



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

EDITION 4 OCTOBER 2023



LEADERSHIP MEETING DATES 2023-2024

@ Ocean Shores Country Club

12 November + D9640 AGM

18 February 2024

9 June 2024

DG VISITS - OCTOBER

16 Surfers Paradise

17 Parkwood

19 Gold Coast

23 Lismore

24 Runaway Bay

26 Warwick & Warwick Sunrise

27 GC Passport Health & Wellness

DG VISITS - NOVEMBER

1 Nerang

2 Griffith Gold Coast

7 E-club Next Gen

11 Combined Rotaract Meeting

13 Stanthorpe Flexi Satellite

20 The Granite Belt

21 Tenterfield

WHAT'S ON

21 Oct End Polio Train/Tram Ride

22 Oct End Polio Walk or Ride
the Northern Rivers Rail Trail
RC's of Murwillumbah

25 Oct Annual Business Breakfast
Gold Coast Corporate

28 Oct Rotary Aust.Repurposing
Equipment(RARE) Open Day

28-29 Oct Zone 8 Virtual Conference

8 Nov Foundation Recognition Dinner
District 9620

10 Nov Ukraine Fundraising Dinner

12 Nov 40th Birthday Celebrations
Banora Tweed

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM EVENTS 25 NOV - 10 DEC

25 Nov G-Link Tram Ride
Gold Coast Clubs

25 Nov DV Community Walk - Grafton

1 Dec Ballina DV Community Walk
Ballina-on-Richmond Rotary

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](#)



Sometimes we need a comment or a thought-provoking story to have us think about our own lives and that just by being provided the opportunity to be born in Australia we have all been presented a standard of living and opportunities that many in the world dream of.

It is true that times are tough for many of us in OECD countries with such things as the increased price of groceries, fuel and mortgages but let's just consider what it may be like for 800 million people in the world who live on less than \$US1.90 a day. One in nine people in the world do not have enough food to eat with 70% of the world's poorest people living in rural areas. Even more concerning is that 60% of the world's most disadvantaged and most hungry are women and girls (rotary.org).

It is interesting when Robyn and I travel around our District and speak to community members and different community groups the question is often asked '*How is Rotary different from Lions and other service organisations?*'

While I sometimes add a few examples of how we are different, the common response I give is that we have our own charity, **The Rotary Foundation** that is like no other. I mention some of our achievements and the causes we commit to and support as Rotarians. The work we do with helping in Economic and Community Development is yet another success story of Rotary and our Foundation.

Rotary clubs and our Foundation support investments in people and communities toward alleviating poverty by creating measurable and enduring economic improvements in poor and underserved areas. Our Rotary Foundation spent \$9.2million to grow local economies and reduce poverty last year.

FOUNDATION MOMENTS

Quick insights into your charity — The Rotary Foundation

WHAT ARE ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS?

We concentrate our efforts in order to maximize our local and global impact. Our most successful and sustainable projects and activities tend to address these causes, and all humanitarian projects, scholars, and vocational training teams funded by The Rotary Foundation's global grants work toward specific goals in these areas of focus:

- **Peacebuilding and conflict prevention:** Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.
- **Disease prevention and treatment:** We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. We improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in developing areas.
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene:** We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to more people. We share our expertise and work alongside community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed in the long term.



How do you want to get involved in the causes you're most passionate about? Other areas of focus to follow next month.

< Visit my.rotary.org/donate

The
Rotary
Foundation



Robyn's Partner Project – The Rotary Foundation

Thank you to clubs and individuals who have donated to my partner's project. \$10306 in donations! This is made up of \$4556 in individual donations and \$5750 from club donations. When you give to The Rotary Foundation, you are directly supporting Rotary's work.

Robyn

Robyn and I continue to be amazed and humbled by the great work our Rotary clubs are doing in our District. As we all know, your club membership size is not a pre-cursor to your community service involvement or impact with many of our smaller clubs punching way above their weight. One thing I have noticed while visiting our clubs is that while we are all doing amazing things many of us do not amplify our projects and share our stories with our community. Social media is a powerful tool that is often underutilised.



Our District has two young professionals from GC Passport RC that are very skilled in Marketing and would welcome the opportunity to visit your club and work with you on all things' social media.



