



Together we say

**NO to Domestic & Family Violence &
YES to Respectful Relationships**



DG DAVE HARMON & ROBYN ROTARY CLUB OF BALLINA-ON-RICHMOND

EDITION 5 NOVEMBER 2023

Leadership Meeting dates 2023-2024

@ Ocean Shores Country Club

18 February 2024

9 June 2024

DG Visits – November

13 Stanthorpe Flexi Satellite

20 The Granite Belt

21 Tenterfield

22 Goondiwindi

27 Grafton

28 Broadbeach

29 Gold Coast Corporate

DG Visits – December

5 Jimboomba

WHAT'S ON

25 Nov Mini Book Fair

[Coomera Valley](#)

17-18 May D9640 Conference - Ballina

- Friday 17 - PDG Lunch & Social

Evening Drinks for everyone

- Saturday 18 Conference, Dinner -

Dance evening & Special Presentations

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

EVENTS 25 Nov – 10 Dec

15 Nov Official Launch Rotary Zone 8

'Say No to Domestic & Family Violence'

Campaign – Parliament House, Canberra

25 Nov G-Link Tram Ride

[Gold Coast Clubs](#)

25 Nov DV Community Walk – Grafton

30 Nov Farmer's Market DV info stall

[Byron Bay](#)

Nov-Dec Paint a Tree Purple

[Fassifern Valley](#)

1 Dec Ballina DV Community Walk

[Ballina-on-Richmond Rotary](#)

1 Dec DV Walk - Murwillumbah Town

[Combined Clubs of Murbah](#)

2 Dec DV Walk in the park

[Beaudesert/Scenic Rim Sunrise](#)

9 Dec DV Colour Run & Family Day

[Northern Gold Coast Rotaract](#)

ORDER DV SHIRTS

DIRECT FROM OUR SUPPLIER –

[NATIONAL WORKWEAR](#)

[DISTRICT CALENDAR HERE](#)

Congratulations

Clubs achieving membership +2

Gold Coast	55 (+9)
Hope Island	42 (+7)
Ballina-on-Richmond	81 (+7)
Gold Coast Corporate	41 (+5)
Beaudesert	25 (+4)
E-Club of NextGen	31 (+3)
Grafton Midday	31 (+3)
Byron Bay	9 (+2)
Lismore	9 (+2)

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Robyn and I had the pleasure of recently visiting the Satellite club of Mermaid Beach called 'Young Mermaid'.

The story of the formation of this club is a perfect example that if you are prepared to think outside the square, recognise an opportunity when it arises and act on it, great things can happen.

Some 2 years ago a charter member of the Rotary Club of Mermaid Beach bequeathed his property to his club. In his Will, he requested that his house be sold and the funds from the sale of the property be held in a Testamentary Trust with the income from the investment to be used to support people with Physical Disabilities.

Past President of the Rotary Club of Mermaid Beach Alan McDonald recognised an opportunity at the house auction and when he asked the Real Estate agents "which one of you is going to join our club and help us administer this trust?" the seed of thought was planted.

The house sold for \$1.83 million. Past President Alan was then involved with a local Law firm to set up a working deed to facilitate investing the funds. Alan again seized the opportunity and asked the question, "our club needs help as we are an aging club and we need some younger members to ensure the long-term survival of this trust. Which one of you is going to join?"

From this, the Law firm and the Real Estate agency combined and through word of mouth, the Young Mermaid Satellite of Mermaid Beach was formed. Currently 2 of the members sit on the Trust committee with the long-term plan being that the Satellite club will eventually administer the investment.

Mermaid Beach Rotary club has ensured its long-term survival. They are planning for the future. Membership is not just about numbers; our clubs need to have renewal. Our Rotary club is like our family in that if we do not have re-birth, our Rotary club can die out with us.



So, what is the message here? I see a couple of important points;

- Recognise an opportunity and seize it
- Tell your friends, associates and community members about Rotary.

Invite them to a meeting. You will be surprised of the result

Congratulations to the 25 clubs that have achieved their goal of +1 membership for the first 90 days. We are now 1 month into our second 90-day cycle and we have 9 clubs that have achieved +2 or more.

The top 3 Presidents of our clubs who are leading the way with growth are;

- [Barry Lane Rotary Club of Gold Coast +9](#)
- [Jamie Marshall Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond +7](#)
- [Rob Brown Rotary Club of Hope Island +7](#)

For those who have heard my presentation to clubs, you may recall the results of a recent Rotary International survey I shared with you that clearly confirms members of our clubs want **fellowship, friendship and meaningful service projects that engage members and connect with community**. It is no coincidence the clubs that are experiencing membership growth have these Rotary Core Values at the top of their list.

Over the next month your club has the opportunity to connect with community and be the voice of change for many in your town or city that do not have one.

