



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**



THIS ISSUE

Musings from DG Debbie

NYSF update

RYLA 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
22 June RC Dorriggo 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 week I attended the Wauchope Changeover, we celebrated the year of Diana Reynolds and Welcome Michelle Calvert-Kilburn to hers. Over 80 people were in attendance including some visitors from Sydney who had support the relief effort for Telegraph Point School. It was an inspiring and fun evening. What was lovely to see was the other clubs in the cluster support this event. Loris Hendy received a well-deserved Paul Harris Fellow for her work in the Youth program and many organisations in the community. Great effort Loris!

Wednesday night I was back at my club listening to the support work given by Feel the Magic to young people suffering bereavement. You may remember last week I wrote about the plight of Nepal a country not strategically important to the world that was suffering the same disastrous consequences of Covid as India. We had a plea for help from my friend Ranjeev in Dhulikhell. Wee the Global Grant for Covid support has been written and submitted. My club has come on board and will help financially as will many members who have big hearts and will donate some money to this cause. I cannot thank them enough.

This weekend I am at Armidale North club celebrating their 50th Anniversary along with many others. There were members present and members past from way back. We heard about the history of the club and the \$650K that has been donated in its 50 years. So many wonderful things that they have achieved. PDG Ken Hall gave the toast to Rotary International that detailed much of the club's past and some of the major achievements. I presented PDG Bob Ryan with a certificate of membership for the 50 years and three Paul Harris Fellows. The first went to Adam Marshall Minister for agriculture for his unfailing support of the club over the years, the second two were PHF with sapphire to Don Cook and Dr Arthur Wooster. Congratulations. We then hijacked the program and with the help of PDG Ken Hall presented PDG Bob Ryan with a PHF Sapphire+3. Bob was speechless! Bob presented DGE David Mayne with a Rotary wheel that he had to assemble. The was a plaque on the front which read to the last DG of district 9650. The club donated money to local charities and I received a cheque towards my Lifeline project. Thank you to everyone for their support in this matter because Lifeline needs money to support the ongoing greater need of people who need it so much. We had a birthday cake and danced to music. The saddest part of the night was Bob presented me with the Charter for the Club as it cannot continue after the 30th of June 2021. If I was sad, I think it broke Bob's heart, along with the other members and past members present.

Next week I am off to Walcha via Dorriggo! I was speaking to Secretary Lorraine at Armidale and asked her to put on some warm weather, because if it were freezing, I would be wearing my Ugg Boots! Her response was If I wear mine, she will wear hers. Maybe we can all wear our Uggs. It would be like those funnies of newsreaders that wear fabulous suits on the TV, but when they pan back the camera, they are wearing board shorts.

Have you RSVP'd Patti Parsons and let her know you are coming to our District changeover? Please do not delay! 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 Changeover

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.

Rotary give Every Child a Future Update

After many years of planning, R100 projects are at last coming to fruition. Not least for our own Rotary Give Every Child A Future. In this edition we share a flavour of these celebrations and catch up with fundraisers across New Zealand and Australia. The Rotary clubs of Melbourne, Sydney, Wellington, and Auckland birthday celebrations will feature in a special newsletter coming soon. At Rotary Give Every Child A Future, team meetings we are currently focused on the next stage of fundraising to sustain the project after the Centenary celebrations.

MUSINGS FROM DG DEBBIE CONT.

We continue to look for corporate sponsors and would welcome any suggestions from our readers and supporters. Do you know a company or organisation that would be interested in challenging their staff to support Rotary to save lives in the Pacific through vaccination? If so, please let us know. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our project timelines and RGECAF vaccine delivery is now expected to commence August 2021.

END POLIO NOW report – June 2021

Wild Polio Virus summary:

Numbers have not changed since February 24.

The number of wild polio cases on June 2, 2021, remained static at two – one in Pakistan and one in Afghanistan.

Total number of WPV cases in 2020 was 140, with 84 in Pakistan and 56 in Afghanistan.

Total number of WPV cases in 2019 was 176, with 147 in Pakistan and 29 in Afghanistan.

Total number of vaccine derived cases in 2021 stands at 100 – 133 for same period last year. Total number of vaccine derived cases for 2020 was 1088.

Comments:

It is important to note that we are still in 'low' season in Asia, but the overall situation is very encouraging. Rotary International PolioPlus Chair and RI Past Vice President Mike McGovern said at our Coordinators' Zoom meeting last week he is 'quite excited' by the current situation. 'We have never been this close to eradicating polio. There have been NO new cases in Pakistan for 16 weeks and we need to let people know the good news,' he said.

Mike pointed to the fact there were no positive WPV samples from 68 testing sites across Pakistan and two in Afghanistan in the last period as proof of the improving situation.

Of course, nothing is certain whilst the conflict continues along the Pakistan/Afghanistan border, but all the signs are positive.

COVID-19 remains a challenge to our ongoing campaign, but the Global Polio Eradication Initiative remains focused with 440 million children immunised in 2020, compared with 419 million in 2019.

There have been no issues with the successful introduction of the Oral Polio vaccine to the vaccine derived campaign.

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!



NYSF Applications close 2 July 2021

Patrick Guthridge Taree.

