IS YOUR CLUB ON TRACK TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR’S GOALS?

Every club was asked to achieve a net gain of 1 new member. We started on the 1st July 2018 with 1152 members, current membership is 1194.

Clubs were asked to sponsor 6 new Satellite Clubs. I am aware of at least 4 clubs who have committed to sponsorship of a Satellite Club.

Every club was asked to contribute $100 US per capita to the Rotary Foundation, Annual Program Fund. I would ask clubs to try and bring their Foundation giving forward and not wait to the May or June 2019, board meeting to disburse funds. The three-year funding cycles begin on July 1 and if clubs wait to June to give their money, The Rotary Foundation has only two years, not three to build investment returns. If the goal is in place, and the fundraising to meet those goals is there, please consider sending the funds, and do not wait to May.

Every club was asked to contribute $40 US per capita to End Polio Now. I am heartened by the number of clubs, who have planned activities either on World Polio Day, the 24th October or during November, Rotary Foundation month. The movie for Polio, Bohemian Rhapsody has received great publicity and it could provide the best result ever. I would like to make special mention of the Rotary Club of Alstonville, recently they held a fundraiser for End Polio, at my official visit to the club on the 26th September I was presented with a cheque for $2700.

All clubs were asked to support nominations for all Youth Programs. A great team effort by Youth Chair Jan Glynn, all Youth Directors and clubs has resulted in strong participation in all programs.

All clubs were asked to achieve a Rotary Citation. Rotary can automatically verify many of your club’s achievements as long as you keep your club and membership information up-to-date in My Rotary. You’ll use online tools like Rotary Club Central to tell us when you’ve achieved other goals. Achievements will be compared with membership figures from 1 July 2018 and will be recognized after the 1 July 2019 numbers are final, on 15 August 2019.

100 Days of the Polio Outbreak response in Papua New Guinea. Papua New Guinea confirmed a polio outbreak on 22 June 2018 when a vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (VDPV1), was first detected in a 6-year old boy from Morobe Province. Since the first outbreak Papua New Guinea has reported 14 cases of Polio. Two rounds of the polio-vaccination campaign have been implemented to protect children under 5 years old against polio.

- The first round covered the three high-risk provinces of Morobe, Madang and Eastern Highlands where 303,907 children under 5 years old were vaccinated.
- The second round covered nine provinces of Morobe, Madang, Eastern Highlands, Western Highlands, Southern Highlands, Jiwaka, Enga, Chimbu and Hela where 690,953 were vaccinated.
Over 5 million doses of vaccine have been procured to vaccinate children in two provinces. Some US$18 million has been contributed by Rotary International, the Gates Foundation, US Agency for International Development, Canada, Korea, United Kingdom and Australia with a further US$2.2 million from Papua New Guinea.

No effort has been spared by frontline workers to reach every child in PNG, more than 76 helicopter flights have been necessary to transport volunteers, vaccine and other resources to remote outposts. This information is shared to Rotary clubs so that they understand the vital importance of Rotary’s involvement in the campaign and the need to continue intensive fundraising efforts. With World Polio Day fast approaching on October 24, all clubs are reminded of Rotary’s basic fundraising goals in 2018/19, of US $1500 per club in an effort to raise US $50 million.

A Profile. For many weeks, Gafo was the nameless and faceless “first polio case in Papua New Guinea in 18 years” that was reported in national and international media.

It was early morning in late April 2018 when a six-year old boy named Gafo woke up with hurting legs. He was excited to play with his friends so he ignored the pain, as soon as he got up from his bed he fell – his legs were so weak that he could barely move.

In the next two days, Gafo’s pain got worse, even with his mother Soya’s constant massaging. On the third day, the family decided to bring Gafo to Angau Memorial General Hospital in Lae, Morobe in the central northern coast of Papua New Guinea.

After a series of tests, it was confirmed that polio was the cause of Gafo’s paralysis. It was later discovered the virus was circulating in the community.

Gafo’s parents have started to understand that his paralysis will never be cured, but that his paralysis was instrumental in raising awareness of Polio in Papua New Guinea. His story paved the way for more children trooping to vaccination sites when the government launched mass polio vaccinations as part of the outbreak.

District Governor - Terry Brown

Sushil Kumar Gupta nominated to be 2020 – 21 Rotary International President

Sushil Kumar Gupta, of the Rotary Club of Delhi Mid-west, Delhi, India, is the selection of the nominating committee for President of Rotary International for 2020 – 21. Gupta wants to increase Rotary’s humanitarian impact as well as the diversity of its membership.

