



Rotary Opens Opportunities



THIS ISSUE

Roadtripping with the DG

Rotary Foundation update

RYLA update

Rotaract Podcast

CALENDAR

March 7 - PETS Armidale
 March 12-14 - District Conference
 March 21 - PETS Port Macquarie
 March 28 - District Assembly Port Macquarie
 April 18 - District Assembly Tamworth
 May 16 - District Assembly Narrabri
 June 26 - District Changeover

MUSINGS FROM THE DG

Registrations are now closed for our annual District 9650 Conference. Many thanks to all of you who have registered. Your presence will ensure that the weekend is a huge success. My team are working hard to ensure that we have everything ready to go. I have never coordinated a conference before, so it has been a big learning curve for me. I thought I had everything planned and budgeted for, and then Covid happened and the goal posts all moved and kept moving. Trying to keep abreast of the times daily and ensure we meet all the rules and regulations has been exhausting. Nevertheless, we have put together an inspiring weekend when I hope you will reconnect with old friends and enjoy the hospitality Port Macquarie has to offer..

End Polio Now

Rotary ramps up COVID-19 vaccination efforts by Ryan Hyland

Rotary clubs around the world are mobilizing in their communities to support the introduction and delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations. Rotary leaders are urging members to connect with their local health agencies to determine how Rotary can support COVID-19 vaccine efforts. Rotary has decades of experience in supporting the distribution of polio vaccines as well as highlighting their power and efficacy, which is a critical reason why polio is on the brink of eradication. It's this expertise, along with strategic partnerships and innovation, that Rotary members can tap into to protect communities from COVID-19.

World Immunization Week

With decades of experience from working to eradicate polio, Rotary members can play a key role in publicizing the power of vaccines. World Immunization Week, 24-30 April, is an opportunity for Rotary clubs to raise awareness of the importance of vaccines in saving lives — and the critical need to continue supporting polio vaccinations even while protecting people against the coronavirus.

March is Water and Sanitation Month

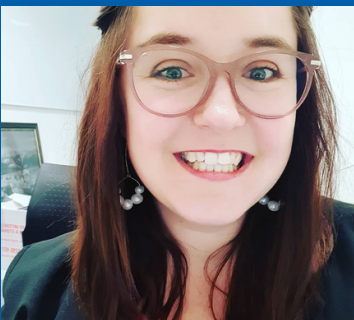
Clean water is a basic human right that many are often denied. There are 2.5 billion people in the world that lack access to improved sanitation and 748 million people that don't have clean drinking water. Nearly 1400 children die each day from diseases caused by lack of sanitation and unsafe water. When people have access to clean water, they live healthier and more productive lives. In 2015, the United Nations introduced their new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty and promote prosperity while protecting the environment and addressing climate change. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 on water and sanitation encourages us to address universal access to drinking water and sanitation along with improved water management to protect ecosystems and build resiliency. *Rotary members are committed to reaching the water and sanitation SDG through projects like building wells, installing rainwater harvesting systems, and teaching community members how to maintain new infrastructure.

HOW ROTARY MAKES HELP HAPPEN

Rotary has issued a global challenge to its members, asking them to work collectively to improve education quality and access — particularly for girls — by working with communities to improve teacher training, curriculum, and water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities.

WORLD ROTARACT WEEK 8-13 March 2021 by Arnold R. Grahl

53 years ago, the first Rotaract club was formed, to give young adults a place to connect and take action for good. The year is 1968. A wall divides East and West Berlin, as the Cold War rages on. The U.S. and the Soviet Union are locked in a space race, and Apollo 8 becomes the first manned spacecraft to orbit the moon, sending back pictures of Earth from deep space. Rotary members in North Carolina, USA, charter the first Rotaract club, to provide young people opportunities for service. A half-century has passed since those first Rotaract clubs began inspiring young leaders to take action to improve their communities. The world has changed, as has the way Rotaract members connect with one another. But the underlying values of the program, and what attracts people to it, remain remarkably the same. Today there are 10,698 Rotaract Clubs, 203,298 Rotaractors, and 180 countries with Rotaract Clubs. Celebrate the 53rd birthday with a Rotaract Club near you and be inspired by their success stories, their projects and how they show leadership through their chosen vocations.



