



District Governor's Update



It has been fantastic to see all of the activity recently for Rotary's 110th birthday. From giving out pancakes in the main street, joint club meetings, cutting of many birthday cakes, a flyover with a light plane carrying a banner, there was plenty going on.

It is certainly worth celebrating this amazing organisation and reflecting on what it means to each of us. Just think of the many people in your local community who have been helped by Rotary in some way then multiply this by the thousands of communities across the world that have Rotary to thank for their clean water, literacy programs, micro loans for small businesses, better health for their children and so on. We have done so much but there will always be much to be done. Thank you for your contribution to our world.

District Conference is just over a month away and we have some incredible speakers lined up. It is wonderful to think that speakers who have lived in Hong Kong, Afghanistan, Iraq, Liberia, Singapore will all gather in Goondiwindi to tell us their stories.

We have some great local speakers as well so come on out to enjoy program and the country hospitality. Charles and I took a trip out to Goondiwindi recently (see picture below) though the choice of clothing is probably more of an example of what not to wear ! See you there.

Yours in Rotary

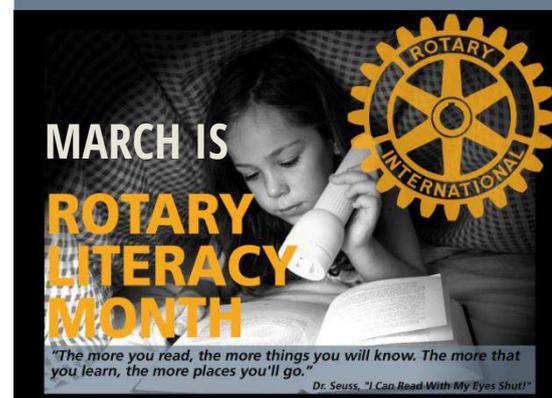
Wendy



Inside This Month

- 2015 District Conference
- An exciting night in Murwillumbah
- Probus Travel Insurance
- Poem by Bruce Sullivan
- GSE Team from D1461 (Denmark)
- First RLI Graduates
- Kingscliff celebrates 45 years
- Rotary 110th Birthday
- Changes to Rotary Theme Months
- End Polio Now Movie Proceeds
- Ashlee Teakle joins WHO
- RI President's Message & News
- Calendar of Activities

Rotary Monthly Theme



Important Reminder

All bookings for the 2015 District Conference in Goondiwindi that include meal options close on **31 March 2015** so get in early !

All aboard for Goondiwindi !

Conference registration is now open online at <http://e.mybookingmanager.comD9640Conference2015> so register now to assist with our planning for a wonderful conference in Goondiwindi from 17 – 19 April.

There is still accommodation available at many of the motels, hotels and caravan parks. With all accommodation bookings please phone direct to the motel and mention Rotary to secure a booking.

For enquiries please contact the following people –

Enquiry Type	Name and Contact
Accommodation	Peter Cory (0429 495 975 or gpcory@me.com)
Booths	Wayne McCosker (0428 713 678 or btcgoo@qld.chariot.net.au)
Silent Auction	Chawki Gazal (0410 002 403 or chawki@akgaz.net)
All Other	Guy Nosworthy (0427 771 490 or guynosworthy@crediflex.com.au)

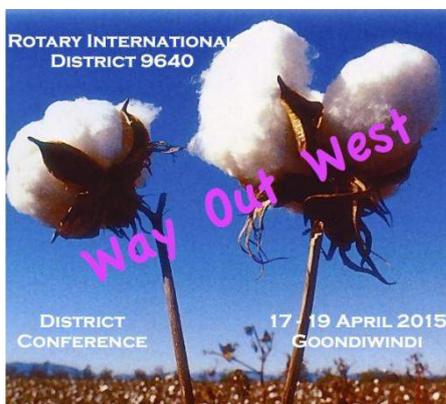
Guest Speakers

There are an exciting variety of guest speakers lined up on the program. Full details and biographies are available on the District website (www.rotary9640.org).



Speakers pictured above (L-R) are **Sam Bailey**, **Betty Kitchener AM**, **Kay Danes OAM**, **PDG Chew Ghim Bok**, **Bobby Whitfield**, **Phil Rosenborg**, **Steve Martin**, **Damien Fitzgerald**, **PDG Ian Yarker** and **PDG Kenneth & Lucia Wong**.

 Hear from Group Study Exchange Teams (D4180 Mexico - Returned, D1461 Denmark – Inbound and Outbound) and the Goondiwindi State High School “Gundy to Gallipoli” team.



The District website (www.rotary9640.org) contains more details of the program for the conference but don't forget to book in early for a true Goondiwindi experience. There are Cotton Tours on the Saturday (weather permitting) which are limited in number and filling up fast.

