

DISTRICT 9710 NEWS

OCT 2018



In this issue...

- So much I can't list it here!

ROTARY YEAR 2018-2019



TAKE ACTION: [d9710 website click here](#)

DG Margaret 'Hass' Hassall PCT2018 LETTER



OCTOBER 2018

The first four months of the 2018/19 Rotary year have been jam-packed with activities and I cannot be anything but amazed at the ingenuity and creativity of our Rotarians as they set about doing good in the world.

FLORIADE

The big success story in our district is our marquee at Floriade. The facts and figures speak for themselves:

Card signatures: A whopping **11,515** visitors supported Rotary by signing our card! As you will know, we set out to beat Robert Downey Jnr's record of 5339. One day we collected 1155 signatures.

New Members: A District record of 112 people signed up to join Rotary. These included young people who were enthusiastic about our local Rotaract clubs. We are looking forward to welcoming all of them into Rotary.

Map Snapshot: We had 762 overseas visitors from 82 countries come into the marquee to mark their hometown. We had people from all over the region and throughout Australia pop in to chat to us. Well done to Vicki Coleman and her committee!

ROTARY DISTRICT 9700/9710 DROUGHT RELIEF COMMITTEE

At this stage, the committee is meeting via Zoom meetings each week. The application forms for funds and vouchers for different projects, designed by Paul Murray and John Mercer, are up on our web site and have already been accessed by at least one club.
<https://rotary9700.org.au/page/farm-drought-appeal>

WORLD POLIO DAY

The livestream of Rotary's World Polio Day event will be recorded. The program

- Reflects on the progress we've made against polio and the work that still needs to be done
- Highlights the role of women in polio eradication
- Recognizes the 30th anniversary of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative

A recording of the livestream will be available on endpolio.org

For those of you who have organised film nights to raise funds for End Polio Now, enjoy the story of Freddie Mercury.

Steve Hill, Anton Pemmer and I attended a function to mark World Polio Day at Parliament House and it was heartening to see the number of young people who are involved in other groups who are also working to end polio. Their catch cry was 'ONE LAST PUSH'.

To all of you who have been working hard to put into practice the slogan, 'Service Above Self' - best wishes and thanks.

Yours in Rotary, Hass



Ron Chesher OAM passed away recently after an ongoing illness at the age of 95.

Ron was one of the Moruya Club's Charter Members - 62 years of Rotary Service: a true observer of "Service Above Self" and the "Four Way Test".

As well as Rotary, Ron was a Life Member of the Surf Club, the Golf Club, the Football Club and had a hand in many other things in Moruya; a survivor of WW11 fighting in New Guinea and active in the local RSL.

Ron's life had an impact on many people and his community and while his family still grieves – he was ready to go.

During June at one of our meetings he said to Phil Armstrong, "Don't think that I will renew my membership, Phil." – but he did!! He attended a few additional meetings but unfortunately not many. The Club provided a guard of honour at the funeral along with the Surf Club.

Rotary 90th birthday photos – the signed card



A bunch of Canberra Rotarians just took down Iron Man



By [Megan Doherty](#)

26 October 2018 — 9:20pm – The Canberra Times
(slightly edited to fit this newsletter)

A birthday card for actor Robert Downey Jr did hold the world record for the most signatures on a greeting card. Not anymore, it seems. And a bunch of Rotarians is responsible for taking down Iron Man.

Celebrations have been under way this year for 90 years of Rotary in Canberra, specifically for the Rotary Club of Canberra, established in 1928.

Rotary District 9710 - which covers south-east NSW and the ACT - decided to celebrate the milestone in an imaginative way.

It created a huge birthday card and set it up at the Rotary marquee during this year's Floriade, asking people to sign it.

They ended up getting a massive 11,515 signatures.



Rotary District 9710 members with the massive 90th birthday card signed by 11,515 people at its Floriade marquee.

That was a *whole* lot more than the 5339 fans signatures put on a birthday card for Robert Downey Jr in China for the opening of *Iron Man 3* in 2013.



The 90th birthday cake for Rotary in Canberra.

While Downey's card did get the tick-off from Guinness World Records, the Rotary card remains an unofficial record, as past district governor Steve Hill, of Canberra, explained.

"We would have had to pay for Guinness World Records judges to be there every day - and we weren't doing that," he said, adding the public response to the project was heartening.

"I think it makes us feel proud Rotary is in people's minds," he said.

