

February 2020 | Vol. 8 | Monthly Newsletter

# DISTRICT 9600 NEWS

*The official newsletter of the District Governor*

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**ROTARY  
CONNECTS  
THE WORLD**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ROTARY!

**Put your Sunday's best on!**

To celebrate the 115th Birthday of Rotary (February 23rd), District 9600, 9630 & 9640 have teamed up to organise the "Million Dollar Dinner" (February 29th) at the Westin Hotel. Trustee, Chair of the Rotary Foundation and Past Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang, together with his wife Corinna, will be in Brisbane as special Guests for this event. This fundraiser Gala Dinner aims to ensure we leave a legacy to the world through Rotary.

Contact [dg@rotary9600.org](mailto:dg@rotary9600.org) for more details.



# YOURS TRULY

Well January is gone and so is half of February.

What an intense few weeks we have had and now we look forward to lots of fun times.

The rains have come and blessed us all and we look forward to more rain and better times ahead. Very few of our members have suffered much damage from the rains and we look forward to the extinguishment of all fires and for the farmers to start the long road back from drought as well as the fires. Once the farmers can start to recover so can our towns and our country. *Please refer to other articles in this newsletter regarding the drought and the bushfires.*

Payments to the Queensland Bushfire Survivors are proceeding at a rapid rate, as well as donations coming in from Rotary Friends all over the World.

We know there are many demands on your money at present with the above appeals and everyday life.

On that note, the MILLION DOLLAR DINNER is about is leaving a Legacy to the world to ensure it continues to be a place where Good is Done by leaving it in a way that your children and your grandchildren and everybody can better off because you left some money to the best Charity in the World.

(That is not just my thoughts but also proven by Charity Navigator).

Already this year we have seen three new Interact Clubs commence. Support the Interact and EarlyAct Conference on Sunday March 8. There will be discussions and demonstrations on Solar Buddy a great initiative that has been well received in our islands.

The Conference theme is Rotary Connects the World and in honour of Rotary International Presidents Representative Past International Director Greg Yank the speakers from around the world will be featuring the five values of Rotary. Greg was part of the Strategy Committee for Rotary International and is happy to discuss any of this with us all. The weekend will be fun and enjoyable and a great learning experience for all attending. Come and enjoy March 13-15.

We want to thank everyone for the immense support all have given to their communities over the past few very trying months. Looking forward now to having some fun with events like The Million Dollar Dinner and Conference.

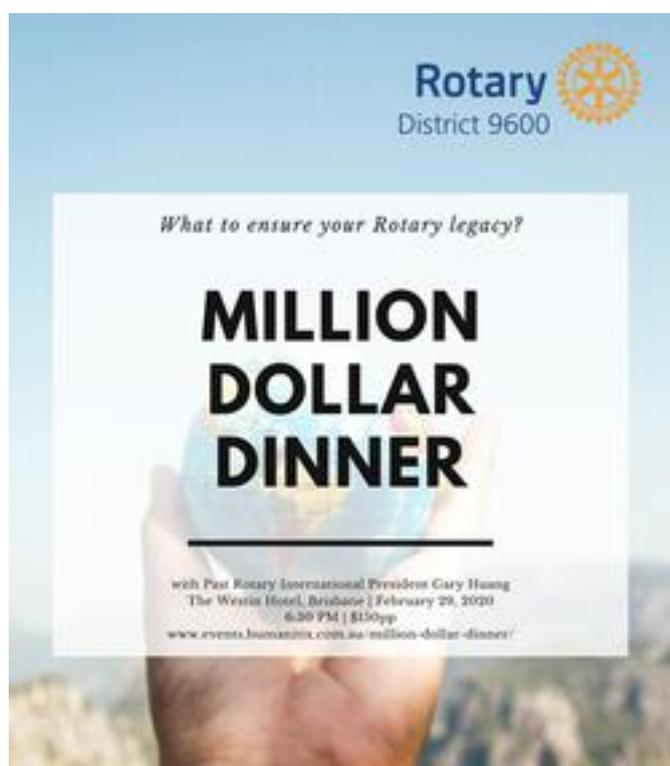
Let us get together and enjoy how Rotary Connects the World.

