



Rotary Opens Opportunities

September is basic education and literacy month. Rotary's goal is to empower communities to support basic education, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.



THIS ISSUE

Roadtripping with the DG

Marie Knight OAM

Rotaract Podcast

RYLA reflections

CALENDAR

September 28 - RANZSE briefing

September 29 - DG visit to Gloucester

September 30 - DG visit to Taree North

October 2-11 - South

West Rocks Art Show

October 3-11 - RC Port

Macquarie Book Sale

October 8 - DG visit

South West Rocks

October 24 - World Polio Day

MUSINGS FROM THE DG

After a memorable trip around Lightning Ridge and the amazing tour by our own personal Rotary guide Mike Taylor, it was business as usual on Monday morning as we prepared to leave the Ridge for Glen Innes. The sky was black and looked very stormy as we headed out on the highway once again. This was a visit that will stay with me for the rest of my life!

The trip to Glen Innes was uneventful I am pleased to say, and after checking in to the Motel did a drive around to find the Supa Strawberry where our Rotary meeting was being held that evening. The evening meeting was hosted by President Andrew Campbell and attended by AG Zahoor Ahmed. The club like all clubs in drought and fire affected areas has been at the forefront of relief for their local communities. I can honestly say that this club has done some amazing and different things in support of their community. I would like to acknowledge the outstanding achievements and work for the relief effort by Cecily Woodland. Cecily was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow earlier this year. Some of the things she has achieved with the support of members of the club are, Hay bale donation, tents and camping equipment for those who lost everything and were living out of their cars, toiletries, gift baskets, deliveries of water, shopping vouchers, school shoe vouchers. Families were given swimming lesson vouchers to keep the children occupied and safe during and after the fires. One of the major problems with some of the properties that were burnt down was that they contained asbestos and as we know this requires specialist removal which can be time consuming and expensive. The club has been The club supports Royal Far West, an Orphanage in Indonesia by way of a prestigious Golf tournament, and Don Hall was the instigator of the Priscilla Hall Foundation in memory of his daughter who was lost to a major road traffic accident a few years ago. They support the "Days for Girls" project in Indonesia delivering health education and washable hygiene products to the young ladies at high school there. The club has dispersed \$100K in the last year to help people who have suffered through no fault of their own, and would like to acknowledge the support of fellow Rotary clubs, Quota, Men's Shed, Hunter New England Health, Bacchus Marsh, Deepwater Cool Choir, Uniting Church Aspley, Brisbane and partner organisations such as GLENRAC, without whom this could not have been possible.

Next morning, I was invited to the satellite club breakfast meeting at the Motel restaurant which was a very upbeat affair. This club like many others has dispensed with all the traditional time-consuming Rotary things such as grace, National Anthem, Sargents sessions etc. This is replaced with Rotary business and a lot of fellowship and discussion on Rotary activities that their club is involved in. I have to say that there is a different level of energy at all these sorts of clubs, where Rotary business is conducted in a short space of time, before work and left me wanting more of the same. Thank you to AG Zahoor Ahmed who fronted up again and supported the event. The breakfast club while supporting the efforts of the main club are very much involved in Youth. They fundraise by performing car parking duties at the Celtic Festival, Firework night, firebox competition and snowman competition. It is amazing the diversity of money-making productions that all our Rotary clubs get involved in. They support NYSF, RYLA and the Rotary Youth Science programs. Thank you to all the satellite club members for changing their normal meeting day to facilitate me, I really appreciate it.



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.

Later that day we travelled on to Guyra for the meeting at the local café hosted by President Wendy Mulligan. This again was an upbeat meeting full of Rotary business but in an informal setting. Wendy has been busy updating their strategic plan and re-evaluating what projects and fundraising opportunities that might present this year for them. This club supports Foundation by every member being a member of the "Centurion" or Every Rotarian Every Year program. The club's main fundraiser is a Xmas Carnival where everyone in the community attends and many other clubs and associations contribute to its success. They have street stalls, children's presents, ham wheels, BBQ's, a large Xmas tree and real live reindeer! Fundraising also takes the form of wood raffles. The yare big supporters of the book prizes for schools where individual achievements of students are acknowledge. I met with a successful NYSF student Jacob and thought he will do very well this year and I wonder what avenue of science he will finally choose after meeting other students just like him. The club has a membership 'hit list' which was great to hear and will be inducting another member shortly. The club project was interesting. Martha from the club had been looking at the history of Guyra and noted a council resolution to provide a memorial park for returned servicemen. This had not been finished, The club were looking at a project in collaboration with the RSL, Lions and the local Garden Club to plants trees in the Memorial Park to commemorate the fallen and returned, Great project.

