



# “Coffey Break”

Rotary  
District 9670



## Monthly Newsletter of District Governor 2018-19



Thank you again to individual members, clubs and committees for the continued, tremendous support during a hectic September.

In the last issue of ‘Coffey Break’, we had the breaking news of the District receiving a \$250,000 grant from the National Drought Appeal funds. This money has now arrived and **clubs, drought affected or not**, can apply for those funds to assist drought stricken areas.

The project is designated to assist with household bills, household water, assistance with education costs, fodder, stock water and mental health support. Clubs simply need to apply to the District for funds addressing areas of governance structure being used, identification of any fees, the likelihood of the funds ability to reach drought affected areas, how it will be delivered, the fair process used to determine eligibility and collaboration with other groups.

Individuals cannot apply to the District; only clubs can and the clubs determine the distribution. You are the members on the ground with the knowledge of your communities, groups and friends and how best to dispense any funds. The current list of disbursements from the National Fund is shown on page 4 of this newsletter.

Once again, during my visits, I have seen a diversity of community service and social activities from the clubs, with a full spectrum of ages from early 20’s to members who grew up in the era of my own parents. Each member is giving of their time to the club and community and reaping the personal reward of being a Rotarian. Clubs are thriving - not concentrating on fundraising but friendship.

I recently visited a club, learning only days prior, of the resignation of critical board members, including the President. I did not know what to expect but thought that *the ‘wind would be removed from their sails’* and I may be visiting to receive the return of their Charter. Instead, I found a determined group of Rotarians living the motto of **‘Service Above Self’** - they are forging on, planning a revamp, asking for District assistance and seeing potential for opportunities and growth. Kurri Kurri Sunrise are my inspiration for the month, and will have all my support, and knowledge (if that is any benefit) that I can avail them.

To put together a District Governor’s program is like piecing together a 5000 piece jigsaw puzzle. Sometimes the pieces fall into place and other times you need help. My thanks goes to Charlestown Club for being flexible in accommodating me at a later meeting due to another official position coming to the fore, and then to Muswellbrook and Mudgee Sunrise for agreeing to a swap of visits when the Mudgee Club became aware of board member attendance problems. Thank you guys for helping out on these ones.

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Comments from the ANZ Rotary Conference in Hobart are elsewhere in this issue; the conference is worthwhile attending, with next years planned for Christchurch under DGE Graeme's command.

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*"The opportunity for learning and friendship with positive people is inspiring - you may even be able to make a holiday out of it!"*

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I noted one of our newest members, Julie Dixon attended, loved it and has already booked a New Zealand holiday for Christchurch next year. Julie will have been in Rotary for about 18 months by then - another inspirational story where we realise that the District is doing well with new members.

I was fortunate to be able to speak on 2 occasions at Hobart; firstly, to a ROMAC breakfast meeting and then in a plenary session to 600 delegates.



My talk was simply on how Rotary, D9670, my own club of East Maitland and several members who believed in me changed my life. The emotion that poured from the audience, during and after the presentation then for 2 days after, and even today (3 weeks later) from a member in Townsville, who tracked me down and felt the need to thank me. At the airport several people just nodded - this was personally rewarding, knowing that I had made a difference to them. For this, I thank Rotary for the opportunity.

Hobart also gave us the opportunity to talk to District 9650 G Train about reviewing Redistricting opportunities with them in 2022, and to speak to some of the District 9705 (9700/9710) consortium about their progress and interest in also aligning with us to form a 'super District' - again in 2022. We are currently planning our strategy.

Since returning, I had the opportunity to attend the first of the two Rotary Learning Initiative sessions. To walk into a room with an aura of excitement and positive outlook was testimony to Howard Bridgman and his team that they were on the right formula - again there was a mix of experience from youth to mature, from brand new members to club Presidents - all working as one for the betterment of Rotary and District 9670.

This has been followed by the youthful exuberance of the YEP session at Tocal, with 'out-bounders', anxious parents and 'in-bounders' thriving in the experience. I encourage Clubs and members, who are not in the position to host, to engage with these students and share opportunities - even if it means borrowing one from another club.

During conversation, I encouraged parents to give back to Rotary and perhaps embrace the opportunity for membership—we think at least 2 parents may in fact do this; while the ROTEX students who returned this year, are keen to be engaged in Rotaract - starting new clubs and joining existing ones!

