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# Rotary

## District 9640



# THE FOUR G'S GAZETTE

Monthly Newsletter of Rotary District 9640 | Edition 9 | March 2016

## In This Month's Edition

- District Governor's Message
- Welcome New Members
- DGE Michael Irving on Facebook
- YEP Committee Seeking Students
- Inaugural Alumni Dinner
- UN Youth Queensland Seeking Support
- ROMAC Seeking Fund Manager
- RLI Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Graduate
- Young Professionals Flock to Burleigh Heads
- RI Honours 5 of our District Leaders
- 2016 District Conference
- Black Tie Dinner for Human Brain Research Programme
- Opera In the Vineyard
- GSE Team Launch
- RI President's Message
- Register Now for Seoul 2016
- Rotary Global Rewards
- Key Dates and Events

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



Welcome to the Rotary month of March which is our International Water and Sanitation month. The provision of safe drinking water and sanitary systems is something we in Australia very much take for granted although there are communities in our own country that don't have access to appropriate water and sanitation. We as a community and our government continue to work to rectify these issues. On the international stage however there are many communities that have no access whatsoever to safe drinking water or sanitation and Rotary works around the world to improve the quality of water and sanitation in these communities.

It is fitting that our own Rotary District 9640 is currently supporting a Global Grant in Guizhou Province in the Peoples Republic of China. This project is ongoing from February until July 2016 and will see the installation of safe drinking water for three villages located in the province. All three villages (which comprise 120 households and 500 individuals) will then have access to safe drinking water as well as improved irrigation for their crops. Congratulations to all Rotarians in District 9640 who have in some way contributed to the success of this project.

March is also a busy month in our local Rotary community. We have District Governor Elect Michael's training continuing with President Elect Training Seminars and District Assembly. District Assembly is a wonderful opportunity for all Rotarians, new and old, to improve their Rotary learning. In addition, the Rotary Leadership Institute continues with the graduation of the current course to take place on Sunday the 13th March at the Italo-Australian Club. Congratulations to all those attending.

In March, District Governor visits continue and we also have the staging of Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) on Saturday the 19th March at the Tweed Heads Civic Centre. I ask all Rotarians and friends to come along and support the teams on the day.

It is an opportunity also to learn more about the actual workings of the United Nations as well as an opportunity to appreciate the skills, dedication and motivation of our youth.

Congratulations to our District Alumni Chair PDG Sandra Doumany and her assistant Past President Marion Jones of the Rotary Club of Southport on the staging of a successful Alumni dinner at the Southport Golf Club on Saturday the 27th of February. It was a wonderful opportunity for our Rotary Alumni to come together and to renew the bonds and relationships that our Clubs have created.

And on a personal note I would like to thank all Rotarians and their families in the District for the support given to me during my recent hospitalisation and recovery. Your warm wishes have supported me through what was a difficult process and those wishes continue to support me at the present time.

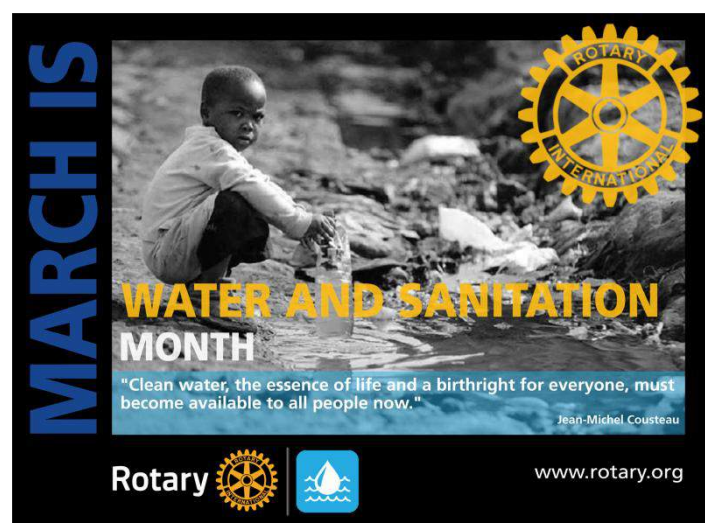
Yours in Rotary

**Rotary**  
District 9640

**Anne Egan**

District Governor 2015/16  
[anne@egansimpson.com.au](mailto:anne@egansimpson.com.au)  
0418 489 836