“As individuals, we can only do so much” Gupta said in a statement. “But when 1.2 million Rotarians work together, there is no limit to what we can achieve, and in the process, we can truly change the world.”

Gupta has been a Rotarian since 1977 and has served Rotary as district governor, training leader, and resource group advisor, and as a member, vice chair, or chair of several committees.

He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree by the IIS University, Jaipur, in recognition of his contributions to water conservation. He has also received the coveted Padma Shri Award, the fourth highest civilian award in India, conferred by the President of India for distinguished service to tourism and social work.

Gupta has also received the Distinguished Service Award from the Rotary Foundation for his support of its humanitarian and educational programs. He and his wife, Vinita, are major donors to the Rotary Foundation & members of the Arch Klumph Society.

Gupta is chair and managing director of Asian Hotels (West) Ltd, and owner of Hyatt Regency Mumbai and JW Marriott Hotel New Delhi Aerocity. He has served as president of the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India and on the board of directors of Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd. He is the president of Experience India Society, a public private partnership between the tourism industry and the government of India that promotes India as a tourist destination. He is also vice chair of the Himalayan Environment Trust and serves on the board of Operation Eyesight in India.

To learn more about Sushil Gupta, read this interview and vision statement outlining his goals for Rotary.
A member of Alstonville Rotary Club for more than ten years, I was a Board member each year in a variety of positions including President. My special memories include establishing the local Interact Club at the High School; organising a Reunion of all Presidents of the Club since its Charter and holding a Jazz Fund raising Day at our farm with a significant donation to LADS driving school project. I am currently the President of the eClub of nextGen and Assistant Governor for Cluster 3. An exciting project of the moment for our Club is the establishment of an eSatellite RYLA Club, the first in Australia.

My idea of a great day - chatting in multi communication skills with ladies from Uzbekistan and Gambia at a French bus stop. My husband Ross (a Plant Pathologist) runs an orchard of Avocados, Peaches, Nectarines and Custard Apples. We have three daughters /married and three grandchildren. Without doubt my favourite school subject was geography where I had an intense interest in other cultures and all things to do with other landforms and peoples of different ethnicity.

So you will see the logic in choosing Physiotherapy as a career??!! It allowed me freedom to move where I wanted to move and work with people of any race or location...and there were a few. Some include a mission station in South Africa; an acupuncture Clinic in Hangzhou China; working with Blind Physiotherapists in London and a specialist Spinal unit in Perth. Apart from being the In Charge Physiotherapist in our local regional hospital I was amongst the first to establish a Private Clinic on the North Coast of NSW.

Now my real passion – travel, people and the explorable. As soon as I had saved enough money I headed by ship to Japan and crossed the Trans Siberian Railway when it still resembled early 1900 architecture/design. Apart from similar adventurers we were able to get to understand young Russian people living under Communism in a country of Black and White. Travelling overland from Cape Town to London and climbing Kilimanjaro on the way provided the most amazing opportunities to ‘be with /learn about the local cultures and how precious those cultures were before they all turned to copy western dress and attitudes. I have driven my own husky dog team in the Artic and explored the Antarctic (I would work there if only an opportunity had presented in my youth) Three trips to India ...there is always somewhere new to explore in India; Tibet just before the borders were closed by the Chinese and the herdsmen killed. Inner Mongolia with the Yurt people and Dromedaries. Circumnavigating Australia with a young baby showed that we don’t have to go far to find great needs for our own people. On retiring I walked the Camino from St Jean Pied de Port (France) to Santiago (Spain) and then to Finnestaire (1000km) and portions of three Caminos since.

Peter Drysdale

Peter was born in Australia, but he was brought to Fiji as a child, to be raised in Suva, and educated in Suva and Britain. Peter’s National Distinctions include Order of Australia (AM) 2015, Officer of the Order of Fiji 2017, Member of Order of Fiji (MOF).

Peter is a member of the Rotary Club of Lautoka Fiji, and has received Rotary’s highest award, a Service Above Self Award, and has been recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow four times. As Project Manager of Fiji Rotahomes for 29 years, operated entirely in his free time as a volunteer. Over the last 33 years over 1000 homes have been built in the western division and over 4000 poor people housed.

As Chairman of Model Towns Charitable Trust, Peter has seen all processes completed to transfer all assets and land leases from Rotary to MTCT. This has the potential to develop replica towns wherever they are needed in Fiji.

