



# “Coffey Break”

Rotary  
District 9670



## Monthly Newsletter of District Governor 2018-19



### What a month October was for us!

26 events in 31 days, and so many strange beds! We knew it was going to be our toughest month as we also wanted to sneak up to Surfers Paradise for our wedding anniversary.

Early in the month Carol and myself accepted an invitation to attend the Muswellbrook Rotary Club Golf Day and saw first-hand one of the most enterprising, fun filled and social community fundraising events, I have experienced in Rotary. The Muswellbrook Club really know how to get the community support behind them, raising over \$47,000 for much needed drought support in the Upper Hunter.

That weekend I dragged myself away from watching the Bathurst car race to attend our next engagement with the Rotary Leadership Initiative (RLI) training team – if only I had the opportunity to learn so much about what makes Rotary tick, when I joined. The participants learnt, in 2 days, what took me over 12 years, and I am still learning! I went out to watch the end of the car race but, it didn't matter anyway, – a Ford did not win.

If you get the opportunity to join in with one of these RLI courses, along with other participants, I would give it my endorsement – you might even find me in the seat next to you! Get at least 8 people in your area and the training team will even look at coming to you.

As the school holidays drew to end some Past District Governors, their partners, Carol and myself sat Graeme, Sue, David and Amanda down for a full day and advised them of what to expect as they approach their respective terms as the District Governor. We are in good hands with these teams.

With less traffic and some opportunity to get a motel room we then headed off for 16 Rotary engagements in 14 days, travelling back and forth to Cobar, Dubbo (several times), Forster and Mudgee. What a pleasant surprise it was as I drove into Dubbo to see roads barricaded off to give me a clear run and the streets lined with school children waving their flags for the Rotary District Governors arrival – then I found out there was another couple in town who had gazumped us; so Carol and myself took up post on the Dubbo catering van (Carol did anyway as people wanted to talk to me) to feed the hordes that came to see Prince Harry and Meghan.

Again, we visited a variety of Rotary clubs – all punching above their weight and doing their members, community, D9670 and Rotary proud. The cooperation and requests for advice and support is encouraging. A goal of mine is to get Rotary administrative requirements up to date – for all clubs in our District - we are nearly there and will soon let the champers flow.

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A trip to Forster with Conference Chair Christine Walmsley and some other members of the Conference team, was rewarding. The program is forging ahead and we are extremely confident the event will be enjoyed by all. Our sponsors are being very generous and this ensures we can turn on a Conference with wonderful hospitality and entertainment. We are able to offer 6 prizes of twin packs of wine to Conference goers who take advantage of the 'Early-Bird' offers expiring on 31 December.

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?embed&eid=342994>



The following day we were on a coach to Merriwa with 44 passengers from 14 clubs for the 'Bugger the Drought' assistance to the local community. Kurri Kurri Sunrise had the numbers on the bus with a big club turnout (probably 50%). We fitted in a stopover to support Denman and visit the MHERV van (see photo left) in the main street. Chris McGrath lost control of us and nearly needed a sheep dog to round us up.

On arrival at Merriwa they turned on a spectacular community day, and put us straight to work on the BBQ's – never before had they seen the proficiency of city slickers accustomed to the rush trade. We came home very happy and raised nearly \$2000 that will go back to Merriwa Rotary Club for their drought appeal.

From an Administrative perspective we look back on October and see that 19 clubs have experienced membership growth, while 10 clubs lost members; leaving us teetering, although there are abundant positive signs with the remarkable success and demand for the 'Project Pied Piper' promotional materials. (see photo right)

As retention is always an issue with clubs it has been interesting to receive the retention figures for clubs and be able to share those. The only club in the District with a 100% retention over 3 years is Newcastle Harbour – a club that from my experience in the meetings that I have attended, functions on friendship and community service – not fundraising. (Wasn't that the foundation of Rotary?) Is there a lesson we need to take notice of? Hoops has been to a Membership conference in NZ and reports later on similar findings for clubs to re focus.



