



Coffey Break

Monthly Newsletter of District Governor 2018-19



One month down of 2019, DGE Graeme Hooper is back from his International Assembly training. I think things are starting to sink in that I haven't got a long time left in this job. A job that is a challenge, a job with trials and tribulations – but one that rewards you in bounds with friends, personal development and opportunity.

I didn't get a good result for our membership to start the year, with information of a loss of 28 members from the year start figure. Regardless of this we have the highest percentage of female members and members under the age of 40 in Australia and New Zealand – we also have the highest loss of members (ouch that hurts a DG!).

But, as we start February we are clawing back, with 11 new members, and many clubs are telling me they have members joining in February. Cessnock are exploring a new club venture at Huntlee and we have kicked off a new Rotaract Club. This makes me happy.

"We just need to know how to engage and keep these members".

Clubs are reminded to update your Rotary Goals, on My Rotary for the chance of a possible International Presidents Citation. See a story on page 8 of this newsletter about Nelson Bays effort last year.

District Governor 2021-22 – our last!



The District is open to enquiries and applications for the role of District Governor in 2021-22. Past District Governor Helen Ryan is chairing the interviews for the District Governor position at Forster on Friday March 15 from 11:00 am at Club Forster.

The development and support provided to our future District Governors is second to none in the Rotary world and you will be in a respected position of knowledge before entering the final phase of training in the USA in the January prior to taking up your office.

If anyone has an inkling of interest – please contact Helen, Graeme Hooper, David Roach or myself for information and/or advice.

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January Activity

As February commences we look at what has just passed and what is in front of the members across the District.



Editor Graham has done a marvellous job in pictures to identify the efforts of so many clubs and members to make Australia Day a success in their own communities.

What a surprise we got to awake on Australia Day and learn of Brian Atkins' (RC Waratah), and Dr. Gordon Treble's (RC Nelson Bay) OAM recognition for their respective community service over so many years.

February Coffey Grind

Thursday 7 District RAWCS meeting

Hexham BC 6pm dinner 7pm meeting.
All welcome

Friday 8 Presidents, Chairs and Assistant Governors meeting

7pm at Club Maitland City, Rutherford.
This is open to all members, and for those who are too far away they can get involved via 'Zoom'. There will be plenty of interesting snippets at this meeting and we will then hear from the President of Nelson Bay and Port Stephens Australia Day Ambassador – Kath Rimmer.

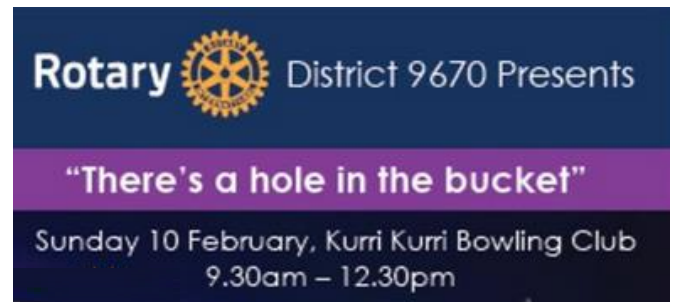
Sunday 10 **'There's a Hole in the Bucket'** membership symposium We have two great presenters in Mark Huddleston from South Australia and Tim Moore from Victoria opening our eyes to methods to stop the loss of members.

Election of Club Representatives for District Committee.

All clubs should have received the call for nominations of Past presidents for election as Club representative on the Rotary International District 9670 Inc Management Committee.

Nominations must be forwarded to Secretary Nicole Shanks **by Wednesday 13 February 2019**. Voting forms will be sent on 21 February and voting will take place at the Resolution Session at the District conference on Saturday 16 March 2019.

Membership Retention Symposium



There has been another good response to our free *'There's a Hole in the Bucket'* membership retention symposium on Feb 10. We have 16 clubs and over 50 members attending to date. You can register right up to the Friday on line at rotary9670.org.au

Rotaract

A Rotaract club has commenced in Maitland (sponsored by East Maitland), they are keen to hit the ground and learn from the Hunter counterparts.



In the mean time, we believe there is a big chance of Warners Bay getting a club going in Lake Macquarie.

