

26 February 2020



Rotary Club of Sawtell

Sawtell Sun

## International Schwedenplatte

It was an evening with many international flavours, as we were joined by four exchange students.

Charley Della has been back in Coffs for just over a month after her 12 months in Karlsruhe, Germany, as Sawtell's outgoing exchange student in 2019.

Charley's talk covered the many highlights and some of the challenges of her year away. The biggest hurdle was feeling like an alien for the first couple of months while she pushed to develop fluency in the language.

International visits during the holiday breaks included London, Amsterdam, Vienna, Prague, Auschwitz and Berlin. Charley spent her 16th birthday in Verona.

Local celebrations such as the "Bringing the Cows down the Mountains" and OktoberFest were also in

the mix. Charley particularly enjoyed the German traditional Christmas, which kicked off on the 6th of December with everyone putting out their biggest boots to be filled with goodies from Saint Nicolas. The scent of a pine Christmas tree won out in Charley's estimation when contrasted with a plastic Christmas tree.

Settling back into school and home have given Charley some perspective on how her world view grew during her year away.

Then thanks to a batch of baking by Charley, Rotarians and guests enjoyed a traditional German Christmas treat, Lebkuchen biscuits, with their coffee.

Charley finished with a heartfelt thanks to the Sawtell Club for providing her with the opportunity and support as a Rotary Youth Exchange student.

*Schwedenplatte = Smorgasbord in German.*

*Below Charley Della, 2019 Outgoing Sawtell student, Julia Toledo from Mogi das Cruze, Brazil and Adam Leskovjansky from Slovakia.*





**Alan Freedman**

6 March

**Toni Long**

7 March

**Roger Atwal**

17 March

**Jennifer Makinson**

19 March

**Sue Paff**

31 March

## District 9650 Conference March 20-22, South West Rocks

President Elect Peter is keen for members to consider attending the District Conference this year. You can go either day and it's only a short drive this time. There are no registration fees. Lunch and morning tea are only \$30 on the Saturday and Lunch is \$25 on the Sunday. Dinner Saturday evening is \$55 and includes two drink vouchers. You don't have to have any meal or food. So conceivably it could cost only your fuel! Sue and Peter will be there and that Rob and Julie have booked a site for their van and are staying for the week.

Please register now!

<https://www.rotary9650.org.au/district-conference>



## Rotary International District 9650 Conference 2020 - March 20 to 22 South West Rocks Country Club

**Diarise Now for  
a great Rotary  
weekend**



**Rotary Fun &  
Learning**



## International Schwedenplatte (continued)

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Julie Buckle shared with the club her recollections of her exchange to Illinois where she arrived mid winter wearing vollies (no socks) and a denim jacket, much to the amusement of her host family. Julie's message to all exchange stu-

dents is "EMBRACE, EMBRACE, EMBRACE". Take up every opportunity, even if it is a road trip to Nebraska!

Upon return, it can be tricky to integrate back into home. Remember that everyone moves on. The people at home and should you be lucky enough to go back to the exchange location, people there will have moved on, too. Remember to make friends in every new place.

We also heard briefly from Julia and Adam who are greatly enjoying both the landscape and people in Australia. Adam told us his week on Heron Island was the best week of his life, so far!



*Above: President Warren receiving a club pennant from Mogi das Cruzes , Brazil, from Julia Toledo.*

*Right: Former outgoing Sawtell Exchange Student Julie Buckle. Julie is also mum to our current outgoing exchange student Emily Buckle and has just started hosting Adam Leskovjansky.*



## Upcoming Events

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2 March     | <b>Ashleigh Geddes, President of Coffs Interact Club</b>   |
| 8 March     | PETS (President Elects Training)<br>@ Pt. Macquarie<br>(Peter & Roslyn attending)  |
| 9 March     | <b>Clayton Sippel, CEO Open Arms</b>   |
| 16 March    | <b>Jennifer Downs, Westpac Rescue Helicopter</b>   |
| 20-22 March | District Conference @ SW Rocks<br>Register online at:<br><a href="https://php.rotary9650.org.au/conf_2020/registration.php">https://php.rotary9650.org.au/conf_2020/registration.php</a> |
| 23 March    | <b>Vocational visit to Community Transport</b>   |
| 28 March    | Coffs Rotary Bookfest sale starts  |
| 30 March    | <b>Dinner &amp; Board meeting</b>  |
| 6 April     | <b>Uniting Church Soup Place</b>   |
| 19 April    | District Assembly @ Pt. Macquarie<br>for all of next year's Board Members,<br>registration paid by the club.   |



P.O. Box 32

Sawtell NSW 2452

[www.sawtellrotary.org](http://www.sawtellrotary.org)

Part of District 9650

District Governor: Phil Hafey

[www.rotary9650.org.au](http://www.rotary9650.org.au)



| Date    | Sergeant       | Affirmation     | International Toast |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 24/2/20 | Denis Gleeson  | Bruce Hall      | Steve Kassulke      |
| 2/3/20  | Shayne Long    | Shane Della     | Phil Makinson       |
| 9/3/20  | Paul Newton    | Peter Paff      | Ellis Nicholson     |
| 16/3/20 | John Underwood | Warren Hollyman | Alison Williams     |

Sergeant in Charge: John Underwood

Duties: arrange for the back door to be open, take out and place in designated spots the name badges, President's Chain of Office, Sergeant's equipment, Fellowship equipment.

If you're not available, please arrange to change with another member, or if not successful, contact John Underwood.