THE FOUR G’S GAZETTE

Monthly Newsletter of Rotary District 9640 | Edition 11 | May 2016

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It gives a true appreciation of the extent of our Rotary family.

Enjoy the month of May as we move towards the conclusion of the Rotary year. Let’s be mindful of our achievement to date and our need to continue in the wonderful work that we do.

Yours in Rotary

Anne Egan
District Governor 2015/16
anne@egansimpson.com.au
0418 489 836

YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

The month of May is designated as ‘Youth Service Month’ to focus on all Rotary activities that support the development of young people up to the age of 30

Rotary International’s Structured Programs for Youth Service are –

- Interact
- Rotaract
- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
- Youth Exchange

You can read more about each program by clicking on the links above. You can also find out more about these programs (and others), including closing dates and applications forms, in our own District by visiting the District website –

http://rotary9640.org/SitePage/youth-services

A belated welcome to May which is Youth Service Month in the world of Rotary International. We have had a wonderful month already, particularly honouring our youth at District 9640 Conference in Murwillumbah on the weekend of 6, 7 & 8 May 2016.

We thank the RYLA youth for their involvement in the Conference as well as the other young speakers. We congratulate the attendees at our Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment during May.

The future of our organisation and indeed our country depends upon the quality and nature of our youth. When I meet and talk with the generation of the under thirties I am filled with inspiration as to our future. They have at heart core values of service. They do things differently to the way that we do. They will benefit from our mentoring and guidance if proffered.

We need to form relationships with the youth in our community and encourage them to become part of our wonderful organisation. This is an opportunity that cannot be missed. How many of our Clubs have young Alumni who have been sponsored through the various youth programs? Please take advantage of these Alumnus. They want to repay your Club for the opportunities that you have provided for them. It is up to Rotarians however to build the relationship.

In addition this month the Rotary International Convention will be celebrated in Seoul Korea with a Young Leaders Seminar to take place immediately beforehand and during the Conference. We offer our support to all those attending the Convention and look forward to the return of Rotarians to our District newly refreshed, inspired and motivated to provide bigger and better service to our respective communities.

International Convention is an opportunity to celebrate and network with fellow Rotarians from around the world.
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballina-On-Richmond</td>
<td>Andrea Laszczyk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boonah</td>
<td>Bruce Trevena</td>
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<td>Broadbeach</td>
<td>Andrew McTaggart</td>
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<td>Burleigh Heads Rotary</td>
<td>Scott Browning</td>
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<td>Coomera Valley</td>
<td>Evita Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed</td>
<td>Peter Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>eClub of NextGen</td>
<td>A. Graham Douglass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iluka-Woombah</td>
<td>Christine Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mermaid Beach</td>
<td>Jennifer Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt Warning AM</td>
<td>Jack Carr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murwillumbah</td>
<td>Scout Symons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murwillumbah Central</td>
<td>Timothy Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nerang</td>
<td>Yoko McMahon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summerland Sunrise</td>
<td>Warwick Binney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfers Paradise</td>
<td>Sheila Ponting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfers Sunrise</td>
<td>Joanne Gorman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenterfield</td>
<td>Skye Stapleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>Caitlyn Marstella</td>
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* 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.

CELEBRATING WORLD MALARIA DAY

Griffith University, Rotary District 9640 and the Rotary Satellite Club of Southport-Griffith University hosted a most informative evening to update the audience on what is happening in malaria research.

In particular, the audience learnt about the clinical trials being carried at the Institute of Glycomics to produce a sustainable malaria vaccine.

District 9640 “Rotary Against Malaria” Chair, Hon Sam Doumany was the MC for the evening, and introduced the following Guest Speakers –

- **Professor Michael Good AO**
  *Principal Research Leader, Institute for Glycomics*

- **Professor Dennis Shanks**
  *Director, Australian Army Malaria Institute*

- **Dr Chris Davis**
  *General Manager, Institute for Glycomics*

- **Dr Danielle Stanisic**
  *Research Fellow, Institute for Glycomics*

- **Mr Aloysious Ssemaganda**
  *PhD student with “Malaria Project from Uganda”*

Hon Stuart Robert MP, Member for Fadden officially opened the evening with a well-informed talk on malaria and his experience with it in the Armed Forces.

Professor Michael Good and Dr Danielle Stanisic spoke about the exciting progress being made in their malaria investigations. Their studies involve the creation of a potential vaccine and clinical trials with both rodents and humans. They are the only investigators in Australia doing research with a vaccine which has the potential to eliminate malaria in the world.