With all this DG duty I did not get a chance to get on my bike to visit Pedalfest at Dungog, or take in any of the Newcastle to Dungog bike ride, or the St Clair (Singleton) fundraising events. I trust they went well and without incident (District Insurance Officer, Des Dowdy has not advised differently) - maybe next year!

The District Conference is forging ahead with things starting to fall into place. Our sponsorship team have ensured that we will be able to put on a deserving Conference for the members, families and friends.



Continued page 3



We have secured some interesting speakers in Ron Delizio, and hopefully his daughter Sophie, Dr. Peter Heartsch and awaiting response from his patient Turiah Pitt, blind Ironman Nathan Johnston, aboriginal Doctor James Charles and Past International Director, Noel Trevaskis. Sensational entertainment is on both nights with Chin Wi playing background violin on Friday night and Newcastle's most prominent and sought after band, the talented and versatile, 'Love That Hat' getting us up on the dance floor on Saturday.

Peter Raynor has secured the Big 4 at Tuncurry for the caravanners with a Thursday night party planned and Janet Jackson has moved the Foundation meeting to Sunday immediately after the Conference, with a bonus lunch provided.



Big 4 Tuncurry

Merriwa Rotary Club are supporting 'Bugger the Drought' day at Merriwa on Sunday 21 October.

**Rotary**  
Club of Merriwa  
& District 9670



**Bugger the Drought**



**Bus Trip to Merriwa—all welcome**  
**\$20 donation to the drought appeal**

  
LUXURY TRAVEL  
**PORT STEPHENS COACHES**  
NELSON BAY - NEWCASTLE - SYDNEY

Depart: McDonald Jones Stadium—Newcastle 7.15am  
Pickups: 7.45am Heddon Greta Hotel,  
8.05am Singleton East Rest Area (NEH and Golden Highway)  
Denman—Morning Tea: 9.10am—9.45am  
Arrive Merriwa 11am

**Sunday  
21 October  
11.30am—5pm  
Merriwa Sports Oval**

Support our rural  
community at a  
country party to show  
we care and look  
after our own.  
Food, beverages,  
entertainment for  
young and old  
bring some picnic gear  
- and some rain

AG Chris McGrath organised a coach and generous sponsorship from Port Stephens Coaches in under 4 hours. Cost is \$20, which will be donated to the appeal. Pick up, points and booking details are on the District website and Facebook.

The event also has a fee of \$20 for food and 3 drinks on the day. This will be collected on the coach as there will be no individual cash payment facilities at the venue. The venue has an alcohol licence - there is no BYO. Friends and family welcome - no food or drinks on the bus please or we get a \$250 cleaning bill.

Last month I announced that Eleni Comino had been nominated for the 'Rotary International Youth of Action' award at the United Nations. We missed out, but received a note of commendation for the application.

*Yours in Rotary, Brian*

## A MESSAGE FROM CAROL COFFEY.....

With October here it is every clubs opportunity to get behind my 'Lift the Lid' campaign for mental health through Australian Rotary Health. The reception and donations that I have received to date from clubs, members and the corporate sector is heart warming and appreciated.

Brian recently received an email from a member that said,

*"I have a story to tell regarding my own personal struggle with mental health.*

*Thanks to Carol introducing her partner project 'Lift the Lid on Mental health'.....*

*I have found it easier to speak about my journey.  
I have found some new confidence and am not feeling  
so embarrassed about speaking out.*

*I am going to talk about it at Rotary and would NEVER  
had contemplated doing so if not for Carol.*

*Please thank her from the bottom of my heart."*

Lift the Lid on Mental Illness is Australian Rotary Health's National annual fundraising day for mental health research. In order to help future generations of young Australians, we need to look ahead through research and find out how we can prevent this type of illness occurring. You can help by hosting a Hat Day event or making a donation anytime during October, culminating on World Mental Health Day, Wednesday Oct 10.

I am celebrating Hat Day, by inviting you to hold an event and wear your most eye-catching hat to a Rotary meeting or Mental Health event— I will give 3 of the ARH teddies away, one for each of the following 3 categories : **Classy**, **Practical** or **Ridiculous**. Just make sure you post it on the Rotary D9670 members area or the Rotary D9670 general page on Facebook.

