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TEAMWORK FOR POTENTIAL
WRAP UP ON RYLA 2013 AND HOW
THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
CONTINUES TO GROW



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YEP—INTERESTING & DIVERSE
MEET FOUR OF DISTRICT
9670'S YOUTH EXCHANGE
STUDENTS AND FIND OUT WHAT
THEY LOVE THE MOST ABOUT OZ



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THANKS TO CHARLEY'S ANGELS
A HEARTFELT THANKS FOR HELPING
THE LITTLE BOY FROM TANNA WALK!

○ No. 4

○ OCTOBER

○ 2013—2014

District digest

COMMUNITY, STRENGTH AND VALUES



*Celebrating something District 9670 does well, **District Governor Brian Atkins** focuses his address this month on Youth in Rotary and their importance in our Rotarian community. DG Brian also takes time to praise the efforts of our emergency services over this last month battling severe weather across District 9670 and reminds us that November is Rotary Foundation month...*

The DG has been on the move!

This month I am focusing on **Youth in Rotary**, an avenue of service covered very fully and successfully by District 9670.

For those of you who know me well, you know that our youth programs are something I am very passionate about. The success with our **youth programs** comes from our strong leadership team at a District and Club level.

Our friends at **Rotary Down Under** produced a handy booklet titled "An Introduction to Programs of Rotarians 'Down Under'". It's an overview of major programs available to Rotary Clubs in our Zone 8 Districts. I could mention our youth programs of Group Study Exchange, YEP, NZ short term exchange, MUNA, the Science and Engineering Program, NYSF, RYCOTT, RYCAGS, RYLA, RYPEN, RELAYID, Dream Cricket, Try-A-Trade, RYDA and Young Adults Vocational Exchange, but I would like to touch on our friends in Rotaract.

Rotaractors are our future

Rotarians. We have 4 Rotaract Clubs in our District, the Hunter Club who meets in Newcastle, Cessnock, Hunter Valley who meet in Singleton and Dubbo City. These young people need our support.

Madeleine and I have taken the time to visit the Rotaract Clubs in Dubbo, the Hunter and Cessnock as part of our official visits and will catch up with the Hunter Valley Club in Singleton over the coming months. We have learned that these young people are **committed to community service and learning more about Rotary**. They deserve our attention.

If you have a Rotaract Club in your area please **make yourself known to them** and offer your experience in 'Service Above Self'. Please involve them in your Club activities, but more importantly, **assist them** in growing their numbers by introducing them to the youth in your community.

Another very important issue has taken my time over the last few weeks. As Rotarians, we are asked to support our fellow men and women on an international, national and local level.

We have a situation at present in District 9670 that is affecting our local communities with the **severe bush fires** we have experienced in the past few weeks.

I am now investigating the process to **link our Rotary District in to the Emergency Services** so that we have a plan in place to identify a need and offer the appropriate assistance in a crisis. I am seeking advice from our Rotarians relating to the establishment of a **Rotary District Disaster Assistance Plan**. The two stages of disasters include **emergency and recovery**. Following my discussions with Allison Rowlands, Director, *Welfare Services from the Ministry of Police and Emergency Services*, Rotary's best work can be established in the recovery stage.

Congratulations to all our Rotarians who work so hard in their communities as active members of the **Rural Fire Brigades** and associated support networks. This is "Service Above Self".

It is going to be a long hard

summer for many of our communities. Rotarians do amazing work around the world, and this summer I would like us to also focus on our own communities and **be prepared** with a plan of action.

I will keep you posted with the progress, which will start with the formation of a Planning Committee.

Vocational Service month has just past. My thanks to Ted Lewis, our District Vocational Services Chair, for forwarding the RI Vocational Service Leadership Award forms to all clubs. Thank you also to all the Clubs who responded. The result will be notified next January.

We now need to fully focus on the **Rotary Foundation**, which is Rotary's own charity and I firmly believe it is the beating heart of Rotary.

November is the Rotary Foundation month.

Yours in Rotary service

Brian Atkins

⇒ **EXCHANGE**

⇒ **ENGAGE**

⇒ **ENCOUNTER**

Thinking of attending the 2014 RI Convention in Sydney?