## MONTHLY THEME - WATER & SANITATION



To read more about Water and Sanitation month, please visit the following link -

- [Water and Sanitation on rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

Since the last newsletter we are pleased to be able to welcome the following new members in to our District –

Club	Name
<b>Broadbeach</b>	Robyn Brown
<b>Burleigh Heads</b>	Johnny Bueti
	Jenny Coleborne
	Paul Jaffar
	Trevor May
	Shobha Srinivasan
<b>Byron Bay</b>	Som-Ling Leung
	Kaye Wilkie
<b>eClub of NextGen</b>	Malcolm Wright
	Rosemary Wright
<b>Goondiwindi</b>	Sally Robinson
<b>Mudgeeraba</b>	Roslyn Rees
	Tony Sulfaro
	Marilyn Thurston
	Peter Thurston
<b>Murwillumbah Central</b>	Michael McMahon
<b>Warwick</b>	Terry Lawrence

## DGE MICHAEL IRVING IS ON FACEBOOK



District Governor Elect (DGE) Michael has his Facebook page up and running and welcomes D9640 Rotarians to follow him. The direct link to the page is below –

<https://www.facebook.com/michael.irving.9640>

## YEP COMMITTEE SEEKING STUDENTS

Rotary District 9640 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) Committee are now seeking students to go on exchange in January 2017.

They request all clubs to look in their local community and schools for suitable applicants. If your club is approached by a student and you are unable to support that student please pass on the application to YEP Chairman Russell Jones ([chairman@yep.rotary9640.org](mailto:chairman@yep.rotary9640.org)).

## INAUGURAL ALUMNI DINNER

On 27 February, almost 70 people enjoyed a wonderful night at the Southport Golf Club that brought together participants and representatives of various Rotary programs such as Ambassadorial Scholars, Peace Fellows, Group Study Exchange (GSE), Youth Exchange Program (YEP), Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN), Rotary Youth Transition Seminar (RYTS), Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) and National Youth Science Forum (NYSF).



DG Anne & Jeff attended with their family and Anne has passed on her praises for the Guest Speaker Stuart Robert, a former GSE team Member and Rotarian, a member of the e-Club.

Stuart gave an excellent talk intertwining his GSE experience in Turkey having PDG Ross Smith as Team Leader, with what the program meant to him, and what he has done since. He encouraged the young people to give back in some way and to join Rotary.

The organising committee have had several complimentary phone calls saying what a great night it was, especially because it provided an opportunity for attendees to catch up with friends they had not seen for a long time. Requests have been made for another Alumni Dinner next year so watch this space.



Thank you to all the attendees for helping to make it such a successful evening, to Stuart for his thought provoking presentation and to our "STAR" MC for the evening, Simon Brook, an incoming President for 2016-2017.



## UN YOUTH QUEENSLAND IS SEEKING OUR SUPPORT



UN Youth Queensland are a group of young volunteers (all under 25) based in Brisbane. Their aim is to educate young people on "what's going on in the world", and how they can better engage with the most important, current, global issues. This year, the group are aiming to bring their programs to students in regional northern New South Wales by visiting schools in Lismore, Casino, Kyogle and surrounding areas.

The Southern Regional Roadtrip will see UN Youth Queensland volunteers conduct workshops with high school students that both educate them on international relations, and teach them the vital skills needed to be a part of global change - from advocacy and diplomacy, to public speaking and debating.

