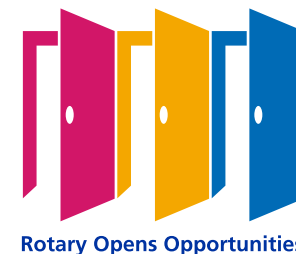


Roach Rattlings

D9670 District Governor
David Roach

Issue 2 • August 2020



From the DG's desk ...

As we enter another month, where the threat of COVID-19 remains a constant and restrictions are changing, we need to be mindful of our members and that of the general public's wellbeing.

I urge each of you to look after your fellow club members for, without healthy clubs, we will not be able to assist others at a later date

If you are undertaking any activity that requires a Rotary (AON) risk assessment and/or needing council approval, please complete this documentation and submit it to the appropriate bodies prior to the activity. If you conduct the activity please follow your approved risk assessment procedures to ensure compliance.

It is a pleasure to, once again, highlight the RI approved **Provisional Rotary Club of Newcastle Discovery** and acknowledge the founding members Tori, Shaun and Jesse. These three have done an excellent job to obtain provisional status for the club. To Carol and Brian Coffey and Wilma Simmons, I extend my thanks for your support for this initiative. To the Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos members – a huge thank you for your club approving a seeding allocation which will support the club's establishment.

To the Conference Committee of 2020-21, they continue to work in the background as we await a suitable time to launch the **Do-Goodery Conference** in Mudgee March 2021.

To Craig Johnson, Leadership and Development Chair, and his team I acknowledge the work you have done and congratulations to the presenters who give their time freely each Sunday afternoon. Sessions are still running in August. Please avail yourself and participate in these sessions.

I have decided to cancel my face to face DG visits with clubs this month to ensure compliance with NSW Health regulations and wellbeing for everyone. I have offered a Zoom meeting or rescheduling for later in the year. This is unfortunate but necessary in this time of uncertainty and high risk.



I invite clubs to submit articles to me for publishing in either the Natter or DG Newsletter.

Finally stay safe and look after yourself so that we can look after our communities in the future.

David Roach



Two Districts Working Together

Carol Coffey (D9670 Membership Chair) and Jenny Sinclair (D9650 Membership Chair) recently met in Port Macquarie and have formed a positive relationship with each other. They aim to progress engagement of the current membership of both

Districts and develop new club models to attract a diversity of Rotarians to continue the outstanding work of Rotary in both Districts. This partnership will be invaluable as we create the New District D9660 in 2022-23.



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Deadline for next issue:
24 August 2020 • Email articles to:
yezfidar@outlook.com

Presentation of District Awards – *the real thing continued!*

IPDG Graeme and Sue continued to be on the road through July for some more COVID-19 “catch-up”. At the Cessnock RC Changeover, IPDG Graeme presented PP John Rosee with the **“The Ted and Anne Lewis Award”**; and at the Dubbo South RC Changeover, PP Brett (Macca) McCarthy was presented with the **Australian Rotary Health Research Fund Award**.

As COVID-19 continues to play havoc with physical meetings, it may take a few weeks to actually present all the District trophies.



Cessnock Rotary Club

IPDG Graeme and PP John Rosee



Dubbo South Rotary Club

IPDG Graeme and PP “Macca” McCarthy

Rotary Themes: August & September



August - Membership & Extension Month

Membership and New Club Development Month, a time to focus on Rotary's continuing need for growth, to seek new members and form new clubs.

- Update your classifications list and circulate amongst members and accordingly fill up the Vacancies

- Educate members about membership procedure
- Induct New Members
- Invite Rotaractors to join Rotary
- Consider inviting Local Personalities to be Inducted as Honorary Members
- Organise Seminar on Club level & a Public meeting inviting non Rotary friends and Rotary Alumni to emphasise advantages of joining Rotary

September - (Basic Education & Literacy)

Promote Literacy – It's a time when Rotary clubs and districts highlight Rotaract by joining in projects with Rotaract clubs.

- Initiate Adult Education class

- Involve Youngsters / College Students as Teachers
- Initiate E-Learning / Happy School Projects
- Distribute Libraries
- Develop Traffic park for Children
- Arrange Traffic Awareness Lectures in Schools & Colleges



Isda's Column

IPDG Graeme and Sue have been on the road playing ‘catch-up’ because of that coronavirus thingy. While Jasper has been patiently waiting to be rescued from isolation, he's been a great puppy aide, and we've had so many adventures by going to lots of Club changeovers and catching up with some of our mates.

