



Rotary Opens
Opportunities



THIS ISSUE

Musings from DG Debbie

NYSF update

RYLA update

CALENDAR

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

MUSINGS FROM THE DG

It was off early to Walcha for their changeover on Saturday morning. The two hours to Walcha is now four and a half via Dorrigo and Armidale. I guess there will be a lot of people eagerly waiting the road repairs. I really feel for the all the businesses along the way who have suffered so much because of the landslips.

Congratulations to past president Dan on a great year at the helm of Walcha club and welcome back to Andrew Corlette. Dan started the year like the rest of us under Covid restrictions. They continued to run their BBQ at the farmers markets each week, had their best Christmas stocking and a successful annual race weekend in February. One of their projects really warmed my heart. Simon a young man of 10 years started a project called Simon's Just For You Backpacks and was a recipient of a RACG grant to help along the way. This project was about providing children needing a foster home a backpack with some much-needed things that they could call their own. Pyjamas, wash things, a book or soft toy. Simon's parent are foster parents, so Simon knows first-hand that these children need some love and assistance from the word go. This project has obviously been very successful with many adult people getting on board. Simon was rewarded with a successful project and an associate membership of the Walcha club. There were many members in attendance together with half the town and their very supportive Mayor. Well done, Walcha! I was awake early Tuesday morning and on the road by 6.30am. Important to get home as soon as possible as I was attending the Centenary of Rotary Celebrations at Taree that evening. As I drove across thunderbolts way, I found myself constructing a poem about my journey. It goes like this.

In the bleak mid-winter,
My poor old bones did moan,
Twas minus four at Walcha,
And I was a long way from home.
Hope that makes you smile.

Wednesday evening, I was off again to Taree for the celebrations. This was an amazing meeting with over 100 people in attendance. We were blessed with the presence of General Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove who spoke during the evening about his life and leadership roles. He emphasised the need to be there. It is no good for a leader to be in their ivory office and not in touch with the people they represent. This reminded of what Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said at my conference in March, of how important it is to be accessible and available. The club was involved with the Peace Pole project in their local schools and Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove visited these schools and met the children. One school of only 11 children were absolutely thrilled to see them and participate in the celebration. We enjoyed a recording of the student's rendition of "Let There Be Peace on Earth". Ron Hindmarsh MC and comic made some hilarious comments which kept everyone in the party mood. Thanks for inviting me and I look forward to your changeover next week.

This weekend I am off to Tamworth First Light for their changeover celebrations. I will report on that next week as there will not be time to write the ENews as I will be on the road again both days.

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.

Congratulations Laura Telford District 9650 DRR on her new appointments as Senior Communications Officer for the Electoral Commission in Canberra!



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.

Congratulations to everyone who received a Queens commendation as part of the birthday honours. Please let us know if someone in your club received acknowledgement.

You will find the full 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours list at ...

<https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards/queens-birthday-2021-honours-list>

TRAGEDY IN AFGHANISTAN – Letter Bob Aitken RI END POLIO NOW Coordinator, Zone 8, 2018/23

Friends,
I am deeply saddened to inform everyone of a further tragedy involving Polio volunteer workers in Afghanistan ...

Rotary International's PolioPlus Chair/RI Past Vice Chair Mike McGovern reports that six Polio workers were killed in Afghanistan on Tuesday and a further four injured.

President Holger has sent official condolences on behalf of Rotary International and our Polio Chair in Afghanistan has visited the four injured volunteers in hospital.

Past Vice President Mike said the situation in Afghanistan will become very tenuous in the months ahead. He said there is an ongoing civil war between the Taliban and Isis/Isil groups and the government has little control of the situation.

These people are truly unsung heroes, and the situation emphasises the extreme importance of our end of year Polio fund raising to ensure the program continues and is completed as soon as possible.

Sincerely, Bob

RAWCS -Newsflash

Rotary strengthens its Australian disaster response capability.

In response to increasing levels of natural disasters in Australia, RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited) has strengthened its Australian disaster response capability. In the last month it has strengthened its team further, creating a National Disaster Response Committee (NDRC), and by appointing the very experienced Brad Quilliam as National Projects Supervisor. A major objective of the NDRC is the preparation of a range of shelf ready projects that Rotary clubs and Districts can swing into action for a variety of disaster types. In so doing RAWCS wants to shorten response times and avoid duplications of effort.

The recent National Drought Forum hosted by the National Recovery and Resilience Agency (NRRRA) and the National Farmers Federation (NFF) was well attended and under the guidance of the Hon. Shane Stone the National Coordinator-General of the NRRRA.

The Forum brought together the full range of industry, government, finance, and community organisations that play a vital part in the recovery and resilience of our nation as we cycle through droughts, floods, bushfires, cyclones, and other natural events.

Representatives from RAWCS were invited attendees. RAWCS already partners with the NRRRA to enable Rotary Clubs to deliver the Drought Community Outreach Program to assist drought impacted farmers and individuals.