PDG Helen has been able to recognise the successful Zone representatives to elect the member who will likely hold the honour and carriage of being the last District Governor of D9670. Those members have been selected and notified. The District Governor hopefuls for 2021-22 will be interviewed and a selection made on the Friday of the District Conference. A full list of the Nominating Committee is included in this newsletter.

This is a truly rewarding experience to be DG – and you get the bonus of doing a lot of travel to meet with nice people. The District support and training is second to none. We have a wonderful District to work within – sure, there are some tiring moments, but the enthusiastic clubs and members soon lift you to a new high.

This week we have received information from the NSW Department of Education that Rotary Youth Exchange NSW Inc. has been successful in its registration and approved, for continued operation as a secondary student exchange organisation in NSW, for a five year period from 1 November 2018 to 31 October 2023. The advice does come with a warning that this registration depends on the continuous compliance with the National Guidelines for the Operation of Secondary Student Exchange Programs, and The Guidelines for the Operation of International Secondary Student Exchange Programs in New South Wales. Registration may be suspended if there is non-compliance. We have a lot to thank the organisers of this program nationally and within our own District for the compliance that is evident.

A signed Letter of Registration and Certificate will be provided shortly and made available to DGN David Roach and we should have a copy with our Public Officer PDG Steve Jackson in the event that a copy is needed.

*Continued page 3*



Our District has been fortunate to be the beneficiary of the estate of Margaret Illukol. After a prolonged effort to clarify the Will, we have now received the funds and a team has been put together to manage the funds and scholarship into the future.

## Margaret Illukol - Child of the Karamojong

Rotarians worldwide became aware of a young Margaret Illukol when her story first appeared in 'The Rotarian' in December 1973.

Margaret was the daughter of a nomadic, warlike tribesman of the fierce Karamojong tribe in far north-east Uganda. In 1963, young Illukol (later baptised Margaret Rose Illukol) was dragged by a hyena from her hut by her face; the animal biting into her face, eating her cheek, chin, nose and mouth.

Due to the remoteness of her incident, treatment was delayed for 5 days as she was transferred 400km to Mulago Hospital, Kampala, Uganda. Four years of plastic surgery, dental and eye surgery followed, and an estimation was made of her age. This was the last Margaret saw of her father or family, until 1971, when they disbanded her.



Margaret Illukol - with two of her adopted Australian family members - Reg and Elaine Leneghan. (1984)

That story in the Rotarian resulted in Margaret coming to Rotarians in Newcastle, where she underwent major plastic surgery by our own Dr Willy Walker and continuing her education at St. Joseph's Lochinvar. With a Rotary Foundation grant and donations from local Rotary clubs, Toronto Rotarian, Kevin and Val Leary and daughter Annette travelled to Uganda, bringing Margaret to our district in December 1974, 11 years after the mauling.

Margaret was hosted by four Rotary families, Peter and Denise Frost (Morrissett), Vic and Maisie Bensley (Hamilton), David and Yvonne Thorpe (Adamstown) and the Leary family (Toronto). Margaret was soon busy with Rotaract activities within the District.

Extensive reconstruction operations were performed; Margaret was given a new nose and educational coaching to gain the 1977 School Certificate at St Joseph's Girls School in Lochinvar. The District set out to give Margaret a new face, a new life and showed love and compassion. We succeeded.

Margaret wrote an article, 'A New Life for Margaret Rose', published in the December 1976 Rotarian where she expressed her thanks to Rotarians and medical staff for helping her. Margaret went on to become a nurse in Newcastle and an Australian citizen, writing a book 'Child of the Karamojong', describing her ordeal from the time the hyena latched on to her head and dragged her away.

At the 1993 Rotary World Convention in Melbourne, Margaret was recognised by Past DG Tony Zino (D7250 New York USA) as being the inspiration for their 'Gift of Life' program to bring children from developing countries to the USA for surgery (similar to ROMAC).

