



Upcoming Events

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SEOUL KOREA

Seoul Korea
May 28, 2016 – Jun 01, 2016

District Changeover

Orange
Jun 25, 2016

ROTARY DOWNUNDER

Posted by Hank Doll

We are pleased to announce that our new RDU Supplies website is now live and ready to take your orders.

Go to www.rdusupplies.com.au to order your club's supplies and view our range of 2016-2017 theme merchandise.



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HAY RUN

Posted by Hank Doll

The Burrumbuttock to Queensland Hay-Run is on again and is promising to be bigger than ever. Rotary clubs throughout NSW are sponsoring fuel and providing catering and support. I was told recently that it took 90 minutes for the passage of the convoy past a given point. A massive

THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE



The District Conference will be held in Wagga Wagga April 22 to 24 and will be a wonderful event to inspire you all and potential new members.

This conference will bring together the leading speakers in Rotary in the world along with a host of other top class presenters. Past Rotary International President's Bill Boyd will be representing current RI President K.R. Ravindran.



"It is with sadness that DG Gary has announced that PRIP Kaylan Banerjee is unable to attend our Conference due to his wife, Binota, requiring surgery in April. Kaylan's keynote address will however be presented on video ensuring his message on Peace is presented and the Conference."

Steve Killalea of the Institute of Peace and Economics will discuss Positive Peace, what makes a community peaceful. He is receiving traction around the world with the release of the Global Peace Index in Washington, London, Paris, Berlin and Geneva. He is a truly inspiring man with a new view of peace.



Sarah Yahya is a refugee from the Middle East crisis, she is the 2015 Premier's Multicultural Youth Winner, 2015 Young Citizen of the Year and an advocate for refugee rights and young people,



effort from our farming communities, help where you can.



especially girls. She is a past RYLARIAN and will bring to us a different perspective on the current crisis facing the world.



Fran Raymond is a past Rotary Exchange Student and daughter of the late Allan Raymond, a Rotarian from Orange. Fran is now the Chief Operating Officer for the Australian Reinsurance Pool. Her story from being a young person crossing the world to her current role evidences the value of our youth programs.



Garry Browne is CEO of Stuart Alexander & Company, Marketer and Distributor of well-known confectionary, food and beverage brands.



Friday night has been left for "Club Night" so you can come to Wagga Wagga and enjoy fellowship of your club members. Saturday night we will "Rock the Town" with a concert by the Beatnix, a world class Beatles tribute band.

Your one off registration fee covers all tea breaks and 2 lunches as well as the concert, this is great value when you look at the individual cost points, the Beatnix Concert alone usually retails for \$75. [You can register right here by clicking on this link.](#)

[Read more...](#)

[Read more...](#)

RYPEN

Posted by Hank Doll

To Rotary Clubs that supported RYPEN 2015

You can



now view the photos from

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MINI TOUR

Marilyn and I will be embarking on a mini tour of the district in March and April and would like to meet as many Rotarians and Partners as possible to update you on the progress in the district and our various programs.



RYPEN by clicking [here](#).

Thank you all so much for your ongoing support of RYPEN. We had a fantastic group of young people who blew us away with their kindness and inclusiveness.

Your efforts in encouraging and sponsoring students to attend RYPEN are what makes it all work - and for that we are very grateful.

This year we will be contacting you earlier than in previous years as we are introducing a **RYPEN Team Leader** program, where we will recruit 6 special ex-Rypennians as leaders to help us take RYPEN to the next level.

Cheers Darren Wallace,
RYPEN Committee (District 9700)

RHYME AND REASON TO CELEBRATE

Posted by Hank Doll

Report from Clivia Frieden, Rotary Club of Orange.

The Rotary Club of Orange, NSW, in partnership with its community is revelling in the success of the 2016 Banjo Paterson Australian Poetry Festival held in February. Bush poetry enthusiasts gathered in Orange, the birthplace of Andrew Barton (Banjo) Paterson, to share in the comedy, wit, talent and celebration of good old Australian entertainment. Poets from across Australia and across the Tasman competed for prize money in the annual poetry competition thanks to local sponsorship from the Orange Regional Arts Foundation and Townsend's Real Estate. The three judges were Australian Champion Bush Poetry Recitalists in their own right and were excited to see the high standard of the competition. We even had the Mayors of the Cities of Orange, Bathurst and Dubbo in a poetry recital challenge, which has

Clubs are achieving some amazing things across the district in our communities and internationally.

I have listed below the dates of our club visits, it is not practical to visit all clubs again so I have arranged a schedule to have joint meetings with adjacent clubs. If your club is not listed for a visit please try and attend an adjoining club for our visit as we want to give everyone the chance to meet us and for us to get to know you.

