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# Rotary

## District 9640



# THE FOUR G'S GAZETTE

Monthly Newsletter of Rotary District 9640 | Edition 12 | June 2016

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## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



June is Rotary Fellowship Month. Rotary Fellowships are international, independently organised groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses and Rotaractors who share a common vocation or recreational interest.

The range of Fellowships is many and varied with Fellowships covering such diverse subjects such as 4X4 vehicles, editors and publishers, jazz and my favourite wine. The Fellowships are a means of extending our Rotary friendships and networks with a purely social emphasis on the area of interest. If there is not an existing Fellowship covering your area of interest then there are many Rotarians who will assist you to establish such a Fellowship.

Fellowships are there for the enjoyment of all. It is fitting that our final month of the Rotary year should be themed with a celebration of our diverse interests.

And speaking of diversity, the same should also be found in our Clubs. Our Clubs are intended to be representative of our communities (and just as diverse). Our Clubs should be inclusive rather than exclusive. Rotary is a means of uniting our community for the common good.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the Presidents and Clubs on their sterling effort this year to achieve the objects of Rotary – to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service, high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarians occupation as an opportunity to serve society. The objects include the application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life. Finally the objects of Rotary include the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service. Well done Rotarians of District 9640!

And finally Jeff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Leadership Team who have so ably conducted themselves in leadership positions during the last 12 months. We also thank all Rotarians who have supported us throughout this Rotary year. You have made us welcome to your Clubs, you have extended the hospitality of your communities to both Jeff and I, and you have empowered us to build goodwill and better friendships for the benefit of all concerned. Our deepest thanks to all.

Yours in Rotary

Rotary  
District 9640



Anne Egan

District Governor 2015/16

[anne@egansimpson.com.au](mailto:anne@egansimpson.com.au)

0418 489 836

## ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH



The month of June is Rotary Fellowships Month. The Rotary International website has many resources for those interested in fellowships, including –

- [Rotary Fellowships Handbook](#)
- [Rotary Fellowships flier](#)
- [Rotary Fellowships directory](#)
- [Rotary Fellowships Annual Report](#)
- [Rotary Fellowships PowerPoint](#)

Even if you don't find a fellowship you are interested in, you can start one ! You can get some great suggestions for doing just that via the following link –

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/empower-leaders/form-rotary-fellowship>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

Since the last newsletter, and to the end of May 2016, we are pleased to be able to welcome the following new members in to our District –

Club	Name
Broadbeach	Laurence Lynch
Coomera Valley	Jaeneen Cunningham
eClub of NextGen Qld.	Andrew Bradley
Parkwood	Kim Barrios
	Justine Marshall
Robina	Davina Hanson
Stanthorpe	Peter Klemm
	Melissa Pascoe
Surfers Paradise	John Wrigley

\* Clubs should note that the above information is extracted from our District Database record of members. Please add new members promptly to ensure they appear above.

## DAYS FOR GIRLS

The Days for Girls Gold Coast Team, which is run through the e-Club of NextGen is certainly starting to make a difference for girls and women in developing countries. It is also a prime example of how clubs within District 9640 are working together, with the Rotary Club of Ashmore also becoming involved.

For those who don't know, Days for Girls International provides sustainable and effective feminine hygiene solutions (in the form of hygiene kit) to girls and women worldwide. In doing this, not only do girls and women have access to hygienic ways of managing their period, but they don't have to miss school or work during their period. As a result, having these kits can very beneficial to a girl or woman's confidence, productivity and access to education. One of the ladies that received a kit in Honiara was a single mother who was not able to work for one week a month which is no longer the case.



The economic benefits to this family is that their income has now increased by 25% which has a significant impact on their standard of living. Whilst our aim is to help girls stay in school by providing them with a means of managing menstruation, it also has a huge benefit to women of all ages.

The Gold Coast Team is currently making plans for the next 12 months and even longer.

To date, there have been 177 kits donated to Honiara, Cambodia and, in a joint project with the Rotary Club of Ashmore, to girls and women in Timor Leste. The future for Days for Girls is set to only get bigger too. Expressions of interest have been received for more than 200 kits to be taken to Vanuatu and for further kits to be distributed through the Youth With a Mission (YWAM) Ships Program.

On a longer term basis, the aim is to work with one of these areas to provide them with the equipment and training necessary to be able to make their own kits. Volunteers from other Rotary Clubs are always welcome to be involved with the Days for Girls Gold Coast Team.