# It's How We Connect That Matters

By Darryl & Laura Iseppi

We forecast a lot of good old Rotary fellowship for February and March. Just as we hope the meteorologists forecast rain for the fire affected regions. (see Page XYZ for more info)

As previously written, the "Million Dollar Dinner" will be a phenomenal evening of fellowship where Rotarians and friends alike, will be able to enjoy canapés, a two-course meal, and complimentary drinks. In addition, RI's special Guest, a dance-floor and music to dance to. Limited tickets available at \$150pp. To get yours now, please visit <https://events.humanitix.com.au/million-dollar-dinner/> or call ☎ 0402814303.



“  
The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are.  
”

Two weeks later, we will meet up again, this time for our Annual District Conference! Just as this Rotary year, the theme for our Conference is: "Rotary Connects the World" and in honour of Greg Yank (Rotary International Presidents Representative & Past International Director), the speakers from around the world will be featuring the five values of Rotary. Not only will we learn lots but we will also celebrate our fellowship. Friday, we invite those who want, to dress up for an ALOHA evening. Saturday, on the other hand, will be our Gala Dinner. The Gala Dinner includes a two-course meal, four-hour drink package, dancing and entertainment. To get your tickets, visit <https://events.humanitix.com.au/district-9600-annual-conference> - The total price for the Conference is \$275 (incl. registration fee, and all meals). However, if you have other commitments that weekend, you may book for different parts of the conference separately, at a reduced cost. Please bear in mind that there is a mandatory registration fee of \$25 for all daytime attendees covering morning and afternoon tea for both days. (Note: there was no levy for Conference this year on your District dues)

# Million Dollar Dinner Special Guest

Gary C.K. Huang



**Gary C.K. Huang**  
Trustee Chair 2019-20

## February 2020

Since ancient times, people have built communities around water. Having the ability to draw clean, fresh water from a well means that a village has staying power and the ability to endure hard times.

Wells are vital to people worldwide, but as a metaphor, they are just as powerful. What is The Rotary Foundation's "well"? From what source can we draw to replenish ourselves to keep up with all of the amazing global grants saving lives around the world?

The Rotary Foundation well is our Endowment, of course. We are building a very deep, strong well that will ensure funding for major projects for generations to come. A strong endowment will ensure the long-term financial stability of our Foundation and provide essential resources to help deliver even more outstanding humanitarian service into the future.

We are aiming high with the Building TRF Endowment: 2025 by 2025 initiative to build an endowment of \$2.025 billion by 2025. By then we expect the Foundation's Endowment to have a minimum of \$1 billion in net assets, with the balance in expectancies and bequest-type commitments.

Imagine the good we will be able to do with a \$2 billion Endowment! The investment earnings will provide about \$100 million annually for Rotarians to do all sorts of life-changing projects around the globe, year after year.

Together, we can make this happen. As much as the world changes around us, the well of The Rotary Foundation will stand the test of time and keep making a positive impact on the world.

Confucius took great pleasure from water. He said: "Great water can continuously move forward without stopping. It is so kind as to irrigate the lands everywhere it goes, yet it does not regard itself as having performed outstanding feats. It's just like virtue."

Speaking of accomplishments, the Rotary Club of Shanghai just celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. And the club just reached another great milestone: its first Arch Klumph Society member, Frank Yih. Gōng xǐ to our friends in Shanghai!



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# The Future of 9600

## Update regarding the merge into Rotary District 9620 and District 9600 leading up to this

The first appointment for District 9620 has been made by PDG and District Governor Nominee, Wendy Protheroe.

Past District Governor (D9630), Elwyn Hodges will be the District Rotary Foundation Chair for D9620. Elwyn has over 18 years of experience within Rotary and an excellent understanding of The Rotary Foundation. We congratulate Elwyn!

