

Tweed Torch

Newsletter of 2014/15 District Governor, Wendy Scarlett

Edition 2 | August 2014



District Governor's Update

By the end of August Charles and I will have completed one third of our District Governor visits.

We are very honoured by the warm welcome we are receiving from clubs. Thank you for making the meeting special for members, partners and for us. Clubs come in all varieties, large, small, very social to more formal but you all have one thing in common – your heart for helping others in your communities.



Some of the smaller clubs are to be commended for the 100% involvement of members to carry out the many projects in their area. While increasing membership is an issue for many of the clubs we have visited, we hope that the ideas from the combined district seminar a Caboolture will be useful. Our district was well represented with many Rotarians joining in the lively discussion about public image, public relations and membership. If you would like to hear some of the ideas please talk with Margarita Rickard – she loves to share good ideas.

I am enjoying reading the Club bulletins. Things I like that I have seen include; a message from presidents especially thanking members for their help with projects, a Buddy system whereby members are teamed up in threes and are asked to call and check if they have not seen a "Buddy" for 7 days; pertinent RI or TRF news; and sharing of information on other Club's activities and events. I get a laugh frequently, but not at jokes that single out people based on nationality, race, religious creed, physical traits or sexual innuendo; I would like you to err on the side of caution with all jokes so we do not hurt those we serve or serve with.

It is good to see so many events coming up, especially Rotary Days which will involve local communities. If you have photos from club events suitable for our District website please send to Teresa so she can include - 1mb minimum resolution.

Condolences to Jeff Egan and Margarita Rickard on the loss of their mothers recently. Past President Jackie Murtagh from Coomera Valley passed away in July so our thoughts are with the club and family

Wendy Scarlett
District Governor

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DG Visit Snapshots



Kyogle (with Mark Ivanusa)



Lismore West (with Tony Cicchinelli)

August is Membership and Extension Month

There are two articles inside this month's edition to help guide you in this area. You will also find plenty of good information on membership on our District Facebook page, website and also the RI website.

Please make the effort this month to try and introduce new members to your club and our District.



Find us on Facebook

www.rotary9640.org

Membership and Extension Month

by Margarita Rickard (District Membership Chair) and Sandra Doumany (District Membership Extension Chair)

The world of Rotary is a rewarding one. There are over 1.2 million of us out there which has been the case for some time now. Our own District hovers around the 1,260 to 1,300 members which it has also done for a few years now. Membership is becoming the most important issue in Rotary after Polio.

- We have great clubs, so why aren't we growing?
- Our clubs are happy, are they moving forward?
- Our clubs practice great traditions, are these still in-tune with life today?
- Our clubs run some great programs, are these programs still needed in our communities?
- Our members seem happy, have they been asked lately?

Life is an ever-evolving thing, and so should be our Rotary clubs. Our meetings must evolve and grow, we must check and re-check every year, that our current procedures are still relevant. We need to make use of the latest technology available, to do this we must get members of the community to join us that are up to date in these technologies. We need to ask ourselves, our members, our boards: are we running as efficiently as we can? Are we asking our community what it is that they need? Are we opening our eyes and looking around us to see what could be done better?

Membership should not be left to one person, it should be in our conversations at our club meetings, when we are out in public activities and practiced in our everyday Rotary life. We are proud and should shout it out loud!

In some cases some Rotary Clubs feel they cannot recruit new members, but this is a time when one must think outside the square. If you are a Dinner Club could it be that there are people in the community that would prefer a breakfast or lunch meeting time, or normally would be excluded because of gender or age.

This gives you the wonderful and exciting opportunity to be involved in forming a new club or a satellite club. District Governor Wendy & Membership Extension Chair Sandy and her committee will be very happy to work with you. A little information about satellite clubs, they are an extension of the Sponsor Rotary Club and meet at different times and venues, and these clubs can start with as few as 6 members. This option has been trialled very successfully in a Rotary International Pilot Program

Our objective is always to retain existing members, recruit new members and start new clubs. This must be emphasized to ensure Rotary Clubs are strong, relevant and effective. A reminder also always seek opportunities for prospective Rotaract, Interact and Earlyact Clubs. They are the Rotarians of the future.

