



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**



THIS ISSUE

Musings from DG Debbie
SW Rocks inducts members!
RYLA/ NYSF updates

CALENDAR

5 May RYLA 50 Years Anniversary
Dinner
8 May District Finance Meeting
16 May District Assembly Narrabri
22 May R C South West Rocks
Changeover
23 May District Management
Meeting
29 May R C Barraba Changeover
30 May District Assembly Port
Macquarie
5 June Hastings Rotaract
Changeover
5 June Armidale AM Changeover
6 June R C Lower Midcoast
Changeover
7 June R C Kempsey Changeover
7 June R C Warialda Changeover
8 June R C Moree on Gwydir
Changeover
8 June R C Wauchope Changeover
10 June R C Nambucca Valley
Changeover
11 June R C Moree Changeover
12 June R C Armidale North
Changeover

MUSINGS FROM THE DG

This week's E News sees me a year older. Many thanks to the 111 plus people who wrote on my facebook, emailed and text me. I hear so many bad things about Facebook but never the good stuff. Yes, there is a lot of posts on social media that aren't positive and uplifting but the good stuff is that we can share a simple message globally that means such a lot.

This weekend saw the opening of the 50th anniversary of RYLA. What an amazing job our RYLA committee have done over the years to make this an Internationally renowned Rotary program. Congratulations to chair DGE David Mayne, PDG Rob Anderson, Louise Matthews and John Carroll for sharing their passion, and their expertise in making it a professional Rotary program that meets the needs of tomorrow's leaders. Thank you for inviting me once again, to extend a DG welcome and open the day's events.

Making Membership Memorable

I would like to congratulate AG for Cluster 2 and President of the R C South West Rocks on the induction of four new members to the club last week. The good news keeps coming, there are three more to induct in the next month. Well done Muni and members of the club. I am looking forward to attending the 30th Anniversary and changeover on the 22 May 2021.

Upcoming District Assemblies

Please respond to District Secretary Patti Parsons and let her know you are attending in good time. It is important to know well in advance to ensure the venue is adequate and we comply with COVID restrictions. Also, we need to know how many to feed! (very important)

Sunday 16th May 2021 Crossing Theatre Narrabri

Sunday 30th May 2021 Charles Sturt University, Ellis Parade Lake Innes Port Macquarie

District Changeover – Saturday 26th June 2021 Panthers Port Macquarie 6 for 6.30pm.

We will be sending out invitations to our changeover and would love it if we could get as many of you supporting as possible. This will be a fun evening where we can wine and dine and enjoy some fabulous after dinner entertainment from Matt Zarb from the Taree on Manning Club. We heard a little from him on the Sunday morning at Conference and I am certain people will be very happy to listen to more. Let us get behind this event, celebrate the last year and welcome DGE David Mayne and Heather to theirs. The 26th of June will be a special night for all.

CLUB OFFICERS 2021-2022

Can you please ensure that you report your incoming officers on the My Rotary website. If you don't do this, they will not be able to access information pertinent to their role for the coming year.

PLEASE DO IT NOW

NYSF Applications for the 2022 Year 12 Program are now OPEN.

The NYSF greatly appreciates Rotary's generous support and promotion of the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) Year 12 Program in local communities. Last year, 48% of NYSF participants came from remote and regional parts of Australia thanks to the unique relationship between Rotary and NYSF. We look forward to continuing to work with you and to welcoming students from your area in 2022.

Applications have now opened and soon your Rotary Club is likely to be contacted by Year 11 students seeking endorsement of their applications to attend the NYSF Year 12 Program in January 2022.

Following the outstanding success of this year's program format (modified due to COVID-19), the 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program will run as a 12-day hybrid program. The

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.

program is designed to give students a broader understanding of the diverse study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

During the program, students have the opportunity to:

- participate in tours of science and technology facilities;
- learn about cutting-edge research;
- engage with industry partners and research providers;
- learn about study options and STEM career pathways;
- mix with other like-minded students from all over Australia; and
- network with former NYSF participants on STEM-related study and career pathways.