International Convention – Hamburg Germany



We have 13 members heading over to Europe for the convention and Frank Climaco is running a tour to Spain I believe. Register by 31 March to take advantage of the Convention pre-registration discount. Contact Frank Cimaco for information on his trip.

Yours in Rotary, Brian

Ticket sales are still continuing for the Conference with the Platinum deal the one to grab. The all inclusive package caters for all your meals from Friday night to Sunday.

Thursday Meat and Greet

Why not come up early and join the Recreational Vehicle Fellowship of Rotarians at the Big 4 Tuncurry for a BBQ meat 'n greet, then stay after the Conference for a packaged lunch during the Rotary Foundation seminar before you head home.

Decorate the Hall

Clubs are invited to bring your pull up banners to decorate the walls of the auditorium during the Conference.

Hat Theme

Saturday night is a hat theme – it all ties in with the Partners project of 'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness' and the great band 'Love that Hat'

Early Bird Wine Winners:

Howard Bridgman - Newcastle Enterprise
Vina Chubb - Warners Bay
Victoria Baudinette – Hunter Rotaract

Raffle

One of the Conference sponsors, BBX, are providing a 7 day holiday as a raffle prize.

In Memoriam Notice

Clubs and members are asked to advise of Rotarians who have passed on from 18/3/18 to 15/3/19. Contact Geoff Hicks M: 0405 513589 E: ghicks47@bigpond.com for requirements.

The Conference Committee has developed an interesting and diverse program for your enjoyment.

Further to the article in the December edition of "Coffey Break" we include below, profiles of some additional confirmed speakers.

Speaker Profiles

**AMANDA GASCOIGNE**

Amanda is a highly motivated chartered accountant, professional services business coach, small business advocate, author, entrepreneur and a trusted advisor and accountant to small & medium sized businesses for over 20 years.

Amanda has received two Hunter Region Business Excellence Awards - Businesswoman of the Year and Business Services of the Year.

Amanda has recently sold her accounting practice of 18 years and has now embarked on a new career of coaching and mentoring small and solo accounting practice owners.

**SIM'S CAMBODIA INC (Schools, Immersion, Mission)**

Teachers, Brian and Suzanne Morgan pursued their desire to be active in making a difference to the lives of impoverished communities, creating the not-for-profit "SIM's Cambodia Inc" in 2013.

The project is diverse; funding teacher's wages, constructing schools, wells and roads, through to the provision of educational, medical and consumable support for impoverished villages.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PETER HAERTSCH OAM**

A plastic, Reconstructive and Burns Surgery specialist Peter has participated in more than 30 Interplast missions to various overseas areas.

In 2002 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for involvement with the Bali burn victims. In 2004 he was made a Clinical Associate Professor of Sydney University and is the Founding Chairman of the Sydney University Burns Foundation.

Peter was the surgeon to ultramarathon runner and burns survivor Turia Pitt .



Speaker Profiles



REBECCA BACHMANN

The daughter of Rotarians, Rebecca ventured to Australia from Norway in 2011 as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. This gave her the opportunity to volunteer on a RAWCS project in Papua New Guinea; a passion she has ventured on several times since and involved her parents.

Rebecca returned to Australia completing a Bachelor's degree at UTS. She was honoured to be recognised with a Paul Harris Fellow for her efforts in understanding the true meaning of "Service Above Self". She was involved in establishing a Rotaract Club at UTS and received her Honours degree in 2017, while being awarded the University Medal.

A former Rotaractor and a PHF, Rebecca has travelled to Indonesia and India to work on humanitarian projects.



RON DELEZIO

Ron delivers a positive and powerful message through his personal story of hope and faith. His story is eye-opening. He and his wife Carolyn, watched daughter Sophie Delezio fight for her life in hospital after two catastrophic accidents.

Living in the hospital for 6.5 months after the first accident followed by 6.5 weeks after the second accident.

Ron and Carolyn founded the Day of Difference Foundation, purchasing millions of dollars of medical equipment for children's hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.



