Terry’s Tales  May 2019

Following the successful District Conference, I have had a number of people say that I should be enjoying wind down mode. Plenty has been happening in the District and there is plenty on between now and the 30th June 2019.

The Rotary Club of Ballina invites you to join celebrations for their 70th Anniversary and Changeover, on Friday the 14th June 2019. The venue is the Ballina Beach Resort, 6 for 6.30. Cost $55 per person. Dress 1950’s after 5. RSVP to Jenny Hill, jenhill@aptr.net.au
Payment to Rotary Club of Ballina BSB 082 522 Acc 341 056 547 Reference Name and Club.

The Rotary Foundation – New Disaster Response Fund
When disaster strikes, Rotarians around the world come together as people of action to help those in need. To support communities in their rebuilding efforts, The Rotary Foundation is proud to announce our new Disaster Response Fund.

What Rotary disaster grants support: Districts that have been affected by a disaster can use Rotary disaster response grants to launch their own projects or work with established relief organizations to help their communities recover. Districts should work closely with local officials and groups to ensure that the funding will meet a specific community need. The Rotary Foundation also offers funding to support long-term disaster recovery efforts through global grants.

Who can apply for a disaster response grant: Once qualified for Rotary grants, districts in an affected area or country may apply for a maximum grant of $25,000, based on the availability of funds. A district may apply for subsequent grants after it successfully reports outcomes from previous grants.

How to apply: The district governor and district Rotary Foundation chair complete the Rotary Disaster Response Grant Application and send it to grants@rotary.org

Recognition Information: Contributions directed to the Rotary Disaster Response Fund will be counted toward a club’s annual giving goal and per capita giving calculations. These contributions are also eligible for all recognition initiatives, including Paul Harris Fellow, Paul Harris Society, Every Rotarian Every Year, Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member, Major Donor, and Arch Klumph Society.

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS CLUBS WILL ONLY HAVE 6-7 WEEKS TO MAKE YOUR ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOUNDATION ANNUAL FUND AND END POLIO NOW

As a district and RI goal all clubs were asked to contribute US $100 per capita to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund and US $1500 to End Polio Now. Thank you to all of those clubs who have supported the Foundation. To those clubs who are still to decide where their disbursements will be distributed in 2018-19, please consider the Foundation for a donation of the goal or whatever amount you can make.
The events of the past two weeks have presented enormous challenges for our END POLIO NOW campaign. The news that the number of polio cases has gone from 9 to 12 with two further known cases to be confirmed in Pakistan, is most disturbing in the face of recent events. Pakistan in the last two weeks has seen four polio workers killed, the federal health minister sacked, the head of the federal polio emergency operating centre replaced and a propaganda campaign against the program that involved fake illnesses to fake polio vaccines that led to a hysteria that led 10s of thousands of children to needlessly go to hospitals. All vaccinations in Pakistan were suspended due to concerns about worker safety and the general instability. Afghanistan is also at a bad point this week. The Taliban shut down all immunizations in their area of control. They had earlier banned house to house and now have evolved to all immunizations. Tremendous effort is now underway to reverse this action.

All is good in the AFRO region with no new wild polio cases. We do have some vaccine derived cases and they are being addressed.

So, the message to Rotarians is to emphasise our long-term progress to highlight African progress, to indicate that we have some current challenges in Pakistan and Afghanistan which are being addressed by Rotary leaders. We will overcome these obstacles as we have in the past, but we need support from Rotary leaders, Districts and clubs at the highest level. Fund raising is of the utmost importance as we move towards the end of the current Rotary year.

**District Governor - Terry Brown**

The District Governors partner’s project in 2018/19 is the Human Brain Research Project. The goal has been to raise funds to support a PhD candidate for research into Parkinson’s Disease.