Application process

In addition to STEM workshops, participants also participate in sessions on entrepreneurship, critical thinking, science communication, working together effectively, and much more. The focus is not solely on academic achievements, but on developing well-rounded individuals who have the skills and confidence to determine their futures.

Students must apply through the NYSF website www.nysf.edu.au. Following feedback from Rotary District Chairs, the application fee for the Program has been reduced to \$25. Students need to pay this application fee as they submit their application, on or before the closing date of 2 July 2021. There is no limit on the number of applicants your Club can endorse and no obligation to provide funding along with endorsement to those applicants who are successful.

REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Article by Barbara Mifsud, Regional Membership Officer, Membership Development, South Pacific and Philippines Office, barbara.mifsud@rotary.org, <https://www.facebook.com/barbara.mifsud.1>

New! Guide for Club Types and Club Models Rotary clubs are made up of members of varying ages from different backgrounds, cultures and professions, so it's important to provide a variety of options to engage in Rotary. But adding flexibility can lead to questions such as 'What is a satellite club?' or 'Can my club be focused on a particular cause? Our new Club Models Guide in English and French will provide answers to these and other common questions. The guide provides definitions and examples to help you navigate the differences between club types, club models and meeting formats. Taking our members skills to the next level Our members can become more effective presenters, communicators, and leaders through the new courses in the Learning Center developed by Toastmasters International. From speechwriting and interpersonal communication to consensus building and leading a team, these courses will help you grow, professionally and personally. They are available to Rotarians and Rotaractors (that are reported in the RI database) with active My Rotary accounts. It's a great incentive to report Rotaractors in the RI database. These courses and the range of online courses are also a vital piece of the 'value proposition' for prospective members. Local collaboration between Rotary and Toastmasters The collaboration between Rotary and Toastmasters is way for us to enhance the membership experience and keep our members engaged. We're seeing examples of clubs and districts from around the world who are working with their local Toastmasters counterparts on various initiatives and projects. You can see the breadth of the collaboration at the grassroots level on this interactive map (also available in languages), which can be found in the Learning Centre's Getting Started with Toastmasters online course. You'll also find an overview PowerPoint, videos, and other alliance resources on the Toastmasters Alliance landing page.

'TIME FOR A DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION HEALTH CHECK?'

Article by DG Mark Yaxley, District 9970, Rotary Club of Avonhead, Christchurch, NZ A health check for us all: how well does each one of us, our clubs and club leadership encourage and celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion in practise? Equity and diversity are recognised in our legislation and RI has approved a diversity, equity and inclusion policy (see RDU article December - 2020). I have been thinking about the importance of this recently as I and the District Board have been concerned that we have been making slow if any progress on ensuring our clubs are looking at how to embrace the challenge before us. In many instances we seem to behave as though we are an exclusive club within our community - not reflective of the demographic changes occurring in our communities, nor are we consistently welcoming or supportive of those from different backgrounds who wish to join us in doing good in the world, particularly if they have a different perspective on what is needed and how to achieve.

<https://rotarydownunder.com.au/2021/01/21/three-ways-to-make-your-club-more-inclusive/> As RI President Holger Knaack said recently every country has its history: "I do not believe in deleting history, but instead learning from it. I believe in that totally. Everything has to be put on the table so we can learn for our future." and "For me, diversity is not a wish list for a Rotary club,

SW ROCKS

SPOTLIGHT!

Last Wednesday night the Rotary Club of South West Rocks inducted 4 new members and an Honorary member into the club. We had the pleasure of having DGE David Mayne for the induction.

President Muni Osborne



GRANT REPORTS

DUE!

