



Issue 6  
DECEMBER 2018

Rotary  
District 9670



# Coffey Break

Monthly Newsletter of District Governor 2018-19



## Inside this issue

DG Monthly Report.....	1-3
Drought Response.....	4-5
"Be the Inspiration"	
Malaria Vaccine.....	6
Peace Ambassadors.....	6
Real Schoolies in PNG.....	7
YE Students helping out.....	7
Rotary Foundation.....	8
District Conference.....	9-10
"Coffey on the Go".....	11
District Notices.....	12



*As we move into the Christmas break, it is time for us all to take a breath and enjoy time with family and friends.*



Many Presidents may recall the dreadful news I received from my younger brother at the time of my last birthday, when he was diagnosed with rampant cancer. Understandably, we were not looking forward to what this Christmas was forecasted to bring to our family. Clubs were on warning that, on short notice, we may have been forced to cancel our proposed visits. Presidents and members responded with understanding and compassion. The good news is that we were able to get through all our amazing club visits, with wonderful cooperation and 100% completion of the Effective Planning Guide!

We have been so fortunate to meet some amazing people doing incredible things for their communities. We worked these meetings around our family commitments and are now enthusiastically ready for the next phase.

I have just received marvelous news that my brother's chemo tablets had immediate results, virtually working overnight! His tumors have now decreased by 80%; his specialist has him on 1 more visit and then doesn't want to see him for another 6 months!

When significant things like this happen you have to sit back and work out how to balance the volunteer urge, created by being in company of so many good people locally and around the world, with unforeseen situations in your personal life.

*Continued page 2*



## NOVEMBER SUMMARY

November resulted in just 3 official club visits, plus 2 other club visits (one my own Clubs AGM – where I took on the role of President), a President, Chairs & AG meeting, a Youth and Membership Directors planning meeting, RYPEN, a drought meeting and an urgent call to step in and address an organisation about Rotary, when their original guest speaker was, at short notice, unable to attend. In addition I went to three Rotary related funerals (see below) plus one of my friends but was unable to make a former workmates due to being out in Wellington.

To sit back as District Governor at two of the meetings, I was humbled by some flattering comments about Carol and myself - this is all the gratification you need.

---

*A simple thank you and reassuring acknowledgement that we are trying to make a difference in someone's life – only to discover that it has made such a positive difference in our own.*

---

As I say in my personal Rotary story 'The greatest gift we can give is our time.' However, the most enjoyment came when I was shared in on a gracious members comment to Secretary Nicole for her 'Weekly Wrap' efforts. I know how much work she does and what this meant to her. The same kudos must go to the 'Coffey Break' editor Graham Taylor (Mudgee) – it is his work, but I get a lot of praise for it.



I reflected on our 'Service Above Self' motto recently at RYPEN; to learn that **Mike and Carol Jones (Dubbo West Rotary)** had dropped everything to ensure the young students from their region were brought in to the camp at Myuna Bay. Such a selfless effort with Carol in extreme discomfort. This was an opportunity to give a clear message to the students and parents, that Rotarians do not donate their time and skills for the fame, or popularity – and they do not want anything in return.

Rotarians are the best people in this world, and I felt it appropriate to recognise Mike with one of the new novelty Rotary Hero pins, designed in Australia by the infamous Evan Burrell, and Carol with one of my own 'Be The Inspiration' theme pins.

I also presented a Hero badge to **RYPEN Chair, Zoey Kirwan** (see photo right) for the way that she leads by example and how she has become a role model for integrity and her willingness to help those in need.

These hero badges are readily available. They are not meant to be a District or Club recognition but there is no reason you cannot say 'thank you' to a member who is out there 'making a difference' – or, more correctly this year, 'inspiring' others. Rotarians are truly modern-day superheroes, making a difference in the community. Consider buying one of these and wearing it with pride – after all you deserve it. They are a great conversation starter for our children, friends, partners, or community members - anyone we interact with can be inspired in some small way by our actions and deeds.