At the recent District 9640 Conference in Lismore we had the real bonus of hearing from two speakers to inform us of the affects this debilitating disease has on victims and family members. Professor Peter Silburn a Neurologist with a special interest in neurodegenerative disorders of the brain and Clyde Campbell the co-founder of the Shake it Up Foundation in Australia.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to those District 9640 clubs who have donated to my project. During our club visits some clubs committed to a donation when making their disbursements towards the end of this Rotary year. Those donations can be made by DD to District 9640 at BSB 084 462 Account 79 639 5692, Reference HBR Carol, or by cheque to Carol Brown PO Box 1077 Casino NSW 2470. Payable to D9640 Human Brain Research Program.

Thank you for your support for the Human Brain Research Project. - Carol Brown

**UPDATE FOR ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE**

**Brazil** Congratulations to the RFE Team selected for District 4640 Brazil. The inbound team will arrive in our district in October 2019 and the outbound team will visit Brazil in March 2020.

The team is - Rod Sproule (Team Leader) and Carolyn Ezzy, Lismore, Christiane Vee, Hope Island, Teleah Andrews and Tara Barker, e-Club of D9640 Alumni, Glenn Nott and Annie Brownjohn, Mt Warning AM & Murwillumbah Central.

We have places available for 1 single and 2 couples for this exchange. If you would like to know more please contact Wendy Scarlett  wendy.scarlett51@gmail.com
**India** The team is preparing for their RFE to D3040 India in February 2020 and the return visit from the Indian team in April 2020.

**Wisconsin** Our team will leave for their visit to D6250 in July.

**USA / Canada** The team will depart in June for D5020 Wisconsin and most of the team will then travel to Arizona for a 1 week exchange. The inbound team will be here in November 2019.

If any clubs would like to know more about Rotary Friendship Exchanges or Rotary Fellowships, Charles and I are happy to come to speak about them at a club meeting.

**RFE Chair Wendy Scarlett**

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**A WORD FROM RI PRESIDENT BARRY RASSIN**

During February our RI President, Barry Rassin, travelled to Africa and filed the following message ahead of World Immunization Week celebrated during the last week of April.

"While traveling in Madagascar in late February, I learned more about the measles outbreak that, according to reports from the World Health Organization, has killed over 900 people since September. One of the main reasons behind this epidemic has been the low vaccination rate against measles. This has been one of many examples I've seen that showcases the importance of vaccines and how devastating a disease can be without them.

Immunization saves millions of lives every year. Vaccines are one of the most successful and cost effective health interventions, but the situation in Madagascar is just one of many recent examples that shows vaccine-preventable diseases still persist."

"That's why I hope you'll join me in spreading the word about the importance of vaccinations."

"As Rotarians, we know firsthand that vaccines work. We have contributed more than $1.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2.5 billion children from polio. Esther and I just recently participated in providing polio immunizations.

Last November we joined Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, and local Rotarians in Abuja, Nigeria to volunteer at the Family Health Clinic Garki. It's a very powerful experience to know that you're helping children avoid a terrible disease with something as small as two drops of vaccine. We will never forget the look in the eyes of each mother who knew that Rotary was saving their child.

As one of the last three polio-endemic countries, Nigeria has done excellent work in battling polio. In the Borno region of Nigeria, we were able to reach twice as many inaccessible children in October 2018 than the year before. That means nearly 100,000 children were immunized who would have otherwise been missed. Furthermore, Nigeria hasn't reported a case of wild poliovirus in more than two and a half years, and the country could soon be declared polio-free.

Our time in the Family Health Clinic Garki was an important reminder that while Rotary has made great progress, the fight against polio isn't over."

"I hope you'll join me to Be the Inspiration and encourage your fellow Rotarians to continue supporting our cause until polio has been certified as gone for good."

**Yours in Rotary, Barry Rassin  |  President, Rotary International 2018-19**
40 years ago, in April 1979, Dr Anthony Richardson became the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Kilkenny, the first Rotary Club to be formed in this region of Ireland. For his dedication of many years to Rotary, Dr Richardson was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by the club members.