Domestic and Family Violence crosses all socio-economic boundaries and often goes unreported or talked about. The latest National Community Attitudes Survey shows 9 in 10 Australians recognise that Family Violence is a major issue in Australia. Yet less than half recognise it as a problem in their town or neighbourhood. When a statistic tells us that a woman is at greatest risk of injury in her own home by someone known to her rather than by a stranger on the street, we have to admit we have a major societal problem.

As I write this, six women have been killed across Australia in the past 10 days with 58 women so far this year losing their lives to Domestic and Family Violence. (*Femicide Watch*). This number hides the real tragedy occurring. As bad as this sounds, it is in fact far worse than this. This is not only unacceptable it is completely avoidable.

This is what is called gender-based violence. While men can be and are victims of Domestic and Family Violence, the vast majority of cases are men against women.

I sincerely ask you to join your Rotary colleagues around Australia in our campaign against Domestic and Family Violence. We are at the start of this campaign. Our aim is to advocate against

and educate our communities about Domestic and Family Violence. Many of you would remember the Drink Driving Campaign that began in 1976. Some 20 to 30 years later, the general public accepted this campaign and through advocacy, education, and more severe penalties, our driving behaviour has changed over time. Change takes time but it is possible and necessary. It saves lives.

Rotary can be, and often is, the voice of the community we serve. The model the Rotary club of Ballina-on-Richmond is sharing with our Rotary colleagues in our Zone, is a whole of community approach. Partner with other organisations and agencies in your town such as Police, Health, Education, Sporting Teams, Licenced Clubs and Pubs, DV support agencies, other Service Clubs and more. This approach has contributed to a positive change in Ballina with regard to Domestic and Family Violence.

Join me during the internationally recognised 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence from Nov 25 to Dec 10 and be the voice of change. Break the silence to end the violence. This is a cause that will give your Rotary club Relevance and Identity. If your club is not having your own activity, please come along and join in another. Everyone is welcome.

DG Dave

FOUNDATION MOMENTS

Quick insights into your charity — The Rotary Foundation

WHAT IS POLIOPUS?

Ending polio is Rotary's main humanitarian goal, and PolioPlus is the program that supports these efforts.

It was launched in 1985 with help from Dr. Albert Sabin, the developer of the oral polio vaccine, as a worldwide program to protect children from the paralyzing consequences of polio. Rotary later became a founding member of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Since then, the incidence of wild polio cases has decreased by 99.9% and the wild poliovirus remains endemic in just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The processes Rotary helped build to fight polio have also been used to protect communities from COVID-19 and other diseases. This illustrates the Plus in PolioPlus.

But polio anywhere is a threat to children everywhere. Only global eradication will ensure that no child suffers its devastating effects ever again.



Learn more about Rotary's efforts to eradicate this disease at endpolio.org.

< Visit my.rotary.org/donate

The Rotary Foundation



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO CLUBS

- Ballina-on-Richmond**
Phil Maguire
- Gold Coast Corporate**
Hanzel Hizola
Angela Mavrakis
Jeremy Ring
- Gold Coast**
Fiona Grundy
Nick Hewawissa
- Hope Island**
Eric Bruin
Richard Chaglasian
- Iluka Woombah**
Peter Mather
Tracey Mather
- Surfers Sunrise**
Rock OKeefe
Ralph Pownall
- Upper Richmond**
Giane Cole

Members @ Current
1281 Goal 1300

Robyn's Partner Project - The Rotary Foundation

Thank you to clubs & individuals who have donated to my partner's project. **\$27,826** in donations. With your help, we are making lives better in your community and around the world. Robii

Funding Rotarians 'To Do Good in the World'



Rotary Foundation month is an opportune time to say thank you and celebrate **TRF's great fundraising result and impact for the last Rotary year!**

Because of your support and your dedication to Doing Good in the World, together, we funded more than 1,100 global grants, 470 district block grants, and 310 disaster response grants. To make this work possible, we rely on donors like you. Your generosity helped us raise more than US\$427 million, which will continue to help communities thrive through sustainable, life-changing projects.

More specifically, this D9640 DDF and Grants Annual Report 2022-23 shows how our District Designated Funds were used to fund three Global Grants, our District Block Grant for 13 District Grants and US\$25,000 to PolioPlus (value-added to US\$112,500 with World Fund and Gates Foundation matching). This is The Rotary Foundation in action in our district.

In 2022-23, District 9640 Rotarians and clubs generously contributed US\$161,000 to The Rotary Foundation:

- US\$114,785 to the Annual Fund, the source of DDF for district and global grants
- US\$34,446 to Rotary's \$50M annual polio contribution matched by \$100M from The Gates Foundation
- US\$8,352 to Grants and Disaster Response Funds for Ukraine, Pakistan, Syria and Turkey
- US\$3,416 to the Endowment Fund, invested to future fund DDF and the World Fund.

For the 15th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating – four stars –

from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities. The Foundation earned the recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Your contributions are in safe hands.



At the GETS/GNTS Foundation event in Sydney, (L to R) DRFC Tony Heading, DGE Lisa Hunt and DGN John Oomen accept a recognition certificate for our exceptional US\$25,000 DDF contribution to PolioPlus in 2022-23.

