



DG Di North & David

### Welcome to the September edition of the District Governor's Bulletin.

Many thanks to all those wonderful supporters for my 30<sup>th</sup> City2Surf on 11<sup>th</sup> August. We had 26 members in our District team and many of the team members raised money for **Australian Rotary Health**. I raised just over \$4000 through the Everyday Hero site and several Rotary clubs gave money directly to Australian Rotary Health in my name so it came to just over \$6000. Congratulations to **Phoebe Alexander** from the **Rotary Club of Sydney City** who raised over \$1200 for Australian Rotary Health.

Thank you to all the team and a huge thank you to everyone who donated. Australian Rotary Health is delighted at such a pleasing result.

Congratulations also to all the volunteers who braved the cold conditions to be out there as early as 5.30AM to assist us. I saw quite a few in Hyde Park and then many along the course. You all did a wonderful job in raising money for your club projects.

For those who are wondering, I finished in 119 minutes and 55 seconds. I was thrilled to finish in under two hours! I did so much enjoy all the support from our Rotary volunteers along the way. I had a hug or two and many chats – it was the best fun I have ever had in a City2Surf. Thank you everyone.

### Spotlight on Keith Henning OAM

**Keith Henning OAM**, who was born in Melbourne on 1 November 1935, is a charter member of the **Rotary Club of Parramatta City** – formerly known as Parramatta North and he received a Medal within the Order of Australia in 2016. Keith's former occupation was in insurance/finance and he previously worked for the Burnside Organisation. Keith and his wife Glennis live in Telopea.



Keith held many positions with the Club, ranging from President – twice, to secretary, treasurer and all director positions. Keith and Glennis have also hosted numerous Rotary exchange students – and still maintain contact with them. Keith has also served on District for several youth programs, as the Insurance Officer and other positions. In 2003 Keith attended his first international convention and continues to attend these when it is possible.

In 2004 Keith visited the Philippines and signed a 'Twin Club' agreement with the **Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay** and this relationship continues today with a wealth of projects involving the **Rotary Club of Parramatta City**.

Keith is involved with a number of church-based charities as well as a member of a community credit union Board of Directors and has been their treasurer for a number of years.

In 2005 Keith & Glennis' son David, at the age of 39, took his own life. In 2006 Glennis and Keith set up the David Henning Memorial Fund and since that time they have provided multiple funds to **Australian Rotary Health** to support research scholarships and indigenous scholarships. They are also solid supporters of **The Rotary Foundation** and many projects through **RAWCS** and other charitable groups. Keith runs in the City to Surf each year as well as participates in other fundraisers and is active with Club fundraising.

In 2016 Keith was presented with the “Medal” for **Australian Rotary Health**. This is awarded to one person each year and Keith is a most worthy recipient of this prestigious award.



Keith is a dedicated and hardworking Rotarian and is well supported by Glennis and their family.

### **Welcome to one of our District's newest Rotarians, Dr Sonu Bhaskar who was recently inducted into the Rotary Club of Sydney.**

**Dr Sonu Bhaskar**, who was recently inducted in to the **Rotary Club of Sydney**, has created the first Brain Clot Bank in the world, which is situated at the Professor Marie Bashir Building, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. This is world breaking Research and Development into the prevention of strokes and heart attacks which proves so deadly to so many. Learn more about Dr Bhaskar and his ground-breaking research [HERE](#).



Dr Bhaskar is pictured here with **Barbara Ward, President of Sydney Rotary Club**.

### **September is Basic Education and Literacy Month.**

**Pam Carne** (pictured right) from the **Rotary Club of Blacktown** has an amazing project that brings education to children in countries such as Tanzania who have no access to basic education.