UN Youth Queensland have never ventured into this area before, and are excited to be a part of new school communities. However, for the road trip to go ahead, the organisation needs to raise over a thousand dollars to cover costs.

UN Youth Queensland Inc are seeking support from multiple Rotary Clubs. If multiple Rotary Clubs in District 9640 could "chip in" \$50 or \$100 each, this would go a long way towards helping the UN Youth Queensland volunteers bring this invaluable opportunity to students in areas where they are not as accessible as metropolitan South East Queensland.

More about the organisation can be found here - <https://unyouth.org.au/>

## ROMAC IS SEEKING A FUNDRAISING MANAGER

The District 9640 ROMAC Committee is seeking an experienced person to take on this challenging role.

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) has brought in over 400 children for lifesaving and dignity restoring treatment in Australia and in New Zealand since its inception in 1999. The importance of having a competent Fund Raising Manager is essential to the ongoing work of ROMAC.

The person selected will become a member of the D.9640 ROMAC Committee, which meets bi-monthly on Wednesday evenings at Gold Coast Council Chambers.

We are seeking an enthusiastic person, with experience in fund raising and sponsorship, able to work in an autonomous role and liaise with the D.9640 Committee.

ROMAC is keen to get a Fund Raising Manager in our District who will enjoy the challenge of making approaches to achieve financial support from companies, businesses, clubs, benefactors, philanthropists and the general public, who get satisfaction from helping children in dire need.

This is an unpaid position requiring dedication and the desire to assist ROMAC in its very rewarding humanitarian work.

For more information regarding ROMAC, visit [www.romac.org](http://www.romac.org)

Please forward your application to -

D9640 ROMAC Chair, Jill Ellis  
P O Box 5778, Gold Coast Mail Centre, Qld. 9726

or via email to [hjellis@onthenet.com.au](mailto:hjellis@onthenet.com.au)

## RLI CELEBRATES 50<sup>TH</sup> GRADUATE IN DISTRICT

Past District Governor Graham Jones couldn't wipe the smile off his face recently as he watched the 50th Rotarian from our District graduate from the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI).



Since starting two years ago, the program has gone from strength to strength and given the participants the opportunity to learn more about Rotary International and gain new skills to enhance their contribution to their Clubs.

Congratulations to all the graduates.

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FLOCK TO BURLEIGH HEADS



It is great to see young professionals joining Rotary !

Recently, District Governor Nominee for 2017/2018, Darrell Brown inducted young Maurizio Piazza, the 43rd member of Burleigh Heads Rotary during their weekly breakfast meeting. The club now has 7 members under 40 years and 4 of them under 35, including a Past President. Since July last year 9 new members have joined Burleigh Heads Rotary.

The photo above shows Paul Jaffar, Johnny Bueti, Maurizio Piazza & Past President Anthony Zirillie the youngest members of the club.

Today more than ever before more and more young professionals are looking to make new friends that connect them with real people in their local communities. They want to do good. They want to get their hands dirty not sign cheques. They want to take leadership roles in community organisations. Rotary is a great community organisation for them.

We just need make our weekly meetings and programs appealing to them, so they too can be a gift to the world !

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL HONOURS FIVE OF OUR DISTRICT LEADERS

On Saturday 27th February at a Gala Black Tie "Million Dollar Dinner" at the Hilton Hotel Brisbane, Rotary International honored 25 Rotarians and 6 Rotaractors from Queensland.

Among them were 5 of our Gold Coast Rotary District 9640 leaders, Past District Governor Tony & Dianne Heading from Stanthorpe Club, Past District Governor Graham Jones from Southport Club, District Foundation Chairman Neil Jones from Broadbeach Club and incoming District Membership Chairman Andy Rajapakse from Burleigh Heads Club.