There is constant progress being made in regards to our merge with District 9630 to become District 9620 and live updates will be given by Wendy on the Sunday at our Annual District Conference. Don't forget that nominations for District Governor 2022-23 close soon! District Governor Elect, Neil Black will give us all an update for the final year of District 9600.



“  
Never, ever give up.  
”



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# Queensland Bushfire Relief Appeal

## Helping Survivors Get Back on Their Feet

Money given to RAWCS incur a 2.75% once off admin fee to cover credit card fees and the recording and administration of the funds.



**To donate:**  
**[www.rawcs.org.au](http://www.rawcs.org.au)**  
**Project No.: 63-2019-20**

- The rain, even though it has caused issues for some, it has also help extinguish most fires.
- Our primary role is as a second responder after Government and Insurance and there will be much needed to be done in the long term.
- Over 60 farms in one area of fruit growers were all wiped out on the Capricorn Coast. They will be looking at over 5 years before their next income crop.
- The Project Team for the Queensland Bushfire Appeal has been very busy and raised almost \$100,000.
- A significant portion of this money has been paid out to those who lost everything or almost everything in the Queensland Bushfires.
- As your District Governor I also sit on the committee for the National Appeal that has raised over \$800,000.
- The National Appeal Committee meets on Sunday night to start the process of payments.
- The Queensland Appeal has been paying out for some time now.
- The Project Team for the Queensland Bushfire Appeal has been very busy and raised almost \$100,000. A significant portion of this money has been paid out to those who lost everything or almost everything in the Queensland Bushfires.

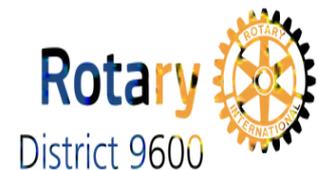
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# Queensland Bushfire Relief Appeal

## Helping our Survivors Get Back on Their Feet

Below, please see testimonies of survivors, thanking Rotary for the support:

- *"Your efforts re application for funding are very much appreciated. I looked in my bank account today and an extra \$2500 from Rotary has been deposited. I was expecting it from another source re donations from public distributions, Rotary has already given so much of time and effort to me. Now I can get more cleaning up done much more quickly. Thank you all ever so much!" - Denise*
- *"Could you please pass on our sincere Thanks to all your fellow Rotarians for their generosity and words seem inadequate in expressing how much this means and helps us both out. Many thanks to you Alan for being the instigator and thinking of Stephen and myself. I look forward to meeting you and thanking you in person. We will be out of action for a bit from next week or I should say Stephen will be as he is getting his knee operated on as he tore his meniscus whilst fighting the fires. Here's praying for rain and once again Thank you and North Rockhampton Rotarians so very much. Sincerely." - Cathy and Stephen Boys*



**If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [dg@rotary9600.org](mailto:dg@rotary9600.org)**

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# Queensland Bushfire Relief Appeal

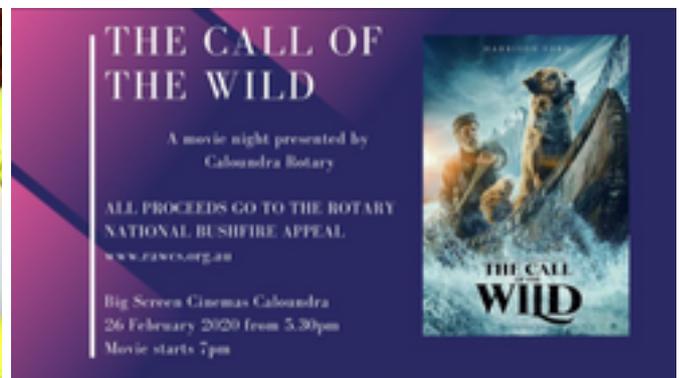
## Helping our Survivors Get Back on Their Feet

Letter of thanks received from one of the many who have received help through the RAWCS QUEENSLAND BUSHFIRE APPEAL.

