

#### LIGHT UP NEWCASTLE!

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF ROTARY TO NEWCASTLE THIS FEBRU-ARY...GET ALL THE DETAILS OF HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED.



RIDE FOR THE FOUNDATION

- CHECK OUT HOW YOU CAN EARN
- PAUL HARRIS RECOGNITION POINTS WHILE CYCLING FOR A
- GOOD CAUSE...

PADDLES UP!

Enjoy some fun in the sun on Lake Macquarie for a great cause.

## COMMUNITY, STRENGTH AND VALUES



I trust that you have all had a restful festive season – we are now back for the second half of the year as we take on the theme to "*Light Up Rotary*."

As clubs start to come back after the break, I hope you have all **re-charged your batteries** and look ahead with optimism for the future.

On February 23rd, Rotary will celebrate its **110th birthday** so it is appropriate that we focus on the fantastic work of Rotary over the past 110 years.

We need to ensure that the **legacy of** that work continues as we carry on the good work that Rotary is doing in our local communities and on the international scene as well. It is great to see clubs working together towards a common good. They are not only working with other Rotary Clubs but are also working with other service clubs like Apex and Lions and all sorts of organisations that have a common goal to reach out to our communities.

I'd like to congratulate the Rotary Club of Newcastle on their "Light Up Newcastle" Project, particularly President Graham Clark and Maree Gleeson who is co-ordinating what will be an amazing night in Newcastle on February 21st. The Club has well and truly accepted the challenge of As we return to another exciting year or Rotary, **District Governor Gerard McMillan** updates us on some of the fantastic events and goals we have to look forward to over 2015. The great work that we do as Rotarians across our District is reflected in the diversity of the Projects that we do, this edition is jam-packed full of examples of these...enjoy the read...

Rotary International President Gary Huang to "Light Up Rotary" – what better than to have a Chinese Lantern Walk? This event on the Newcastle foreshore is supported by a number of Rotary Clubs and I would **encour**age Rotarians, their families and their friends to get to Newcastle to Light Up Newcastle, to celebrate the Chinese New Year and to raise much needed funds for the Seafarers Mission.

This will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase what Rotary does both locally and internationally with our main humanitarian project of eradicating polio. It is also an opportunity for Clubs to spread information about their own clubs with the potential of attracting new members to join the ranks of Rotary.

Another example of clubs working together is the **PaddleFest** in March with Toronto Rotary Clubs. **Loop the Lake** is a cycle event organised by Warners Bay Club and supported by other Rotary Clubs in the area to make this another opportunity to "Light Up Rotary" to the broader community whilst continuing to **raise funds for Rotary projects**.

One of the most pleasing honours for any District Governor is the charter of a new club and I'm proud to say a number of people have worked extremely hard to establish a new club in the **Rotary Club of Lake Macquarie**. I make mention of Charter President Duncan Burck, District Membership Chair AG Laurie McGrath, our District New Club Co-Ordinator, District Governor Elect Adrian Roach and Past District Governor Brian Atkins for their hard work in making this happen. The charter night is on March 7th at Club Macquarie at 6.30pm. Tickets are available at \$40.

digest

Our **District Conference** will be held from March 20th to 22nd in Forster with the theme "Waves of Change – Oceans of Opportunities". I am pleased to announce that Rotary International President Gary Huang will be represented by PDG Kamal Sanghvi and his spouse Sonal.

Also in attendance will be two other current District Governors which is **quite a rare scenario**. We will have District Governor of our host District 9650, Greg Moran, who will speak at the Saturday morning breakfast. The other current District Governor is Hans von Dewall from District 1900 in Germany. Our current Group Study Exchange is with District 1900 and indeed it will be a tremendous honour for our District to have DG Hans von Dewall attend our conference. Past District Governor of 9650, Neville Parsons, will also speak on Sunday morning about membership.

(Continued on Page 2...)

(Continued from Page 1...)

Neville is also a director of Rotary Down Under and I will be honoured and privileged to have him in attendance.

