



Rotary Opens  
Opportunities



## THIS ISSUE

Musings from DG Debbie

RYLA update

Foundation Update

## CALENDAR

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  
30 June R C Taree on Manning  
Changeover  
2 July Coffs Harbour Daybreak RC  
changeover



## 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 THE DG

This weekend sees the start of club changeovers. I am heading out to South West Rocks for the weekend to celebrate their changeover and anniversary of thirty years. They have a big evening planned at the Country Club with food and entertainment. Congratulations President Muni Osbourne on a great year. I will attach some photos in this newsletter. Next weekend I have the pleasure of attending Barraba changeover.

### Upcoming District Assembly

Sunday 30th May 2021 Charles Sturt University, Ellis Parade Lake Innes Port Macquarie  
PLEASE let the district secretary know ASAP if you are attending – do not leave it to the last minute.

District Changeover – Saturday 26th June 2021 Panthers Port Macquarie 6 for 6.30pm.  
Invitations to our changeover have now been sent out. I have attached a copy to this newsletter. Please let District Secretary Patti know if you are attending and pay your \$40 to  
BSB: 932-000  
ACC: 500097454  
REF: Surname District Conference

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.

### COVID CRISIS IN INDIA

President Holger Knaack and Trustee Chair Ravi Ravindran have just released a short video regarding the current status with COVID. They say,  
“We hoped that 2021 would bring us relief from the virus sweeping through the world. Unfortunately, the horrifying second wave in India and the worsening situation in Brazil leaves us disconsolate...  
We are asking you to dig deeper and help India and other countries in need to find the light at the end of the tunnel and overcome the current wave of infections”.

### ROTARY FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA RESPONDS

The Rotary Foundation Australia, which is chaired by PDG Maurie Stack from Taree, NSW, has responded to the crisis by partnering with the **Bendigo and Adelaide Bank** to launch a public appeal. Funds raised will be directed to global grant projects in India, for such items as oxygen concentrators and ventilators.  
Districts will liaise with Rotary colleagues in India to ensure that the most critical needs are addressed – this is one of the great strengths of the global grant process.  
Please note that.

- ☑ donations to the Bendigo Bank appeal are tax deductible in Australia.
- ☑ these donations do not attract Foundation Recognition Points or club/district recognition.
- ☑ Bendigo Bank can accept donations from other countries.

The need in India is huge and we expect that the response will entail many global grant projects, mainly funded by the Bendigo appeal. Districts are encouraged to work with the Rotary Foundation Australia team to sponsor or support these projects. When utilising a Directed Gift from Bendigo Bank to fund a global grant, contribution of DDF is not required but is very welcome. It is suggested that districts encourage clubs and individuals in their district to support the India campaign by making contributions to the Annual Fund. With half of these contributions coming back to the district in just over two years from now, districts can then be much more confident in allocating existing DDF to the campaign.

# MUSINGS FROM DG DEBBIE CONT.

In other words, these contributions to the Annual Fund are topping up future DDF that is brought forward to address the crisis in India today. And the district's project receives huge support from the Bendigo campaign. The Annual Fund contributions will immediately count towards club and district recognition, as well as individual recognition for Paul Harris Fellow and Major Donor programs.

Also, as part of this program, individuals and non-Rotary organisations can sponsor their own GG project through a 'Directed Gift' of US\$30,000 or more – for details, please contact Mark Anderson.

The Rotary Foundation Australia team has put processes in place to facilitate project development and delivery:

- ☑ several districts in India that need our assistance have been identified,
- ☑ a 'template' is being developed as a starting point for global grant applications,
- ☑ connections have been established with Rotary India's COVID Vaccination Task Force, which is coordinating the response there – for details, please contact Mark Anderson,
- ☑ mechanisms have been defined for transfer of funds – this is not a straightforward process in India.

## ACCOUNTABILITY AND INCLUSION WEBINAR: BUILDING A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES – 28 MAY

Join us for the fifth webinar in our accountability and inclusion series, Building a Welcoming Community for People with Disabilities. In conversation with disability rights advocates, we will learn to challenge assumptions we may have about people with disabilities, adopt practical solutions for making experiences more accessible for everyone, and recognise that exclusion happens when we solve problems using our own biases. Register now and submit your questions to our experts.

Even though the webinar will take place at time not amenable to our time zone, a recording will be made available to anyone who registers.