Thanks very much to AG Zahoor Ahmed who hosted breakfast Wednesday morning for us and a few of the Guyra members, very much appreciated.

Many Rotarians have been happy to receive the information pack sent out last week which gave a very comprehensive update on the new District 9660. Thanks to everyone for their comments on this. If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to ask. Drop me a line and I will answer myself or get it answered for you by someone more knowledgeable than me.

To all the clubs who have pledged support for our District Project this Year – Lifeline, the banking details are as follows:
-Rotary International District 9650 Inc. BSB: 932 000 Account: 100453820

Conference planning for our District Conference on the weekend of 12-14 March 2021 is well under way. I hope the like the two keynote speakers that I have mentioned so far, Commissioner Shane Fitzsimons and Peter Bain OAM, more to come in next issue.

If you would like to listen to the promotional video then go to our District 9650 website, <https://rotary9650.org.au/> and click on district conference on the right hand side.

Early bird registrations will commence later November! Thanks very much to Bruce Hemmett for making the site available to me and his ongoing tech support and to my Registration Manager Valda Sturrock, who is doing an amazing job getting everything ready for a smooth process.

Remember,

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

PORT MACQUARIE ROTARY CLUB'S


SPRING BOOK SALE

NOTHING OVER \$2

9 DAYS of BARGAINS!

SATURDAY October 3 to SUNDAY October 11
10am to 4pm DAILY

Shop 6, Bay Park Plaza
Port Macquarie
(behind Pillow Talk)

Rotary 

The Rotary Open of Tamworth 2020



"The Rotary Open of Tamworth" is on again by popular demand and being organised by Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light.

- Be in the running to win the "STUNNING Gold & Blue Jacket"
- Friday 16th October 2020 – 1 tee starting from 10:30am
- Tamworth Golf Club
- Includes a Barbeque lunch on the way around
- \$40 per person
- Individual Stableford in conjunction with 2 person Irish 4 ball
- Book and pay at the Pro Shop with Brock Sampson, individually or as a team of 2 or 4 phone 6765 9980
- Sponsor a hole for \$100 or you may like to donate a prize
- Lots of prizes and fun, BBQ lunch included
- Presentation and drinks to follow the golf
- PROCEEDS donated to LOCAL TAMWORTH CHARITIES

Further information:

Michael Smith – 0408 230 211

Dennis Maunder – 0428 456 017

Deb Barnes – 0411 770 552

David Hinwood – 0418 667 768

ROTARY THROUGH THE EYES OF VICTORIA LI

Recently student Victoria Li applied to attend the NYSF. During the process Ken Hall came across this statement about how she sees Rotary and asked if we could share it.

Rotary Opens Opportunities Rotary International is an organisation of more than a million members based on the foundation to bring professionals, businesses, and individuals to provide service and humanitarian aid to the local and global community. The positive impacts of Rotary are evident in many areas of the community. As a high school student searching for opportunities and desiring to make a positive impact in the society, I will grow to play a part in, Rotary has inspired and motivated me to seek Service before Self. Most relevant to me as a student are the areas of involvement in community service, student opportunities and health and medical aid.

As a teenage girl, I am passionate about the safety of all members of the community, especially youth, women, and the elderly. Programs of policing and support offered by Rotary ensure and provide a safe place for potentially vulnerable members of society. Safety is a human right and comfort in one's own home should be undeniable yet incidents like these are occurring all around us. Rotary's positive impacts surrounding the issue provide a sense of protection and raise awareness for me as a high school girl. Furthermore, the immensely gracious student opportunities that Rotary offers has provided me confidence, especially during the current pandemic.

From leadership roles, to scholarships and bursaries for rural medical and nursing students, 2020's theme of "Rotary Opens Opportunities" is clearly reflected. I believe that all students regardless of background should be offered equal opportunities and Rotary's support has enabled this. In a time where I felt that many opportunities were closing their doors to me during quarantine, the works of the organisation ensured that programs such as the NYSF still proceeded. It is reassuring and has enabled me to continue to pursue my academic endeavours and contribute my services.