At Singleton Sunrise, they looked after us so well. I mean, Sunshine was ever so thoughtful and the chef so kind, as to organise a special canine menu for our lunch, complete with our very own, specially labelled water bowls.

Greta from Toronto Sunrise, she went ‘off the grid’ by camping out on a cold winter's night. But it was all for a good cause in the name of **ShelterBox**. We don't mind sharing a little bit of puppy love around to help give some dignity to others. Our ShelterBox mate, **Truro Ted**, he was tucked up warm and cosy, still in isolation.

We've collected some money tin deposits from around the traps too, which has been really awesome. Thank you to everyone who has been so generous. There's a puppy-in-waiting to transform and enrich the life of a veteran.

And talking about ‘generous’, how good is this for a **STOP PRESS!** ?

Our District 9670 logo was uploaded to Integra's website as a **‘generous supporter’** earlier in July with a link to our District website. Click on the link that Katrina always adds at the bottom of my column and see what you can find. Remember, us pups are still hard at work through to David and Amanda's Conference next year.



Isda, Jasper and Sunshine enjoying a special diet menu at Singleton Sunrise Changeover

Donations to Integra Service Dogs Australia can be made, either direct to ISDA: www.isda.com.au

with your Club name or Surname + “Rotary”

...or, to District 9670:

Your Club name + “PP19/20”

...or, via direct banking:

Bendigo Bank BSB - 633 000
Account no – 167718972 with
“Rotary” as transfer description;
will really help all my friends.



INTEGRA
SERVICE DOGS AUSTRALIA

D9660 DG2022-2023



I am delighted to have been selected by the joint D9650 and D9670 Selection Panel to be the District Governor to lead the new merged District being District 9660 from 1 July 2022.

In this role, I will be supported by my wife and Rotarian Patti, together with a District Management Team that will be selected from Rotarians with the required skills, enthusiasm and commitment from every corner of the current membership of both Districts.

It is my intent to ensure that we have the best skills to lead and support the

individual Clubs within the new District and at the same time ensure that there is a mix of experience and younger talent to ensure that we build, from day 1, appropriate succession planning into all District Leadership roles.

I appreciate the challenge in bringing our 2 Districts together as one, but I see many opportunities to ensure that the work of Rotary through our Clubs and our individual Rotarians continues to enhance the quality of life for all in the communities within the geographic footprint that will be District 9660. My recent experience in positioning the merger of Holiday Coast Credit Union with Regional Australia Bank will be invaluable as it is about communicating

with all of the members and ensuring that all are invited and encouraged to share the journey and to help in building the new District and to do so by ensuring that everyone is engaged in the process and encouraged to look to the future in building a stronger Rotary in our Clubs and our District.

I know that the need for Rotary today is far greater than it has ever been as the work and support that we as Rotarians do and deliver in each of our communities, in our District, in our Region and within and outside Australia is work that enhances the quality of life for many and continues to make a real difference in our world. Our task over the next few years and indeed in the

first year of the new District is to ensure that we transform where required and enhance our ability to continue to do good in our communities and the world through passionate Rotarians that are engaged via their Rotary Clubs and or their passions for doing good.

I look forward to being your District Governor in 2022-2023 and to delivering an harmonious and successful unification of the 2 Districts, bringing District 9670 and 9650 into a very strong and exemplary Rotary District, being District 9660, that will function from day one as "one team" totally committed to making a difference in each of our communities through the Rotary values, culture and programs.

Finally, I note that the strength of District 9660 will be very much built from the actions and focus of Rotarians in each of

our Clubs from today forward and in this regard we need to focus on having a very clear Club Vision and Strategic Focus that will strengthen the Club, tell our Rotary success stories and engage with our communities each and every day. In doing these things well I am confident that we will at each Club encourage new members that want to join to deliver real and meaningful change in their community and the communities of the world. Remember people are more likely to engage in supporting a cause or causes that resonate with their own beliefs, shared experiences and values.

Thank you for the privilege to serve as your District Governor in 2022-2023 and I commit to do all in my power to deliver a very successful first year of the new Rotary District 9660 in 2022-2023.

PDG Neville Parsons



A Conversation from "the other half"

Hello everyone! It is with pleasure that I make my first contribution to DG David's "Roach Rattlings" Newsletter.