Why not check out the official website for the convention to get all the information.

Register by **December 15** to take advantage of the early registration pricing.

Head to www.riconvention.org for all the latest information.



Melbourne Cup Night

Your Hosts : John & Judy Vilks



SAVE THE DATE

Melbourne Cup Night

DATE: Tuesday 5th November, 2013

WHERE: 19 View Street, Cardiff

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

COST: \$25 - SPIT ROAST

*Please bring a bottle of wine for the raffle



Interplast fundraiser for District 9670.

Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November 2013.



Why not make it a week end and visit the Vineyards-

Lots of prizes.

Inquiries to
Wendy Mason-Jones
or Andrew Levick

Singleton on Hunter
6571 2055 or
0429699997

"Swinging sixties cabaret"

York Street RSL 'Diggers' club Singleton

€ 60 per head, tables of eight, tasty 3 course meal and night of memorable songs from

The Beatles, Lulu, Tom Jones, Sandy Shore, Herman's Hermits, The Monkeys, Petula Clark

Get your 60's wardrobe dusted off, come along and have a fantastic night of fellowship whilst raising money to send Australian Surgeons, Anesthetists and health staff to the Asia Pacific Region

To repair bodies, rebuild lives, empower communities, build capacity and leave a legacy.

Billets with Rotarians, Caravans can also accommodated for those who are travelling to town.

Young adults with potential...

Starting in Australia over 50 years ago, **Darcy Geale, District 9670 RYLA Chair**, fills us in on this year's RYLA event and how the global leadership program continues to grow and adapt in our changing world.

RYLA 2013 is now over and it has, again, been a great year. Clubs that sent participants should be truly proud of these young people.

This year had a different theme with the introduction of a more commercially driven exercise which the students completed in teams and presented at their formal dinner - it was a great and inspiring night for all concerned.

The students approached their week, the exercise and their presentation with great enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment - 21 people who did not know each other on Day 1 were united and bonded by the end of the week, a team much more aware of themselves and their potential. See our photos on Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RYLA9670> and the District web page at <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/SitePages/SitePage.aspx?accountid=50229&pid=88684>

When you check our Facebook page don't forget to "Like" us and refer us to your friends.

All of these young adults are potential Rotarians or members of Rotaract - some are already talking about forming Rotaract Clubs inspired by the members of Rotaract on the course - I encourage you, to encourage them.

Planning for RYLA 2014 has already started with some new, additional exciting speakers already volunteering their services, the program will continue to evolve as we focus on remaining rele-

vant to these young adults.

We hope you will continue to support us. Start looking now for candidates for 2014 - tentative dates are 27 September - 4 October 2014."

Below: The team! Members of this year's RYLA crew full of enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment.



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The Rotary Foundation – Rotarian's Own Charity



NOVEMBER is Rotary Foundation Month

Clubs are encouraged to find out more about the Rotary Foundation during November.

The District foundation committee is holding two information Seminars in November. In the Western region of the district on 3 November and the Eastern region on 10 November.

This is your chance to find out how the dollars you have given to The Rotary Foundation have been spent on your behalf. Information you can use when asked "What does Rotary do?"

Information on the seminars is being circulated to the Clubs through the Club Presidents and Secretaries.

Information on the District Foundation Raffle to assist Clubs with their Fundraising for the Foundation is also being circulated and will be discussed at the seminars.

For more information contact the District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair:

PDG Alex McHarg

alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com

0409 321 403



☆ **NAME:** Pauline Hansen

☆ **HOMETOWN:** Flensburg, Germany

☆ **HOST CLUB:** Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri

☆ **SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...**

The best thing I've experienced here so far is school- getting to know all the new people and making friends and also the sand dunes at Stockton beach.



☆ **GETTING USED TO THE AUSSIE CUISINE CAN OFTEN TAKE SOME TIME...WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TUCKER?**

The best thing I've eaten here so far is Evy Brown's Mars Bar slice

2013—2014

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

☆ **NAME:** Antoine Girot de Langlade

☆ **HOMETOWN:** France

☆ **HOST CLUB:** Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise

☆ **SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...**

Shearing sheep with my host dad, Malcolm and my vacations in Newcastle with my host families .

