

LIGHT UP NEWCASTLE!

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO ON SATUR-DAY? WHY NOT HEAD ON DOWN TO THE NEWCASTLE FORESHORE TO SHOW OUR DIVERSITY ...

WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES & GOALS?

CHECK OUT THE STRATEGIC PLANS FOR THE ROTARY FOUNDATION FOR THE 2015/2016 YEAR

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD!

ARE YOU TAKING YOUR CARAVAN TO THE CONFERENCE? WHY NOT FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN THE FESTIVITIES.

digest COMMUNITY, STRENGTH AND VALUES



It's all systems go for a landmark Rotary event in Newcastle on Saturday, February 21, with the Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk.

The first ever Lantern Walk will celebrate the Chinese New Year and really shine the light on the work of Rotary to the broader community.

Hundreds of people are expected to hit the Newcastle foreshore to join the walk, carrying Chinese lanterns and learning about the **diverse work** of Rotary on a local, national and international level.

For more information see the website at www.lightupnewcastle.com.au

Delight associated with the chartering of the new Rotary Club of Lake Macquarie has been heightened even more. We knew the new club would welcome 18 new members alongside two transferring Rotarians...but new to hand is the exciting **news** that another 10 good people will now be welcomed to the club when it is chartered on March 7th!! That's a club of 30 members, an outstanding result, congratulations to all involved.

The new club welcomes donations towards its establishment to acquire items from lapel pins for its members to banners, name badges

hang on for the ride! With various events showcasing the diverse work that Rotary does, District Governor Gerard McMillan updates us on the excitement sweeping across D9670 with our Conference looming, new clubs chartering and changes on the way...

This next month is shaping up to be one of the most exciting months in D9670 Rotary...so

and Rotary caps, key rings and pens. Enquiries about donations can be made to club secretary Nicole Bailey at nicolewinter@bigpond.com

This is a young, vibrant and energetic club that already has projects lined up . There is a focus on families with a strong emphasis on youth with new innovative ideas. This is a club to watch.

During the past month I have read numerous plans from clubs, among them the **membership** planning strategy of Nelson Bay. They plan to target 50 to 55 year olds to build on their already strong position to ensure their 90 per cent event attendance rate is sustained into the future.

I don't particularly like to focus on individual clubs, however I think we can all take a leaf out of the Nelson Bay Plan. Congratulations to club president Chris Bartlett and the board and members of Nelson Bay on their membership plan. It is important all clubs have a membership plan for the future. Who will you pass the baton onto. This month Rotary marks its 110th birthday - this is a long legacy and we all have an obligation to continue that legacy for the future.

Just think for a moment how poorer the world would be without the work of Rotary as we continue with the motto - Service **Above Self.**

Consider giving a personal birthday gift to The Rotary Foundation this month (times have been economically tight and sadly our figures indicate this district is being hit quite hard. The average contribution made by districts across Australia to the Foundation stands at 16 per cent but our district lags behind at just 10.6 per cent so let us all try to bring this figure up to the national average.)

District Membership chair Laurie McGrath has a number of team membership seminars lined up which will inspire. See the website for dates and locations.

The annual conference at Forster is fast approaching and on very sad note our much loved band The Chevrolets have had to withdraw due to personal reasons. In their replacement, we have The Zips concert on Saturday night and in line with the conference theme 'Waves of Change Oceans of **Opportunity'** this night will have a beach theme...so get that imagination working.

Just a reminder to all, that the Thursday night BBQ and ALL registrations will now be at Club Forster (formally known as Forster Memorial Club).

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For those travelling by caravan, there is a competition for the "**best dressed van**". This is a chance to make sure the presence of Rotary is felt in every corner of this coastal town throughout the conference

and a chance to share the **spirit of Rotary**.

It will also be wonderful to showcase the district to the **Group Study Exchange** group from Germany (and we particularly welcome District Governor Hans von Dewell from District 1900 who is coming all the way from Germany just for the District Conference) . For those thinking they may have a **distance to travel**, spare a thought for Hans.

