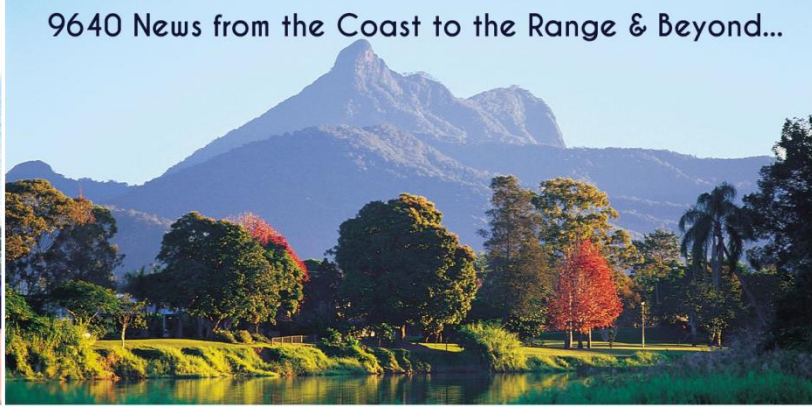




DG JEFF EGAN
& KAILEEN



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER



Edition 11
May 2022

PLAN FOR YOUR CLUB'S DISTRICT AWARD - APPLY NOW Applications close 30 May

DISTRICT AWARDS

The District presents several types of awards including:

- Best Club Communication
- Community and Vocational Services
- Rotary-Interact Involvement
- Public Relations
- Best Long Term Project
- Significant Achievement
- Best Multi Club Project
- International Service

Download the full list: [HERE](#) (you will need to login)

Awards presented at the DG's Changeover on 26 June 2022 Awards Chair Franz Huber: E: rotary9640awards@gmail.com



Jeff's Journal

Rotary's theme for May is Youth Service. In 1949 the Rotary International Board adopted the slogan "Every Rotarian an Example to Youth" which highlights the requirement as Rotarians to be a model for our youth. But Rotarians do more for youth than acting as role models. District 9640 runs programs for youth in the following areas:

LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (**RYPEN**) is a residential camp over 2 and a half days for school students aged 14 to 16 years that focus on the development of self-concept and relationships and is designed to develop skills that will assist the attendee's transition to adulthood.

Rotary Youth Transition Seminar (**RYTS**) is a residential camp over 6 days for both students that are in Years 11 and 12 of school and those aged 17 and 18 who have left school. The program aims to assist attendees to transition from one area of study to the next stage of their lives.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (**RYLA**) is a personal and professional development program delivered at a 6 day residential camp for those aged 19 to 29. The program focuses on enhancing leadership, communication, motivation, teamwork and interpersonal skills as well as building self-awareness of mental health and well-being, building a sense of community and a sense of belonging.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND AWARENESS

Rotary Youth Exchange Program (**YEP**) which provides an opportunity for 15 to 17 year olds to live in another country for up to a year and to immerse themselves in another culture, to learn a new language and to develop their skills as leaders and global citizens. Students are hosted by a local Rotary Club and stay with between one and four host families whilst attending school for a full academic year. Overseas exchanges are not currently offered in the District due to the effects of Covid. However, Virtual Exchanges are offered where for a period of 8 to 12 weeks students are paired with an overseas student and his or her family and are in contact through Zoom, Skype and the like. Participants gain an insight into the life and culture of a similarly aged student overseas.

Model United Nations Assembly (**MUNA**) brings together teams of three Year 11 or 12 students from our local schools who adopt the persona of a designated member country of the UN and debate resolutions just as the UN delegates do. The program encourages the participants to learn about other nations, about the interaction of nations throughout the world and to appreciate the workings of the United Nation while developing their debating and public speaking skills

ROTEX is a society of past Rotary Youth Exchange alumni which engages with both Inbound and Outbound Exchangees to enhance their youth exchange experience and often acts as a middleman between Rotary Clubs and exchange students so as to ensure a smooth exchange. There is currently one Rotex Club in our District being Southern Star Rotex.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHS (STEM)

National Youth Science Forum (NYFS) offers for those entering Year 12 a variety of immersive and transformative youth-led experiences promoting science and science related areas. The program is conducted both on line and in person with, Covid permitting, some participants attending a science school at the Australian National University.

The Santos Science Experience (**TSSE**) provides a 3 to 4 day hands on science participation at tertiary institutions for year 9 and 10 students where the participants engage in a wide range of hands on science activities under the guidance of dedicated science professionals.

Engineering Summer **School (ESS)** is a 5 day program for those entering year 12 which aims to aid the participants to choose which engineering discipline that may wish to study and at which tertiary institution.

