

Welsh's Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and Australian Prime Minister Share Morning Tea

Australian Prime Minister John Howard and Welsh's Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar William Brennan Arden met at Jazzine Barracks in Townsville, Queensland, for morning tea. Howard, who has been Australia's Prime Minister for the last ten years, was visiting Townsville to announce the Commonwealth Government's donation of the military barracks to the town council with a A\$20 million grant. Members of Mundingburra Rotary, Arden's host club, arranged the visit with Howard.



Arden arrived in Australia in early February under the combined sponsorship of Rotary International, Rotary District 6200, and the Welsh Rotary Club. Rotary International, founded in 1905, is one of the world's largest humanitarian service organizations, with over 1.2 million members in 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries around the world. Through

its mission to build goodwill and peace, Rotary initiates a number of programs which foster international understanding. They include: the Youth Exchange program for high school students the

Ambassadorial Scholarship for university Students, World Peace Scholars and the Group Study Exchange Program for young professionals.

**Brennan Arden, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, and
John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia**

Arden was one of about 800 Ambassadorial Scholars in 70 countries sponsored by Rotary International in 2005 - 2006. The scholarship, valued at \$23,000, is awarded to university-aged students who wish to study in a foreign country for approximately one year. During the scholarship period, a local club in their assigned area hosts recipients. Duties of the scholar include giving presentations within the home and sponsor districts, participating in service opportunities, and promoting the ideals of Rotary through international peace and understanding.

Arden studied Public Health and Tropical Medicine at James Cook University in Townsville, Queensland, Australia. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University with bachelor's degrees in Biology, Modern European History, and International Studies, as

well as a master's degree in Geography. Arden has studies abroad in the United Kingdom as well as in Switzerland, and is currently working towards his Ph.D. in Medical Geography and Pathobiological Sciences at LSU.

For more information about Rotary, the Ambassadorial Scholarship, or other programs, please contact Rotary District 6200 or the Rotary Club of Welsh.