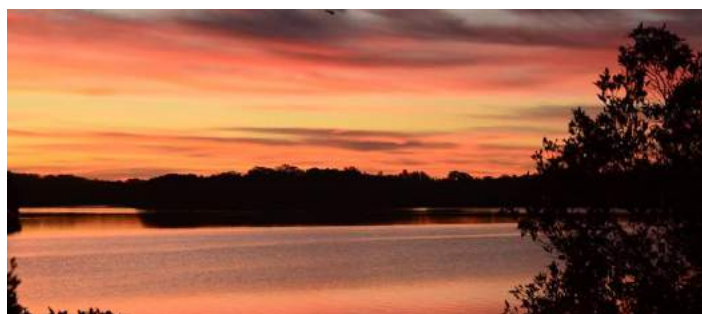
They each received an attractive Crystal Award & a Lapel Pin from Rotary Foundation Trustee, Bryn Styles from Canada. Incidentally Rotarian Bryn was the Group Study Exchange (GSE) team leader in 2000 from Ontario in Canada to the Gold Coast.



The Rotary Million Dollar Dinner is an annual fundraising evening held around the world, where donors who pledge to contribute US\$10,000 (AU\$14,000/) or more to The Rotary Foundation are recognized and honored. This year's dinner raised \$1.5 Million to do Good in the World.

Eradicating Polio from the face of this earth is Rotary's greatest gift to humanity!

## 2016 DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Registrations are open for the District 9640 Conference – The First Light being held in Murwillumbah from 6-8 May.

Some fantastic guest speakers are now confirmed on the program including -

- **David Morrison** - 2016 Australian of the Year
- **Lucas Patchett and Nicholas Marchesi** - 2016 Young Australians of the Year
- **Professor Peter Silburn, AM** - Human Brain Research Programme

For more information on these and other guest speakers and to book your place, please visit the District website –

<http://rotary9640.org/SitePage/district-conference-2016>

## BLACK TIE DINNER IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN BRAIN RESEARCH PROGRAMME



The Rotary Club of Hope Island invites you to a **Black Tie Charity Dinner** on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in support of the Human Brain Research Programme and other local and international charities.

The cost of tickets is \$130 per person and entertainment will be provided by Mary Doumany a cross arts practitioner acclaimed as a composer, harpist & singer.

There will also be auctions including a Louis Vuitton bag as well as dinner, accommodation & fashion vouchers and more from our sponsors.

Raffles will also be held, including a mystery wine connoisseurs draw and special basket.

Bookings are essential. Visit [www.trybooking.com/KPTY](http://www.trybooking.com/KPTY) to book your ticket !

### Donations

If you cannot attend but would like to make a donation to assist those living with Parkinson's and other brain diseases, donations can be made by direct credit to –

BSB: 034-153  
Account Number 220165  
Account Name: Rotary Hope Island  
Reference: BT2016

## OPERA IN THE VINEYARD

### Stay, Eat, Play, Experience !

Opera in the Vineyard is a Black Tie Charity Event featuring meals by the award winning Barrelroom Restaurant, a magnificent performance of Opera arias by Opera Queensland and wines by five star rated Ballendean Estate.

Hosted by The Rotary Club of Stanthorpe and Ballendean Estate, tickets are \$100 pp.

For more information or to book please visit -

<http://www.ballendeanestate.com/OperaInTheVineyard.aspx>



## GSE TEAM LAUNCH

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, please join us for our Rotary Group Study Exchange (GSE) Team Launch presentation, drinks, finger food and fellowship.

Tickets are \$10 at the door at the Helensvale Library and Cultural Centre Auditorium (Cnr Lindfield Road and Sir John Overall Drive, Helensvale).

RSVP 30th March to Bronwyn. For more information, [click here](#) for the invitation.

**You're Invited**  
*Team Launch GSE 2016*

*District 9640 AUS to District 7390 USA*

**Saturday 2nd April 2016**  
**6.00 pm**

Be a gift to the world

## RI PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



Some years ago, I was asked to speak at an Interact club in my home city of Colombo, Sri Lanka. I have always taken my interactions with Rotary youth very seriously, so I prepared my remarks carefully and put the same effort into my presentation that I would for any other event. After the meeting, I stayed to chat with a few of the Interactors, answering their questions and wishing them well.