The Australia wide network of Rotary Clubs is recognised as an extremely effective way to engage with a local community. The National Drought Forum provided a further opportunity for Rotary to promote its local community engagement and leadership capabilities and raise Rotary's profile nationally. For further information please contact Andrew Woodward, CEO,

Andrew.woodward@rawcs.org.au

Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd. (RAWCS) was formed to enable Australian Rotarians, Rotary Districts and Rotary Clubs to assist disadvantaged communities and individuals through humanitarian aid projects. RAWCS has a financial infrastructure system that facilitates fundraising for projects that deliver humanitarian aid and charitable support in Australia and internationally.

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!





Centenary Of Rotary in Australia One Dollar Coin. In 2021, Rotary celebrates a centenary of service in Australia. To mark this incredible milestone, the Royal Australian Mint has produced this stunning coloured uncirculated coin. Australia's over 1,100 clubs and more than 30,000 members are proudly making an impact locally and globally with their dedication to community service. This coin honours the hard work of Australia's Rotarians who organise a range of community programs including overseas youth exchanges, life changing surgery and fundraising for bushfire survivors.



Centenary Of Rotary in Australia Five Dollar Coin. To commemorate the milestone the Royal Australian Mint has produced this elegant silver proof coin with very low mintage. The coin honours the big hearts of the 30,000 Rotary members and 1,100 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.



FOUNDATION UPDATE

Final Note from DRFC Maurie

Guys

Historically we are behind the average District in Australia in terms of our support for the Rotary Foundation. As at end of May we are for the first time ahead of the average. Let's keep it up till the end of the financial year. One final push for June. If any clubs or individual Rotarians are in a position to support the Foundation please do it now. Remember that we always receive from the Foundation each year more than we donate - so really your donations are supporting projects by clubs in our own district.

Do it now before end of June. If an individual donation, just google the RI website and hit The Donate button. Your funds will come to our Rotary Foundation Australia bank account in Parramatta and you will receive from us a tax deductible receipt. Anything from \$10 to \$1,000,000 welcome. Create a huge target for my successor Greg Moran who takes over on 1 July!

Thank you all for your support this last 3 years.

Maurie Stack

District Rotary Foundation Chair

MUSINGS FROM KEN HALL

I have just submitted my final report from the Rotary EClub of District 9650 to PDG Ian Simpson for his approval and acceptance.

The Club received in 2020 \$4000 for the support of disadvantaged youth in the District and wider community. This is the way in which Ian responded:

"Thanks Ken,

The Final Report for the 2020-21 District Grant awarded to D9650 E-Rotary Club to support youth education, training & leadership development is completed & accepted.

Reading your report and reflecting on the Project's significant impact on the lives of 5 young people in the CW & NW of NSW made the thankless task of chasing Grant reports for once a personally rewarding experience. I have a strong interest in helping disadvantaged youth achieve where possible and in this case the roles of Programs of excellence (NYSF & D9650 RYLA) make me proud to be a Rotarian - sincere thanks.

So I strongly Agree with your sentiment "this was a most successful use of District funds in supporting a number of students furthering their education, leadership often in the face of extreme disability" In 2 years of Grant Stewardship this is by far the most outstanding use of District Grant \$\$\$ that I have read about in a project final report. My regards, Ian"

I would therefore request that you use this as an article in the next enews not only to highlight the great things done by Clubs in the District but also to remind clubs that funds are available from the Rotary Foundation for many and varied worthwhile projects.

DISTRICT FINANCE UPDATE - NEVILLE PARSONS

I have prepared the following information re 2021-2022 RI, D9650 and RDU subscriptions to assist Clubs in their Budgeting and setting Club dues. It is an extract from what I shared at the District Assemblies with Club Presidents and Club Treasurer's sessions. Your Rotary Club, like every other Rotary Club worldwide, is a member of Rotary International and as such is committed to paying the agreed per capita fee to Rotary International for each member of the Club (excludes Honorary members). Similarly, each Rotary Club is aligned to a Rotary District and ours is District 9650. The Club is also levied an annual fee per member by the District that supports the cost of providing District services to each Club. Each Club Board will determine their Annual Membership Fee payable by each member of the Rotary Club, for each financial year. The breakup of the fixed components as known for each member for the 2021.2022 Rotary year is as follows:

Rotary International[1]	\$101.53 (based on Exchange Rate of \$1 US = \$1.30 Aus
Rotary District 9650 (club)	\$100.00 (incl GST) (Note there is no longer a District discount for partners in the club)
Total RI and District Dues	\$201.53 pa based on the RI exchange rate of \$1.30Aus
Rotary Magazine subscription (Club to determine actual break up re members)	\$40.00 (11 editions of Magazine per year) (\$40 used in this example. Club to determine actual break up re members)
	\$44.50pa hard copy, \$35pa digital
	Both Inclusive gst
Total including RDU	\$241.53 (Note how RDU subs applied in example)
Rotary Club subs required	Club to determine
Total Membership Fee	\$ Dependent on amount Club requires for Admin support but actual amount to meet RI, District and RDU per member needs to be \$241.53 noting the assumptions re Exchange Rate and RDU magazine subs.

