



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**



THIS ISSUE

Musings from DG Debbie

RYLA update

Insurance Update



MUSINGS FROM THE DG

Happy Easter everyone. I hope you are enjoying some special down time with family and friends. If you are still cleaning up or assisting others with their clean up I wish you good weather and lots of assistance. These are challenging times and the Rotary spirit of service above self is shining through. On the coast here the RFS are still in town. They were due to leave on Thursday and return home for Easter, but such is the enormity of the job here, they are staying until Monday. I have attached some pictures of the amazing response.

The district assembly that was to be held in Port Macquarie on 28th March was postponed until 30th May so put that in your diaries. I am in the last quarter of my role as District Governor and wonder where the last nine months went. I start attending club changeovers in late May, starting with South West Rocks in Cluster 2 on the 22nd May, and then Barraba in Cluster 8 on the 29th May 2021. I am really looking forward to getting out on the road again. If you have not let us know the venue for your changeover, could I ask that you let your AG, Di Hall or me know. For all the clubs I am attending it would be good to go to the right place and not get lost on the way (or run out of fuel ☺), and I am sure the PDG's representing me would all agree.

District Changeover – Saturday 26th June 2021 Panthers Port Macquarie 6.30pm.

We will be sending out invitations to our changeover and would love it if we could get as many of you supporting as possible. This will be a fun evening where we can wine and dine and enjoy some fabulous after dinner entertainment from Matt Zaab from the Taree on Manning Club. We heard a little from him on the Sunday morning at Conference and I am certain people will be very happy to listen to more. Let's get behind this event, celebrate the last year and welcome DGE David Mayne and Heather to theirs. David has done it tough so far. No San Diego, zoom meetings in the middle of the night, cancelled training due to a disastrous weather event. I want the 26th June to be a special night for all.

April is Maternal and Child Health Month

Rotary International is making high quality **health care** available to vulnerable mothers and **children** so they can live longer and grow stronger all year round.

Area of Focus: Maternal and Child Health Month.

- Address the issue of Malnutrition's in Children and Pregnant Women
- Develop a Hygiene Education program for school going children
- Conduct Awareness Seminars
- Provide low-income women with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to improve their diet, physical activity, and other life habits to prevent, delay, or control chronic diseases
- Promote School Health
- Promote the adoption of physical activity in early child care centres, schools and work sites

Happy birthday to Paul Harris on the 19th April.

Paul Harris was born on the 19th April 1868 in Racine, Wisconsin, USA. He moved to Chicago in 1896 and founded the first Rotary club in 1905. At age 3, he moved to Wallingford, Vermont, where he grew up in the care of his paternal grandparents. He attended the University of Vermont and Princeton University and received his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1891. In 1896, Harris settled in Chicago and opened a law practice. Four years later, he met fellow attorney Bob Frank for dinner on Chicago's North Side. They walked around the area, stopping at shops along the way. Harris was impressed that Frank was friendly with many of the shopkeepers. He had not seen this kind of camaraderie among businessmen since moving to Chicago and wondered if there was a way to channel it, because it reminded him of growing up in Wallingford.

"The thought persisted that I was experiencing only what had happened to hundreds, perhaps thousands, of others in the great city. ... I was sure that there must be many other young men who had come from farms and small villages to establish themselves in Chicago. ... Why not bring them together? If others were longing for fellowship as I was, something would come of it."

Jean and Paul Harris board a ship after visiting Rotary members in Bermuda, 1925.

CALENDAR

- 18 April Tamworth District Assembly
- 5 May RYLA 50 Years Anniversary Dinner
- 8 May District Finance Meeting
- 16 May District Assembly Narrabri
- 22 May R C South West Rocks Changeover
- 23 May District Management Meeting
- 29 May R C Barraba Changeover
- 30 May District Assembly Port Macquarie
- 5 June Hastings Rotaract Changeover
- 5 June Armidale AM Changeover
- 6 June R C Lower Midcoast Changeover
- 7 June R C Kempsey Changeover
- 7 June R C Wialda Changeover
- 8 June R C Moree on Gwydir Changeover
- 8 June R C Wauchope Changeover
- 10 June R C Nambucca Valley Changeover
- 11 June R C Moree Changeover
- 12 June R C Armidale North Changeover

E-NEWS CONTACT

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

MUSINGS FROM DG DEBBIE CONT.