  
**LIFT THE LID**  
on mental illness

**Australian  
Rotary Health**

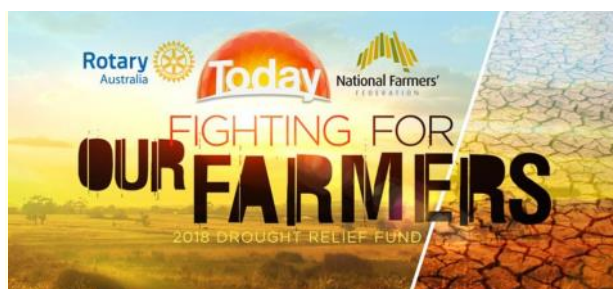
Celebrate **in October!**  
**Mental Health Month**

**1 in 5 Australians suffer  
a mental illness every year**

100% of all donations  
will go to funding vital  
mental health research

  
Rotary  
Districts of Australia





## ***The Drought Relief Appeal has raised more than \$10 million.***

**As at 21 September, \$4,482,600 million had been allocated to organisations that are on the frontline of the crisis (see table below). Further funding announcements will be made in the coming weeks.**

Redipient	How will funds be used ?	Amount
Need for Feed	Fodder, dog food and water	\$500,000
CWA of NSW	Financial assistance for household expenses, up to \$3,000 per farm.	\$500,000
Queensland CWA	Financial assistance for household expenses, up to \$5,000 per farm.	\$500,000
Salvation Army/NSW Farmers Drought Relief	Financial and pastoral support for farm households, including gift cards for use in local shops.	\$750,000
Drought Angels	Wide ranging support for farmers in QLD – from fodder and water, to household expenses, mental health services and more.	\$250,000
Rotary Clubs of Longreach, Moranbah and Pioneer Valley	Volunteer visits, mental health support, bill relief and education expenses.	\$250,000
Rotary District 9630 (Southern QLD)	Financial assistance for food and other household necessities for farming families in drought affected areas of Southern QLD.	\$250,000
Eyre Peninsular Charity Initiative	Harvesting, baling and transport of 5000 bales of donated Barley Straw for delivery to affected farms in the northern regions of the Eyre Peninsula.	\$100,000
Rotary Project – District 9650	Help with bill payments Education costs Mental health support Water  Fodder and stock water	\$250,000
Rotary Project 18/2018-19 (Rotary Club of Narrabri, Neighbours in Need):	Household assistance packages. Convene a community BBQ to help with mental health and to avoid social isolation. Home visits	\$100,000
Rotary Project 28/2018-19 (District 9800)	Grocery vouchers and wellness kits.	\$250,000
Rotary Project 33/2018-19 (District 9670)	Household bills Household water Assistance with education costs Fodder and stock water Mental health support	\$250,000
Rotary Project 37/2018-19 (District 9550):	Household bills  Assistance with education costs Mental health support	\$250,000
Blaze Aid	Organises volunteer workers that go on property to assist farmers, also provides grants of up to \$4000.	\$250,000
University of Canberra	Mobile mental health support unit	\$32,600
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4,482,600</b>



# 2018 Australia New Zealand Rotary Conference

14-16 September 2018 HOTEL GRAND CHANCELLOR, 1 Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania



Our District was well represented at the ANZ Rotary Conference during September.  
In total we had 29 members from 14 clubs in attendance.

## What PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"The ANZ Conference in Hobart was a great time to meet up with old friends and make new ones. I especially enjoyed the Membership Workshop with a great bunch of enthusiastic Membership District Chairs, keen on engaging their current members and attracting new members so we can continue the great work our clubs do."

*PDG Adrian Roach ARC (Assistant Rotary Coordinator)*

"Very valuable insights from young Rotarians about connecting with Millennials."

*Chris Roach  
President Greenhills-Maitland,  
5th Conference*

"It was really positive to hear so many stories of people whose lives have been changed by one deed and subsequently changed the lives of many others; DG Brian and PDG Maurie come to mind. DG Brian got extra brownie points by shouting wine for the district dinner!"

*Many thanks,  
PDG Helen Ryan*

"Inspirational - The conference was a timely, personal motivation, booster and reminder of what being a Rotarian really means."

*Thank you.  
Wilma Simmons  
RC of Wallsend-Maryland*

"Wow - everyone should attend an ANZ Rotary Conference at least once - inspiring!"

