

# E NEWS D9650

AUGUST 2021

Rotary



SERVE TO  
CHANGE LIVES

## THIS ISSUE

Deep Thoughts from David  
500 blood donations  
Spotlight on Mike Whitehead  
RYLA update  
SW Rocks does it again



## DEEP THOUGHTS FROM DG DAVID

### COVID-19 Hiccups

Once again COVID has caused multiple 'lockdowns' across the state and of course our District. This means that many of our club meetings and projects have been badly affected and through necessity most clubs are once again conducting Zoom meetings and other online activities.

In a lot of cases I am still visiting clubs via Zoom however, Heather and I are still hoping to meet with the clubs we haven't visited yet once restrictions have lifted or lessened. So, the District Governor visits have not been cancelled but only postponed until are more suitable time.

We Rotarians are an innovative bunch, and I am constantly amazed at what we can do via the internet to touch base with each other as well as entertain. Several clubs held cocktail parties (I didn't know beer was a cocktail) where members were able to make their own cocktails in the safety and comfort of their own homes and enjoy the fellowship of other Rotarians having a bit of social fun. The new District Rotary club of young leaders had a very successful trivia night last Friday night that this DG was able to join for a short time and it was a lot of fun.

A special thanks must go out to PDG Brian Beesley who organized a celebrity magician to perform an hour long show online. This was sponsored by the Gloucester Rotary club and was free of charge to all participants. I attended the 'show' with more than 250 others. There was a huge audience of 'kids' who found the magic presentation very entertaining and constantly vocalized their appreciation with raucous laughter. Brian's motive for organizing the evening was that there are many families in our community that are doing it tough with the COVID restrictions and children are not exempt. Well done Brian for putting these families in a happy place and presenting uplifting entertainment online.

Kudos to these inventive organizers who see the importance for Rotarians to keep connected during these difficult and uncertain times.

My message to you all is please stay safe. Respect the Law and common sense and also understand that others may have opposing views to you regarding 'things' surrounding COVID-19 and although we may not agree with them, we should respect their freedom of belief. We are Rotarians and we must transcend politics and personal bias to focus and achieve the goals and objectives set before us.

"Celebrate our past to secure our future"

## E-NEWS CONTACT

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



# YOUTH INSEARCH - PARTNER'S PROJECT

Lift the Lid in Schools aims to encourage children to participate in raising much needed funds and to start the conversation about finding better ways to help all Australian kids improve their mental health, through much needed research, with the added bonus of encouraging them to take time out and read along the way.

One the biggest challenges facing schools and parents today is the mental wellbeing of our children.

Each year 1 in 5 people experience a mental illness and one-third of young people have had an episode of mental illness by the time they are 25 years old. Because of these startling statistics Australian Rotary Health has committed to allocate its funding to mental health prevention research in young people. 100% of all donated funds go to research.

The school's program is simple - we are asking that each school participate by registering here where you will be provided the fun Lift The Lid on Mental Illness kit to display in the office or general assembly hall. You have until the end of Mental Health Awareness Month in October to participate and the aim is to raise up to \$1000 per school.

For every \$2 donated each student will receive a \$2 voucher redeemable from QBD Books to get them reading.

Talk to your schools soon to let them know of this great Mental Health Awareness program.  
<https://australianrotaryhealth.org.au/support-us/campaigns/lift-the-lid-in-schools/>



## DISTRICT GRANTS 2021-22

Applications will be opening soon for clubs to apply for a District Grant for 2021-22, closing on 31st October 2021. The budget is for US\$31,554 which converts to approximately AU\$42,900 depending on the exchange rate when applications close. A maximum of AU\$4,000 is available per project. However, if there is funding remaining in the District Grant Fund after the initial allocation, more money may be offered. Each club applying for a grant is expected to contribute some funding towards the project. For clubs to be eligible for a grant they must sign the Memorandum of Understanding as part of the application, have at least one club member complete the RI online grant management seminar (details to be supplied later), be current in payment of dues to RI and District 9650, and have completed their club's Foundation Goals on Rotary Club Central for the current year.

Over the next several weeks reports from last year's grants will be written up in the enews to demonstrate the benefits of previous grant applications for local communities.