In 2014 – 2015 hopefully we are going to make membership fun, innovative, and with the ability to share great ideas between all clubs. With this we can only look forward to increased growth and friendship.



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Cruising Rotarians

I am part of a small team who want to establish a Fellowship of Cruising Rotarians. The Fellowship will be a Facebook-based info kiosk for Rotarians who enjoy cruising and those who'd like to find out more. Before we can get the Fellowship off the ground, we need to have the names of interested Rotarians, and this must include Rotarians from at least three countries.

If you're interested in being a member, or know fellow Rotarians (including overseas) who might be interested in membership, please email me on cruisingrotarians@gmail.com

Rhonda Whitton, RC Kardinia, Geelong

Change of Date for São Paulo

Please note that the dates for the 2015 Rotary International Convention in São Paulo, Brazil have changed.

The Convention now starts and ends a day earlier and will run from **6-9 June**.



Rotary Foundation Update

2013/14 Annual Programs Fund (APF) Contributions Record

Congratulations to every Club and Rotarian who contributed to a new record per capita and absolute contribution level for District 9640.

Contributions to the APF totaled a magnificent **USD 154,080**, a 16.4% increase over 2012/13 and the fourth best increase of all Australian Districts. It is particularly pleasing that we have achieved this record result in a year in which world wide contributions also reached a new milestone exceeding USD 250 million for the first time. With our record contribution level we also achieved a record per capita contribution of USD 122.19 with thirty five clubs achieving the USD 100 per capita goal which is also our best ever result and six which exceeded USD 200 per capita. Top clubs (on a total and per capita basis) are shown in the tables to the right.

It was disappointing that we had two clubs which did not make any contribution but on a positive note, this is the lowest number of non-contributing clubs we have ever had. Our ongoing district goal is for all clubs to reach the USD 100 per capita benchmark and hopefully we can continue the steady progress we have made towards achieving this over recent years.

Polio Plus Contributions Increased

Contributions increased 28.4% to USD 60,377 in 2013/2014. This increase in contribution levels is particularly pleasing given the additional funds of USD 120,754 flowing to the fund from the Gates Foundation on two for one match.

Murwillumbah Central Club was clearly our leading contributor to Polio Plus with USD10,000. Special congratulations to all members of the club on this truly outstanding contribution which with the Gates Foundation match translates to USD 30,000.

In addition, our District contributed USD 25,000 from our district designated funds which was matched 50% from the world fund and then two for one by the Gates Foundation making a total of USD 112,500.. We can all be very proud that our District has initiated contributions to Polio Plus in 2013/2014 totalling **USD 233,254**.

Rotary Foundation Overall

Finally and importantly we recognize our top ten contributors to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) overall. There was only USD 145 separating our top three clubs but congratulations are extended all.

Once again, congratulations and sincere thanks for the outstanding results achieved over the past year.

Our challenge now is to build on this achievement as we all strive to ensure that The Rotary Foundation, "Our Charity", can continue its wonderful work both locally and internationally

Neil Jones
District Foundation Chair

Top Clubs

APF Total (USD)	
Stanthorpe	9,187
Mermaid Beach	8,659
Surfers Sunrise	7,073
Surfers Paradise	6,936
Ashmore	6,237

APF Per Capita (USD)	
Mermaid Beach	302.25
Surfers Paradise	301.58
Ballina-on-Richmond	267.70
Nerang	225.42
Stanthorpe	218.74
Hope Island	201.35

Polio Plus Total (USD)	
Murwillumbah Central	10,000
Boonah	6,364
Hope Island	6,150
Mt Warning AM	4,524
Grafton Middy	3,636

TRF Overall (USD)	
Murwillumbah Central	11,800
Hope Island	11,788
Stanthorpe	11,655
Glen Innes	9,523
Ashmore	9,275
Boonah	9,091
Surfers Paradise	8,957
Mermaid Beach	8,803
Surfers Sunrise	8,073
Grafton Middy	7,766