There is so much happening at the District Conference including the **auc-tion of a beautiful quilt** made by Pam McHarg and presented to my partner Yvonne Palmer in support of her project, the **MHERV Van**, that supports men's health projects in ru-ral Australia.

Speaking of amazing women in Ro-

tary, on behalf of the district I thank Joy Walker for her dedication over the past eight years at our head office. I refer to her as '**Mrs Rotary**', nothing was ever a problem and her demeanour and professionalism will be missed—so **thank you Joy** from District 9670.

There have been a number of milestones this month including the celebration of **100 years of Rotary in Singleton** with 75 years of the Rotary Club of Singleton and 25 years with the Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter. I know the Singleton community benefits from having **two Rotary Clubs** within its community.

If you are in need of some Rotary inspiration, why not head to the D9670 **Rotary website.** There are some fantastic stories going up and I congratulate everyone behind this site for the way in which they **connect Rotarians** and the broader community.

In closing, I leave you with the words of our founder, Paul Harris: '**trust** that we may always view ourselves and our work in proper perspective; that we may **never become compla**- cent; that we stand ready to face adversity or prosperity, war or peace; that our thoughts may never become crystallized; that we may ever continue to grow. This is a CHANG-ING world; we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again'.

Yours in Rotary

Gerard McMillan





"Teenagers grow when they have opportunity to develop life skills".

Rotary District 9670 RYPEN Committee is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the RYPEN Camp to be held on the weekend of May 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2015.

D9670 Camp

Dates: 1st to 3rd May 2015.

Venue: Myuna Bay Sport & Recreation Camp

Download nomination forms from the **District Website**

Contact RYPEN Committee Chairperson—Zoey Kirwan

Mobile: 0410 664 224 Email: <u>zoey.kirwan@gmail.com</u>

What do participants say about their RYPEN and Rotary experience...

"There has never been a camp that has wowed me this much, an experience I would love to relive and share with everyone."

"Every activity was absolutely amazing! I would do this over and over again especially if it was with the same people, the best group of people I have ever met."

More information can also about RYPEN can be found on the district website and our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/RYPEN9670



What are your plans on

Saturday?

Saturday February 201 from 4pm

LIGHT UP NEWCASTLE

Honeysuckle Precinct



Don't miss the first ever Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk Help our local Rotary Clubs raise money for the Mission to Seafarers



CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR

Choose your favourite route to Honeysuckle and enjoy the festivities:

- Dragon boat races
- · Lion dancers, dragons, Chinese entertainers
- · Marching bands and choirs
- Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club sail past
- Firing of the Fort Scratchley Guns
- Fireworks



LUNAR gets a local rag plug...

District Governor, Gerard McMillan, has stumbled across a real gem in the local Singleton rag! It seems the excitement that surrounds the upcoming LUNAR event on Newcastle's Foreshore has reached the wider Hunter Valley with the Singleton Argus reporting on how the Rotary Club of Singleton will be supporting the event that is set to light up Newcastle...

"Members on a mission"

By Rod Thompson

Singleton Argus—Friday 30th January 2015

"ROTARY Club of Singleton members will join a number of their counterparts on a unique mission next month.

President Warren Deaves, along with John Arthur, Ted Drayton, Mary Deaves, Bill Gee, Cathy Gee, Sylvia Hamblin, Garry Hamblin, Barry Cox, Mel Rolfe and Anita White, are making the trek up the Hunter Expressway to participate in the inaugural Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk on Saturday, February 21.

The event, at the Honeysuckle Precinct, will also incorporate Chinese New Year celebrations.

Mr Deaves said Rotary was raising

Right: SET TO LIGHT UP NEWCASTLE: Rotary Club of Singleton members John Arthur, Ted Drayton, Mary Deaves, Bill Gee, Cathy Gee, Sylvia Hamblin, Garry Hamblin, Barry Cox, Mel Rolfe and Warren Deaves will take part in the upcoming Lantern Walk. Absent: Anita White

funds for Mission to Seafarers.

