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Welcome to all Rotarians and the family of Rotary and welcome also to visitors to our District 9640.

November is Rotary Foundation Month, a time when all Rotarians consider their personal giving to the Foundation. In addition to this month all Clubs consider recognising a community leader with a Paul Harris follow and all Clubs also allocate one or more meetings to the Rotary Foundation and its programs and the education of the Club’s Members in respect thereof.

To paraphrase our Rotary District Chair Neil Jones, “contributing to the Foundation is a most effective way to be a gift to the world”.

I am of the view that the Rotary Foundation is the vehicle by which so much of our good work is done. Whilst the Foundation itself is supported principally by the generosity of Rotarians worldwide, it then provides a resource from which those same Rotarians can access funds to achieve the outcomes that they wish to achieve in projects both locally and internationally.

So much good has been achieved by our own District 9640 as a result of Foundation grants both past and present. In addition of course we have the fruits of the incredible, unbelievable and utterly fantastic End Polio Now campaign. There can be no better way to illustrate the successful outcomes of the Rotary Foundation then by looking to the End Polio Now program.

Congratulations to all Clubs in District 9640 who have organised movie events to raise funds for the End Polio Now campaign.

During October there were five screenings of what was an excellent movie “Bridge of Spies” within our District with over 400 people attending and $4,200 raised for the Polio Plus campaign. Of course this will be matched two for one by the Gates Foundation thereby transforming our $4,200 fundraiser into $12,600. What a brilliant outcome!

During November a number of our Clubs in District 9640 will be presented with various banners and certificates of achievement relating to their efforts to support the Rotary Foundation during the 2014/2015 Rotary year. Well done to all.

This is the 98th year of the Rotary Foundation and we approach the centenary thereof in 2017. The sole purpose of the Foundation when established was “for the purpose of doing good in the world”. In 1928 the Foundation became a distinct entity within Rotary International.

Since the first donation of $26.50 in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totally more than one billion dollars. These monies have been used for the various programs of the Foundation including ambassadorial scholarships, group study exchange, matching grants, 3H grants, the Polio Plus program, Rotary Peace Fellowships and in recent years, District Global and Packaged Grants.

Rotarians in District 9640 are proud of the success of the Rotary Foundation and continue to provide generous support for the work that it does. On behalf of the beneficiaries of the various programs I congratulate and thank all of the Rotarians in District 9640 for their generosity and their foresight in the support of the Foundation.

I do ask that all our Rotarians, if they have not already done so, continue to lobby their local federal member (of all persuasions) to seek the member’s support in overturning the government’s decision to reduce the Australian people’s commitment to the End Polio campaign.

Have a wonderful month and enjoy the opportunity to do so much more good in the world during this Rotary Foundation month of November.

Yours in Rotary

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

November is Foundation Month and it is pleasing to report this month on an outline of the significant benefit District 9640 has already received in 2015/2016 from Foundation Programs.

Global Grants

We have joined with other districts, clubs and individual donors from throughout Australia and New Zealand to contribute to a grant which will enable ROMAC to undertake 12 lifesaving/life enhancing operations for children from the South Pacific Islands as well as vital training for health professionals from those areas.

This project which has a total budget of US$377,612 has attracted US$165,704 matching funds from the world fund. Our contribution was US$5,000 of District Designated Funds.

Significant District Designated Funds remain available to support global grant projects. Please contact District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair, Neil Jones for support in developing appropriate grant applications.

Peace Fellowships

We have again been successful in nominating a candidate for a Peace Fellowship. Congratulations to Techa Beaumont and her sponsor club, Byron Bay on her selection as one of this year’s awardees. The Foundation world fund will meet the full cost of Techa’s Peace Fellowship.