---

*"Today I was awarded with a Rotary hero award.. one of the first few to receive one in D9670!! I am extremely grateful for this Brian Coffey"..... Zoey Kirwan 18 November*

---

## DROUGHT RELIEF

It is so inspiring to hear that many of our District Clubs and individual Rotarians have supported the drought relief efforts. During the course of my club visits in November, the **Rotary Club of Paterson** confirmed a contribution of \$9,000 to the co-sponsored, *Channel 9/National Farmers Federation*, - National Drought Relief Appeal - a tremendous effort with support from the local community.

Our District Appeal also got a massive boost during November with a marvelous donation of over \$15,000 from the **Cessnock Rotary Club** Golf Day. A week later PDG Gerard McMillan arranged for me to address the Clubs NSW – Hunter Zone dinner. The licensed clubs committee, Cessnock Leagues and Belmont 16's, pledged another \$15,000 with Singleton Diggers, Weston Workers and others intending to run it past their Boards.

If Rotary Clubs and members wish to donate to this tax-deductible fund it will be active for 3 years – a period shorter than the effect of this massive drought.

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/33-2018-19>

## DISTRICT ROTARY FOUNDATION

Last week's District committee meeting was lively with some exciting changes and ventures planned by an enthusiastic "JJ" (PDG Janet Jackson) and her team.

Ladies don't put your Cup heels, dresses and fascinators away – we are planning a country horse race meeting rather than a dinner. Members responded so well to recent social opportunities with, 'Bugger the Drought' at Merriwa, and the successful Polio screenings of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' at Newcastle, Greenhills, Singleton and Dubbo. Members are now calling for more District social opportunities.

---

*The Foundation is delivering – let's support them, do more good and have lots of fun.*

---

## AGM REMINDER

With Christmas coming, please don't forget to elect a Club Representative and join us for the AGM, either in person or via Zoom. We had a record number attend the President Chairs and AG meeting via Zoom during the month – it works well!. <https://zoom.us/j/8896709670>

District Secretary, Nicole, has sent out all the information in a reminder on 26 November.

## A FEW DISTRICT REMINDERS FOR THE NEW YEAR

### February

- 8 Presidents Chairs and AG's meeting – Rutherford – ALL members welcome
- 10 There's a hole in the Bucket – Membership Retention – Interactive session
- 16 Light Up Newcastle lantern march
- 17 Rotary Foundation meeting - Rutherford
- 22-23 AG Training
- 24 Chairs Training
- 23-24 RAWCS Eastern Region – Casula

### March

- 30 Walk for Polio – Newcastle Foreshore (organised by D9685 Conference)

## and finally.....

Enjoy the break from Rotary – have a wonderful Christmas and most importantly stay safe, catch up with family and loved ones and be assured that although your Rotary work may not have given you any wealth in return, you have certainly earned a lot of love and prayers. May you always remain happy and thank you for everything you have and continue to achieve in this great District.

*Yours in Rotary, Brian*

PS - remember to come back next year.  
Volunteers are rather difficult to find,  
because they are one in a million. Thank you. 😊

## *in Memoriam*

*Sadly, during November we have been made aware of the loss of several stalwarts of Rotary and their communities. Our thoughts are with Lyn Kidd, Carol McEwan, Norm Burton, and their families and friends with the loss of these treasures.*

*Lindsay Kidd*

13.11.18 aged 77  
Charter member of Paterson  
Rotary Club, builder and  
devoted community member

*Jan McEwan*

23.11.18 aged 74  
Past member of East Maitland  
Rotary Club and generous  
auditor to the District

*Maureen Burton*

23.11.18 aged 85  
wife of East Maitland  
Club member and generous  
Rotarian Norm Burton



# Our District helping Drought Affected Communities

## ROTARY CLUB OF COBAR

Members of the Rotary Club of Cobar are supporting farmers in the far west with drought relief efforts. Farmers asking for help are being provided with grocery packs, drinking water and working-dog food to help ease the financial burden during these tough times.

On 9 November a road train with 81 large bales of hay arrived in Tilpa a small village 180 kms west of Cobar on the Darling River. This hay was purchased with funding sourced from the Rotary District 9670 RAWCS/RABS project.

