



# District Governor's Bulletin



Rotary District 9675

## January 2017



**DG Stephen & Judith**

I hope that all Rotarians and their families in our District have had a very enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday period and are feeling refreshed as we move back to work in our Rotary clubs for 2017.

As we move into the second half of the Rotary year I would like to encourage all clubs to invite me and Judith to any events/functions that you may have coming up. If we are available we will definitely attend. One of the things we have really enjoyed about our club visits is hearing about the amazing projects and events that clubs are involved with.

We have a second Rotarian in the Humphreys family! My wife Judith has enjoyed her involvement in Rotary over the past two and a half years so much that she decided that she wanted to be an ongoing part of our great organisation. Last week **Judith became a member of the Rotary Club of Camden.**



Please don't forget to send your volunteer hours to Maureen Busst [mbusst@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mbusst@bigpond.net.au) Our District has been encouraging clubs to report volunteer hours for a couple of years now and next year the importance of doing so will be strengthened even more as one of the required activities in the Presidential Citation for 2017/2018 will be to "report volunteer hours and service project contributions in Rotary Club Central".



Judith and I represented our District at the recent **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Granville Train Disaster** where we laid a wreath in memory of the 83 people lost their lives. Included in the deceased in the disaster were a small number of Rotarians and amongst the emergency services involved in the rescue were **Retired Chief Inspector Gary Raymond APM OAM and Michael (Scotty) McNally** who are both members of **Blacktown City Rotary Club**. Gary played an integral part in the organisation and formalities on the day.



**Rotarian Janice Reid** from the **Rotary Club of Kogarah** has been a long term and very enthusiastic supporter of microcredit projects in Nepal. Janice has recently received a letter of congratulations and thanks from **Rotary International President John Germ**. Part of the letter says "How we choose to spend our time is a reflection of who we are. By choosing to devote not only your time but your skills and effort to improving the lives of women and their families in Makwanpur, you're showing others what you value most: making a difference. It's through Rotary that you have the opportunity to make a significant difference in your community and in the world.....By working together we are all capable of accomplishing great things." Many congratulations Janice.

Just before Christmas **Hilary Lloyd, Assistant Governor of the Eastern Suburbs Group** married **Mark Tanner, President Elect of Drummoyne Rotary Club** in a beautiful garden ceremony at Gladesville. The wedding was attended by a large number of Rotarians, family and friends. We extend our very best wishes to Hilary and Mark for a long and happy life together.



As the Rotary Year is now more than half over I would like to remind all Rotarians about the challenge that I set at our District Assembly in May last year. That challenge was for all Rotarians to consider making **The Rotary Foundation** one of their “**charities of choice**” and for every Rotarian in the District to make a personal donation this year of \$26.50, over and above any normal donation, in recognition of the very first donation to TRF 100 years ago. **Let's make TRF donations this year the best ever!**

**Membership** is an ongoing problem unfortunately. As I have mentioned in my DG Club visits every District Governor in recent times would have spoken about the membership challenges facing Rotary. Our Clubs are still inducting significant numbers of new members but we are losing members at a much faster rate. I encourage all clubs, no what size, to develop a plan for growing membership. Our **District Membership Chair, Stephen Knightley** [stephen.knightley@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.knightley@gmail.com), is very happy to help any and all clubs who would like assistance in developing a way forward.

There are some very interesting statistics in the **Polio Update** recently distributed to clubs. Only 3 countries are still polio endemic; 155 countries took part in the largest and fastest globally coordinated vaccine switch in history in April 2016; the cost of infectious disease epidemics is US\$60 billion per year; since 1988 over 2.5 billion children have been vaccinated; we still need US\$1.5 billion to eradicate polio; the health savings to the world are 4 times the cost of polio eradication. These are amazing numbers which exemplify the necessity for Rotarians and Rotary Clubs to maintain their support for the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative**.