## ZONE 8 MEMBERSHIP VOICE WEBINAR PROGRAM

The mission of the Membership Voice program is to promote Rotary membership best practice by encouraging club building innovators to share ideas and network. It does this through live webinars, podcasts, and the sharing of third-party best practice membership content. Membership Voice previously operated out of Western Australia and is moving to a Zone 8 base to facilitate improved visibility and access, at a time when membership growth. It is coordinated and hosted by District 9465 Rotarian Kero O'Shea. Here is the upcoming line up which we encourage you to register for:

- ☑ Developing New Clubs across Zone 8 (DG Andy Rajapakse) 22 June
- ☑ Improving Leadership in Rotary Clubs (Fiona Biederman) 7 July
- ☑ Redistricting (PRID Noel Trevaskis and PDG Steve Hill) 27 July

Anyone wishing to do so is very welcome to subscribe to the Membership Voice emailing list.

## CLUB PLANNING ASSISTANT

Incoming club presidents and club membership chairs should have by now received an email from Membership Development inviting them to use the online Club Planning Assistant tool. The tool is designed to help clubs with the unique challenges that they face. Based on how they answer a set of questions, clubs will receive an instant response with links to recommended materials, webinars, and online courses that they can begin to use immediately. This will help set them up for success in the coming year. District leaders can support clubs by encouraging them to use the tool, encouraging incoming club leaders to register for My Rotary and encourage current club leaders to report their incoming leaders via the Club Administration pages of My Rotary.

## FINANCE

### JANUARY 2021 CLUB INVOICE

The end of the collection period is 30 June 2021. Beyond this, clubs with outstanding balances greater than USD250 will be classified as candidates for termination and will be required to pay USD30 per member as reinstatement fees along with all outstanding dues.

We understand that some clubs, particularly in the Philippines, may be experiencing some banking difficulties with lockdowns in place. The best way to pay this would be online through My Rotary. Should they need further assistance, please advise these clubs to contact the appropriate finance representative for their region. Please see their contact details and areas of responsibility below:

**Country/Zone Finance Coordinator Contact Details** Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands (Zone 8)

Sally Furto Sally.Furto@rotary.org T: 61288949832

# RECOGNISING OUR DRR LAURA TELFORD

A week later I feel its important to recognise once again the work that Laura Telford does, not only at our District level but also nationally and throughout Oceania.

All the work Laura does directly or indirectly benefits our District. Even though Laura currently resides in Adelaide she continually to fly the 9650 flag and wildly waves the same.

Laura's time as Rep is coming to an end but her influence and input will continue. Great work Laura and all the best for your future.

DGE David Mayne



# DEBBIE'S MUSINGS CONT.

## INCOMING OFFICER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

It is never too early to update incoming officer information and club membership.

Before we produce the July 2021 invoice, please make sure the membership data in Rotary's database is current. Any updates must be made by 1 July. Invoices cannot be adjusted for membership changes made after that date.

To check your membership:

1. Sign in to your My Rotary account and choose Manage, then Club Administration, and Club & Member Data.
2. Review your membership data.
3. Make any necessary updates by 1 July.

## CLUB AND DISTRICT SUPPORT

### NEW! UPDATED RISPPPO STAFF DIRECTORY

Please note, we have updated our staff directory. Districts can publish this in their District Directory. Our new address is featured, and we anticipate being located in our new premises from August 2021. You can find it in Word and PDF.

## THE ROTARY INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN'S AWARDS

The Rotary Inspirational Women's Awards were launched at Parliament House by The Hon Mark Coure, MP, Member for Oatley, and Assistant Speaker in the NSW Legislative Assembly.

The NSW Inspirational Women's Awards are an initiative of the combined efforts of a group of passionate Women Rotarians in the Greater Sydney and Illawarra Clubs. In keeping with Rotary's motto of 'Service Above Self', the purpose of the Awards is to acknowledge and celebrate community service performed by women through their vocations, selfless gifts of their skills, and their time in various activities and endeavours.

While individual organisations have specific internal awards, RIWA recognises service to the community across all sectors in each of the geographic areas of NSW. It recognises the NSW general community and is about commitment, dedication, perseverance, and proactivity in improving the lives of others.

The Awards are open to all women above the age of 18 across NSW and members of the public are encouraged to submit online nominations at <https://riwa.awardsplatform.com>.

The Awards are divided into three categories: Urban, Rural and Health. Nominations close on 16 June 2021 and finalists will be announced on 21 July 2021. The winners will be announced at an Awards ceremony to be held in Sydney on 19 September 2021.

## NEW DISTRICT ENHANCEMENTS COMING TO MY ROTARY

Upgrades to My Rotary are on the way! Members will soon be able to view district information from a dedicated webpage, easily searching for clubs and members in their district. We will also be making district officer and assistant governor information more easily accessible and introducing a new Membership Society webpage to recognise members who have sponsored a certain number of new members.