Another road train was due in Tilpa before month end with more support probably required in the future.



## ROTARY CLUB OF DUBBO SOUTH

During November, members from the Rotary Club of Dubbo South, supported the farming community at Toongi with a BBQ.

A great initiative by the Club to bring the community together and give the local farming families a rest from the ongoing drought concerns.

Much appreciated by all concerned.





## Our District helping Drought Affected Communities... Continued

### ROTARY CLUBS OF MUDGEE, RYLSTONE-KANDOS & MUDGEE SUNRISE

To better serve the widespread needs of NSW's Mid-Western regional community the Rotary clubs of Mudgee, Rylstone-Kandos & Mudgee Sunrise have combined their drought relief resources.

In partnership with a local welfare support agency, "We Care," the funds from the Rotary District 9670 RAWCS/RABS project are being used to support those most in need.



Rotary Club Presidents Amanda Roach (Rylstone Kandos), Howard Berridge (Mudgee Sunrise) & Chris Stephens (Mudgee) with DGN David Roach and the "We Care" volunteer staff.

### ROTARY CLUBS OF NARROMINE, EAST MAITLAND, KURRI KURRI, CESSNOCK & NELSON BAY

The above Rotary Clubs and their supporters, recently came together to help a small, NSW farming community in Tottenham with a donation of \$8,750. The donation was a massive boost to the Tottenham Central School and helps reduce the costs to families for school excursions this year.

During November, year 3-6 students travelled to Dubbo for an overnight excursion. Activities included Inflatable World, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Ten Pin Bowling, a Zoo Snooze and Flip Out.

A great time was had by all.



## Club Raises over \$15,000 for Drought Relief



Cessnock Club President Dave Owens & DG Brian Coffey with The Vintage Club members John Retallick (left) and Tom Hannah (Right).

**Cessnock Rotary Club** teamed up with **The Vintage Golf Club** to run a charity golf day to raise drought relief money for farmers in the Hunter Valley.

**The event was a huge success with more than \$15,000 raised by golfers and other donations on the day.**

As well as golf the event included a lunch which was well supported by local wineries and other sponsors. Additionally, a number of valuable items were donated for auction. During November, proceeds from the day were presented to the Rotary Club by members of The Vintage Golf Club (see photo left).

## Malaria Vaccine Project: A time for Celebration and Challenge

### Cases

216 million malaria cases  
worldwide in 2016

### Deaths

445,000 malaria deaths  
worldwide in 2016



*"Malaria is one of the killer diseases of the world. Approximately 65% of cases occur in children under 15 years old. Maternal malaria is associated with up to 200,000 estimated infant deaths annually."*

*The partnership between Rotary District 9640 and the Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University on the Gold Coast, is giving hope for the development of a new malaria vaccine. The following article, was published in my fellow DG, Jitendra Prasad's newsletter, and reports on the status of the project."*  
.....DG Brian Coffey

I am delighted to announce that the Malaria Vaccine Project has reached its \$500,000 target to support the critical clinical trials of Professor Michael Good's promising vaccine PlasProtect® in a non-endemic country Australia. This is a marvellous effort in less than 2 years with Rotary doing the heavy lifting having raised nearly \$320,000. A BIG thank you to Rotary districts, clubs and members in Australia and PNG.

It is indeed a time for great celebration because with this money supporting the research program, the clinical trials to test the efficacy of the vaccine have actually commenced with the first participants starting their vaccine injections in late August. They will have three injections of the vaccine followed by the injection of a malaria parasite to assess how well the vaccine works. It is an exciting time for all concerned.

Please continue to help us reach this target of \$1,000,000. Thanks to your help we are already HALF-WAY there and we are hoping that governments, corporate bodies and private individuals can be persuaded to carry a much greater share of the burden. We need Rotarians to raise another \$250,000 and for various reasons we have to complete this task by December 2019. This is our challenge to you and we know that there is no organisation in Australia or the world with a more established humanitarian record than Rotarians.