I encourage you to invite Candice Olivier, hello@candicejadeolivier.com.au or Stacey Cain, stacey@ladyelliot.com.au to your club.

Candice is planning Webinars on Marketing, Public Image and the use of social media. They will be to the point and provide the why, how and what to do.



23 OCT 12-1PM Lunch and Learn - How to set up and optimise your social media platforms.

14 NOV 6:15PM-7:15PM How to use Public Relations (PR) to get more club attention.

10 JAN 6:15PM-7:15PM How to use Canva to optimise your clubs image online

It is very pleasing to visit clubs that have not just embraced our District's 90-day plan but have exceeded all expectations. One example is our visit to Beaudesert club last week. Robyn and I were not just treated to a lovely home cooked meal prepared by Linda Jackson, but her husband, club President Mark had 4 new members that I had the pleasure of assisting to induct on the night.



At present our District is at **+33 membership** for this Rotary year. Many of our clubs have worked hard to attract the 72 new members to our clubs however; we have lost 39 members this Rotary year. Of concern are the 12 resignations from members of our clubs with less than 2 years membership. This is an internal matter for clubs to look at and perhaps a question to ponder is, *why?* Some feedback learned from member exit surveys demonstrates conflict and unrealistic expectations are sadly factors in members leaving our clubs.

We have now entered the 2nd 90-day cycle of this Rotary year. While as a group we remain committed to working towards a +1 net membership growth for your clubs, let's all make a concerted effort to retain our current members. I encourage club members and presidents of clubs to seek support from your AG and/or our District Mediation/Conflict Management Chair Bruce Kuhn if you have internal challenges within. Our Leadership team is here for you and our job is to support you. Further, both Robyn and I are always available to provide support to our clubs and members.

Let's also set our Foundation goal ready for November which is Foundation month.

We have 2 really good activities planned for our End Polio campaign this month. We have the '[Polio Tram and Train Ride](#)' on the Gold Coast happening on Saturday 21st October and for the Rotary Clubs around Tweed & Murwillumbah, we have the '[Polio Walk or Bike Ride](#)' on the new Rail Trail happening on Sunday the 22nd of October.

Our District Rotary 'Say NO to Domestic and Family Violence' campaign is moving forward at speed. Last week I had confirmation from QLD Police that the Domestic and Family Violence Command will support Rotary clubs throughout QLD with our activities and campaigns. Clubs that would like a copy of the supporting letter can contact me or your AG and we will forward it to you. We now have clubs planning campaigns in Grafton, Ballina, Byron Bay, Gold Coast, Coomera Valley, Beaudesert & Scenic Rim and Fassifern Valley, with more to come. Many clubs are joining together to maximise their impact. Please let us know what your club is planning as soon as possible as many Rotarians have expressed an interest in attending activities in addition to their own.



Our Youth programs are up and running with plenty happening. This week we had our first YEP short-term outbound student Georgia Watts return from Brazil together with her exchange partner Dani Araujo. Dani will now spend 3 months being hosted by the Rotary Club of Goondiwindi. This Sunday we have another 2 short term exchange students leave for Argentina, with our 12 long term exchange students leaving for their overseas destinations in January.



Andrew Lowry, Interact Chair

While on the subject of youth related programs I am pleased to share with you that Stanthorpe Rotary Club has just sponsored a community based Interact club with the Northern Gold Coast Rotaract club close to sponsoring a community based Interact club in Coomera Valley. Well done to all concerned. If you would like any help or advice regarding Interact clubs, please contact Andrew Lowry, our District Interact Chair andrewmlqld@gmail.com.

Recently the Borderline awards night was held at the Jimboomba Hall to recognise Rotary clubs in our District supporting youth programs in Mental Health. Jimboomba and Allora Rotary Clubs and the Northern Gold Coast Rotaract Club volunteer and provide support for Borderline, an organisation that runs

programs, camps and initiatives dedicated to empowering young people, smashing the stigma involved with talking about youth mental health. Andrew Lowry and Jacqueline Walk proudly accepted the Create Impact Award for their commitment to and support of Borderline.



One of our Rotary International President Gordon McNally's key focus areas is to 'Break down the stigma of Mental Health' congratulations to Jimboomba Rotary club and Northern Gold Coast Rotaract club in helping 'Create Hope in the World'.