District Grants

We have received US$33,659 (50% of 2015/2016 DDF) for district grants and on this occasion the exchange rate (1.30 at the time) worked in our favour with A$43,757 deposited to our account. These funds have been allocated to support following District or club projects -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program / Club</th>
<th>Amount / Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Study Exchange</td>
<td>$14,690 to fund our GSE with District 7390 Pennsylvania, USA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alstonville</td>
<td>$1,000 to assist funding scholarships including for a student with a disability to attend University, TAFE College or Trade Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadwater - Southport</td>
<td>$2,145 to assist training and support for sustainable development ambassadors in Guatemala and El Salvador.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casino</td>
<td>$2,145 to support provision of art display panels for Casino Art Group and wider community use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen Innes</td>
<td>$1,400 to support provision of Food Plant Solutions field guides in Indonesian Bahasa for distribution in District 3410 Indonesia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Coast</td>
<td>$1,650 to assist project to provide an all-purpose pavilion, to be known as the Rotary Educational Pavilion, at the Gold Coast Botanical Gardens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Island</td>
<td>$2,145 to support project to provide medical equipment and fit-out Rumah Sehat medical clinic in Bali.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingscliff</td>
<td>$2,145 to assist with upgrading of facilities in Ed Parker Rotary Park in conjunction with the local council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkwood</td>
<td>$2,145 to support provision of classroom repairs and new toilet facilities at Taladong School, Camalig, Philippines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southport</td>
<td>$2,145 to assist provision of improved sanitation facilities at Bairo Pite Clinic, Dili, Timor Leste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfers Sunrise</td>
<td>$2,145 to support the freighting of 276 wheelchairs to the Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka for distribution in that country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenterfield</td>
<td>$2,000 in support of “Sharkcage” program to provide a framework to educate women and young girls in how to deal with and stop inappropriate and violent behaviour in relationships.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Burleigh Heads Club has recently submitted an application for support with shipping a container of material to Timor and a proposal to support maternal and child health is also being formulated on behalf of multiple Gold Coast Clubs which, if approved, will utilise a good proportion of our currently unallocated contingency of $5,857.

However, please continue to discuss project funding needs with District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair, Neil Jones as there is still some scope to assist.

Call to Action

November is Rotary Foundation Month, a time when –

• all Rotarians should consider their personal giving to the Foundation
• all clubs should allocate at least one meeting to the Foundation & its programs
• all clubs should consider recognising someone in your community with a PHF.

Contributing to The Rotary Foundation is a most effective way to “be a gift to the World”

Next Month: Rotary Foundation Contributions in Focus
Country music ‘royalty’ was in attendance at the recent launch of the Rotary Club of Ballina’s 2016 Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival, to be held over the June Long Weekend (10-12 June 2016). Australian country music star Tania Kernaghan (pictured with Lucky the Rotary Duck) made a surprise appearance at the Rotary Club of Ballina’s Family Day on Sunday, 4 October, 2015. Ms Kernaghan is an Ambassador for the Music Festival and will be a feature artist at the 2016 event. The Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival has been held each year since 2011, but did not take place this year. The Rotary Club of Ballina has decided to take on the Festival from next year as a community project.

Last year’s X-Factor finalists and regulars at the Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival, Brothers3, (pictured), also made a guest appearance at the Rotary Club of Ballina’s Family Day. Both Tania and Brothers3 entertained the large crowd that had gathered by the Richmond River to enjoy craft stalls, face painting, a colouring-in contest and displays by local service organizations. The highlight of the Family Day was the running of the 23rd annual Great Duck Race. Funds raised by this year’s Great Duck Race and the Rotary Family Day will support the Ballina Jet Rescue Boat, Marine Rescue and the Biala Special School for disabled youth.

SPECIAL AWARD FOR JUDY LEE

Recently Stanthorpe Rotary Past President Fran Hodgson and PDG Wendy Scarlett had the pleasure of presenting Judy Lee with a Rotary International Spouse / Partner Service Award.

There are only 100 of these awarded each year by the RI President.

Judy has been involved with PDG David Lee over many years in many Rotary projects in Fiji, attended many International Conventions and District Conferences as RI Representative and as GSE Team leader and partner for an all female team. David and Judy and a wonderful Rotary Team and the award is fitting recognition of Judy’s service and commitment to helping others.

BURLEIGH HEADS TAKES A ‘FLEXIBLE’ APPROACH TO MEETINGS

Burleigh Heads Rotary is working on new approaches to meetings.

