Our official club visits commenced on the 10th July at Mudgeeraba and finished with a visit to the new club of Varsity Lakes on the 11th December. We visited all 52 clubs in this five-month period. We have enjoyed some amazing experiences along the way, all clubs are relevant in their own communities and the generosity shown is testimony to your commitment to make the world a better place for those less advantaged.

The Rotary Foundation receives highest rating from Charity Navigator for 11th year

For the 11th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating, four stars from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

The Foundation earned the recognition for demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. “We are extremely honoured to be recognised,” says Trustee Chair Ron Burton. “It represents the hard work and dedication of countries and Rotarians throughout the world. They know their gifts will be used for the purpose for which they were given and they will, indeed, make a real difference”.

The rating reflects Charity Navigator’s assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness

Inspire Others in Vocational Service Month

As Rotarians we all have the responsibility of representing our vocations within our clubs and exemplifying the ideals of Rotary within the workplace.

- Talk about your vocation in your club, and take time to learn about fellow members’ vocations.
- Use your professional skills to serve a community.
- Practice your profession with integrity, and inspire others to behave ethically through your own words and actions.
- Assist a young person achieve his or her career aspirations.
- Guide and encourage others in their professional development.

If you do any of these things, you are performing vocational service. And if vocational service motivates and energizes you, then you’re in the right place, because vocational service is the very essence of Rotary. It is what sets Rotary apart from other service organizations.

YEP – 2019 Outbounders

Carol and I had the pleasure of attending the 2019 YEP Outbounder dinner and blazer presentation on the 9th December. At this important stage of their development it is impossible to calculate the difference these students will make to the world. We trust that the exchange will be successful and everything these students hope for.
Thanks to District 9640 YEP Chair Chris Thurtell and his committee for their commitment to this programme. I would like to acknowledge the contribution to YEP from two long standing committee members who are standing down at the end of this year. Gerald East, Surfers Sunrise, (Treasurer) and Stuart Fairlie Surfers Paradise, Past Chair have both made an enormous contribution, thanks from District 9640.

District Governor - Terry Brown

**ON THE VERGE OF A MALARIA VACCINE**

Malaria is one of the deadliest diseases in the world. Almost 450,000 people die of malaria every year, mostly young children and pregnant mothers. In addition there are around 216 million cases of malaria reported annually. These are statistics that tear at the heart strings of every Rotarian.

Vaccination is the key to eradicating malaria but there is no effective vaccine yet. Four Rotary clubs on the Gold Coast supported by Rotary International District 9640 decided to change all that by raising funds to support Professor Michael Good’s promising vaccine PlasProtecT®. This vaccine created at the Institute for Glycomics at Griffith University Gold Coast has demonstrated outstanding results in animal studies and, in a pilot human study, was shown to be safe and provide strong activation of the immune system. However, it had to undergo human clinical trials to determine whether it could fight malaria parasites. These important clinical trials were stalled in 2016 until Rotary established a partnership with the Institute for Glycomics to raise $1,000,000 to enable the research to go ahead.

The Fundraising Project was registered with Rotary Australian Benevolent Society (RABS) to gain tax deductibility and endorsed by the national organization Rotarians against Malaria (RAM). In less than 2 years, the Project has raised more than AUS $500,000 and Rotarians and friends of Rotary all over Australia have done the heavy lifting having raised nearly 80% of this total. The result of this incredible effort is that the human clinical trials to test the efficacy of the vaccine PlasProtecT® have now begun at the Gold Coast and will soon begin in Brisbane. There will be 36 subjects in all and the trials are expected to be completed by mid-2019.

The success of these trials will enable clinical trials to be conducted in endemic countries like Uganda, Kenya, and Papua New Guinea where they are so sorely needed. We are half-way to our target that could change the world in some of the most marginal regions on our planet. Any help or support that you could provide or organize through your Rotary networks would be greatly appreciated and could make just the humanitarian impact that we need at this time. Please visit our website and suggest others do as well.

[www.malaria vaccineproject.com](http://www.malaria vaccineproject.com)

Past District Governor Graham Jones AM | Chair, Malaria Vaccine Project Committee
Join us for a conference to remember | Superb speakers | Great location | Affordable accommodation

REGISTRATION IS QUICK AND EASY | DO IT NOW! | Simply CLICK HERE

Corrina Grace is the Founder and Executive Director of SERES, a role which has allowed her to facilitate transformative programs for more than 1,500 young people – engaging and empowering them to take action and accelerate the transition towards sustainability in this region.

Corrina’s goal is to turn SERES into a name Synonymous with sustainable, thriving, resilient communities around the world.

A mechanical engineer, Corrina’s skills and experience range from consulting engineering to experience in the financial and private sectors, offshore work with Engineers Without Borders, project and construction management and transformative leadership and facilitation.

Corrina holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New South Wales, Sydney. She was one of 50 selected youth participants at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development and is a Fellow of the 10th class of the Central America Leadership Initiative and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

Clyde Campbell is an industry leader with over 30 years’ experience with a vision to provide the latest world-leading technology and turnkey automation and robotics solutions to clients looking for a competitive edge.

In 1987 Clyde founded Machinery Automation and Robotics and grew the business to over 70 staff with offices both nationally and internationally.

The business was awarded the Australian Telstra Business of the year in 2008 with an annual turnover of $20 Million.

In 2015 the business was acquired by Scott Technology, a publicly listed company on the NZ Stock exchange. The company now trades as Scott Automation and Robotics and is recognised globally as leaders in Automation and Robotic solutions across a variety of industries.

