

two countries experienced a traumatic breakup upon independence and fought three wars, which have resulted in a nuclear arms race. A continuing source of tension is the status of the disputed Kashmir region.

Indian and Pakistani Rotarians have responded to the escalation of conflict in their subcontinent by cosponsoring humanitarian initiatives and meetings to promote peace.

“To counter the stereotype image of hate and hostility promoted by fundamentalists, Rotarians have decided to team together and undertake community service projects in both countries under the slogan Peace Through Community Service,” says Deepak Talwar, 2005-06 governor of District 3010 (India).

An outstanding example of this effort is the 17 Pakistani children with congenital heart problems who have undergone surgery in India since 2001. Even when official ties between the countries were all but severed, Rotary clubs and districts maintained their relationship. For example, when border tensions flared up in 2002, Indian and Pakistani Rotarians announced plans to build bridges of understanding between their countries. They pledged to establish Rotary Youth Exchanges, a Group Study Exchange, and intercountry meetings.

Their most recent meeting, attended by government and business leaders from both countries, featured plans to establish a state-of-the-art blood bank in Karachi, Pakistan, and a vocational training institute in Delhi, India, with support from Rotarians in both countries.

According to local media, the event concluded with a peace walk to signify the start of the march to peace and prosperity.

Roster:

	This week	Next Week
Program	President John CHANGEOVER 6 for 6.15pm	Karl Kent AFP Forensic Science
Introduction		Keith Avent
Appreciation		Ajit Banerjee
Sergeant	David Fox	
Fellowship	Ian Excell Phil Ibbotson	Bruce Wyatt Bernadette Capello
Raven Recorder	Robin Cromer	Val Bland
Birthdays	nil	Jenny Fox 4th July
Anniversaries	nil	nil
Trash &	June 25th Tom Davies-Bob Harvie	July 2nd Piers Booth-Des Pain
Treasure	July 9th Neale Emanuel-Peter Evans	July 16th Bruce Wyatt-Noel Hart

The Raven

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This Week:

*The END of John's year and the BEGINNING of the new one for Ray.
6 for 6.15pm at the Embassy*

Changeover Dinner

Last Week:

We were pleased to welcome Bill Baldwin from Footscray Rotary Club (earn the Western Bulldogs!) and Peter Kefford from the Jimbooba Club.

Neale Emanuel reported that Driver Reviver at Bredbo got off to a great start last weekend, with a big attendance and the presence of an NRMA publicity display. He told us that RTA had offered funds for a toilet block, but more were needed.

Secretary John Gray reminded us of the District Changeover Dinner, to be held at Yass on Sunday 2 July. He gave us the latest on Bruce Hall, who has moved with Joy to warmer climes and is looking around for a Rotary Club. Unfortunately, Bruce won't have a chance to come back and see us immediately, but hopes to be down later in the year. Finally, John told us of the Cobar Rotary Club's upcoming annual Billy Can Bash – a four-day 4WD adventure through the Darling Basin in outback NSW; dates 28 September to 2 October.



SERVICE Above Self

Attendance: Ros reported a scary 58.62% for the night, but things should sound quite a bit better with some makeups still to be credited--now at time of printing -62.06%! *By the way, if you have a makeup please ensure you let the Attendance Officer know, to avoid the need for her to be a psychic!*

Our Guest Speaker was Past District Governor Ian Sayers, who spoke about malaria, and especially the project “Rotarians Against Malaria”. He reminded us that malaria is caused by a parasite transmitted between people by the Anopheles mosquito – specifically the female, and biting at night. There are several types of malaria, the cerebral form being the deadliest. Children and pregnant women are the most vulnerable. It is a serious problem in about 100 countries, and causes 1-3 million deaths a year; a child dies every 30 seconds from it.

One of the most important controls is the use of bednets treated with a long-term insecticide harmless to humans and animals. Other control systems include drainage of swamps where the insects breed, tactical spraying, equipment and repairs, and packages of instant diagnosis kits and medications. Associated needs might include infrastructure such as local transport, education programs and social support.

Ian focussed particularly on Rotary’s ADOPT A VILLAGE program in Papua New Guinea and the Solomons. Under this program, a Club volunteers to adopt a village, and is then allocated one by way of a letter and Adoption Certificate; in PNG a community profile is also supplied. Funds are channelled through Rotary, and used for such hands-on needs as bednets; a single bed size net can be landed at Port Moresby for less than \$5. This is leading in some cases, such as Ginninderra Rotary, to other sorts of support activities with the adopted village.

The incidence of malaria in PNG has been 300 cases per 1000 and in the Solomons 720 cases per 1000. The aim has been to reduce these figures to less than 75 per 1000, and the program is achieving an even better result than this.

--With thanks to Recorder Keith Avent

Indian and Pakistani Rotarians talk peace

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga Rotary International News 9 June 2006

A peace conference cosponsored by Indian and Pakistani Rotarians was a welcome and timely bridge between the two neighboring countries, which have a long history of war, border skirmishes, and frosty relations.

“The president of the ruling party of Pakistan confessed that the presence of Rotarians from India and [the] holding of this Rotary conference happened at a time when there was a stalemate in the dialogue process between the two countries,” says Mohammad Faiz Kidwai, 2005-06 governor of District 3270 (Afghanistan and Pakistan), who was among the more than 500 attendees at the conference.

Aimed at promoting peace and understanding through joint community projects and improved cultural and economic contacts, the Indo-Pakistan Conference on Conflict Resolution and Peace was held 2-4 June in Islamabad, Pakistan’s administrative capital.

“We believe that our contact at a person-to-person level takes on added importance given the shifts in political and diplomatic winds between our two countries,” said conference chair Navaid M. Khan in a pre-event press release. “When you read the newspaper, you may be frightened for our future, but when you work together you realize that we have so many common bonds, that peace can be a reality.”

These common bonds include a shared culture and history. Hindi, India’s official language, and Urdu, the lingua franca of India and Pakistan, are closely related, and residents of both countries enjoy Bollywood movies, South Asian pop music, and the game of cricket with nearly equal passion.

Although Great Britain once ruled India and Pakistan as a single colony, the

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