Recently, the Club had a taste of yoga on the Burleigh Heads beach and everyone voted it a big hit.
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

During October we were pleased to be able to welcome the following new members in to our District –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glen Innes</td>
<td>Neale Royal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra Royal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Coast Rotary</td>
<td>Brian Pearson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Island</td>
<td>David Crisafulli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt Warning AM</td>
<td>Sarah Irvine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Judy Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barry Soley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murwillumbah</td>
<td>Robyn Dowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murwillumbah Central</td>
<td>Amanda de Fina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkwood</td>
<td>Tim Garrod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allan Richardson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE TO MILAN

The D9640 Rotary Friendship Exchange team gathered in Milan on Monday September 14th. The team consisted of (team leader) Bill and Lynne Connelly (Southport), Therese Crollick (Ballina), Elva Fitzell (Alstonville), Rick and Ingrid Jewson (Next Gen e- Club), Doug and Joy Ridley (Lismore West).

We were met by the dynamic Eleanora Sciarrone and D2041 Rotarians and taken to her elegant apartment. After a magnificent lunch, our first taste of the style of Milanese Rotarian’s hospitality we were shown around central Milan.

We had four more days in Milan we were shown the major sights, explored World Expo, attended Rotary meetings, presented DG Anne’s letter to the DG and saw an impressive Rotary project, in a low cost housing area aimed at upskilling refugees.

Day six saw us in Cremona, famous for making the best violins in the world. After lunch our new hosts, Antonio and friends of D2050 showed us the Duomo (Cathedral), a Violin Museum and a famous violin maker.

The next two days we walked through a Ducal Palace, mini Versailles style gardens and a beautifully ornate church in Colorno; the world heritage town of Sabionetta, saw magnificent paintings, frescos and artistic tiled floors. We observed a driver training facility supported by Rotary. We visited historic Mantova with an amazing museum, had a sumptuous dinner.

On day nine we were welcomed by Francesca and our third hosts in Brescia. In the afternoon it was off to the Roman ruins that places Brescia on the UN World Heritage map. We attended Rotary dinners of different Clubs both nights.

On our final day over an excellent lunch we met DG Omar of D2050, visited the Car Museum that contains cars memo of Mille Miglia and visited White Cross headquarters. We changed into our formal clothes for our final Rotary dinner.

We all grew close to the wonderful Rotarians who hosted us and were immensely grateful for the opportunity to meet and get to know their historic country. We intend to respond appropriately when Rotarians from D2041 and D2050 visit our District in 2016.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL DAY 2015

Rotarians from the Rotary Clubs of Lismore and Lismore West joined with community volunteers on Sunday the 18th of October to take part in Graffiti Removal Day. In Lismore six sites were cleaned or painted, totaling more than 250 sq m.
GRAFFITI REMOVAL DAY 2015
- continued from previous page -

Graffiti Removal Day commenced in 2012 as a NSW statewide project between Rotary Down Under and the NSW Government. This year across NSW over 400 sites were cleaned and it is estimated that over 24,000 sq m of graffiti was removed. This is a record for Australia’s largest graffiti removal in one day. Graffiti removal costs the NSW Government, local government authorities and private business millions of dollars each year.

It is pleasing to know that after Rotary’s efforts, community volunteers have come forward offering to paint out graffiti that appear on sites cleaned during Graffiti Removal Day.

HOPE ISLAND CELEBRATES PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP

The meeting on 4 November saw the presentation of the Club’s 2015 Pride of Workmanship Award, recognising employees for their commitment to excellence in their role.

Invitations had been sent out several weeks earlier, and organisations from as far as Nerang and Helensvale had submitted their nominations, for team members ranging from trainees to senior managers. From a list of 15, six finalists were chosen –

1. Greg Aspeling from Entamico Business Brokerage Sales
2. Tamara Frazer from Gold Coast Cabs HQ, Helensvale
3. Caitlyn Dunn from IGA Village Market, Sanctuary Cove
4. Soraya Tigue from Zarraffa’s Coffee, Hope Island
5. Nick Nides from Ioesco Cucina, Sanctuary Cove
6. Sam Dreghorn from Links Hope Island

After personal interviews, the eventual winner selected was a master and a model of his profession - Nick Nides who is the Head Waiter at Ioesco Cucina. A special encouragement award was given to 16 year old Soraya.

The guest speaker for the morning was Kenton Campbell, Founder and CEO of Zarraffa’s, himself a multi-award winner for business excellence. His words were inspirational – and his great contribution to Rotary was recognised with the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship.

RIDE FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

After the successful bike ride from Glen Innes to Goondiwindi last April, Glen Innes Rotary is again conducting a fun 4-day bike ride.