☆ **GETTING USED TO THE AUSSIE CUISINE CAN OFTEN TAKE SOME TIME...WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TUCKER?**

Aussie barbecue and kangaroo burger



- ☆ **NAME:** Maya Bridal Ryom
- ☆ **HOMETOWN:** The island of Zealand, Denmark
- ☆ **HOST CLUB:** Rotary Club of Belmont
- ☆ **SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...**

Houseboat on the Hawkesbury River

- ☆ **GETTING USED TO THE AUSSIE CUISINE CAN OFTEN TAKE SOME TIME...WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TUCKER?**

Chips with chicken salt!



In 2013-2014, District 9670 has become the "temporary" home for over 15 international students.

We have a brief catch up here with a few of our Youth Exchange Program Inbound Students on their experiences so far while in District 9670.

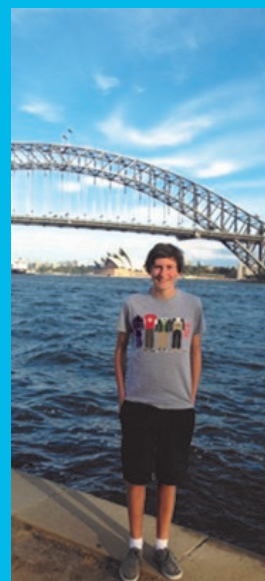
While we all won't get to meet each of these wonderful people, I encourage you to make some time for them...they are a very interesting and diverse bunch...

- ☆ **NAME:** Tobias Filz
- ☆ **HOMETOWN:** Steinberg-Dörfl , Burgenland, Austria
- ☆ **HOST CLUB:** I am actually hosted by the Rotary Club of Maitland but am changing to the Rotary Club of Rutherford-Telarah in the next few months.
- ☆ **SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...**

I am not really able to just mention one memory, that's just not possible.

I have experienced things I never thought I would do (plane trip), visiting places (the moment when you see the Sydney Harbour for the first Time), Events (Fleet Review), activities that take you out of your comfort zone or just moments when you make your friends or your host family laughing.

It is a lifetime in a year.



Keeping our kids safe...

Is your club involved in any programs that involve children?, **Trevor Lynch, Assistant Governor and District 9670 Child Protection Committee Chair**, gives us some sound advice on what to do when working with children.

Below are some important bits of information and some suggestions that you might like to consider if your club is involved in any programs that involve children.

Information:

Some clubs who are involved with YEP students are encouraging their members to register for the new Working With Children Check even though volunteers, organisations and clubs such as ours are not due to implement this new procedure until 2015. Some of these clubs are encouraging all their members to apply so that every member can legally work with that student under any circumstance.

The process to register and be checked is very simple. Those of us who have applied have received our clearance within a day or two of applying. To apply go to, complete and submit the online application form (it only takes a few minutes), you will receive an email reply giving you an application number. Take it and your licence to an RMS (was RTA) office to have your identity verified. If all is well you should receive an email containing a clearance letter and your "Working with Children" number. All clearances will have a five year currency.

There are three possible outcomes to an application for a check. They are:

- ☆ a clearance to work with children;
- ☆ a bar against working with children; or
- ☆ still being investigated.

If you are involved in a Rotary program where you are working with children and decide to wait until 2015 you will still need to use the old process of getting those involved to sign a declaration and file in your club records.

Some Rotarians who work on programs for children will not need to apply for the new check as there are many exemp-

tions. To see a Fact Sheet about exemptions go to http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/183/FS4_Exemptions_SEPTEMBER.pdf.aspx

Clearly the level of risk to the children involved determines whether a check is needed or not.

When this system becomes fully operational after 2015 clubs may be subjected to an audit so it will continue to be important for club Boards to ensure that members who are working with children have the necessary clearance to do so.

Suggestions:

Check out the website www.kids.nsw.gov.au

Determine if you are going to implement this new process now or wait until the phase in year of 2015.