In 2017 the Australian region generated $48 Million in revenue for the group’s annual revenue.

Clyde continues to drive the vision and direction for the company, including identifying and developing emerging markets, and the technologies that will benefit them.

Rhett Butler is Foundation Chairman of Skyjuice. Rhett is also Chair of the Research Advisory Committee at National Centre of Excellence for Desalination (NCEDA).

Twenty years ago, Rhett Butler saw many children in developing regions drinking polluted water. As a result he developed a unique solution that led to the formation of Skyjuice, an organisation that uses Australian technology to provide world-class safe, potable water to remote, low income communities for as little as 20 cents per person, per annum.

Rhett credits much of his work to an Australian education, having earned three Master’s degrees – Science – Engineering – and Business Administration – in Australia.

To-day he is an Associate professor of Engineering and part time lecturer at the University of Sydney. Skyjuice has supplied about 2500 installations to 53 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East and Central and South America.
Do you know a young person who would benefit from RYLA?

RYLA is part of Rotary’s commitment to youth. If you know a young person who wants to take on the RYLA challenge, hear inspiring stories and develop new skills, then we want to hear from you.

RYLA - Saturday 2 Feb - Thursday 7 Feb 2019

Applications available online. More information on Facebook and our Website. View past awardees testimonials HERE

Contact RYLA Chair, Patsy Lucas on 0419651213

NextGen RYLA e-Club

Please join us on 9 Feb to welcome this newly established e-Club

Rotary Satellite e-Club of NextGen Alumni invites you to their Charter lunch

When:
Saturday 9th February 2019

Time:
12.30PM arrival, for 1pm Lunch (AEST)

Where:
Coolangatta Sands Hotel, 1 Griffith St, Coolangatta

Cost:
$40 for Two Course Meal, to be deposited to below account:
Acc Name: Rotary e-Club of NextGen Alumni
BSB: 034076 / ACC: 579202

RSVP 18th January 2019
Elkie.shakespeare@gmail.com / 0447 113 595
Around the District - Clubs have busy over the Christmas Break

Lismore Rotary Club – Safe Water Project - Uganda

Lismore Rotarian Jo Wigg has spent the last six weeks in Uganda completing a project known as Safe Water Njeru.

Jo hosted Ugandan Minister of Tourism Hon Kwanda Godfrey and Hon Sylvia First President of Rotary Mityana who awarded Jo an Inspirational Badge for her work to promote Uganda, through the Australia – Africa Natural Resources Initiative.

Ballina-on-Richmond Rotary Club - YEP student visits Australia after 25 years

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program is one that gives host parents enormous satisfaction with the added benefit of promoting world understanding among different nationalities and cultures.

What gives even more satisfaction and pleasure is to experience past exchange students return to visit their host families which was the case recently when Daisuke Imamura returned from Japan after 25 years with his beautiful wife and daughter. Daisuke visited Ballina recently to catch up with current and past members of the club who hosted him 25 years ago. Daisuke has a great love for Australia and his Aussie families.

Gold Coast Rotary President visits Port Vila Rotary

Port Vila Rotary welcomes John D’Anna from Gold Coast Rotary

By Island Messenger

John D’Anna, President of the Gold Coast Rotary Club has chosen to spend his Christmas holidays looking over Vanuatu. He is currently in Port Vila staying at Island Magic Resort with his wife Tracey and daughter Rebecca and will soon fly up to Santo.

John is President of a very active club on the Gold Coast of Queensland.

The Rotary Club of Gold Coast was formed on 1 July 2011 by the merger of the Rotary Clubs of Surfers Paradise Central (1977) and Gold Coast Central (1983), two clubs with a proud history of service in the local area. Based in Surfers Paradise on the Gold Coast, the club enjoys a fellowship at its club meetings and stages memorable fund-raising events that support The Rotary Foundation, Polio Plus and other clubs and causes such as:

- The Homeless on the Gold Coast
- Home for the Aged
- Wounded Aussie Soldier
- The Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens
- Local youth programs and tertiary scholarships
- Sick Kids
- 3rd World education
- Disaster Relief

Working with its community partners, the club makes great things happen. The club provides quality, low cost accommodation for pensioners at its Rotary Village - 14 self-contained units in a garden setting. It supports the Gold Coast Project for Homeless Youth, The Salvo and Surfside Paradise Anglican Crisis Care assisting the homeless.

Families of wounded Aussie service personnel enjoy all expenses paid holidays on the Gold Coast. Its Rotarian Scholar and interpretive signage exchange environment education in the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens. Local youth benefit from the sponsorship for Rotary scholarships, international exchanges and science programs. Its scholarships enable students from difficult circumstances to attend Griffith University Empowerment of local businesses are recognized by its pride of workmanship award.

The Rotary Club of Gold Coast’s President John met with Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Port Vila last month. Looking forward to have our clubs work together on a worthwhile humanitarian project in Vanuatu.
Beaudesert Rotary commits to koala preservation

BEAudesert Rotary Club has been chosen from District 9640 to partner with the Currumbin Coolangatta Tweed club in raising funds to help develop a vaccine for koalas.

The clubs have committed to raising funds to complement a $200,000 research grant for the Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland. Funds will be used for scientific studies and trials into a vaccine against chlamydia, a disease that threatens the koala population.

Over the Christmas break, clubs shared fun times and supported the community
Want to see your club’s news in the DG Newsletter? 8th February is the deadline for the next edition
Email the Editor – Jodie Shelley orungalj@bigpond.net.au
Website: www.rotary9640.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict9640