From the scenic mountains of New England to the lush Tweed River Valley at Murwillumbah, funds raised will go to Australian Rotary Health for Rural Mental Health Research.

The ride starts at Tenterfield on Tuesday 3 May 2016 and finishes at Murwillumbah on Friday 6 May. Riders finish in time to attend the District Conference.

Overnight camping is available at Liston, Woodenbong and Kyogle or motels if preferred. All meals are fully catered while you relax round a campfire.

Go to www.gtoc.com.au for details, and to register your interest.
INAUGURAL ALUMNI DINNER

The District 9640 Inaugural Alumni Dinner will be held on Saturday, 27 February 2016 starting at 6:30pm for a 7pm Dinner at the Southport Golf Club. Guest speaker for the evening will be the Hon Stuart Robert M.P. the Federal Member for Fadden since 2007. Stuart is also a former team member of a Group Study Exchange (GSE) to Turkey.

Invitations are extended to all alumni (such as former YEP, RYLA students etc) as well as other Rotarians in the District.

Cost is $35 per head, with registration and payment online via http://www.trybooking.com/JIMU.

Enquiries can be made to Sandra Doumany by contacting her on 0414 150 240 or emailing srmd@bigpond.net.au.

DANCING IN MY DREAMS – CONFRONTING THE SPECTRE OF POLIO

Dancing in My Dreams is a book by Kerry Highley that details the disease of polio and its treatment; the scientific endeavour that led to the discovery of the poliovirus; and the studies in virology and immunology that culminated in the production of a polio vaccine.

It highlights the experiences of patients and the voices of survivors, revealing how ethnicity, class, age and gender all mediated an individual’s reaction to having polio, which included fear, rejection, denial and anger.

A special deal exists for every Rotarian in Australia and NZ who can purchase the book with a 20% discount. Even better news is that 5% of the book sale proceeds will be donated to the Rotary End Polio now campaign.

The book’s RRP $39.95 and to receive your 20% discount visit the website below and use the following voucher code when ordering (S-HIGHLEY_20%). Postage within Australia will be free.

http://publishing.monash.edu/books/dmd-9781922235848.html

The offer expires 31 December 2015 so get in quick!

PALM BEACH ANTIQUES FAIR

For the 28th time, The Rotary Club of Palm Beach is gearing up for our huge Antiques Fair at Jupiters Casino. Our dealers tell us frequently it is one of the biggest and best fairs in Australia. We do our best… The funds raised have allowed us over its history to distribute over a million dollars to local and overseas. We help the hospitals with specialised medical equipment for transporting premature babies, we have helped the Lifesavers, and the SES, and many other significant and expensive projects. But the important thing is that the Fair is INTERESTING! You can come and buy old stuff like jewellery and furniture, or just look in awe. We have thousands of people who come and hundreds of dealers who will talk to you about the amazing things they have.

The Fair is open on Thursday evening 7 Jan 2016 from 5pm - 9pm, Friday 8 Jan from 10am - 6pm, Saturday 9 Jan from 10am - 6pm and Sunday 10 Jan from 10am - 3pm.

Flash your Rotary badge and you might get a discount … Or not!
One sunny morning at the end of June 1991, a van drove through the busy, rush-hour streets of Colombo, Sri Lanka. Winding through traffic to a northern suburb, the van arrived at the Forward Command Headquarters of the Defense Ministry. Security guards stopped it for inspection. When they did, the two suicide bombers driving the van detonated their cargo: thousands of kilograms of plastic explosives.

The roof of the building was blown off completely. Debris was strewn for blocks. In total, 21 people were killed and 175 people injured, among them many pupils of the girls' school next door. More than a kilometer away, the blast shattered every window in my home. My wife raced toward the sound of the explosion – toward our daughter's school.

Our daughter was then nine years old. That morning, she had forgotten her pencil case at home. At the moment of the blast, she was coming out of a stationer's shop, admiring her new pencils. Suddenly her ears were ringing, the air was filled with sand, and everywhere around her people were screaming, bleeding, and running. Someone pulled her into the garden of the badly damaged school, where she waited until my wife arrived to bring her back to our home – its floors still covered with broken glass.