Don't forget to also book for the Saturday Dinner which includes a Cotton Showcase and Bush Band (Band O'Coots).

Bookings including meal options close on 31 March 2015 so get in early !

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What will I wear?

Dress code for the conference is neat casual, and for the Saturday evening Bush Dance, 'classy country wear' with comfortable shoes.

What will the weather be like ?

Weather in Goondiwindi in April will be mild, perhaps a little cool at night. All conference activities are indoors, at the same venue.

What will the food be like ?

Local community groups and other service clubs will provide a delightful array of foods for breakfasts, lunches and breaks. Our dinners will be provided by renowned local caterer Annie Makim, and promise to be a real gastronomic pleasure. Barista coffee from 'Coffee on the Move' available at the venue, at your own cost.

An exciting night at Murwillumbah Rotary Club



Photo: Murwillumbah RC President Corby Miles presenting a cheque to D9640 ROMAC Chair, Jill Ellis with Molly Dittmar (Banana Festival Queen candidate) looking on.

A very nice invitation was received by Jill Ellis, D9640 ROMAC Chair, to visit the RC of Murwillumbah on Monday 23 February to be presented with a cheque for ROMAC. It was a beautiful venue at "Greenhills on the Tweed" and was a special "Ladies Night", with so many smiling and welcoming members and their partners.

Jill was accompanied by Phil Rosenberg (ROMAC Board Marketing Consultant) who made an excellent ROMAC presentation to the attendees.

We had the pleasure of meeting the Club President Corby Miles and the delightful young Molly Dittmar, who was sponsored by the Club as their candidate in Tweed Banana Festival's Queen Competition.

Then the big surprise came. President Corby presented Jill with a cheque for \$2,300 which was received with great gratitude for the huge effort put in by the Club members, Molly and her family.

It was a great celebration all round because ROMAC was also celebrating its 400th patient.

Probus Travel Insurance

Probus Travel Insurance is now available for all Rotarians in two plans -

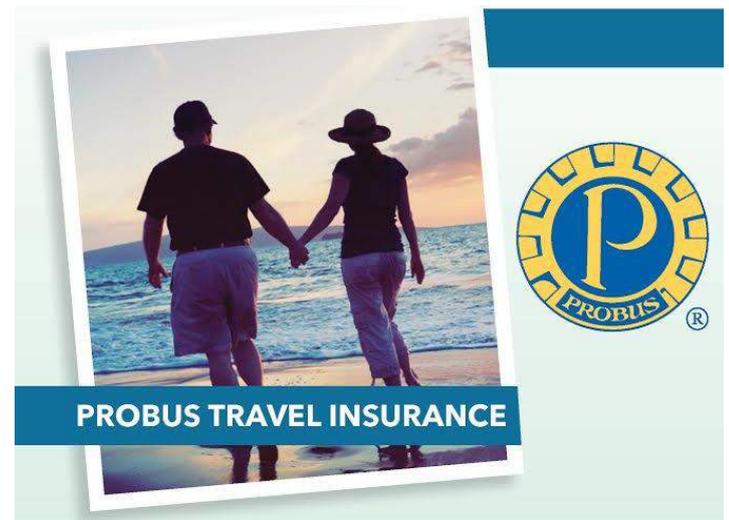
- 1. Probus Travel Insurance Plan A** - is for a maximum trip duration of 120 days. Plan A provides coverage for most pre-existing conditions and has a set access fee depending on age, destination and duration.

to be submitted with your application

- 2. Probus Travel Insurance Plan B** - is for a maximum trip duration of 180 days. Plan B provides coverage for some pre-existing conditions and has unlimited medical coverage in some areas*. Plan B does not require a fit to travel report. As Plan B does not have a set access fee, please contact our office for a quote.

Members of Rotary clubs can activate Probus Travel Insurance up to 270 days in advance of their travel date.

For more information on either of these exclusive plans, please visit the Probus Travel Insurance website at www.probusouthpacific.org, email them at travelinsurance@probusouthpacific.org or telephone from within Australia 1300 630 488 or from within New Zealand 0800 14776 287



Poem by Bruce Sullivan

Bruce Sullivan has been volunteering his time and talent at RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) for 25 years and is an amazing speaker, helping young people to be the best they can be. The following is a poem penned by Bruce called "One Life" that you may also be inspired by -

*"When you look in the mirror, what do you see?
Do you just sneak a glance at who you might be?
Will you look long enough to truly know?
Or are you too busy to reflect and grow?"*

*When you woke, were you grateful for living today,
As though this could be, your very last day?
Have you learnt what's important,
Like happiness and health,
Or are you distracted by possessions and wealth*