Danielle will soon be travelling to Seoul for the Rotary International Convention. At the convention she will operate a booth designed to inform Rotarians worldwide about the extent and power of their work to develop and evaluate a Malaria vaccine. Rotarians in our District are very proud of Danielle who is a former National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) awardee and a charter member of the Satellite Club.

PDG Graham Jones, PDG Sandy Doumany, District Foundation Chair Neil Jones & Sam Doumany are working very hard to support and help with fundraising to ensure the continuity of the very valuable scientific investigations in malaria that are being carried out by this dedicated team at Griffith University.

If you can help with fundraising for this important malaria work, please contact Graham Jones on 0406 040 038 or Sam Doumany on 0428 716 203.
NEW NORTH GOLD COAST PROBUS CLUB ACCREDITED

On 26 April the new North Gold Coast Probus Club received their accreditation with 56 charter members.

The Club is the 3rd Probus Club sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hope Island the first established being the Hope Island club in 2006-2007 followed by the Sanctuary Cove Club. Both these Clubs have a capped membership of 120 and waiting lists.

Needless to say Chairman of the Board, PDG Douglas Geekie was very pleased and enjoyed seeing growing Probus Membership.

Congratulations to David and Lorraine Moyes for all their hard work to bring the project to fruition. Lorraine is the first elected President of the Probus Club.

PARKWOOD’S SUPER COOPER NIGHT!

What a super sensational night Parkwood Rotary had on 19 April 2016, raising money to help provide support for Cooper, a little boy known as 'Super Cooper' who suffers from Trisomy 13 (Patau Syndrome).

What Steve and his team (Kerry, Paul and Sue from Parkwood Rotary, and Cooper’s mum, Tania) did was amazing.

On the night, we heard information from Cooper’s therapist’s, his mum Tanya, and were treated to a short video showcasing Cooper in his day-to-day life.

BJs Restaurant at Arundel looked sensational, festooned with balloons, banners and stars. The room was filled to capacity, with 140 people, who brought cash and EFTPOS cards to contribute to the event.

The night was filled with raffles, a silent auction and a live auction, which meant bargains for some bidders and great prices achieved for items that will take pride-of-place (straight to the pool room).

Amongst these were boxing gloves signed by Jeff Fenech; cricket gloves signed by Ian Healy and Adam Gilchrist, and signed 2007 rugby league and Bulldog’s jerseys being among the top bidding items.

In addition to the fundraising, there were a few surprises for the family. Cooper received a brand new bike, to help him achieve his goal of independent bike riding. The family was also given a portrait photo shoot voucher and a cash donation of $200.

The generosity of Parkwood Rotary and community before and on the night resulted in the club being able to donate $7,000 for Cooper's on-going therapies.

Cupcakes for desert were the highlight for some and many people left the evening clutching their wins and taking happy memories with them. (Thanks to all the cooks)

Well done Parkwood Rotary!

QUEENSLAND BRAIN INSTITUTE

PDG Graham Jones, PDG Sandra Doumany and Sam Doumany (Patron of the Human Brain Research Program) attended an early breakfast seminar on April 21 at the Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) associated with the University of Queensland.

Professor Peter Silburn presented an exciting update of progress by his 250-strong research team in pioneering and developing efforts to deal with neurological diseases through the application of Deep Brain Stimulation.

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QUEENSLAND BRAIN INSTITUTE

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Learning of Mental Health challenges first hand in so many ways pervades the collective persona in a positive way.

The $33,000 raised from individual members, clubs and the tour will support a 3 year project researching Mental Health valued at $87,000, topped up with supporting contributions from Australian Rotary Health and the university involved.

Congratulations to all involved!

STANTHORPE & ASHMORE DOING GOOD IN TIMOR

The Rotary Club’s of Stanthorpe have worked together to put a new roof on a dormitory for school girls in Timor Leste. They also re-plumbed the building, cleaned the bathrooms and built a new kitchen area for the girls.

The before and after shots below showcase this amazing transformation. Well done to all!

TASSIE TAG ALONG TOUR RAISES $33K FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

A joint project of the Rotary Club of George Town, Tasmania and eClub NextGen, the Tassie Tag Along Tour raised over $33k during February and March to help fund an Australian Rotary Health scholarship on research in to Mental Health.

Marvellous how a little time makes a great tour even more significant and magical especially when shared with brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous likeminded people.

Magic in so many ways.

This state of the art experimental research is being used to treat Parkinson’s disease, Dystonia, Tourette syndrome and obsessive compulsive disorder. Some of their recent research also suggests that deep-brain-stimulation may have application to a number of other neuropsychiatric disorders like depression and anxiety.