District Conference Awards NOW OPEN

So your members are working their fingers to the bone and nobody else even knows?

Throughout our District there are well over 50 Rotary Clubs. All have projects, some massive, some small, some local, some international. And yet, outside of the membership of your club (and most commonly the long suffering partners equally busy in the background), nobody even knows you exist? Well, tell us about it!

Every year at the District Conference, some 18 District Awards are pronounced. Get your club’s achievements recognized! Apply for a District Award – see details on our District Website – click here. Franz Huber
The Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond’s 2018 Ballina Food and Wine Festival was recently recognised in NSW Parliament with a “Legislative Council Hansard” by Parliamentary Secretary for Renewable Energy and Northern NSW Nationals Member Ben Franklin and “A Community Recognition Statement” by the Member for Ballina Tamara Smith.

Both Ben and Tamara acknowledged the contribution to the community that this festival has made over its 9 years and the tireless work by members to make this a Signature Event in Ballina Shire. This festival showcases the outstanding restaurants, cottage industries and talent in the local area which is so vital to the ever-increasing tourist industry and overseas visitors who savour the delights this region produces.

In their representation to Parliament both documented that all monies raised either goes back into the local Ballina community or Rotary projects initiated by the club such as the Nepal Building from the Rubble Project thanking the club for organising a festival which puts so much emphasis on helping the community and people in need.  Col Lee

Surfers Sunrise Rotary Club – Wheelchairs and Bikes

President Jo Winwood presented the original designer of their signature Wheelchairs project, Des La Rance, with an Honorary Membership of the Surfers Sunrise Rotary Club. Des has been a member of our club since 1992. He shot to prominence when, in August 1997, his design to manufacture wheelchairs for disabled children in developing countries bore fruit: accompanied by a crew from the TV show 'A Current Affair', the first 10 Wheelchairs were delivered to children in Fiji.

Meanwhile, well over 8,500 wheelchairs have been delivered to all continents on earth. In addition, Des is responsible for the design and supervision of construction of a number of schools in Thailand and Samoa, the massive House of Hope project in Apia, Samoa and its follow up project to add another classroom, just to name a few. As the saying goes, the rest is history. No! This is not just history. This is a lasting legacy. Only a couple of weeks ago, The Australian newspaper carried a story depicting a boy in war torn Syria sitting on a Surfers Sunrise wheelchair, delivered about 10 years ago.

Surfers Sunrise – Giant Bike Sale – Saturday 1st December 2018

On Saturday, 1st December, we'll have a giant Bicycle Garage Sale at the Project Shed. By now, our volunteers have restored dozens of bikes to their former glory, simply far too good to be scrapped for just their frames to make wheelchairs. They were either donated, or given to us by the Police - unclaimed property. For example: this Scott Racing Bike, light enough to lift with one finger (see picture right). Yes, new, they sell for $3,000. They are ready to be sold at very attractive prices to the public, just in time for Christmas. But wait, there will be more! Music, Sausage Sizzle, Tours of the Shed.  Franz Huber
The Rotary Club’s of Ashmore and Southport combined over the past year to design and build a large Men’s Shed (18M x 15M) on a block sourced with assistance from Councillor, Dawn Crichlow. PP Rock O’Keefe was the original driver of the project and a committee was formed of Ashmore. After four years of planning, quoting and dealing with Council requirements, the shed was completed. On the day of completion, it was handed over to the Commonwealth Games Committee for use by the security forces of the games. Eight weeks later the shed was returned to Rotary hands and AMSA (Ashmore Men’s Shed Association). A generous contribution of steel and concrete for the flooring and foundations by the Neumann Family was organised by Helen Moorfoot of Southport.

With the completion of the Men’s Shed, members of the Ashmore Rotary Club continued renovation of the site and a Community Hub was developed. This will enable maximum usage of the leasehold. A full kitchen was installed. Paving and new gardens where included. One Bocce lane was restored and remaining members of the old Bocce Club were invited to play and socialise.

Future planning includes conversion of a covered area into a room, additional paving, shade sails and artificial turf laid to provide lawn bowling facilities.

The project has taken a long four years with hundreds of hours involved, the outcome is a very valuable community asset for Ashmore.