Margaret Illukol passed away in her house in Newcastle on 15th February 2015, aged 59. In her obituary, she was described as a dearly loved and treasured friend of many, especially her Rotary family and nursing colleagues. As acknowledgement to the life afforded her by Rotary, Margaret Illukol left Rotary District 9670 (as ruled by the Supreme Court) as the beneficiary of her \$1 million estate, to establish a trust to help people in her adopted home.

Margaret was again honoured on 14 June 2017, at the Rotary International Convention, when RI President- Nominee Sam F. Otori praised Margaret's story of being one of the inspirations he had to join and remain in Rotary in 1978, when the Rotary Club of Kampala took up the case. After wide press publicity, Australian Rotarians collected Margaret from Kampala and took her to Newcastle, where after more than 20 complicated surgeries over several years her face was reconstructed. Sam unexpectedly passed away on 13 July 2017, just 6 weeks before he was due to come to Australia. On this visit, it was planned to update Sam with this story.

If Margaret's story, compassion and love for what being in Rotary can do does not move you, I give up!

*Yours in Rotary, Brian*

# DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAM IN FULL SWING

## Help is happening for farmers ...

Our Rotary Drought Relief program is in full swing.

\$8M of the \$10M+ raised in the Channel 9 / Rotary / National Farmers' Federation(NFF) appeal is now reaching impacted farming communities.

Many Rotary clubs and their members are getting together with families in the drought affected areas and holding community gatherings with the focus on mental health issues caused by the severity and longevity of the drought.

The NFF has approved another \$750,000 from the appeal for Rotary District Drought projects. In total, this brings Rotary's current allocation to \$2.4M, with more to come.



*While some areas have welcomed recent rains, the drought issues will remain with us for at least a year, so Rotary is there for the long haul!*

**In this edition of the DG's newsletter we look at two Rotary clubs in our District, separated by nearly 500 kms but sharing a common interest to help their communities recover from crippling drought conditions.**

### COBAR

The Rotary Club of Cobar is very involved in providing practical drought relief to farming families. During October the Club has continued with distribution of essential groceries, drinking water and powdered lamb's milk for orphaned lambs. The Club has also been supporting the "Psychs on Bikes" initiative encouraging local residents to talk to visiting psychologists about mental health and well being.

The Club also joined with the Bourke Police Charity Bash to put on a night for the farmers at the remote Tilpa pub on the Darling River. Local farmers travelled long distances to meet and socialise with friends and neighbours and to forget about the crippling drought for the night.



*The Club continues its distribution of grocery packs.*



*A free sausage sizzle to help connect residents and visiting psychologists.*



*The Club provided a free BBQ for about 150 at the Tilpa pub.*

### MERRIWA

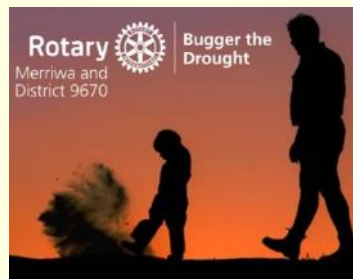
A lot of work went into the planning and preparation for the "Bugger the Drought" party in Merriwa on 21 October. It was a day for the Merriwa/Cassilis community to come together and give the local farming families a rest from their ongoing drought worries.

Through the hard work of the Merriwa Rotary Club and generosity from sponsors, the party proved to be a successful afternoon of friendship, entertainment, food and drink at no cost to local residents.

A contingent of Rotarians from the Newcastle area (see photo bottom right) showed their support by attending the party and helping out on the BBQ's.

Overall, even though times are tough, the party reinforced the importance of being part of a caring, loving and tight knit community that looks out for each other.

*Great work by the Rotary Club of Merriwa.*





## LIFTING THE LID *on mental illness*

What a great response to take-up Australian Rotary Health's challenge to **'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness'** by hosting a Hat Day event during Mental Health Month in October.

Clearly, the subject of mental health resonates strongly within our Clubs and it is wonderful to see our Rotarians so enthusiastic in their support for such a deserving cause.