Thank you for your financial support given to us from the Q'ld Bushfire Relief Fund following our disastrous fire on the 9th November, 2019 in the Bungundarra area, where we lost over 1000 fruit producing trees. The lychee trees were about 14 years old and were just recovering from Cyclone Marica, which came through on the 19th February, 2015.

All our lychee trees had protective nets over them to protect the fruit from the bats and the birds and we were ready to start picking in early December. The orchard was totally destroyed in a matter of minutes. The financial support given to us is very much appreciated. We thank the Rotary Clubs of 9600 for their unwavering support.

We also thank, our Rotary Club of Rockhampton North and the Rotaryanne's of Rockhampton North for their unwavering support. The working teams who helped us chain saw 1000trees and chip them, and then paint the tree stumps so to avoid sunburn. The Club's kindness, friendships was a great moral and support to both Jack and myself. We are now busy preparing the area for replanting.



**Wednesday 26 February**  
**5.30pm- start 7pm**  
**Caloundra Cinemas**  
**Tickets \$25p (incl. Wine & Pizza)**  
<https://rotaryclubcaloundra.com.au/event/film-night---the-call-of-the-wild/>

# The Drought

## We Owe It To Our Farmers

The drought isn't over once it rains.

The rain has started and more will be needed. The dams are not yet full. Recovery only occurs when the farms and towns are restocked to pre-drought levels. When bank accounts start to see a net cash inflow and drought debt is paid off. It will only be over when individuals no longer suffer the mental and physical stress that comes from drought. Only when they get a sense that they can get through and see a better future, then the drought is over. This recovery is not short term, it is 5 to 10 years in the future.



“

**Agriculture is the most  
healthful, the most useful and  
most noble employment of  
man.**

”



- As your District Governor I have been in constant communication with District 9630 Drought Relief Chair, Errol Wyldman as they expand the project into our District to help those in need.
- Please remember their project, The Drought Appeal Account details are:
- Name: Rotary District 9630 Drought Fund,
- St George Bank.
- BSB 114 879 - Account No. 447875989

# Remember the farmers!

**A concert to raise funds for  
drought relief in the  
South Burnett**

**VIVA LA MUSICA  
COMMUNITY CHOIR**



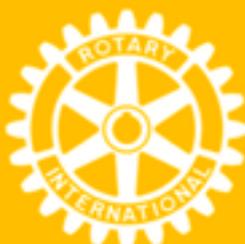
**brisbane  
citizens'  
concert  
band**

**Sunday, 22 March, 2.00pm  
Kenmore Anglican Church  
1036 Moggill Road, Kenmore  
Parking on site**

**Adults \$20.00, children under 12 free**

**Tickets: <https://trybooking.com>**

**Rotary**  
Karana Downs



**Heritage Bank**  
People first.

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# Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE)

## Guests from Chicago, Illinois

These five amazing couples are going to visit us from the Districts 6440 & 6450 of Illinois from the 13th to the 20th of March and require an Australian host. (can be multiple hosts) We invite a group from our District to visit them in Chicago in late April or early May, in return. Please contact RFE Chair Leo Smith  [rfe@rotary9600.org](mailto:rfe@rotary9600.org) if you are interested either way. They will join us for our Annual Conference and then will be travelling to the Sunshine Coast. They plan to return to Brisbane on Tuesday, 17 March before heading home on Friday, March 20. Contact [dg@rotary9600.org](mailto:dg@rotary9600.org) for more details.



“

**Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives.**

”

Like our visitors are doing, you may do likewise in Illinois and stay longer staying in your own arrangements or possibly staying with other Rotarians.

The Illinois team are speaking at Conference and then travelling to the Sunshine Coast before returning to Brisbane on Tuesday 17 March to be home hosted and shown the Beautiful City of Brisbane before they go their own way on Friday 20th. We still need some hosts for accommodation and for guiding them around. These can be different people. Please let DG Darryl know if you would like to experience this Friendship exchange by being hosts or guides.