### **Teacher in a Box**



Founder and Director, **Jeanette Johnstone** (pictured left with some of the teachers at the East Meru Community School in Tanzania), a member of the **Rotary Club of Brisbane Planetarium** visited the School of St Jude in Tanzania in 2012 with members of the **Rotary Club of Blacktown City** and was so moved by the need for education of the youth of Tanzania unable to attend the school that she thought long and hard about ways to provide teaching resources to teachers and students who cannot access the internet in the same easy accessible way we can in the west.

A fortuitous meeting with a keen IT student by the name of **Patrick Hackett** (pictured right) and a shared passion for problem solving and passion for research led them both to exploring ways to use E Waste, in the form of donated laptops and computers to provide a mobile and inexpensive form of educational and training materials to areas which are not serviced by reliable, cost effective internet access, hence a Teacher in a Box was created.



A **Teacher in a Box** server is a re-programmed laptop (or desktop) computer which can be accessed by any Wi-Fi enabled device such as a tablet, smart phone, computer or iPad. Thanks to the amazing generosity and efforts of not-for-profit educational software developers such as Khan Academy, the Foundation for Learning Equality and World Possible and of course our own computer donors and voluntary workers, the team was able to supply *Teacher in a Box* pre-loaded with a huge range of quality educational and training materials at minimal cost.

*Teacher in a Box* provides an interactive interface to more than 10,000 videos and tutorials of Khan Academy, a quality online learning resource that is currently being used in classrooms and homes throughout the world.

**Teacher in a Box** uses second hand computers that have been professionally wiped of all previous data.

#### How can it be used?

- In classrooms as a group or for individual lessons.
- To differentiate lessons for all levels of learning through self-paced and selected learning material.
- Content is suitable for preschoolers to year 12 and beyond to tertiary levels at university.

#### How does it work?

- It feels like a browser such as Google, but it is all offline and is very fast.
- By connecting the laptop to a projector and speakers it can be used by a class of students at the same time.
- The laptop functions as a server with the connection of a router. The router sends out signals to nearby devices (e.g. smart phone and tablets). Each phone and tablet can actually be on different pages simultaneously. This allows self-paced learning with different content.

**Teacher in a Box** has a huge positive impact where there are limited teaching resources or teachers with limited training or education themselves. This initiative does not need the internet to access over 10,000 educational and vocational videos stored in the system.



Left: Teachers in training with **Jeanette Johnstone** at East Meru Community School in Tanzania.

**Teacher in a Box** is a **RAWCS Project** and, with the support and assistance of fellow Rotarians and Rotary clubs, is currently deployed in Papua New Guinea, Tanzania, The Philippines, Kenya, Liberia, Zambia, Timor Leste, South Sudan and Nepal. This project was developed and embraced by people who care about children living in poverty.

Can we make a bigger impact? Yes we can, and education is the key.

More details about Teacher in a Box can be found [HERE](#).

#### **Gregory Hills Next Gen Rotary (Members pictured right)**

**Gregory Hills Next Gen Rotary** was officially chartered in October 2018 with 27 members, offering opportunities for members – and those interested in making a difference – to get involved.



The Club's Motto is "**COME AS YOU ARE – DO WHAT YOU CAN**". Currently boasting 30 members, the Club is continually striving to expand.

Since its charter, members have been busy supporting many charities in the community with a strong focus on youth and mental health.

The Club has been able to send four local students to **RYPEN** this year and members are currently working on an international project in Kenya.

Working with **Macarthur Sunrise Rotary, Gregory Hills Next Gen Rotary** shared a very successful project partnering with Dress for Success Sydney, which was a “Pop up Boutique” sale held in Macarthur raising much needed funds to help disadvantaged women through the “DRESS FOR SUCCESS SYDNEY” program.

The Club’s first major fundraiser **ROCKTOBER** – Battle of the Bands competition will be held in October next with profits supporting HEADSPACE in Campbelltown & Oran Park and other local Youth projects.

Many members attended the District Conference in Bankstown this year and the Club hopes to have an even stronger attendance at the Wollongong conference in March 2020.