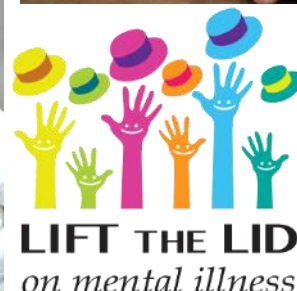
Dubbo West



Raymond Terrace



East Maitland



Singleton on Hunter



Wallsend-Maryland



Charlestown



Greenhills-Maitland



## LIFTING THE LID *on mental illness*

### PLENTY OF SMILES

"I just love your hat!"  
you'll hear them say.  
And just for a while,  
you've put a smile  
on their day



What a month I had with my partner project of 'Lift the Lid' for mental health through Australian Rotary Health.

In speaking to clubs, I am a bit embarrassed; as I respect and understand that clubs, especially our rural ones, may be more likely to fund drought relief. However, the clubs and members are still wanting to support me realising that mental health issues will be very much a part of the recovery of the drought.

I am always amused that I get one up on Brian on every visit so far, as the reception and donations from clubs, members and the corporate sector is continuing. I have noted that I always get a clap when I finish speaking - Brian rarely gets one!!!!

Thank you to every club and member who recognised 'Hat Day' - there were some classics out there, and you all brought some fun to your meetings. Like any competition it was hard to select the winners of the 3 ARH teddies I was giving away (and trying to keep my grandchildren away from).

Brian also had a favourite and he will paying the winner's dinner fee the next time he visits that member's club.

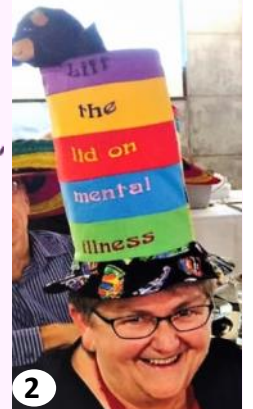
*Carol*

1. Most Glamorous - Connie Beaumont (Raymond Terrace)
2. Most Ridiculous- Gwen Sweeney (Warners Bay)
3. Most Practical - Vic Lewis (Toronto Sunrise)
4. Brian's Favourite - Paul Mines (Dubbo West)

*And the  
Winners are...*



1



2



3



4



# GRAFFITI REMOVAL DAY 2018

Graffiti vandalism costs the State government and residents more than \$300 million each year and affects community centres, memorials, libraries and sporting facilities as well as residential homes and businesses.

The annual Removal Day aims to shine a light on the fight against graffiti vandalism and encourages people to get involved in the removal and prevention of graffiti.

Since its inception in 2012, the number of Removal Day volunteers has increased from 597 to over 1800. In its first year, 100 sites were nominated. In 2017 volunteers removed graffiti from 428 nominated sites.

Overall, roughly 120,000sqm of graffiti has been removed by volunteers since the inception of the event. That equals a community service value of about \$8.8 million value in savings for private owners and the Government.

**Thanks to our District Community Service team and all the Rotary Clubs that contributed to this year's event.**

The photos below give an indication of the positive impact made by our District teams during October

**"The removal of graffiti returns prestige to an area and is actually a crime prevention initiative."**

*DG Brian Coffey (Oct 2018)*



RC of Newcastle Enterprise



RC of Maitland Sunrise



Rotary Club of Belmont

graffiti  
REMOVAL DAY

The Rotary Clubs of Rutherford Telarah, Maitland Sunrise and East Maitland joined forces for Graffiti Removal Day in Maitland.



BEFORE



WORK IN PROGRESS



AFTER





# Economic & Community Development

*Economic and Community Development is one of Rotary International's six areas of focus and is celebrated by Rotary every October.*

The United Nations says 470 million jobs are needed globally for people entering the labour market between 2016 and 2030. Creating productive employment opportunities is essential to reducing poverty, stimulating sustainable development, and providing income security - especially for women, people with disabilities, young people, and the extremely poor.