*Amanda Roach - DGN Partner*

"Great Biscuits"  
DGE Graeme &  
Sue's mascots"



"Steph Woollard's story of courage, resilience and strength of the Nepalese women was just one highlight of the conference where you could experience the changes made by Rotary programs and by individuals supported by Rotary. I came away with so many thoughts and ideas - I definitely would like to attend the 2019 Conference in Christchurch."

*Pam Wellham - President, Rotary Club of Belmont - 1st full conference*

"A hero just spoke-Brian Coffey. Thanks for sharing your story. I'm still sniffing and in awe."  
*(DG Bronwyn Stephens D9800)*





## Model United Nations Assembly and first place goes to.....

During August the Rotary National Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) was conducted in the historic House of Representatives Chamber in Old Parliament House. This was the 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive MUNA event that the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise has run on behalf of Rotary with the aim of increasing international understanding and goodwill.

Fifty-four Year 10 to 12 students from schools in Queensland, NSW, ACT, Victoria and Tasmania participated in the event. Teams of two or three students made up 20 teams, each representing a country to debate six real-world United Nations resolutions.

**The Rotary Club Of Waratah sponsored 2 students, from Saint Philips Christian College, Waratah.** This was the first time Saint Philips had entered the competition.

After winning the District competition at Muswellbrook **they were placed first in the national competition in Canberra.**



As a result, the school has now been invited to attend the MUNA competition at Yale University in the USA during January 2019. Last year, delegates from over eighty schools, forty countries, and all six inhabited continents were represented at the Yale competition.

## Compassionate Matched Grant Funding

Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) established the Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS) to assist Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts within Australia to respond to needs within their own communities and to gain tax deductibility for donations made to their particular project.

In January 2017, RABS announced its Rotary Australia Compassionate Grant (RACG) program to help Australians in need. As a result of a \$1,000,000 donation to Rotary by Dick Smith, grants were assessed by RABS and funds distributed to disadvantaged Australians identified by local Rotary Clubs or Rotary Districts as being in need within their local or wider community.

**The entire donation from Dick Smith has now been allocated and applications for new projects have closed.**

Congratulations to the following five District 9670 clubs who benefited from six grants to assist the disadvantaged in their respective community:

Project No	Sponsoring Rotary Club	Project Name
107-2017-18	Nelson Bay	Baby Josh
80-2017-18	Greenhills	Sebastian Stace
64-2017-18	Singleton Sunrise	Taylor Lojszczyk
58-2017-18	Paterson	Ellen Higginbottom
40-2017-18	Rutherford-Telarah	Munch
26-2017-18	Rutherford-Telarah	Laundry & Bathroom Facility

The RACG program has been an outstanding success in providing assistance to people who would have otherwise fallen through the welfare safety net. The work by Clubs and private donors has resulted in a total commitment around Australia of over \$2.5M, including the \$1M provided by Dick Smith.

In total, over one hundred disadvantaged people throughout Australia were beneficiaries of an extraordinary gift from Dick Smith. In addition to meeting RABS criteria, Compassionate Grants were only approved where the project funds were directed to people in need or to benefit a section of a community rather than the community as a whole. A project needed to arouse compassion within the community.

Priority for grants was given to those whose disadvantage has arisen from an "ad hoc" event over which the disadvantaged had no control, such as an accident, assault or a medical condition.





## Clubs Working Together

### ROTARY BRINGS A SMILE TO RURAL SCHOOL

Rotary Clubs, and their supporters, came together to help a small, NSW farming community in Tottenham with a donation of \$8,750.

The donation is a massive boost to the school and families and will help reduce the costs of student excursions this year.

The combined, total donation was due to the generosity of:

Rotary Club of Narromine	East Maitland Rotary Club
Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri	Rotary Club of Cessnock
Rotary Club of Nelson Bay	Greg and Lorraine Bevan
St Stephen's Uniting Church, Sydney	

Geoff Smith from the Narromine Club represented Rotary at the presentation on 28 September (see photo right).



Geoff with (left) Greg Radford (P and C President) and (right) Amanda Thorpe School Principal



### Reveal Day

Further to the article in the September edition of "Coffey Break", the house built at Medowie was formally revealed on 16th September by "BUILD FOR A CURE" ambassador, Scotty Cam.