Finally, the aspect that I am most inspired by and hope to be able to become involved in is the amazing works of Rotary regarding medical health, hygiene, and aid. As an aspiring student who hopes to pursue a career in medicine to be able to help others, initiatives and projects such as the "End Polio" are not only inspiring but have also proven to have immensely positive impacts on a large scale. Hygiene and sanitation, amongst many other services that Rotary have provided, on a scientific and medical scale have motivated my interests more and further confirmed my desire to be able to help a wider community with my skills in the future. I remember growing up with Rotary as my neighbour unaware at the time of its drastic, positive influences in the community. I have always been curious so walking past the building everyday prompted my investigations into the organisation. I hope that in the future, Rotary becomes something more than the building I used to walk past in primary school, but an involvement where I can contribute alongside with the many inspiring individuals and teams to make a positive impact, locally, in a community or for our global society.

CONGRATULATIONS MARIE KNIGHT OAM

A huge congratulations to the district's newest OAM recipient Rotarian Marie Knight OAM.

The Coonabarabran sheep and cattle farmer was honoured for her work setting up and co-ordinating Lamb Jumpers: Helping Our Farmers.

The initiative collects handmade jumpers and sends them to farmers or foster carers to keep orphaned lambs warm.

[Click here for more.](#)



ROTARACT PODCAST

In her role as Rotaract Australia Communications Director, District Rotaract Representative Laura Telford has created a Rotaract podcast.

The podcast is called Chats by Rotaract Australia.

She is interviewing Rotaractors and Rotarians around the country sharing exciting stories about how Rotaractors are continuing to contribute to the world.

The episodes are available on Apple Podcast, Spotify iHeartRadio and everywhere you would listen to a podcast.

[OR you can click here and listen!](#)



DATABASE UPDATING WITH DI HALL


Club Membership Audits

In order to make our database compatible with the RI database, we are asking each club to audit their membership information please. Hopefully this will be the last time you will have to access 3 databases!!!


Please go to the district database and download the Club Audit to check the information is accurate for your

members. www.rotary9650.org.au

 * Club Help	Your name Edit  Change My Password My Clubs Board My Club Photos My Clubs Public Profile	* My Club contact list District Officers Listing District Committees * District Clubs District Conference Reports - Not available yet
Your club Club Admin only area * My Club Administrators * Notes and Help	Reports: * My Club contact list - New * My Clubs Board - * My Club * Roster Selection * Members Anniversaries * Administrators * Recognitions * Youth Protection Menu	My Club Reports: * My Club email list * Bulletin list * District Bulletin list * Club Audit list * My Email List

For you **own information**, click on [Edit](#)  beside your name and it will take you to your personal page where you can amend your own information,

If you are **Secretary, President or Executive Secretary** and wish to make changes for your members, click on [My Club contact list](#). You will then see a current list of your members in the format below:

Di Hall	PDG Ken		0411704654	67617024	67555063	Email	B R W	Y	8068802  8011133 R e
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To check all the information is correct, click on the pen (in the far right of each box) and each member's individual page will appear where changes can be made. Don't forget to then **SAVE** your changes at the bottom of each page.



Still having trouble, bring your issues to a zoom meeting. Tuesday 29 September 2020 at 8 pm or phone Di Hall 0411704654

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86428322781>



ROTARY PARTNERS WITH THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service is proudly celebrating 20 years in the NENW this year, and with that comes a celebration of our community partnerships. Rotary District 9650 has sponsored the WRHS throughout the time the Service has been based in Tamworth. So much so, that the Tamworth based aircraft proudly carries the Rotary wheel on its tail. In the last 10 years alone, district 9650 has donated over \$171,000 to the WRHS, which helps the helicopter remain available 24/7 to those in need across Northern NSW. During 2019/2020.

Community Liaison Officer for the Service, Tamara O'Reilly (also a Rotarian – member of the Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise) has visited several of the clubs in the region, to thank them for their support and give them an update on the Helicopter Service. Tamara hopes to be able to attend all the clubs in the district, as a symbol of thanks for the continued commitment between WRHS & Rotary 9650. Rotarian Bill Warburton OAM (member of the Rotary Club of Tamworth) is a staunch supporter of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and encourages all clubs across the region to donate what they can to the Service, particularly during the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

"It has been a dream of mine to get the rotary wheel on all 4 of the Westpac Rescue Helicopters, so that Rotary and the Chopper can fly together over the whole of Northern NSW. This can only be achieved by clubs donating what they can, especially now when the Chopper cannot hold many of their usual events."