Confirmation of a positive response from Forster Council has been received for the **bridge walk** which will be a spectacular sight with the inbound Youth Exchange students carrying their National flags, wearing End Polio T-Shirts, followed by Rotarians. This will be another great opportunity to "Light Up Rotary" to the community.

Next month, the theme is about **Peace and Conflict Prevention and Resolution** – what a timely topic given the current conflict around the world. We are now looking for **Peace Scholarship recipients**.

These are scholarships for post graduate scholars to apply to **study peace and conflict resolution**. Past President Alan Moir is seeking applications on behalf of this District. He will be seeking suitable candidates.

If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please go on the District or Rotary International website. **Time is running out** for the next group of applicants so don't delay.

This new initiative for our District has been a **Rotary International Pro**gramme for a number of years and is open to any post graduate from a legal, educational, medical, scientific or economic degree – anyone who wants to **develop their knowledge and understanding and put that to good use to go out and help in the world**. Past recipients have gone on to work for the United Nations and other organisations who do good in the world.

On that note I wish you all a wonderful 2015. May we **continue to work towards the goals of Rotary** to improve the lives of those around us.

Yours in Rotary

Gerard McMillan

# GSE preparations continue...

As their departure date of May 2015 approaches, the outgoing D9670 GSE team are preparing for their adventure to Germany! **GSE Team Leader Birgit Smith** updates the District on how the team are preparing with their regular workshops, which recently afforded the team some time to volunteer at a local Community Cinema Project...

Guten Tag! The District 9670 GSE team are well underway with their preparation for their exchange to Germany in May.

Team members recently visited the gorgeous town of Mudgee, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of Team Leader, Birgit Smith and her husband Ross, for a weekend workshop.

The weekend presented a great opportunity for the team to bond and to brush up on some German language skills, with Birgit having arranged some German speaking volunteers who put the team through their paces. The highlight of the weekend was certainly the morning spent volunteering at the Rotary Clubs of Mudgee community cinema—a fantastic initiative of the Clubs which provides affordable entertainment to local families and raises significant funding for other community projects in the area. It turns out the team is quite skilled in ushering, candy bar and tickets sales!

The team is looking forward to their continued experience with Rotary and particularly meeting more Rotarians – next stop District Conference.

You can follow the team's blog: at

#### www.gse2015.tumblr.com

The outbound team from District 9670 is led by Rotarian Birgit Smith from Rotary Club of Mudgee, and includes:

- Usman Bhatti (sponsored by Rotary Club of Charlestown); Immigration lawyer, HR manager
- ☆ Karina Keeton (sponsored by Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise); Local lands officer
- ☆ Jessica Orman (sponsored by Rotary Club of Greenhills-Maitland); Dietician
- Jessie White (sponsored by Rotary Club of Lake Macquarie); Sponsorship Coordinator











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





# Cycling for Paul Harris Points...

This year, D9670 are putting together a Rotary Foundation Committee Challenge to gain Paul Harris Recognition points while you're wheeling along. **PDG Alex McHarg** updates D9670 on how the Rotary Foundation Committee will be partnering up with the "Loop the Lake" cycle ride and puts the challenge to each Rotary Club to get organised for the cycle of a lifetime...

### <u>The Challenge</u>

For a team of riders representing your Club to ride the maximum kilometres of any team (after the age factor is applied) in the Rotary Club of Warners Bay's 2015 '*Loop the Lake'* Cycle Ride.

#### <u>The Team</u>

The team is to be made up of riders associated with the entering Club, 10% of the team must be Rotarians from the Club.

Other team members can be relatives of Rotarians (not necessarily of those who are riding).

Other members can be 'Friends of Rotary' (sign some up to take part and slowly bring them into Rotary).

#### <u>The Prize</u>

There will be five prizes. The size of the prize will depend on the number of entries forming the Stake. The prizes will be paid into the Annual Program Fund of the Rotary Foundation in the winning Club's name.