The project commenced on 27 August and the tradies involved in the construction were fuelled each day with food prepared by members of the Kurri Kurri, Williamtown, East Maitland and Raymond Terrace Rotary Clubs. The Rotarians were once again on site at the reveal day to provide a free sausage sizzle for the large crowd in attendance.

The house at the Bower housing estate in Medowie will now be auctioned during October, with all proceeds going to the Children's Cancer Institute.

A great job by the combined Rotary Clubs who received such generous support from local businesses.



*"The House Built with Love"*  
*Build for a Cure 2018*



Part of the crowd attending the reveal day on 16 September



Feeding the crowd on reveal day.



A lot of community interest in the finished house



## 24 October- One Day. One Focus: **Ending Polio**

*A letter from Barry Rassin.....*

My dear friends and fellow Rotarians,



RI President Barry Rassin

**This year, on 24 October, Rotary will again mark World Polio Day. I am writing to ask all of you to join me on that day in raising global awareness of the urgent need to End Polio Now.**

I have been a Rotarian since long before Rotary committed to eradicate polio. When I was inducted as a member in April of 1980, the idea of taking on polio eradication as a corporate project had not yet been seriously raised; polio still ravaged the lives of some 350,000 people, nearly all of them children, every year.

Today, the world is a very different place. Thanks to the vision of Rotary's leaders then, and the commitment of the generations of Rotarians who have followed, we now have fewer cases of polio than at any time in history. As I write this message, only 14 children have been paralysed by the wild polio virus in all of 2018. Only three countries are still polio-endemic; wild virus still circulates in only one remaining reservoir, on the border of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The success of this work has come as the result of decades of concerted and sustained effort by Rotary and all of our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary's involvement has been wide-ranging: we have raised over 1.9 billion dollars to date, and have contributed countless volunteer and staff hours to the practical work of eradication, including immunization, fundraising, and advocacy.



Our success has been tremendous, and we are confident that our work will soon be complete.

Yet significant challenges remain, and the need for continued funding is acute. Until eradication is certified -at least three years from the time the last poliovirus is found anywhere in the world - every single child must be immunized, at a continuing cost of hundreds of millions of dollars per year. If any of that work is slowed or stopped, if any of our momentum is lost, we risk losing everything we have worked for, for so many years.

This is why I am asking every Rotary club to find its own way, on 24 October, to raise awareness of Rotary's work to eradicate polio. At [EndPolio.org](http://EndPolio.org), you can find some great resources to help [plan an event](#), where you can also [promote your event](#), find nearby events, and join our [World Polio Day livestream](#) from the College of Physicians in Philadelphia at 18:30 United States Eastern Time.

I look forward to coming together with all of you on World Polio Day—when we can all *Be the Inspiration* to End Polio Now.

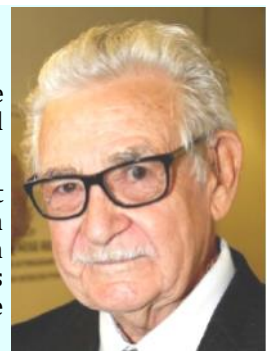
*Yours in Rotary,  
Barry Rassin  
Rotary International President, 2018-19*

## A STORY OF INSPIRATION

*"Today, nothing remains but for each of us to step forward in our own clubs, neighbourhoods, and communities and Be the Inspiration".  
.....Barry Rassin*

D9670 Rotarian, Steve Carroll (*photo right*) and wife Dorene have experienced the tragedy and witnessed firsthand, the devastating effects of Malaria.

Steve, our District's former Chair of Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM), and Dorene are committed to help find a cure for the disease. There are approximately 3.2 billion people currently living in malaria endemic countries worldwide and of the 500,000 sufferers who die each year, 80 per cent are young children .



Some years ago, Steve and Dorene organised a motorbike ride around Australia to raise money for RAM (*photo left*). Since then, Steve and Dorene, have addressed many Rotary clubs and recently accepted an invitation to speak at the District 9710 Conference. Steve announced that he received a \$1,000 donation from RC Darwin North plus \$500 from a visitor.

This brings a total of \$64,000 that Steve and Dorene have raised, or contributed to RAM, including a personal contribution of \$18,000. With further funding in sight, Steve and Dorene will present at a combined Bega, Pambula and Merimbula Rotary Club meeting in October, with a possible Newcastle/Newcastle Harbour combined meeting to follow.