PDG Graham Jones,  
Chair of the Malaria Vaccine Project Committee

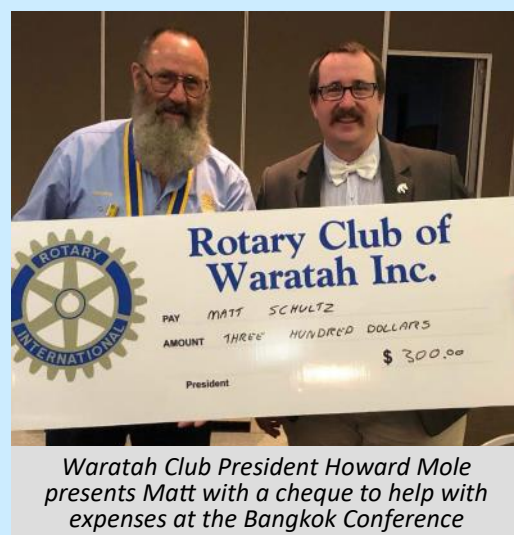
## Rotarian making his mark on the International stage

Rotarian Matt Schultz from the **Warners Bay Rotary Club** is having a very productive few months. Firstly, in his role as team leader of Human Society and It's Environment (HSIE), he helped guide St. Philips College to success in the recent national MUNA competition which secured the College a place in the 2019 Model UN Conference at Yale University in 2019.



Secondly, Matt has now been invited and accepted as a delegate, at the inaugural Emerging Leaders' Peace Summit held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok.

The 2018 Summit brings together 500 emerging world leaders (aged 17-35) from across the globe, to discuss and strengthen peace efforts. Delegates will also be tasked to be Humanitarian Affairs Peace Ambassadors for 2019.



Waratah Club President Howard Mole presents Matt with a cheque to help with expenses at the Bangkok Conference

*"I would love to do something within District 9670 to promote peace to young people."*

*"I am more than happy to speak at clubs across the District and beyond, about my experiences at the Summit & in my capacity as a young Rotarian and Humanitarian Affairs Peace Ambassador (for 2019). I have extensive public speaking experience."*

*I am passionate to be an inspiration as a Peace Ambassador."*

.....Matt Schultz



## “Real Schoolies” make a Difference in PNG

Monday 19th November 2018, a team of 13 people left Maitland at 4am to Sydney airport flying, via Port Moresby, to Mt Hagen in the highlands of Papua New Guinea (PNG).



The team included Members of the Rotary Club of Greenhills; Team leaders Adrian and Christine Roach, Project & District Treasurer Pat Healey, with Katie Whelan-Simm and Rhiannon Varley as team mentors. The six ‘real schoolies’ came from Maitland Grossman, Scone, Lake Macquarie and Rutherford schools. None of the schoolies had ever been to a country like PNG and for three, it was their first time on a plane. Additionally, two Rotarians from Moruya joined the group to teach family planning.



The team completed painting and cleaning in the new Paul Tunn Dental clinic, provided financial and governance advice, as well as delivered donations of children’s books, musical resources, teaching aids, and mother & baby packs.

The team enjoyed baby-sitting local children, teaching the locals to play UNO, attending the local Rotary club meeting, a Sunday church service and many cultural welcomes and experiences.



The team, especially the young people have learnt so much about themselves, the importance of community and family, and how fortunate we are to live in Australia.

Three of the real schoolies have the desire to join Greenhills Rotary and the others to help with their local Clubs.

## Youth Exchange Students Support Disaster Relief

Hamilton Uniting Church ‘Trees & Art For Charity Carnival’ has an international flavour after two Rotary Youth Exchange students undertook to decorate a Christmas Tree in order to raise funds in aid of ShelterBox Australia.

ShelterBox Australia provides emergency disaster relief supplies, such as family sized tents cooking materials and bedding for people who are in the middle of a disaster zone.



Candice & Linda decorating the tree

The two exchange students, Chien-Chen HO (Candice) from Taiwan and Linda Mietes from the Netherlands are having a great time spending 12 months in Australia being hosted by the Rotary Club of Charlestown. Helping out at a charity fundraiser was really appreciated by all and added to the great community feeling at the tree decorating opening event.