Poem by Bruce Sullivan

-continued from previous page-

*Does your heart have a place where
Your eyes just won't go?
When you look in the mirror it's so hard to know,
If you've cheated a friend or worse, even you.
In this once-only life are you honest and true?*

*People no doubt will have their last say,
About how you lived life at work and at play.
It's your choice - so will there be
Standing room only?
Did you choose the right road
Or will you die lonely?*

*So when that day comes
To lie down and rest,
Will you look back and say that
You gave it your best?
Though what stirs me most is that,
Right at the end,
When you take your last look,
Will you see a great friend?"*

GSE Team from District 1461 (Denmark)

On April 7th we will welcome the Group Study Exchange (GSE) team from District 1461 in Denmark. One of their first stops will be to join us at the District Conference in Goondiwindi

The team below (from L-R) are Pernille Rasmussen, Mia Andersen, John Clausen, Nikka Jørgensen and Cecilie Larsen -



Rotary Leadership Institute Graduates

Nine Rotarians and one Rotaractor have completed the first Rotary Leadership Institute Course coordinated by PDG Graham Jones.

This has been a great success and the second course is in progress with a third planned for August. Graham was most ably assisted in the delivery of this program by Teresa Dawson, Simone Wong, DGN Michael Irving, PDG Ian Yarker and Harold Busch.

The ten graduates below (from L-R) are Allan Thompson (Southport), Lea Rickwood (Southport), Sue Stirton (Mullumbimby), David Vickers-Shand (Murwillumbah Central), Tenille King (Rotaract-Burleigh Heads), Jo Kane (Burleigh Heads), Kaylene Casey (Mt Warning), Doug Ridley (Lismore West), Christel Taylor (Mullumbimby) and Jeff Egan (Mt Warning) -



Kingscliff Rotary celebrates 45 years

Kingscliff Rotary recently celebrated 45 years and at the celebratory function, President Jayne Henry paid tribute to 3 charter members Tom Grimes, Idwall Richards and Ken Hansen (pictured below).

Rotarians from sponsor club Coolangatta Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah Central, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Ballina-on-Richmond, Tweed Coast and Tweed Heads South helped Kingscliff to mark the occasion.



Rotary 110th Birthday

On Sunday 1 March, a fly over of the Gold Coast occurred with a gigantic banner announcing a Happy 110th Birthday to Rotary!



Changes to Rotary Theme Months

To assist with your planning please note changes to the Rotary months. While each month focuses on a specific theme or Area of Focus (AoF), clubs can choose how they celebrate each month.

For example, many clubs hold a Pride of Workmanship event in October which has previously been Vocational Service month. Clubs may choose to continue this event in whatever month suits them.

Month	Monthly Theme
JUL	No specific focus
AUG	Membership & Extension
SEP	AoF: Basic Education & Literacy
OCT	AoF: Economic & Community Development
NOV	Rotary Foundation
DEC	AoF : Disease Prevention & Treatment
JAN	Vocational Service
FEB	AoF: Peace & Conflict Prevention / Resolution
MAR	AoF: Water & Sanitation
APR	AoF: Maternal & Child Health
MAY	Youth Services
JUN	Rotary Fellowships

End Polio Now Movie Proceeds

What a great effort from so many clubs to support the movie screening of *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* in various locations around the District.

There has never been an easier (or funnier) way of raising funds for our special global project.

Here are some of the results which, when matched 2 for 1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will make achieving our goal to rid the world of polio just that much closer –

Location	Funds Raised
Currumbin, Coolangatta-Tweed	\$2,000
Lismore	\$1,500
Ballina	\$1,100
Clubs on Gold Coast	\$5,020
Warwick	\$1,000
Yamba	\$ 736
Maclean High School Interact	\$ 234
Mt Warning	\$2,616
GRAND TOTAL	\$14,206



Ashlee Teakle joins WHO



Many Rotarians in the District would remember Ashlee as a guest speaker at the District Conference in 2012-2013 where she made quite an impression on the audience listening to the work she has done overseas, especially in Africa and especially for one so young.

Ashlee is a former President of the Trinity Lutheran College Interact Club and has been involved with the Rotary Club of Hope Island as a member and volunteer on various projects and BBQs.

Ashlee has recently been accepted as an intern for the World Health Organisation (WHO) and will be leaving shortly for Manila, in the Philippines to work within the Equity and Social Determinants team.

Her main love is humanitarian work overseas and she is another example of the great things that spring from Interact.

Rotary International President's Message | March 2015



In Rotary, we have the opportunity to build bonds of friendship with fellow Rotarians around the world. And once a year, at our international convention, we have the chance to get together with all of our Rotary friends, to share new ideas, plan new service, and just have fun.