## ROTARY READING GROWS IN NELSON BAY



The work of Rotary begins in the community and every community has its own unique needs and concerns. While we serve in countless ways, Rotary has focused its efforts in six key areas to maximize our impact. These areas encompass some of the world's most critical and widespread humanitarian needs.

**Basic Education and Literacy** is one of those needs and was also the designated theme for the month of September. Most people will agree that Literacy gives one an opportunity in life; the opportunity to gain self esteem, the opportunity to get a job, the opportunity to progress in your chosen field of work and the opportunity to succeed.



**"One Child, One teacher, one book, one pen can change the world".**

*- Malala Yousafzai*



Nelson Bay Rotary Club has been running Rotary Reading in local Primary Schools for over 15 years.

Rotary Reading is currently conducted in three schools, Shoal Bay, Tomaree and Anna Bay Primary Schools.

Rotary became involved in this program 15 years ago after Shoal Bay Public School Principal Kay Nicholas (formerly Hunter Region Reading Consultant) spoke to the club about the parent reading program that operated in the local Anna Bay and Shoal Bay schools. Kaye sought to expand the program and Club President of the day, Helen Ryan, called for Rotary volunteers to be involved. Our first volunteers were Mary Michel, Pam Rolfe, Noaline Fitzsimons and Yvonne Stuhmcke.

Rotary Reading at the 3 local schools, is growing each year, with a total of 30 Nelson Bay Rotary Club members plus

Community Volunteers participating in this weekly program. PDG Helen Ryan is still participating, along with ADG Chris Bartlett, Judi Priestley and Liz Friend. The remainder are Community members, some being long serving. In 2013 Nelson Bay Rotary were successful in obtaining a Rotary Foundation Grant for funding the purchase of books and other reading aids at the 3 schools. The results from the program are particularly outstanding, not only does the Children's reading improve, their social interaction is rising as well. This program just continues to grow.

*Thanks to Chris Bartlett (Nelson Bay Rotary Club) for providing details for this article. The Rotary volunteers have been formally recognised by the Department of Education for the work they do with helping the primary school children read.*

## 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 also includes : International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on the 17th and World Polio Day on the 24th of October.*



*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.*

## 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 Lyn Thorpe (ROMAC), Don Stephens (Dream Cricket), Zoey Kirwan (RYPEN) and Christine Walmsley (Learning & Development) for their respective articles.

### CHANGING LIVES ONE CHILD AT A TIME



**Rotary is part of my everyday life and has given me the opportunity to participate in many Rotary based projects with my husband, David.**

I was made aware of ROMAC and its work when David and I found a young girl with severe burns in the Gulf region of PNG.

Although she did not qualify for treatment as she was 21 years of age, ROMAC did assist with valuable contacts, and in 2008 I became the District 9670 ROMAC chair

ROMAC, started in Newcastle 30 years ago through Dr. Willy Walker and remains very active in D9670. To date, we are fortunate with support of Doctors, staff and management of John Hunter and Newcastle Private Hospital providing free treatment. The costs involved are in flights, visas, patient and parent support while they are in Australia. ROMAC seeks funds to cover these costs for our own patients and others that are brought in each year for life changing surgery. All patients arrive with a carer, usually the mother. These people are usually from poor and disadvantaged backgrounds, needing clothing, personal hygiene care, basic medical support and funds to

assimilate into our community during their stay.

RAWCS and DIK are my other favourite arms of Rotary. We are able to collect and provide medical equipment and assistance to our immediate neighbours. I am the project manager of 2 projects registered with RAWCS:

- Days for Girls providing hygiene kits to young girls in the developing world and,
- Alliance for Smiles providing free Cleft lips and palates surgeries in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Morocco.

District 9670 has the ROMAC Ambassador Rosie Lowata (ROMAC's 5th patient) who is very happy to speak of her experience as a patient. She has now Australian citizenship and runs her own successful cleaning business. Rosie contacts every patient that arrives - giving them hope and support during treatment.

I joined Hamilton Rotary Club in 1998 as the first female member. Subsequently, I became a member and President of Adamstown - New Lambton Rotary club until the charter was handed in.

I have received recognition with Paul Harris Fellow + 8 for my work with ROMAC, RAWCS and DIK.