New District 9710 Governor Margaret Hassall, of Cooma, wasn't mucking around about whether the record was real or not: "We're claiming it". Mrs Hassall, a retired secondary teacher, took over as governor mid this year. The district has 1300 members.

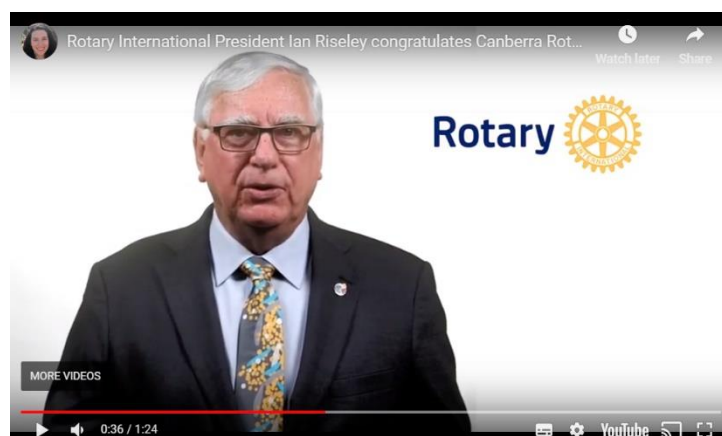
Many of the Rotarians have been busy with projects helping farmers struggling in the drought. Some on the coast have hosted farming families to give them a break. Others have gone into rural communities and held social functions for the farmers, buying the supplies locally to help give the local economy a boost.

"Rotary gives the members a chance to be of service, to their local community and the worldwide community," Mrs Hassall said.

"I'm just amazed by the creativity of people in tackling a task and understanding where there is a need, and meeting it."

The Floriade marquee also exceeded expectations in terms of piquing the interest of potential new members. By the festival's end, a district record of 112 people had signed up with an interest to join Rotary. These included young people expressing enthusiasm about engaging with local Rotaract clubs.

For a video from RI President Ian Riseley, click here <https://youtu.be/4-2ldSsN5Gg>



International Fellowship of Cricketing Rotarians Melbourne Festival 20th - 25th January 2019



The International Fellowship of Cricketing Rotarians (IFCR) is one of the most popular of all Rotary Fellowships with a membership now touching 1350.

Melbourne has the honour of hosting this festival from January 20 next year. We will follow in the footsteps of previous festivals in Christchurch (2017), Nottingham (2014), Vapi in India (2012), Durban (2010), Colombo (2007) and Hunter Valley (2004).

Registrations include 185 players from 9 countries and 85 non-players. Cricket games will be played at Caulfield Park and East Caulfield Reserve from Monday January 21 through to Friday January 25.

On Wednesday 23 there will be a game at the spiritual home of Australian IFCR at Strath Creek which is 70k from Melbourne.

A novel feature of this festival is that players will play in mixed teams. The spirit of cricket and the fellowship of Rotary will be assured across all competing countries.

The Opening Dinner at the MCG on Sunday night January 20 will have one of Australia's leading sports commentators as guest speaker. The Friday night Closing Dinner will feature leading cabaret performer, Marney McQueen.

All in all, it will be a great week of cricket, fun, entertainment and fellowship.

Festival details: <http://rotarycricket.org>

Festival email: rrroom@inet.net.au

Australian IFCR enquiries to Doug King, email: kingdoug12@gmail.com



Peace Fellows

Each year, District 9710 hosts the current cohort of Rotary Peace Fellows studying at the Rotary Peace Centre at the University of Queensland in Brisbane. The visit aims to extend the Fellow's understanding of Australia's activity in peace and conflict resolution in the region and around the world; introduce them to some historical and cultural attractions in the national capital; and assist them in making contacts that may be useful in their future professional life. It also assists the District in promoting this unique and ambitious programme.

This year's cohort, the 16th to study in Brisbane, consists of 10 Fellows, 4 from the USA, and 1 each from Kenya, the Philippines, Japan, Myanmar, Colombia and Uganda. All have extensive experience in peace building, community development and aid operations on every continent, working with the UN system, NGOs or national government bodies.

In Canberra, they met with Andrew Leigh, Shadow Assistant Treasurer and long-time supporter of the programme; Aspen Medical, who delivered Australia's response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa; the Australian Civil Military Centre in Queanbeyan, a unique agency that studies and builds the ability of police military and civil organisations to cooperate in crisis and peace-building contexts; the UN Women National Committee CEO, Janelle Weisman, herself a former Peace Fellow; the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; and the Development Policy Centre and the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at the ANU. The Fellows took a guided tour of the Australian War Memorial and visited the Indigenous exhibits at the National Museum and the Tent Embassy at Old Parliament House.