It has been wonderful to interact with so many of you by Zoom or phone over the last few weeks since David took office. Having conversations across our District and communities is such a vital element during this tricky time in world history.

A few things on my mind:

- Please don't forget the coffers are still open for any Clubs or individuals to contribute to Sue Hooper's Partner Project in 2019-2020 which is **Integra Service Dogs Australia**. It was such a disappointment for Sue that COVID19 interrupted her fundraising for such a worthwhile project to support a member or the armed services or emergency service with an assistance dog to make

their life more secure and meaningful. This project will run through until the end of Conference in March 2021, so look into club or personal finances to see if there is a little to spare to boost the outcomes we'd like to reach. ([Information on how you can donate](#))

- Speaking of finances and fundraising – everyone is struggling with new ways to make this happen with our current circumstances. Many clubs are wondering how their usual practice will be able to endure, how communities and projects will be supported during a time when our normal practice with big fundraising events and classic BBQs are "off the table" with current Health restrictions and safe practices.

- If and when we get back to more normality, there are so many worthwhile

projects you usually support which will be grateful for anything received, as well as the customary Rotary programs we passionately assist such as The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund, End Polio Now, RAWCS, ROMAC, Rotarians Against Malaria and those new in the spotlight due to our Centenary Project support such as Every Child a Future (joint Australia/New Zealand immunisation across the Oceania region) and End Trachoma – so important for our indigenous communities.

- Look outside the square and see if projects such as tree planting for Dr Jane Goodall's Trillion Trees project, mentoring young people (this can be done by phone and Zoom), calling the elderly on a regular basis, distributing hampers for an NGO or non-profit, providing Bingo via Zoom to an aged care facility – there are so many opportunities available!

- Most importantly, examine ways of supporting your Club members first, then your local communities for whom

you provide vital assistance; then look more broadly to at least one national or international project to support. Remember – you can't do what you were doing before the world changed due to the pandemic – but our Clubs and members CAN work to scale to provide meaningful support which will also satisfy our desire to serve. We are all Rotary people wanting to actively do good in the world!

An undertaking I have to mention in preparation for the 2022 District Conference (which will be the last for D9670) is our **Club history project**. We Rotarians are not necessarily great at keeping good records of the wonderful activities and opportunities for service that have happened in our individual Clubs, and as a District. An important aim I have for the last D9670 Conference is to showcase all of the wonderful events, responses and service that has occurred in each Club since their inception. You are all getting plenty of notice about this, because I reckon it will

take some considerable time to collect and put together a PowerPoint or display of some kind to demonstrate your Club's response to the needs of community – here and across the world – to be held in perpetuity in a Cloud and hopefully on a social platform such as Facebook for historical purposes, but also as a reference point for others into the future.

Can I ask that each Club please consider appointing an Historian or team to work on this over the next 18 months? There will be more information roll out over this time.

Thanks for taking the time to read this – I know it's been a long-winded start, but after all, it is a Yarn (just like a chat over the side fence to your neighbour!)

Cheers

Amanda



Humanitarian Awards

District 9670 – The Zone 8 Awards Double Take

Following on from our District's success with taking out the **2020 Zone 8 Rotarian of the Year Award** jointly awarded to Gordon and Therese Hill some months ago, and for the second consecutive year; District 9670 is very proud to add to the collection, the **2020 Zone 8 Humanitarian of the Year Award**. This has also been jointly awarded.

Erica Henley



Erica, a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Toronto, was presented with her Award by IPDG Graeme at the Club's Changeover on Monday 20 July.

Erica single-handedly raises funds, sources medical equipment and other resources from donors, and organises the activities of **'Operation Hope'**. Her humanitarian volunteer journey began in Greece in 2016. She supports refugees and internally displaced persons who have experienced trauma and tragedy through war and genocide.



To find out more about Erica's work, or if you would like her as a guest speaker for your Club meeting or a special event, you can make contact via her website.

<https://operationhopeaustralia.com/about-operation-hope/>

Sarah Brown AM

Sharing the Award with Erica, is Sarah Brown, Central Australia. Some Rotarians in our District will have come across Sarah and her presentations at various Rotary events and would agree she is a very worthy recipient.