Sri Lanka today is peaceful and thriving, visited by some two million tourists every year. Our war now is only a memory, and we as a nation look forward to a promising future. Yet so many other nations cannot say the same. Today, more of the world's countries are involved in conflict than not; a record 59.5 million people worldwide live displaced by wars and violence.

In Rotary we believe, in spite of all that, in the possibility of peace – not out of idealism, but out of experience. We have seen that even the most intractable conflicts can be resolved when people have more to lose by fighting than by working together. We have seen what can happen when we approach peace-building in ways that are truly radical, such as the work of our Rotary Peace Fellows. Through our Rotary Foundation, peace fellows become experts in preventing and resolving conflict. Our goal is that they will find new ways not only to end wars but to stop them before they begin.

Among the hundreds of peace fellows who have graduated from the program, two from Sri Lanka, one from each side of the conflict, studied together. In the first weeks of the course, both argued passionately for the rightness of their side. Yet week by week, they grew to understand each other’s perspective; today, they are good friends. When I met them and heard their story, they gave me hope. If 25 years of pain and bitterness could be overcome by Rotary, then what, indeed, is beyond us?

We cannot fight violence with violence. But when we fight it with education, with understanding, and with peace, we can truly Be a Gift to the World.

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

REGISTER NOW FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN SEOUL 2016

“Touch the World in Korea” from 29 May to 1 June 2016.

Book your trip to Seoul by clicking on the register link on the image above, visit www.riconvention.org or simply contact PDG Brian Heaton at val.22@bigpond.com or by calling 0409 007 848.

ROTARY GLOBAL REWARDS

Rotary Global Rewards is a new member benefit program that offers discounts on products and services like travel, hotels, dining and entertainment.

You can learn more and redeem Rotary Global Rewards at rotary.org/globalrewards
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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Nov</td>
<td>Gold Coast Suns Homeless Sleepout (Metricom Stadium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Nov – 04 Dec</td>
<td>Rotary Youth Transition Seminar (RYTS) Camp (Tyalgum Ridge)</td>
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<tr>
<td>05 Dec – 06 Dec</td>
<td>Youth Exchange Program – 2016 Outbounders Camp 2 (Lake Ainsworth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Dec</td>
<td>College of Governor’s Christmas Luncheon (Greenhills Reception Lounge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 Jan – 10 Jan 16</td>
<td>Rotary Palm Beach Antiques Fair (Jupiters Casino, Broadbeach)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 Feb 16</td>
<td>Youth Exchange Program - deadline for 2017 outbound applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 Feb 16</td>
<td>Quarterly Leadership Meeting (Ocean Shores)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Feb 16</td>
<td>Inaugural Alumni Dinner (Southport Golf Club)</td>
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<tr>
<td>05 Mar 16</td>
<td>President Elect (PETS) Training (Saint Stephens College, Coomera)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Mar 16</td>
<td>District Assembly (Saint Stephens College, Coomera)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Apr – 15 May 16</td>
<td>Inbound Group Study Exchange from Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Apr – 21 May 16</td>
<td>Outbound Group Study Exchange to Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 May – 06 May 16</td>
<td>Bike Ride for Mental Health (Tenterfield to Murwillumbah)</td>
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<tr>
<td>06 May 17</td>
<td>College of Governor’s Luncheon (Greenhills Reception Lounge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 May - 09 May 16</td>
<td>District Conference (Murwillumbah)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 May 16</td>
<td>Youth Exchange Program – District interviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OFFICIAL DISTRICT GOVERNOR BUSINESS

Listed below are the dates for upcoming official DG visits to clubs around the District. Dates are correct at the time of publishing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 Nov 15</td>
<td>Murwillumbah</td>
<td>08 Dec 15</td>
<td>e-Club Next Gen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Nov 15</td>
<td>Beaudesert</td>
<td>14 Dec 15</td>
<td>Lismore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Nov 15</td>
<td>Runaway Bay</td>
<td>17 Dec 15</td>
<td>Burleigh Heads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 Dec 15</td>
<td>Kingscliff</td>
<td>25 Dec 15</td>
<td>The DG will be having Christmas Lunch !</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Leadership Team is also in Melbourne for Rotary Institute from 16 to 22 November. The includes the District Governor Elect (Michael Irving) and District Governor Nominee (Darrell Brown).