Anita Robinson, Director,  
Gregory Hill Next Gen

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Congratulations to **Hurstville Rotary Club** who celebrated their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, the exact date they were chartered in 1939. Hurstville were the fourth club in the District. They are still going strong with some amazing projects such as their “Kids at Play” at St George Hospital Children’s Ward complete with a Fairy Garden. One of their big fundraisers is the Mulga Rd Book Shop which has an extensive range of donated books which are all catalogued and arranged in an easy to select way.

*I will have more information from this very special evening along with photos in the next bulletin.*

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### Rotary International is implementing a new Strategic Plan

There are 4 priorities:

- Priority 1:** **IMPACT — Increase Our Impact** — People of Action are effective problem solvers.
- Priority 2:** **REACH — Expand Our Reach** — People of Action activate and inspire one another.
- Priority 3:** **ENGAGEMENT — Enhance Participant Engagement** — People of Action strive to understand the needs of others.
- Priority 4:** **ADAPT — Increase Our Ability to Adapt** — People of Action are inventive, entrepreneurial and resilient.

## Action Plan

**As People of Action, we share a strong sense of purpose.** More than a century ago, we pioneered a new model of service leadership grounded in person-to-person connections. Today, those connections are networks that span the globe—bridging cultural, linguistic, generational, and geographic barriers—and shares the vision of a better world.

**As People of Action, we understand that fulfilling that vision requires a plan.** This is Rotary's plan for the next five years: to increase our impact, expand our reach, enhance participant engagement, and increase our ability to adapt.

By helping to realise the goals of this plan, you ensure a stronger and even more effective future for Rotary—a tremendous legacy. Our plan is rooted in our tried-and-true values and builds on the remarkable capabilities and spirit of Rotarians.

It is clear-eyed about the challenges that Rotary and the world face. It protects the value of human connection in an age of technology. It lays out a path for bringing great ideas to the forefront of the global imagination of what's possible.

And our plan will provide us with a continuity of vision from year to year, keeping us moving toward fulfilling our shared purpose.

### **Q: Why does Rotary have a new Action Plan?**

**A:** The world today is not the same as it was when Rotary began in 1905. Demographics have shifted, the pace of change has accelerated, and technology has created new opportunities for connection and service. What hasn't changed is a need for the values that define Rotary: fellowship, integrity, diversity, service, and leadership. With our new plan, we will honour our past and embrace our future. We can evolve and keep Rotary not only relevant but thriving.

## **WASRAG**

Rotary International President Mark Daniel Maloney's challenge to "Connect the World" is motivating Rotarians everywhere to seek new goals and aspire to greater achievements.

The **Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG)**, founded twelve years ago, has focused on WASH (water, sanitation, hygiene) as the core element of all the Areas of Focus - it is the key to alleviating hunger and malnutrition, improving maternal and child health, enhancing literacy and reducing conflict.

For those unfamiliar with **WASRAG**, please check out their website [HERE](#).

Your club could find a WASH project or program, access expertise, identify sources of project funding and select appropriate technologies. Host clubs can post their projects and seek help. Guidelines will help to ensure your projects are truly sustainable. You will find other NGOs willing to complement Rotary's resources.

## Rotarians for Family Health and Aids Prevention (RFHA) is a Rotary Action Group.

This month **RFHA** launched Rotary Family Health Days (RFHA's Signature Program) in Scott's Hospital at Morija in Lesotho. The event was put on by Rotary clubs within Lesotho.

The primary partners including RFHA, Rotary clubs in Lesotho, AHF (AIDS Healthcare Foundation), Ministry of Health and His Majesty, King Letsie III who is a long-time supporter and patron of the Rotary clubs of Moloti - Maseru in Lesotho, all joined together with more than 250 community members and service providers to witness the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the official Launch of the RFHD Program.

