



**P A G E 5**  
 NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!  
 PROVIDING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP THE UPCOMING RYPEN CAMP IS LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS



**P A G E 6 & 7**  
 SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH  
 NATIONAL FUNDRAISING DAY TO RECOGNISE AND SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH...HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?



**P A G E 9**  
 INTERNATIONAL VISITORS TO D9670  
 WE CATCH UP WITH SOME OF THE 2014 YEP INBOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS ON THEIR TIME IN OZ SO FAR...

# District *digest*

COMMUNITY, STRENGTH AND VALUES



**district9670 AUSTRALIA**

*This month, District Governor Gerard McMillan, celebrates all the great things that District 9670 participate in for Youth in Rotary. From mentoring new and young Rotarians; to providing various programs of leadership, enrichment and support, District 9670 continually strives to make a difference to those younger individuals within our local, regional and international communities. So, what does your Club participate in to support Youth in Rotary?*

Given it is **Youth Service Month** I thought my address this month should focus on the Rotary success stories of our youth in D9670...

It was my privilege to witness university student Danielle Kelly's **induction** into the Rotary Club of Morisset. Danielle is an enthusiastic, young lady who I believe will bring great energy and spirit to the Morisset Club. Like Danielle, there are so many other young Rotarians across our District that strive to bring a **new energy** to Rotary and are determined to continue to look within their own communities to have a positive impact to improve the lives of others. My congratulations goes out to you all and I hope that like Danielle, you will continue to Light Up Rotary.

My congratulations must also go to the **Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)** Team from Hunter School of Performing Arts for 'representing' the nation of Cuba in Canberra (after being declared winners at District 9670 MUNA in Muswellbrook).

The team took part in the Model United Nations Assembly in August that saw 64 students in 24 teams **debating six issues of global importance**: the return of cultural property to countries of origin; the situation in Syria; the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people; the territorial integrity of the Ukraine; protection of human rights and the fight against terrorism; and treat-

ment of asylum seekers and refugees.

Our team performed well and were among the **prize winners** but it wasn't all hard debate.

The group also had the privilege of visiting Government House and were treated to a gala dinner at Bruce Hall, Australian National University. Here they heard Anthony Regan speak on some of the UN's successes in our own region.

Thanks must go to Megan Valentine from the Rotary Club of Muswellbrook who coordinated the Hunter's involvement and organises the local elimination finals at Muswellbrook Council Chambers.

**Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)** is another significant program that provides young people with an opportunity to expand their thinking and build self confidence.

I would like to show my appreciation to the clubs who have sort out **potential candidates** who would gain the most from having the RYPEN experience. I know the young people who attend this program genuinely appreciate the experience. I have had teachers express to me that they witness a **positive change** in the young people who attend. Participants are always noted to be more ready to be involved in school initiatives and are far more confident in their actions after their weekend at Myuna Bay. Thanks goes to Duncan

Burck (rotary Club of Lake Macquarie) and Zoey Kiwran (Rotary Club of Greenhills Maitland) for their tireless efforts in putting this program together twice a year.

The regional **Rotary's Road Safety Youth Driver Awareness Program (RYDA)**, is held at Tocal and my sincere appreciation goes to Michael Wetherill for his coordination of this project.

What I like about this program is not only its practical component; but the fact that this is delivered to our young people with the cooperation and collaboration of a number of Rotary Clubs within the district. It is fantastic to see Rotarians working together for such a good cause. To date this year 1,200 students have completed the program with about 200 going through the course each day.

Also, young people from our district are given the opportunity to take part in the **National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)**. This program, held in the Nation's capital, is like a summer school run each year in January for high school students with a talent and passion for science.

One of our most popular programs for young people is our **long and short term exchange programs** which is capably organised by Denise Parkes from the Rotary Club of Charlestown (long term) and Alison Tiananga from the Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri (short term exchange with New Zealand).