In the coming months, we will make additional improvements to the My Rotary functionality for district officers, including:

- 🔧 Upgrading the process to install, remove, and replace district officers.
- 🔧 Simplifying the assistant governor appointment process.
- 🔧 Introducing a dashboard that presents key district information in a visually impactful way.
- 🔧 Updating the process for managing district conferences and obtaining feedback.

These new features will be released incrementally when they are ready rather than all at once. The first update will be the new district view webpage, and it will be available from 25th May. We will let you know before future increments are released.

## Rotary Opens Opportunities | 12-16 June 2021.

This year's virtual convention will be better than ever, opening more innovative opportunities to learn and engage with the family of Rotary. In the virtual convention space, you will be able to network in virtual lounges, meet new partners in service, and join fun activities with Rotary members from around the world. There are twenty not-to-be-missed breakout sessions planned, covering topics including member engagement, developing leadership skills, Rotary's new area of focus: The Environment and much more.

Exciting new activities this year include meet and greets with leaders, virtual cooking classes, Rotary trivia contents, a virtual photo booth, a 5K walk, and a DJ dance party.

The Virtual House of Friendship will be your place to connect with fellow Rotarians about projects, chat with staff, shop, sign up for the 2022 Rotary International Convention and explore exhibitor booths.

# REPORTING

# TIME FOR DISTRICT GRANTS

Update on final reports due for 2019-20 District Grants.

Records show Final Reports have been received from: Armidale AM, Bellingen, Coonabarabran, Dorrigo, Laurieton, Narrabri, Port Macquarie (STEM project), Port Macquarie West, Sawtell, Tamworth (Bicycles) & Woolgoolga. My thanks

Reports from Taree on Manning & Wauchope are in preparation. Thanks for update

Port Macquarie has a DRFC approved substitute project for 2020-21

The status of reports from Rotary E-Club, Obstacle course for Ebor Public School (19-20); and, Nambucca-Macksville, Dementia friendly community; & Tamworth (NYSF scholarship from 18-19) is unclear.

The District Grant Final Report ProForma 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](mailto:iansimpson15@bigpond.com) and keep a club record of the financial transactions for the project.

Ian Simpson  
D9650 Grants Stewardship Committee

# RI CONVENTION UPDATE

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.

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

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

## ROTARY FOUNDATION UPDATE

Clubs are at this time to the year busily spending what they have raised during the year. Please remember The Rotary Foundation which has funded far more in projects in our District over the last 3 years than we have donated. So please regard your support both personally and at club level as an investment in our district projects. Remember that all your donations go to our Parramatta account and I personally see every one of the wonderful projects supported by those donations.

And for those who took away applications to become Bequest Society members at the District conference - please tell us about those new bequests in your wills. It is a painless way to support the Foundation and if we could get another 3 bequests we would return to our rightful place as the Australian district leader in this area!

Finally a reminder to members to sign up for the Rotary International Virtual Conference 12-16 June. Just google and book in - I think about \$60 and the best value in town. A saving of about \$10,000 on flying overseas registering and paying for accommodation meals etc etc.

Maurie Stack  
Rotary Foundation Director



# LONGEST WASHING LINE ATTEMPT

A big thank you to all the clubs who have collected socks and got them to us. Our socks count is close to 80,000 now and rising nicely. Can we get to our 100,000 target? With your help, we can. If you have more socks to donate, please send them to reach us by Friday 4 June which is Day 1 of the attempt - by post to PO Box 330, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444 or by courier to my home at 25 The Fairway, Port Macquarie NSW 2444. Rotarians coming to District Assembly on Sunday 30 May, in Port Macquarie, may be able to help with transport. Most of the 10,000 metre washing line construction work will be complete by the time you get this newsletter. No problem with clothes pegs - we have 152,000 stainless steel pegs on loan, thanks to Activated Eco (Melbourne). We need around 50 people at any point in time, pegging socks over the 2 days. That's 400 to 500 people. Want to come peg a thousand socks? Stay overnight? Ring me to discuss. Trevor Gilson Project Manager

# THE BIG DIG

Last weekend the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Sunrise hosted the Big Dig at Town Beach in Port Macquarie. Lots of fun was had by all!





Sovereign Place  
Town Centre

Rotary

PRESENTS



SOS

SAVE OUR SOCKS!

4th & 5th June 2021

Help us set a new record - Longest Washing Line of Socks

RAISING MONEY FOR

Endeavour Clubhouse | YP Space | Soldier On  
Hastings Education Fund

PRIZES

Every dollar donated enters you into  
lucky draw (\$1,500) other great prizes also available.

Please donate your unwanted socks to the collection areas  
listed on the website; <https://rotarypmwest.org.au>