This is a country crippled by disease so it is a great opportunity to provide free health services to the citizens over the course of three days from 16 to 19 October 2019. Rotarians can get involved by donating time, money or service. Rotarian and **DGE Maud Boikanyo** is the Programme Director in Lesotho. Learn more about the campaign [HERE](#).

A donation from the **Rotary E-Club of Greater Cape Town** was presented on behalf of **President Koos Stassen** to the Administrator of Scott's Hospital for the Children's Ward.

Strategic partnerships have allowed RFHA to extend their reach. In 2018 discussions began with the **AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF)**. Their common objectives are to:

1. Increase awareness of HIV status
2. Prevent new HIV infections
3. Provide access to quality HIV care
4. Provide leadership on community solutions to HIV stigma and/or barriers to testing and care
5. Advocate on particular social determinants of health that are in urgent need



Learn more about AHF [HERE](#).

## Polio Update - Nigeria

As of 21 August 2019, it has been three years since a child in Nigeria was paralysed by the wild poliovirus. This means that the entire World Health Organization (WHO) African region could be certified as wild poliovirus-free as soon as mid-2020.

Along with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners and the Nigerian government, the immunisation and disease detection systems have been strengthened, and they are now reaching more children than ever in some of the hardest-to-reach places in Nigeria.

We can all take pride in this progress, but it is not time to celebrate quite yet. There is still work to do. It is a priority to reach every child in Nigeria—and other polio-threatened countries—with the polio vaccine, and build strong levels of immunity to fully protect the entire population against polio.

In part because of the hard work and dedication of Rotarians in Nigeria and around the world, we will soon be able to check another country off the polio-endemic list. Rotary members in Nigeria have been hard at work raising awareness for polio eradication, advocating with the government and addressing other basic health needs to complement polio eradication efforts, like providing clean water to vulnerable communities.

After the African region is certified wild poliovirus-free later next year, 5 out of the 6 WHO regions in the world will be considered polio-free. As the first organisation to dream of – and promise to deliver – a polio-free world, Rotary is committed to fulfilling our promise. We still need to maintain momentum so that Pakistan and Afghanistan see the same level of progress.

## Plastics - An opportunity for clubs to make a difference and engage new members

**Plastic Free Oceans** is an initiative for any individual or organisation on the planet to take simple steps and be part of the solution to the plastics crisis. Because it was designed by a Rotarian there is a special category, just launched, for our clubs to join in and to share our experiences.

As well as helping the environment, showing leadership on this topical issue will attract new people to Rotary. The **Rotary Club of Corrimal** gained a new member almost straight away.

Sign up your club to do one or both of these things:

1. When planning club activities, for example a change over dinner or BBQ, do the simple checklist to identify practical ways to reduce waste. Post the activity to your 'Page' so the global community can see it - others will follow your leadership; and/or
2. On the first Saturday or Sunday of each month invite club members to meet to pick up plastics in an area. Keep it simple - bring a bag to fill – 30 to 60 minutes (not all morning) – go for a coffee together afterwards – all so it's a fun, easy, on-going community activity. Publicise it and invite the community to join you. Post the activity and a picture on your 'Page'.

Find out more here: [Rotary Helping Solve The Plastics Crisis](#)

Engaging software developers from three countries, the platform took over 12 months to build and was designed by Corrimal Rotarian Rob Edwards (pictured right). He says "It's like a small Facebook for the environment, except the founder has not got the same bank balance as Mark Zuckerberg ☺". Rob is available to speak at club meetings. Please contact Rob with suggested meeting dates via the Plastic Free Oceans website [HERE](#).



## Rotary World Peace Conference 2020

The Rotary World Peace Conference will be held on 17 and 18 January 2020 at the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California.

The conference will consist of six general sessions, 104 breakout sessions, an exhibit hall, two special dinners and a concert. The Friday night dinner is Community Heroes Awards Dinner. Saturday dinner includes the concert. There will be 150 expert speakers. Our Rotary International President, Mark Maloney will be there along with other Rotary senior leaders.

