



Be Your Best Self - Rotary Cares

Rotary District 9640 - Governor's Newsletter

IMAGINE ROTARY

Oct 2022



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District Governor Karen Thomas - a toast to Yamba, the town which will host the D9640 Conference 2023

Karen Connects: Recognising our youth - our future

Hello all,

Imagine if ALL young adults in our entire geographically diverse District had the opportunity to be a member of Rotary International by having involvement, friendship and similar age demographic support through a Rotaract club. As you probably know I started my Rotary journey as a charter member of the Rotaract Club of Murwillumbah, when I was 20 years old. We all have dreams; one of mine has been the above.

It is with heartfelt pleasure that **I announce the reveal of the provisional "Rotaract e Club**

Downunda – an initiative of District 9640." Our Rotaract E Club will allow Rotaract membership from our NSW areas and our Western Queensland areas. In addition, we hope to encourage membership Australia wide, fostering connections and friendships. Please see the notice in this newsletter. We have RI approval and now encourage you to encourage the young adults in your life to be involved. I thank Joe Martinovic (advisor) for his invaluable help and AG Bruce Kuhn (AG/Mentor) for his support.

Also launching in this newsletter is the introduction of an online District 9640 Rotary Business

Directory. October is Rotary economic and community development month. As we know the original basis of Rotary was as a business connection and support network. This directory allows collaboration between our personal and professional selves, allowing innovation and ease of professional communication. This can only benefit our community contributions and projects in the recognition of the expertise in our own District. Further information below.

October is such an important month in the recognition of both Polio Eradication and Mental Health Awareness. I am in awe of the contribution to both these areas by our clubs. This Rotary year we encourage promotion and participation in the "Purple Pinky" initiative – in developing countries a child's little (pinky) finger is painted purple to

identify that they have been vaccinated in mass polio vaccination days. This is a fantastic way of showcasing what our polio work is about to our communities- children and adults. Hosting a hat day in October is creating an awareness of "Lifting the Lid on Mental Illness". Continued public awareness of these two critical programs is achieved by your support and by hosting events visualising these areas and I thank you all sincerely. There is further information enclosed on what is happening in these spaces.

As we lead into yet another time of weather concerns, please take care, be mindful of your own well-being and health, allowing you to be your best self.

Karen .

Launch of Rotaract E-Club DOWNUNDA

Mission:

To unite young Australians in a common goal of creating positive impact and real change.

About:

This club is being established in District 9640 in 2022. However, the club welcomes members across Australia and beyond under our mission. All are welcome as this is an online club and easily accessible. We will be meeting twice per month on Thursdays to start, planning our first meeting for 3rd November 2022. Please check the Facebook page for further information.

Charter:

This is currently a provisional club. We are gathering interest to form our charter team in the next few months. If you would like to be a charter member of this club, get in contact with us via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Rotaract-e-club-Downunda-101289566121360/>

Projects:

The charter members of the club will have the opportunity to bring in projects of their choice for the club to support. However, the club already has an amazing international project partner in the Makey Ways Foundation. This foundation is currently gathering donated sports equipment and sanitary products to send over to Sierra Leone. This project will support local youth with resources, training and education. This e-Rotaract Club will be in a unique position with members that cover a large area to support in collecting donations and raising funds to support the logistics of transporting the donations across Australia.

Get involved:

If you are interested in this new opportunity, follow us on socials to keep up to date with the club launch!



DG Karen Thomas with St Stephens Interact Club, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Coomera River

Rotaract 
Provisional E-Club Downunda
Initiative of District 9640

Interact Needs YOU!

**We need a District Chairperson for
District 9640 Interact Program.**

Your job includes ensuring that individual clubs' Youth Service Chairs are keeping the mentors of Interact Clubs up to date on My Rotary. Also to encourage establishment of new Interact Clubs.

Qualifications: Interact Clubs are based in High Schools, thus we need the proverbial "forever young" Rotarian!

Please contact DG Karen Thomas directly

karen@karent.com.au.