EARLYACT AND INTERACT

EarlyAct is a school-based service club for students aged 5 to 13 which provides participants with the opportunity for an increased awareness and knowledge of is community and the wider world. It aims to encourage participants to be more caring and helpful, to recognize the dignity and worth of all and to build respect for others by providing the framework for the participants to identify and carry out projects benefitting their school and the wider community. It is hoped that EarlyActors will graduate to be Interactors. There is one EarlyAct club in our District at Saint Stephen's College at Coomera sponsored by the Rotary Club of Coomera River.

Interact encourages young people aged 12 to 18 to develop leadership skills and to discover the power of Service above Self. Interact Clubs organize at least two projects each year – one that helps their school or community and the other that promotes international understanding. There are 13 school based Interact Clubs in our District.

YOUTH DRIVER AWARENESS (RYDA)

RYDA is designed for 16 to 18 year olds and involves a series of practical workshops which aim to change the way our youth think about road safety. The participants observe how long it takes a vehicle when breaking at speed, have the opportunity to devise travel strategies that work in the real world and receive tips from road safety experts on how to protect themselves and their passengers. They also learn about the impact of road traffic accidents upon those involved, their families and the community. The program is conducted at selected schools on the Gold Coast but alas this year the program has been another victim of Covid.

ROTARACT

Last but in no way least Rotaract is an organisation that empowers students and young professionals to create positive and lasting change in themselves, their communities and in many Rotarians. Some say Rotaract is the future of Rotary. I think Rotaract is the now of Rotary. There are three very active Rotaract clubs in District 9640 – Burleigh Heads, Northern Gold Coast and Scenic Rim. There is also another Club not far away from chartering. The existing Rotaract Clubs are all very engaged and doing a power of work in their community and abroad. Rotary International has recognised the power of Rotaract and from 1 July Rotaract Clubs will be able to receive District and Global Foundation Grants and will be independent of their sponsoring Rotary Clubs.

Now that you have heard about our great Youth Programs, don't you want to get more involved?

That involvement could be by:

- Encouraging your Club to sponsor a participant to the Youth Programs;
- Looking out for suitable participants for the programs and encouraging them to attend;
- Offering your services to assist in the running of a program;
- Starting an EarlyAct or Interact Club in your community;
- Spreading the word about the wonderful programs Rotary offers in the area of Youth Services.

FLOOD RELIEF UPDATE



The need to help the victims of the floods in Northern New South Wales has continued unabated. So many Rotary Clubs and Rotarians and supporters are doing so much- from contacting victims to complete needs assessments, visiting victims to deliver shopping vouchers, purchasing for the victims essential appliances and other items, preparing and serving meals for victims and volunteers, co-ordinating the delivery and distribution of donations of all manner of goods, organising the delivery of a donated car and caravan and, very importantly, showing the victims that we care. In addition to the funds raised by the District Flood Relief Appeal and the Appeal by Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS), Clubs have carried out many events to raise funds to support the flood victims. Well done to all who have contributed in any way. To date the District Relief Fund has raised \$311,296 of which \$276,500 has been distributed.

DG'S COMINGS AND GOINGS

Since our last newsletter I attended the launch of the Coomera Valley/Northern Gold Coast Rotaract's inaugural Book Fair, Tenterfield's 75th Anniversary Dinner, the District Membership Summit headlined by Jason Browne, the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), a Zoom meeting of the Keith Wilson Trust Fund regarding flood relief, a meeting by phone with the Rotary Club of Salamander Bay regarding a function they are holding for flood relief, with Kaileen toured schools in the Lower Clarence promoting the SolarBuddy project, and, along with others, I was interviewed by Ian Freestone (Rotarian from Parkes) who is preparing a video on the floods and Rotary's efforts to support those affected. Invariably I received a warm welcome and I enjoyed enormously the company of the people I met.



BRIAN AND NANCY KNOWLES AWARD FOR 2022

In 2016 District 9640 established the annual Brian and Nancy Knowles Award to recognise the joint contribution of a Rotarian and his or her partner to the betterment of the community.

The criteria for the Award are:

- 1. the recipients need to be a couple;*
- 2. at least one of the recipients needs to be currently a Rotarian in District 9640;*
- 3. the recipients need to have made a sufficient contribution to their Rotary Club(s), Rotary International District 9640 and their community.*
- 4. previous awardees are ineligible.*

Nominations are now sought from our District Rotary and Rotaract Clubs. Nominations need to be in writing, signed by the President or Secretary of the nominating Club and forwarded by email to District Governor Jeff Egan at jeffegan04@gmail.com by 1 June 2022.

HOPE SPRINGS ROTARY CENTENARY CHARITY COMPETITION

How is your Club progressing in the challenge to be the highest fundraiser in the District between January 1 and May 31 2022 for charities with DGR status? Full details of the competition are set out in the November District Newsletter.