Judith and I had the great pleasure of attending both the opening and closing days of **RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)** at Yarramundi recently. Judging by the excitement and enthusiasm of the RYLArrians on the last day RYLA was again a huge success. My congratulations to District New generations Chair **Cheryl Deguara**, RYLA Committee Chair **Richard Booth** and his committee and Team Leader **Jayden Bregu**. Cheryl has provided a report elsewhere in the Bulletin.

**RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) & MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly)** are coming up in the next few months. There is information included in the Bulletin but more detailed information was distributed to Clubs by District Secretary Di North last week.

Our **District Conference** which is to be held at The Novotel in Wollongong from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March is getting closer. We have a great line-up of speakers including **NSW Australian of the year Deng Adut**; **Paralympian Curtis McGrath**; the inspiring **Marcus Akuhata-Brown from New Zealand**; and some great speakers on a wide range of Rotary topics. Also, on Friday afternoon between 2pm & 5pm we will have six breakout sessions on wide-ranging, interesting and informative topics which will be available to all Rotarians. I look forward to seeing everyone at our District Conference. The draft program is available on the District website. If you haven't booked yet I encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

**Rotary District 9675 Conference at the Novotel Northbeach, Wollongong**



Congratulations to **PDG Patrick Roberts, Rotary Club of West Wollongong**, on being awarded an **OAM in the Australia Day Honours** and to **Roy Hilton, Rotary Club of Wetherill Park**, for being named **Fairfield Citizen of the Year**.

Sadly, **PDG Noel Eastment** passed away just before Christmas aged 86. Noel did an outstanding job as Governor of District 9690 in 1995/96 and was a long-time member of the **Rotary Club of Guilford**. He was an outstanding leader and enjoyed a highly successful business career. May he rest in peace.

*Yours in Rotary serving Humanity,*

*Stephen*

**Siem Reap Christmas Project**

Camden Rotarian Aneek Mollah was in Siem Reap, Cambodia, at Christmas and sent out a call via Facebook challenging individuals to donate \$30 to give a bag of rice to, in order:

- 1) Orphanages
- 2) Clare's stepping out Half Way house for orphans
- 3) Very low salaried teachers in rural Siem Reap (70km out of Siem Reap)
- 4) The sick
- 5) The old
- 6) Labourers
- 7) The homeless.



Aneek's appeal was so overwhelmingly successful that he delivered 148 by 50kg bags! 50 bags were delivered Christmas Eve, another 50 delivered Christmas Day & the final 48 distributed on the Wednesday!

Despite being sick from something that he ate, Aneek ensured that every bag was delivered.

Aneek would like to thank everyone who supported his "call to arms". He was greatly moved by the tremendous support.



**RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award)**

**RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) 2017** definitely lived up to all the hype and expectation.



The coming together of 7 young and enthusiastic leaders lead by **Jayden Bregu** and 62 apprehensive, enquiring minds, set up for an all engaging event at YMCA Camp Yarramundi. While coming to camp as strangers little did they know they were going to leave as very close friends.

Each session gave out individual challenges, with presenters giving new insights into such things as the mandatory Toastmasters Session – ‘The ability to communicate’. To be motivated, not that this group needed the motivation from **Brian Horan** and ‘Influences over Self’ with **Anthony Gunn** and his snake.

The Seminar Team had set up a well-balanced and at times a flexible program which worked out in their favour as the week unfolded. To say that the recipients were challenged by the weather was probably an understatement – must have been the hottest start to the year on record. Everyone rose to the occasion keeping well hydrated and making sure that they took advantage of the rest periods.

Everyone looked forward to the Activity Day which was ideally placed, half way through the camp – not to take too much away from RYLarian’s presentation – a lot of fun was had by all, even when they lost power for several hours. Thank goodness for the pool and the river.



The bringing together of all the skills learned during the week came through at the RYLarian Apprentice – each team had to learn to work as a ‘team’, utilising individual strengths and were challenged to dismantle one of Rotary’s projects, enhance it, change it, or even re-badge it – looking at it being sustainable, manageable and viable. Like all good camps there were the usual talent contests, empowerment through the breaking of the boards – lack of sleep – but an enormous amount of respect and responsibility – and did I say lack of sleep?

