

50th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lismore West Inc

by PP Norm Robinson, PHF – Secretary & Club Historian

The Rotary Club of Lismore West, chartered on 12th June 1961 as the second Rotary Club in Lismore, celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a dinner at the Lismore Workers Club on 4th June with an attendance of 160. Guests included District Governor John & Sue Randel (Rotary Club of Mullumbimby); Mr. Thomas George, MP, State Member for Lismore & Mrs. Debbie George; Councillor Jenny Dowell, Mayor of Lismore; District Governor Elect Graham & Marion Jones (Rotary Club of Southport), District Governor Nominee Sandra & Sam Doumany (Rotary Club of Hope Island); Assistant Governor Col & Julie Lee (Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond); and nine representatives of their Sister Club, the Rotary Club of Yamato Takada, Japan.

District Governor, John proposed a toast to the Club saying Lismore West has a proud record of its achievements in all *Avenues of Service* over the past 50 years as well as an enviable reputation for its fellowship and friendship. He presented President Ross Hayes with a 50th Year Certificate on behalf of District 9640 and another from RI President, Ray Klinginsmith.

President Ross named the following Club ladies as a Paul Harris Fellow for their outstanding support of their Rotary husbands and support of the Club's programs over the years indicated: Bernice Robinson (38 – PP Norm), Fae Seiffert (43 – PP Ray), Merle Thearle (32 – Late PP Pat). DG John presented the ladies with their *Paul Harris Fellow Certificate, Pin* and medallion. DG John then presented PP Norm Robinson with his second Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire Pin on behalf of Lismore West in recognition of his writing the Club History and organisation of the Club's 50th Anniversary function.

President Masahiko Sakamoto of the Rotary Club of Yamato Takada extend congratulations to Lismore West on its 50th Anniversary and the valuable Sister Club Agreement between the two Rotary Clubs. He then read out a message of *congratulations* from Mr Masakutu Yoshida, Mayor of Yamato Takada City Council and presented gifts to Lismore West.

A continuous PowerPoint slide show covering the Club's 50 years of service to Rotary, was played in the Dining room and a large historical pin – up display of labelled photos and a table – top display of Club records and memorabilia covering the Club's 50 years, was extensively viewed by the large gathering in attendance.

Lismore West is proud to have provided PP Jim Dowling, PHF as the 1991 – 1992 Governor of District 9640 while Club Charter member, the Late PP Ken Ramsay, PHF had a 100% attendance record for 42 consecutive years of his 44 year membership.