The Rotary Club of Kilkenny celebrated their 40th birthday with a Gala Dinner at Kilkenny Castle on 4 May 2019.

Dr. Richardson’s son, Anton Richardson, a family lawyer and a partner of MBA Lawyers in Varsity Lakes Qld having migrated to Australia few years ago, celebrated his late father’s club anniversary by becoming a member of the newly chartered Rotary Club in Varsity Lakes in Gold Coast. He was inducted to Rotary by District Membership Chairman PDG Michael Irving on 30th April. He intends to carry on the Rotary tradition that his late father started on the other side of the World. Rotary connects the world.

District Governor Terry Brown and Carol attended the meeting of the Rotary Club of Goondiwindi on the 1st May to recognise two club members for their outstanding service and contributions to Rotary.

Past President Bruce Waller completed 60 years as a member of the Rotary Club of Goondiwindi. Bruce was presented with a Sapphire PHF (+3), by DG Terry. Bruce and his wife Jan celebrated the occasion with a number of family members and close friends.

Judy Jakens joined the Rotary Club of Goondiwindi, after moving from Dubbo. Judy has always been a strong supporter of The Rotary Foundation and its programs. Judy was recognised at the club meeting on 1 May as a Major Donor, Level 1.

Congratulations Judy your generous contributions put you among a dedicated group of humanitarians, committed to helping the less fortunate.
KOALA CHLAMYDIA VACCINE PROJECT

Several months ago, at the request of DG Terry, the Rotary Clubs of Beaudesert and Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed Inc. got together to help the Currumbin Wildlife Hospital fund a trial Koala Vaccine to halt the scourge of Chlamydia in our iconic native animals. If District 9640 can raise the target of $50,000, then this and other fundraising efforts will be leveraged up to 5-fold with a grant application from the Australia Research Council. District 9640 clubs were requested to donate $1000 each towards the vaccine project. Several clubs have already donated (thank you) and others have declared “cheques in the mail”

At the recent District Conference in Lismore, Dr Michael Pyne, Senior Veterinarian and General Manager of Currumbin Wildlife Hospital spoke of the huge increase in treating injured animals over the 19 years of his custodianship. There were 461 koala admitted in 2018, with more than 55% of these infected with clinical Chlamydia. There were only 28 Koalas admitted in 2009.

In Lismore, RC CCT set up an information booth in the House of Friendship. Clubs and individuals were given raffle books to assist in fundraising, as this will help “take up the slack” for those clubs in our District that find it difficult to fundraise. The raffle will be drawn at the District 9640 Changeover luncheon at the School of Arts, Tenterfield, on 30 June, 2019.

If your club is able to assist by selling raffle tickets for this worthy District project, please contact RC CCT President Michelle Mitchell on 0490 164 316. Raffle butts can be returned to the Secretary, Rotary Club C.C.T.inc., PO Box 107, Tweed Heads, NSW 2485. Raffle monies can be paid directly into: Koala immunisation Project, BSB 633 000 Account number 165 283 433 (Bendigo Bank, Tugun). Please identify your deposit with your Club or your name.

RC CCT is also attempting to source a grant for a special flexible endoscope to assist with the removal of plastic and fishhooks ingested by our water life, including pelicans and sea turtles.

Please, help save our wildlife... Diana Traversi, Secretary RC of Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed

MHERV VAN HOSTED BY ROTARY CLUBS IN District 9640

Rotary Clubs of Goondiwindi, Stanthorpe, Tenterfield, Banora-Tweed, Ballina-on-Richmond, Grafton, and Yamba have had the pleasure of hosting the Men’s Health Education Van (Mherv) recently. The Men’s Health Education Rural Van is a project of the Rotary Club of Warners Bay and is aimed at saving men’s lives in rural Australia. Registered nurse Rob Woolley conducted free health checks for men and women in various areas while local Rotary clubs hosted Mherv and Rob.