Casino Rotary Celebrates 80th Anniversary

The Rotary Club of Casino celebrated its 80th Anniversary in style at a gala dinner held at Casino RSM on Saturday, 8 September. Over 100 people attended the celebration from as far away as Brisbane, including three sons of Past Presidents. PP Keith McDonald and President John Lane gave a brief history of the Club, including some historical discrepancies in commencement dates. While the Club was officially chartered on 31 August, 1938, it was not until November 1938 that formal celebrations were held.

Distinguished guests included Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis and his wife, Vicki and Councillor Robert Mustow, Mayor of Richmond Valley and his partner, Narelle Cole. Special mention must be made of the fifteen Rotarians who travelled from Forest Lake (Brisbane) due to a special ‘knitting connection’ forged seventeen years ago which sees ladies from both areas knit various garments for charity.

The longest-serving Club member, PP John Nipperess (1971) cut the anniversary cake which was made by his wife, Gwenda.

A sumptuous smorgasbord greeted guests who spent several hours reminiscing over the Club’s many achievements. Rotarian Lyn Darragh decorated the room to perfection and special thanks must be given to the organizing Committee of Cheryl Wilkes, Wendy Lane and Lyn Darragh whose organization ensured that nothing was left to chance.

Casino Rotary is a vibrant Club with twenty-seven members who are actively involved in a range of community activities such as Beef Week Catering; Craft Beer & Cider Festival and Casino West Public School Breakfast Club.

Club members would like to extend a sincere ‘thank you’ to everyone who came along and made the evening so memorable. Here’s looking forward to the Centenary in 2038! PP Aaron Beach
**OCTOBER - IS END POLIO MONTH** and Alstonville Rotary held their annual Polio fundraiser. It was a busy day with 750 sausage sandwiches sold, with Rotarians, partners and friends from Alstonville Inner Wheel all helping out. The sausage sizzle, together with an accompanying raffle and ‘Purple Pinky’ donations raised $1,814. The club topped it up to $2,500 for a presentation to DG Terry Brown at his recent ‘official’ club visit.

Another idea adopted by our club is to thank guest speakers with a certificate of appreciation recording a $10 donation to Polio Plus on their behalf, instead of a gift. It provides a useful opportunity to publicise the Rotary immunisation campaign. A separate cheque of $200 was presented to the DG to reflect donations made over the last year.

Well done Rotary Down Under, the Polio themed T-shirts are a terrific visual aid to publicising local Rotarians in action, supporting the international immunisation campaign. AND well done Bill Gates; with the multiplier from the Bill and Melinda Foundation some $8,100 will go forward to End Polio.

*Peter Swain - Rotary Foundation Coordinator and Public Relations Chair*

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RC of Mt WarningAM have recently raised funds & thanks to a grant we were able to donate 20 Backpack Swags to the "You Have A Friend", our President MaryAnn Thackray said "we were fortunate enough to be able to hand over to John Lee from You Have a Friend, 20 backpack swags, which will be distributed to those desperately needy people in our community who do not have even basic night-time shelter".

John heads up an extraordinary group of volunteers and club is proud to support their outstanding work. These backpacks are made here in Australia, can be folded out easily, are waterproof and can assist with interim crisis bedding for homeless people without shelters.

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**You’re invited to RC of Varsity Lakes Spectacular Charter Dinner – 19 October**

Varsity Lakes Rotary Club will celebrate their charter presentation and induction of 24 new members to Rotary with a gala dinner Friday 19th October.

This vibrant group of new generation Rotarians want you to be part of their fun filled charter presentation event.

This celebration is only a few days away, so to attend, just click and purchase your tickets NOW.
This year, the District Grants Sub-Committee moved the deadline for applications to 15 July to give incoming Boards more time after District Assemblies to plan 2018-19 projects. As a result of strong district support for the Annual Fund in 2015-16, US$32,330 (A$43,650) was available for the District Block Grant application. With clubs contributing $50,801, this will fund projects to the value of $328,422.