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Currently, we have 18 young people from the District experiencing a long term exchange overseas and D9670 is hosting 19 inbound students.

It is positive to note that some of our clubs are **hosting exchange students** for the first time and I congratulate these clubs and those clubs who are continually involved with our exchange programs. Alison is stepping-up to take on the national coordination of the short term exchange and Jillian Wetherill will be stepping into Alison's shoes for our district.

There is some discussion that the **age for these exchange programs** will be reduced from a focus on Year 12 students to students in Years 9 and 10. Call cubs can expect a letter from Denise

and Jillian shortly to explain the changes.

My DG journey has continued to be a **whirlwind tour of D9670** and by the time this newsletter goes to print I will have visited an amazing 38 clubs.

I am excited to report there has been a **slight increase in District membership** over the past quarter with 1,220 members reported on July 1 and 1,240 members as of September. This increase reflects all the great work being done in our communities.

It is always a pleasure to **induct new members** and recently, during a visit to the Rotary Club of Salamander I inducted three new members, one of which was my cousin whom I had not seen in at least 40 years. It made me realise that it is **a small world**; and an even

smaller one when it comes to Rotary.

Keep up the **fantastic work** everyone, enjoy your Rotary journey and know you are definitely **making a difference** in the lives of our District's young people.

After visiting thirty-five of the Rotary Clubs in D9670, Yvonne and I are truly amazed at the **wonderful contribution** each club is making to the local, national and international communities.

District 9670 is all the more richer for our members dedication in **making the world a better place**.

Yours in Rotary

*Gerard McMillan*



**“Teenagers grow when they have opportunity to develop life skills”.**

Rotary District 9670 RYPEN Committee is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the RYPEN Camp to be held on the weekend of November 7th, 8th and 9th 2014.

#### **D9670 Camp**

**Dates:** 7th to 9th November 2014.

**Venue:** Myuna Bay Sport & Recreation Camp

**Cost:** \$230 per student

Download nomination forms from the [District Website](#)

Contact RYPEN Committee Chairperson—Duncan Burck

Ph: 02 4942 6679 Mobile: 0417 312 768 Email: [dburck@gmail.com](mailto:dburck@gmail.com)

What do participants say about their RYPEN and Rotary experience...

*“There has never been a camp that has wowed me this much, an experience I would love to relive and share with everyone.”*

*“Every activity was absolutely amazing! I would do this over and over again especially if it was with the same people, the best group of people I have ever met.”*

More information can also about RYPEN can be found on the district website and our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/RYPEN9670>

# New Generations Service Exchange

This program is designed to assist young people advance their careers or obtain valuable work experience in their chosen vocation.

The NGSE program is for a humanitarian or vocational experience in another country for young people 18-30 years of age to gain valuable experience in their chosen vocational field for between six (6) to 12 weeks. Rotary will find the placement, with board and lodgings provided overseas with a Rotarian family. The candidate funds the travel and insurance components of the exchange.

In addition to individuals, small teams are also permitted under this program. Team exchanges will be for two (2) to four (4) weeks.

Applicants can come from all walks of life including agriculture, apprenticeships or any professional vocations.

Currently we have one inbound NGSE, Harriet Allen, who is being sponsored by Rotary Club of Toronto Sunrise. Harriet is a 21 year old from York, UK who has recently finished her law degree at Newcastle (on Tyne) University. She is undertaking an internship with Greg Piper MP, Member for Lake Macquarie assisting with research and speech writing for Greg. Why not consider have Harriet come and speak to your club? Harriet is here until the end of November...

Another example of the NGSE program is Elise Budden who is an Outbound NGSE in Ontario, Canada being hosted by the Rotary Club of London South. Elise is undertaking environmental services work with the local area health authority.

The NGSE team comprise Graeme Hooper and Paul Blakemore (Rotary Club of Toronto Sunrise), Pam Welham (Rotary Club of Wallsend Maryland, Sue Hooper (Rotary Club Wallsend Maryland- E Club) and Brian Oakley (Rotary Club of Myall Coast).