RC OF STANTHORPE The mherv van came to Stanthorpe, Qld. for the first time on 4 and 5 April this year.

Advertising posters were put up in ladies hairdressing establishments, hotels, retail shops and hardware stores around town and as well as the small posters, a news release was put through our local district newspaper.

A total of 85 people, including some women, attended the caravan and many of those attending the van were found to have minor health problems which required monitoring by a GP. However, I'm pleased to say that 4 people were diagnosed with severe conditions that required immediate consultation with a GP, but interestingly, none of those found to have a serious health problem were aware of their condition, so the mherv van basically saved their lives!

We're looking forward to having the mherv van back again next year, if Stanthorpe can be included in the schedule.

Kim Thorburn President Rotary Club of Stanthorpe
MULLUMBIMBY ROTARY CLUB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

After months of planning, invitations sourced, data base established, venue booked, and our event stylist with decorations in hand the day finally arrive. A band of Rotarians and supporters transformed the hall into an inviting space that reflected a celebration of a club that was formed 70 years ago.

The some 90 guest started pouring in the door at least 30 minutes before the official start; Rotarians like to have plenty of time to catch up with their fellow Rotarians. PDG Dug & Judy were on the door to meet and greet, PP Brian sold the drink tickets and Dave & Georgia were behind the bar to supply drinks of choice.

The catering was by the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre, a not for profit organisation that is the glue that keeps the marginalised people of the area with food, showers, activities and professional guidance. Our club is a long-time supporter providing toiletries for showers and books for their library. It was a great way for them to generate much needed funds. They also introduced us to our musician for the night when Plan A became unavailable. Pete has also agreed to do a repeat performance at this year’s changeover.

During the night we heard from DG Terry, DGE Harry and PDG Brian as they all took on toasts and responses. Their words were appreciated by the club members and were informative for our invited guests.

The evening concluded with Chairman PP Russell conducting an auction for the local high school’s Chrysalis Program for Girls. Russell also auctioned off all the table centre flower arrangements and earnt over $350 for Rotary foundation.

The level of talking in the room during the meal was an indication that a good night was had by all.

President Nerida Dean

THE RC OF BALLINA-ON-RICHMOND  Members of the club helped registered nurse Rob Woolley while he was in Ballina during April.

The van was set up on the banks of the Richmond River and over the two days, Rob saw a steady stream of men and women.

The opportunity to host the Mherv van was a great PR opportunity for our club and we encourage other clubs to consider hosting Mherv next time it visits District 9640. Members had a wonderful time while rostered on helping at the van, talking to members of the community and visitors to Ballina and spreading the good work of Mherv and Rotary. This is a great example of Rotary in Action.

Col Lee, RC of Ballina-on-Richmond

GRAFTON ROTARY CLUB  hosted MHREV 16th & 17th March 2018 and had 40 people pass through of which two were advised to see their Doctor ASAP.

In 2019 MHREV will be at the Grafton Show 10th & 11th May and will be supported by Grafton & Grafton Midday Rotary Clubs.

Russell Jones  President  Grafton Rotary Club
I know you will share in our delight at the news that Federal Government Health Minister Greg Hunt has matched the $550,000 raised for the Malaria Vaccine Project by Rotarians all over Australia. This means that $1.05 million will be going forward to the clinical trials of Professor Michael Good’s (Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University) promising malaria vaccine PlasProtecT.

This will be a huge boost to the malaria vaccine research and gets us closer to saving the lives of the 435,000 people (mostly young children and pregnant mothers) who die every year from malaria.

Notwithstanding the wonderful work done by RAM and other providers of nets, the development of this vaccine is even more imperative given the following report from the (November 2018) World Health Organization (WHO) which states: “Over the last three years there has been no significant progress in controlling this terrible disease and an effective vaccine is urgently needed”.