"Money from the sale of lanterns at this year's Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk will go towards the organisation," he told The Argus.

"Mission to Seafarers assists sailors visiting the Port of Newcastle with a 'home away from home' at the Seafarers Centre at Wickham.

"Currently, more than 40,000 seafarers use the services offered by the Mission each year, with transport to the centre, shopping, banking, healthcare and social and spiritual support.

"The funds raised from lantern sales will assist with the purchase of a new mini transport bus."

Mr Deaves admitted the Singleton Rotarians were looking forward to the Lantern Walk.

It's a big-scale event," he said.

"There'll be dragon boat races, lion dancers, Chinese entertainers, marching bands, choirs, firing of Fort Scratchley guns, fireworks and much more.

"It's also an opportunity for us to make a lot of money for the club.

"We'll be setting up a marquee and selling food and drinks during the afternoon."

The Lantern Walk has its origin in this year's Rotary International theme of Light up Rotary – and the challenge set by 2014-15 Rotary International President Gary CK Huang to engage in a project that involves the whole community."



⇒ CULTURE ⇒ DIVERSITY ⇒ FELLOWSHIP

Thinking of attending the 2015 RI Convention—the San Paulo 2015 Carnival?

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

Head to www

for all the latest information and don't miss out on the great events!

Interested in seeing some of the highlights of South America?

Did you know that District 9670 are organising a special escorted group tour to coincide with the 2015 RI Convention?

Contact Escape Travel Charlestown on

1300-765-128

for more details

4 reasons to buy a raffle ticket



WIN \$1,200

worth of electrical appliances from Andrew Robertson The Good Guys, Warners Bay

WIN \$3,000

worth of travel credits from **EscapeTravel**, Toronto





Proceeds from this raffle will support **Rotary Foundation's** work to eradicate polio ...forever!

worth of electrical appliances from Andrew Robertson The

WIN \$600

Good Guys, Warners Bay



Polio continues to infect and paralyse children in developing countries, robbing them of their future and compounding the hardships faced by their families. For as long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere are at risk.

After 20 years of hard work, Rotary is on the brink of eradicating this tenacious disease, but a strong push is needed now to wipe it out forever.

Your generous contribution will help fund urgent Rotary immunisation campaigns.

Tickets \$2.00 each

Competition Drawn at District 9670 Conference, Forster 22 March, 2015 – Tickets to be returned by 2 March, 2015 CFN Authority 22975





Have you or anyone you know considered Rotary Youth Exchange?

APPLY NOW!

To have the opportunity to study abroad is a life-changing experience. The Rotary Youth Exchange Program provides this opportunity.

If you are in year 9, 10 or 11 and aged between 15 and 17 years, an opportunity for a Rotary Youth Exchange in 2016 is possible. Secondary school placements are available in many countries of the world.

Students are selected on application and a personal interview with a local Rotary Club.

Application forms are available from our website and close April 1st.

Local information sessions will be held at:

Club Dubbo, Whylandra Street, West Dubbo on Thursday 26th February 2015 starting at 6:30pm.

Mudgee Golf Club, Mudgee on **Tuesday 3rd March 2015** starting at 6:30pm.

Club Macquarie, Argenton on Wednesday 4th March 2015 starting at 6:30pm.

Further information is available from:

The Chairman Denise Parkes 464 Fords Road Limeburners Creek. NSW 2324 mob: 0417 263 303 www.youthexchange.net.au

> Insurance under the Rotary Personal Accident and Travel Policy is available for Rotarians engaging in Rotary and Private travel provided some conditions are met. Inquiries about this can be directed to the District Insurance Officer at

insurance@rotary9670.org.au

Other insurance through Probus may be available for travel insurance. Members interested in finding out more should access www.probussouthpacific.org and rely on their own inquiries



2015-16 ROTARY FOUNDATION PRIORITIES AND MEASURABLE GOALS

In support of Rotary's strategic plan to support and strengthen clubs, focus and increase humanitarian service, and enhance public image and awareness, the following priorities for The Rotary Foundation are proposed for the three year period beginning 1 July 2015. The measurable goals for each priority will be subject to change each year as progress is made toward achieving the priorities.