At this year's International Convention in Sydney, Graeme was invited to join a small international steering group which is advising RI Youth Services on the program.

If you, your Club, or someone you know, would like to know more about this exciting new RI program, then send an email or phone one of the team. Or email via [ngse@rotary9670.org.au](mailto:ngse@rotary9670.org.au) or go direct to the [Youth Section](#) on the D9670 website.

\*NOTE: from 1 July 2014, New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE) is a fully recognised RI youth program.



...COMMITTEE'S OF D9670...

☆ **NAME:** Jordan Fallon

☆ **ROTARY CLUB:** Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri

Joining Rotary in 2013, there were a multitude of reasons that Jordan made the decision to join Rotary (and specifically the Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri). The ability for Jordan to experience personal growth and development and the opportunity to build on my leadership skills were perhaps his first and foremost reasons. However, the sticking point for Jordan was the prospect of being actively involved in the community with a group of like-minded individuals who enjoy serving the local area. For Jordan, Rotary is richly rewarding in its ability to provide a chance for him to do something for somebody else; and to experience the self-fulfillment that is derived from this process; and the return of that satisfaction to the lives of others.

Jordan has had three (3) memorable moments in his short time with Rotary. These include seeing the joy and excitement on the faces of local children after the Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri organised the local Christmas Carols; witnessing the appreciation of returning outbound students following their exchange “of a lifetime”; and the ability for Jordan to continually help out the local community with a great bunch of blokes and ladies who comprise the Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri. It is the dedication, determination and positive outlook on life that this Club provides which continually feeds Jordan’s resolve to uphold the Rotary theme of “Service Above Self”.

As a younger member of D9670 over the 2014/2015 Rotary year, Jordan’s main focus is on increasing the number of new young members within the District. Jordan’ like many other Rotarians, believes that youthfulness is an asset that Rotary, both at a District and international level, needs to embrace. Jordan also feels that with an increasing youth membership, D9670 will continue to grow and achieve even more success.

Jordan has other focuses over the 2014/2015 year and these include becoming more actively involved in committees which are focused on providing opportunities to younger people; and promoting the work of Rotary in the local community, particularly focusing on acquiring more university students who are committed to helping their local community.

As the President-Elect for the Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri, Jordan has a strong feeling that it is his duty to increase the coverage of the work of Rotary. The theme of “*Light Up Rotary*” over this Rotary year, is an opportunity for Jordan to make the wider community aware of the many beneficial initiatives that Rotary Clubs throughout the District engage in. Rotary has had and will continue to have a positive effect on many individuals and community groups and this needs to be “illuminated”, to ensure that the Rotary message remains contemporary.

As a young Rotarian, Jordan brings energy and enthusiasm to Rotary. While his friends and family may describe him as “*a product that may contain traces of commitment, determination, efficiency, leadership, reliability, independence and extreme levels of sarcasm*”; as a young man, Jordan is particularly eager to be actively involved in Rotary endeavors which improve the lives of individuals.

Jordan is continually raising new and revolutionary fundraising ideas and community activities that will increase the coverage of the work of Rotary and improve the life chances of young people. With more young members in Clubs, Jordan believes without a doubt that more new and exciting ideas will emerge.



**WHAT IS MY ROTARY MOMENT?**

**Remember...young people are the future of Rotary!**

# The Best Hat Day supporters...

One of the major fundraising events for Australian Rotary Health, the 2014 Hat Day being held mid next month is shaping up to be a success once again. Has your club considered supporting this national fundraising event? Would you like to know more? Australian Rotary Health Chair for D9670 Janette Jackson fills us in on the success hat day continues to be...

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 **Friday October 10**, will your Club be getting involved?

Simply register your Club for Hat Day on the website [www.hatday.com.au](http://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!