Regards, *District Governor Jeff Egan*



Gold Coast Passport Rotary Club - Move for Mindfulness!

We had a great day connecting with our community on the beach. Our focus was to raise awareness about mental health and the alternative holistic practices and sports that can help our Gold Coast Community deal with anxiety, depression, or any other mental health issues.

Participants had a fun time with Yoga, Qi Gong, Breathwork, Meditation and Sound Healing followed by a social Volleyball tournament with the Collaboration of Cooly Beach Volleyball organisation.

Nicolas Alfaro and Kasia Brzezicka



MAKING MEMBERSHIP MEMORABLE SUMMIT

On Saturday the 23rd of April District 9640 held a Membership Summit like no other. Our District flew out from the USA the master of what makes Rotary Membership Memorable Jason Browne. Jason did not disappoint.

We had 12 districts from Zone 8 attend with 33 clubs represented. Jason provided us all with an entertaining presentation that identified the issues all our clubs face in being relevant in our communities, how we can make Membership Memorable in our clubs and how we go about creating a club Identity.

We then spent some time in breakaway groups to discuss the challenges our clubs face in making Membership Memorable. If anyone would like a copy

of the workshop Challenges and Recommended Actions to address these challenges from Jason please contact me and I will send you a copy.

From personal experience the message Jason delivered to us re-confirmed the journey the Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond has been on for the past 4 years. Develop your clubs Relevance in your town and you will find your Identity. It is really that simple. The equation below reinforces this basic principle.

A very positive day well worth the effort of attending.

DGN Dave Harmon



PARTNERS PROJECT - SOLARBUBDY – Transforming Lives

SOLARBUBDY is an Australian charity uniting a global community to illuminate the futures of children living in extreme energy poverty. Along with many benefits upon receiving a light, children are able to continue their studies and read after dark. By simply educating children everywhere, Solarbuddy can break perpetual cycles of poverty, these lights ensure children have access to safe, clean and reliable lighting.

The beauty of this programme is clubs can donate money or clubs can partner with schools, by adopting this project we as Rotary are making a difference not in just our local communities but worldwide. Recently we spent the day distributing buckets of lights to Maclean schools, this was a great initiative by Darrell Brown & Anne Farrell. Back in January they invited local School Principals to a meeting, DG Jeff & myself demonstrated & encourage schools to take on this worthwhile project, it's a feel good social programme that allows our kids

here to understand how fortunate we are. Solarbuddy have ACARA approved programmes in place, so teachers can easily work with this. Darrell followed up with the schools & we were fortunate to be part of this day, the joy from this day's outing was the questions from the students, the enthusiasm and smiles of being part of this hands on project.

I would like to share with you some comments from clubs members that worked with the students in the classroom ... "excitement of assembling lights" "greater understanding of energy poverty" "knowledge of electrical circuits" expressing their compassion through their letters" and the classic comment from a Yr 6 student was "it's just like camping".

The response to this project has been overwhelming and we THANK YOU for this very rewarding experience.

Kaileen Casey | RC of Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah)





Rotary
Mt Warning AM
(Murwillumbah)



The RC of Mt Warning AM have once again adorned the Murwillumbah Bridge with thousands of gorgeous, handmade bright red crocheted and knitted Poppies. They look sensational! This is our tribute of Respect and Remembrance to those who have served in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

This community minded Rotary project started in 2021. We definitely put smiles on people's faces when placing the lengths of Poppies on the bridge. We had horns honking, people waving, slowing down and shouting compliments out to us. We have met some that have made the Poppies strolling over the bridge looking for the poppies they created and numerous locals are continually seen walking the length of the bridge admiring all the hours of work that has gone into the Poppy Project.

This Club has truly made a difference and has inspired great community engagement and community pride. As a Club, we are very proud of this project, it brings the Rotary Club members and our locals together, with many non Rotarians from our Murwillumbah, Tweed, nationally and even internationally also becoming involved with making these poppies.

Our Club was fortunate to receive grants from iTV, which has enabled us to be able to supply quality wool to participants and also have a Bridge Banner and signage made. We are very grateful for this ongoing support from iTV.

We have created a new local tradition. We make a positive difference each Anzac Day. Our community is buzzing with thanks and gratitude for our Club, and for the community spirit that it has created.

Kaileen Casey



RC of Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed



Three Rotarians and two friends of Rotary, at the Currumbin RSL ANZAC Day service.

Gold Coast City Councils, Cr Daphne McDonald (Div13), Cr Gail O'Neill (Div14), Inspector Bruce Kuhn (QPS), Rotary Club President John Giuricin, Hon Laura Gerber MP.

Bruce, John & Laura are Rotarians.