1st Prize	50% of the stake
2nd prize	20% of the stake
3rd Prize	15% of the stake
4th Prize	10% of the stake
Last place	5% of the stake

### The Stake

The stake to be paid by each team member is \$100.00 (it is recommended that Clubs seek sponsorship from local organisations to fund this).

#### **Entries**

Each rider is required to enter separately into the '*Loop the Lake'* event and to agree to all conditions associated with the '*Loop the Lake'* event. (this can be done online or on the day).

Entry into the challenge will be done by the Clubs prior to the event as riders ages will be required to allow for the age calculation, and for the supply of identification material for riders entered into the challenge.

#### <u>Notes</u>

- If you are not a regular exerciser it is always a good idea to consult your doctor before starting any strenuous exercise training.
- The 'Loop the Lake' has several different ride lengths and the rider must complete the distance between recognised starting points. The District Foundation Committee will have marshals at these points to record each rider's progress.

- Depending on advice from Rotary's insurers, Riders may be asked to sign an additional waiver if the 'Loop the Lake' conditions are not seen as covering everything required by them for the challenge.
- Winning team determined by adding the distance covered by each member of the tem and then multiplying the total distance by the average age of the team.

Two train-G rides are being organised by the Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter on the Hunter Expressway. The first on 30th November from Branxton to Kurri and return to Branxton, approximately 50 kilometres. The second again on the Hunter Expressway 8th February 2015 from Branxton to Cameron park Drive and return to Branxton, approximately 80 kilometres. If you would like more

Would you or your Club like to know more? Why not contact PDG Alex McHarg for more details on alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com Tel 6573 1647 or Mob 0409 324 403







# 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



## 2014-2015

# ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM INBOUND STUDENTS

Over 2014-2015, District 9670 has become the "temporary" home for 19 international students.

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

- 🖈 NAME: Marie Nicolai
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Liege, Belgium
- \* HOST CLUB: The Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter
- ☆ SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...

I have been in Australia for 3 months and my most memorable moment so far is when I went camping in the Blue Mountains. I was with another exchange student, Clemence, and her host dad. This camp was provided with camping gear and Clemence's host dad knows a lot about the bush and outdoors and it was very interesting and helpful for us.



I keep thinking about these amazing look-outs, bush-walking, landscapes and places where we were sleeping. It was just unbelievable!

Moreover, I spent a wonderful time with Clemence with whom I get on very well.

★ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

T-bone steak on the barbecue with corn and fried onions

- ☆ NAME: Marti Pardo Llorente
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Lloret de Mar, Spain
- HOST CLUB: The Rotary Club of Dubbo South
- ☆ SO, YOU'VE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, TELL US WHAT YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT HAS BEEN SO FAR...

When I went with my sponsor Rotary club (Dubbo South) to what we call 'Destination Outback'. On this trip we went by car through the desert to Alice Springs where we visited the Ayers Rock.



☆ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

## Sausage sandwich

- 🖈 NAME: Magdalena Bachurska
- ☆ HOMETOWN: Poland
- HOST CLUB: The 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...



Every day in Australia is special for me, but the first week in Sydney was filled with memorable moments, which I spent with my fabulous counsellor and her family.

I had an opportunity to see a big part of this beautiful city and I met incredible people who are now very important in my life .

☆ WHAT IS SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE AUSSIE TUCKER SO FAR?

All seafood



## Paddlefest 2015 Events include:

- Stand Up Paddle 5km Challenge, **Sprint & Beginner Events**
- 5km, 10km & 20km Kayak & **Sprint Events**
- Five Islands Discovery Paddle

- Dragon Boat Races
- Yachties Tender Race
- Outrigger Races
- School Team Challenge
- Trade Displays

Funds raised for Cancer Council Enrich Program and **Emergency Department at John Hunter Hosptial** 

For more details visit: www.paddlefest.com.au





# De De Lake Macquarie Paddlefest

## 2015 Events

## **Mulit Registration Special**

\$25 fee covers any combination of individual (adult) events (Kayak & SUP)

\$40 fee covers any combination of individual & team (adult) events (Kayak and/or SUP + Dragon Boat and/or Outrigger)

#### Stand Up Paddlers 8:00am REGISTER 9:00am RACE

EVENT: 5km Challenge 3km Discovery (for beginners) 200m Sprint

ENTRY FEE: \$25 for one or more events Juniors (Under 16) \$10

## **Dragon Boats**

7:30am REGISTER 9:00am RACE

EVENT: Dragon Boat Races

ENTRY FEE: \$25/person \$500 for teams of 20 people



So stay all day and have fun for a great cause!