RAWCS Update

Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) is a Project of Australian Rotary Districts and Clubs. It allows Rotarians and Rotary Clubs to undertake and manage Humanitarian Projects that improves the lives and living conditions in developing countries and promotes international understanding and goodwill. A sample of projects in D9640 are shown to the right. RAWCS activities include –

- **Project Volunteers** - are groups of Rotarians and non-Rotarians who are prepared to work with and train local people. They are prepared to travel to another country at their own expense to work on a RAWCS project. If you wish to be a Project Volunteer at a particular project, then contact the Project Manager via the RAWCS website and make personal contact. You do not have to be a member of that Rotary Club.
- **Project Funding** - collects and distributes funds to support approved projects. Rotary Foundation Grants can combine with Club and District funds to finance RAWCS projects.
- **Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM)** - develops effective programs to combat the spread of malaria. They also foster research and the development of anti-malarial vaccines and drugs.
- **Donations in Kind (DIK)** - collects a wide variety of goods that have no intrinsic value in Australia but that are invaluable in developing countries. They co-ordinate, dispatch and deliver to developing countries.
- **Safe Water and Sanitation Saves Lives** - aim to supply clean water for a community through a planned system of water catchment and reticulation. Local people are encouraged to provide materials, labour and finance to build systems, and to develop and install effective sanitation.
- **Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS)** - RAWCS has established the Rotary Australia Benevolent Society to assist Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts to respond to the needs of our own communities and to gain tax deductibility for donations made to their particular project.

The main requirement for RABS projects is that they provide direct relief to people in need. The relief provided is only for people and the project must show that it works for people in the community that clearly needs help.

Monetary donations to RAWCS projects through the RAWCS Overseas Aid Fund is registered for Deductible Gift Recipient and offers tax deductibility to individuals, businesses and not for profit organisations.

What can you or your club do?

Individuals and Clubs who see a particular need within a country or community can formulate a project to help. Go to the RAWCS website (www.rawc.org.au) to see if another Rotary Club is doing a similar project. Contact them for advice or help – after all there is no need to “re-invent the wheel”.

Contact the RAWCS District Chairman Rock O'Keefe 0417 741 945 rockandjoan@gmail.com for help and advice. When you are confident that the personnel and finances are available, then complete a Project Application Form for Funding Volunteers. This can be downloaded from the website.

District 9640 RAWCS Projects

New Hope, Cambodia

(RC of Ashmore)

Replaced a 2 room school with a 3-story school, a clinic, a training restaurant, sewing training school, mechanics school & fish farm



Pipisu Medical Clinic, Solomon Islands

(RC of Tweed Heads South)

Built a clinic with local labour that has now been reassessed as a mini Hospital / Regional Health Centre.

Monastic School, Yangon, Myanmar

(RC of Coomera River)

This provides educational resources, teacher training, infrastructure, digital technology and teacher resources.

Children's House of Hope, Samoa

(RC of Surfers Sunrise)

A home was built to house girls under the age of 12 years who may have been mistreated, abused or are homeless and in need of shelter.



Longreach Region Drought

An example of a RABS project to provide assistance and care packages to families and individuals affected by drought.

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)

16 students and 2 reserves were selected recently to attend the NYSF in Canberra during January 2015. Rotarians enjoyed assisting with interviews and hearing 5 minute talks on a wide range of subjects from 40 young people. Successful applicants were –

Madeline White Ashmore	Yasaru Gunaratne Hope Island	Liao Hao Ting Surfers Paradise
Jett Allen Byron Bay	Anastassia Demeshko Hope Island	Madison McRae Tweed Heads South
Rachel Lee Coomera River	Germain Tobar Murwillumbah	David Chien (R) Ashmore
Marina Kaku Coomera Valley	Vanamali Hermans Murwillumbah Central	Jacob Pennell (R) Boonah
Tatum Palmley Gold Coast	Lachlan St Pierre Nerang	
Abbie Smith Grafton Midday	Isabella Mortimore Southport	
Chianna Dane Iluka-Woombah	Maria Ciubuc-Batcu Surfers Sunrise	



Youth Exchange Program (YEP)