Exciting Announcement: District 9640 Online Business Directory By DG Karen Thomas



Rotary was originally founded by Paul Harris with the initial vision of encouraging fellowship and friendship amongst like minded business

professionals (men in that era). Following the formation of this idea into the organisation of "Rotary", and as it evolved into a community service organisation, he continued to promote both membership and service. Membership in Rotary has attached to it a "classification" which describes the distinct and recognised business or professional service that each Rotarian provides to society (see this edition's Rotary Refresher). This month I announce the formation of **District 9640 Online Business Directory** which will be available on the District 9640 website. The purpose is to acknowledge each member's business or profession and enable all Rotarians and Rotaractors to have a contact for that person if they wish. Please [click here or on the image for a direct link to the online application form](#). Complete it and email it directly to District Webmaster Denis Hallworth. Denish@onthenet.com.au I thank him for undertaking this task.

This coming Monday, 24th October is World Polio Day

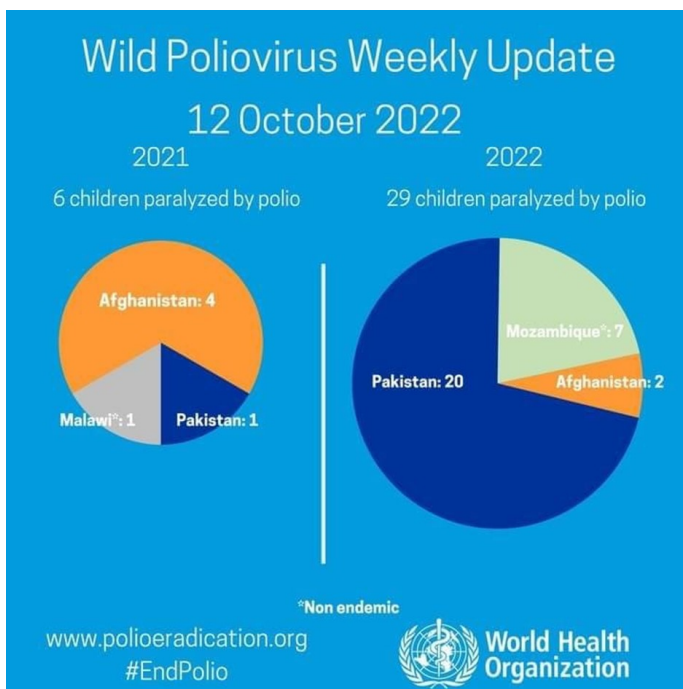
We acknowledge World Polio Day on the 24th October. This update highlights the importance of the ongoing need for funding in this area and thank you all for your ongoing contributions.

Polio remains endemic in just two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan, as they have never stopped transmission of wild poliovirus. Recent figures (see chart) indicate that the cases in those two countries are again on the increase, from 6 children in 2021 to 29 children in 2022 so far.

Of major concern though is the **recent outbreak** of polio in... wait for it... **the USA, in New York State**, where in July this year they declared a state of emergency after an **unvaccinated** youngster was hospitalised with severe symptoms, including paralysis. [Click here for the full story](#).

Other '[Outbreak](#)' countries include the **UK, Israel** and - no real surprise - **Ukraine**.

This only proves that **Eternal Vigilance is the price of Liberty**, attributed to Thomas Jefferson.



October is Mental Health Month



LIFT THE LID
on mental illness

Thankyou to the many clubs who have or are holding a "hat day" to raise money for

Australian Rotary Health - a partner of Rotary, providing funds for important mental health research.

Thankyou also to the clubs that are holding mental health awareness days or events - Lifting the Lid on awareness, the importance of acceptance and the increasing prevalence in this area is our way

Lifblood - D9640 Donations to date

Here are the statistics to date:

State	Whole Blood	Plasma	Lives Saved
NSW	1	1	6
QLD	3	19	66
VIC	0	21	75

Still a long way away from the target of 500 donations, so please keep it up!

Note: The Lismore Donor Centre re-opens on Monday, 12th December!

Karen's Diary #4:

The motivation, friendliness and community commitment of our Rotary Clubs, Rotarians and Rotaractors is very impressive. Club visits this month – Surfers Paradise, Broadbeach, Kingscliff, Beaudesert, Jimboomba, Scenic Rim Rotaract, Jimboomba Satellite, Fassifern Valley, Boonah, Southport, Tamborine Mountain Satellite, Coomera River, Stanthorpe, Stanthorpe Flexitime, Tenterfield, Warwick Sunrise, Murwillumbah, Goonellabah, Mermaid Beach.