Priority 1. End polio - Now and forever

Goals:

- A. No new cases caused by transmission of the wild polio virus.
- B. Meet the Gates challenge to secure contributions of \$35 million per year for End Polio Now.
- C. Publicize Rotary's role in the eradication of polio.
- D. Review Rotary's advocacy for polio eradication with a view to such advocacy being replicated in other humanitarian programs.

Priority 2. Strengthen Rotarians' knowledge, engagement, and financial support of The Rotary Foundation

Goals:

- A. Encourage clubs to learn more about Foundation programs by utilizing new and effective types of communications at their weekly meetings.
- B. Assure that all districts are involved in Global Grants and that at least 25% of all clubs are involved in such grants.
- C. Increase the number of clubs achieving the Every Rotarian, Every Year fundraising level by at least 15% in all districts.
- D. Increase the contributions received for the Annual Fund by at least 3% in all districts.

Priority 3. Increase the quality and impact of Rotary's humanitarian service effort through Foundation grants and the six Areas of Focus

Goals:

- A. Increase the total expenditures for Global Grants by at least 10% worldwide.
- B. Increase the number of Global Grant scholarships to at least one for all districts and an increase of at least 15% in such scholarships worldwide.
- C. Increase the number of Vocational Training Teams to at least 100 teams worldwide.
- D. Measure and evaluate Global Grants for sustainability, simplicity, and effectiveness.

Priority 4. Enhance the image and awareness of the Foundation's record of achievements, particularly the success of PolioPlus and its 100 year record of doing good in the world

Goals:

- A. Plan and implement a centennial celebration for the Foundation's 100th anniversary in 2016-17.
- B. Promote Rotary's focus on peace by scheduling an international conference for Rotarians and other prospective supporters, including government officials, non-governmental organizations, and charitable foundations.
- C. Develop at least two new Foundation initiatives to recognize and publicize the need for membership growth in clubs and districts and the positive impact on service.
- D. Increase the public awareness of Rotary by non-Rotarians as shown by their contributions to the Foundation and their participation in Rotary projects.



FOLLOW THE ROAD TO FORSTER...

A CHALLENGE FOR CARAVANING ROTARIANS

This is your opportunity to fly the flag for Rotary by attending the District 9670 Conference at Club Forster from Friday 20 to Sunday 22 March 2015.

For your chance to be the Inaugural Winner of the

DISTRICT 9670 CONFERENCE "BEST DRESSED"

CARAVAN COMPETITION

Why not try...

- ☆ Light Up Rotary by decorating your caravan
- Extra marks for demonstrating the Conference theme and the 2014-2015 Rotary theme on your caravan
- \bigstar Let the residents and visitors to Forster know the Rotary Conference is happening in town
 - ☆ Share the Rotary spirit with your fellow Rotarians

Judging will take place on Friday afternoon 20th March at the Caravan Park

Remember the Judge's decision is final and the competition rules are "The Four Way Test"

So, how do I Enter?

All you need to do is register your name at Club Forster either at the Conference Registration Desk or with the D9670 PR Team IPDG Brian Atkins & Madeleine during the Thursday evening BBQ.

How Much Does it Cost?

Your conference registration name tag covers the entry fee

What Do I Win?

Bragging rights and a "Rotary" prize









Highlights from the October 2014 Rotary International Board of Directors Meeting

The second 2014–15 RI Board of Directors meeting was held on 27–30 October 2014 in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At this meeting, the Board reviewed 15 committee reports and recorded 82 decisions.