Rotary clubs all over the world work with communities to enhance economic and community development. Every community has different needs and different opportunities to serve. Some of the strategies are;



1. Providing skills or leadership training and job networking opportunities to young people.



2. Offering microloans and financial literacy training to female entrepreneurs.



3. Identifying local barriers to agricultural opportunities and livelihood to help communities sustain and accelerate agricultural growth.



4. Taking on an adopt-a-village project to empower a community to become self-sufficient over a well-defined period of time.

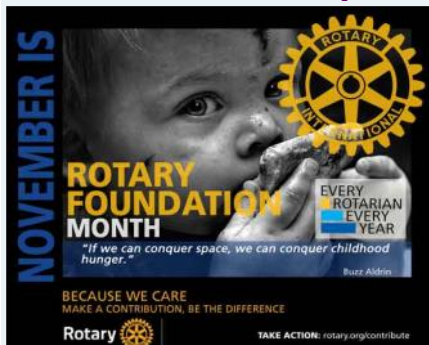
Rotary's 'Economic and Community Development Project Strategies' guide can help clubs and districts ask the right questions, identify needs, and make the greatest impact with their available time, energy, and resources.

For more information - [click here](#)

[Click for More Information](#)

## Rotary Designated Months

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



Clubs and Districts call attention to the programs of The Rotary Foundation and frequently cultivate additional financial support for the Foundation.



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.





Since the article in last month's newsletter, regarding the success of St. Philips College in the recent MUNA competition, AG Chris McGrath has shared the following extract from Matt Schultz. Matt is a team leader of 'Human Society and It's Environment' (HSIE) at the College and also a Rotarian with the Warners Bay Club.

*I thought I would share with you all a copy of today's Newcastle Herald article (see below) which celebrates the success of our College's MUNA Debating team, at your wonderful Rotary events. This article highlights the work of Rotary and the success our team had at both the District 9670 event, and at the 22<sup>nd</sup> National Event.*

*As a result, our SPCC team applied and was accepted to participate in the Yale Model UN Conference (YMUN XLV) to be held at the historic Yale University, in January 2019. We are currently fundraising \$11,000 to get our team to this event. More information about YMUN XLV can be found at: <http://www.ymun.yira.org>*

*I wanted to say thank you to all for the part you have played in our journey so far, as you have truly "Been the Inspiration." As the 2019 District Conference theme highlights - Positive People = Positive Actions, I wanted to highlight your positive contributions to our journey so far:*

- **Ross + Katrina:** For introducing me to MUNA at our Warners Bay club meeting, through the Youth Committee.
- **Chris + Madeleine:** For supporting and sponsoring our team to participate in the District competition and letting us speak to your club.
- **Brian + David:** For hosting this wonderful event and sponsoring our team to participate at the National MUNA
- **Peter:** For organising the National MUNA event



**"Thank you for being our inspiration – we hope to continue to do you all proud on the global stage, when we participate at Yale." (Matt Schultz)**

## Globally minded St Philip's students set sights on Yale University

**NEWCASTLE HERALD** October 10 2018  
Helen Gregory  
NEWS SITE OF THE YEAR

ASHLEY Harrison and Bobby Carter will take their enthusiasm for learning about international relations to new heights next year, when they compete in the prestigious Yale Model United Nations Conference. The St Philip's Christian College Newcastle students, both 18, have spent this year juggling studying for the Higher School Certificate with Rotary's district and national Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA).



Think big: Bobby Carter and Ashley Harrison both want to study law and politics, philosophy and economics at the Australian National University. Picture: Simon McCarthy

Their "unexpected" win in the national competition – held in August in the historic House of Representatives Chamber in Old Parliament House – led them to successfully apply to compete at Yale in January.

The students are seeking \$11,000 in sponsorship to help cover flights, hotels and incidentals.

"I've always had an interest in international affairs and politics but until I moved to this school I never had the opportunity to pursue it," Ashley said. "We've learned how to form good friendships, work together, use our separate strengths, negotiate, develop interpersonal skills and the power of being able to speak properly. We can see the value of compromise and making concessions to try and find common ground. This is an opportunity to try and make a bigger impact on issues I'm passionate about and how I can help make a difference."