Elizabeth Tollis

District 9650 Grants Chair 2021-22

Rotary Club of Taree on Manning

Email: [elizabeth.tollis@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.tollis@gmail.com)

## Working with Children Checks – 3 month Extension

Working with Children Checks due to expire between 19 July 2021 and 26 September 2021 have been **extended** for three months. People who are granted an extension will be advised by email and the system will be automatically updated.

As restrictions are extended due to COVID-19, the primary concern for the Office of the Children's Guardian is the safety of children.

People who are granted an extension will be advised by email and the system will be automatically updated. **Employers should update their records to indicate the change in their employee's expiry date.**

There are more than 40,000 clearances in NSW that are due to expire in the next two months. This includes teachers and medical staff who require a clearance and may be restricted in their capacity to go to a Service NSW centre to finalise their renewal application.

## D9650 QUICK TO RESPOND IN A CRISIS

On Monday last week I received a call from the Rotary Club of Lightning Ridge President Rory Treweeke who had it brought to his attention that the Walgett Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) was in dire need of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as all supply lines have been blocked or at least extremely slowed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

I quickly contacted Rotarian DR Ray Hodgson to make him aware of the immediate crisis. Dr Ray then contacted Connie Porter CEO of Port Macquarie Private Hospital who then contacted Ramsay Health in Sydney to see what could be done. Ramsey put together a shipment of sanitizers, masks, gloves and gowns.

All the PPE needed by this remote medical service. Even the RFS chopper and the Flying Doctor were on 'standby' however Ramsey Health organized their own transport and by Thursday all the needed equipment was delivered.

It continually amazes me what can be achieved by Rotarians when there is a need.

-DG David Mayne

# LIFELINE PROJECT 2020-22

PDG Phil Hafey and Bronwyn and PDG Debbie Loveday would like to thank all the clubs in our district 9650 who donated to the Lifeline Project over the past two years. Nearly \$60,000 has been donated to Lifeline to support people in need in our district. We can't thank you enough for recognising that need and donating to the cause. So often we do not get feedback to see how your money has been spent. Lifeline has been amazing in detailing how your money has been spent, or will be spent in the near future and in what areas of our District. We are pleased to provide an updated report from Lifeline CEO Catherine Vaara for you and will continue to liaise with Lifeline to monitor progress, and celebrate the success of this project.

## Rotary District 9650 Governor's Partner's Project - Lifeline Mid Coast Report -2020-2022

It was agreed to split the project fundraising efforts into two areas: supporting Lifeline Mid Coast's contribution to Lifeline's 13 11 14 crisis service by providing sponsorships to student Crisis Supporters. A total of \$6,000 was provided for sponsorship, which enable 20 students to obtain the accredited training necessary to become a Lifeline Crisis Supporter. The other area of support was to offer face-to-face Accidental Counsellor Training and crisis support to as many towns as possible, especially those impacted by recent disasters.

The Accidental Counsellor Training is a 3 hour mini training that helps people understand the impact of trauma and ways we can respond to support those who are living through a disaster or who have faced trauma. Included in the training is greater understanding of underlying emotions that might present as anger and importantly, looking at those at risk of suicide and how we might approach someone at risk of suicide.

Lifeline Mid Coast agreed to trial a road trip that would take in 5 western towns that have been impacted by recent disasters. That road trip was completed in March 2021 and a presentation of the trip was given at the 2021 Rotary District 9650 Conference in Port Macquarie. Given the positive feedback received from the trial, Lifeline Mid Coast is preparing to provide the same training and crisis support opportunities to many towns within Rotary District 9650. In order to accomplish this, Lifeline Mid Coast is also engaging with Lifeline Direct and Lifeline North Coast. Lifeline Direct has received IAG funding to provide Accidental Counsellor training and emotional support for the New England district. By collaborating with Lifeline Direct and the Rotary Clubs along the New England, we will be able to provide a greater number of towns with training and crisis support opportunities.