If you are running a child related program, you should add a section to the Risk Assessment you need to complete for that program to satisfy the requirements to be covered by Rotary Insurance. This section should consider the risk to the child participants for each task the club's members have taken on. For example a child being hosted overnight by a member is at far greater risk than one who is being served a meal by a volunteer.

If your club decides to require members involved to register for a check then your club should be registered as an 'Employer'. This can be done online. Once registered your club will be able to go online and check the "Working with Children" status of members who are involved with your club's youth programs. They will have a record of who you have checked and will notify you of any status change. NB: Read "Rotary Club" for "Employer".

It might also be advisable for club secretaries (or youth directors) to ask members who have been checked and have received email notification to send the result on so that they can keep an elec-

tronic file for the status of checked members.

Further it may also be worthwhile keeping a log of members who are deemed to be exempt when preparing the risk assessment for your child related project. This might well be expected by the Rotary Insurance people.

Some Suggestions about Child Protection and Rotary Insurance:

I would recommend that all clubs require their members to register NOW. The process is so simple I see no reason to delay until 2015.

Where students are hosted in private homes - even if only overnight - all adult persons in that household should have completed the check.

Any Rotarian who refuses to register should not be allowed to have one-to-one contact with YEP or any other students unless under supervision.

The recommendation to complete the check applies to car transport of students where the only other person in the vehicle is the Rotarian driver.

Finally, every Rotarian should remember that our liability insurance policy DOES NOT provide any benefits for a perpetrator or alleged perpetrator of a molestation offence, and further for those Rotarians, Committees or Boards that are covered by the policy, there is an excess of \$25,000 for each and every claim. All of which means that we need to get this risk assessment and child protection matter right.



CHARLEY'S ANGELS

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank each and everyone for the great humanitarian support with the medical and surgical treatment for Nurak Charley's correction of his club feet.

Without the dedication, expertise and professional care given by the medical staff of the John Hunter Children's Hospital this little boy from Tanna Island, Vanuatu would still be living a secluded life with his grandma, out of sight, in a small hut.

Brian Coffey, President of the Rotary Club of East Maitland and I have no words to express our gratitude for the involvement of all Rotarians in making this ROMAC project a great success and the dreams of Charlie's mother, Veronica, a reality.

Charlie arrived here on the 15th April 2013, a boy with limited mobility, social and hygiene awareness. There were concerns for his mental comprehension, but he quickly responded to all assistance and developed into a cheeky, toilet-trained, TV-addict, iPod-devotee and a very happy outgoing child. Charley was loved by all who got to know him. He managed to increase a quarter of his body weight with a dislike for anything sweet or cold....except "Chuppas" which we used for rewards.

I believe that upon returning home, Charley ran across the tarmac into his father's arms—who with all the family are still in disbelief of the miracle that was performed at the John Hunter Children's hospital.

My greatest moment was when the plaster cast were removed for the last time. The look on Veronica's face was priceless and her smile never left her face when she realised that Charlie's feet were now NORMAL!!!

The road to recovery has not only been about just Charley's feet—but also about the bonding of a mother who rejected her child through the beliefs and superstitions of her community. Veronica has also grown personally and emotionally in herself.

Charlie went "fast forward" from a 1 year child to a 7 year old confident boy in 5 months.

We have enjoyed each step of this wonderful journey as Charley and Veronica now have a permanent place in our lives and we hope that they will reflect on their time in Australia.

Thank you again to everyone for the great team effort that has made a difference to a small boy from Tanna Island. This great young boy now has the opportunity to attend school, climb palm trees and take his place alongside his father in a community where disability is seen as a curse.

Lyn Thorpe OAM

District 9670 Chair ROMAC



Above: One happy little camper! Charley and his beautiful mother Veronica following his surgical treatment for club foot.



Above: Charley's club foot on both feet—a congenital deformity that makes the affected feet look like they have been rotated internally at the ankle. This common paediatric condition is of an unknown cause but leaves its sufferer physically disabled and unable to work normally.



Above: A NORMAL boy!! Charley completes the Memory Jog with a bunch of new friends...no one can wipe the smile off that face.