Should you wish to know more about how to donate, or have a member of the WRHS visit your club, please contact Tamara on 0401 729 443.

RYLA 2020 BY LUKE MASSEY

Terry Burgess RYLA Scholarship Recipient
RC Tamworth First Light

Heading into Ryla 2020, I was filled with the fears of anxiety that often accompany the complete unknown. I knew almost nothing about the week. I knew no one at the camp. I had spent the morning forcing out a cough. Convincing my stomach, it was upset. Concocting some strenuous reason for going back on my promise. To say my mind was quickly changed was an understatement. I was immediately met by the wonderfully friendly smiles of the Ryla leaders and management. I met equally nervous but fantastically friendly fellow Rylarians. My anxieties were quickly swept away by a tsunami of excitement, motivation, and comradery.

This was all before we began tackling the workshops. The Rylarian management really have put together a series of courses that form the catalyst for change amongst people of our age group. John Carroll's Ryla specific course promotes the kind of life training which, in my view, should be a pillar of our schooling system. I came to Ryla an unmotivated, lost, and directionless 26-year-old and left with a new lust for life and a new motivation to succeed. The course gave me the tools to bridge the gap between finishing postgraduate university and successfully building a life for myself outside of the safety net of tertiary education. Furthermore, I have made friends for life. The bonds we made at Ryla are unlike any other I have experienced.

The intensity of the week bonds us unlike any other friendship and I am so thankful to have met some of the most inspiring young people I have ever met. Rylarians are truly a special group and I will forever be glad to call myself a graduate.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

With a wish to broaden its Youth Program a few years ago, the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie approached the Head English Teacher at Hastings Secondary College, Port Macquarie Campus, to say that it would like to be involved with the National Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition through the school and to do this would offer books for the school library to a value as follows:

1-10 entries \$100
11-20 entries \$200
21-30 entries \$300
31-40 entries \$400
41 and above \$500

The school willingly accepted the offer and entry into the poetry competition is now part of the curriculum. (The Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition is administered by the Dorothea Mackellar Memorial Society, formed in 1983. The awards have grown from 300 entries to an online national contest for all school aged children, this year attracting over 7500 entries.)

This Club holds a Poetry Night each year with a guest poet, includes an invitation for a small number of participating students to read out their poems, and occasionally invites a number of members to read one of the poems they have written. The benefits of the program are the very small costs involved, the very small work load, the very good connection with the school, and it allows us to support and encourage a love of poetry and creative writing among the students!

I really appreciated the opportunity to travel with District Governor Debbie Loveday last week to Lightning Ridge. On the way we had the opportunity to catch up with the Project Manager of The Dorothea Mackellar Memorial Society at The Mackellar Centre in Gunnedah. She immediately knew that over 150 poems had come from Port High. We visited Narrabri, Lightning Ridge, Glen Innes and Guyra Rotary Clubs plus Glen Innes Satellite Club. Ideas seem to be everywhere. I was very impressed. I am putting this idea out there. It is easy to replicate and if anyone is interested in knowing more, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Diana Gammon
Youth Director
Rotary Club of Port Macquarie.



RYLA 2020 participant Luke Massey

WORKING DOG TRAINING

Coonabarabran RC IS presenting a
Working Dog Training day at Rotarian
Marie Knight's property
Berrumbuckle on Sat 24 Oct.

Places are limited but filling fast ..
trainer is Robert Cox from Nyngan
area .. it's free thanks to Red cross. If
your farm dog needs to be settled or
taught to work please book in .. CRC
will provide morning tea and lunch.

Funded by Red Cross as part of the
drought initiative.

Book by contacting Marie Knight
6842 2703



District 9650 Conference

Rotary an

International Affair

March 12-14th 2021



Panthers Bay St, Port Macquarie

ROTARY 9650.ORG.AU/DISTRICT-CONFERENCE

[HTTPS://WWW.ROTARY9650.ORG.AU/DISTRICT-CONFERENCE](https://www.rotary9650.org.au/district-conference)