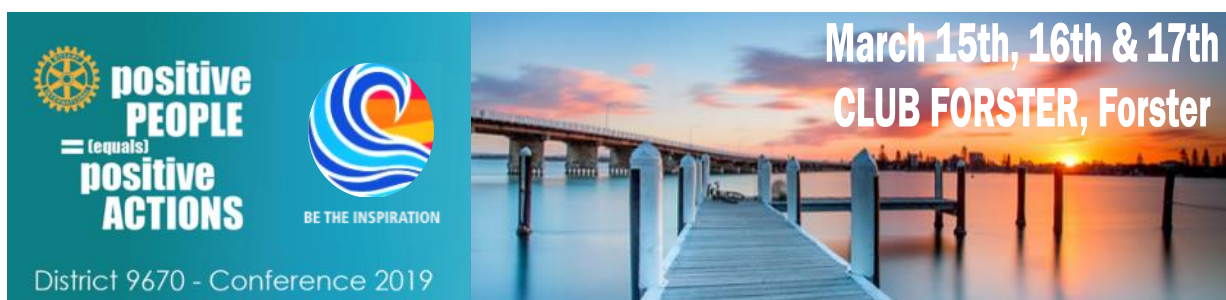
NATHAN JOHNSTON

Nathan is a blind athlete having lost his eyesight due to Retina Pigmentosa at the age of 14. Nathan used sport to address his life challenges, learning to run, cycle, swim, surf and any other sport to improve himself.

Nathan performs charity work and has attracted national sponsors to become a professional athlete. Nathan is the Australasian Para Champion and has completed the Australian Ironman, Melbourne Ironman and the World Ironman Championship in Hawaii finishing second in the world in his category.

Nathan and his guide Glen Gorrock will travel from the Orange Ironman to Forster to speak to us.

Please see next page for current draft of the District 9670 conference program.



Draft Program

Thursday 14 March 2019			5.00pm Happy Hours & BBQ by RV Fellowship - Big 4 Tuncurry
Friday 15 March			Registrations & Enquiries Desk - Open 12.00 6.00pm Fellowship Drinks 6.30 - 9.00pm Buffet Dinner (Angamus Duo 6.30 - 8.30pm)
Saturday 16 March	Registrations & Enquiries Desk - Open 7.30am		
Breakfast	Personal Insights on Growing a Business & Family	<i>Amanda Gascoigne</i>	
9.00am	Opening Ceremony		
9.30am	Conference Open	<i>PDG James Wilcox</i>	
9.40am	Change: Rotary's Story, Your Story	<i>Noel Trevaskis</i>	
	10.45 - 11.15am Morning Tea		
11.20 - 11.45am	1. Our Club's SEEK Education Project	<i>Alan Morrison</i>	
(3 Breakout Sessions)	2. Rotary Opportunities	<i>Adrian Roach</i>	
	3. Money Matters - Making the Most of Club Funds	<i>Patrick Healy</i>	
11.45 - 12.15pm	1. RAWCS Morogoro Project	<i>Eleni Comino</i>	
(3 Breakout Sessions)	2. RYPEN Success Stories	<i>Andrew Marselos</i>	
	3. Great Public Presentations	<i>Matt Schultz</i>	
	12.15 - 1.15 pm Lunch		
1.30 pm	Great Things Can Come From Working with Community	<i>Ron Delezio</i>	
2.15 pm	Australian Rotary Health Projects	<i>Dr James Charles</i>	
	Presentation Sketch -Youth Exchange Program	<i>YEP Team</i>	
3.15 pm	Resolution Session	<i>DG Brian Coffey</i>	
	3.45 - 6.00 pm Free Time to Relax and Explore		
6.00 pm	Fellowship Drinks		
7.00 - 11.00pm	Conference Dinner ('Love That Hat' 8.00 -11.00pm)		
Sunday 17 March	Registrations & Enquiries Desk - Open 7.30am		
Breakfast	Our Work in Cambodia & Rotary Support	<i>Brian & Sue Morgan</i>	
9.00am	In Memoriam	<i>Geoff Hicks</i>	
9.40am	Amazing Interplast Stories	<i>Dr Peter Haertsch</i>	
	10.45 am Morning Tea		
11.15 am	What Rotary Can Mean to Young People	<i>Rebecca Bachman</i>	
11.45 am	A Blind Ironman's Impossible Dream	<i>Glenn Gorrock & Nathan Johnston</i>	
12.25 pm	Presentation on 2020 Conference	<i>DGE Graeme Hooper</i>	
12.35 pm	Conference Wrap	<i>PDG James Wilcox</i>	
12.40 pm	Thanks	<i>DG Brian Coffey</i>	
12.50 pm	Close, Flag Exit	<i>MC</i>	
1.00 - 3.00 pm	Rotary Foundation Lunch Seminar	<i>PDG Janette Jackson</i>	