Attending the an engineering-extraordinary same passion for witness the people from collective interest. to the Forum from truly empowered through the digitally engaging solar prominences telescope, to Australia have to NYSF was an experience I will never forget.



was sponsored by the Rotary Club of

NYSF fuelled my motivation to pursue related career and was an opportunity to meet individuals with the STEM as myself. It was incredible to witness the wonders that occurred when amazing across the country were united by a The myriad of niche interests brought a multitude of diverse backgrounds me to see what humanity can achieve collaborative nature of STEM. From in Noble Laureate lectures and seeing in-person through a high-powered discovering what universities across offer and making lifelong friends, the

Planning is well underway 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 Any club who would like more information. dihall605@gmail.com 0411704654



GRACE CUSSELL – INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER AT RYLA

And with that, fifty mud-covered youth entered the lake, cleansing themselves in the water. You would've thought it was a baptism. In some ways, it was.

Kia ora from New Zealand! My name is Grace, I am from Rotary District 9920, Auckland and if that first sentence caught your attention, read on for the full story!

In early May I was grateful to take advantage of the trans-Tasman travel bubble and head over the ditch for District 9650's 2021 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, held at Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre. This came to fruition after meeting the incoming District Governor, David Mayne, through some Rotary connections. That story is quite an eclectic one, but skip the next paragraph if you just want to know about the baptism.

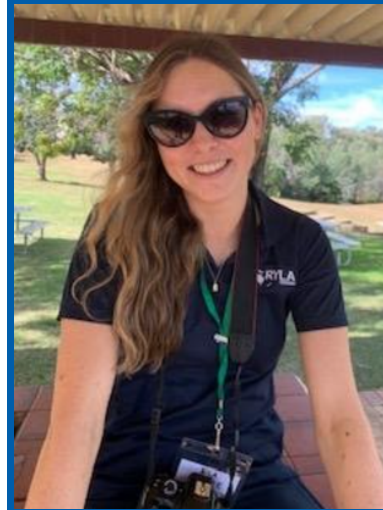
My Rotary journey began on a Rotary Youth Exchange to Denmark in 2016. I then completed RYLA in 2018 at age 20, and have since attended the inaugural RYLA Oceania and led four of my district's RYLA and RYPEN programmes. During COVID, I helped create the world's first online RYPEN programme, which has since been shared across NZ, Australia and India. After David saw me present on this via Zoom, we got chatting about his plans to host the world's first in-person RYLA after COVID. As we know, this was pulled off successfully in August last year. During one of our chats since (he's been coaching me in preparation for my NZ Army Officer Selection Board), David jokingly said "let's get you over here for the next one in May!". To this I replied that there was no way the travel bubble would be open by then, but in true David optimism, he told me to wait and see.

Well, saw we did! A few months later, David's friendly face was greeting me at Tamworth Airport. RYLA 2021 was about to begin and I would be assisting as a "Leaders' Leader". David kicked off the Australian hospitality, which I would experience all week, by showing me around Tamworth. On more than one occasion, he affirmed, the town is famous for liking 'both country AND western!'. Whatever that means. After navigating jetlag, a mouse plague and David's Aussie humour, we arrived at Lake Keepit.

What came next was a spectacle of incredible bonds forming, personal growth and the realising of full potential. Coming from my RYLA cohort of 120 people, I took a lot away from a smaller group of 47, where a uniquely safe space was created. I'm a firm believer that the world is improved by bringing people who wouldn't typically meet into a shared space. For me, I was profoundly impacted by each RYLA participant's unique story and background, with a nod to the boys from the Backtrack programme. The perspective and attitude everyone brought to the week, and to life in general, is something I will carry with me in all my future endeavours.

I was privileged to help guide this wonderful cohort through numerous challenges during RYLA, including one muddy confidence course. If you've waited to the end for the baptism story, sorry to underwhelm, but we were all just getting clean after wading through that course. This is but one example of the countless mental, physical and emotional challenges experienced during RYLA, all intentional and deliberate, producing 47 RYLarians I couldn't be prouder of.

And me? Well, I liked them all so much I've decided to move to Sydney. This is definitely one of the less awe-inspiring revelations to come out of RYLA, but it'd be quicker to fly to NZ than to share all those with you. I hope you have been lucky enough to experience the magic of RYLA, and I salute districts like yourselves for getting behind it. I must conclude by saying an immeasurable thank you to the support District 9650 gave me in getting to RYLA and to promise this won't be the last you'll see of me. People get so much out of RYLA, and they always give it back.



UPDATE FROM ARH

The latest Australian Rotary Health e-newsletter is now ready to view.

Here is the link to share with your networks after that time:
<https://mailchi.mp/australianrotaryhealth/your-latest-news-from-australian-rotary-health-2097102>

Applications for NYSF 2022 are OPEN!



Mackenzie Toone-Spokes was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie.

NYSF was a great experience, and I am so glad I was able to obtain this opportunity. The forum allowed us to explore so many different aspects of the STEM field and was really eye opening in terms of careers and future pathways. I very much recommend this program even if you already have a career set in mind because you are really missing out on so much information and so many opportunities if you don't go.

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Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

SAVE THE DATE

D9650 RYLA 2022

Lake Keepit Sport & Recreation Centre

Saturday 30th April – Saturday 7th May

Please include in your Club Budget & Calendar for 2021-2022 Rotary Year

Supporting our youth to become community leaders of the future.



Rotary
Club of Lower Midcoast



ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

Tuncurry Memorial Hall
Wednesday 30th June till
Saturday 3rd July 2021
Doors open 9.00am

Covid Rules in Place
Free Entry