Rotarians John and Helen Grant also hosted the Fellows for a ringing of the Canberra Rotary Peace Bell at Nara Park. The Fellows stayed with local Rotarians from several clubs. A highlight of the visit was the dinner at the Hellenic Club Woden, where local Rotarians had the chance to meet the Fellows and hear their inspiring stories and plans for the future.

Rotary Peace Fellowships are awarded to up to 100 people around the world each year. Approximately 50 of these will undertake fully-funded Master's level courses in Peace and conflict resolution at one of 5 Peace Centres around the world (in Brisbane, Tokyo, Bradford, Uppsala and North Carolina); the other 50 undertake a Professional Development Certificate at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. More than 1500 Peace Fellows now form a global network of professionals, in support of Rotary International's commitment to building peace and international understanding. Further information on the Peace Fellows programme can be found at <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships> . If Rotarians know of any suitable candidates, please contact the Peace Fellows sub-committee chair, Garth Britton.



Rotary Club of Woden Daybreak

The D9710 Rotary Club of Woden Daybreak hosted its annual Alumni meeting on 5 October 2018, as part of Alumni Reconnect week. The speaker was Rotarian Scott Bourke who gave an interesting talk about the Rotary sponsored work helping a village in a very remote part of Bali. The meeting went well, with people from the following Rotary programs present:

- . Ambassadorial Scholar
- . Global Scholar
- . Group Study Exchange
- . Youth Exchange
- . Vocational Award
- . National Youth Science Forum
- . International Youth Science forum
- . Rotary Youth Leadership Award
- . Rotaract
- . Interact



I have attached a photo of the visitors, and the speaker with his appreciation certificate (states that the Club will plant a tree in appreciation).

Regards
Graham Waite
D9710 Alumni Chair



At this Year's District Conference Cooma

The big group photo is of Sandra Mahlberg with baby Ilandia and her family. Ilandia is our most recent bub helped through ROMAC.



The photos above: Peter Swain and his smoking ceremony and then Raphael and Emily Jocson (Raphael was our Rotary International President Personal Representative, RIPPR) with the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Mayor, John Rooney, and DG Hassall.

The group of young people consists of our Youth Exchange students plus Rotaractors and Rotex representatives (Alumni from some of our youth programs).

The other group includes Noel and Sue Trevaskis who were the aides to the RIPPR and his wife.

Rotary Club of Belconnen

Post Conference:

As recently reported, the 100 Club Raffle for the Rotary Small Grants (East Indonesia) Project of the Rotary Club of Belconnen was drawn at the District Conference by DG Margaret Hassall and President Rosemary. On Thursday President Rosemary and quilt donor Yvonne Mercer presented the quilt to the winner a new Rotarian Margaret Woolridge from the Rotary Club of Ginninderra (see photos).

Currently the project has \$6,000 in funding commitments for this year from RC Belconnen, RC Burley Griffin, the Narrabundah School Interact Club, the 100 Club proceeds and individual Rotarian donations towards this year's target of \$10,000. Other Clubs in District 9710 are considering supporting this multi-club RAWCS project. If you are looking to support, gain more information or wish to have a presentation on the project at your Club please contact the Project Manager John Mercer on 0474792217 or john.mercer47@gmail.com

John and Yvonne Mercer will be in East Indonesia from 27 October to 5 December on a Field Trip for the Project. They will join with the staff of our strategic partner NTA (East Indonesia) Aid spending time in remote communities in Flores and West Timor to look at existing and potential small grant projects for the various communities and families.

[Photos Left: Yvonne, Rosemary and Margaret. Right: Margaret.]



Desmond Woods re Danniele Hunter of the Mercy Ships:

I recently attended an excellent RC of Burley Griffin restaurant presentation by Ms Danniele Hunter. She presented on the great work being done by her Mercy ship off West Africa and her engagement as a Craniofacial surgery program leader onboard. She is clearly a most valuable member of the ship's surgical team who has been asked to return to the ship to continue to give service. After her presentation I congratulated her on her work.