Harris eventually persuaded several business associates to discuss the idea of forming an organization for local professionals. On 23 February 1905, Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram Shorey gathered at Loehr's office in downtown Chicago for what would become known as the first Rotary club meeting.

In February 1907, Harris was elected the third president of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Toward the end of his presidency, he worked to expand Rotary beyond the city. Some club members resisted, not wanting to take on the additional financial burden. But Harris persisted, and by 1910, Rotary had expanded to several other major U.S. cities.

Harris recognized the need to form a national association with an executive board of directors. In August 1910, Rotarians held their first national convention in Chicago, where the 16 existing clubs unified as the National Association of Rotary Clubs (now Rotary International). The new association unanimously elected Harris as its president.

At the end of his second term as Rotary president, Harris resigned, citing ill health and the demands of his professional practice and personal life. He was elected president emeritus by convention action, a title he held until his death.

In the mid-1920s, Harris became actively involved in Rotary again, serving as the public face of the organization. To promote membership and service, he attended conventions and visited clubs throughout the world, often accompanied by his wife, Jean.

Harris died on 27 January 1947 in Chicago at age 78, after a prolonged illness. Before his death, he made it known that he preferred contributions to The Rotary Foundation in lieu of flowers. By coincidence, days before he died, Rotary leaders had committed to a major fundraising effort for the Foundation.

Upon news of his death, Rotary created the Paul Harris Memorial Fund as a way to solicit these donations. Rotarians were encouraged to commemorate the late founder of Rotary by contributing to the fund, which would be used for purposes dear to Harris' heart. In the 18 months following his death, The Rotary Foundation received \$1.3 million, which helped support the Foundation's first program — scholarships for graduate study abroad.

Malaria Vaccine Project

The word vaccine has taken on a whole new meaning in 2021. We are all avid spectators in the manufacture and rollout of COVID vaccines in northern hemisphere countries and their imminent arrival in Australia. The terms Pfizer, AstraZeneca and Moderna have become household names in a world that longs for the abatement and elimination of COVID 19. This predilection with vaccines and the new insights gained in vaccine research could generate the very wave of heightened interest and financial support that is needed to propel the development of a malaria vaccine. There are already signs that malaria vaccine research is being recognised with renewed interest. In November 2020, the EU Malaria Fund (EUMF) gave a grant of €12.9 million to Sanaria (Dr Stephen Hoffman) for the development of two malaria vaccines that are whole organism vaccines similar to that of Professor Good's PlasProtect®. While EUMF has been a strong supporter of prevention programs (nets, spraying, education) this is the first time it has provided major support for malaria vaccine development. This funding was heralded by Dr Pedro Alfonso (Director, WHO Global Malaria Program) especially as WHO had highlighted "a plateau of progress" and "a missing of malaria targets" in its 2020 World Malaria Report. This is good news for us and underscores the need for the Malaria Vaccine Project to position itself for similar funding opportunities. On the research side Professor Good is moving forward with key preliminary studies on the "lipid" form of the vaccine. This lipid vaccine will allow PlasProtect® to be freeze-dried and transported anywhere in the world. Professor Good's plan for 2021 is to manufacture the lipid vaccine in Brisbane and test it pre-clinically, prior to undertaking a formal 'toxicology assessment'. He and his team will then proceed to a Phase 1(b) Clinical Trial that would assess safety and immunogenicity, prior to testing the vaccine in a malaria-endemic country. These preliminary studies are possible as a result of the money given by you and the Federal Government through the Malaria Vaccine Project. I say a huge thank you and at same time reach out for your support during 2021. If we can have another great year of fundraising from Rotary, individual supporters, foundations, sponsors, and business, we can take Professor Good and his team to the brink of a clinical trial in an endemic country. During the difficult COVID 2020 year, we raised nearly \$100,000. PDG Graham Jones AM WWW.MALARIAVACCINEPROJECT.COM

MALARIA VACCINE PROJECT UPDATE PROFESSOR MICHAEL GOOD AO

The laboratory team continues to make strong progress towards development of a 'whole parasite vaccine' employing killed parasites wrapped in a lipid membrane, which also contains special immunostimulatory molecules to help activate the immune system.