Bobby said participating in MUNA had "given me a different perspective on world issues than many other 18-year-olds would have." The students sat their last HSC trial exam the day before they competed in Canberra, an experience Bobby said was "surreal".

The pair – the first team their school has had participate in MUNA – debated six real world resolutions. At Yale, they will elect to join committees including the UN General Assembly to debate resolutions.

They said balancing the HSC with MUNA required good time management and they had found skills in each were complementary.

Newcastle federal MP and co-convener of the Parliamentary Friends of the United Nations Sharon Claydon said the students made her "wildly optimistic for the future".

**Details: [gofundme.com/yale-model-united-nations-spcc](http://gofundme.com/yale-model-united-nations-spcc)**



# out&about

## Dubbo Clubs acknowledged for their efforts

During October DG Brian Coffey visited the four Rotary Clubs of Dubbo (**Dubbo Macquarie, Dubbo West, Dubbo South and Dubbo Inc**).

DG Brian took the opportunity to present certificates of acknowledgement to members who helped out (at very short notice) to supply a BBQ at the Channel 9 / Rotary Drought relief Telethon at Dubbo Showground.

Photos (right) show some of the Rotarians receiving their certificates.



## House Built with Love sells for \$650K!



The house built at The Bower, Medowie went under the hammer on October 21 and raised an astounding \$650,000, with each and every dollar donated to the Children's Cancer Institute to fund lifesaving research.

A great result for the Rotary Clubs of **Kurri Kurri, East Maitland, Raymond Terrace and Williamtown** who fed the volunteer tradies during construction of the home.

## Running on Empty festival



The Cobar Community hosted the Running on Empty Festival during October. A large contingent of vintage and "enhanced" car enthusiasts descended on Cobar for the first Running on Empty Festival to celebrate a "cult" movie made at several locations around Cobar in the early 1980s.

**Cobar Rotary Club** was there providing some of the catering facilities for the hungry "hordes" that needed to be fed while they were showing and shining and kicking tyres. It was a couple of big days for the Rotarians feeding a large crowd that turned out to watch the Friday night fireworks.

They turned up again at 7 am next morning to feed the crowd waiting for the "group" photo at the iconic COBAR sign and then moved to the Markets in the Park to do it all again until late Saturday afternoon for the Show and Shine event and the Colours Runs.

## The Rotary Flag flies at Dubbo Royal Visit



The **Rotary Club of Dubbo Macquarie** was delighted and honoured to have been invited to meet Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at a reception at the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) in Dubbo.

The Club has been a long-time contributor to the iconic outback medical services.

## DreamCricket day in Dubbo



About 100, year3 to year6 children, with special needs took part in the annual DreamCricket Gala Day at Victoria Park during October.

The **Rotary Club of Dubbo West** has been running the free event since 2012 for children from Dubbo and district, with support from friends and high school students.

PDG Don Stephens (DreamCricket Australia & Dream Cricket Dubbo chairman), said the day of "modified cricket" was aimed to increase the skills and confidence of participants.

"They have a lot of fun and represent their school which is something they don't get a lot of opportunities to do," he said.

Don said,

*"DreamCricket kits had been donated to participating schools to help special needs children engage in sport."*



# Profile of District Activities

Over the next few months “Coffey Break” will help broaden our members knowledge of District 9670 projects and programs by including comments from various committee members. In this edition we thank Keith Bush (Membership) & Des Dowdy (Insurance) for their respective articles.

## TACKLING THE MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE



**Keith Bush - Chair  
District Membership**

Keith became District Membership Committee Chair in Dec 2017, and helped to organise the 2017 District workshop where clubs shared ideas on how to retain and then attract members.

He encouragingly reports that the Rotary Club of East Maitland added 12 new members in the last 18mths who are now actively participating in service projects. However, Keith recognises the challenges involved.

