on Aussie Humour.

The St Paul's Interact club continued to prosper. This year their Easter Egg Hunt raised over \$250 in two hours.

Our Exchange Student was Matt Gisler, from Switzerland. He fitted into our club very well, as is the norm with our Exchange Students.



Mongolian Throat Singer



Gathering to honour our Ambassadorial Scholar



Matt Gisler on tour