Celebrating hat day...

*Raising funds to contribute towards those suffering mental illness, **Nicole Shanks, Bulletin Editor for the Rotary Club of Dubbo West** updates us on Hat Day out in the west caused quite a parade...*

It was a meeting of a difference when members of the Rotary Club of Dubbo West were asked to wear a hat to the meeting on Wednesday 9 October 2013.

The club got behind to support its Rotary-based program, a couple of days earlier than supposed to, in order to have some fun and raise money for Australian Rotary Health's initiative. These funds will contribute towards their research into helping those suffering with

depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and other mental illnesses.

The members could put as much energy into it as they desired. There were creative ones, which members took a lot to prepare, while others just found a hat around the house.

Members were asked to parade their hats in four different categories with prizes being awarded for the best appropriate ones. The winners of each category were:

Most Creative Hat, won by Lance "Hot Stuff" Murphy and Debbie "Laptop" Anemaat; The Who Am I?, won by Mike "Al Capone" Jones; The Best Hollywood Hat, which Bert "Jack Sparrow/Johnny Depp" McLellan won; and The Most Aussie Hat,

with Bruce "Elders Agent" Furnell.

After members paraded their hats, an auction of gifts which members brought to the meeting was conducted by Rotarian Allan Kernahan, a first-time auctioneer.

There was continuous laughter as fellow members were innocent bidders. In total, the club raised \$800, which 100% of this will go towards the program. A big massive effort!

A big thank you to all those involved including Jo Murphy, Lyn McDonald, Lisa Minner, Sue Furnell, Allan Kerna-



Riding for HMRI in style...

*Pedalling may not be everyone's cup of tea, **Bob Urry, Club Newsletter Editor for the Rotary Club of Newcastle** gives us into a recent charity bike ride they hosted.*

Newcastle Rotary Club hosted the Newcastle to Dungog Charity Bike Ride on Saturday 26 October 2013

The event started at 6.30 am from Customs House, Newcastle and the course was over 90 kilometres long.

There was a field of over 200 riders from all walks of life from the casual to semi professional rider

Funds raised from this event are shared by Hunter Medical Research Institute and other local charities



District Membership & Community Involvement

Check out our progress for September! **Peter Sivyver, District Attendance, Participation and Contributions Chair** reports on how District 9670 is progressing and thanks each and every club for their continued support.

CLUB STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER 2013

Every month, Rotary Clubs all over our District catch up at meetings, participate in community projects and donate their time, money and resources to causes far and wide.

★ Interested in what knowing how your club is participating? Why not head to our new District website to check out what's been reported at www.rotary9670.org.au

Can't see your club's stats here? Why not send an update to ppsivyver@bigpond.com and we will add them to our next edition.

| ROTARY CLUB | MEMBERS | HOURS | % | RANK | FUNDS DONATED |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|-------|------|---------------|
| Adamstown New Lambton | 27 | 10 | 79.5 | 11 | \$270 |
| Belmont | 28 | | 80.8 | 8 | |
| Cardiff | 9 | | 80 | 9 | |
| Dubbo | 24 | | 68.33 | 19 | |
| Dubbo Macquarie | 24 | | 86.96 | 3 | |
| Dubbo South | 48 | 534 | 82.29 | 6 | \$10,000 |
| Dubbo West | 51 | 450 | 85.5 | 5 | |
| East Maitland | 37 | | 81.5 | 7 | |
| Green Hills Maitland | 49 | 240 | 61 | 23 | \$850 |
| Kurri Kurri | 17 | 450 | 90.05 | 1 | |
| Kurri Kurri Sunrise | 25 | 120 | 56 | 25 | \$1,458 |
| Maitland | 35 | 246 | 77.25 | 13 | |
| Merriwa | 19 | | 87.5 | 2 | |
| Morisset | | 218 | | | |
| Myall Coast | 27 | 81 | 68 | 20 | |
| Narromine | | 84 | 67.5 | 21 | \$1,997.80 |
| Nelson Bay | 56 | | 72 | 15 | |
| Newcastle Enterprise | 26 | 165 | 51 | 27 | |
| Raymond Terrace | 21 | 65 | 75.52 | 14 | \$300 |
| Rutherford -Telarah | 29 | 193.5 | 86 | 4 | \$1,945 |
| Salamander Bay | 33 | | 59 | 24 | |
| Singleton | 39 | | 70 | 17 | |
| Singleton On Hunter | 28 | 60 | 70.3 | 16 | |
| Toronto | 32 | 96 | 53 | 26 | \$500 |
| Toronto-Sunrise | 36 | 92 | 65 | 22 | |
| Wallsend-Maryland | 17 | 302 | 69.5 | 18 | |
| Waratah | 20 | 14 | 80 | 9 | \$1,147 |
| Williamtown | 20 | 254 | 79 | 12 | \$760 |