At the recent Australian New Zealand Membership Chairs training course, Keith learnt about ideas to attract new members and the lessons learnt. He also met our Zone's new Regional Membership

Officer, Barbara Mifsud.

Barbara's role is to support District members to attract new members, increase our diversity and improve membership retention. A follow up meeting is being organised for District Membership Chairs.

Keith became a Rotarian 12 years ago and has been with East Maitland Rotary Club since July 2016. He is currently their BBQ coordinator and on their Graffiti removal team.

Keith and his wife Glenda get a lot out of hosting Youth Study Exchange Students and Group Study Exchange. Keith also volunteered for 3 related RAWCs projects in Papua New Guinea.

Keith encourages you to email or call him If you're interested in working to increase your club's membership and diversity email [kpbush1952@gmail.com](mailto:kpbush1952@gmail.com) or call **0408 486 378**

## BE SURE TO INSURE



**Des Dowdy  
District Insurance Officer**

Des Dowdy joined the Rotary Club of Mudgee in 2010 and has held the positions of President, Secretary, Youth Director & Membership Director.

Des has a long association and career within the Insurance industry which includes being a Member of the NSW Board of the National Insurance Brokers Association and the National President, Elders Insurance Agents Association .

Des became DIO (District Insurance Officer) in 2017 and has attended two Insurance Training weekends in Sydney with AON Insurance Brokers.

He explains that the basis of the DIO role is to provide a liaison and first point of contact between our District's 47 clubs and AON Insurance Brokers who manage the Rotary Insurance Scheme.

Des encourages Clubs to let him know when an event is happening so that cover can be confirmed and where required, Certificates of Currencies can be provided.

The system with AON Insurance Brokers is that they place all Rotary's Insurance covers and they report to the Rotary Insurance Committee; the District Insurance Officers are the bridge between the members and AON.

The best form of contact to the DIO is via email, using Rotary Insurance Pro Forma and the Risk Management Form.

Des' wife Jenny is a member of Mudgee Rotary Sunrise and a member of the District Youth Exchange Committee and Des attends their meetings in an Insurance advisory capacity.

Email: [djdowdy@bigpond.com](mailto:djdowdy@bigpond.com) or mobile 0427 724744



# Coffey ON THE GO

*October*



## 15 Oct R C of Cobar

President Tony Punzet with Carol & DG Brian Coffey.



## 3 Oct R C of Scone

President Lindy Hunt with DG Brian Coffey & AG Grant Jupe



## 16 Oct R C of Dubbo South

AG Tim Vail with President Michael Adams and DG Brian



## 8 Oct R C of Belmont

AG Brian Oakley, President Pam Wellham & DG Brian Coffey



## 18 Oct RC of Muswellbrook

President Phil Hollway (centre), AG Amanda Roach & DGN David Roach with DG Brian and Carol Coffey





**22 Oct R C of Dubbo**  
DG Brian, President Peter Judd  
& AG Steve Crowley



**24 Oct R C of Dubbo West**  
DG Brian with President Pam Sharkey



**23 Oct R C of Dubbo Macquarie**  
DG Brian, President Jen Cowley  
& AG Tim Vail



**26 Oct R C of Mudgee Sunrise**  
AG Amanda Roach, President Howard Berridge  
and DG Brian & Carol Coffey.



**23 Oct R C of Rylstone – Kandos**  
President Amanda Roach, DG Brian Coffey  
& AG Tim Vail

## Scheduled-DG Visits Nov 2018



| Date | Day | Club        |
|------|-----|-------------|
| 12   | Mon | Myall Coast |
| 14   | Wed | Paterson    |
| 20   | Tue | Wellington  |



## Kia Ora ~ Graeme & Sue's DGE Journey continues

Coinciding with family visits, Graeme and Sue Hooper attended New Zealand's 3<sup>rd</sup> National Membership Seminar, "Surf the Waves"

held in Auckland on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October.



All six New Zealand Rotary Districts were represented with about 100 attendees. Although the topics focused on Rotary in New Zealand, they are equally relevant to all of us as, "People of Action".