Welcome to all new members inducted, thank you all for your generosity to Angel Flight, to Stanthorpe, Tenterfield and Warwick for introductions to the pilots and to Stanthorpe and Tenterfield for the presence of the Rotary MHERV van.

Representation and speaking District events included Iluka Woombah Mermaid Festival press release, Surfers Paradise race day fundraiser, CCT golf day fundraiser, Broadwater Southport Pituitary Awareness, Kyogle 75 th birthday, Mt Warning AM new president induction plus conference and regionalisation meetings.



Rotaract Club of Scenic Rim



SUBMIT stories: We welcome stories about your club for both the District Facebook page and the DG's newsletter.

Email: D9640newsletter@gmail.com

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Coolangatta-Currumbin-Tweed Mental Health Day

by Diana Traversi

Our club organised this event on 4th October, at our meeting at Twin Towns Club. It was well attended and everyone made a hat-wearing donation towards Rotary's Mental Health research projects. There was a lot of good natured comment and laughter. Included in the photo are our guest speaker Charles Paterson of Global Market International (back row, far right hand side), and U.S.A. Rtn. Alexandra Rollins from Healdsburg, CA (front row, right hand side with pink hat).



From Dreams to Reality: Maclean High School Agricultural/Science Faculty Sponsorship

by Leigh Barrington

For the past two years, **Maclean Rotary** has been actively sponsoring and supporting the redevelopment of the Maclean High School Agricultural/Science Faculty.

Members of the club have personally donated equipment (halters, show canes and leads) to assist the school in Beef Cattle Showing activities in addition to providing advice and knowledge.

Assistance has been provided in introducing industry leaders from beef cattle studs such as Mogul Brahman Stud and Little Valley Braford Stud.

Further assistance was provided to



Champion Steer and won first place in three other sections and placed third in another.

*At Casino Beef Week held in May 2022 the student achieved outstanding results in all sections entered from cattle judging, parading and steer competition. In the steer competition, Maclean High School's stock excelled taking first place in the School Steer Section.

The school won over \$1000 in prize money and stock sold in the Hoof and Hook section raised \$10 760 for three steers entered. These funds will ensure the viability of the faculty for the ensuing years.

*Students who undertook the Higher School Certificate in 2020 and 2021 achieved outstanding results. Several students have accepted placements at the UNE and the University of Qld to undertake university courses in Agricultural Science.

help establish strong relationships and partnerships with a leading Stock and Station Agency and Rural Merchandise supplier. These relationships are now strong and have resulted in the Maclean High School Agricultural/Science Faculty thriving and growing each year to become one of the leading High School Agricultural faculties in Northern NSW.

This claim is supported by results achieved at various shows and the academic results of students.

*At the Northern Schools Steer Show in 2021 Maclean High took out Overall Grand

The financial assistance from the Maclean Rotary Club over the past two years totals some \$5000.

\$1250 to assist in the purchase of stock feed for show cattle ensuring they are presented in the best possible condition.



IMAGINE IRRESISTIBLE YAMBA

District Conference 2023 - Yamba - 10 - 12 March 2023

[Click here for full details](#)

Conference registrations will open on 01 November 2022 - go to the District Website link above

Flood Recovery in the Tweed Region

By Jeannie Anderson, RC of Mt Warning AM

Rotary Mt Warning AM resides in Murwillumbah, in the beautiful Tweed Region... and so we were right in the middle of the 2022 flooding. Members of our club were among the thousands of residents who were affected by the floods, experiencing home and business flood damage, and loss of work. Along with our community, we are all travelling the road to recovery, and supporting each other along the way.

As a Rotary Club we are proud to be part of our community recovery efforts, and we are incredibly grateful for all the financial support that has so generously been given to us from District 9640, other Rotary Clubs both inside and outside of our District, and also businesses and individuals within our community.

To date, we have received \$35,000 of funds from the District Fund Appeal, \$10,000 from Rotary Central Murwillumbah, and personal donations from many Rotarians and locals. We had a local family donate 550 cases of wine for us to sell, with all funds going to flood recovery, and another local business donated almost \$6000. Along with all of these funds has been the ongoing support provided through RAWCS vouchers also, which are a \$500 debit card issued to approved recipients.