Thank you to all clubs that submitted applications. Congratulations to the following clubs on their successful applications ‘to do good in the world’ through The Rotary Foundation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotary Club</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District Grant A$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. District 9640 clubs</td>
<td>Vocational Exchange program for young professionals with D3780, Quezon City, Philippines</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
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<td>2. Alstonville</td>
<td>Fund two Ivan Eichorn Rotary Educational Scholarships to disadvantaged students</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<td>4. Banora -Tweed</td>
<td>Provision of toiletries to the homeless in the Tweed/Banora Region</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Coomera Valley/ Coomera River</td>
<td>To assist the Second Step in Schools program at Oxenford-Coomera Community and Youth Centre</td>
<td>17,000</td>
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<td>Fund a shipping container of goods and materials for a remote school in Vanuatu</td>
<td>99,000</td>
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<td>Painting Away Problems to reduce suicide rates in Aboriginal people in a remote community</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<td>3,000</td>
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<td>9. Goondiwindi</td>
<td>Establish a Vocational Training Centre for disadvantaged youth in Bhaktapur, Nepal</td>
<td>120,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Grafton-Midday</td>
<td>Supply a defibrillator to for the oncology department of Grafton Base Hospital</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<td>11. Griffith Gold Coast</td>
<td>Provide “Friendship Chairs” to local schools to help resolve issues of bullying and alienation</td>
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<td>Provide safe drinking water to the village of Kiyindi in Uganda</td>
<td>4,500</td>
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<td>Provide sleeping bags for homeless persons in the Murwillumbah region</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<td>Renovation of deck at hospital coffee shop used for patient therapy</td>
<td>9,500</td>
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<td>15. Parkwood</td>
<td>Construct a cacao processing facility in the Philippines to provide sustainable employment</td>
<td>8,000</td>
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<td>Provide a scholarship for a financially disadvantaged student in Indonesia to study accountancy</td>
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<td>Repaint and fit rooms for homeless and at risk men in the Winsome Hotel Soup Kitchen</td>
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<td>2,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. Yamba</td>
<td>Provision of defibrillators in Yamba public areas to help reduce mortality from cardiac arrest</td>
<td>5,522</td>
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**TOTAL**

328,422

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<td>Supply birthing kits for distribution by Donations in Kind to PNG and Pacific nations</td>
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**TOTAL**

50,801

43,650

Public Relations Rotary Bus turning heads in NSW

The Public Relations bus campaign is currently in the Northern Rivers showcasing the face of Rotary in District 9640. This bus with the super side panel with the message ‘Join Us’ is sure to attract attention. It’s operating from Lismore where the first Rotary club in our District 9640 was formed in 1931. The Rotary bus will run through 14 Rotary club towns for 16 weeks.

Photo: DG Terry Brown & District Secretary Brian Wheatly, Ken Flanagan, Richard Crandon and Cheryl Hicks
In January 2019 the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) will run its 36th Year 12 Program. Nearly 600 students from all over Australia will attend the program over three sessions and as the Founding Partner, Rotarians are invited to participate in some of the program’s events.

**Gala Science Dinner:** Thursday 17th January 2019 (paid event) at Brisbane City Hall is a formal dinner with keynote speaker Professor Kerrie Wilson ARC Future Fellow at the University of Queensland (UQ), Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions and an Affiliated Professor in Conservation Science at The University of Copenhagen and is a celebration of participants attendance at the NYSF.

**Rotary Alumni Evening:** Monday 14 January 2019 (free event) is an opportunity for NYSF students to meet and network with alumni and Rotary members from around the country. The evening commences with a few presentations from NYSF alumni and Rotary followed by a light supper.

You will need to register for these events. To find out more information email nysf@nysf.edu.au

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**ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

**Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) to Rotary District 5020**

**West Coast USA and Canada in July 2019**

*Rotary Friendship Exchange is open to all Rotarians and partners.*

The exchange is for 2 weeks, with the team members being hosted with Rotarians from the west coast of USA and Canada, the area including Seattle and Vancouver Island.

You can apply to be part of a team of up to twelve, to participate in this great Rotary experience of culture, friendship and hospitality from 2 - 16 July 2019 in District 5020.

This is a very popular area for Australians to visit and could provide a great opportunity to visit other parts of USA and Canada either before or after the exchange – eg cruising the Inside Passage, seeing Alaska?

The incoming visit to our District by Rotarians from District 5020 is planned to occur in November 2019 and clubs of outbound team members are expected to host the inbound team, during their 14 - 15 days experience within District 9640.

Requests for a Team Membership Application should be directed to

RFE Chair Wendy Scarlett on 07 5524 4368 or 0407 130449 or email: wendy.scarlett51@gmail.com

Applications are to be submitted to the District Rotary Friendship Committee by Wednesday 7 November 2018

Rotary travel insurance will cover the exchange plus up to 60 days private travel

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**It’s Your Newsletter So Use This Space**

The deadline for submissions is the first week of the month with publication for the middle of the month.

Email the Editor – Jodie Shelley orungaj@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.rotary9640.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict9640