I came out of the classroom where we had met into the autumn afternoon. The bright sun was shining directly into my eyes, so I found a bit of shade behind a pillar where I could wait for my ride.

As I stood there, hidden from view, I overheard a group of the very Interactors who had just listened to my speech. Naturally I was curious: What would they be saying? What had they taken away from my presentation? I quickly realized that what they had taken away was not at all what I had intended.

They were not talking about what I had said, the stories I had told, or the lessons I had come to their school to impart. To my astonishment, the major topic of conversation was my tie! I listened with amusement as they chattered about my Western clothes, my background, my business; every aspect of my appearance and behavior was dissected and discussed. Just as they began to speculate about what car I drove, my ride arrived and I stepped out into view. They were perhaps a bit embarrassed, but I just smiled, got into the car, and drove off with a wave.

Whatever they learned from me that day, I learned far more. I learned that the lessons we teach with our examples are far more powerful than those we teach with words. I realized that as a Rotary leader, and a prominent person in the community, I had, for better or worse, become a role model for these young people. Their eyes were on me in a way that I had never before appreciated. If they chose to emulate me, they would model themselves on what they saw, not what I told them.

All of us in Rotary are leaders, in one way or another, in our communities. All of us bear the responsibility that comes with that. Our Rotary values, our Rotary ideals, cannot be left within the confines of our Rotary clubs. They must be carried with us every day. Wherever we are, whoever we are with, whether we are involved in Rotary work – we are always representing Rotary. We must conduct ourselves accordingly: in what we think, what we say, what we do, and how we do it. Our communities, and our children, deserve no less.

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](http://www.riconvention.org) or simply contact PDG Brian Heaton at [val.22@bigpond.com](mailto:val.22@bigpond.com) or by calling 0409 007 848.

## ROTARY GLOBAL REWARDS

Rotary Global Rewards is a 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](http://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.

Date	Details (Location)
02 Apr 16	Black Tie Dinner in support of Human Brain Research Programme (Sanctuary Cove Golf Club) Bookings : <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/KPTY">http://www.trybooking.com/KPTY</a>
	Group Study Exchange Team Launch (Helensvale Library)
17 Apr – 15 May 16	Inbound Group Study Exchange from Pennsylvania
23 Apr – 21 May 16	Outbound Group Study Exchange to Pennsylvania
30 Apr – 02 May 16	International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians Meet & Greet (Tamborine)
01 May	Opera in the Vineyard (Ballandean Estate, Stanthorpe) Bookings : <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=106025">http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=106025</a>
03 May – 06 May 16	Bike Ride for Mental Health (Tenterfield to Murwillumbah) For more information visit <a href="http://www.gtoc.com.au">www.gtoc.com.au</a>
06 May 16	College of Governor's Luncheon (Greenhills Reception Lounge)
06 May – 08 May 16	District Conference (Murwillumbah) For bookings visit <a href="http://e.mybookingmanager.com/D9640Conference2016">http://e.mybookingmanager.com/D9640Conference2016</a>
20 May – 22 May 16	Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) Camp (Bornhofen PCYC)
27 May 16	Annual ROMAC Trivia Challenge
28 May 16	Youth Exchange Program – District interviews (Robina High School)
04 Jun 16	Rotary Race Day (Gold Coast Turf Club)
12 Jun 16	Quarterly Leadership Meeting (Ocean Shores)
18 Jun 16	Give Me 5 Charity Ball (Sofitel Hotel, Broadbeach)
03 Jul 16	District Changeover 2016

### DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2016



**6 – 8 MAY 2016**

**CIVIC CENTRE. MURWILLUMBAH**

**REGISTER NOW !**