NOTE: Danniele also sought advice on fundraising to assist with her \$4000 flight from Canberra back to Guinea. If any Club would like to assist with a donation please contact the District Secretary (julia.pedler@pedler.id.au)

PEOPLE DO NOT DECIDE
TO BECOME EXTRAORDINARY.
THEY DECIDE TO ACCOMPLISH
EXTRAORDINARY THINGS.



EVEREST ASSAULT



WORLD RECORD FLIGHT

Rotary 



SHARE THE DREAM OF A POLIO FREE WORLD

Having already flown off Mt Cho Oyu, Berry Rotarian Ken Hutt is now planning an ASSAULT ON EVEREST ... all to raise funds to help END POLIO NOW.

YOU CAN JOIN KEN IN A TREK TO BASE CAMP!

Join Ken in an escorted trek to Base Camp in 2019 as he acclimatizes for his assault on Everest.

To find out more on how you can go to Everest and support the END POLIO NOW quest:

Contact Ken - M: 0418 205 225 E: ken.hutt@outlook.com



A brief message from the Polio Chair

This report is from “The Guardian” and although New Guinea was declared Polio free in 2000, it shows we must continue our efforts with vigour and enthusiasm.

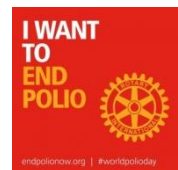
When I read this article, I was a bit dismayed that with all our efforts to eradicate Polio, it still inadvertently returns behind the lines in an apparent show of resilience.

But it also shows the alertness of the response to control the spread. Our readiness to hit back and move forward to eventually win the fight, which we know, is not far away.

We will achieve our goal. Let's keep the fight going

Ken Hutt

0418 205 225



A nurse gives polio vaccine to a child in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Photograph: Botobai

A boy has died from polio in Papua New Guinea in the first fatal case since an outbreak of the disease in June.

The World Health Organisation said on Tuesday that the boy died in Enga province, one of 14 confirmed cases across the country.

Speaking at the launch of a nationwide polio vaccination campaign on Monday, the WHO representative in the country, Luo Dapeng, said that there had been five confirmed cases in Eastern Highlands province, three in Morobe, two in Enga, two in Madang, one in Port Moresby and one in Jiwaka, the Papua New Guinea Post Courier website said.

The country's health department said the child died when the muscles around their lungs became paralysed by the virus, Radio NZ said.

One of the other 14 victims died in September but he was also infected with meningitis and tuberculosis and his death was not attributed to polio.

The country was declared polio-free in 2000 but the rate of vaccinations has been falling in recent years and an outbreak was confirmed earlier this year.

The virus, which mainly affects children, causes paralysis of varying degrees of seriousness. It spreads through faecal-oral contamination, multiplies in the intestines, and then to the nervous system. There is no cure for the disease, which can only be combatted by vaccinations in childhood.

The virus is present in only three other countries: Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Boy dies of polio in first fatal case in Papua New Guinea outbreak

Child has died in central Enga province, the WHO says, as the country battles the return of the disease

Guardian staff

Tue 2 Oct 2018 11.47 AEST Last modified on Tue 2 Oct 2018 11.51 AEST

In January 2019 the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) will run its 36th Year 12 Program. Nearly 600 students from all over Australia will attend the program and as our Founding Partner, Rotarians are invited to participate in some of the program's events.

The NYSF would like to invite Rotarians to attend the following events:

Gala Science Dinner (paid event) at National Museum is a formal dinner with a keynote speaker and is a celebration of participants attendance at the NYSF.

Rotary Alumni Evening (free event) is an opportunity for NYSF students to meet and network with alumni and rotary members from around the country. Presentations by NYSF alumni and Rotary followed by a light supper.

Session A Canberra Rotary Alumni Evening
Monday 7 January 2019

Gala Science Dinner,
Thursday 10 January,
Keynote Dr Megan Clark AC, Head of
Australian Space Agency

Session C Canberra Rotary Alumni Evening,
Monday 21 January 2019

Gala Science Dinner,
Thursday 24 January 2019,
Keynote Dr Alan Finkle AO, Australia's
Chief Scientist

You will need to register for these events. For more information email nysf@nysf.edu.au and/or follow our Facebook Page @NYSFoz

Home Hospitality – the NYSF is also seeking volunteers for our Home Hospitality day during session. Home Hospitality day is an important part of the Year 12 Program schedule – it gives students an opportunity to rest, relax and meet people from the community who are supporters of the NYSF. As a home host, you'll welcome two or more students into your home for the day so they can rest up and recuperate ready for the second week of the program. To find out more email programs@nysf.edu.au