The Trees & Art for Charity Carnival is an annual event that raises over \$6,000 each year for charities. This year there are 15 beautifully themed trees on display that have been decorated by local businesses and organisations along with quality artwork for sale by local well known artists.

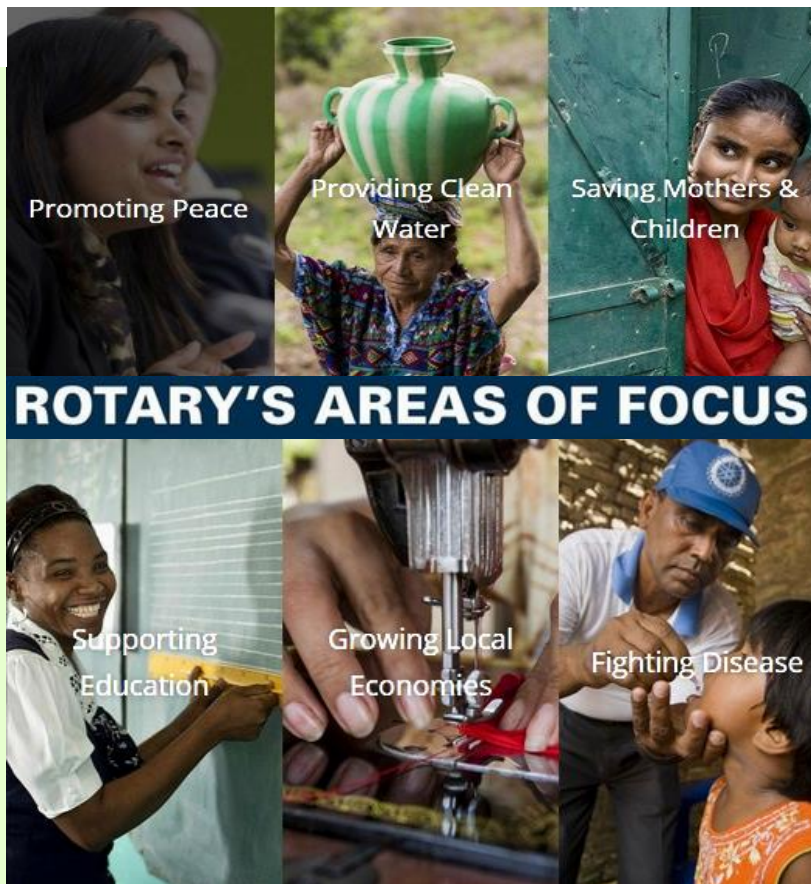
The trees and art are on display at **Hamilton Uniting Church, 150 Beaumont Street, Hamilton up until to 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Monday to Friday 11am to 2pm and Saturday 11am to 1pm.** Delicious morning teas and light lunches are served at Bill’s Place in the church every Wednesday and Friday 10am to 2.30pm and the proceeds from Bill’s Place also goes to supporting charities.



# The Rotary Foundation

November was the month that Rotary International dedicated to the programs & activities of **The Rotary Foundation**. It was a timely reminder of the extent and diversity of the many great programs that our Foundation delivers within Rotary's six areas of focus.

This year, Rotary's fundraising goal totals a massive **US\$380 million**. The goal for polio is US\$50 million, which will be turned into US\$150 million through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation matching grant. Add to that a US\$137 million goal for the Annual Fund, US\$61.5 million for the Endowment Fund, and US\$31.5 million for global grant cash and other outright gifts. This will ensure Rotary's many programs will then be fully funded and Rotarians will be completely equipped and empowered to continue making real change.



## Rotary Foundation receives highest rating from Charity Navigator for 11th year

For the 11th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating, four stars from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

The Foundation earned the recognition for demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

"We are extremely honoured to be recognised," says Foundation Trustee Chair Ron

Burton. "It represents the hard work and dedication of countless Rotarians throughout the world. They know their gifts will be used for the purpose for which they were given and that they will, indeed, make a real difference."