More than half of all Australians participate in Australia Day, attending events organised by State Governments, local councils, community groups or getting together with family and friends.

It is wonderful to see so many of our District 9670 Clubs, Rotarians, family and friends participating in local community activities.

The photos on this page show just a few of the Clubs who were flying the "Rotary Flag"



Cobar Rotary Club



Cessnock Rotary Club



Dubbo Macquarie Rotary Club



Dubbo West Rotary Club



Kathy Rimmer
President - Nelson Bay Rotary Club
Australia Day Ambassador - Port Stephens



Salamander Bay Rotary Club



Nelson Bay Rotary Club





Order of Australia Honours

"We have some extraordinary members out there who deserve acknowledgement for their unselfish work.

How wonderful to hear that two of District 9670 Rotarians were recognised in the Australia Day Honours List.

Congratulations to PDG Brian Atkins (Rotary Club of Waratah) & PP Gordon Treble (Rotary Club of Nelson Bay) ."

DC Brian Coffey

**Mr Brian Keith ATKINS (OAM),
New Lambton NSW**

For service to the community through a range of organisations.



**Dr Gordon Ferguson TREBLE (OAM),
Corlette NSW**

For service to sports education.



- Education Officer, Australian Ladies Professional Golf , 1995-2012.
- Education Officer, Professional Golfers' Association of Australia, 1984-1992.

Macarthur College of Advanced Education

- Head, School of Human Movement, 1989-1997.
- Head, Department of Physical Education, 1975-89.

Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation New South Wales

- Former Executive Member.
- Committee Member, 1956-1972.
- Journal Editor (Interaction), 1967-1972.
- Member, Research Committee, 1966-1980.
- Fellow.
- Past Member, Australian Sports Medicine Federation

Tomaree Community College

- Committee Member, current.
- President, 1999-2009.
- Member, Adult Education Board, 1996-2018.

Rotary Club of Nelson Bay

- International Director, 1996-1999.
- Community Service Director, 1995-1996.
- Member, 1994-2018.

Rotary Club of Carlingford

- President, 1985-1986.
- International Director, 1984-1993.
- Community Service Director, 1985-1986.

Rotary District 9670

- Convenor, DG Nominating Committee 2015.
- Governor, 2013-2014.
- Assistant Governor, 2001-2003.

Rotary Club of Waratah

- Member, since 1974.
- President, 1981-1982, 1998-2000.

Other

- Chair, Newcastle Science and Engineering Challenge Organising Committee, University of Newcastle , since 2001.
- Member, National Science and Engineering Challenge Council , 2011-2015.
- Committee Member, Young People's Theatre Newcastle, current.

Awards and recognition includes:

- Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program Award, New South Wales Government, 2017.
- Community Group of the Year Engineer and Science Challenge, University of Newcastle, 2010.
- Exceptional Service Medal, University of Newcastle , 2007.
- Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire, 2006.
- MBA Excellence in Building Community Award, 1999.
- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary Club of Waratah , 1992.
- Rotary Youth leadership Award, 1966.
- Life Membership, Young People's Theatre.

Cobar Rotary Club Ramps Up Drought Relief

It is not every day that a Rotary Club receives \$90,000 for a club project, but the Rotary Club of Cobar are excited to have received this amount from the Gulf Horizons Foundation for drought relief work in western NSW. The donation was funded from a raffle which was facilitated and marketed by Flash Market and Eye Candy Motor (ECM) Sports.