Visit the website [HERE](#) to learn more and to register. Check out the speakers and the schedule.

Those attending will hear about solutions to major issues happening today. Take these learnings and solutions back to your club and district, and support projects in your schools and communities. This conference is like a Rotary International Convention, focused on solutions to conflicts and to create peace.

The early registration price for the two-day conference is \$239 (includes lunch). The Friday Dinner is \$100 and the Saturday Dinner with Concert is \$120.

Special rates are available for Rotaract and college students.

**REGISTER NOW!**

Early Bird Pricing Available!

17 & 18 January 2020

**World Peace Conference 2020**  
Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California, USA  
*Learn More:* [www.PeaceConference2020.org](http://www.PeaceConference2020.org)

### Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) – August 2019

RYPEN was held on the weekend of 9 to 11 August during which 30 young people (pictured right) were hosted at Youthworks in the Royal National Park, Sutherland. It was a fantastic weekend where the students, who did not know each other, used their common bonds of learning, co-operation & friendship throughout a variety of activities and experiences. The students left on the Sunday with a whole group of new lifelong friendships and a new perspective on the world.



There was a whole range of exciting tasks that challenged and engaged each participant, but the highlight of the weekend was the 'Amazing Race'. This activity tested each participant with over 15 different challenges where they had to work together to solve the problems. The 'Amazing Race' aims to develop participants' skills to enhance their self-awareness and self-esteem, develop their own personal values and life skills and learn how to work together and communicate in a team environment.



The students had the benefit of three fantastic guest speakers, namely **Cameron Edwards, Emily Backhouse and Anna Hoyles** all of whom touched on topics of resilience, inner strength and courage and they also shared their journeys which all reflected the theme of the weekend.



An amazing group of individuals (pictured left) were selected from previous RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Camps who fulfilled the roles of RYPEN team leaders, guiding the RYPENian students over the weekend. These Leaders were **Briana Melville, Leo Yue Li, Sam El-Debel, Maddison King** and led by **Mikaela Cox** and **RYPEN District Chair Emily O'Brien** (pictured right) from the **Rotary Club of Wollondilly North**.



The next RYPEN weekend will be held from Friday 3 to Sunday 5 April 2020 at Teen Ranch, Cobbitty NSW. There are only 40 spaces available so please visit the [District 9675 website](#) for all information on how to apply!

### Important dates for your diary...

20 to 22 September 2019	ANZ Conference Christchurch
23 September 2019	Mark Maloney Dinner The Deckhouse Woolwich
25 September 2019	Mt Druitt Rotary Club 50 <sup>th</sup> birthday
30 September 2019	Parramatta POOTYA (Police Officer of the Year Awards)
24 October 2019	World Polio Day – Train Ride
27 October 2019	Graffiti Removal Day
5 November 2019	NSW Police Officer of the Year
11 November 2019	The Rotary Foundation Dinner
15 November 2019	Presidents' Meeting/AGM
23 November 2019	Blacktown Rotary Club – Anita Cobby Dinner
24 November 2019	Liverpool Rotary Club's 70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
5-11 January 2020	January RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)
17 February 2020	Maroubra Rotary Club's 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### Some helpful direct links to important websites...

<a href="#">Conference 2020 Registration</a>	<a href="#">Conference 2020 Registration</a>
<a href="#">District Directory</a>	<a href="#">District Directory - Login</a>
<a href="#">District Website</a>	<a href="#">Rotary District 9675 Home Page</a>
<a href="#">District Speaker List</a>	<a href="#">District 9675 Speaker List</a>
<a href="#">Rotary International</a>	<a href="#">Rotary International Home Page</a>
<a href="#">RI South Pacific &amp; Philippines Office</a>	<a href="#">Resource Guide for Club Officers</a>

*Yours in Rotary – Connecting the World*

*Di*

**Dianne North**  
District Governor