Home Hospitality dates Sunday 6 January
Sunday 20
January

If we can be of any assistance or if you have any

questions please don't hesitate to contact me

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National Youth
Science Forum



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**National Youth
Science Forum**

SAVE THE DATE

ROTARY & ALUMNI EVENING
SESSION A: 14 JANUARY
SESSION C: 21 JANUARY

GALA SCIENCE DINNER
SESSION A: 10 JANUARY
SESSION C: 24 JANUARY

To find out more email nysf@nysf.edu.au
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**NYSF YEAR 12
PROGRAM**



National Youth
Science Forum



Lectrum



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WHAT IS A CENTURION?

For the cost of **\$100** you could....

- Dine out
 - Buy a pair of shoes
 - See a show
 - Buy some wine

For that same **\$100** you could....

- ✓ Give sight to 3 people in India
- ✓ Provide mosquito nets to a Pacific Island village
- ✓ Furnish a classroom in Africa.
- ✓ Help rid the world of Polio



And unlike many other programs over 90% goes into the projects!

How to become a Centurion

You can become a Centurion along with fellow Rotarians and others by making a tax-deductible contribution of AUD\$ 100 or more per annum while ever you are in a position to do so. Your contribution (payable to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust) supports the work of the Rotary Foundation. 50% of the donated money comes back to the District after 3 years and is used in developing our Foundation projects. Rotarians and their partners and friends become a Centurion by donating AUD\$100 each year to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust. Donations also count towards Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

This is less than \$2.00 per week.

Payments can be automatically deducted from you credit card or transaction account.

Not just Rotarians can become Centurions.

Family members, work colleagues, neighbours.

Your donation to the Centurion Programme will be receipted to enable a Tax rebate.



Consider the following:

- 80% of the world's population lives in sub-standard housing.
 - 70% of the world's population is unable to read.
 - 50% of the world's population suffers from malnutrition.

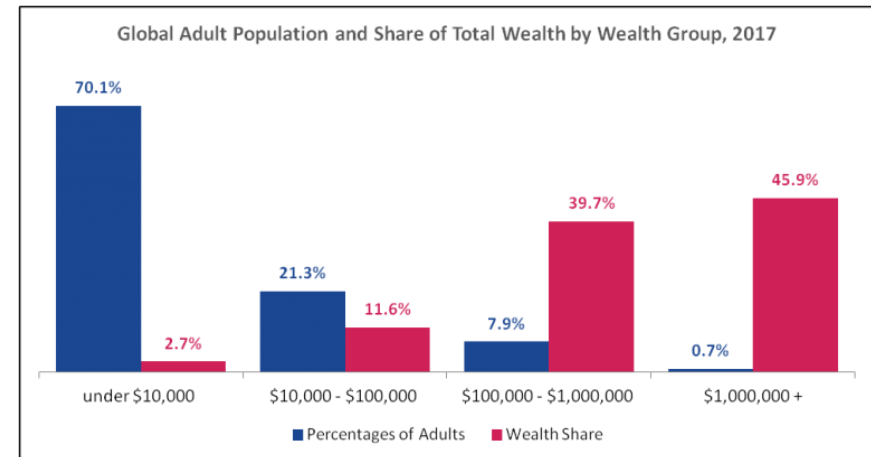
Consider also:

If you have never experienced

- The pangs of starvation then you are ahead of 500 million people in the world
- The danger of battle,
 - The loneliness of imprisonment,
 - The agony of torture.

You and I are part of:

25% of people with food in the refrigerator, clothes on our back, a roof over our head and a place to sleep.



For more information
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Pambula Foundation Director
dtwriedt@gmail.com
0427 959496

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

This news brought to you by

editor@rotaryd9710.org.au

Find us on 

[click here](#)

Rotary
District 9710



website, [click here](#)

OTHER USEFUL INFO

Encourage everyone to use My Rotary and keep their information up-to-date. Then each club can have its membership information all in one place. You can download into spreadsheets on demand.

The MyRotary site also has an excellent Brand Centre for all logo, brochure and design needs – check it out.



QI - Quite Interesting

18 October at 01:43 ·

In 1887, Peter Pan author J. M. Barrie founded a cricket team whose members included A.A. Milne, Arthur Conan Doyle, H. G. Wells, P. G. Wodehouse, G. K. Chesterton, and Rudyard Kipling.