Matt and Troy from Flash Market and ECM drove all the way from Melbourne to present the club with a novelty cheque (see photo below left) and meet some of the local community who are recipients of fodder donations. Matt and Troy, along with their charity partner Gulf Horizons, are continuing their help with more relief for the area.

3 road train loads of fodder have recently been delivered to the remote village of Tilpa 180 kms west of Cobar on the Darling River. These 3 loads of fodder are in addition to 2 earlier loads delivered to Tilpa and Emmdale.



Congratulations Nelson Bay Rotary Club

2017-18 Rotary Citation
from the RI President



Nelson Bay Rotary Club had another outstanding year in 2017/18 and were the only Club in District 9670 to receive a Presidential Citation from RI World President Ian Riseley. PDG Governor Helen recently presented the Award to current President Kathy (see photo top right). Helen said the Award was for the Club's efforts during 2017/18 including some 7000 Community hours registered.

In responding President Kathy said "every member of the Club contributed". She thanked Club Secretary PDG Don Whatham for his commitment in supplying the information required. "Members should be proud of our achievements, working as a team and inspiring others."

Photo right shows DG Brian, Secretary Don, AG Phil and President Kathy checking out the presidential data for 2018/19 Award.



"This year's (2018-19) Rotary Citation process presents a more level playing field for small, medium-size, and larger clubs. Club's are strongly encouraged to report data on their achievements this year to help put themselves in line for a Citation"..... DG Brian Coffey

See details on following page

Please do not miss the opportunity to recognise your Club's achievements this year.

If you are having difficulty setting up a My Rotary account or entering your Club's goals then please contact your Assistant Governor - "Help is at Hand."

2018-19 ROTARY CITATION

The **Rotary Citation** recognises Rotary clubs that support each of our strategic priorities by completing certain activities. Clubs have the entire Rotary year to achieve the citation's goals.

Rotary can automatically verify many of your club's achievements as long as you keep your club and member information up-to-date in **My Rotary**. You'll use online tools like **Rotary Club Central** to tell us when you've achieved other goals. To be eligible for the Rotary Citation, clubs need to begin the year as active clubs that are in good standing and remain throughout the year. Achievements will be compared with membership figures from 1 July 2018 and will be recognised after the 1 July 2019 numbers are final, on 15 August 2019.

This year, clubs can receive the **Rotary Citation With Presidential Distinction** when they achieve the Rotary Citation plus one to three additional goals.

1. SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN CLUBS

Achieve at least 3 of the following goals:

- Achieve a net gain of 1 member
- Maintain or improve your club's retention of current and new members:
 - * Improve your club's retention rate by 1 percentage point
 - or
 - * If your club's retention rate was 90 percent or more in 2017-18, maintain it
- Achieve a net gain in female members
- Have at least 60 percent of club members report their birth dates through My Rotary
- Sponsor or co-sponsor a new Rotary club
- Conduct a classification study of your members' occupations, and work to align your membership with the mix of businesses and professions in your community



2. FOCUS AND INCREASE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

Achieve at least 3 of the following goals:

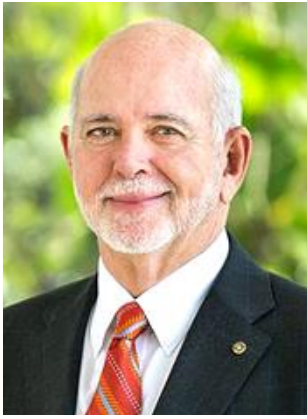
- Sponsor a Rotary Community Corps
- Sponsor or co-sponsor an Interact or Rotaract club
- Contribute at least \$100 per capita to the Annual Fund
- Increase the number of members involved in service projects
- Hold an event to raise funds for, or to increase awareness of, Rotary's work toward polio eradication
- Conduct a significant local or international service project in one of Rotary's six areas of focus



3. ENHANCE PUBLIC IMAGE AND AWARENESS

Achieve at least 3 of the following goals:

- Post successful club projects, with details about activities, volunteer hours, and funds raised, on Rotary Showcase
- Use Rotary's brand guidelines, templates, People of Action campaign materials, and related resources
- Arrange for the club's members to talk with the media to tell your club's, and Rotary's, story
- Host an event for Rotary alumni, and highlight Rotary's networking opportunities
- Continue or establish a partnership with a corporate, governmental, or nongovernmental entity and work on a project together
- Sponsor a Youth Exchange student or RYLA participant



BARRY RASSIN

President | Rotary International
2018-19

Presidential message - February 2019

In my travels over the past year, I've visited many strong, vibrant clubs and districts that are transforming their communities. When I attend their meetings, I can feel the energy. When I meet their members, I can see they are people of action. And when I look at their communities, I can recognize the impact of their work.