ARH UPDATE

Please find attached the latest Australian Rotary Health e-newsletter. <https://mailchi.mp/australianrotaryhealth/your-latest-news-from-australian-rotary-health-2097078>

ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA

Check out this video from RAM representative Ashleigh Hickman. This is an update in research at the University of Queensland UQ it will be of interest to Rotarians.

[.2021 03 14 Ten News Malaria Segment \(Library of Proteins\)](#)

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DEBBIE'S MUSINGS PART 3

Our novel vaccine approach aims to induce a cellular immune response to malaria – the induction of T-cells that will recognize all strains of the parasite. We are on track to commence a clinical study using this lipid-based vaccine this year. The vaccine has proven highly effective in our animal models for malaria and furthermore it can be freeze- dried prior to use making it potentially very easy to deploy in all malaria-endemic areas of the world.

Malaria truly is a devastating disease for which a vaccine is urgently needed. The infection commences when an infected female Anopheline mosquito deposits malaria 'sporozoites' into the skin while taking a blood meal. These sporozoites travel throughout the body and those that reach the liver invade the cells of the liver (hepatocytes) and commence the first stage of their human expedition in that organ. After about one week, the parasites have multiplied so that there are about 30,000 parasites in each infected liver cell. These rupture from the hepatocyte and invade red blood cells. Within the red cell, further reproduction leads to 16-24 new parasites per infected red cell over a 2-day period. There is exponential growth in the red blood cells until this process is stopped by an effective immune response or drugs. If untreated, a non-immune patient is at a high risk of severe disease or death due to anaemia, cerebral malaria (infection of the brain), severe respiratory distress and organ failure. Some parasites become committed to making gametocytes (male and female sexual forms) which remain inside the red blood cell. These gametocyte-infected red cells are then taken up by a mosquito during her blood meal. Inside the mosquito gut the gametocytes leave the red cells and fertilize to start the next generation of parasites within the mosquito. These new parasites migrate through the insect's tissues to the salivary gland (where there can be up to 100,000 per salivary gland) – ready to be injected into the next person to be bitten. It is a complex life cycle and at each step the parasite has developed ways to avoid detection by the immune system. However, our approach to a vaccine is to induce a very novel type of immune response and our data show that the parasite is not good at avoiding these vaccine-induced immune responses.

This issue of the Newsletter comes at a time when the world is experiencing its worst pandemic in 100 years, the first 12 months of which has resulted in the loss of over 2.6 million lives. As I write this article, it is exactly one year since WHO declared a pandemic. In that short period of time, the pace of development and licensing of novel vaccines for COVID-19 has been truly staggering. There are twelve vaccines that have been licensed for limited or full use, many of which are using technologies that have not previously been licensed for any vaccine. This pace is in stark contrast to the snail pace of malaria vaccine development, where RTS,S - a vaccine that induces only modest and very short term protection - remains the only vaccine for malaria that has moved beyond Phase III trials. It is currently in Phase IV trials in a small number of African countries. The difference in pace between malaria and COVID-19 vaccine development is due to the very different levels of funding that have been provided by the world's wealthiest countries to these diseases.

The data are not available to make a direct comparison between Disability Adjusted Life Years Lost (DALYs) for malaria versus COVID-19, but it is likely to be much higher for malaria as most of the 409,000 deaths for malaria occur in the first few years of life, whereas for COVID-19 they occur mostly amongst the elderly. Malaria simply does not attract the same level of interest from funders as does COVID-19. Thus, the contribution of Rotary and of Rotarians to malaria is truly staggering and inspiring. If we are successful in our vision to develop a vaccine, a great deal of the credit will go to this wonderful organisation and its caring members.