Last year the top fundraiser was a Great Gatsby Dinner-Dance held by the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie, NSW. 109 flappers and gangsters raised approximately \$5,000 for Hat Day, with special celebrity guests and auction items.

A close second was the Rotary Club of Adelaide South, SA with their Celtic Hat Day Boat Cruise raising \$3,700 - this

was actually their most successful club fundraiser ever! Eighty people dressed up as ship captains, one-eyed pirates and pretty wenches for a voyage, including lunch and good company, down the River Torrens .

Newly to 2014, Clubs that register ([www.hatday.com.au](http://www.hatday.com.au)) get their very own online event page. You can set a 'Hat's Off' donation target and watch the progress, and people can make a donation anytime to this wonderful cause. Will your Club be our top fundraiser in 2014?

100% of the money raised for Hat Day goes to research into helping those affected by depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and many other illnesses. Hat Day is the largest national initiative of Australian Rotary Health.

★ 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](mailto:info@hatday.com.au) or call 02 8837 1900.



- ⇒ **CULTURE**
- ⇒ **DIVERSITY**
- ⇒ **FELLOWSHIP**



Thinking of attending the 2015 RI Convention—the *San Paulo 2015 Carnival*?

Why not check out the official website for the convention to get all the information.

Head to [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org)

for all the latest information and don't miss out on the great events!

Interested in seeing some of the highlights of **South America**?

Did you know that District 9670 are organising a special escorted group tour to coincide with the **2015 RI Convention**?

Contact Escape Travel Charlestown on **1300-765-128** for more details

# 2014—2015 ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM



- ☆ NAME: Klara Claesson
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Karlskrona, Sweden
- ☆ HOST CLUB: The Rotary Club of Charlestown
- ☆ SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...

I think that my first day at Whitebridge High School is the most memorable day so far. I really enjoy getting to know new friends in my school and I also think that the differences between the Swedish and Australian school systems are really interesting. Some good examples of the differences are that in Australia you have to wear school uniform and in Sweden a uniform is not required. In Australia you call your teachers Ms or Sir and not by their first name (as I am used to in Sweden). In Sweden we have a hot lunch every day at school, at no cost to the students, compared to Australia where you eat a cold sandwich and some fruit.

I like and enjoy the differences because I think it is good to have new experiences and this is a big part of the exchange year.

- ☆ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

I have only been in Australia a short while and I am enjoying the food so far. But I am looking forward to trying your well known ANZAC biscuits and your Australian meat pie and tomato



In 2014-2015, District 9670 has become the "temporary" home for 19 international students.

We have a brief catch up here with a few of our Youth Exchange Program Inbound Students on their experiences so far while in District 9670 and what they are looking forward to this year while they are away from their homelands...

- ☆ NAME: Clara Piefke
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Osnabrueck, Germany
- ☆ HOST CLUB: The Rotary Club of Merriwa

☆ SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...

I watched a calf birth and it wasn't as bad as I thought! And we had the Year 12 formal at my school, which was really nice! And of course the two weekends where we met with all the other inbound and outbound exchange students from this district!

☆ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

Definitely Tim Tams!! Before I came to Australia I didn't know they would be SO good!!!



- ☆ NAME: Paul Orschau
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Alzey, Germany
- ☆ HOST CLUB: The Rotary Club of Dubbo West
- ☆ SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...



The most memorable moment certainly was the hay drop (supported by my Rotary Club), which was an event where hay, donated by people in South Australia, would be brought up to Brewarrina with a lot of trucks and distributed amongst the local farmers. The landscape and the people in that part of Australia, and also the truckers, were very different from the Australia I've been used to during my short stay.

☆ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

Definitely meat pies :)

# District Membership & Community Involvement

We are over the second month of the Rotary year now... **Peter Sivyver, District Attendance, Participation and Contributions Chair** reports on how District 9670 has kicked off the new Rotary year and looks forward to receiving more information from each club each month over the Rotary year.

