

“**Action for Water**” was the theme for an event, held 12 May at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. More than 200 Rotary members and guests from approximately 20 countries attended. “The world is facing a water crisis.”

Providing an overview of today’s water challenges, Andras Szollosi-Nagy, deputy assistant director-general for the natural sciences of UNESCO, explained that 97 percent of the earth’s water supply is salt water. Of what remains, 90 percent is held in ice, glaciers, or underground. Only .007 percent is available for human consumption — based mostly in nine countries that hold 60 percent of the earth’s water supply. Access to water will increasingly bring power struggles similar to those for oil or nuclear energy. Rotarians should be concerned about water “because Rotary is leading the struggle to alleviate suffering and bring hope,” said RI Vice-President Serge Gouteyron.

One of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals is by 2015 to reduce by 50 percent the number of people without access to safe water and sanitation. The challenge is formidable because in rural areas of Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America, about 88 percent of the population lacks access to safe water.

“In developing countries, the search for water puts young women at risk of assault by humans or animals,” said Ron Denham, Rotary’s Health, Hunger and Water Task Force general coordinator. “They have to walk 6-12 kilometers daily when they could be in school, or the women could be teaching their children,” Denham said. He added that nearly one-third of Rotary clubs participate in water distribution and sanitation system projects worldwide, which include drilling and rehabilitating wells, rain-water harvesting, purifying water through bio-sand filters, solar disinfecting, installing mini-water pipelines, and integrating water management.

“Rotary has more than 20 years of experience working with the United Nations, and our joint efforts to eradicate polio have worked for one and all,” said RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar. While confirming that Rotary will not accept another corporate program until polio eradication is complete, he added that meetings such as Rotary Day at UNESCO were vital to explore new project possibilities.

Roster:

	This week	Next Week
Program	PDG Ian Sayers Malaria	President John CHANGEOVER 6 for 6.15pm
Introduction	Tom Davies	
Appreciation	Piers Booth	
Sergeant	Neale Emanuel	David Fox
Fellowship	Bob Harvie Shukry Sahhar	Ian Excell Phil Ibbotson
Raven Recorder	Keith Avent	Robin Cromer
Birthdays	nil	nil
Anniversaries	nil	nil
Trash & Treasure	18th June Ray Newcombe-Ros Osbourne(?) 2nd July ? ?	June 25th Tom Davies-Bob Harvie July 9th ? ?

The Raven

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This Week:

PDG Ian Sayers on Malaria



Ian has been a Rotarian for nearly 20 years, initially with the Rotary Club of Canberra City. He is a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise, a Paul Harris Fellow and TRF Benefactor. Ian was born in Williamstown, Victoria and is a proud sixth generation Australian, being a direct descendent of a convict who arrived in the Fourth Fleet in 1792. Ian grew up in Northbridge, attending Northbridge Primary School and then North Sydney Boys’ High School. The first several years of Ian’s working life were spent in a bank. Ian served in the Australian Defence Forces for 20 years, mainly in various Army Reserve infantry units. He was awarded the Efficiency Decoration in 1968.

Ian commenced studies at Macquarie University in 1968 and graduated with an honours degree in economic geography. The Sayers family moved to Canberra after Ian graduated. He worked initially at the (then) NCDC but has since spent over 25 years in various public and private sector tourism positions.

Last Week:

Rotary Wishing Well: It was reported that in addition to the two “Spanco” mattresses that have been donated to Canberra Hospital from the Wishing Well proceeds, two folding beds have been purchased for the use of relatives of patients in the wards.

Donations: An grateful acknowledgment was received from Snowy Hydro Southcare for the \$500 contribution the Club had recently made to the helicopter service.



SERVICE Above Self

Reports from Shukry Sahhar: In relation to Driver Reviver Shukry advised that the NRMA would be present with a caravan this weekend on two of the nights. He also reported that his daughter Michelle had just given birth to a grandson. In the excitement he claimed that the baby was 34 inches long which seemed like a good fishing story!

Rotary Adventure in Citizenship: Bruce Wyatt announced that our Club will, in partnership with two Darwin Rotary Clubs, be sponsoring Janita Wood and Sylvan Bonson from Maningrida Community Education Centre in the NT. Club members endorsed our approximate contribution of \$700, which is less than the \$875 previously budgeted for one delegate. The Darwin Clubs will assist the two students while transiting through Darwin Airport.

District Changeover Lunch: Club members have been invited to attend the District Changeover on Sunday 2 July 2006 in Yass. This is a good opportunity for fellowship with Rotarians from other Clubs in the District. The time is 11.30am for 12.30pm at the Yass Soldiers Club. The cost is \$25 with registrations closing on 28 June. For registrations see an e-mail sent to all Club members last week or go through the District website.

Guest Speaker: Eric Keening's career began at Channel 9 in Brisbane in 1959. He is now a leading documentary film director and multimedia producer with extensive experience in production for the web and corporate videos. He has made a specialty of incorporating video and audio media in PowerPoint. He also lectures in film and television production, is an accredited member of the Australian Cinematographers Society and a Board member of the ACT Film and Television Council.



In Canberra there are a number of studios producing good quality work. Government is a good client but the local industry has to compete with interstate businesses for assignments. Some Canberra studios are doing business for Sydney clients. There is an emphasis towards knowledge-based work. In addition Australia is recognised as being very good at animated films and is competitive in the world market—a lot is being done in Canberra for the American

market.

There is a commitment to develop the industry further in Canberra. In 2005 the ACT Film and Television Council was formed as the peak professional film and television industry body. It represents many of the organisations and practitioners in our region's growing film and television industry. It promotes the business of film making and is trying to get the business community to focus on the industry.

There is also government involvement in the industry. ScreenACT is the ACT Government Office of Film, Television and Digital Media. It is responsible for implementing industry development initiatives, providing location production support and it works with other states on potential partnering projects. It assists the Government's commitment to supporting ACT business, understanding and creating opportunity from the ACT's competitive advantages, and leveraging the industry's intellectual assets. Its future following the recent ACT Government budget is unknown.

Eric emphasised the stimulation which the industry can potentially make to the Canberra economy. For any production there is a substantial flow on effect into the ACT's service industries.

And they have a name for their industry locally – Pollywood!

The ACT Film & Television Council website is: <http://www.aftv.com.au/links/links.html>.

With thanks to Recorder John Gray

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