Welcome to the following inbound YEP students for 2014/15 -

Vincent Strick	Germany	Glen Innes / Maclean
Annelie Schmidt	Germany	Goondwindi / eClub NextGen
Laura Burtscher	Austria	Surfers Sunrise
Agathe Cornette	France	Ballina-on-Richmond / Ballina
Julie Ropstorffe	Denmark	Tweed Heads South
Christian Svendsen	Denmark	Stanthorpe
Conor Fillebrown	USA	Surfers Paradise
Umi Ito	Japan	Beaudesert
Yasmin Pedro	Brazil	Hope Island
Marie Fils	Belgium	Grafton / Grafton Midday
Gaelle Ameye	Belgium	Yamba

The YEP committee has recently conducted interviews for outbound students with some very good applicants.



Monthly Club Spotlight

Boonah

The Rotary Club of Boonah is one of the oldest clubs in District 9640, having been chartered in 1946. The club currently has 28 members with two new members being inducted in recent weeks.

Youth is a major focus of club activity and usually sends attendees to RYPEN, RYTS, RYLA, MUNA, and NYSF. We also work closely with the Interact Club at Boonah High School (which is the longest running Interact Club in District 9640).

The current major project is the creation of an exercise park in one of the town's sporting parks. The equipment has been purchased and assembled and will be installed in the coming weeks. This will be the first outdoor exercise equipment to be installed in the Scenic Rim Council region.

GSE has always been part of club's activity. One of the team members on the recent GSE visit to Macau, Hong Kong and Mongolia was sponsored by the club and we also hosted the inbound team for part of their stay in Australia.

During the year the club held a local appeal to raise money for a Shelterbox in the wake of Hurricane Hyan in the Philippines. The local PR and community response resulted in sufficient funding for eight Shelterboxes. This earned the club a District Award for PR. In recent years, the club has also received District Awards for service to Youth and to Australian Rotary Health.

The major beneficiaries of club donations last year were Australian Rotary Health, Polio Plus and the Rotary Foundation. A major project this year will be the installation of a wheelchair access ramp to the Rotary rotunda and barbecues in Bicentennial Park in Boonah.

PR is considered with all club activities. Being active and being seen to be active is vital and over the past three years, the club's profile has really been raised within the community.

Bowelscan Project

Testing of Bowelscan kits has been completed with 5,000 negative results and 58 positive results. So hopefully 58 people have a chance for early treatment if they are diagnosed with bowel cancer. A huge thankyou to the clubs involved for your commitment to this community program.

Where's Wendy ?

DG Wendy will be visiting the following clubs during the 2nd half of August and early September --

August		September	
18 th	Lismore	1 st	Stanthorpe
19 th	Byron Bay	2 nd	Beaudesert
20 th	Tweed Coast	8 th	Coomera Valley
25 th	Casino	9 th	Jimboomba
26 th	Goonellabah	10 th	Fassifern Valley
		11 th	Warwick Sunrise
		15 th	Runaway Bay
		16 th	Parkwood



Date Claimers

23-24 Aug 14	Craft & Quilt Fair
6 Sep 14	RYLA Barefoot Bowls
8 Sep 14	GSE Team Leader Applications Close
18 Sep 14	GSE Team Member Applications Close
27 Sep 14	GSE Host Club Applications Close
10 Oct 14	Australian Rotary Health Hat Day
19 Oct 14	Ride for Polio (Brisbane to Gold Coast)
24 Oct 14	World Polio Day
25 Oct 14	Kyogle Bush Turkey Ball
4-8 Mar 15	Bavarian Music Festival and Beer Fest
14-17 Apr 15	Ride for Rotary Health (Glen Innes to Goondwindi)
17-19 Apr 15	District Conference

Events on D9640 Website

Looking for a full schedule of DG Wendy's Club visits or wanting more information on any of the events on this page ?



Simply go to our website (www.rotary9640.org) and choose Events > Event Calendar and you will be able to see a calendar view of all events. You can even click on an event for a flyer or more information (if available). It's that easy !