To find out more about Days for Girls, and how you can help, please contact Bruce and Kathy Rogers on 0414 818 741.

## INVITE TO FAREWELL DINNER



### Rotary Friendship Exchange



All are invited to a fun night to farewell the Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) team from Italy and the USA.

The event will take place on **Friday, 26 August** (starting at 6pm for 6:30pm) at the Italo-Australian Club in Clear Island Waters.

The cost is \$45 per person, including a two course dinner and a welcome drink of Prosecco and RSVPs and payment should be made by 15 August by visiting the Southport Rotary website (<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/7970>) and following the links.

Any enquiries to Bill Connolly ([big.ying@bigpond.com](mailto:big.ying@bigpond.com)) or Roz Irving ([rozirving@hotmail.com](mailto:rozirving@hotmail.com)).

There will be music and raffles on the night and money raised will be directed to the Fred Hollows Foundation.

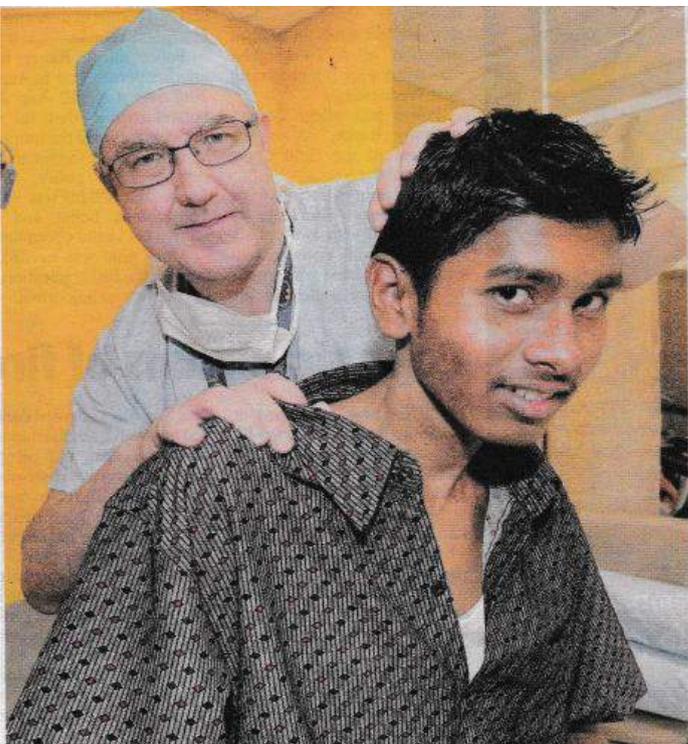
## ROMAC WELCOMES FIRST PATIENT AT GOLD COAST UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



Ajnesh Kumar arrived from Fiji on 24 May with his Stepfather Prem Chand. They were met at Coolangatta Airport by D9640 ROMAC Chair Jill Ellis and taken to hosts Peter and Heather Scott at Runaway Bay. We sincerely thank Heather and Peter for their hospitality.

Ajnesh had his first interview at Gold Coast University Hospital on the following day and arrangements were finalised with Clinical director and paediatric surgeon, Dr Deborah Bailey in the Paediatric Surgical Clinic for his procedure on Friday 27 May.

His Stepfather Prem accompanied him from Fiji and ROMAC was very impressed when the Hospital invited Prem to stay with Ajnesh post-op for the following four days of his hospital stay.



Ajnesh Kumar, 15, pictured at the Gold Coast University Hospital with surgeon Richard Thompson after his neck surgery. Picture: MIKE BATTERHAM

Ajnesh is 15 years old, and a very tall boy. He has suffered from a deformed neck since age 4. He has a very little movement in his stiff neck and was unable to hold his head straight or stand upright.

Paediatric surgeon, Dr Richard Thompson was humbled to have operated on Ajnesh whose injury was likely sustained during birth.

Had his condition gone uncorrected he might have struggled to get work or lead a normal life. Ajnesh's goal as relayed to Dr Thompson was simple – to get a job and get a wife ! He wanted to be a man and gain his independence. What was a fairly minor deformity was a severe handicap to him.

On a related note, Jill finishes her three year term as District ROMAC Chair on 30 June and the Committee is thrilled to welcome our incoming President Brian Pearson.

Brian is an extremely keen worker for needy charities and we wish him a very successful and achieving role as D9640 ROMAC Chairman.

## 2016 DISTRICT CHANGEOVER

Time is running out to book for the District Changeover lunch to be held on Sunday 3 July at the Southport Golf Club starting at 11:30am.