A reminder to Clubs with 2019-20 District Grants - Final Reports are due in May. Records show that Final Reports have been received from: Bellingen, Laurieton, Port Macquarie STEM project, Port Macquarie West, Sawtell & Tamworth (Bicycles). Final Reporting time for 19-20 projects by: Armidale AM, E-Club, Narrabri, Port Macquarie (Sensory Garden), Wauchope & Woolgoolga.

Final Reports are also due for District Grants Deferred or Delayed from 2018-19: Coonabarabran, Macksville, Tamworth (NYSF) & Taree on Manning.

The District Grant Final Report Pro Forma is available on the District Website by searching d9650 Documents Library / Foundation / Grants / District Grants Project Final Report.

Please send reports to iansimpson15@bigpond.com and keep a club record of the financial transactions for the project.

Registration for the 2021 Rotary Virtual Convention and Preconventions is now open. You can go to the convention website to access registration. Once you click on the REGISTER or REGISTER NOW button, you will be directed to the official registration site, Cvent, where you can complete the registration process and learn more about registration and program details.

The special registration rate of \$49 is available till 7 May 2021. After that, the registration fee is \$65.

- The 2021 Virtual Convention will open innovative opportunities to learn and to engage with the family of Rotary, near and far.
- Together, we'll inspire action, strengthen our commitments, work on our challenges, and celebrate our successes.
- Join us virtually to explore how our digital network makes our global relationships more powerful.

• Register now – cheapest RI Convention you will ever attend!

Maurie Stack

2021 Rotary International Convention Promotion Team

DEBBIE'S MUSINGS CONT.

this is part of our core values." All New Zealanders are descendants from migrants – who arrived at different times either by waka (be it small or large) or plane. I am of Ngai Tahu descent and can whakapapa to Araiteuru (the greatest waka of them all) but like many I also whakapapa through other blood lines including English and Scottish. New Zealand and New Zealanders like to think of themselves as being truly multicultural. In Rotary we sell ourselves as being open to all. That may be so in terms of the range of ethnicities in our communities, but have we truly integrated all ethnicities into our communities, do we understand the various backgrounds and experiences that others bring to our shores? This is particularly worrying when it presents to new and potential new members as an unwillingness to change. Especially so when that plays out as not supporting club leaders who are responding to challenges of addressing the need to change within Rotary to improve our impact and reach and to arrest membership decline. We must collectively support our club leaders to address these challenges, be it trying new meeting formats, new initiatives, addressing the cost of being a Rotarian etc will we turn this around. In Rotary we have not had a problem with attracting new members over the last 10 years; but we do have a problem retaining them. Part of that is not meeting their expectations – did we over promise and not deliver or was it something more worrying? Think about when you joined, new members have identified Rotary as something they want to be a part of to truly make a difference in our world. Importantly they bring new skills, new views and potentially they have already identified new opportunities (and ways) for Rotary to engage in and support their community (both here and internationally). While the foundations of Rotary are largely unchanged over the past 108 years what we do and how we have done it has changed significantly and must continue to do so. Here is my challenge to you: are you truly open to seeking out and embracing other cultures, beliefs, values and ways of doing things in your club? On the diversity, equity and inclusion front it is timely for the current and incoming club leaders to do a simple club health check with all members: Do you apply the 4-way test to how you engage in all of our Rotary activities?

Commemorating a Centenary of Rotary in Australia

The book to mark the centenary of Rotary in Australia - 'HUMANITY IN ACTION: Celebrating 100 years of Rotary clubs in Australia and island neighbours' - is now complete.

Five hundred and twelve pages of historical text, stories of Rotary achievements through the various eras, dozens of pages of club, district and personal data - along with an amazing gallery of dated and modern images went to the printer during the first week in March.