Important 2014/15 Training Dates

22 Feb 15	Assistant Governor / District Chair Training
14-15 Mar 15	President Elect Training (PETS)
24 May 15	District Assembly (one only)
28 Jun 15	District Changeover

Australian Rotary Health Hat Day

Rotary Clubs in Australia continue to be the biggest supporters of Hat Day, contributing over \$300,000 towards mental health research through Australian Rotary Health. Hat Day is the national fundraising day where you wear a hat and make a donation to help shine a light on mental illness.

It's here on October 10, will your Club be getting involved? Simply register your Club for Hat Day on the website www.hatday.com.au and the rest of the details are up to you. We encourage Clubs to be as creative or as simple as you like!

100% of the money raised for Hat Day goes to research into helping those affected by depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and many other illnesses.

Watch out for your club's Hat Day Info Pack in the mail, or you can sign up to receive the latest Hat Day news to your inbox. Email info@hatday.com.au or call 02 8837 1900..

Gold Coast Craft & Quilt Fair

MUDGEERABA

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Saturday: 9-5pm
Sunday 9-3pm

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AUGUST 23 - 24

www.goldcoastcraftandquiltfair.com.au

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- Crafts for sale
- All types of crafts & hobbies
- Wheelchair access
- Quilts and materials for sale
- Catering on site
- Demonstrations
- Plenty free on site parking

FOR STALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT

Mike Neale 0415 592 831
e: mikesally.neale@hotmail.com







Friday October 10 is HAT DAY

Shining a light on Mental Health

www.hatday.com.au

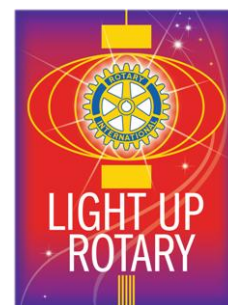
Rotary International President's Message | August 2014

Gary C.K. Huang



In Rotary, we mark August as Membership and Extension Month. There is a good reason why we remind ourselves of the importance of membership early in every Rotary year: because the job of growing our membership is one that we can never begin too soon.

It is also a job that we can never stop working on. In order to keep serving, Rotary always needs to be growing!



We have talked for many years about the importance of the family of Rotary. In this Rotary year, I want to make not just the family of Rotary, but our own Rotary families, a priority in our membership. After 37 years of following me in Rotary, my wife, Corinna, finally became a Rotarian last year. We attended the chartering of a new club in Taiwan together, and she said, "It's time for me to become a Rotarian too!" So she joined that club. And soon, so did a lot of other people. Now that club has 102 members, and it's the second-largest club in Taiwan.

Inviting our spouses into Rotary isn't just about getting our numbers up. It addresses the reality that Rotary still has far more men as members than it does women, and that is something we need to work on. When we bring more women into Rotary, our clubs become more appealing to prospective female members – and become more productive as well.

This year we are going to have something new in Rotary: a membership support team pin. This means that if you invite a new member into Rotary, you get a special pin to wear with your Rotary gearwheel. But we all know that the job of growing membership doesn't end when a new member joins. It ends only when a new member is enjoying being a Rotarian and never wants to leave! And making sure that our clubs are enjoyable places to be is a key part of growing membership.

People come into Rotary for all kinds of reasons, but they stay because Rotary is fun to be a part of. So I want to remind all of you to have fun in your clubs and your districts. Rotary is based on the idea that our service is more effective when we serve together with our friends. So let's enjoy our Rotary service, share it with others, and *Light Up Rotary* together!

John Germ selected as 2016/17 President



John F. Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, and chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of RI in 2016-17. He will become the president-nominee on 1 October if there are no challenging candidates

In 1965, after four years in the U.S. Air Force, Germ, an engineer, joined Campbell and Associates Inc., an engineering consulting firm. He now serves as the company's board chair and chief executive officer.

In 1970 he was recognized as Tennessee Young Man of the Year, Engineer of the Year, and Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year in 1992.

A Rotary member since 1976, Germ has served Rotary as vice president, director, Foundation trustee and vice chair, chair of Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, and RI president's aide.

He is a recipient of Rotary's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Judy, are members of the Arch Klumph Society.



Register for 2015 in São Paulo at www.riconvention.org



All your RI template, logo and image needs at the Brand Center - <https://brandcenter.rotary.org>