

Big night for Rotary

By Fai CHIVELL

The Rotary Club of Whyalla dinner meeting at the Eyre Hotel on Tuesday night saw a number of events take place including a visit from District Governor Roberta Waterman.

The evening kicked off with the induction of a new member, Damien Hyde who arrived in Whyalla four months ago from Perth to take up the position of manager at BankSA.

President, Jari Peltonen presented past president, Rob Walton with a Paul Harris Fellow award for his long service to the club and his unstinting work over the years.

Even before joining the Rotary Club of Whyalla Rob worked hard in making the 2001 District Conference the success that it was.

Rob was instrumental in obtaining the pavilion at Jubilee Park, which was previously owned by the Whyalla Cat Club, as a permanent home for the club.

In the fiftieth year anniversary of the club in 2005 Rob worked tirelessly to make the celebrations a great success and all the members agreed that he well and truly deserved his award.

Guests on the evening includ-



Governor: District Governor, Roberta Waterman visited Rotary Club of Whyalla

ed leaders from the community who were presented with cheques from club president, Jari Peltonen.

Captain Mike Kemp from the Salvation Army accepted a \$1000 donation for FoodBank to distribute food to those in need within the community.

Danny Kristic from Whyalla Road Safety received \$500.

Eileen Lymn from Amaro Lodge was presented with \$500.

Sister Felicia from Centacare received \$1000 to kick off the Blanket Appeal.

The recipients were pleased with Rotary's help and were happy to join the members and their guests on the evening.

The District Governor's talk covered many areas where Rotary has been instrumental in

helping others both here in Australia and overseas.

"This year's theme from Rotary International President, D.K. Lee is 'make dreams real' and focuses on establishing ongoing projects to assist children and reduce deaths where, with a little help, can be prevented," she said.

She covered the wonderful work being done by Rotarians in supplying vaccine to halt polio through the PolioPlus campaign, the Shelterbox project that supplies emergency shelter in disaster areas, Ambassadorial Peace scholarships given to those who dedicate their skills to bringing peace in the world and the various environmental projects that Rotarians carry out worldwide.

Many schools in Australia take part in sponsoring the Shelterbox project by asking students to donate \$1 per year to purchase the equipment that costs \$1200 each.

Another area close to Roberta's heart is the environment and she encouraged the work done by the club in planting trees and participating in the Whyalla Wetlands regeneration program.

"Water conservation, recycling and storm water harvesting are absolutely vital for the future of all Australians as well as overseas," Roberta said.



Donation: Eileen Lymn from Amaro Lodge received a \$500 donation from Jari Peltonen.



Appeal: Sister Felicia Melillo from Centacare received \$1000 for the Blanket Appeal.



Road safety: Danny Kristic from Whyalla Road Safety received a \$500 donation.



Salvos: Captain Mike Kemp from Salvation Army received a donation.

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