District Governor Anne Egan and District Governor Elect Michael Irving warmly invite Rotarians and partners to attend this special event in the District calendar.

Cost is \$35pp for lunch. A cash bar is also available and RSVP is required by 24 June.

Bookings can be made at [www.trybooking.com/203689](http://www.trybooking.com/203689)

Any enquiries can be directed to Marion Jones via email on [marion.r.jones@gmail.com](mailto:marion.r.jones@gmail.com).



## CYCLE FOR LIFE ON 31 JULY !



Supported by The Rotary Club of Kingscliff and Northern NSW Local Health District, The Cycle for Life is a fun social cycle aimed at raising awareness within the community about organ donation.

The event is on Sunday 31st July and registrations commence at 7am. It will be held at Salt Central Park, Kingscliff, NSW and anyone can join in the day's fun with options for all ages and abilities.

There are three fully supported options to cycle (or walk) through the beautiful Northern NSW countryside.

Depending on your cycling level or fitness, choose from the following –

- 100km road cycle
- 50km road cycle
- 5km family cycle/walk along the beach path

If you can't participate in any of the above activities, you're most welcome to join us for the BBQ, stalls and talks with organ donation recipients afterwards.

Cost: It's Free! All we ask is for you to learn about Organ Donation & talk with your friends and family.

Pre register online at [www.cycleforlife.com.au](http://www.cycleforlife.com.au)

**Donate Life cycle jerseys** - A limited number will be available for purchase on the day. The cost of the jerseys will be \$40. Jerseys must be paid for in cash on the day. In addition a limited number of complimentary donate life T shirts for cycle path cyclists and walkers will be provided on a first come first served basis on the day of registration.

## LET'S DO LUNCH !

Parkwood Rotary came up trumps again, with just over 100 people, Rotarians and friends attending our 'Let's Do Lunch' fundraiser.

There was a party-like atmosphere in the grand Ballroom at the ArundelHills Country Club. The room was beautifully set and was the ideal venue for a delicious lunch accompanied by live music and a buzz of excitement throughout the raffle draws and auction items.

Margaret Grummitt member of Parkwood, ex Councillor and now Consulate-General of the Philippines, captivated the audience as she recounted her determined journey to provide a place, similar to the concept of 'The Men's Shed', where women can meet and be connected within the community. Through her diverse working life, Margaret has an in-depth understanding of the needs within the local community and a myriad of connections, plus the drive to make it all happen. Be ready for her to be in touch with you!



The end result, was that Parkwood Rotary donated \$4,000 towards the centre, which will go a long way to help Margaret's goal a reality.

A big thank you to the organising committee driven by Leigh Avuri, assisted by President Hilli Reaburn, Justine Marshall, Sharyn Taghoede and Sue Weaver, with Teresa Dawson taking charge of the on-line bookings. Mark Kent was a great MC, accomplished auctioneer and motivator for raffle ticket sales along with Debbie Frugtniet and Kathy Jones.

A special thank you to Past District Governor Sandra Doumany for attending and her generous auction prize donated to the Women's Centre as well as all the wonderful members and guests who made the day such a success!

## KAYE TITMARSH TO MC THE 2016 RI COMBINED ZONE INSTITUTE



Dynamic young Rotarian Kaye Titmarsh will be Mistress of Ceremonies at the 2016 RI Combined Zone Institute in Penrith from September 1-3.

Institute Convener RI Director Elect Noel Trevaskis invited Kaye to play the key MC role to further underline the immense talent in an emerging group of young Rotary leaders throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Kaye is a member of the Rotary eClub of NextGen, Queensland, and has already developed an impressive Rotary 'pedigree' within a range of key youth programs –

- A former Rotary Youth Exchange student to Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Heavily involved in District 9640's RYPEN and RYLA camps – as camp coordinator and Rotarian mentor respectively.
- A key member of the District 9640 Membership Committee.

Career wise, Kaye is an administrative officer within the Ethical Standards Unit of the Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney General – and is Manager of the LEGO Education Centre in Brisbane. Mention of the LEGO Education Centre always creates interest and Kaye is quick to emphasise that it IS a real place!

As a young professional and community leader, Kaye has a real passion for Rotary and firmly believes in the power of Rotary programs and Rotary's capacity to change the world 'one person at a time'.

## GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY SATELLITE CLUB INDUCTIONS



The Griffith University Satellite Club were a very happy group on the 9 June 2016 with 22 members and guests attending a meeting to see 6 new members inducted into the Club by District Governor Elect, Michael Irving.