Do you have something to add to the monthly newsletter?

Got an exciting event coming up? How about an outstanding project you would like some publicity for?

Well why not drop us a line at districtnewsletter@rotary9670.org.au and let us know what your up to.

All submissions need to be received by the 15th of each month to ensure our editor has enough time to include them in the upcoming publication.

So hop to it...and drop us a line!



"HEAVEN CAN WAIT"

CHARITY SAILING REGATTA

16TH AND 17TH NOVEMBER 2013.



We would like to invite your club to take part in this event by "Adopting a Boat". The boat with the most number of donations will receive a Heaven Can Wait trophy. Representatives from our HCW committee would gladly meet with each club over the next 4 weeks to present the HCW program to the members.

All donating clubs will be invited to attend the Gala dinner on Friday 15th November when the Paralympic Gold medalist, Liesal Tesch will announce the names of the boats adopted by each club through a draw. There are three main sailing groups competing:

1. One loop of the Lake
2. 12 hour course – one full loop and then continue looping for 12 hours
3. 24 hour course – one full loop and then continue looping for 24 hours

The adopted boats will be selected from the 24-hour course entrants and then from the 12-hour course entrants depending on registrations.

All donations will go to the NSW Cancer Council who this year are directing funds to supporting local people and families experiencing challenging times as a result of this terrible disease. Over and above "Adopt a Yacht", we would welcome your company at the Regatta, meet your adopted yacht and crew, view the race start at 11am Saturday from anywhere around the lake and enjoy fun and fellowship in this worthy event. Enquiries may be directed to:

John Dickinson 0418 349 906 Brian Maxlow 0419 275 870 Greg Randall 0418 663 727



The Rotary Club of Toronto
www.torontorotary.org.au

SHOP TILL YOU DROP!



The Rotaract Club of Cessnock
is hosting a shopping trip to Sydney
outlets on November 9th 2013.

It will depart from Cessnock and Kurri
Kurri.

Bookings can be made by contacting
Beth at Hunter Valley Travel Con-
nections on 0467 471 855 or via email

[huntervalleytravelconnec-
tions@gmail.com](mailto:huntervalleytravelconnec-
tions@gmail.com).

For further details please visit The
Rotaract Club of Cessnock on Face-
book.



rotaractclub
ofcessnock

All correspondence on District 9670 matters to be sent to:

PO Box 357, New Lambton, NSW, 2305



district9670
community strength and values



| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3rd | Rotary Foundation Meeting (Western Region) |
| 5th | Melbourne Cup Night Rotary Club of Cardiff Eleanor Cunningham |
| 9th | Cessnock Rotaract "Shop till you Drop" Factory Outlet Shopping Trip Beth—0467-471-855 |
| 10th | Rotary Foundation Meeting (Eastern Region) |
| 14th to 16th | National Forum District RYPEN Leaders |
| 16th to 17th | "Heaven Can Wait" Charity Sailing Regatta Lake Macquarie, Toronto John Dickinson—0418-349-906 |
| 18th to 24th | GETS Training Canberra Institute |
| 26th 29th | District Conference Committee Meeting AG & Presidents Meeting Hexham |
| 29th to 30th | Interplast Fundraiser Swinging Sixties Cabaret Wendy Mason-Jones—0429-699-997 |
| 30th | Youth Exchange Program |
| Nov to 1st Dec | |