E-NEWS CONTACT

If you have something for the E-news please email editor Laura Telford at laura.telford@rotaract.org.au before 5pm on Friday to make sure it will appear in the next edition!

MUSINGS FROM DG DEBBIE CONT.

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND'S CENTENARY – TOOLS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN

There is a newly creating Learning Topic just for you!

Learning Topics allow Learning Center users to share new ideas and useful resources, including links, documents, presentations, and more with fellow members. In this case, it's a one-stop shop for anything related to membership and public image for the Centenary year.

In the new Learning Topic called 'Australia & New Zealand's Centenary' you'll find tools for a successful campaign including PR Guides, membership tools, People of Action videos and more. Rotary members in Australia and New Zealand are celebrating the 100th anniversary by holding events, raising funds and carrying out impactful initiatives, so the centenary year is the perfect time to increase public awareness and understanding of Rotary.

Topics include:

- How to Contact your local press
- Membership and Public Image Resource Guide
- Power in our connections_30secPower in our Connections_70secRotary PR Guide accessed at - <https://learn.rotary.org/members/learn/dashboard/channel/128>

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Thank you to everyone who has registered for conference and for your support. We have been working hard this week with the management of Panthers to ensure a speedy registration process.

If you are in Port Macquarie on Friday:

- Go to Panthers and get a three-day pass for conference.
- Whilst you are there and register with Valda and her Rotary team on the registration and information desk inside Panthers.
- Get your registration lanyard and conference booklet.
- Check your lanyard – the pictures on the lanyard depict what you have paid for.
- There is a table number on the lanyard for the Saturday night dinner.

TIP: Panthers has a QR code for all to sign in.

- Download the Service NSW app on you mobile if you can, in advance.
- Scan the QR code whilst in the queue if there is one, be prepared to show the code to the staff at Panthers.

We will have COVID marshals and volunteer crew at every event.

- They will check your lanyard if you are lining up for morning teas, lunches, and dinners.
- If you did not pay for refreshments or lunch, then there are ample cafes in the area.
- It is a rule that everyone will use hand sanitiser – we will have volunteers at every entrance to facilitate that process.
- Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.
- Face masks will be available should you feel more comfortable wearing one.
- Physical distancing should be maintained when walking around the club.
- Do not shake hands, hug or kiss as a greeting.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Frequent handwashing with soap and hot water is essential for good personal hygiene.
- Do NOT attend if you are unwell – please seek medical advice and or testing.
- If you are asthmatic or similar and likely to cough please use a mask.
- We have limited the use of multiple touch items such as coffee and tea urns, your understanding would be appreciated.

And Remember: Opportunities are like sunrises – If you wait too long you miss them!



«= Centenary of Rotary in Australia =»
In 2021, Rotary marks a centenary of proud community service across Australia. To commemorate the milestone the Royal Australian Mint has produced this elegant silver proof coin. The coin honours the big hearts of the 30,000 Rotary members and 1100 plus clubs across the country, which run programs such as youth exchanges, fundraise for bushfire recovery and bring life-changing surgery to the Asia Pacific region.
Available now: <http://bit.ly/2YWL0yM>



ROTARACT PODCAST

As many of you know DRR Laura Telford in her capacity as Rotaract Australia Communications Director hosts the Chats by Rotaract Australia Podcast. D9650 is a strong supporter of the Podcast. The podcast is self is a combination of thoughtful interviews and resource based episodes designed to engage and help Rotaractors and Rotarians learn more about Rotaract. Check it out today!

