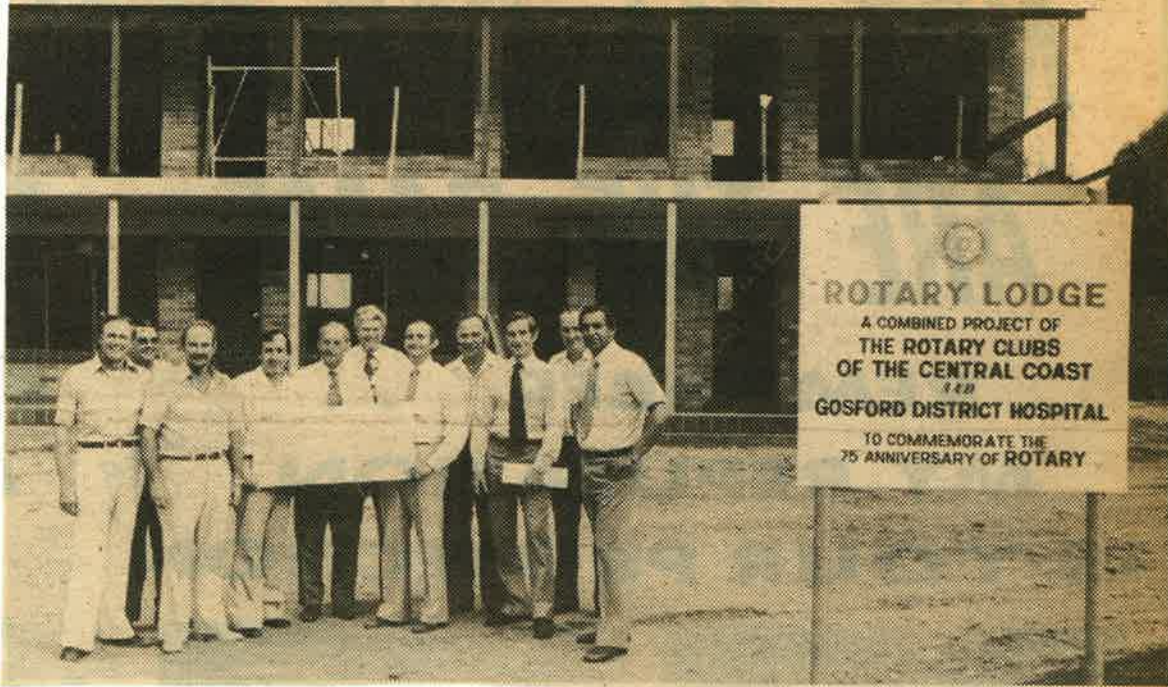


ROTARIANS GIVE CHEQUE



ROTARIANS from the 10 clubs on the Central Coast attended a cheque handing-over ceremony at Gosford District Hospital last Friday.

Each of the clubs has been committed to raise \$1000 towards the cost of building Rotary Lodge - a motel-type complex for use by the next of kin of seriously ill patients.

Gosford West Club made sure its cheque was seen by everyone - club president Dr Bob Leicester arranged for the bank to provide the blow-up seen in this picture.

Pictured in front of the lodge, to be opened at the Rotary conference in the Leagues Club on February 23, by the Minister for Health, Mr Stewart, are members of the various clubs. L. to R. Jim Kirkness (Gos), Albert Quilkey (Woy Woy), Bert Hunter (Gos), Wal Griffin (East Gosford), Crawford Duncan (Umina), Bob Leicester (Gosford West), John Beckers (Terrigal), Peter Turnbull (Gos), Dennis Ward (Gosford North), Vern Arbie (Gos). Wyong, Toukley and The Entrance representatives were absent when the photo was taken.

BIG WORKFORCE

GOSFORD Hospital is the largest employer of labor on the Central Coast and it will race further ahead when the new hospital opens in February, 1980.

Just for starters, an advertisement in the Star last week called applications for vacancies that exists in 65 different classifications of workers.

Many of these would require more than one person - for instance nurses, catering, administration domestic, maintenance and medical services, will be requiring teams to meet the needs of the extra 10 beds being opened.

The jobs will be filled progressively until the end of March by which time the hospital should be in full swing.

This hospital - and the 50 bed hospital at Wyong - will certainly make a contribution to the local workforce, apart from meeting the medical needs of the community.

ALL AGE GROUPS

THE population on the Central Coast certainly covers a wide spectrum of age groups.

I read only last week that a population survey disclosed that more than 39 per cent of the residents were on some form of social service pension.

And it's only a few weeks since the annual report of the hospital disclosed the rare statistic that almost 2000 babies were born in the hospital - apart from those whose mothers chose a city hospital.

In other areas the birth rate is declining but on the Central Coast we are having a baby boom.

When the two facts are studied it does indicate how difficult it is to plan ahead for hospitals, schools and even shopping centres, when both ends of the life cycle are increasing so rapidly in conflict with the rest of the state.

In fact the Minister for Health recently stated, in part during a speech: "Many hospitals, including those in the inner Sydney area, will have to face up to the fact they are now serving an older population . . ."

"The role and responsibility of hospitals in NSW is to look after people and to give total health care."

CENTRAL COAST EXPRESS - 29.11.79.

Milestone for hospital

Ocean Beach Private Hospital, which will have been under the direction of Matron Mary Shaw for 10 years on January 1, 1980, this week admitted its 10,000th patient.

Matron Shaw said yesterday she was not sure how long the hospital had been operating or how many patients it had admitted before she took over.

Matron Shaw is well known for her community work in the area.

She was the foundation president of the Woy Woy Community Service committee, and is an active member of the Woy Woy Lionesses Club and Woy Woy Business and Professional Women's Club.