## CLUB STATISTICS - AUGUST 2014

Every month, Rotary Clubs all over our District catch up at meetings, participate in community projects and donate their time, money and resources to causes far and wide.

★ Interested in what knowing how your club is participating? Why not head to our new District website to check out what's been reported at

[www.rotary9670.org.au](http://www.rotary9670.org.au)

Can't see your club's stats here? Why not send an update to [ppsivyver@bigpond.com](mailto:ppsivyver@bigpond.com) and we will add them to our next edition.

ROTARY CLUB	MEMBERS	HOURS	%	RANK
Adamstown New Lambton	28	26	90	2
Belmont	30		90	2
Cardiff	9	35	89	5
Cessnock	23	48	82	13
Charlestown	49		84.5	9
Cobar	14	8.5	72.92	19
Dubbo	24	40	74.89	16
Dubbo Macquarie	24	34	89.5	4
Dubbo South	49	540	86.36	6
Dubbo West	46	250	84.6	7
Dungog	14	75	75	15
East Maitland	42	62	84.02	10
Kurri Kurri	21		82.99	12
Kurri Kurri Sunrise	24	20	51	30
Maitland	37	216	83.5	11
Merriwa	19		75.12	14
Mudgee Sunrise	22		65.45	23
Myall Coast	30	147	74.43	17
Narromine	12		65	24
Nelson Bay	57		73.38	18
Newcastle Enterprise	24	256	63	25
Newcastle Harbour	15		57	29
Newcastle Sunrise	21	85.5	72	20
Rutherford -Telarah	38	265	62.99	26
Salamander Bay	33		62	27
Singleton	40		72	20
Singleton-on-Hunter	29	38	66	22
Toronto Sunrise	33	112	60.2	28
Waratah	20	37	97.1	1
Williamstown	21	442	84.52	8

## The Rotary Club of Murrurundi

proudly invites you to our



The majestic, historical and heritage Murrurundi House with its stunning views overlooking our village is the location chosen for the Flower Spectacular on Saturday 25th October, 2014

There are many exciting attractions planned for the day:

Featuring in the old school class rooms will be a colourful display of cut flowers, Roses and plants of many descriptions.

Awards will be presented and the prize winning exhibits will be on display. The grounds will be filled with colourful stalls on the day.

## Rotary District 9670 Conference 2015

When: 19th March to 22nd March

Where: Club Forster

Dust off your old dancing gear! The 1960's are back to rock your Rotary Year!

Early Bird Registration by the 31/12/14 for your chance to win a great prize

Look out for registration forms...they will be released very soon

All correspondence on

District 9670 matters to be sent to:

PO Box 348, Singleton, NSW, 2330



27 Sep RYLA

3 Oct Tocal College, Tocal  
Darcy Geale

10th ROTARY HAT DAY  
[www.hatday.com.au](http://www.hatday.com.au)

14th Lindbeck Partners Charity Golf Day  
Branxton Golf Club  
Barry Lindbeck  
[barry@lindbeckpartners.com](mailto:barry@lindbeckpartners.com)  
(02) 4954-4611

19th RLI Training  
Part 2—Eastern Region  
Helen Ryan  
[heryan@iprimus.com.au](mailto:heryan@iprimus.com.au)  
0409-842-455

25th 2014 Spring Flower Show & Garden Party  
Rotary Club of Murrurundi  
Robin—(02) 6546-6482  
Colin—0438-078-563

126th RLI Training  
Part 2—Western Region  
Helen Ryan  
[heryan@iprimus.com.au](mailto:heryan@iprimus.com.au)  
0409-842-455

30th Movie Night—"The Best of Me"  
Rotary Club of Adamstown-New Lambton  
Event Cinemas, Glendale  
Lyn Thorpe  
[www.sticktickets.com.au](http://www.sticktickets.com.au)



**district9670**  
community strength and values