[1] Rotary International annual membership fee = US\$70 plus allow \$1 for Council on Legislation = US\$71. Assuming an exchange rate of US\$1.00= \$1.30Aus**, this fee = A\$92.30 plus 10% GST = A\$101.53

**RI advised Exchange Rate \$1.30 for Feb 2021, was \$1.41 in Nov 20. Note increases if exchange rate worsens.

Extract from 2019 Rotary International Manual of Procedure – as the Council on Legislation each 3 years sets member dues payable to Rotary International for the ensuing 3 year period.

18.030. Dues.

18.030.1. Per Capita Dues.

Each club pays per capita dues to RI for each member as follows: US\$34.00 per half year in 2019-20, US\$34.50 per half year in 2020-21, US\$35.00 per half year in 2021-22, and US\$35.50 per half year in 2022-23, and thereafter. The dues shall remain constant until changed by the council on legislation.

18.030.2. Per Capita Dues for Rotaract Clubs.

Each Rotaract club pays per capita dues to RI for each Rotaractor as determined by the board.

18.030.3. Additional Per Capita Dues.

Each year a club pays to RI additional per capita dues in an amount per member, as determined by the board to be sufficient to pay for the projected expenses of the council on legislation and council on resolutions. The additional dues are separately designated and restricted for the expenses of representatives attending the councils, as well as other administrative expenses of the councils, as determined by the board. The board shall furnish the clubs an accounting of receipts and expenditures. In the event of an extraordinary meeting of the council, clubs shall pay additional per capita dues as soon as practicable.

The attached is a copy of a spreadsheet that I maintain re the Exchange Rate published each month by Rotary International and reflecting the impact of the US\$71 pa subs for 2021.2022 subject to that Exchange Rate and adding the GST as even though it is RI subs they are payable in Parramatta and as such GST is payable on the payment.

You can find the RI Exchange Rate applicable for the month and Australia at this website:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/exchange-rates>

Finally I advise that the District Semi-Annual Dues Invoices will issue early July 2021 and will be like Rotary International and RDU based on your reported Club Membership as at 30 June 2021.

Neville Parsons
District Finance Committee Chair

MAKING ROTARY 'COOL'

This article by Jason Brown (Famous for Making Membership Memorable) Gives insight into attracting new members into Rotary. I was fortunate enough to meet and listen to Jason in San Diego. He is one of the most dynamic people I have met - DG Debbie

By Jason Browne
Public speaker, radio personality and entrepreneur
State College Downtown Rotary Club, Rotary District 7360

The Cool Kids don't need Rotary, but Rotary needs the Cool Kids. Yet, Rotarians keep asking the same question: "How do we recruit younger members?" Every community has 'Cool Kids'. The movers and shakers between age 18 and 40. The people that are always at the centre of change and creativity. The entrepreneurs and the inspirational. The risk takers. The community focused. And often, the ones viewed as popular.

The Cool Kids.
As Rotarians who are focused on growing membership, we may muster up the confidence to ask a young professional to attend a club meeting. Although we don't know the answer to the question until asked, regardless of the recruitment method, it will be difficult to convince the Cool Kids to join Rotary. Even if you consider yourself a progressive, diverse Rotary club, most of the Cool Kids will see you as an 'out-of-touch, old, white man's club'. We still have a long way to go with changing that public image narrative, but until we do, we must change our approach to 'the ask'. When a Cool Kid decides not to join Rotary, Rotarians often throw up their grey hair-covered arms and move onto the next prospective club member. But what do we think would happen if Rotarians stopped asking the Cool Kids to 'join a meeting' and instead started asking, "What is important to you?"

Once Rotarians genuinely take the time to learn what is truly important to the Cool Kids, their communities and their efforts, clubs then have the information to support current or new projects that appeal to those younger members. With the Rotary club's expertise and experience, and the Cool Kids' cool factor, a partnership between the two groups will create events and change communities in ways not otherwise possible. Creating meaningful change is more fundamentally critical to the growth of Rotary than the act of peer-to-peer recruitment. The Cool Kids do not have to be Rotarians and Rotarians do not have to be the Cool Kids to collaboratively create Rotarian-quality impact needed to grow membership. Over time, these new partnerships, with the right public image campaign, will create a new narrative for Rotary. We will no longer be the 'out-of-touch, old, white man's club'. We will become the 'cool and collaborative older club' which inherently showcases the People of Action mindset necessary to grow and sustain Rotary.



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>

RYLA
Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

30th April – 7th May 2022
Lake Keepit Sport & Recreation Centre

Corporate Sponsors

Continually sending staff to RYLA due to the holistic nature of the program.

- Telstra
- Inland Technology
- Tamarang Engineering
- Keo Design
- West Tamworth Leagues Club
- Challenge Community Services
- Manning Support Services
- Stroud Homes
- Joblink Plus
- Glen Innes Severn Shire Council
- Kempsey Shire Council
- Tamworth Regional Council

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