RI CON UPDATE

RI President Holger Knaack has now advised that the RI Conference in Taipei Taiwan from 12-16 June 2021 will be a virtual conference. RI Pres Holger says: "While we are disappointed that we could not have a traditional convention, we are excited about the virtual event being planned for all Rotarians worldwide. This year, we will channel all we have learned about staging the very best in virtual events into a program that promises to open new opportunities for you to be entertained, enlightened and energized. We will share more details about the 2021 Virtual Convention soon."

Maurie Stack

RI Taiwan Conference Co-ordinator for eastern Australia

THANKS BRIAN!

I am in Sydney at the moment; I've been attending my first Australian Rotary Health board meeting weekend. At last night's dinner, PDG Brian Beesley, was presented with a Desk Top Clock in appreciation of his service over his four year term as a Director of ARH. I replace Brian in this position. I thought you might like to include this photo in the eNews. Brian is pictured with new Chairman of ARH, Kevin Shadbolt and CEO, Ms Joy Gillett.

-PDG Lorraine Coffey



FOUNDATION UPDATE

Following the challenge earlier this month we have had payments to the Rotary Foundation as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Gunnedah West club | \$5,408 |
| E club | \$1,300 |
| Tamworth First Light | \$2,600 |
| Taree on Manning | \$1,781 |
| Individual Rotarian Donations | \$14,690 |
| Total | \$25,779 |

This is being matched – as promised – by De and I so we have raised over \$50,000 for The Rotary Foundation this month. Congratulations and sincere thanks to our supporters. I am blown away by your response. De and I were going to move onto a diet of baked beans but we have decided to keep that luxury for Sunday nights. However there are still four months left. Remember that 50% of the funds donated to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation this year will come back to our district for use in our projects as District Designated funds (by then D9660) in the 2023/24 year – the year of the successor to DGE Neville Parsons. And because the half of DDF used for Global Grants is matched by the World Fund and the fact that we are so active with projects, our district will end up receiving well over 100% of the funds we donate. In fact figures recently extracted by Mark Anderson indicates that the amount received by Australian Rotary Clubs from Rotary International for our projects is typically three times (300%) of what Australian Rotarians and clubs donate to The Foundation. And all of the funds donated to The Rotary Foundation in the Australian currency are received into a bank account of Rotary Foundation Australia, of which I currently have the privilege to be chair. Please treat this as your Rotary piggy bank. Pay the money in now and effectively draw it out when your club has a project requiring assistance from The Rotary Foundation. What other charity allows you to draw on the donated funds for your own projects? And also raid the donations from Rotarians overseas! Some international Districts are great fund raisers but not as good as us in running projects.

This is my last year as Rotary District Foundation Chair – I will be followed in July by PDG Greg Moran who will do a fabulous job.

-PDG Maurie Stack

Autumn Rotary Golf Day
Longyard Golf Course

The Rotary Club of Tamworth, First Light
Friday 16th April 2021, 11:00 Shotgun start.
Mixed Event. Individual Stableford. \$45
Book at Longyard on Portal or call 67652988
Lots of Prizes. Lunch, and snack at the presentation.
If you need more information call Deb 0411770552

GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION, TRF

The Rotary Foundation

DO MORE GROW MORE



District 9650 celebrates

50 PLUS YEARS OF RYLA

One of Rotary's most successful youth programs

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021
6PM for a **6.30** start

BLAZES AUDITORIUM, WEST TAMWORTH LEAGUE CLUB
58 PHILLIP ST, TAMWORTH

HOST CLUB: RC TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT

\$50 per person
Dress: Cocktail/Jacket & Tie

Guest Speaker

Australian Local Hero of the Year 2020
BERNIE SHAKESHAFT
Founder of Backtrack



DIRECT DEPOSIT

Account: Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light
Bank: NICU | BSB: 802 298 | Account: 100065200 | Reference: Your Name

RSVP: FRIDAY 23RD APRIL

Dimity Betts | 0422 268 863 | Dimity.Betts@outlook.com
PO Box 271 Moonbi NSW 2353

Please advise dietary requirements