Date	Club	Invited Clubs
February 23	Junee	Nil
March 7	Coolamon	Temora
March 15	Griffith	Avanti, East Griffith, Yenda, Rotaract
March 22	Young	Boorowa, Grenfell, Murrumburrah – Harden
		Cootamundra
March 24	Cowra	Blayney
March 30	Henty	Lockhart
April 11	Orange Calare	
April 11	Parkes	
April 12	Bathurst	Bathurst D/B, Bathurst East, Oberon
April 13	Orange Daybreak	
April 13	Forbes	West Wyalong Forbes Ipomea Lake Cargelligo Condoblin

[Read more...](#)

ROTARY CONVENTION Korea - 28th May - 1st June

Join thousands of Rotarians in Korea 28 May--1 June at the Rotary Convention. Register before 31 March for extra savings. After you register, be sure to sign up for a memorable host committee event: the Welcome Festival, a night at the symphony, or an evening of contemporary ballet. Connect with old friends and make new ones, and be a part of the best that Rotary has to offer.

proved to be a popular annual event.



Poetry Competition winner Celia Kershaw. Pictured above

The community of Orange was treated to a very entertaining banter between Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson in the Leviticus Bar and Grill at Heaven's Gate as they reminisced over their rivalry in the media as pop artists of their time. Performed by Australian actors Warren Fahey and Max Cullen, the show was a sell-out and was supported locally by sponsorship from Norman J Penhall Funerals of Orange. This is a show not to be missed if "Dead Men Talking" comes to a venue near you.

The Festival also included a golf



tournament with hickory sticks, a Family Market Day at Emmaville Cottage, the supposed birthplace of Banjo Paterson, family entertainment in the streets and parks, historical tours and Banjo birthday celebrations. There were plenty of opportunities for Rotary barbecues, and the Club racked up 400 rostered hours of service during the Festival week, let alone what went into the organisation over the past year!

Entertainers from western Queensland, "Mel and Susie on Tour" added a new dimension to this annual Festival with their Aussie humour, their involvement



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MULTI-DISTRICT DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT FOR FIJI

The District Governor's from all Australian Districts have agreed to contribute to a single RAWCS project to aid Fiji following the recent Cyclone. The district will be making a contribution to this appeal and we urge all clubs and individuals to make donations to this appeal. Details of the project are:

[Read more...](#)

DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2018-19

District Governor 2018-19 Nominations close March 30th, 2016.

If you would like to experience the best year of Rotary in your life, now is the time to think about putting your hand up for District Governor 2018-19. The task is demanding and will take up some of your time, however, it is challenging, interesting and above all rewarding. I thoroughly recommend the task to you. Contact Gary Roberts on robwag2@bigpond.com for more information. Enquiries will be confidential.

[Read more...](#)

ROTARACT

Posted by Hank Doll

RotarAct

The inaugural meeting of the Wagga Wagga Rotaract Club was held recently at the Victoria





with school kids and their capacity to

entertain all ages. The Banjo Paterson Australian Poetry Festival is now securely fixed on the calendars of Orange residents and a new wave of visitors to the district. Put it in your diary for the weekend of 17 to 19 February 2017.

[Read more...](#)



Hotel. Thanks to District Rotaract Chair William Wood and rebound exchange students Courtney Smith we are now underway. Watch this space for further announcements and meeting arrangements.



[Read more...](#)

QUILTS FOR MOTHERS

Rotary Down Under has an interview with Marilyn Roberts in the month's RDU [here](#).



Marilyn Roberts with some of the 100 hand-sewn quilts she is collecting to raise funds for women in Africa through The Rotary Foundation – Maternal and Child Health.

The response has been wonderful and many partners of Rotarian and non-Rotarians have shown enthusiasm with quilts already being received, and many more are working on their quilts. I am hoping to collect 100 quilts for sale. If you would like to donate a quilt, or know of anyone who may be interested in donating a quilt to my project, please contact Marilyn on robwag2@bigpond.com.

[Read more...](#)

SHELTERBOXES FOR FIJI



**SHELTER BOX
OPEN LETTER TO ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENTS
SEEKING SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF FIJI**
Dear Club President
Cyclone Winston, the strongest cyclone ever to make landfall on Fiji

Some 120,000 people are estimated to need urgent humanitarian shelter assistance following Cyclone Winston, the strongest cyclone ever to make landfall on Fiji. As a result of strong winds and multiple tsunami-like storm surges, which hit Fiji on February 20, 2016, up to 90% of structures have been

destroyed in the hardest hit areas and shelter is an immediate priority.

[Read more...](#)

WATER & SANITATION

ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP

MARCH IS WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

This is an important month on the Rotary calendar, Rotarians across the globe support water projects to improve the health and wellbeing of people in less fortunate countries than ours.

PRIP Bill Boyd who will be speaking at our District Conference is the head of WASRAG (Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group). Take the opportunity to talk with Bill about projects underway or ideas you may have.

[Read more...](#)

PUBLIC IMAGE

I have seen a large increase in awareness in clubs of the need to have a good public image and how we should promote Rotary so that potential members see Rotary as a place they want to belong. In this issue we can see Rotary signs on the Hay Run and below from Parkes, Temora and Wollundry.

The Wollundry club in Wagga Wagga have taken up the challenge and clearly signpost their flagship events as being ROTARY. We are only as good as our public face at events, let's make sure all the people attending and seeing our events know Rotary is working in their community.