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# NYSF

## Update

- In January there were to be three sessions of NYSF, Session B in Brisbane and Sessions A & C in Canberra.
- Session B from all reports was a great success and thank you to all concerned in particular District Liaison Tino Babao. The only disappointing item to note is again we had insufficient people (with blue cards etc) available to host even 50% of the students on the Sunday of the middle weekend to enable these students a break from campus life.
- Session A in Canberra was cancelled a couple of days in due to health risks of the Canberra Bushfires and Session C was cancelled before any students were on their way to the Session.
- This has left all of our District Candidates unable to complete their NYSF experience and a lot of questions as to what next.
- On behalf of our clubs and candidates, I, like my District Governor Classmates in Australia have been having many conversations as to what next. We are aiming to get the best results for all. NYSF is not a Rotary Project and is its own self Incorporated Body so we can only influence their decision by using our collective force to ensure that Rotary Clubs and their participants are treated fairly.
- We know for many clubs who received grants for student placements that those donors are requesting refunds as the money did not achieve what the grant was for. For Federal Government Funding, NYSF are making pleas on your behalf.
- At the end of the day we are asking for all clubs to be refunded in full by NYSF and if clubs wish to donate funds back to NYSF then that is a decision for the clubs. This will be a battle. NYSF have sufficient reserves that will allow this to happen, though it may curtail future operations.
- Applications for next year open 1 March however until the 2020 Sessions are clarified we will not be pursuing applications.
- Please keep in contact with your students to keep them informed and to know what is being sent directly to them.
- If any individual or clubs wants to make a submission on their thoughts, please send to me to collate on your District's behalf.
- This unfortunately will not be resolved in the next month or two.



## Important Messages for all Clubs

- District Dues have been waived as a Club expense from January to June 2020, as these are being paid from the Reserves. However, we ask all Clubs to continue to charge Club Dues because this is an exception that will not continue into the future. We ask Clubs to make the best use of these savings, including subsidising members to attend the Annual District Conference if needed. Be reminded that the Club Dues for July to December still need to be paid if still outstanding.
- Please make sure the correct Logo is being used. Branding standards will start to be enforced.



**Rotary**  
Club of Bribie Island  
The Offshore Rotarians



# *International Dinner*

*You are Invited to Come along and meet  
the President Elects from the  
Rotary Clubs of Papua New Guinea ,  
The Solomon Islands and Nauru*

**To be held**

**at the**

**Pacific Harbour Golf and Country Club**

**141-159 Avon Ave, Banksia Beach QLD 4507**

**Date Thursday 12th March 2020**

**Time 6:30 for 7:00pm**

**Cost \$40pp.**

**RSVP**

**To Mary Grant :- [bribie@iinet.net.au](mailto:bribie@iinet.net.au)**

**Phone 0421529824**

**By 4th March 2020**

Electronic Transfer

Rotary Club of Bribie Island

BSB 124390

Account : 20314481

[Reference INT D and Name }

*Please email after payment*

Cheques to

Rotary Club of Bribie Island

PO Box 285

Bribie Island

4507

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# Struggle Street

## Rotary Making a Difference by OAM Noel Trevaskis

Three weeks ago I came home after my Rotary Club meeting and watched the show Struggle Street on SBS. My first thoughts were that Rotary can make a difference to this family, the Zaric family of Nangus. The episode of Struggle Street that featured the Zaric Family was (Season 3, Episode 4). This episode is still available to view through SBS on Demand.

An application was made for a grant from the Dick Smith Foundation through RAWCS for \$15,000 and it was successful. To make this grant a reality we need to match it with \$15,000.

Ricky and Peta Zaric live in Nangus, New South Wales (about 30km by road west of Gundagai). They have twins, Bree and Cody. Cody has some severe medical conditions requiring travel to Sydney and Canberra on a regular basis for ongoing treatment. His disease is Dent 1. This is very rare disease with only 250 people worldwide being diagnosed with Dent 1. His family is struggling financially and emotionally because of medical and travel costs. Complicating his disease is that Cody has a mutation of a gene called RANBP2. Medically they don't know what this means for Cody because this particular mutation has not been seen before. Cody is a high risk of any infection which could cause encephalitis.

