

“A Stronger Australian Rotary” Conference

Stronger Rotary clubs can raise the profile of Rotary in the Australian region and ensure our service efforts are as effective as possible in meeting the needs of our communities here and overseas. How can this be achieved? The Conference “Towards a Stronger Australian Rotary”, to be held in Canberra on **August 21-22**, will focus on ways to achieve this objective, with speakers and discussion groups providing the best opportunity for participation by all attending. Incoming **R.I. President Ray Klingensmith** and **R.I. Director-elect Stuart Heal**, supported by **Zone 8 Rotary Coordinators Rob Wylie and Rob Crabtree**, and **Public Image Resource Group Coordinator Richard Garner** will lead discussion by Rotarians from all levels of our organisation within Australia. This is an opportunity to share ideas and best practices on how we can make Rotary better. Particularly we hope to see District and Club leaders from all over Australia and our neighbouring countries within Zone 8. A number of welcome dinners will be held on Friday evening hosted by clubs within District 9710. The conference proper starts on Saturday morning and will finish around lunchtime on Sunday. An affordable conference package is available including registration, morning and afternoon teas, Saturday lunch and dinner, all for \$100. Venue will be the Hellenic Club in Woden, A.C.T. A number of hotels/motels in the Canberra area have offered discounted accommodation to Rotarians attending.

On line registration is available at <http://rotarydownunder.com.au/australianrotaryconference>. For more information contact Rob Wylie at robwy43@bigpond.net.au. We look forward to seeing you in Canberra!



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Ambulance Officers Nominees and awardee

Fire Brigade Officers Nominees and Awardee



Police Officer Nominees and Awardee

Service Officer of the Year Report

The Rotary Club of Padstow's 7th annual Service Officer of the Year awards were held last Tuesday night, 18th May at Revesby Heights Ex-Servicemen's Club.

For the first time all 4 Services were recognised;

- Ambulance Service of NSW
- NSW Police Force
- NSW Fire Brigades
- NSW State Emergency Service

Each local Service voted internally for up to 4 finalists and then for a winner of "Service Officer of the Year".

The finalists were;

Ambulance Officer of the Year - Roz George, Steve Green & winner Nigel West

Fire Officer of the Year - John Paull & winner Andrew Gibson

Police Officer of the Year - Shannon Simonit, Brooke Smith & winner Bob Brisby

SES Officer of the Year - David Drake & Zoya Matis - joint winners

TAP students Britney & Brianna entertained us during an excellent 3 course meal.

The evening MC was our own Vocational Director Charlie Garcia. The evening included videos from each of the services preceding the presentation of each award. Trophies were awarded to all finalists; a Station Shield and a donation to their in house charity presented to each Service and each Service was given a small token of our appreciation for their part in the organisation of the evening.

We greatly appreciated the support of Sponsors - Torch Newspaper, Bankstown City Council, Revesby Heights Ex-

Servicemen's Club, Revesby Workers Club and All Seasons Camping & Leisure who donated a BBQ for us to raffle. The Talent Advancement Program will be the recipient of over \$650 that we raised from the raffle.

District Governor Paul Reid & wife Julia, DGE Elect Marilyn Mercer & husband Dudley, Trent Engisch from the Torch, Revesby Workers Club Directors Dennis Hayward & John Rodwell and their wives, Heros Hill CEO Peter Price & President Steve Grubmier & their wives were among our special guests for the evening.

All 4 Services were represented by their Commanding Officers and several other colleagues & partners.

The evening was a wonderful success and all credit must go to the Vocational Committee, Director Charlie Garcia and all the Members who attended and made the night such a pleasant one.

SES Nominees and Awardee



Bankstown Talent Advancement Program provided the entertainment