# Christmas carnival success...

Christmas came with a bundle load of cheer last year for Kandos with the Christmas Carnival and Carols being a shining success. **Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos member Elizabeth McKay,** gives us a rundown on the Club's celebrations that proved popular with the young and old...

The Rylstone Kandos Christmas Carnival was held immediately prior to the Carols this year and proved very popular with young and old.

Live music played between the ever popular Chocolate Wheel spins, jumping castles and merry go round added to the carnival atmosphere.

Stallholders had the choice of being inside the Kandos Community Hall and protected from the weather; but others chose to be outside.

Santa arrived with the beautiful Sophia Loren who pulled the wagon of sweets for the children.

As evening approached, the carols started and with it the wonderful sense of the Christmas season. Through the support of Mid-Western Council, a free sausage sizzle was cooked by the Men's Shed and served by Rotarians.

A second visit by Santa was wel-

comed by all the children and with "candles" glowing and voices singing, Christmas is upon us all.

The Rylstone Kandos Rotary Club wishes everyone a Happy and Safe Christmas and new year.



Above: Come in Spinner!! David Fuller and David Roach spin the wheel at the Rylstone Kandos Christmas Carnival. Top Right: Members of the Rylstone Kandos Rotary Club welcome Klaus Keck and Sophia Loren with sweets for the children.

Bottom Right: Amanda Roach's smiling face welcomes customers to the sausage sizzle at the Carnival.





# ⇒ CULTURE⇒ DIVERSITY

# 



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.riconvention.org

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



## 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

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Phone:			Mobi	le:				
E-Mail:								
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	Rotarian	President	Past Presid	lent		PD	G	YEP Student
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4 Conferen	nce Registration	Visitor Partner		\$15.00			\$	
5 Thursday	V Night BBQ			\$ 25.00		\$		
6 Friday Night Welcome Function (buffet dinner)		\$ 40.00		\$				
7 Saturday Breakfast – RAWCS Presentation		\$ 25.00			\$			
8 Luncheon Saturday		\$25.00			\$			
9 Saturday	Night Dinner D	ance		\$ 50	00		\$	
10 Sunday H	Breakfast – Men	ıbership Developı	nent	\$25.	00		\$	
11 Youth Ex	xchange Student			\$ 125	.00		\$	
Payment det: Cheque:		by – please tick a make cheques or				ict 9670	Confe	erence Committee

EFT To BSB 637 000 ACC No

719445918 Reference Your 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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





The Rotary Club of Salamander Bay invites you to join us in celebrating

## **International Women's Day 2015**

- Theme "MAKE IT HAPPEN"
  - Encouraging effective action for advancing and recognising women
- Venue Wests Nelson Bay Diggers, 88 Shoal Bay Rd, Nelson Bay
- Date Saturday 7th March 2015
- Time 6.30pm 11.30pm

Guest Speaker - Karen Dewey BA Communications (with Distinction) Head of Reality & Factual - Nine Network Author of two biographies

Over her many years in the industry Karen has worked for all three commercial networks playing a key role in the development of new formats and the adaptation of International formats for an Australian audience. Karen has been directly involved in the production of programs such as *Celebrity Apprentice, Secret Millionaire, Top Gear, RPA, RBT, My Restaurant Rules, Harry's Practice, The Midday Show with Ray Martin* and *Good Morning Australia,* among others. Karen has also written two biographies – *Angry "Scarred for Life"* on Angry Anderson and *Marcia "Diva"* about Marcia Hines