Above: Erica unloading a container of aid in a refugee camp in Kurdistan

Left: IPDG Graeme presenting Erica with her Award



Sarah is the CEO of **Purple House** which is an innovative indigenous-owned and run health service operating 18 remote clinics and a mobile dialysis unit called the **'Purple Truck'**. Purple House is getting patients back home so that families and culture can remain strong.



To know more about the people and the work of Purple House, visit Sarah's website:

<https://www.purplehouse.org.au/>

Our congratulations to these two very inspirational women, and remember to check out the August edition of RDU for the full story.

District Rotary Partnerships Update

UNICEF and **Rotary** have a strong existing partnership at a global level for the global eradication of polio. Based on this infrastructure to deliver vaccinations and monitor results, the Rotary / UNICEF **"Give Every Child a Future project"**, is being headlined as one of the key projects for the Rotary Centenary celebrations for Australia and New Zealand.

This might be a great initiative for clubs to focus on during the 2020-21 year. Please note below the links for further information.

<https://everychildafuture.com/>

<https://www.rotary100downunder.com/big-ideas/give-every-child-a-future>



ROTARY and UNICEF WASH Program

The **WASH in Schools Target Challenge** is a pilot program created to motivate Rotary clubs to develop sustainable water, sanitation, hygiene and education projects using the expertise and resources available through two of Rotary's areas of focus: basic education and literacy and water and sanitation. During the pilot phase, the program will run through July 2020 in 5 countries: Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, India and Kenya.

Please note the link below for further investigation as part of your planning for this Rotary year.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/wash-schools-target-challenge>

Chris Walmsley

District Partnerships Chair
Area Governor Zone C

Morisset Rotary Club Changeover

It was my great pleasure to be part of the Zoom Virtual Changeover of the Rotary Club of Morisset.

My congratulations to Peter Comino and his Board of 2019-20 for their outstanding success and commitment to Rotary's core values.

The Changeover was held on Wednesday 1st July, my first day as DG, and it was a privilege to be part of the induction of incoming President



Margaret Johnson as my first official duty.

DGE Amanda and I wish the club every success for a year of progressing the **Do-Goodery of Rotary**.

Month of Club Charter

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

The following clubs were Chartered in July:

Dungog: 21 July 1950

Wellington: 23 July 1937

Wellington Rotary Club

Wellington Rotary Club was Chartered in 1937, our club today still has very strong connections to our little town. We have been holding monthly

markets for 8 years and are the lead organisers for one of the largest annual regional Vintage Fairs in NSW. We were very lucky this year, to hold this event about one week before COVID19 lockdown!

Membership has stayed steady at around 22 active members, since I joined seven years ago. We have had 2 female presidents, the third, (myself Emily Falson), being inducted last week. Of our current active members, we have four women.

This year (government restrictions allowing), our club is actively

supporting the organization of the District program RYPEN – Western with Pam Sharkey Chair from the Rotary Club of Dubbo West.

We will also have a stronger presence on social media, local radio and print media.

We haven't had our first meeting this year, but our members know that Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness are our goals – to attract younger members, women, and culturally diverse members of our community to join Rotary.



Our friends from Northbridge Rotary, and our mob, at the Dubbo Zoo – feeding the hoards of children.



Some of our members, cooking a BBQ.



Immediate Past President Greg Hart, with Beth Hattenfels, receiving our **Shirley Stanley Award**. Greg and Beth are our Youth Officers this year.

A great time hosting a Rotary Club from Hong Kong, four years ago.



Zone C Area Governor July Report

The first week of July began with an invitation to attend the Rotary Club of Maitland's Change Over Dinner, a face to face celebration with very careful social distancing measures in place. A delightful evening with much collegiality and sharing of a successful 2019-20 year despite the Covid 19 interruption. A warm welcome to Richard Mudford the new President and his very experienced Board members.

It was also a pleasure to meet with the new Presidents of Dungog, Maitland Sunrise and Raymond Terrace Rotary Clubs to discuss their plans and ideas for the new Rotary year.

During the second week of the month, I was invited to attend Willamtown Rotary's Change Over at the Greenhouse, Medowie. Again, social

distancing was very well organised and new President Graeme Giddey was inducted along with his new Board members. It was very pleasing to hear how this small club of only 11 members supports their local community so strongly.