Lifeline North Coast, like Lifeline Mid Coast will provide the Accidental Counsellor training at cost and will invoice Lifeline Mid Coast at the completion of each training. There will be a follow meeting with Moree in September 2021. Planned visits for October 2021 include Coonamble, Coonabarabran, Boggabri and Walcha. Planned visit for Laurieton before December 2021 to assist flood victims. Visits to Gloucester, Wingham and Forster are planned in early 2022 as is the north coast of our district and inland to Manilla, Armidale and Tamworth. At the end of project, Lifeline Mid Coast will put together a booklet outlining key findings of the trainings and present it to PDG Debbie Loveday and PDG Phil Hafey and Bronwyn. Below is a table showing the progression of the two projects.

# CAN YOU TAKE ON THE SUNRISE SANTA?

Over the next 4 months the Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise are going to try and walk/run/cycle/move 20,000km to get to Santa by Christmas eve, stopping in on our past Yelpers in Milan and Hameenlinna Finland on the way.

We are pretty confident we can make it - but could your club/cluster/the rest of the district beat us there? It's just \$25 per person!

How do you register?

1. Contact [taylor.fletcher89@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.fletcher89@gmail.com) to set up a team with your club name or cluster number. We can even take on a District!
2. Visit <https://www.myvirtualmission.com/missions/127509/sunrise-to-santa-2021> and join the mission!
3. Start moving and log your distance or connect your smart device.

So take on the challenge - and register today!  
Please note: When walking please always adhere to Public Health Orders. Stay Safe!



# CALLING ALL VOCATION ACTIVITIES

I am seeking all new and old vocation activities to construct a more detailed list for D9650. Whether you run a huge vocation activity that the district publicise and know heaps about or whether you run a small vocation activity within your community- I'd love to know about it.

All you have to do is email me:

- The activity
- Date/time of year
- Whether it is open to community or to district.

[emily\\_ryan\\_30@hotmail.com](mailto:emily_ryan_30@hotmail.com)

**Sunrise to Santa**

HELP US WALK 20,000KM TOGETHER

STOPPING BY MILAN TO SEE MARTINA & GAIA, AND HÄMEENLINNA TO SEE SRIKA

**\$25 PER PERSON FROM AUGUST TO CHRISTMAS EVE**

REGISTER TODAY VIA [WWW.MYVIRTUALMISSION.COM](http://WWW.MYVIRTUALMISSION.COM)

"SUNRISE TO SANTA 2021"

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE - CONTACT US ON FACEBOOK TODAY!  
ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT PROJECTS AND CHARITIES THROUGH THE ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH SUNRISE  
A.M. 182 288 277 49 CDR 2020

Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise

# 500 LIFESAVING DONATIONS

Coffs Harbour lifesaver Jenny Horton has reached a remarkable milestone of 500 blood donations, her blood donation career starting many decades ago as a student nurse in Armidale. Jenny will set a record for the highest number of donations achieved by a female on the Mid North Coast, and is one of only a handful of women in New South Wales to reach the milestone.

With every donation having the power to save up to three lives, Jenny has potentially helped save 1500 Australian patients. Travelling all over the world with her work with Rotary and the World Health Organisation, Jenny has even donated blood in Pakistan for a friend who was dying of Denghi fever.

Now based in Macksville, Jenny makes the two-hour round trip to Coffs Donor Centre part of her fortnightly routine. "I am very happy to have reached 500 donations and grateful for all the people I have helped along the way," said Jenny. "Everyone who can donate, should. It is a very simple process, it takes just over an hour and helps save someone's life."

Lifblood spokesperson Ruth Harrison said Ms Horton was one in a million and Australia owed her an enormous thank you. "Jenny's commitment to saving lives is extraordinary, she has helped save the lives of the hundreds of cancer patients, new mothers, trauma victims, who wouldn't be alive without her. "Local blood donors have been incredibly generous throughout the pandemic, but with hospital demand the highest it's been in nearly a decade, it's critical people don't stop donating now,"

"By becoming a regular blood donor just like Jenny, you will be helping the one in three Australians who will need blood or a blood product in their lifetime. Be it your first or 500th donation, every donation can help many seriously ill Australians."