These funds have been disbursed by our Club with the help of a Flood Committee that we set up to assess and approve all submissions, and ensure all eligibility criteria has been met.

So what have we done with this money?

This is the exciting part of the story, where we get to share the difference that this money has made.

To date, these funds have purchased:

- \$24,000 White Goods



Cleaning up a house in Tumbulgum: (from left) Cathy Akehurst, Virginia Rifkin and PDG Jeff Egan

- \$2000 storage containers
- \$20,000 vouchers
- \$12,687 providing repairs to properties, replacing essential items and tools of trade
- \$15000 AED's for local sporting clubs
- 67 x \$500 RAWCS Vouchers – totalling \$33,500

Thanks to Rotary, and the generous donations of funds given to Rotary, we have already made a significant difference to flood affected residents of more than \$107,000 along with all the physical work carried to help..... and this will continue as long as there are people still needing help.

Together, we really can make a difference!



National Youth Science Forum

OK, here is a Youth program which definitely is not open to just anyone... Well, let me re-phrase that: It's open to any young person **in Year 11**, as long as they are the proverbial STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) gurus, also sometimes known as 'Nerds'.

The National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) is a not-for-profit organisation that runs a number of programs to encourage young people in their passion for science. The selection process is quite rigorous, but bright students have an excellent chance to get in.

Applications for the January 2023 Year 12 program are still open, but you need to get moving now. Many Rotary clubs partially sponsor the total cost of \$1,950.00.

[Click here for more information](#)

Rotary Youth Transition Seminar

RYTS is a transition program with the focus to assist the transition from one area of study into the next phase of life. The program is delivered at a 6 day residential camp for students who are in the senior years of school (**Year 11-12**) or who are aged between 17-18 if not within a school system.

The next camp is from

12th - 17th January 2023

Bornhoffen Camp

Nerang-Murwillumbah Road, Natural Bridge

Applications must be made via the local Rotary Club.

[Click here for more information](#)

More Youth Programs are listed on our District Website www.rotary9640.org

Simply click on the Youth Services Tab

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA)

By Parris Smith, Team Leader 2023



The RYLA camp for 19-29 year olds is fast approaching – only 14 weeks until the camp itself! RYLA transforms young adults into more confident, stronger leaders in the workforce, and teaches them how to work with different perspectives – while making life-long memories and friends. This camp changes lives. Reach out to the RYLA team on teamleaderryla9640@gmail.com or ryla@rotary9640.org and we can tell you more about why RYLA is incredible.

All marketing information, including a flyer and PowerPoint presentation can be found on the district website under the RYLA tab.

Our team has been working hard to make this camp a reality. Currently, the team is reaching out to all the clubs in the district to spread the RYLA word so be sure to say hello when you see us at your meetings! Here are a couple of snapshots from our recent team meeting, with the theme being Favourite Decade, covering the ancient Roman times up to the 2020's!

Please start reaching out to your local businesses: to the apprentice doing an incredible job, your favourite barista who makes the best flat white but is longing for more, or the bank manager who is wanting to lead their team more effectively.

Everyone has something to gain from RYLA. Please

help us find awardees so everyone can become the best versions of themselves with that RYLA magic.

The team is also running a trivia night November 26th. An event will be created on Facebook via the YLA9640 Facebook page, so be on the lookout for that!



Real serious stuff, huh! The RYLA team had a bit of a dress-up - "Your favorite decade". From Roman times to Zoom outfit: (top in blazer, bottom in pyjamas...

Youth Exchange Program is "reborned"

By Chris Thurtell and Linda Jackson



YEP Co-Chairs Chris Thurtell and Linda Jackson, with Aaron Blackler

Whilst Covid and the troubles in Eastern Europe have thrown a blanket of uncertainty over our international Youth Exchange Program, resulting in a step back from the rigors of physical exchange, important work behind the scenes is ongoing over the 2022-2023 Rotary year by the YEP management team. Significant progress has been done with realigning procedures and policies, looking at the new insurance landscape for exchange and most of all staying connected with our overseas partners for the eventual safe restart of the program. The only certainty however is that circumstances around the program will not be the same.