As in last year, the Camp closed with the ‘Showcase’ – the opportunity for the RYLarians to show sponsors, parents, friends and relatives what had happened over the week through their eyes. The goodbyes were always going to be an emotional side of the event, and they were.

The District RYLA Committee would like to thank the hard work and dedication that the Seminar Team who consisted of **Jayden Bregu, Belinda Robinson, Anna Hoyles, Bronte Luff, Taylah Plataniotis, Cameron Edwards and Ziad Khalil** had put in to making this RYLA 2017 a great success.

### APEC Summit and Hurstville Rotary Club

**Phillip Chan** is a young man who was sponsored by **Hurstville Rotary Club** to attend the APEC (Australia Pacific Economic Cooperation) CEO Summit in Peru last year.

Alongside World leaders, CEOs and industry experts Phillip and other youth delegates shared the world stage to discuss, collaborate and network on “*Quality Growth and Sustainable Development*”.

Phillip had the privilege to present a speech on behalf of Australia, a creative spoken-word poem that inspired the delegates and world leaders to “give a fair go” to young people in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Christine Lagarde**, **International Monetary Fund Managing Director**, gave an inspiring speech on women’s economic empowerment, while our **Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull**, impressed the youth delegates with his passionate discussion on innovation and technology.

Congratulations to **Phillip** and **Hurstville Rotary Club**.



### PDG Patrick Roberts Receives OAM

**Patrick Roberts** believes volunteering is “the most satisfying thing that one can do”.

It's that selfless approach that resulted in the 77-year-old being recognised with a **Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)** as part of this year's Australia Day Honours.

“In some ways the pay isn't great, but the pay is measured by satisfaction.”

“Not everyone gets satisfaction from their job, but I feel most people should get satisfaction from volunteering. I still do.”

“I enjoy what I do, which makes it an easier role to undertake.”

“Rotary has done a lot of good things, and we have some good Rotary clubs doing good things throughout the Illawarra,” he said.

**Patrick joined Rotary in 1994 and was President of West Wollongong Rotary Club in 1999/2000. He was District Governor of District 9750 in 2005/2006 and 2008 and Treasurer of the International Convention Sydney Organising Committee in 2014.**

Congratulations Patrick from all Rotarians in District 9675! A very well deserved award.



**Visit to Koripitia Village & Ami Chandra Memorial Primary School in Fiji**  
**David Chambers, President, Kiama Rotary Club**

On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 David was privileged to be invited to lunch with a family he befriended at Koripitia Village (Western District of Fiji) in the mid 2000's. It was great day to see and hear the stories of a family who are appreciative of the support to them by Rotary and Rotarians over many years. The boys have grown into responsible and employed men with the vision and reality of building a house for all of them and their mum. Their education both in primary and secondary schools has helped them significantly. Now all families in Koripitia Village aim to have a 5 year plan to move from welfare housing through the steps to property ownership. Only one generation per family is allowed to rent a house in Koripitia (a plan to stop generational welfare dependency). Koripitia is a great model which highlights 'Rotary Serving Humanity'.



On the way to Koripitia Village we visited the Ami Chandra Memorial Primary School where David's wife, Tania, volunteered as a music teacher in 2006. The family he had lunch with at Koripitia Village remember learning the recorder from Tania (under the School's largest tree) and the songs she taught them. The sad thing about David's visit to the school was that it has been significantly damaged by Cyclone Winston, which ripped through Fiji in February

2016. In the early 2000's, David was a member of the Rotary Club of Bellerive (Tasmania) that renovated the school library and then created a computer lab with many donated computers (*thanks to Winston -the lab is NO LONGER*).

Locals told David that the Fijian Government will rebuild the school - fingers crossed. David will be following up as Rotary may be able to assist.

Visiting both Koripitia Village, the young men and family from Koripitia and Ami Chandra school reinforces to David why he joined Rotary 30 years ago ... all of us can do small things which hopefully will make a difference to the lives of others.