What better way to celebrate the end of the 2014-15 Rotary year, and Light Up Rotary with your friends, than to travel together to the 106th annual Rotary International Convention in São Paulo, Brazil? Whether you have never been to a convention before or are an experienced convention goer, this will be one you won't want to miss. Preregistration pricing ends on 31 March, so plan now for the biggest Rotary party of the year.

The convention will begin on Saturday, 6 June, and after the opening ceremony there will be a traditional Brazilian Carnival party and a Samba School Parade at the Anhembi Sambadrome. Even if you think you have no rhythm or can't carry a tune, you will find yourself dancing, singing, and laughing all night long.

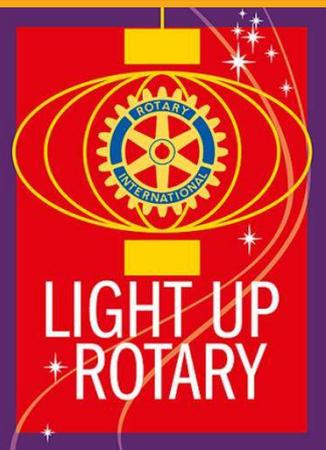
The party and parade will feature the bright colors, feathers, and sequins of Carnival costumes as well as the sights and sounds of samba, the Afro-Brazilian music and dance, and the delicious food and drinks of São Paulo.

On Monday night, Ivete Sangalo, winner of two Latin Grammy Awards, will entertain Rotarians. And every evening of the convention, Rotary Restaurant Nights will let you enjoy discounts in the culinary capital of Latin America. Savor fish from the Amazon, sushi with a Latin flair, Brazilian beef, and other offerings from some of São Paulo's 30,000 restaurants and bars. Admission to several museums in São Paulo, including the excellent soccer museum, will also be free with your convention badge.

Brazil reflects a diversity almost as great as Rotary's: Paulistanos, as the people of São Paulo are known, have created a lively culture with influences from all over the world. One of the highlights of any Rotary convention is always hospitality night, where you can get to know local Rotarians. Monday night is your chance to experience the paulistano lifestyle with the Rotarians of Brazil – but be sure to book early, as numbers are limited.

In Rotary, service and friendship go hand in hand. As you focus on the work of this Rotary year, I ask you not to lose sight of the importance of international friendship, and to register for the São Paulo convention now, at www.riconvention.org.

Gary C K Huang
President 2014/15



2015 Rotary International Convention



What are you waiting for ?

You can still save up to USD 50 on Convention Registration.

Book by 31 March 2015.

More info at www.riconvention.org



110 YEARS

#RI110
www.rotary.org



Calendar of Activities

Mark your diary for the following key dates, including training dates. Don't forget you can get more details on these events as well as what else is going on, via the District Website.

Date	Details (Location)	Type
Mar 14 – Mar 15	President Elect Training – PETS (Ballina)	Training
Mar 20	60s and 70s Music Trivia (Southport Sharks)	Event
Mar 21	Model United Nations Assembly – MUNA (Tweed Heads Civic Centre)	Youth
Mar 28	Denmark GSE Team Launch Luncheon (Happy Valley, Stanthorpe)	-
Mar 29	Rotary Leader Institute Course B – Part 3 (Broadbeach)	Development
Apr 14 – Apr 17	Ride for Rotary Health (Glen Innes – Goondiwindi) (for bookings visit www.gtoc.com.au)	Event
Apr 17 – Apr 19	District Conference (Goondiwindi)	Conference
May 02	Opera in the Vineyard (Stanthorpe) (for bookings visit www.trybooking.com/106025)	Event
May 07	Denmark GSE Team Farewell (Gold Coast Arts Centre)	-
May 15	Antiques & Collectible Fair (Alstonville)	Event
May 19	BBRC Young Achievers Award (Broadbeach)	Event
May 22	ROMAC Trivia Challenge (Gold Coast Arts Centre)	Event
May 22 – May 24	Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment - RYPEN (Bornhoffen)	Youth
May 24	District Assembly (Xavier Catholic College, Skennars Head)	Training
Jun 28	District Changeover	Event
Jul 12	Fine Wine & Food Festival (Ballina on Richmond) (for details visit www.ballinafinewineandfoodfestival.com.au)	Event
Jul 17	Rotary Hope Island Charity Golf Day (Links Hope Island)	Event
Jul 26	Opera at the Channon (Northern Rivers) (for bookings visit www.operaatthechannon.com.au)	Event

Ride for Rotary Health
April 14 –17



District Conference
April 17 - 19



Opera in the Vineyard
May 2