I have been most fortunate during this past week to attend 2 further Change Over functions at Raymond Terrace and Salamander Bay Rotary clubs. Tracy Jonovski was inducted as the President at Raymond Terrace and Peter North at Salamander Bay. Both outlined their plans for the 2020-21 Rotary year to further develop connections with the local community while recognising that Covid19 has presented opportunities to open new doors for Rotary clubs.

AG Christine Walmsley

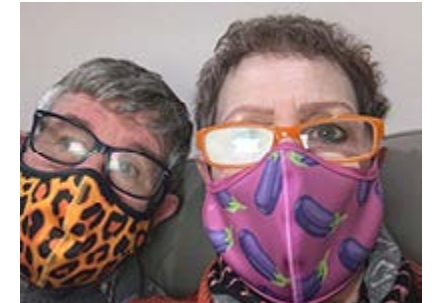


President Peter North and the 2020-21 Salamander Bay Rotary Club Board



President Tracy Jonovski with 2019-19 President Steve Merritt

Stay Safe & Well



Carol Coffey D9670 Membership Chair

How good are the positives that have come out of Co-Vid for our Rotary Clubs!

Members have adapted and changed; we are seeing clubs developing new ways of meeting, showing care for each other and developing unique ways to serve your community – and members know Zoom backwards, and the welfare phone calls have started again.

Likewise, as District support, we have had the opportunity to develop a new look, about the way we address membership in the District.

It was an exciting surprise to start the year with the approach from some keen members to start a Passport Club (Newcastle Discovery), we immediately realised the need for a 'New Club Advisor'. How fortunate were we to have the effervescent Wilma Simmons (Wallsend-Maryland) accept the role, while plans for an indigenous connection had Paul Hughes (Kurri Kurri) in our sights.

You stand proud, when the phone call is made, and a member such as Paul can express his honour at being called to a District position.

We believe we will get a club going again at Nyngan – either as a stand-alone, or a satellite of a neighbouring established club.

We will work with Pauls Town, Country Rugby League and Aboriginal connections to enable Aboriginal youth to come to the coast for an experience.

When we looked at a solid connection to youth, 19-year-old Kiarni Telfer (Greenhills-Maitland) showed the maturity and willingness to accept the role – just watch her develop now!

My next search will be for the final team member to assist development in the western area of our District.

The strength and commitment of this District's leadership was evident when my husband Brian, as Assistant Rotary Coordinator called on RI advice, on short notice DG David was unanimously supported by his committee, and our District Insurance Officer Des Dowdy had insurance coverage approval for the new club within hours – true signs of commitment to the roles.

You may ask, who is this lady heading our membership? I come to you with not a lot of Rotary membership years, but over 20 years of service, knowledge and visits to clubs and Districts locally, nationally, and internationally. A high praise I received was 'You walk the talk' – I can assure you - so does our team!

Please, do not hesitate to ask us to help in any facet of your club

development; we are a committed and experienced team of willing members, to support and assist you with membership retention, attraction and new Club Development opportunities – revitalising your club, or even starting a new style club that may be more relevant to some groups.

Stick with the basics of friendship and community service and you will be on track.

The membership team have the experience, knowledge and contacts to refer you to the most relevant District resources – people or things that you need to open the opportunities that await.

Chair: Carol Coffey (RC of East Maitland) carol@coffey.net.au

New Club Advisor: Wilma Simmons (RC of Wallsend Maryland) wilmasimmons@hotmail.com

Young Member Liaison: Kirani Telfer (RC of Greenhills-Maitland) Kiarni.telfer16@gmail.com

Indigenous Liaison: Paul Hughes (RC of Kurri Kurri) paul@plughes.com

Western Area Liaison: TBA

Carol Coffey

Membership Chair,
District 9670



Do you subscribe to the "Rotary on the Move Newsletter"? There are lots of great stories and you may pick up some tips for improving membership engagement and retention.

Please click [HERE](#) to view - download the latest "Rotary On The Move" Newsletter. The publisher, PDG Tim Moore, is more than happy for you to share and send him your great membership stories.

*Zone 8 Rotary Coordinator
PDG Adrian Roach*

Introducing District Team Members



**D9670 Child Protection Officer:
Neil Sharkey**

Neil is a retired high school teacher with a total of 38 years' experience working with youth in this official capacity. Neil was a faculty coordinator (head teacher) for much of his teaching career. During the last 10 years Neil undertook a pastoral care role with students aged between 12-18. Neil's Rotary highlights

include being a member of the District Youth Exchange Committee, President of the Rotary Club of Dubbo West as well as youth director on numerous occasions. Neil and his wife Pam have hosted 10 exchange students since 1988. Neil has also had involvement with numerous youth projects locally inclusive of Clontarf Foundation, Dubbo Girls Academy, Dubbo West Pre School, RYPEN, Science Challenge and RYDA to mention a few. Neil has been married to Pam for some 43 years. Pam is also Chair of RYPEN – West.



**D9670 Insurance Officer:
Des Dowdy**

Des Dowdy is Club President, Rotary Club of Mudgee 2020-21

Des was born in Brisbane but has lived and operated a local business in Mudgee for the past 37 years.

For 13 years he was the Chair and Committee member for the 'Mudgee Small Farm Field Days'.

Des joined the Rotary Club of Mudgee on 2nd November 2010 and served as the

Club President in 2012/13 and stepped into the role again during 2013/14 when the incumbent had to move interstate due to work commitments.

Des has been a regular member of the Board and has a special interest in the development of our youth, particularly through the Rotary Youth Exchange program.

Together, with wife Jenny, a past President of the Mudgee Sunrise Club, he has served on the District Rotary Youth Exchange committee. Additionally, Des is about to commence his third term as the District Insurance Officer.

For his services to the Rotary Club of Mudgee, Des was recognised with a Paul Harris Fellow in 2015.



**D9670 Marketing & Communication Chair:
Shaun Stoneman**

The Marketing & Communications team is always ready to help out with

any collateral that you require either designing or constructive feedback.

However we do ask that you provide us with at least one week's notice to ensure that it can be completed in a timely manner, should this notice not be provided no guarantees will be made as to the completion of any documentation that you require.

Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos New Members

Sunday the 19th of July, started with a heavy fog in the air and light frost on the ground. The temperature was just in the positive figures but as the sun rose over Rylstone, the fog cleared and the day warmed.

At 10:30am, the members and friends of the Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos met on the banks of the Cudgegong River at Rylstone to welcome and induct two new members into the Club, and to stay COVID safe.

Amongst the group was Rotarian Patrick Healey from the Rotary Club of Greenhills-Maitland who was spending his weekend in Rylstone working with DG David Roach on some District administration. Patrick

also took some time to coach our Club's new treasurer, Rotarian Janell Cole, in the finer points of the financial role. Thank you so much Patrick for your generosity of time and experience.

As my first official task as President, it was so exciting for it to be the signing up of two new members. Both of these people have so much to offer the Club and I know that they will gain great reward from being involved with our wonderful organisation and our great Club.

Congratulations and welcome to Rotarian James Johnson and Rotarian Helen Fuller.

Pictured, top right: DGE Amanda (sponsor) with new member Helen Fuller; pictured, right: DGE Amanda with new member James Johnson; pictured, bottom right: Robyn Oakes (sponsor) with new member James Johnson; below: James Johnson & Helen Fuller, and members of RC Rylstone Kandos



Passport Club

The Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos is very proud to be able to offer support to the establishment of the Newcastle Discovery Club which is District 9670's first Passport Club.

When the idea of offering the support was first tabled to the Club, there was great discussion as to what a 'Passport Club' was...

It is a Club model that is new to our District and it was a proposal that

created a lot of discussion but as the conversation developed, everyone was able to see the huge benefits it offered for people whose lives don't suit the characteristics and format of the regular Rotary Club profile.

The flexibility that this style of Club offers shows how our District is opening opportunities for more members of our communities.

It is great to be part of this innovative District project.

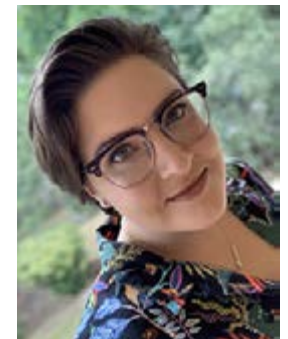
President David Fuller
Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos



Below left: Jesse Lackey - founding member of the Provisional Newcastle Discovery Club

Below centre: Shaun Stoneman - founding member of the Provisional Newcastle Discovery Club

Below right: Victoria Baudinette - founding member of the Provisional Newcastle Discovery Club



District Management Committee - Meeting: 10/07/2020

Discussion points included:

- Thanked IPDG Graeme for his leadership of the District in 2019-20
- Endorsement of the proposal to establish an innovative Passport Club – Newcastle Discovery
- Congratulations to Erica Henley, Rotary Club of Toronto, as a joint

winner of the Zone 8 Humanitarian Award for her work with 'Operation Hope' assisting Syrian refugees.