## Entertainment - DJ

Major Beneficiary of funds raised from the evening - Yacaaba Centre, Port Stephens

#### **Ticket Prices -**

\$60.00 Per Guest (Includes 2 course meal)

\$880.00 For Corporate Table of 8 (Includes 2 Course Meal + All Drinks)

\$1100.00 For Corporate Table of 10 (Includes 2 Course Meal + All Drinks)

## BOOK TICKETS NOW at WESTS DIGGERS CLUB

Via Reception Desk or Phone West's Booking Line 49 811344



# District Membership & Community Involvement

So we are back for 2015...**Peter Sivyer, District Attendance, Participation and Contributions Chair** reports on how District 9670 tracked for the last month of 2014 and looks forward to receiving more information from each club, each month, over the Rotary year.

	CLUB STATIS	STICS -	DECEM	1BER 2	2014
	ROTARY CLUB	MEMBERS	HOURS	%	RANK
Eveny menth Detany	Adamstown New Lambton	28		72	20
Every month, Rotary Clubs all over our	Belmont	29		98.4	1
District catch up at meetings, partici-	Charlestown	46	150	82.1	9
pate in community projects and donate	Cobar	14	45.5	92.31	2
their time, money	Dubbo	24	203	83.33	8
and resources to	Dubbo Macquarie	25	181	91.67	3
causes far and wide.	Dubbo South	56	64	84.97	5
	Dubbo West	46	120	76.6	16
Interested in what	Kurri Kurri Sunrise	22	43	66	21
knowing how your club is participating?		40	259	81.5	11
Why not head to our	Merriwa	19		91.5	4
new District web-	Muswellbrook	28		84	6
🔵 out what's been	Myall Coast	30	220	74	19
reported at	Narromine	12	66	77	15
www.rotary9670.org.au	Nelson Bay	58		78.48	13
	Rutherford -Telarah	37	127	83.66	7
Can't see your club's	Salamander Bay	34		78	14
stats here? Why not send an update to	Singleton	39		75	18
ppsivyer@bigpond.com and we will add them to	Toronto Sunrise	31	60	55	22
our next edition.	Waratah	20		80.4	12
	Williamstown	21	117	76.19	17

## 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!





The Rotary Club of Ioronto Sunrise, District 9670, Australia is delighted to welcome to our District, the Group Study Exchange Jeam, from

## D1900 Germany

A Welcome Function is being held at

Royal Motor Yacht Club, Arnott Street, Toronto

Tuesday 10 March 2015, 6:30 for 7:00pm \$38.00 per person

Rolarians, Parlners, and Friends are invited to altend Please RSVP to: Graeme Hooper email <u>hoopergs@gmail.com</u> by Friday 27 February 2015

"Promoting World Peace through Understanding"

### PAYMENT

BSB 062 822 ~ A/C 17049196 with your name and Club name Cheques payable to: Rotary Club of Toronto Sunrise

Dollina Renton / Pam Dean-Jones Co Presidents Graeme Kooper 958 2015 Welcoming Coordinator











Germany - Comflow





7th	Membership Workshop
	Club Macquarie, Argenton
	Lawrence McGrath
	membership@rotary9670.org.au
8th	Train-G Ride
	Branxton to Cameron Park (return)
	Alex McHarg
	0409-324-403
	alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com
13th	<b>Registrations for the D9670 District</b>
TOUL	Registrations for the D9070 District
1501	Conference close!
21st	-
	Conference close!
	Conference close! Light Up Newcastle
	Conference close! Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk
	Conference close! Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk Honeysuckle Precinct
21st	Conference close! Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk Honeysuckle Precinct www.lightupnewcastle.com.au
21st	Conference close! Light Up Newcastle Lantern Walk Honeysuckle Precinct www.lightupnewcastle.com.au Lake Macquarie Paddlefest

All correspondence on District 9670 matters to be sent to: PO Box 348, Singleton, NSW, 2330