Blood donation is an essential service under government lockdown regulations, and travel and venue restrictions do not prevent people from donating blood. O blood type is particularly needed right now, and is the most common blood type needed in hospitals. People who are healthy and well, now waiting on test results or isolating can book online at 13 14 95 or [donateblood.com.au](http://donateblood.com.au).



# SW ROCKS DOES IT AGAIN!

On Friday night 13 August, the Rotary Club of South West Rocks held a Trivia Night at the South West Rocks Country Club to raise awareness and funds for the District Governors Partners project, Youth Insearch.

The Trivia night was a good fun way to raise awareness and some funds for Youth Insearch. It was especially good to be able to give a cheque for \$1,500 to Youth Insearch, which will go directly to helping young people attend a camp.

A huge thankyou to everyone from President Muni Osborne for their support!

This was only made possible with the generous support of local business houses, the South West Rocks Country Club, our club members and the many supporters who attended and contributed to a fun filled evening.

President Muni Osborne together with all the members of the Rotary Club of South West Rocks thanks the District Governor David Mayne and Heather Mayne, the Rotary Club of Nambucca Valley and the Rotary Club of Kempsey West for attending and supporting the Trivia night.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO MIKE WHITEHOUSE

People join Rotary for many reasons, and they serve in various ways depending on the degree of their commitment. Some are content to attend the weekly meetings and assist at fundraisers, others take on administrative roles, giving more than could be termed a fair share. Then along comes a man who stands head and shoulders above his peers in terms of his empathy, compassion, & sheer determination to get things done to assist the unfortunate in our society. Such a man is Mike Whitehouse. Mike was inducted into the Rotary club of Kingston, Tasmania in 1974, and is a Chartered Accountant. Obviously, Rotarians put their vocational and life skills to good use within the structure of Rotary, and Mike was no different in that regard. But his enthusiasm to help others, and to serve his club and District, saw him take on the role of President in 1993-94, AG in 2006-07, D9380 Treasurer from 2009-17, District Chair ARH from 2011-21 and National Treasurer of Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) from 2011-21. For his hard work and commitment, Mike has been recognised by this Nation with an OAM, and by Rotary with five "Paul Harris Fellow" (PHF) recognitions, and finally, Rotary's highest award, the "Service Above Self Award." These awards mirror give testimony to Mike's invaluable commitment to his Anglican Diocese and local church, to Alzheimer's respite care and Parkinson's Disease, while his PHF and Sapphire pins reflect on his dedication, and commitment to the ideals of Rotary. Mike has used his considerable accountancy skills to overhaul the operations of RAWCS, commencing with the centralisation of RAWCS's Regional accounting and management systems, establishing additional RAWCS operating funds so that national appeals can be catered for, and with a host of other important changes, achieving financial sustainability with surpluses across all operating funds.

But without question, Mike's greatest legacy was his handling of the drought in terms of partnering with Channel 9 and the National Farmers Federation, during which \$10.1M was raised for farming families. With the measures he had put in place, RAWCS was able to issue receipts online at the rate of five tax deductible receipts per second during the Chanel 9 telethon! Recognising Rotary's success, the Prime Minister asked Rotary to participate with the Salvos and Vinnies in the distribution \$30M direct to farming families. Over the past 4 years, Rotary has raised and distributed a further \$14+M direct to drought impacted farmers. While these figures are impressive of themselves, they don't tell the story of the hours getting to and from airports including from Tasmania, to Sydney and Canberra, often several times a week. Living in motel rooms and through it all, keeping abreast of the constant changes in protocols and requirements. But when the monies were eventually allocated, Mike's previous work in streamlining RAWCS paid off with the extremely rapid allocation of funds. For me personally, it has been one of the greatest pleasures of my life to meet a man like Mike Whitehouse. I'm sure too, that his name, and all that he achieved in Rotary will be remembered for a very long time by his peers as a lesson in dedication and compassion, and what it really means to be a Rotarian. And lastly, there will be many farmers who, while being grateful for the rapid way they received their funds, probably don't even know his name, and being the man he is, I'm sure Mike would appreciate that more!

