

**Rotary**  
District 9640



*Edition 1 - August 2024*

## Welcome to the Magic of Rotary - District 9640



Can you believe that we are already one month into our new Rotary year. I hope every club changeover was a memorable, magical experience for you, your family, friends, and community. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to join Goondiwindi, Boonah, Beaudesert, Mermaid Beach, Young Mermaid Satellite Club, Hope Island, Surfers Sunrise, and Northern Gold Coast Rotaract as the DG rep for their changeovers. Gareth and I also had a wonderful time attending the changeover for Gold Coast and Gold Coast Corporate "Christmas in July" event.

Thank you for everyone who was able to join IPDG Dave Harmon and I for our District Changeover on Sunday, 30 June 2024. It was an opportunity to celebrate our year of Creating Hope in the World and consider the endless possibilities that the Magic of Rotary creates. Thank you to my club, Coomera River, for incorporating our club changeover into the day. Thank you, Carey Cam, for capturing images of the day. In case Facebook is not your thing, we will be creating a photo album on our District Website for you. More about this below...

So, what is **the Magic of Rotary**? It starts with you, our communities, the impact of what we do (our projects) and importantly the power of collaboration and partnerships. What we do that makes a difference every day everywhere. Even small actions or a smile can make a difference. The magic is

within each one of us. Do you remember why you joined Rotary? I really hope you do and that you never lose that memory as it is your 'why' and your magic.

I have also been actively listening to feedback about how we communicate with each other. This DG Update format is one example. I am also conscious about balancing how we use emails and social media channels. With emails from Rotary International (RI), our Regional Council (which started in July), our District, plus more, it does add up. I will be sharing my DG message/update with you at the start of each month. The reason for this is to be able to shine the spotlight on the Rotary theme each month, some of our district projects and initiatives that align with the theme, upcoming events and more. We will also be using our District Website more and our calendar to find out what's on. We will then have a strategy about how we use our social media channels of Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

## District Website Updates

Our [District Website](#) is getting a refresh. Many pages have already had a revamp, along with the navigation menu, to hopefully make things easier and simpler to find and to separate public and member content. Expect further changes in the coming weeks especially to many of the member-oriented pages and check back often for updates.

Our [District Directory](#) for 2024-2025 is now available from the website. Don't worry there will be some printed directories available soon.

## August is Membership and Club Development Month

We have had a positive start to the year with many new members already onboard. So great to see many of our new Rotary and Rotaract members attending the Learning and Development Day in Boonah Qld on 21 July.

You will hear me talk about **Growing Rotary**. Growing Rotary is about the impact we have, increasing awareness of our impact (through our public image and storytelling), expanding our reach through our clubs (Rotary and Rotaract), strengthening existing relationships and developing new partnerships in our communities. I am looking forward to learning more about and sharing stories of our collective impact. Our [District Conference](#) (28-30 March 2025) will provide an opportunity to showcase this in our Friendship House area. Full details on how you can apply to be part of the showcase will be available later this month.

To increase collaboration and connection, you will be aware that we are trying something new with our Rotary Community Groups and our five Rotary Community Leaders (RCLs) -

**Group 1** Robert Blanchard, *Grafton Middy*

**Group 2** Andrew Lowry, *Jimboomba*

**Group 3** Anthony Zirilli, *Burleigh Heads*

**Group 4** DGN Deb Frugtriet, *Parkwood*

**Group 5** Gae Ferris, *Lismore Networking*

*Ever since the days of Paul Harris and his friends gathering together, Rotary has been about expanding and growing. But let's not forget, he also said it's about being "evolutionary and revolutionary."*

## Gareth's DG Partner Project - "Our Youth. Our Foundation."

### **RYTS & RYLA Youth Leadership Programs now open for applications.**

**RYTS** (for Year 11-12 and held on 15-20 Dec 2024) and **RYLA** (for ages 19-29 and held on 20-25 Jan 2025) are now open and accepting applications. Click on the program names or visit our District Website for more information. Our District Youth Programs are part of Gareth's partner project (Our Youth. Our Foundation) and all clubs are highly encouraged to help the teams running these programs by sourcing and supporting candidates to attend. Please reach out to Mindi Devine ([ryts@rotary9640.org](mailto:ryts@rotary9640.org)) or Anthony Zirilli ([ryla@rotary9640.org](mailto:ryla@rotary9640.org)) respectively if you have any questions.

### **Rotary YEP Reunion Event**

The YEP team is holding a big reunion event on 6 September 2024 at the Burleigh heads Mowbray Park Surf Lifesaving Club. More details can be found on our District website and [calender](#) and bookings can be made at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1259545>. I hope to see you there!

### **Rotary Foundation - District Grants (Increasing our Impact)**

The District Grants Subcommittee met in late June and approved 15 district grant applications for our 2024-25 District Block Grant application.

CLUB	AMOUNT	PROJECT
Ashmore	\$ 2,400	Ashmore State School Early Reading Literacy Support Program
Burleigh Heads	\$ 5,000	Shipping Container of Education & Community Resources to Timor-Leste
Byron Bay	\$ 2,250	"Expect Respect" Project
e-Club of NextGen	\$ 5,000	Shipping Container of Medical Equipment to Cameroon
e-Club of NextGen (originated by Griffith Gold Coast)	\$ 3,500	The Street University Community Garden, Southport Project
Grafton Midday	\$ 1,250	Homeless Action Now Project
Kingscliff	\$ 1,000	"Towards Respectful Relationships" Promotional Film Project
Kingscliff	\$ 450	"Kids of Purple" Website Development
Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah)	\$ 2,500	Say No to Domestic Violence & Yes to Respectful Relationships - Purple Shirt Friday Project
Northern Gold Coast Rotaract	\$ 2,000	Interact Community Impact Cup Project
Parkwood	\$ 3,000	Help For Homeless, Families Escaping DV and Lonely Residents in Aged Care
Parkwood	\$ 600	A Day at Dreamworld Project
Scenic Rim Sunrise (Joint Project with Beaudesert)	\$ 3,000	Traction Program Beaudesert High School
Scenic Rim Sunrise	\$ 1,563	Wildlife Rescue Kits Project for Flagstone Wildlife Rescue Club
Surfers Sunrise	\$ 4,162	Support for PCYC Gold Coast Project

## Save the Date! D9640 Foundation Seminar – Sunday 17 November 2024

The Foundation team will be holding a Rotary Foundation Seminar on 17 November 2024 at Twin Towns Services Club, Coolangatta. This will include a District Grants workshop. More details will be available soon on our District website and [calendar](#).

### Upcoming Events - August 2024

#### **24 August 2024 [Boonah Rotary Club 2024 Charity Open Golf Day.](#)**

Boonah Rotary Club invites you to the 2024 Charity Open Golf Day. Held at Boonah Golf Day it is a Single Stableford event with great trophies and a raffle prizes. To enter phone the club on 07 5463 1470

#### **30 August 2024 [Bling & Bow Tie Charity Dinner](#)**

Hosted by the Rotary Club of the Granite Belt. Major beneficiary is the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

#### **30 – 31 August 2024 [Scenic Rim Agricultural Expo](#)**

Jointly hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Fassifern Valley and the Lions Club of Harrisville. The Scenic Rim Agricultural Expo is a new event to boost regional economic development, education, and employment opportunities across the Scenic Rim.

If you have a key event coming up that you would like to share, please email [webmaster@rotary9640.org](mailto:webmaster@rotary9640.org) so it can be added into the calendar on our District Website.

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Any Feedback?

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Email us at [secretary@rotary9640.org](mailto:secretary@rotary9640.org) with any questions or suggestions.