The clinical trials at the Gold Coast have gone well and have resulted in an exciting breakthrough. This will enable the whole parasite vaccine to be housed in an artificial membrane that can be freeze dried and then hydrated at distant locations. It will be used in the Brisbane trials and will allow a more seamless and rapid transition into the next phase of clinical trials in PNG or Uganda. However, it comes at a significant cost!

Consequently we need to continue the Malaria Vaccine Project and we would welcome continuing financial support and donations from Rotary and friends of Rotary. However, we also need ROTARIANS TO TALK ABOUT THE PROJECT and especially to encourage leaders in the Corporate Sector to step up and play their part in making this vaccine a reality.

We are especially grateful for all the support we have received from clubs in our District.

Latest Malaria Newsletter available HERE. You can DONATE HERE

PDG Graham Jones. Chair, Malaria Vaccine Project

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Researchers at Griffith University are seeking healthy, males aged 18-50 years to participate in a clinical study examining a malaria vaccine approach in humans. Volunteers must be non-smokers or smoke ≤5 cigarettes/day.

The results from this study will contribute towards the development of a malaria vaccine.

This study will involve administering three doses of a novel malaria vaccine to study participants, followed by an injection with malaria parasites to examine the effectiveness of the vaccine. Blood samples will be collected during the study and at the completion of the study, anti-malarial medication will be administered.

During the study, participants will be required to visit the Griffith Health Clinic (G40) at the Griffith University Southport campus.

Qualified participants receive all study treatment at no cost. Reasonable travel and parking costs will be reimbursed as well as a nominal fee for reimbursement of time ($50/visit).

For further information, please contact: glycomictrials@griffith.edu.au

This study has been approved by the Griffith University Human Research Ethics committee (2018/152) and the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service HREC (HREC/18/QGC/23).
ROTARY volunteers supporting RAWCS & Rotary projects including Days for Girls, Nepal.

A team of 18 people consisting of Rotarians and friends of Rotary from Goondiwindi, Stanthorpe & Deloraine clubs travelled to Nepal in April 2019 to volunteer their time towards a long term project to build a community training and vocational centre located in the district of Bhaktapur near Kathmandu. This visit allowed the team to meet with project partners and local Rotarians to further understand longer term project requirements as well as to attend a ceremony for the laying of the foundation stone for the development. In addition to this project the group contributed to the distribution of at least 500 Days For Girls (DFG) hygiene kits (of which the group carried to Nepal). Inspected a state owned and operated orphanage, met with several DFG groups who manufacture and distribute kits, all while seeing many regions within the eastern half of Nepal to better understand the needs and culture of this amazing country.

The Project: Building a Residential and Vocational Youth Training Centre
Rotary clubs in Australia and Nepal will construct a residential, vocational youth training centre in Bhaktapur providing a facility for local community use, as well as “not for profit” organizations to use for seminars and meetings. This is a long term project.

Days For Girls: in-country manufacturing, education & distribution
The group was able to learn more about the cultural and practical issues relating to the challenges girls and women in Nepal face on a monthly basis, this issue spans across generations and is more challenging to address in the more remote areas. We met with Maya in Kathmandu, an inspiring young lady who spends her time working with a team of women and volunteers to educate, manufacture and distribute kits via their DFG centre. It became very clear through her discussion the challenges that women face, sometimes the lack of basic understanding of reproduction, the loss of dignity and opportunities that are lost as a consequence of a natural but culturally misunderstood biological function.

We had further exposure to DFG activities as we ventured to the east north east of Kathmandu into the Sindhupalchok district, where we stayed in the village of Chautara but had the opportunity to visit a smaller village in the mountains. This area was damaged substantially in the 2015 earthquake and was effectively still rebuilding. It was in this smaller village that we met with Sabina, a young lady who was sponsored by Goondiwindi Rotary club to complete DFG enterprise training.

The women were very grateful to receive the kits and this was further evident when stragglers arrived to see if they too could obtain some also. This is invaluable work that is being done and in time will change lives!