Commemorating a Centenary of Rotary in Australia

It's official. The book to mark the centenary of Rotary in Australia - 'HUMANITY IN ACTION: Celebrating 100 years of Rotary clubs in Australia and island neighbours' - is now complete. Five hundred and twelve pages of historical text, stories of Rotary achievements through the various eras, dozens of pages of club, district and personal data - along with an amazing gallery of dated and modern images went to the printer during the first week in March. ORDER YOUR COPY OF 'HUMANITY IN ACTION' FROM - \$25 plus postage - PDG Harry Durey - Phone: 0407 005 910; email: hdurey@bigpond.com

International Convention 2021

The Rotary International Convention, scheduled for 12-16 June 2021, in Taipei, Taiwan, will now be a virtual event in response to the ongoing threat of COVID-19. We are sorry that we will not see you in Taipei this year, but this decision, made by the Rotary Board of Directors, is necessary to protect the health of everyone involved. We will share more details about the 2021 Rotary International Virtual Convention soon. Here's what you need to know now: The Virtual Convention will be open to all Rotary members and participants. Event registration will open in mid-April and will include a promotional fee of \$49 for 21 days, with an increase afterward to \$65. The cost of each preconvention event is \$20. Both the convention and preconvention events include access to the House of Friendship. Please continue to check back for more details and updates.

RAWCS Flood Appeal

Assistance to those impacted will get them back into accommodation and some normality of life quickly. **Click the link below to donate.**
<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/57-2020-21>

Remember,
Opportunities are like sunrises – If you wait too long you miss them!

PHOTOS FROM THE HASTINGS IN FLOOD CLEAN UP



What you do when the floods come in!



RI CON UPDATE

Come together to see how Rotary is opening opportunities from Sat 12-16 June 2021. This year's event will connect you, virtually, with members around the world. The 2021 Virtual Convention will open innovative opportunities to learn and to engage with the family of Rotary, near and far. Together, we'll inspire action, strengthen our commitments, work on our challenges, and celebrate our successes. Join us virtually to explore how our digital network makes our global relationships more powerful. Witness the commitments of members around the world and share your own. Learn new skills, explore thought-provoking topics, and discover innovative ways to engage. Share the experience with your club, family, and friends by encouraging them to register. Come together to showcase our ability to adapt as an organization. Registrations will open mid April with a promotional fee of only \$49 for 21 days. Start talking and thinking about attending an International Conference for a fraction of the normal fee.

ROTARY FOUNDATION UPDATE

We have a looming disaster on our hands in relation to Annual fund contributions. Annual funds contribute to the DDF that we need to fund our Global Grant and District Grant programs. With three months to go that in Australia we are US\$1.69m short of achieving last year's number - \$1.54m compared to \$3.23m. It is the Annual fund that provides the working capital for projects and with Club fundraising just getting back to somewhat normal, we have three months to achieve close to last year's revenue. We would ask that all fundraising efforts be conducted under the flag of RAISE FOR ROTARY. Rotarians across Australia and New Zealand raise over \$100m per year and a fraction of this comes to THE ROTARY FOUNDATION. Now is the time to redouble our efforts and make THE ROTARY FOUNDATION not only our personal Charity of Choice but the Rotary Club Charity of Choice.

Mark Anderson
Senior Coordinator | Fund Development
Rotary Foundation



Growing your Club **IMPACT** in your community



Being a fundraiser for other charities



Raise for Rotary





Community Recovery Evening

Saturday 10th April 2021

Mullaley Hall

Nombi Street, Mullaley
Commencing 4.30 pm

*A social night for the rural community
recovering from drought and Covid isolation
brought to you by the Rotary Clubs of
Gunnedah, Coonabarabran and Boggabri*

Showing the movie “Rams”