## HAITI NEEDS OUR HELP

Western Haiti was hit by a huge earthquake on Saturday morning at 08.30 (local time). The Haitian prime minister has said it has caused 'enormous damage' and at this stage the death toll is unknown. Haiti has still not recovered after the 2010 earthquake struck, which killed over 200,000 people. ShelterBox is monitoring the situation and are preparing to respond, as we did in 2010. We are liaising with the District Governor and Disaster Management Committee of District 7020 along with other agencies in the region to understand the full extent of the damage. We need your help.

While our attention turns to Haiti, sadly, the shelter need all around the world is also growing. We are also currently working in Syria, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria and recently in Honduras - your donation will be spent wherever the need is greatest. In 2010, with the amazing support of the Rotary family, ShelterBox provided shelter to over 140,000 people in Haiti. Please help support communities today.



29<sup>th</sup> April – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
Lake Keepit Sport & Recreation Centre  
**RYLArrians to the Rescue**  
Josh Stangl (RYLA2021) was recently inducted as Deputy Unit Commander, DUC, of Marine Rescue Woolgoolga.  
Josh, sponsored by RC Coffs City was inducted by unit Commander, Mitch Harvey (RYLA2019) & outgoing DUC David Forge.  
RYLA is an investment in youth & the Community

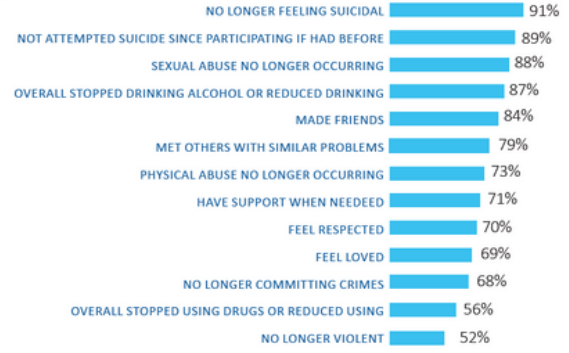


# YOUTH INSEARCH

REBUILDING YOUNG LIVES

YOUTH INSEARCH IS THE ONLY AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE FACE TRAUMA THROUGH PEER GROUP SUPPORT.

## OUTCOMES



## PURPOSE

To empower young people to take control of their lives by giving them the opportunity and skills to develop their self-esteem and play a positive role in society.

## PATRON

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of the Commonwealth of Australia.

## PEOPLE

At risk youth | Aged 14-20 | All walks of life

Youths experiencing: family separation; conflict; neglect and domestic violence; sexual abuse; grief and loss; bullying; and low self-esteem.

This often results in: suicidal thoughts; suicide attempts; self-harm; and drug and alcohol abuse.

## SPENDING

FUNDRAISING: 9%

ADMIN: 27%

RUNNING PROGRAMS: 64%



IN 2019



## FUNDING

IN 2019, WE RECEIVED:

- 47% FROM TRUSTS/FOUNDATIONS
- 20% FROM GOVERNMENT
- 20% FROM APPEALS, COMMUNITY CLUBS & EVENTS
- 7% FROM COMPANIES
- 4% FROM INDIVIDUALS
- 2% FROM OTHER

VS  
ONE YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAM = \$1K - 5K  
ONE YEAR IN JUVENILE DETENTION = \$300K

## AVOIDABLE COSTS

EACH YEAR, THERE IS:  
OVER \$640M SPENT ON JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES  
\$4.3BN SPENT ON CHILD PROTECTION & OUT-OF-HOME CARE  
\$22BN A YEAR IN COSTS LINKED WITH YOUTH SUICIDE  
\$3.16BN A YEAR IN COSTS LINKED WITH DRUG ABUSE



"YOUTH INSEARCH BOOSTED MY CONFIDENCE AND HELPED ME REALISE I WAS WORTHY OF A LIFE. I NOW KNOW I CAN DO WHATEVER I PUT MY MIND TO. I SHAPE MY OWN FUTURE, NOBODY ELSE DOES."

CASSIE'S STORY:

YOUTH INSEARCH HELPS HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE EVERY YEAR

Rotary District 9650



19<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

DISTRICT CONFERENCE PORT MACQUARIE

CELEBRATING GENERATIONS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Rotary District 9650



19<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

DISTRICT CONFERENCE PORT MACQUARIE

CELEBRATING GENERATIONS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE