



# Roach Rattlings

D9670 District Governor  
David Roach

Issue 8  
March 2021



## From the DG's desk ...

A huge reminder that the **Virtual District 9670 Conference** is **Saturday 22nd May**. Pen this date into your calendar. I encourage each club or group of clubs to gather (Covid-19 safe) to be part of this event. I hope that by the next Roach Rattlings we would have launched the online registration for those interested in being part of prize draws associated with the Conference. More details to come upon the announcement of the registration process.

At the February District Management Committee (DMC) meeting, a decision was made to encourage

the District Youth Committees to give consideration for online experiences within their program structure prior to July this year. Committees have been requested to structure their programs ensuring Covid-19 safety when face to face opportunities are offered to the youth from D9670. The DMC will review the approval of face to face programs in July.

The District Transition Team met in Tamworth, last weekend, to discuss and progress the transitional process as we move towards July 2022. I am sure a report, which will update you all, will be forthcoming in the near future.

Can I please encourage any one interested in applying for the DG position for the Rotary year 2023-24 to please complete the necessary documentation by Wednesday 31st March, as this is the closing date.

During late February, the DGs of Zone 8 inclusive of Australia, New Zealand and some Pacific Islands, met via Zoom with RI Director Elect Jessie Harman and RI President Holger Knaack for about an hour and a half. Holger mentioned that the structures of Rotary International at the executive level and zone level are being reviewed with possible change (no details given) to meet the challenges of Rotary being relevant in the 21st Century.

I have contacted some clubs to visit them over the next few months; unfortunately, time will not allow me to visit all clubs. For your information each DG across the world is given an allowance to meet some accommodation and travel expenses incurred by the individual DG. The money is held by Districts under a new funding model and is given by reimbursement upon a claim and is acquitted back to RI. A decision was made by RI Board on 1st February to



freeze reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs to DGs due to Covid-19 concerns. The DGs of Zone 8 collectively have requested exemption of this embargo due to our ongoing successful Covid-19 management strategies compared to other countries across the world. The RI Board will consider our request in March. I am unsure if the appeal will be successful.

At time of writing Amanda and I have visited two clubs in February and thank both the Rotary Clubs of Waratah and Wallsend-Maryland for their openness and hospitality, good lengthy discussions were held at both clubs. We congratulate them both on the positive outcomes they have contributed to their local communities and the difference they have made to the wellbeing of individuals.

*David Roach*

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**Deadline for next issue:**  
**18 March 2021**

Email articles to:  
**stacy.jacobs1@det.nsw.edu.au**  
Stacy has accepted the role of gatherer & collator of DG David's newsletter articles.



President Deb Waratah addressing the Waratah RC meeting • Headphones for music which Waratah RC have provided for nursing home residents • ISDA dogs at the Waratah RC meeting, collecting money for their charity • President Phil, Wallsend-Maryland RC

# Month of Club Charter

As part of an initiative to promote District Clubs they will have the opportunity to highlight themselves in the month they were Chartered.

The following club was Chartered in March:

**Nelson Bay** – 8 March 1956

## Rotary Club of Nelson Bay

The Rotary Club of Nelson Bay was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Raymond Terrace and the charter was presented to the club by then D.G. Dale Fayle on 8th March 1956.

Two hundred and thirty-seven Rotarians, Rotary-annes and guests from throughout NSW were present at the charter dinner which was recorded at the time as one of the most memorable Rotary functions ever held in the then District 267.

There were twenty charter members and their classifications included taxi services, pharmacy, hotels, drapery retailing, milk retailing, physician, radio service and motion pictures.

The charter president, Len Randall, was the proprietor of the historic Shoal Bay Country Club where the club held its meetings (tie and coat) for some twenty-nine years.

The club currently meets at the Nelson Bay Bowling Club, which provides a spectacular view of Port Stephens to the ever-increasing number of visiting Rotarians from around the world.

Foundation member, Loftus Chalmers had the foresight to research, and then record, the club's history from 1956 up until 1981 following which the history is updated annually. The valued history books reveal the club was involved in the instigation and provision of many

service and community projects, a number of which continue to benefit the community today.

One of the club's most notable service projects was instigated by charter president Len Randall on the 9th May 1956, being just nine weeks after the club's charter on the 8th March.

President Len offered a fortnight's accommodation, free of charge, for twenty crippled children and their carers at his Country Club Hotel, provided Nelson Bay Rotarians undertook to entertain the children during their visit. This project, which epitomised the objectives of Rotary, ran each and every year for an incredible twenty-nine years up until 1985.

The club's first community service project involved the construction of change rooms and facilities on the foreshore at Nelson Bay.

Records show the club has, on an ongoing basis, continued to enhance and maintain local facilities to the benefit of not only to local residents, but for the thousands of domestic and international tourists who visit Port Stephens each year.

Other early projects include the building of scouts and girl guides halls, assistance in the formation and development of surf clubs, marine rescue and the formation of the then Police Boys Club.

The club's identity as a casual club is graciously accepted as the club prides itself on fellowship and indeed over the years was on several occasions awarded the Reg Drayton Trophy for Fellowship.

Coupled with the club's reputation for fellowship, it also has a record of being actively involved in all five avenues of Rotary service.

The annual golf day raises on average \$25,000.00 and, combined with further fund raising, helps identify the club as a very progressive and productive club.

The club has recently announced a \$30,000.00 contribution to Ear Nose and Throat specialist Assoc Professor Kelvin Kong towards his research into providing E.N.T. telehealth to children in remote areas of Australia.

On the local scene, the club is currently making a positive contribution to the Yacaaba Centre - Women in Crisis Support Centre.

On the international scene, the club was, in January 2021, again acknowledged for its considerable contribution to Rotary Foundation.

In relation to Youth Service, the club is now in its twentieth year of supplying driver training and advice to year eleven students from three local high schools and the RI Centenary Scholarship fund provides the opportunity for local students to advance their studies within their chosen field.

The club boasts three District Governors, each of whom hosted their district conferences at Nelson Bay.

As is the case with most clubs, membership has varied over the years with Nelson Bay fluctuating between twenty and sixty members since its charter in 1956. Currently the club has thirty-four active members and seven honorary members.

*(Article prepared by Richard Turner)*



## A Tell-Tale Sign

The city of Sydney filled the distant horizon whilst the high rise of Centrepoint tower pointed toward the sail effect of the opera house and the siren call of AMP and Goldfields as they wove their majestic attraction of investments both in profit and loss.

Much earlier, the great southern land of Australia was waking up to a place of opportunity as some explorers decided to find a way through the stubborn barrier of bush and mountain.

But, rather than taking readings from the sun and stars, these wise stockmen decided that a new way could be utilised. Small chips of eucalypt tree trunk were carved out to provide an improvised global positioning system long before that technology was born.

Their progress would create a path to the edge of the Blue Mountains escarpment. Each tree traversed would be an indicator board of the way ahead and a way back if they had become lost.

As a poet wrote *"Then there was Blaxland, Lawson too, and Wentworth but to name a few... Of our exploring men who dared to risk more than the common herd."*

The legacy of that exploration can still be seen in a tree trunk with one chip of bark removed reminding us of our technological progress of scientific progress and link with the past

The Blue Mountains centre of Katoomba holds the key for Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson's journey of 1813.

Rotary too seeks to emulate that feat by providing a way ahead on life's journey. It offers direction and challenge, hope and determination along its trails of endeavour.

Here's to good guidance.

*Yours in Rotary, Ron Elliott.*

# Yarnings

## A Conversation from "the other half"



Greetings and G'day!

What a whirlwind time we have had visiting clubs these past weeks. Many thanks to all the clubs who have hosted us for their official DG visit, as well as those we've had less formal encounters with – all demonstrating great fellowship and friendship for which Rotary Clubs worldwide are renowned!

I have been meeting with the Executive of the 2022 Conference Committee in preparation for this District 9670 final celebration of our good deeds and fun times in service before we transition to D9660 in July 2022. We have continued in relaxed and exciting dialogue on a monthly-basis with Neville Parsons who will be the first 9660 District Governor, and I'm very confident that a great future is ahead of us as we enter a new age of Rotary fellowship and service in this merging of two exceptional districts.

It is heartening to see that our Clubs have been adapting to change in their service to the community during the Covid outbreak and aftermath, as this has sorely tested how we do 'usual business' in many communities.

I'm so impressed with the creativity demonstrated, and up-take to address local challenges that is evident in Club communities. We have visited some outstanding projects, also witnessing the completion of some which one would not have thought possible to complete during challenging times.

But there you go! Rotary adapting, being creative and problem-solving as we know we can – every Club has hidden capability and talent!

Soon there will be an announcement about the availability to apply for District Designated Fund grants from TRF – have a really good look at how some of the new and innovative domestic projects you are under-taking or planning may be assisted or grown by additional funds being procured. It is not just about international service you know.

March is the Rotary service month for "Water and Sanitation" – is your Club involved in a project overseas or locally addressing these international issues? Have you considered local and national projects which also address these issues, such as water provision to remote communities;

Trachoma Eradication projects which are largely linked to poor water source, quality and therefore health practice capacity in indigenous communities; or perhaps linking your efforts to ensuring water/river/ocean integrity as part of waterways environmental programs? There are many ways Rotarians can contribute service and funds to address this area of focus domestically and internationally. Check out the programs highlighted on any of the Rotary websites, Club Facebook pages or listed in partnership opportunities in My Rotary – you may be surprised!

Having now completed my many days and nights on the Zoom meetings for International Assembly (DG training) I feel confident and competent to lead D9670 in the last year before we transition in 2022. DG David and I continue to attend Transition Team meetings either by Zoom or in person. And.....I'M EXCITED! More next month.

Cheers, Amanda



<https://www.wash-rag.org/>

### World Water Day – March 22

Getting your club to clean up a local river is just one of many excellent ideas for a Service Project for World Water Day, March 22



<https://rawcs.org.au/water-sanitation-programs/>



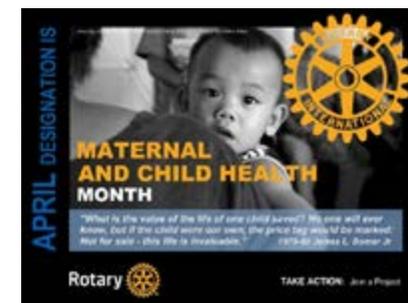
## Rotary Themes: March & April



### March - Water and Sanitation

This month also includes the World Rotaract Week from the 7th until 14th of March.

- Create awareness on water Conservation by Street play / Banners / Literature Distributions / Seminars at club level and for local community, Rain water harvesting awareness
- Clean Drinking Water at Railway Stations, Bus Stations, Schools or Public Places, Re-user of waste Water
- Create Public Toilets Facilities, Create Awareness on Sanitation at Schools - Colleges - Economically Backward Areas
- Create Sewage / Concealed Drainage system, Bore Wells, Building Check dams
- Provide Carriers (Transportation Systems) to carry water pots



### April - Maternal and Child Health

This month also includes the birthday of Paul Harris on 19th April.

During this month, clubs highlight the importance of maternal and child health in their own communities and globally. Special activities could include:

- Address the issue of malnutrition in children and pregnant women
- Develop a Hygiene Education Program for school-going children
- Conduct awareness seminars
- Provide low-income, under-insured women with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to improve their diet, physical activity, and other life habits to prevent, delay, or control chronic diseases
- Promote school health
- Promote the adoption of physical activity in early child care centres, schools and work sites

# Zone C Area Governor Report

## Zone C – Chris Walmsley

Most clubs in Zone C began 2021 with social get-togethers to welcome back members and enjoy more face to face meetings with the easing of some Covid 19 restrictions.

District Governor David and District Governor Elect Amanda and I visited Dungog Rotary to enjoy their fellowship and learn about the club's plans for the second half of this Rotary year. A most enjoyable visit, where President Bev, outlined their proposed fundraising ventures and the upcoming guest speaker program. Dungog Rotary club members were also looking forward to hosting **mherv** as a most important aspect of supporting their local community.

Greenhills Rotary began their face to face meetings in January at Mala Retreat where we all enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by PDG Adrian Roach in the comfort of their home. The goodwill and friendship among club members was high and indicated a very positive start to the new year. Guest Speaker at the breakfast meeting was Bree Childs who entertained the meeting with snippets of her life post High School in preparation for her new University adventure.

Earlier this month, I was invited to attend Medowie / Williamstown Rotary Club, where their proposed name change was endorsed unanimously by club members. This was an important move forward for the club as they now meet at The Greenhouse at Pacific Dunes in Medowie and hopefully will assist them in their task of attracting

new members. It was also a pleasure on the evening to welcome two new members to the club, Ken Allen and David Fisher. Both gentlemen come with previous Rotary experience and will be a great asset to the club.

I have been looking forward to joining East Maitland Rotary Club for a face to face meeting and this was accomplished last week as Covid restrictions have eased. A delightful evening of fun and fellowship, whilst learning about their extensive fundraising plans for the coming months. During the meeting President Glenda and I were able to share planning information about the Maitland Rotary Club's Centenary celebrations. These celebrations are a combined Maitland Rotary Club event to be conducted in April with the great support of Maitland City Council. At their suggestion an application for a Community Grant was submitted and has been successful, which will be a great boost to our celebration activities. Zoom meetings with the 5 Maitland Rotary Club Presidents

have been conducted during the past few months and a strong cooperative partnership has been formed in conjunction with Maitland Council to promote Rotary and the local community.



DG David and DGE Amanda enjoying fellowship with Dungog Rotary Members John and Peter



Medowie / Williamstown Rotary President Graham inducting new members David and Ken

Fun and fellowship at East Maitland Rotary



## mherv

**Q:** Ever wondered what a roaming registered nurse does at the end of the day after seeing some 30+ "walk-ins" having a free health check?

**A:** Unwinds with his beloved ukulele and a sing-song with a well-earned cold beer thirst quencher as the sun goes down.



*Thanks Rob for the awesome job you do with the Men's Health Education Rural Van and often saving lives.*



# Zone D Area Governor Report

## Zone D – Craig Henningham

**MHERV** is back on the road and Rob has been busy helping men (and a few women) check on their health. I visited the van at both Belmont and the site that Morisset chose, which was in Rathmines. Both were busy locations and about thirty visitors a day were tested. During the visit to Rathmines, I had a chance for a good chat with Michael and Narelle from Morisset club and was convinced to have a health test with Rob. Fortunately my report was better than I deserve it to have been, but there were a few people who were advised to seek further medical attention. That's what it's all about and I sometimes wonder just how many lives have been saved thanks to **MHERV**.

I was at Warners Bay club when Rob visited and, apart from telling members about life on the road with MHERV, he treated us to a joke and a song (accompanied by his ukulele). He certainly is a character and well suited to the role of **MHERV** Nurse.

At that same meeting, **Rotary Peace Scholar** Syann Williams talked about how the opportunity to study overseas changed her life and how she's using that training to develop peace through the arts. Syann's application was endorsed by the Rotary Club of Warners Bay so it was a very special visit for all.

It's encouraging that face-to-face District Governor visits have been able to recommence. DG David and DGE Amanda visited Waratah and Wallsend-Maryland clubs recently.

Apart from learning about the great things that clubs are doing in the community, I was pleased to witness the engagement of members during the meetings. It would seem that BBQs as fundraisers are making a triumphant return, proving that we can't underestimate the power of the humble "Rotary Sausage".

Plans continue for the **Lake Macquarie Fair** on 1st May. There will be many attractions on the day and I'm looking forward to showcasing what Rotary has done in Australia during the past hundred years.

During a recent training weekend that I was fortunate enough to attend, PDG Brian Coffey talked about our Rotary Branding and compared its current lifespan to that of a seven year old child. That inspired me to assemble the following, comparing on my own seven year old grandson:

### **A word on Branding**

My first grandson was born around the time that Rotary International changed its branding to the current style. During the time since, my grandson has learned to walk and talk, been toilet trained, leaned to swim, play soccer, count, read and write and manipulate his parents. It seems rather strange then, that in the same amount of time, many Rotarians haven't learned to use correct branding. *Following is an excerpt from a 2016 article on the subject...*

Many people don't know much about Rotary. Together, we can change that. Despite more than a century of Rotarians creating

change in communities around the globe, many people don't understand what Rotary is, how we're different, and why they should engage with us. To thrive in the 21st century, Rotary needs a strong identity. And **while every Rotarian's experience is unique, how we tell Rotary's story should be consistent.** You can help by following these simple steps.

### **Celebrate our "new" look and feel**

*How can you help keep Rotary's identity strong?*

Around the world, you find the Rotary wheel along roadsides, in parks, and on sponsored projects. While no two clubs are exactly alike, our wheel signals that what Rotary represents – people coming together to move our communities forward – is the same everywhere.

Like the "Nike swoosh", the power of the Rotary wheel is in its consistency. When an organization refreshes its logo, as Rotary did in 2013, using the updated mark is critically important.

That's why Rotary International created the Brand Center to help clubs use Rotary's refreshed logo consistently and correctly.

Visit [www.rotary.org/brandcenter](http://www.rotary.org/brandcenter)

Finally, I have been pleased to receive requests for help and advice in recent weeks. I certainly don't know everything but I am learning how to steer Rotarians in the right direction.



# Great Ideas around the District

The **Rotary Club of Belmont** is thinking outside the square with a NASA challenge during their meeting. Congratulations to the two Bruce's on the win.

The **Rotary Club of Nelson Bay** had been hearing about how, during COVID, a successful delivery business could be created using local products.

The **Rotary Club of Charlestown** – picking a theme of the week of “*passion changes everything*”.

The **Rotary Club of Dubbo**, looking forward to see the results of Croquet fellowship, even when events and ideas are being cancelled due to COVID, you continue to think outside the box.

The **Rotary Club of Paterson** is looking to holding a cracker night in June ... looking forward to ending the Rotary year with a few rockets and whizzers!

**Raymond Terrace Rotary** is supporting the back to school project, supporting students returning to school in their area with 250 bags distributed.

The **Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise** is maintaining connection with Lions and Lioness. Together there are more opportunities.



ISDA's CEO & Co-Founder, Ben Johnson with "Hooper"

In February, IPDG Graeme and Sue took me on my very own special road trip to catch up with my mates, Digger and "Hooper". They both live with the boss, Ben. And we had so much fun together. Hooper is ISDA's ambassador dog. He got his name from Michael the footballer. When you join in for DG David and DGE Amanda's virtual conference in May, you'll see what we got up to.

Then a couple of days later I was back in Lake Macquarie hard at work with my other mate, Loopy, from Warners Bay Rotary Club. Gee, I met some lovely folk that day. Down there by the lake - everyone was so busy and



"Hooper" receiving a little reward for his hard work at the end of a busy morning



## Isda's Column

some took time out from their walks in the park to chat with us and support us.

Remember you can add to my money tin any time you like. Just remember to add "ROTARY" to the name to ensure your generosity is allocated to helping my mates. The lovely Katrina always has the details at the end of my column.

Love



Donations to Integra Service Dogs Australia can be made, either direct to ISDA: [www.isda.com.au](http://www.isda.com.au)

...with your Club name or Surname + "Rotary"

...or, via direct banking: Bendigo Bank BSB - 633 000 Account no - 167718972 with "Rotary" as transfer description; will really help all my friends.



**Rotary**  
Australia &  
New Zealand



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**100**  
— YEARS



A Peace Symposium to celebrate  
Rotary's Centenary Down Under and to  
acknowledge Rotary's peacebuilding efforts

## The future of PEACE LEADERSHIP

21-22 APRIL 2021  
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### Featuring

Outstanding world class speakers  
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Past RI Presidents  
Rotary Peace Fellows  
Optional sessions:  
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Business & Human Rights Law  
Peacebuilding Projects

More details and registration information available soon

Conference website:

<https://peaceleadership.org.au/>



A/Prof. Tilman Ruff AO  
Nobel Peace Prize  
Laureate



Amma Leslie AM  
Nobel Peace Prize  
Nominee



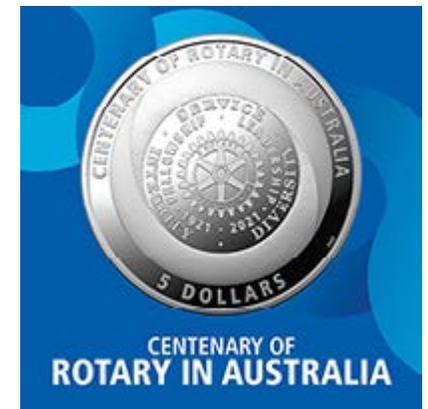
Dr José Ramos-Horta AC  
Nobel Peace Prize  
Laureate



Natascha Hryckow  
Coordinator UN Panel of  
Experts on Somalia

## Centenary of Rotary in Australia \$5 Coin

In 2021, Rotary marks a centenary of proud community service across Australia. To commemorate the milestone the Royal Australian Mint has produced this elegant silver proof coin with very low mintage. The coin honours the big hearts of the 30,000 Rotary members and 1100 plus clubs across the country, which run programs such as youth exchanges, fundraise for bushfire recovery and bring life changing surgery to the Asia Pacific region. **Please note:** Purchase limit of 3 per customer account applies on this product.



[Purchase here](#)

