

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

Australian Prime Minister John Howard and Welsh's Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar William Brennan Arden met Tuesday morning 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 \$20 million grant. Members of Mundingburra Rotary, Arden's host club, arranged the visit with Howard.



**Brennan Arden, RAS, and John Howard, Australian PM**

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 to foster international understanding, including the Youth Exchange program for high school students, the Ambassadorial Scholarship for university students, and the Group Study Exchange Program for young professionals.

Arden is one of about 800 Ambassadorial Scholars in 70 countries sponsored by Rotary International in 2005-2006. The scholarship, valued at \$25,000, 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 the recipient. 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 is studying 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 studied abroad in the United Kingdom as well as in Switzerland, and is currently working towards his Ph.D. in Medical Geography and Path biological Sciences at LSU.

For more information about Rotary, the Ambassadorial Scholarship, or other programs, please contact Rotary District 6200 – [rotary6200@cox-internet.com](mailto:rotary6200@cox-internet.com).