Club and District

In reviewing districting matters, the Board reorganized:

District 3010 (India) into new Districts 3011 and 3012, effective 1 July 2015

District 3140 (India) into new Districts 3141 and 3142, effective 1 July 2016

District 3180 (India) into new Districts 3181 and 3182, effective 1 July 2016

The Board also reassigned District 2060 (Italy) from Zone 19 to Zone 12, effective 1 July 2015.

Programs and Awards

The Board agreed to create a new member benefit program that will provide participating Rotarians with discounts or reward points on a variety of products and services. Initial research and development on the program will begin immediately, with a planned program launch in July 2015.

The Board modified Rotary's calendar of special observances to designate specific months highlighting the Areas of Focus. The new special observance months are:

| September: | Basic Education and Literacy | February: | Peace and Conflict |
|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| October: | Economic and Community | A. | Prevention/Resolution |
| | Development | March: | Water and Sanitation |
| December: | Disease Prevention and Treatment | April: | Maternal and Child Health |
| January: | Vocational Service | May: | Youth Services |

To create a shared responsibility model for overseeing Rotary alumni, the Board added alumni to the list of primary responsibilities for the Rotary coordinators and Rotary public image coordinators. And to encourage more alumni to attend the international convention, the Board set a single registration fee for all non-Rotarian alumni—regardless of their year of service—that is the same as the registration fee for Rotaractors, beginning at the 2016 convention in Seoul, Korea.

The Board chose 145 recipients for the 2014–15 Service Above Self Award. The award recipients' names will be published on the RI website on 1 July 2015 and in *The Rotarian* August 2015 edition.

Administration and Finances

The Board elected Ron D. Burton, Örsçelik Balkan, Mario César de Camargo, and Thomas M. Thorfinnson to be trustees of The Rotary Foundation, beginning 1 July 2015.

The Board expanded the Innovation and Flexibility pilot program from 200 to 1,000 clubs.

Mandarin Chinese was added to the list of official languages in which Rotary provides translations of essential club and district information.

The Board approved a change in the "additional per capita dues," as provided for in the RI Bylaws, to pay for the projected expenses of the Council on Legislation from \$1.00 to \$1.50, effective 1 July 2015.

The Board accepted the audited financial statements and report on Rotary International's financial results for 2013–14. An annual report will be published in accordance with the RI Bylaws.





Rotary District 9670 Conference

Friday 20 to Sunday 22 March 2015 at Forster Tuncurry Memorial Services Club, Club Forster, Strand St. Forster NSW



WAVES of CHANGE - OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

| before the 13th February 2015 to; - | | | Post: PDG Alex McHarg 1 Sister Luke Place Singleton NSW 2330 r email to alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|--------------|-----------|----|--|
| Surname: | | | * | | | | |
| Initials: | | | Preferred nan | ne on badge: | | • | |
| Partner: | | | Preferred nan | ne on badge: | | | |
| Address: | | | | | | | |
| Suburb: | | | Postco | de: | | | |
| Phone: | | | Mob | ile: | | | |
| E-Mail: | | | | | | | |
| Club Name: | Rotary Club | | | | | | |
| | Rotarian | President | Past Presi | | PD | | YEP Student |
| Requirements | | Wheelchair | 1 ial | tic (| iluten fr | ee | Vegetarian |
| | ion Details | | | Per Person | N° of | | Amount |
| | ce Registration | | | No Fee | 1 | \$ | 0.00 |
| | | Ro, rian Partner | | No Fee | 1 | \$ | 0.00 |
| | ce Regi tration | | | \$15.00 | | \$ | |
| 4 Conferen | Registanon | isitor Partner | | \$15.00 | 1 | \$ | |
| 5 Thursday | ig⊳ RB⊖ | | | \$ 25.00 | | \$ | |
| 6 Fi day Ni | ig t Welcome F | unction (buffet di | nner) | \$ 40.00 | | \$ | |
| 7 Satu 1 | Breakfast – RA | WCS Presentation | 1 | \$ 25.00 | [| \$ | |
| 8 Luncheon | n Saturday | | | \$25.00 | | \$ | |
| 9 Saturday Night Dinner Dance | | | | \$ 50.00 | | \$ | |
| 10 Sunday E | Breakfast – Men | bership Developn | nent | \$25.00 | | \$ | |
| 11 Youth Ex | change Student | | | \$ 125.00 | | \$ | |
| Payment deta Cheque: EFT | Please | by – please tick ar make cheques or l 7 000 ACC l | EFT payable to: | Rotary Distr | | | erence Committee Initials & last name |