Clubs still have time to take up the very generous 'Hope Springs' initiative. This initiative can help you double your fund-raising donation to a charity or DGR registered organisation. Your club may have a project that you have registered with RAWCS that could well meet the requirements of this initiative. Don Rabinow from Hope Island club is happy to visit your club and do a presentation on this initiative. You can contact Don on donrab1000@gmail.com.

DG Dave

WORLD POLIO DAY OCTOBER 24

For the latest news view - [The value of vigilance document](#).



CONGRATULATIONS PARRIS SMITH, Rotaract Club of Scenic Rim

Parris has been nominated for the **Zone RYLA Leader Award**.

The RYLA Leader Award is designed to showcase the incredible work that people are putting in to make their RYLA Programs possible!

A Rotaractor that does so much for her community and our Youth programs

ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE PENNSYLVANIA Sept 2024

Still a few vacancies to join the team. Stay with Rotarians in D7430 for 14 days from 17th - 30th September.

Visit Philadelphia, the Amish Country, Lancaster & Longwood Gardens. Only 2 hours from New York City, 3 hours from Washington DC.

Their RFE Team of 10 visit 1st - 14th March 2024. Club host for 3-4 days.
Ron Borland, RFE Chair 2023-24 ronborland@hotmail.com 0418755636 for details.
Info and application form [HERE](#)

**Congratulations
to the 23 Clubs on achieving
100% membership Goal of +1**

Club	+
Gold Coast	54 (+8)
Ballina-on-Richmond	80 (+6)
Hope Island	40 (+5)
Beaudesert	25 (+4)
E-Club of NextGen	31 (+3)
Grafton Midday	31 (+3)
Byron Bay	9 (+2)
Gold Coast Corporate	38 (+2)
Lismore	9 (+2)
Banora-Tweed	21 (+1)
Boonah	32 (+1)
Burleigh Heads	42 (+1)
Griffith Gold Coast	19 (+1)
Kingscliff	15 (+1)
Lismore Networking	12 (+1)
Mudgeeraba	18 (+1)
Murwillumbah	10 (+1)
Murwillumbah Central	19 (+1)
Nerang	18 (+1)
Parkwood	19 (+1)
Summerland Sunrise	16 (+1)
Surfers Paradise	21 (+1)
Tenterfield	22 (+1)

**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS TO CLUBS**

Beaudesert

Barbara Barnes
Renai Costa
Ash Muller
Karl Muller

Burleigh Heads

Kyoko Yamamoto

Coomera Valley

Vicki Lawrence

Gold Coast

Aparajitha Arunacha
Assad Sarroff

Murwillumbah Central

Neil Baker

Northern GC Rotaract

Danielle Linzer

Summerland Sunrise

Alexander Rubin

Surfers Sunrise

Thomas Robinson



Burleigh Heads Rotary



RC of Mt Warning AM Murwillumbah

ALSTONVILLE TO SIERRA LEONE



Disadvantaged children in Sierra Leone are being assisted by a Library and Literacy project begun and managed by Rotary Club of Alstonville member Sarah King. Originally from Sierra Leone, Sarah, a librarian with a passion for providing education opportunities where they are not currently available, has set up an organisation named Sierra Learners. The website sierralearnerssl.com has the amazing story and photos.

Two containers of books and other resources have been shipped to Freetown, Sierra Leone with the assistance of Alstonville Rotary. One container has been converted to a library. Alstonville High School and Alstonville Public School have now provided Sierra Learners with a 40-foot container which is being filled with books, school uniforms and computers. With assistance of Alstonville Rotary this will be shipped to Sierra Leone and also converted into a library.

If clubs wish to offer financial support for this Education Project, please contact Sarah King sarahking39@yahoo.com.au

Rotary District 9640

Ukraine Fundraising Dinner

Featuring special guest keynote speaker

Ukraine Ambassador to Australia

Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to Australia

Date: Friday 10 November 2023

Time: 6pm

Place: Currumbin RSL

165 Durling St Currumbin 4223

Bookings: Single tickets \$110

Corporate tables of 10 \$2,200

Use QR code or go to <http://bit.ly/48GLmFq>



Scan the QR code or Book Tickets [HERE](http://bit.ly/48GLmFq)