

YOUNG LEADERS RISE AT *RYPEN 2025*

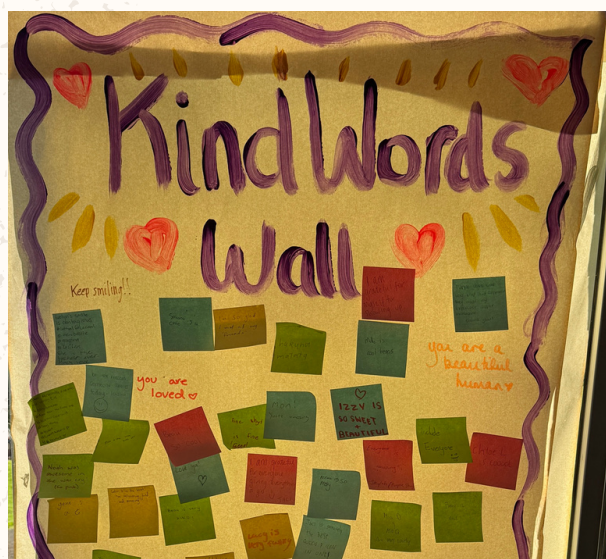


A WEEKEND OF GROWTH, COURAGE, & FRIENDSHIP

Over the weekend, a brilliant group of 51 young people aged 13 to 16 stepped into something new – a Rotary youth camp designed to stretch their comfort zones, build real **confidence**, and most importantly... have a blast. And that's just what it did. **RYPEN** brought together **future leaders** from across the region for a weekend packed with **inspiration, challenges, laughter**, they came as strangers and left as a cohort of friends, leaders and Rotary family.

GOALS, GROWTH & PARTICIPATION

We kicked things off by learning the art of **goal setting** – turning those “one day” dreams into “day one” actions. It was all about thinking big, planning smart, and backing yourself to make it happen. While hanging out, we did some cool team activities, where strangers quickly became teammates and mates. Whether it was solving challenges or navigating tasks with limited resources (and even more limited sleep), young people showed serious **creativity** and **collaboration**. We found some much-needed **calm** with practical **mindfulness** techniques, reminding everyone how to slow down, tune in, and manage the ups and downs of everyday life – skills that will last well beyond camp.



Awardees faced something most of us find challenging, **public speaking**. With **courage** (and some wobbly knees), they stepped up and discovered the power of their own voice. We had a powerful session led by Mitchel Lowe from UBM, who unpacked **resilience** and **mental wellbeing** in a way that truly hit home. Real stories, real tools, and a reminder that being strong doesn't always mean being tough. We explored healthy relationships with LSA – diving into **boundaries, communication**, and **respectful connections**.

“Our Threads, This Place, Your Moment”

Rotary
District 9640



YOUNG LEADERS RISE AT *RYPEN 2025*

FUN, FRIENDSHIP & THE FUTURE

Of course, RYPEN wasn't just about the serious stuff. The weekend was packed with team-building games, both physical and mental, plus a whole lot of laughter. From **RYPEN** group **banter** to talent show **surprises**, it was a celebration of **connection** and **courage**. By the end, what started as a room full of **strangers** had become a room full of **supporters**, new **friends**, and young people who'd learned just how **capable** they are. One key take away - **Growth** happens when we are outside of our **comfort zone**.



CLUB SHOUT OUT

A huge thank you to the rotary clubs of D9640 for your support! The camp wouldn't happen without you.

Rotary Club of **Lismore**, Rotary Club of **Stanthorpe**, Rotary Club of **Iluka-Woombah**, Rotary Club of **Grafton Midday**, Rotary Club of **Summerland Sunrise**, Rotary Club of **Mermaid Beach**, Rotary Club of **Gold Coast**, Rotary Club of **Parkwood**, Rotary Club of **Burleigh heads**, **Northern Gold Coast Rotaract**, Rotary Club of **Ashmore**, Rotary Club of **Coomera River**, Rotary Club of **Tenterfield**, Rotaract Club of **Scenic Rim**, Rotary Club of **Broadwater Southport**, Rotary Club of **Byron Bay**, Rotary Club of **Lismore Networking**, Rotary Club of **Maclean**, Rotary Club of **Mt Warning AM**, Rotary Club of **Yamba**, Rotary Club of **Broadwater North**, Rotary Club of **Goondiwindi**, Rotary Club of **Jimboomba**, Rotary Club of **Banora Tweed**, Rotary Club of **Mullumbimby**, Rotary Club of **Kingscliff**, Rotary Club of **Murwillumbah Central**, Rotary Club of **Grafton**

UNTIL NEXT TIME

RYPEN 2025 was more than a camp - it was a launchpad. A space to learn, lead, and grow. We're proud to have watched these young people step up, speak out, and stand tall - and we can't wait to see what they do next. Want to get involved next year?

Again, a huge thank you to all supporters.

Jacqueline Wark

RYPEN CHAIR 2025



TEAM SHOUT OUT

A huge thank you to the team of leaders for their leadership!

Chloe Lynch (Scenic Rim Rotaract), Nick Spanner (Scenic Rim Rotaract), Caitlin Brims (Northern Gold Coast Rotaract), Monique Orme Jack Parer (Scenic Rim Rotaract), Jarrad Cartmill, Skylah Hubbard (Scenic Rim Rotaract), Chloe Wotherspoon (Scenic Rim Rotaract), Teleah Andrews and Hayley Sullivan (Scenic Rim Rotaract)