**Lyn Thorpe OAM**

**Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC)-  
District Chair D9670**  
International Director  
Rotary Club of Warners Bay

### A DREAM COMES TRUE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN



**I am District Chairman for Dream Cricket and Chairman for Dream Cricket Australia.**

Dream Cricket is a series of cricket related activities modified to the needs of primary school aged students with mental, physical or psychological disabilities.

Every child should have the opportunity to play cricket. The activities are designed especially for children with disabilities and ensure they have some success, no matter their ability.

As well as supplying special equipment to schools for their everyday use we provide a fun day for the students called a Gala Day.

Students from a number of adjacent schools come together for the Gala Day to enjoy the physical activities and to socialise and have fun.

Dream Cricket is a Rotary program that is expanding quickly in all states in Australia.

**If your club would like to be involved go to**  
[www.dreamcricket.org.au](http://www.dreamcricket.org.au)  
**or call me on 0418219185**  
**or donjstephens@bigpond.com**

**Don Stephens - Rotary Club of Dubbo West**  
PDG (2010-11)  
Current Secretary / Public Officer D9670 -  
Foundation Committee.



## THE POWER OF ' ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT '



RYPEN is for young people aged between 14-17 who have shown courage and perseverance in everyday life.

The aim of the program is to work with the group helping them see beyond their current outlook and approach life with purpose and direction to maximise their full potential.

The camp focuses on key aspects of positive youth development and aims to empower the next generations and provide them with the tools and skills to navigate life.

The program covers content on several key life challenges including friendship, public speaking, well-being, fear & trust, goal setting, teamwork, and communication. Within these core topics we teach the participants the importance of values in life including those of respect, tolerance, responsibility, honesty, fairness and justice, commitment and contribution, and integrity. By working within the framework of these core values we offer participants an opportunity to learn new skills, challenge themselves and achieve their full potential in a supportive and fun environment.

I have been involved in the RYPEN program for 15 years. I started my RYPEN journey as a participant at age 14. After the life changing experience, I became really passionate about the program and wanted the chance to inspire other participants in the program. I was invited back as a RYPENITE (youth group leader) and was given the opportunity to work with the committee to give the participants support and guidance through the weekend. I was involved in this capacity for several years and following this joined the committee.

Due to my involvement in the RYPEN program and my passion for making a difference in the lives of local young people I decided to join my local Rotary club. Since then I have gone on to become the chair of the RYPEN program and continue to lead my committee in delivering this incredible program biannually for our district.

RYPEN has played a massive role in forging who I am today and my passion for giving back to the community. My own personal experiences with the program and all the amazing things I have seen it do over the last 15 years, really makes me proud of what this program has become and pushes me to make it the best it can be.

**Our next camp is November 16-18th at Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre.  
Contact us for more information**

Zoey Kirwan  
Rotary D9670  
RYPEN Chair



## DEVELOPING OUR CLUB AND DISTRICT LEADERS

I joined the Rotary Club of Maitland Sunrise in 2003, where I served as Club Secretary for 4 years and then President in the 2012-13 Rotary year. I am currently the Community Service Director.

My first opportunity to serve at District level, was as Secretary of the RYLA committee, a great experience learning about this inspiring youth program and assisting in its organisation.

In 2013, I was invited to become an Assistant Governor, a 3 year tenure where I was able to support and liaise with 5 Rotary clubs in my appointed zone, sharing District procedures and information to strengthen and grow their Rotary journeys.

During 2014, I became an RLI Facilitator when our District introduced this wonderful program to support Rotarians learn more about the world of Rotary. Again, sharing other Rotarians learning journeys has strengthened and widened my Rotary knowledge.

I am currently the Chair of the Learning and Development Committee.

Our team coordinates a yearly program of training Assistant Governors and District Chairs over a weekend in February in preparation for the new Rotary year.

In April and May, the team develops and presents President Elect Training [PETS] and District Assembly at both Dubbo and Singleton to support Incoming Presidents and their Board members for the Rotary year.

My latest challenge, which I am thoroughly enjoying is Chairing the 2019 District Conference Committee as we organise a District Conference that embraces the conference theme of "Positive People = Positive Actions".