As we progress towards the halfway mark in this Rotary year, now is the time to review progress towards your club goals for 2023-24. **Thirty of our 58 clubs have so far set an Annual Fund goal and 25 clubs have set a goal for our PolioPlus Fund.** This year, Robyn Harmon has set 'The Rotary Foundation' as her DG Partner Project and is seeking your additional support for our charity.

PDG Tony Heading - District Rotary Foundation Chair

Foundation Recognition Dinner @ Tattesall's Club, Brisbane



Rotarians had a wonderful night at the D9620 event with guest speaker PRIP BARRY RASSIN - Chair Rotary Foundation Trustees. During the evening Rotarians from D9640 Mario Fairlie (Surfers Sunrise), Ray James (Burleigh Heads), Richard Crandon (Goonellabah) and Gareth & Lisa Hunt were recognised as Major donors. DG Dave accepted club recognition awards for donations to The Rotary Foundation for Hope Island US\$12,330 and Surfers Paradise US\$11,147. Congratulations to the individuals and Clubs who have made significant donations to the Foundation over the previous 12 months.





Inaugural Regional Council of Zone 8 Pilot Election Results

Clubs throughout Zone 8 have had their say in October, and the results of the first Zone 8 Regional Council election are now in. Below are the candidates the clubs have chosen to lead our Zone 8 from 1 January 2024.

Congratulations to our own Past District 9640 Governor of 2020-2021 and current District Coach **Andy Rajapakse** from Burleigh Heads Rotary Club on the Gold Coast for being elected to this inaugural Regional Council.

- **Chair:** Dallas Booth, RC of Turramurra, NSW, Australia (D9685)
- **Chair-Elect:** Tony Heyward, RC of Tawa, New Zealand (D9940)
- **Portfolio Leaders:**
- **Public Image and Partnerships:** Neil McWhannell, RC of Wahroonga, NSW, Australia (D9685)
- **Learning and Development:** Euan Miller, RC of Norwood, SA, Australia (D9510)
- **Major Fundraising and Grants:** Dr Peter Rogers AM, RC of Melbourne, VIC, Australia (D9800)
- **Membership:** Andy Rajapakse, RC of Burleigh Heads, QLD, Australia (D9640)
- **Service Projects and Programs:** Madhumita Bishnu, E-Club of Melbourne, VIC, Australia (D9800)
- **Rotaract Nominee:** Eeshwar Rajagopalan, Rotaract Club of Subiaco/RC of Elizabeth Quay, WA, Australia (D9423)

The Portfolio Lead for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion did not receive any eligible applications. A suitable candidate for the role will be selected once the Regional Council is in place.

Host Families Wanted!

Would you like to open your home to an International Rotary Exchange Student, and bring the world into your home?



Being a host family is not only a selfless act of Rotary service, but it's a fun, educational and rewarding experience that can lead to lifelong friendships and relationships.

The Youth Exchange Committee and host clubs are currently taking applications for families willing to open

their homes for 3-4 months to a student in 2024. In January we have students arriving for 12 months from:

Country	Hosted by
Japan	Coomera River
Korea	Stanthorpe Satellite Flexitime
Peru	Beaudesert
Brazil	Gold Coast
Ukraine	Ashmore & Coomera River

In August we will have students arriving from the USA, Norway, Denmark, Italy and Germany who will be hosted throughout the district. You definitely don't need to have children at home to host a student – host families come in many shapes, sizes, and ages! Interested? Get in touch with the YEP committee at yep@rotary9640.org or complete an expression of interest today: 9640.ryea.org.au/host-family-expression-of-interest

Successful project without using Club funds

Griffith Gold Coast Rotary recently took on a project to produce 120 Care Packs for the homeless and vulnerable members of their local community. The Club worked with **Set Free Care** in Southport, who will distribute the Care Packs ahead of Christmas.

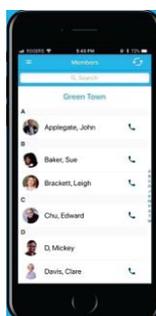
Club members used their contacts and also approached their local supermarkets, stores and pharmacies to generate donations of items such as toothbrushes, hair care products...and more. Club members discovered that local businesses were willing to donate items knowing the

packs will benefit the disenfranchised within their local community.

The added benefit is that members have now established contact with willing businesses to approach again for future projects, as this will be an ongoing project.

The project was a win/win for everyone.

Rhonda Whitton, Griffith Gold Coast Rotary



ClubRunner App is FREE for all Rotarians

Install it on your phone and connect with Club and District members.

More Info: [HERE](#)



Assistant Governor Ken Clarke Cluster 5 has come up with a great way to encourage clubs in his cluster to join in with each other's meetings and projects.

The Rotary Roach Award is an award that has the club that holds the roach to attend another club in their cluster meeting and pass on to them. If the host club hangs onto the Roach for longer than a month without passing it on, it is a \$50 fine for each week.