I've also visited communities with Rotary clubs that were hardly more than social clubs. It shouldn't ever be that way. Fortunately, there's a simple approach that I believe can help revitalize any club.

I'd like to challenge every Rotary club to come up with at least one high-impact service project. Each club already has the potential, the resources, to make it happen. It has the power to change people's lives — completely.

It doesn't take millions of dollars. One of the most transformational projects I've been a part of involved providing a Jeep to a group of midwives in Haiti. We had asked the midwives what we could do for them, and they told us they needed a way to reach expectant mothers in a remote part of the country. We supplied a Jeep, painted it pink, and put the Rotary logo on it. Three years later, we went back to see how they were doing. They were excited by the outcomes: They told us that the mortality rate for mothers and infants in that region had dropped by 50 percent.

That's what I call transformational service. But Jeeps don't last forever, and after eight years on the road, that vehicle was on its last legs. So we bought a pink Land Cruiser. It's still on the road, allowing the midwives to provide prenatal care to women in that remote region.

What makes a project transformational? It doesn't have to involve a lot of money, but it has to reach people and have a major impact in the community. That is the key, and that is where careful planning and thorough research come in. So do your research. Leverage your resources. Seek partnerships that can increase your impact. And then take action.

Of course, service is only part of what a strong club must offer. It must also have good speakers, provide leadership development, involve Rotaract and Interact, and bring value to its members and reasons to participate in Rotary events.

If your club is transformational and well-organized, everything else will follow. Members will be engaged, and new members will be eager to join you. Fundraising will be easier: People love to give when they see how their money is making a difference and when they know the organization is accountable. Your club will be vibrant, relevant, and alive — and it will *Be the Inspiration* to those within its ranks as well as to the community it serves.

Happy Birthday

23rd February is

**Rotary
Birthday**



The first four Rotarians (from left):
Silvester Schiele, Paul Harris,
Gustavus Loehr & Hiram Shorey.

The first Rotary Club was formed on the evening of February 23 1905 when attorney Paul P. Harris met Gustavus Loehr (a mining engineer and freemason), Silvester Schiele (a coal merchant), and Hiram E. Shorey (a tailor) at Loehr's office in Room 711 of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street, downtown Chicago.

Paul P. Harris, an attorney, wanted to create a professional group with the same friendly spirit he felt in the small towns of his youth.

The members chose the name Rotary because initially they rotated subsequent weekly club meetings to each other's offices, although within a year, the Chicago club became so large it became necessary to adopt the now-common practice of a regular meeting place.

In August 1910, Rotarians held their first convention in Chicago. The 16 clubs that existed at that time united to form the National Association of Rotary Clubs. In 1912, the name changed to International Association of Rotary Clubs to reflect the addition of clubs in other countries. The name Rotary International was adopted in 1922.



Unity Building, Dearborn Street,
Chicago

Presidential Theme 2019-2020 'Rotary Connects the World'



RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney's
theme for 2019-20,

'Rotary Connects the World',

**asks Rotarians to strengthen the many ways
that Rotary Connects the World, building the
connections that allow talented, thoughtful,
and generous people to unite and take
meaningful action through Rotary service.**



During January, RI President-elect Mark Maloney announced the 2019-20 presidential theme, Rotary Connects the World, to incoming district governors in San Diego, California, USA. He called on leaders to expand connections to their communities and to embrace innovative membership models.

The following is an extract from the '2019-20 Presidential Theme and Rotary Citation brochure':-

"Rotary is built on connection. When Paul Harris came to Chicago as a young lawyer, he formed Rotary for one compelling reason: to help him connect to others in a new city. More than a century later, we have at our disposal countless ways to form friendships and networks, most of which Paul Harris never dreamed. Yet Rotary's ability to connect us remains unique — and unrivalled.

