

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO ROTARIANS, PARTNERS & FRIENDS



9600 NEWSLETTER



DG 2007/2008 STEVE KRUGER



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Rotary Shared in the Celebration of Life

At the end of September, Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast hosted Abreast In Australia – an international dragon boat regatta with over 2000 survivors of breast cancer.

Ron Strong, President of the Rotary Club of Caloundra, challenged his Board to make the event a major project for local Rotarians.

So, Lyn Gahan co-ordinated a team of 76 volunteers for the Rotary Clubs of Caloundra, Caloundra Pacific, Maleny and Kawana Waters as well as some ladies from Zonta.



Lyn Gahan with Michelle Hanton, Pete Cardell & Lexie Warren.

Over 7 days and during more than 800 hours, they carried loads, taxied visitors, labelled paddles and marshalled crews.

They sold raffles, pink chairs, bottles of water and decorative flags.

The creative Warrior Women's display was staged with the Rotarians assistance.

Team effort was outstanding – be it paddlers' or Rotarians'. Dragons Abreast have 33 member groups in Australia.

Teams from Canada, Italy, New Zealand, U.S.A., Hong Kong and Singapore joined the Aussies for a wonderful few days filled with fun, laughter, singing, dancing, joy and tears – all drenched in pink!

The local Sunshine Coast team, Tittytittybangbang, was formed in July, 2005 under the guiding hands of the Rotary Club of Caloundra.

Rotarian Alf Muller, together with Alan Bethune, saw the germ of an idea to start a local team develop to having organisers stage the international event right on their doorstep.

Rotarians congratulate Michelle Hanton, national co-ordinator of Dragons Abreast in Australia and her executive team of 6 other ladies.

The event, A in A, was a huge success and many local Rotarians felt it was a privilege to "share the joy of life" and "share the work!"

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National Youth Science Forum News

Almost forty students, who have been selected to attend the 2008 National Youth Science Forum in Canberra, were entertained at afternoon tea at Government House, by the Governor of Queensland last month.

Her Excellency, Quentin Bryce, spoke highly of Rotary's involvement in the NYSF. The invitation to attend the Governor's Reception was extended to all NYSF students in Queensland and it was pleasing that four Rotary Districts were represented.

The largest contingent was from District 9600. This year our quota of eighteen students was expanded to twenty, and one of those will attend the New Zealand Science and Technology Summer School in Auckland. Roughly half of our District's students attend a State High School, and the others are Private School students. The numbers are almost evenly divided into those living in Brisbane, and those living elsewhere. We even have one girl from Nanango.

As usual, they are a great bunch of students, and those clubs, which nominated successful students, deserve to be proud. So should the clubs, which nominated un-successful students. Our quota prevented many other top class students from being selected.