Toilet projects
The subject of toilets probably appears out of place but it becomes glaringly apparent when travelling just how important access to suitable facilities becomes. Throughout this trip we saw a number of toilet blocks constructed by Rotary clubs throughout the years, some appeared neglected while others were well looked after. We visited several schools that have had new toilet facilities provided by Rotary clubs.

A great experience was had by all the team. Namaste!

Read the full Nepal RAWCS Newsletter HERE

Chris Teague  Goondiwindi Rotary Club  International Director 2018-19
WILL WOMEN FORM THE NEXT WORLD GOVERNMENT?

Well, if the graduates of Class XVI of Rotary Peace Scholars from the University of Queensland are any indication, hold on to your hat! Out of the cohort of ten scholarship awardees, eight are female, and at least one, Mohamed Yussuf [yes Henrietta, I’d dare to say he is Muslim, not that that matters though] jokingly confessed to having been converted to feminism... All are natural leaders and highly dynamic. All are anything but "Ivory Tower' academics. All have done months of serious 'Applied Fieldwork Experience' relating to their study, in regions which are anything but peaceful - many have actually been brought up in such regions.

Mid April, Ray Higgs (District Chair of Rotary Peace Fellowships) and yours truly spent a hugely informative Saturday at the University of Queensland's St Lucia Campus, attending the annual seminar of the Rotary Peace Fellows - this year in its 16th class. Sponsored by my favorite charity, The Rotary Foundation, the scholarships enable graduates to attend university studies specifically addressing the prevention and mediation of conflict. So, how can I compress a full day's presentation into a short article? Even the presentation by Madenia Abdurahman, the President of the Together for Humanity organization, is too broad to be summarized. Look, I'll make it simple: Madenia was brought up in South Africa long before Apartheid was outlawed. Her early life would have had a lot of similarities to the fictional 'Tandia' in Bryce Courtenay's eponymous follow up novel to 'The Power of One'. A truly remarkable person. Several of the fellows who came to our Multi-Club event last July presented on the processes, perspectives and field experiences. Topic titles ranged from "From Lemons to Pyjamas: How Research and Evaluation are Helping Build Everyday Peace in Colombia and Beyond" by Michelle Helman, to "Shifting Perspectives: Healing and Reconciliation in Post-Conflict Cambodia" by the "pocket rocket" Miku Lagarde. The ten presenters represented the world at large: four came from the USA and one each from Kenya, Philippines, Myanmar, Colombia, Japan and Uganda.

"Peace is more than the absence of conflict: it is an active process of building more inclusive, just and adaptive societies" was one of the lead themes of the day. Well spoken, but how can it be achieved? Well, so far The Rotary Foundation has sponsored some 1200 very switched on and determined young leaders. It is unlikely that world peace can ever be achieved (the armament industry will strongly lobby against it). But undoubtedly, as Raina Fox from the USA stated: "We keep applying the same solution to problems, even though they are not working". Every year, 100 leaders are trained to think outside the square, both academically as well as practically. To paraphrase last year’s RI President Ian Riseley: "Will make a difference? You bet.

For detailed information and photos of the graduates, click here. Franz Huber RC of Surfers Sunrise

Seascape

ART SHOW AND SHORT FILM FESTIVAL
Burleigh Heads Club Fri 24 to Sun 26 May, 2019

$3000 in prize money
Applications OPEN NOW!

Email: burleighheadsrotary@gmail.com for an entry form
Applications close 10 May, 5pm

Art Show Open: 12pm to 8pm Sat 25 May
10am to 3pm Sun 26 May
(entry gold coin donation only)

Gala Opening Night 6pm Fri 24 May and
Short Film Festival Sessions, Sat 25 & Sun 26 May
book at: http://www.trybooking.com/489147

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GOLD COAST 2018

A fundraiser by:
Rotary Burleigh Heads
and
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