- Formalization of a meeting schedule for the DMC, Finance Committee, and Margaret Illokul Trust for the remainder of the year.
- Finance committee to meet prior to

the DMC to develop/support pathways pertaining to sound financial and governance decisions

- Supported the purchase of technology to facilitate hybrid meetings and events incorporating audio visual equipment for District use.

Vale

Max Humphries, Rotary Club of Cobar

The Rotary Club of Cobar NSW has suffered the loss of its last Charter member, Max Humphries, PHF, PP, who died at Cobar on 17 May 2020 aged 91 years. He was known locally as 'Mister Rotary' and was a member of his Club when he passed away.

As an eight year old boy, he was sent from Sydney to live with an uncle on the land, near Moree, on doctor's advice, as he suffered from asthma and needed clean country air to survive. At the tender age of 12, he became a shepherd and later a jackaroo, then a stockman in the Moree area. A mate invited Max to drive with him to Cobar to look at a Motor Garage business for sale and Max soon became part owner of Cobar Motors and GMH dealership. He married Noeline and they remained at Cobar for the rest of their lives.

A charter Member of Cobar Rotary Club in 1996, Max continued as an active member until about 2016 when

he and Noeline entered Cobar's aged care facility.

Sadly, at a Rotary function at Nyngan in 1972, they lost their two year old daughter, Maxine, by drowning in the Bogan River.

Max and Noeline raised Noeline's daughter Marea at Cobar and had the enjoyment of her, her husband and children.

He was President in 1968/69 and, for years, carried on as Club Secretary and toted the battered old Secretary's bag to more meetings than most people attend in a lifetime. He was instrumental in the establishment, by Cobar Rotary, of the Bill Brennan Centre which continues to provide residential flats to locals and served on its committee for many years. He worked on Rotary activities, helping MOW, barbeques, Show gates, local functions and activities and could be counted on at all times. For Rotary and mostly alone, he manned the Cobar Rugby Union gates before the match and cooked the barbeque during the match. He truly earned his reputation as 'Mister Rotary' in Cobar.

He was a keen bowler and served on the Committee of the Cobar Bowling and Golf Club and was the longest serving President of that Club.



Max was an excellent photographer and many of his works still adorn local premises.

Noeline was a superb caterer and did meals for Changeovers and other Rotary activities and every President knew the Club expected that Noeline be invited to bake the Club's birthday cake in February.

She passed away in November 2019, richly remembered for her contribution to her husband's beloved Cobar Rotary. Max and Noeline are buried alongside Maxine.

The pandemic prevented Cobar from giving Max a fitting funeral. Rotary and Cobar Bowling and Golf Club formed a guard of honour at the gates of the cemetery. Suitable commemorations will come in due course.



Do-Goodery Conference



STOP PRESS

DG David Roach

District 9670 “DO-GOODERY” Conference

March 19 -21 2021 in Mudgee

The District Conference Committee for 2021 meets on a monthly basis and is progressing the Conference organisation behind the scenes. Venues have been booked, meal prices have been negotiated, we have engaged with the Caravaners for the Thursday evening Foundation fundraiser, organised wine tasting, sourced impressive guest speakers, engaged three young MCs and investigated a short End Polio Now walk. We have several sponsors on board, mindful that this is a difficult time also in the business world.

We have not launched the Conference to the District due to our concerns and the implications which COVID-19 may, or will, have on our ability to implement our plans, and to alleviate any out of pocket cost that individuals may incur. We realise that there are individual apprehensions about attending this Conference at this present time. Everyone's well-being is paramount in our decision-making process and this underpins our planning for the 2021 Conference. Our Committee is considering working on an alternative virtual platform should this be required.

We will closely monitor the COVID-19 situation on a monthly basis, and when we believe it is appropriate we will launch the Conference across our District.

To the members of the Conference Committee my thanks for their substantial work already completed and commitment to the work ahead; they are dedicated to a successful Conference in 2021.

I ask that you pencil into your calendar the above dates for the 2021 District Conference in Mudgee.

David Roach

DG 2020-21

D9670