The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.

## Rotary Designated Months

Rotary has designated months to help clubs develop meeting agendas, projects, or public image campaigns based on these special occasions.



This month includes : World AIDS Day on the 1st and International Day of Disabled Persons on the 3rd of December.



During this period, clubs highlight the importance of the business and professional life of each Rotarian. Special activities promote the vocational avenue of service.



This month focuses on the underlying causes of conflict and the action being taken through Rotary's service projects, peace fellowships, and scholarships.



## Organisation of the 2019 District Conference continues to forge ahead.

As mentioned in previous editions of “Coffey Break” the Conference Committee has developed an interesting and diverse program for your enjoyment. With just over 3 months to go we are pleased to include profiles of some of the confirmed speakers and entertainers.

**Just a reminder that the ‘Early Bird Offer’ ends December 31.**

CLICK HERE  
TO  
**BOOK NOW**



### ANNA HOYLES & LIAM JAMES

#### Our MC's

Be prepared to be entertained by this dynamic duo of Anna Hoyles and Liam James as they MC the 2019 District conference.

Anna is a social worker, member of the Rotary Club of Burwood, a PHF, and has the honour of being the longest ever Rotaractor. Liam is a lawyer and past Rotaractor. Liam and Anna are married and together they just bounce off each other as experienced MC's with wit and spontaneous motivation.

DG Brian met them when they MC's an event in Sydney where he was speaking 2 years ago – they immediately got offered the conference gig.

### NOEL TREVASKIS OAM

Noel is a member of the Rotary Club of Bega, District 9710. He was a Director of the Board of Rotary International for 2016-18, where he represented Zones 7 and 8.

Noel was District Governor of District 9710 in 2005-06 and past member and Chairman of Australian Rotary Health. He was a Rotary coordinator and Chairman of the RI Membership Development Committee for Zones 7 and 8 as well as being a member of the Rotary International Membership Committee. He is a recipient of Rotary's highest award the Service Above Self Award and the Medal of the Order of Australia.

He has recently joined the Board of Rotary Down Under.

He was an advisor to University researchers at the Centre for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University.

Noel recently retired after working in the agricultural industry, mainly in sales and marketing, although does do some consultancy work to agri-business.



### JAMES CHARLES

James Charles is an Aboriginal (Kurna) man from Adelaide South Australia. He studied a bachelor and masters of podiatry at the University of South Australia (receiving an Indigenous Health Scholarship at the time). He currently lives and works in Geelong, Victoria.

James had worked on his PhD while working in Newcastle University and Charles Sturt University, investigating a wide range of variables that have an impact on Aboriginal foot health and high prevalence in Aboriginal communities e.g. obesity, smoking, diabetes – with a focus on foot structure and function.

James was awarded the first Golden Microscope from Australian Rotary Health in 2013, for services and good ethics to his community.



## DEON COFFEY

### Rotaract Chair

Deon is self employed as a mortgage broker in East Maitland. Married with a son, Deon is a member of the Rotary Club of Greenhills Maitland. He also happens to be the son of DG Brian.

Deon believes he still is the youngest person to go on a Youth Exchange Program when as a 14 year old he travelled to Mauritius for a short exchange. Deon was then happy to assist with Rotary Club of East Maitland fundraisers and was also selected to go to a RYLA session.

At that training Deon met Rosemary and later married her. Deon then joined the Rotary Club of Greenhills-Maitland. After a short stint on the RYLA committee, Deon was tasked with taking on the Rotaract Chair role for 2018.

The District currently has 2 Rotaract clubs – Newcastle and Tocal. Tasked with an objective of starting two new clubs, Deon is confident that we will see this occur in Lake Macquarie and Maitland – hopefully in this year.

## Angamus *Friday night's Entertainment*

We have been able to secure well known Newcastle musicians 'Angamus' to entertain us during Friday evening and the meal.

Founded by violinist Chin-Hwi Ang in 2003, (over 30 years in music performance), Angamus are passionate musicians who love to provide lively entertainment at special occasions. Angamus play their music as if it is their last!