An important step in the rebirthing of the program within D9640 will be the physical attendance at the Australian YEP conference to be held in Brisbane this October by the current YEP management team.

Go as far as you can see.
When you get there,
you'll be able to see farther.

J P Morgan, American Financier

Clarence Valley clubs run RYDA for the 12th year

by Glenn Brown



The **Rotary Youth Drivers Awareness (RYDA)** is a two day training seminar, directed at Year 10/11 students who are about to embark on a driving career. 240 kids were involved over 2 days this year. **Multiply by 12 means we have had a positive impact on well over 2,500 kids using our roads.**

The six 30-minute sessions program incorporates

- personality issues
- hazards and distractions
- key risks for young drivers
- messages from a young crash survivor
- harmful mind states

- speed and stopping distance practical demonstrations

Facilitators included our Police Liaison Officer, an Accredited Driving Instructor, a crash survivor as well as a number of Rotary Volunteers.

Maclean Rotary Club coordinates the program and receives much support from neighbouring clubs (Yamba, Iluka-Woombah and Grafton Middy) and the local business community who sponsor the program in various ways.

Photo, by coordinator Glenn Brown, shows him addressing the full class at the Yamba Sports Centre.

Rotary Refresher: The Classification System in Rotary

Text by PRIP Bill Boyd

Classification: Toupé Manufacturing...? Keep it current.

The classification principle goes back to the start of Rotary in 1905 when Paul Harris and his friends decided that members should come from different classifications so as to represent a cross section of society and not become another focused self interest group.

Classifications were so important that Rotary International established a committee in 1923/24 to review and make a list of acceptable classifications and clubs were advised that a list of members and their classifications be sent regularly to the General Secretary.

A publication was produced and regularly updated and it is interesting to read some of the classifications in the 1937 edition. In today's world, it would be a challenge to find a stoker, with the choice of industrial or locomotive, and while some may wear a toupee, there must be a limited number of toupee manufacturers. Anyone use whisk brooms unless you are in the middle of Africa, and it would be the ultimate in political incorrectness to have as a classification "Insane Asylums". While ship building is still current, ship delivery sounds rather limited.

All joking aside, classification lists have been an important membership tool for Rotary and could be even now. Clubs would compile a list of classifications within their area and ask members to suggest names that would then go the Membership Committee of the club to follow up. The list would be very different to that of 1937 but it certainly connects the club with the community!



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Rotary Armistice Memorial - Rotary Club of Hope Island

by PDG Sandra Doumany



The construction of the Memorial started with a wish of Sandra Doumany, District Governor 2012-13 District 9640, to have a lasting contribution to the community from The Rotary Club of Hope Island.

In November 2017, the board resolved to submit a grant application for funding from the Armistice Centenary Grant Program, commemorating the end of the First World War.

The Club received confirmation of the grant in June 2018. This enabled work to start with both the

design, with the assistance of DBI Design and gaining support from Mulpha Sanctuary Cove along with Sanctuary Cove Body Corporate, being the custodians of the land. Rotarian Martin Macfarlane with his expertise was the Project Manager.

The \$50,000.00 grant from the Federal Government was the start, but we need a minimum of \$150,000.00 to get the project under way, the Bendigo Bank was a major cash contributor along with Hope Island Rotary donating all proceeds from the Black-Tie Dinner that year, Mulpha and Sanctuary Cove Body Corporate assisted with in-kind works.

Unfortunately we did not complete the works in time for the Armistice Centenary, since it's completion we have held a number of very successful services, the Blessing of the Memorial, our first Remembrance Day ceremony in 2019, and ongoing, with several Anzac Day Dawn Services justifying our plans to continue building on the Memorial precinct.

Our current project is for the installation of profile cut panels depicting three stages of the involvement of our Australian Forces, these will be erected in a garden in remembrance of Queen Elizabeth II.

Update: Angel Flight

DG Karen's personal project continues to enjoy great support from our clubs. In total, **\$9,350.00** have been raised so far.