ORDER YOUR COPY OF 'HUMANITY IN ACTION' FROM – \$25 plus postage -
PDG Harry Durey – Phone: 0407 005 910; email: hdurey@bigpond.com

7th Area of Focus – Environment

The environment will be Rotary's newest area of focus. You can get involved in these ways:

- Join the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group or the Rotary Action Group for Endangered Species.
- Ask for help from consultants at Ashoka, a Rotary service partner, if your club or district is considering a project focused on the environment.
- Join the Environment Fellowship of Rotarians or Rotary Fellowship of Wildlifers for Conservation.
- Help The Rotary Foundation support more global grants by giving to the Environment Area of Focus Fund.

After 1 July, apply for a grant from The Rotary Foundation to support your club or district's sustainable projects to support the environment.

Explore Rotary's role in the 2000-year history of vaccination.

From 430 B.C. to the present day, people's growing understanding of vaccination has changed the world. Today, vaccines protect against diseases such as diphtheria, cholera, tuberculosis, measles, polio, and more. Smallpox was declared eradicated in 1980. And in 1985, Rotary members who were inspired to add a second disease to the list of those eradicated launched the PolioPlus program to stop the spread of polio through strategic global immunization efforts. Thanks to the commitment of Rotary and our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, wild poliovirus cases worldwide have been reduced by 99.9% since 1988, with only two countries still reporting cases – Afghanistan and Pakistan. This year, Rotary clubs and districts are leveraging their experience fighting polio and mobilizing volunteers to support COVID-19 vaccination efforts, while continuing to ensure that children around the world are vaccinated against polio.

Go to <https://www.endpolio.org/a-history-of-vaccination>

to read more about the history and see some great pictures on the timeline – most interesting.

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

THE Santos SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Where Science meets fun!

For students in Year 9 and 10

This is a Rotary sponsored Science program 'held over 3 or 4 days to engage students in a wide range of fascinating science activities under the guidance of scientists who love their work.'

The programs are held during the school holidays and in every state at many universities. You can elect your program as you apply.

Check out the website www.scienceexperience.con.au



Attention all Rotary and Rotaract Clubs!

Macquarie.

Kashia McGrath was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Port



The NYSF Year 12 program was truly an unforgettable three weeks! My love for science just grew and grew as we heard from more and more incredible speakers. Honestly, I was completely amazed not only by the sheer number of opportunities in STEM, but also by all the passionate young people involved. One of the main things that I have gained from this experience is an extraordinary energy and excitement about my future! After seeing so many examples of ways that people have changed the world, I am really eager to decide how I would like to make a difference. The careers days were also invaluable for me, opening my eyes to so many options.

But perhaps the most exciting thing about NYSF is the connections you can make across the country. To anyone thinking about applying for NYSF, I would say definitely do it - the opportunity and community you gain is just incredible.

Applications for NYSF 2022 will be available online from early April 2021. Planning has already begun to offer another brilliant Science program for current Year 11 students in January 2022.

It's time to find the students in your community who will benefit!

It would be fabulous if every club found ONE student - fabulous for Rotary and Rotaract but more importantly, fabulous for the students! www.nysf.edu.au

Happy to speak to any club who would like more information. dihall605@gmail.com
0411704654

RYLA Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

1st - 8th May 2021

Lake Keepit ... here we come!!



Lake Keepit Sport & Rec Centre
(Between Tamworth & Gunnedah)

46 Participants

The most enrolments we have had for many years.

Thank you to all the sponsoring Clubs & employers.

The program is brilliant, the results outstanding, the experience is life changing.

LET'S END MALARIA

SAVE THE DATE

THE ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

IS BACK FOR 2021!

**SATURDAY 13 & SUNDAY 14
NOVEMBER
MERCURE HOTEL, CANBERRA**

Contact: rampr@rawcs.org.au

Rotary



Club of Armidale Central

BOOK FAIR

8-15 May 2021

9:00am to 5:00pm

ARMIDALE RACECOURSE

See you there!

PLEASE NOTE:

Covid-19 regulations must be observed with social distancing being essential and is a condition of entry to provide your contact information.

FACE MASKS & GLOVES ARE ENCOURAGED.
EFTPOS IS AVAILABLE