They have not had a holiday since the birth of the twins five years ago. They are unable to use babysitters because of Cody's medical condition. Cody's father Ricky has to travel away for work which puts another strain on the family. They have a transportable home that they purchased but don't have the funds to fix it up. They are currently living in a "donger" on their property at Nangus.

Ricky and Peta are under considerable stress and anxiety because of the financial burden on their family and continually worry about how they can afford basic items, let alone the ongoing medical treatment for Cody. The Rotary Clubs of Districts 9700 and 9710 are collaborating to provide assistance to the family, firstly by renovating their transportable home. A builder has already made an assessment of the project which has been costed at \$38,000. This amount will ensure the cost of all materials/appliances needed will be met. Volunteers are being arranged to carry out the building, fitting and painting work.

As stated earlier a \$15,000 Rotary Grant has been secured through a Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) project but this money is only available on a dollar for dollar basis to match other donations. Donations made to the RAWCS project 44-2029-20 established to assist the Zaric family are tax deductible through the Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS) which is managed by RAWCS.

We are aiming to raise \$25,000 through donations to ensure the work can be completed. Anything raised over and above that will firstly be put towards a much needed holiday for the Zaric family at the South Coast and then towards the ongoing medical costs for Cody. Please join me and making a difference to the lives of the Zaric Family by donating whatever you can. Your contribution will be tax deductible and a receipt will be sent by return e-mail.

You can also help by sharing the following with your friends;

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/44-2019-20>

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# RYLA

Applications Are Open



## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

*RYLA – Empowering the leaders of tomorrow and inspiring positive change in the community*

**Dates:**

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Location:**

Luther Heights Youth Camp Coolum Beach QLD

**Cost:**

\$995.00 per application with a closing date of 29/03/2020

Please note, cancellation of application after 29/03/2020 will incur an additional fee (25% of application fee) payable by the participant

**Find Out More:**

 [www.ryla9600.com](http://www.ryla9600.com)

 [ryla9600@gmail.com](mailto:ryla9600@gmail.com)

 @RYLADISTRICT9600

 @ryla9600



# Interact/Earlyact Conference

Connect



**Interact/Earlyact Conference 2020**



Book this Date and Come and be Inspired!

A day to network with likeminded people, share your best ideas and discover new ones. As "Rotary Connects the World" we will explore resources showing how.....

*Interact & Earlyact Connect*

**Sunday March 8, 2020**

@

**St Columban's College, Caboolture**

**9.00am to 3.00pm**

This day is promising to be a fabulously motivational experience for all students, teachers, parents and Rotarians who are passionate about their clubs and those Rotarians considering starting a club.

**For further information contact:**



**For Interact:**  
Doreen Johnston: doreenjohnston@hotmail.com  
SMS 0407 744 197

**For Earlyact:**  
Lorelle Holcroft: lorelle.holcroft@bigpond.com  
SMS 0424 311 822

# LAST BUT NOT LEAST



FOLLOW 'ROTARY DISTRICT 9600'  
ON FACEBOOK AND ALWAYS ADD  
#PEOPLEOFACTION IN YOUR COMMENTS



FOLLOW @DISTRICT9600 ON INSTAGRAM  
FOR LIVE UPDATES OF EVENTS AND  
PICTURES OF FELLOW ROTARIANS

# BOOK NOW!

<https://events.humanitix.com.au/district-9600-annual-conference>

To get the following rates, visit Grand Chancellor Hotel's website and type in the code **ROTARY9600**. Alternatively, call the Hotel directly on 3831 4055 and mention that you are attending the conference.

Room Type	Nightly Rate		
	Room Only	Including 1 Breakfast	Including 2 Breakfast
Deluxe Room Twin or Queen	\$145	\$160	\$175
Superior Room King	\$160	\$175	\$190
Superior Suite King	\$245	\$260	\$275



**2020**  
**CONFERENCE**  
13-15 MARCH