Through its distinct mission and structure, Rotary International provides a way to our communities, to network professionally, and to build strong and lasting relationships. Our membership connects us to a global community through our countless projects and programs, our leadership in polio eradication, and our work with and through the United Nations. Our service connects us to people who share our values, who to take action for a better world; it connects us to people we would never otherwise meet, who are more like us than we could have imagined; and it connects us to people who need our help, allowing us to change lives in communities around the world.

As a new decade begins, we are shaping Rotary's future. In 2019-2020, Rotary will implement its new strategic plan, respond to the innovation of the Council on Legislation, and serve in our revitalized areas of focus. But the real work of shaping Rotary's future lies in our clubs, where our organization must do the most to adapt to today's changing realities.

While the club remains the core of the Rotary experience, we are now far more creative and flexible in deciding what a club can be, how it can meet, and even what can be considered a Rotary meeting. We need to be organized, strategic, and innovative in how

we approach membership, forging wider and deeper connections to our communities and forming new club models to attract and engage more — and more diverse — members.

Rotary is indeed a family. Yet too often, the structure of membership or the demands of leadership seem to place Rotary out of reach for today's younger professionals. Rotary can and should be an experience that complements our families instead of competing with them. When our Rotary clubs are warm, welcoming places where service and family go hand in hand, we give family-oriented young professionals the opportunity to embrace Rotary service and model positive civic engagement. And when we make the expectations of Rotary offices realistic and manageable for busy professionals, we develop the skills and networks of a new generation of Rotarians — who will become Rotary leaders.

In 2019-2020, it will be our challenge to strengthen the many ways that *Rotary Connects the World*, building the connections that allow talented, thoughtful, and generous people to unite and take meaningful action through Rotary service."

Mark Daniel Maloney
President, Rotary International, 2019-2020



RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney announces the 2019-20 presidential theme, Rotary Connects the World, to incoming district governors in San Diego, California, USA.

Kia Ora Graeme & Sue's DGE Journey continues in the USA

The New Year is well upon us and we are stepping up a cog. The New Year had just arrived and we were on our way to the US. Some months earlier we had decided to accept an invitation to be a part of the Sarasota, Florida, Rotary home hosting program prior to attending the International Assembly in San Diego, California.

The Rotary home hosting program operates in many areas throughout the US and provides an opportunity for District Governors Elect (DGE) and partners to meet with some of their DGE colleagues from around the world in a relaxed environment. Our group was 33 in total from England, Denmark, Croatia, Germany, Liechtenstein, Norway, Sweden, Bulgaria, India, USA, Canada, Nigeria, Zambia, and Australia. The local Rotary Clubs of the Sarasota area had arranged for an excellent program of sightseeing, Rotary gatherings and free time. Each of us was home hosted for a week and the "match making" was excellent. The program is voluntary and is extremely worthwhile because you already have fabulous new friends and people you know by the time you reach the International Assembly.

And so it was time to say goodbye to Sarasota and move on to the more serious purpose of being in the US. The week long program of events for the International Assembly is full on with lots of fun for good measure. This event is compulsory for all DGE's and their partners from around the world to attend. So, with 528 Rotary Districts, that potentially means we were about 1500 people including trainers, Rotary International Board of Directors and Staff, and The Rotary Foundation Trustees.

The serious parts of the program included General Sessions for all every day, separate sessions for DGEs and partners working their way through workbooks, and an invitation to attend lunch and a photo shoot

with President Elect Mark Maloney and Gay. There were many speakers all of whom were very good. Rotaractors for the very first time were invited to attend and Australia's very own Rebecca Fry was a guest speaker. New partnerships were announced, these being with UNICEF and Toastmasters. The fun parts of the program included a Grand March followed by an International Dinner Dance, an evening out with a local Rotary Club, a cultural afternoon organised by partners to share the fun things about their homelands, a Festival Night (including complimentary popcorn) where the Aussies performed a fabulous rendition of "I Am Australian" complete with actions, and a formal banquet on the final night. And not forgetting, meeting up with Rotary friends from around the world throughout the week.