Starring Sam Neill & Michael Caton
screening at 6.30

BBQ, supper and light entertainment included

**Booking essential, on-line at
www.trybooking.com/BPXFD**

Tickets at no charge

**More information 0427 007826
or contact your local Rotary Club**



Rotary



District 9650 celebrates

50 PLUS YEARS OF RYLA

One of Rotary's most successful youth programs

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021
6PM for a 6.30 start

BLAZES AUDITORIUM, WEST TAMWORTH LEAGUE CLUB
58 PHILLIP ST, TAMWORTH

HOST CLUB: RC TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT

\$50 per person
Dress: Cocktail/Jacket & Tie

Guest Speaker

Australian Local Hero of the Year 2020
BERNIE SHAKESHAFT
Founder of Backtrack

DIRECT DEPOSIT

Account: Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light
Bank: NICU | BSB: 802 298 | Account: 10065200 | Reference: Your Name

RSVP: FRIDAY 23RD APRIL

Dimitry Betts | 0422 268 863 | Dimitry.Betts@outlook.com
PO Box 271 Moonbi NSW 2353

Please advise dietary requirements



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

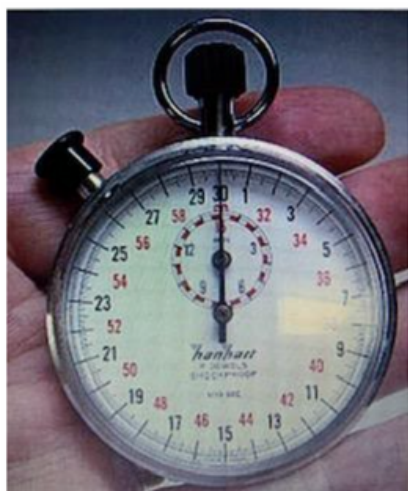
Applications close
Friday 9th April

See D9650 webpage for Application Forms

Camp at Lake Keepit Sport & Rec 1 – 8 May

Dinner Wednesday 5th May, 6pm for 6.30pm

West Tamworth Leagues Club
Guest Speaker Australian of the Year 2020
Local Hero – Bernie Shakeshaft
Founder of BackTrack
RSVP 23 April dimitry.betts@outlook.com



What can you
do for peace?

Rotary
Australia &
New Zealand



CELEBRATING
100
YEARS

The future of PEACE LEADERSHIP

21 - 22 April 2021

Online Symposium

peaceleadership.org.au



Plenary Lecturers



PROF TILMAN RUFF AO
Founding Chair of ICAN,
2017 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



NATASCHA HRYCKOW
Coordinator UN Panel of
Experts on Somalia



DR EMMA LESLIE AM
Executive Director, Centre for
Peace & Conflict Studies



JOSÉ RAMOS-HORTA AC
Nobel Laureate, Former
President of East Timor

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How to develop a peace project
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HUMANITARIAN AID
BUSINESS &
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WHAT YOU CAN DO
FOR PEACE

Panel Discussion: How do we reverse the Doomsday Clock?



IAN H.S. RISELEY OAM
Past President of Rotary
International



THE HON GARETH EVANS AC
Former Politician & Academic



STEVE KILLELEA AM
Founder, Institute for
Economics and Peace

2 DAY PROGRAM | \$66 REGISTRATION | PEACELEADERSHIP.ORG.AU/TIX

Attention all Rotary and Rotaract Clubs!



National Youth
Science Forum

Applications for NYSF 2022 will be available online from early April 2021.
Planning has already begun to offer another brilliant Science program for
current Year 11 students in January 2022.

It's time to find the students in your community who will benefit!

It would be fabulous if every club found ONE student – fabulous for Rotary and Rotaract but more
importantly, fabulous for the students! www.nysf.edu.au

Happy to speak to any club who would like more information. dihall605@gmail.com 0411704654

2022 NYSF YEAR 12 PROGRAM

YEAR 11 STUDENTS APPLY NOW!



DIGITAL AND IN-PERSON

STEM LAB VISITS • LECTURES • SITE TOURS • WORKSHOPS • SOCIAL EVENTS