Angel Flight is a wonderful registered charity - read more about it on their website:

<https://www.angelflight.org.au/>

Donations are tax-deductible.
Please make all payments to

Rotary International District 9640 Ltd

BSB: 084462, Account No: 79 639 5692,
Reference **AngelF**



DG Karen Thomas accepts a cheque from RC of Murwillumbah

Rotary
Burleigh Heads

GET YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW AND JOIN BURLEIGH HEADS DUCK RACE

SUPPORTING LOCAL
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARITIES

Gold Coast Centre against Sexual Violence
Hearts of Purple
Macleod Accommodation Support Service
The Sanctuary Women, Children and Pet's Refuge



GRAB YOUR
DUCK HERE:



THANKS TO
OUR SPONSOR:

1-3PM
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER
SCHUSTER PARK
TALLEBUDGERA

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MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

**11am (QLD)
Tuesday 1 November**

RIVER ROOM
Level 3 Twin Towns

Menu: Buffet style main and dessert
Mains to include Fish, Pork, Chicken and Beef
Chefs selection of desserts

SWEEPSTAKES AVAILABLE
RAFFLE PRIZES
BEST DRESSED FEMALE
BEST LADIES HEADWEAR
BEST DRESSED MALE
BEST DRESSED COUPLE

Rotary 
Currumbin Coolangatta Tweed

Twin Towns 
CLUBS + RESORTS

BUFFET LUNCH \$75

Bookings: **1800 014 014** www.twintowns.com.au



Alstonville Rotary presents
NORTHERN RIVERS

Green Living Expo 2022

TAFE NSW Wollongbar, 61 Sneaths Road
9am-4pm, Saturday 10 December

Showcasing local environmental and alternative technologies, products and services to inform and inspire green living and innovation.
www.alstonvillerotary.org.au

Click on Image to go to website

Rene... bush... ng, panel discussions, workshops, demonstrations, street food and local coffee.



Surfers Sunrise Golf Day
Monday 7 November 2022 11:00 AM
Surfers Paradise Golf Club.

Shotgun start at 12:00 pm (Registration 11:00 am).
This is an Ambrose Team Event

18 Holes of golf, price includes electric buggy, pre-game burger, 2 drink vouchers and post-game presentations. Many prizes are including team prizes, nearest the pin and long drive competitions

<https://www.trybooking.com/CDIHZ>



Want your club's big event published?

Unless you tell me: **It's not!** Looking at the Events page on www.rotary9640.org/Events, the only events showing are the DG's club visits and leadership events. I'm sure there are lots of other things happening!

[Click on this link to send me an email](#) with details of your club's event! I might even c
District Webmaster to put it on the website as well... ☺ Ed.

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What's happening where in the District?

Just some of the upcoming events that were reported. If you have an event coming up, please drop me a line with the details, and ideally, a link. D9640newsletter@gmail.com

Date	Club	Event
26/10/2022	Mermaid Beach	Trivia Night
01/11/2022	Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed	<u>Melbourne Cup Lunch</u>
07/11/2022	Surfers Sunrise	<u>Surfers Sunrise Golf Day</u>
07/11/2022	Rotaract Club of Burleigh Heads	<u>Angel Flight Picnic</u>
27/11/2022	Burleigh Heads	<u>Burleigh Heads Duck Race</u>
18/03/2023	Tenterfield	<u>Bavarian Cultural Music Exchange and Beerfest</u>
23/09/2023	Iluka	<u>Iluka Mermaid Festival</u>

These are DG Karen's Goals for 2022-2023

- All clubs to appoint a DEI officer and a member care officer.
- Elevate the lesser gender number in your club to achieve improved balance.
- Undertake a club project in the focus area of Disease Prevention and Treatment or host a health awareness campaign either inter-club or public.
- Elevate your image by advertising this event before and after.
- Either involve a Rotaract club in a Rotary education session or start an Interact club.
- Achieve donation of \$100 per member to the Rotary Foundation— choose either Annual Fund, Polio Plus Fund, or both.



The Rotarian Code of Conduct

As a Rotarian, I will:

- ◇ Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- ◇ Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- ◇ Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- ◇ Avoid behaviour that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.
- ◇ Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities,
- ◇ report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment



What's coming up in the next month's editions?

November Edition	19th November is International Men's Day, "Movember" awareness of men's mental health
December Edition	Helping with Health. Rotary Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

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