\* \* \*



(Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment)

- When:** Friday 31 March – Sunday 2 April 2017  
**Where:** Teen Ranch Cobbitty, 352 Cobbitty Road, Cobbitty NSW 2570  
**Fees:** \$295 – Sponsored by Club  
**Applications Close:** 20 March 2017 (unless filled prior – NB. Maximum of 40 participants!)  
**Application Forms:** Can be found here: <http://www.rotarydistrict9675.org.au/Page/rypen>

## End Trachoma

Rotary has already proven we have the capacity to accomplish great change through our international program that has almost eradicated polio. In Australia, there are 30,000 neighbours, friends, and community leaders who have united to create positive, lasting change in our communities and globally. Our shared passion for service helps us accomplish the remarkable.

**End Trachoma Plus 2020** will be the first collective nationwide initiative following on from our achievements in End Polio.



With incoming **Rotary International President, Ian Riseley**, being very supportive of this initiative, we have an opportunity to join together for a worthwhile project on our own land. We can end this avoidable blindness and improve the health and well-being of our least advantaged Australians in many other ways. We can do something remarkable to commemorate 100 years of Rotary in Australia. To find out more visit:

[www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au) or [www.facebook.com/endtrachoma2020](https://www.facebook.com/endtrachoma2020)

Details of the exact initiatives are yet to be defined, as the project is still in its scoping and development phase. The objective is clear though: work with communities and existing partners to ensure hygiene practices are possible, easy and normalised.

Examples of evolving ideas that Rotarians might support include:

- the provision of communal washing machines and general washing facilities to cope with demand placed on households from overcrowding
- the provision of hygiene kits consisting of towels, soaps, toothpaste, toothbrush sold at low cost through health clinics
- swimming pools in communities, which ensure kids are clean, active and engaged in community



## MUNA

(Model United Nations Assembly)



**When:** Saturday 20th May, 2017 (9am sharp—4pm)

**Where:** NSW Parliament House

**Nominations Close:** 15 April 2017

**More Detailed Information can be located here:** <http://www.rotarydistrict9675.org.au/Page/muna>

**Contact:** District 9675 MUNA Committee, P O Box 987, ST MARYS NSW 1790

Email: Cheryl Deguara - [cdd@maxi.net.au](mailto:cdd@maxi.net.au)



### *Some important dates for your diaries:*

Date	Event
11 February 2017 (Sat)	Presidents Elect Training (PETs 1)
17 February 2017 (Fri)	Presidents' Meeting
10 – 12 March 2017	District Conference
28 March 2017 (Tues)	District Governor 2019-2020 Selection
31 March – 2 April 2017	RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment)
1 April 2017 (Sat)	Presidents Elect Training (PETs 2)
6 May 2017 (Sat)	District Assembly
26 May 2017 (Fri)	Presidents' Meeting
10 – 14 June 2017	Rotary International Convention - Atlanta
2 July 2017	District Changeover



For all those keen golfers amongst us ... here's another important event for your diary!



## ROTARY CLUB OF CRONULLA

# 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

CRONULLA GOLF CLUB  
CNR HUME AND ELOUERA RD, CRONULLA



### SUPPORTING MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE RESEARCH

Funds raised will help award a PHD  
Scholarship in partnership with  
Australian Rotary Health



PROGRAM	
11am	Registration
11.30	BBQ Lunch
12.30	Shot Gun Start
	4 person Ambrose team event. Light refreshments throughout the day
6pm	Dinner
	- Presentation of team & individual winners - Guest Speaker - Entertainment - Raffle Draw

#### Major Sponsor:



Limited Buggies available please book & pay early through:  
**Heather Newbould - 0419 208 366 or  
heathnew@bigpond.net.au**  
**Maria Moran - 0414 956 952 or  
maria@trendyrepower.com.au**

#### COSTS:

<b>Hole Sponsorship: \$750</b>	<b>Individual Players: \$120</b>
Golf for 4 players	18 holes
BBQ lunch	BBQ lunch
Evening dinner for 4	Evening dinner for 1
1 x Naming rights & signage	
- Additional Dinner Guests are welcomed: \$45pp	