It is a text book example of the benefits of a Satellite Club being sponsored by a Rotary Club. They have their own Board, Meeting Agenda & Projects & they also support the Sponsor Club Projects. This has made the Southport Club much stronger and increased their membership, which is what all Clubs strive to achieve.

The 'Grandfather' of the Satellite Club, Past District Governor, Graham Jones is to be congratulated for his initiative and hard work to bring to fruition the Charter of the Club, and keeping a close eye on their progress. There is plenty of Rotary education and the members are embracing all with a passion.

As District Extension Chair, Sandra Doumany is looking forward to the new Rotary year and helping more Clubs in our District 9640 with more Satellite Clubs.

## RI PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



British writer and Royal Air Force pilot Roald Dahl was also an avid photographer who carried his beloved Zeiss camera on his many adventures. At a time when each photograph had to be laboriously developed by hand, on film or glass plate negatives, he amassed a collection of hundreds of images. In later years, these photographs served as a visual record of his travels, a way to document his experiences and share them with others. Yet he always spoke of his memories as being far more vivid than the photographs could ever reflect. So many events and experiences, he said, were simply impossible to capture; they could not be adequately conveyed in images or words.

Language may fail, and photographs fade; minds are fallible, and details are lost. But some experiences, as Dahl said, never dim; they stand out in our memories, even after decades, as a wall of flame. They rear up forever over the landscape of our past, dividing our lives into what came before and what came after.

That metaphor has stayed with me throughout the past year as I have traveled the world for Rotary. For indeed, this entire year has stood, and will always stand, as a wall of flame in my mind, dividing my life into before and after.

When I think back over these 12 months, I see a bright kaleidoscope of images cascading before my eyes, day after day, week after week. The anxious parents in Chandigarh, India, hovering at the bedside of the child recovering from lifesaving heart surgery. The bright flags of Nepal fluttering over an entire village that had been rebuilt after the devastating earthquake. The feeling of awe in St. Peter's Square at the Jubilee of Rotarians celebrated by Pope Francis. Joyful gatherings around the world, in so many countries, in so many languages – with friends I had never before met, my brothers and sisters in Rotary.

To serve as president of Rotary International is a colossal undertaking, one that cannot be truly conveyed in images or words. It is a wall of flame that will burn forever in my memory, dancing with light, shifting in shadow.

A thousand images jostle together in my mind, a thousand recollections, a thousand emotions. Together, they form a great mosaic; together, they show the bright and glorious work of your hands.

As this Rotary year draws to a close, I am prouder than ever to be part of this great organization: one that makes the world not poorer, but richer; replaces despair with hope; raises up those whom fate has brought low; and is a gift to so many, while allowing each of us to *Be a Gift to the World*.

K.R. (Ravi) Ravindran  
President 2015/16



## HIGHLIGHTS OF SEOUL CONVENTION



You can watch, view and read all the key moments from the Seoul convention by visiting -

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/seoul>

## ONWARDS TO ATLANTA IN 2017 !



In 2017 the Rotary International Convention will be held in Atlanta, Georgia and will also be a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rotary Foundation. You can find out more by visiting the convention website -

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/atlanta>

## DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your diary for the following key dates, including training dates. Don't forget you can get more details on these events as well as what else is going on, via the District Website.

Date	Details (Location)
01 Jul – 03 Jul 16	Ballina Fine Wine & Food Festival For information visit <a href="http://www.ballinafinewineandfoodfestival.com.au/">http://www.ballinafinewineandfoodfestival.com.au/</a>
03 Jul 16	District Changeover 2016 (Southport Golf Club) For bookings visit <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/203689">www.trybooking.com/203689</a>
31 Jul 16	Cycle for Life (Salt Central Park, Kingscliff) Pre register online at <a href="http://www.cycleforlife.com.au">www.cycleforlife.com.au</a>
26 Aug 16	Rotary Friendship Exchange Farewell (Italo-Australian Club, Clear Island Waters) For information, visit <a href="http://portal.clubrunner.ca/7970">http://portal.clubrunner.ca/7970</a> and follow the links.

## EARLY DATES FOR 2017

Add the key dates below to your Club calendars for the coming year -

Date	Details (Location)
11 Mar 17	President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) – Lismore Workers Sports Club
12 Mar 17	District Assembly (St John's College, Woodlawn, Lismore)
05 May – 07 May 17	District Conference