Please insure you enter your initials and last name as reference for EFT, and forward this form as indicated above.

Sorry, no refunds or cancellations after the 1st of March 2015.

All registrations received before the 31 December 2014 will go into a lucky draw for a Case of Wine

Please Register me for the Grants Workshop – 10:00am 20 March 2015 Forster Tuncurry Memorial Services club



March is shaping up to be busy...

Getting in ahead of time, Rotary Clubs from across the District are planning various events and they would love to see you there. Why not check out the advertisements below and "What's On in March" and start filling up your calendars with these great events. And don't forget...the RI District 9670 Conference is fast approaching...









District Membership & Community Involvement

Looks like 2015 is off to a great start...**Peter Sivyer, District Attendance, Participation and Contributions Chair** reports on how District 9670 tracked for the first month of 2015 and looks forward to receiving more information from each club, each month, over the Rotary year.

| | CLUB STATIS | STICS - | JANUA | RY 20 | 15 |
|---|-----------------------|---------|-------|-------|------|
| | ROTARY CLUB | MEMBERS | HOURS | % | RANK |
| | Adamstown New Lambton | 27 | | 89.5 | 2 |
| Every month, Rotary Clubs all over our | Belmont | 26 | | 89.4 | 3 |
| District catch up at meetings, partici- | Cardiff | 12 | 12 | 83 | 6 |
| pate in community | Cobar | 14 | 11 | 79.17 | 9 |
| projects and donate their time, money | Dubbo | 21 | 32 | 75 | 11 |
| and resources to | Dubbo Macquarie | 25 | 119 | 91.3 | 1 |
| causes far and wide. | Dubbo South | 58 | 50 | 51.28 | 20 |
| | Dubbo West | 46 | 52 | 64.2 | 16 |
| | East Maitland | 39 | 44 | 60.97 | 18 |
| 🔀 what knowing how your club is | Kurri Kurri Sunrise | 22 | | 68 | 15 |
| participating? Why | Maitland | 40 | 97 | 56.1 | 19 |
| not head to our new District website to | Merriwa | 19 | | 85.5 | 4 |
| check out what's | Myall Coast | 30 | 233 | 80 | 4 |
| been reported at www.rotary9670.org.au | Nelson Bay | 54 | | 85 | 5 |
| <u>www.rotary9070.0rg.au</u> | Rutherford -Telarah | 36 | 200 | 69.9 | 14 |
| Can't see your club's stats here? Why not | Salamander Bay | 34 | | 64 | 17 |
| send an update to | Singleton | 39 | | 75 | 11 |
| ppsivyer@bigpond.com and we will add them to | Wallsend Maryland | 32 | 46 | 72 | 13 |
| our next edition. | Waratah | 20 | | 79.4 | 8 / |
| | Williamstown | 21 | 346 | 78 | 10 |

Do you have something to add to the District Digest?



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 <u>districtnewsletter@rotary9670.org.au</u> 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!





RLI – Exploring Rotary

Guest Speakers



Are you looking for guest speakers at your Club?

The RLI Team has Facilitators from the program who would like to visit with you and your members to let you know what the RLI Program is all about.

I

Team members are ready to travel to your club to provide a presentation at a time and place to suit you.

Want more information about the program, or to arrange a guest speaker?

Contact Bob Main from the RLI team at:

Email: robhel4@bigpond.com

Phone: (02) 4960 1982

Mobile: 0432-398-737