## LOVE THAT HAT *Saturday night's Entertainment*



We have been able to get Newcastle's premier musical act – 'Love That Hat'. They acknowledge and respect Rotary's role in the community, and have looked after us. It probably helps when the mother of the lead singer is a Rotarian.

Sue is spectacular! A classically trained opera singer and multi-instrumentalist, who will dazzle you with her talent. Sue won best female vocalist at the 1233 ABC Newcastle Music Awards for 2003.

Dave Carter's CV is as wide as it is long – performing with many famous Australian musos. Enjoy him on vocals, guitar, bass, piano, banjo, bagpipes and Irish pipes. Mikey can adapt from rock, Celtic, and folk to commercial material.

'Love That Hat' have an energetic group of dedicated followers from their 30's to well over 70, with their fun style and jaw dropping operatic interpretations of classics by Queen, Kate Bush, Guns 'n' Roses and Led Zeppelin, amongst others. You cant go home until the last song when the bag pipes come out.



# Coffey ON THE GO

## November



### 12 Nov R C of Myall Coast

DG Brian, President Peter Sivyer &  
AG Chris Bartlett.



### 14 Nov R C of Paterson

President John McNally (centre) with DG Brian Coffey  
& AG Phil Gorton



### 20 Nov R C of Wellington

President Viv Wellington with DG Brian  
and AG Tim Vail

The District Governor's annual visits commenced in Singleton on 16th July and concluded in Wellington on 20th November. In total 47 clubs were visited over the 129 day period.

Thank you to Carol Coffey for taking in excess of 150 photographs that will provide some lasting memories of the visits.



*"We have seen some well-oiled clubs. Every club is obviously proudly committed to doing their bit for the members and the community, all the smaller clubs punch above their weight, while others just show courage and determination in their own pride to succeed."*

*"To say we had a ball would be an understatement. The receptions, honesty and thank you words are treasured. Carol had a magnificent and generous response from clubs with her Australian Rotary Health 'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness' project'.*

*Thank you everyone."*

*.....DG Brian Coffey*



Join us in  
**Forster**

Book now for 'Early Bird' special and go in the draw for 1 of 6 prizes of twin pack wine from our sponsors BBX and Everything Floral, to be drawn after 31/12/2018.



## District 9670 Conference 2019

BE THE INSPIRATION



**EARLY BIRD OFFER ENDS  
DECEMBER 31**

In 2019 the Rotary District 9670 Conference will be in Forster on the sun swept mid north coast of NSW. A program is being crafted that will inspire, entertain and educate. Join us and hear how :

**positive PEOPLE**  
= **positive ACTIONS.**

CLICK HERE  
TO  
**BOOK NOW**

### MEMBERSHIP



Rotary International has released the membership figures for the end of October 2018.

The good news is that worldwide membership is 1,222,740 - growth of 27,633 above the 1 July start figure.

**In Australia and New Zealand we are up 378 on the start figure, while in our own D9670, we are only up 3.**

In February our District will host an interactive session to support club growth with the entertaining Mark Huddleston from South Australia as guest speaker.

## Rotary INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HAMBURG, GERMANY 1-5 JUNE 2019



Register by 15 December for  
**Early Registration discount**

For more information and registration [CLICK HERE](#)



### Important deadlines

**15 December 2018:** Last day for early-registration discount

**31 March 2019:** Last day for preregistration discount

**30 April 2019:** Last day to request to cancel registrations or tickets

**5 June 2019:** Last day for online registration



If your Club has **Inspirational** stories or press articles, that you believe will be of interest to other clubs in our District, then we are keen to include these in future editions of the "Coffey Break".

**we LOVE  
Photos.**

Please forward a photo and brief description to :

The District Newsletter editor  
(PP Graham Taylor - Mudgee Rotary Club)  
[districtnewsletter@rotary9670.org.au](mailto:districtnewsletter@rotary9670.org.au)

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next edition of this newsletter is  
Monday 31st December**

Rotary  
District 9670



Click Here to  
Visit our Website