*Christine Walmsley*



# Coffey ON THE GO

*September*



**4 Sep R C of East Maitland**  
President Michael Tams, AG Brian Oakley  
& DG Brian Coffey.



**3 Sep R C of Toronto**  
AG Chris McGrath, President Dennis Trigg  
& DG Brian Coffey



**6 Sep R C of Greenhills Maitland**  
President Chris Roach, DG Brian  
& AG Kerry Hayes



**4 Sep R C of Toronto Sunrise**  
DG Brian Coffey pictured with  
President Tim Turner



**10 Sep RC of Rutherford Telarah**  
DG Brian pictured with President Sam Norris  
& AG Phil Gorton





### 19 Sep R C of Newcastle Sunrise

AG Brian Oakley, Bev Oakley, President Chris Page  
DG Brian & Carol Coffey.



### 25 Sep R C of Maitland Sunrise

DG Brian & President Keith Pearson  
induct new member Alec Mackenzie



### 19 Sep R C of Newcastle Harbour

DG Brian . AG Sharon Chambers &  
President Trent Stallworthy



### 25 Sep R C of Charlestown

AG Brian Oakley, President Martin McGrevy  
and DG Brian Coffey.



### 24 Sep R C of Warners Bay

President Katrina Henningham &  
DG Brian and Carol Coffey.



### 26 Sep R C of Kurri Kurri Sunrise

Carol Coffey, President Des Mills and  
DG Brian Coffey



The following projects are being promoted through the District Community Service Committee.  
For further information and assistance please contact Keith Harcombe (Community Service Committee Chair) on 0417 475 163 [keitheh48@gmail.com](mailto:keitheh48@gmail.com)

All clubs in our District, with access to graffiti removal equipment, are asked to get involved by registering a project. Follow this link for more details ; <http://graffiti removal day.org.au/>



**graffiti REMOVAL DAY**  
**Love where we live!**

**Sunday 21 Oct 2018**

**Volunteer**  
**Nominate a Site**  
**Promote the Day**

For more information call 1300 665 310 or visit [graffiti removal day.org.au](http://graffiti removal day.org.au)

Follow us on      
#GRD18 #LoveWhereWeLive

 **BIG AUSSIE BARBIE**  
**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/>

## PROJECT *red socks*

IN AID OF THE EARLY PREVENTION OF PROSTATE CANCER

**Red Socks** with **Gold Rotary Emblem**

PROMOTING PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY

PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF RED SOCKS WILL BE USED TO FURTHER PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

TELL YOUR ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS ABOUT RED SOCKS AND ENCOURAGE YOUR CLUB TO BE A RED SOCK CLUB

HAVE YOUR CLUB SECRETARY PLACE AN ORDER FOR YOUR MEMBERS

**COST PER PAIR \$15.00**

**ORDER NOW!**

**&**

**Support this District 9670 Project**

*We still have socks available for those who have not got theirs yet.*



## Attendance & Community Hours AUGUST 2018

Club	Members	Attendance %	Hours
Belmont	29	79	78
Cardiff	11	75	45
Dubbo	26	83	221
Dubbo Macquarie	22	86	90
Dubbo West	38	83	153
Dungog	13	72	158
East Maitland	38	78	110
Kurri Kurri	22	38	326
Maitland	41	71	405
Mudgee	28	70	127
Myall Coast	24	68	80
Narromine		74	172
Nelson Bay	47	62	392
Newcastle Enterprise	30	70	159
Newcastle Harbour	20	55	80
Rutherford Telarah	42	46	451
Toronto			363
Warners Bay	45	75	567





BE THE INSPIRATION

## District 9670 Conference 2019



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**

**Rotary**  
Australian Districts



ROTARY AUSTRALIA  
WORLD COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

### Next RAWCS Eastern Region meeting Sat 27 & Sun 28 October 2018, Dubbo

The next meeting will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Dubbo, District 9670 at Westside Hotel,  
22-30 Whylandra Street, Dubbo NSW

**WE LOVE  
Photos.**



*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".*

*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  
Wednesday 31st October**

## Scheduled-DG Visits (Oct - Nov 2018)



### Oct-2018

Date	Day	Club
3	Wed	Scone
8	Mon	Belmont
15	Mon	Cobar
16	Tue	Dubbo Sth
18	Thu	Muswellbrook
22	Mon	Dubbo
23	Tue	Dubbo Macquarie
		Rylstone Kandos
24	Wed	Dubbo West
26	Fri	Mudgee Sunrise

### Nov-2018

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

**Rotary  
District 9670**



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**BE THE  
INSPIRATION**