### Key takeaways:

Clubs can no longer rest on their laurels and hope that new members will just walk in through the door. Natural attrition accounts for a big part of our current membership decline. However, many have joined and then left within about three years or after 10 years because they were not actively engaged with Club activities, Club management, Club projects, or found resistance to changing formats.

**Ask yourself, "Is our Club attractive?". If your answer is, "Yes", then how do you imagine someone on the other side sees you? "What do we have to offer?"**

In 2016, the RI Council of Legislation removed a lot of barriers to free up the pale and stale image of Rotary. Clubs can now choose how often they meet, how they meet, and what level of formality they wish to engage in. Because the volunteer landscape has changed and to overcome our current predicament, we need to be thinking differently ie:

- Less meeting with more doing while offering the right version of Rotary
- Having flexible meeting platforms and being productive
- Minimal cost to members
- Using aggressive promotion - *everyone is wearing their Club shirt for projects – be seen to be doing!*
- Engaging in effective partnerships – *consider having a Partnership Chair on your Board*
- Investing in promotional material – *for photos, only use those depicting the "doing"*

Rotary needs new energy and new ideas. Time is our most valuable resource and we need to be productive and effective with how we use it. Remember to celebrate the wins, and keep your eyes on the prize and where you are going - *membership is everyone's responsibility.*



And if you think we have issues with distance in D9670, take a moment to think about D9920 which takes in half of Auckland and seven Pacific nations, is geographically larger than the whole of Australia, and has

53 Rotary Clubs. Also consider the logistics of moving around Rotary's largest maritime District in an area which probably encompasses eight cultures, eight languages, eight currencies ... *and*, crosses the International Date Line!

A reminder also, the next New Zealand Australia Conference, "Regeneration", is being held in Christchurch 20-22 September 2019. All Rotarians and partners are welcome. The Conference will be preceded as usual by the Governors Elect Training Seminar (GETS). (Website not yet available.)

Remember to keep checking into

[www.myrotary.org](http://www.myrotary.org) for updates on everything Rotary, and to send your success stories to: [club.innovations@rotary.org](mailto:club.innovations@rotary.org)


**Rotary**  
District 9670

Immediate Past District Governor 2017-2018 Helen Ryan

## ANNOUNCEMENT

I am pleased to announce the Nominating Committee for the selection of a District Governor for the year 2021-2022.

|                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| District Governor                | Brian Coffey         |
| Immediate Past District Governor | Helen Ryan           |
| District Governor Elect          | Graeme Hooper        |
| District Governor Nominee        | David Roach          |
| ZONE 1                           | A.G. Stephen Cowley  |
| ZONE 2                           | A.G. Tim Vail        |
| ZONE 3                           | A.G. Amanda Roach    |
| ZONE 4                           | P.D.G. Ken McDonald  |
| ZONE 5                           | Unrepresented        |
| ZONE 6                           | P.D.G. Adrian Roach  |
| ZONE 7                           | P.D.G. Peter Sivyier |
| ZONE 8                           | A.G. Sharon Chambers |
| ZONE 9                           | A.G. Brian Oakley    |
| ZONE 10                          | A.G. Chris McGrath   |



**IPDG District 9670**  
Convenor of the District Governor Nominating Committee.





**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.



BE THE INSPIRATION

## District 9670 Conference 2019



**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**



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  
Thursday 27th November**

## Rotary Community District 9670 Service Committee

The following project is promoted through the District Community Service Committee.

For further information and assistance please contact  
**Keith Harcombe** (Community Service Committee Chair)  
on 0417 475 163 [keith48@gmail.com](mailto:keith48@gmail.com)



**SIGN UP TO HOST A  
BBQ FOR PROSTATE  
CANCER >**



During **November** our District Clubs are encouraged to sign up to host a BBQ on behalf of the **Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia**. The aim is to raise prostate cancer awareness and invaluable funds for prostate cancer research.

Follow the link below for more information and tips on how to organise your event.

<http://bigaussiebarbie.com.au/>

## 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