The results of this high-profile research demonstrate clearly the value of Rotary District 9640 ’s financial support of the program and those lucky enough to have attended the District Conference would have had the pleasure of hearing Professor Silburn speak.
Below are some images from the fantastic 2016 District Conference in Murwillumbah. All photos are thanks to Ingrid Jewson of the eClub NextGen and even more images can be found by visiting [https://is.gd/OJvSUG](https://is.gd/OJvSUG). Enjoy!
IMAGES FROM THE 2016 DISTRICT CONFERENCE (continued)
IMAGES FROM THE 2016 DISTRICT CONFERENCE (continued)
Some years ago, in the Kano plains of Kenya, a well-meaning development agency took on the task of improving water availability to a rural community. Committees were formed, meetings were held, and the local people were consulted. The main need the community identified was improved delivery of water for irrigation and livestock. A plan to meet this need was created, and the work was soon begun, exactly as the community representatives had requested.

Yet once construction began, it was met by immediate protest from groups of community women, who came to the site and physically blocked workers from building diversion channels. Upon further investigation, the agency realized that the water it was diverting for farming came from the only source, for dozens of families, of water for cooking, drinking, and washing. The entire project had to be scrapped.

Why? Because it had never occurred to a single member of the all-male team in charge to consult the local women. At every stage, it was assumed that the men knew the needs, spoke for the community, and were able to represent it. Clearly, this was far from the case. The women knew the needs of the community, and its resources, far better – but their opinion was never sought.

We have had women in Rotary for only the last quarter of our history, and it is no coincidence that those years have been by far our most productive. In 1995, only 1 in 20 Rotarians were women; today, that number has risen to 1 in 5. It is progress, but it is not enough. It is only common sense that if we want to represent our communities, we must reflect our communities, and if we want to serve our communities fully, we must be sure that our communities are fully represented in Rotary.

Rotary’s policy on gender equality is absolutely clear. Yet nearly one-fifth of our clubs still refuse to admit women, usually by claiming that they simply cannot find women who are qualified for membership.

I would say that any Rotarian who makes this argument, or believes it, himself lacks the two most basic qualifications for Rotary membership: honesty and good sense.

A club that shuts out women shuts out much more than half the talent, half the ability, and half the connections it should have. It closes out the perspectives that are essential to serving families and communities effectively. It damages not only its own service but our entire organization, by reinforcing the stereotypes that limit us the most. It leads our partners to take us less seriously, and it makes all of Rotary less attractive to potential members, especially the young people who are so crucial to our future.

To tolerate discrimination against women is to doom our organization to irrelevance. We cannot pretend that we still live in Paul Harris’ time, nor would he ever want us to. For, as he said, “The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again.” Let us see to it that the story we write in Rotary is one of which he would be proud.

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

Korea is playing host to Rotary’s largest event of the year, its annual convention. More than 42,000 Rotary members from over 100 countries will come together this month to celebrate service, exchange ideas, and relax among friends at unforgettable concerts and social events.

Even if you are not attending in person you can follow along with regular updates and live coverage. For more information on how you can do that, please refer to the link below –

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details (Location)</th>
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<tr>
<td>27 May 16</td>
<td>Annual ROMAC Trivia Challenge&lt;br&gt;Contact Phil Rosenborg (0412 374 363 or <a href="mailto:philtini@hotmail.com">philtini@hotmail.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 May 16</td>
<td>Trivia in Tenterfield&lt;br&gt;Email <a href="mailto:karen@tenterfieldinsuranceagencies.com">karen@tenterfieldinsuranceagencies.com</a> for more information</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 May 16</td>
<td>Youth Exchange Program – District interviews (Robina High School)</td>
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<tr>
<td>04 Jun 16</td>
<td>Southport Rotary Race Day (Gold Coast Turf Club)&lt;br&gt;Contact Ann Penfold (0413 806 040 or <a href="mailto:ann@drasafety.com.au">ann@drasafety.com.au</a>)</td>
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<td>11 Jun 16</td>
<td>Let’s Do Lunch – Raising Funds for Womens Community Centre in Labrador&lt;br&gt;For bookings visit <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/LNKH">www.trybooking.com/LNKH</a></td>
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<td>12 Jun 16</td>
<td>Quarterly Leadership Meeting (Ocean Shores)&lt;br&gt;24th Great Duck Race (Richmond River, Ballina)&lt;br&gt;2nd Annual Country Music Muster &amp; Family Fun Day (Jubilee Park, Beaudesert)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Jun 16</td>
<td>Give Me 5 Charity Ball (Softitel Hotel, Broadbeach)</td>
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<td>03 Jul 16</td>
<td>District Changeover 2016 (Southport Golf Club)&lt;br&gt;For bookings visit <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/203689">www.trybooking.com/203689</a></td>
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