But it's at the first General Session on Monday morning that everyone is really keen for because that's when the President Elect gives his address and announces the theme for their year and the auditorium erupts with excitement. With this in mind, we are very much looking forward to leading District 9670 in the 2019-20 Rotary year ahead. There is still a lot of work to be done before then, but let us all continue to "*Be the Inspiration*" so that "*Rotary Connects the World*".



DGE Graeme and Sue with President Elect Mark Maloney and Gay

Announcement:

The D9670 District Conference is to be held
20-22 March 2020 in Lake Macquarie

Graeme Hooper

Melbourne to host 2023 Rotary International Convention



Good news for Australia as the City of Melbourne has been provisionally selected as the host city for the 2023 Rotary International Convention.

Melbourne previously hosted the Convention in 1993 and attracted over 22,000 delegates from around the world.

The dates for the 2023 Convention are **27-31 May**. The Convention venues will be the Rod Laver Arena and the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre. All activities and events will be within the "Heart and Soul" of Melbourne.

special event

Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise are hosting award winning speaker **Stephanie Woollard** at Singleton Diggers on

Thursday April 4 at 6.30pm.

Stephanie rocked the house at the Australian Rotary Conference in Hobart - now you can meet and hear her in Singleton
(full details below).

Dinner with Stephanie Woollard
Thursday April 4, 2019 6:30pm
Singleton Diggers

Tickets \$35
Available at the Club reception
Includes a two-course meal

Please note:
No tickets will be made available at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the Club or over the phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling (02) 6572-2622.

Through motivation and leadership, Stephanie has moulded an organisation; Seven Women, that truly makes a difference to thousands of people. Awarded Rotary International Responsible Business Award at the United Nations in 2016, Woman of the Decade at the Women's Economic forum in 2017, and Masters in Peace and Conflict Research 2016 Nominee for Australian of the Year.
<https://sevenwomen.org/>

Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise

Attendance & Community Service



Compiled by :

Ray Davies, Membership and Volunteering Officer

DECEMBER 2018

Club	Members	Attendance %	Hours
Belmont	29	93	48
Cardiff	11	50	81
Dubbo	26	80	102
Dubbo South	58	93	255
Dubbo West	39	91	256
Dungog	11	82	85
East Maitland	37	78	185
Kurri Kurri	20	53	217
Maitland	41	76	486
Mudgee	27	67	207
Myall Coast	24	70	75
Narromine	NR	71	238
Nelson Bay	48	55	396
Newcastle Enterprise	30	65	146
Newcastle Harbour	21	73	70
Rutherford Telarah	40	69	462
Waratah	23	90	98
Warners Bay	50	60	375

NR = Not Reported

Rotary Designated Months

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

FEBRUARY IS

PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

"Imagine all the people living life in peace..."
John Lennon

Rotary www.rotary.org

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

MARCH IS

WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

"Clean water, the essence of life and a birthright for everyone, must become available to all people now."
J. S. G. G. G.

Rotary www.rotary.org

This month focuses on life changing improvements that we can make through projects to provide a more readily available and healthy supply of water to all people.

APRIL IS

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

"It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver"
Mahatma Gandhi

Rotary www.rotary.org

This month focuses on proving access to quality care to mothers and children.



District 9670 Conference 2019

Join us in
Forster

March 15th - 17th, 2019

Click Here
TO **REGISTER** 

Rotary INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HAMBURG, GERMANY 1-5 JUNE 2019



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



Important deadlines

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

Rotary  District 9670 Presents

"There's a hole in the bucket"

Sunday 10 February, Kurri Kurri Bowling Club
9.30am – 12.30pm

FREE



Guest Speaker : Mark Huddleston

This is not a seminar – but a challenge to members and clubs.
Hear of stories of success and issues from clubs and members.
It may be controversial – but it will get you thinking and talking.
You will leave with a new concept of membership.

Morning Tea and lunch provided.

To Register contact Keith Bush on kpbush1952@gmail.com or
rotary9670.org.au



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

Deadline for submitting articles for the next edition of this newsletter is
Monday 25th February

Rotary
District 9670



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