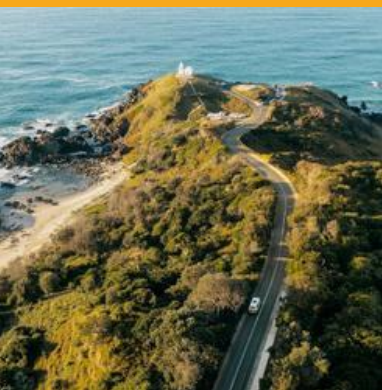
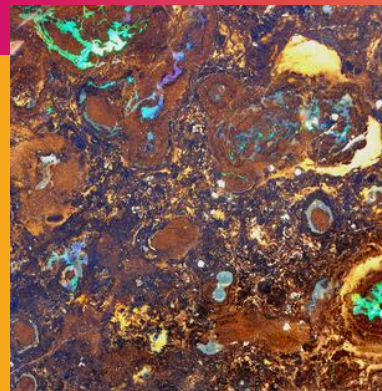




# Spotlight

# 4  
26th August, 2026





**Michelle Nicholas**  
(Newsletter Editor)



**Adam Nicholas**  
(Newsletter Editor)



**Tahni Triffitt**  
(PI Secretary & Newsletter Editor)



**Keiran Rodgers**  
(PI Chair 2026-27)

## Editorial Team Message

### Welcome to Your District Newsletter

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Welcome and thank you for picking up this edition of your district newsletter.

This publication belongs to all of us. It exists to celebrate the extraordinary service happening across our district, to connect clubs and members, and to inspire the ideas and friendships that make Rotary so powerful.

We have listened to your feedback, and we are committed to bringing you a newsletter that is easy to read, beautifully presented, and genuinely worth your time. Every edition will be crafted with care with clear layouts, compelling stories, and news that matters to you and your club.

Whether you are a long-serving member or new to the Rotary family, we hope these pages remind you why our work matters and energise you for the service ahead.

We are always grateful to hear your stories, your milestones, and your ideas. This newsletter is at its best when it reflects the full richness of our district so please, reach out and share.

In Service,

**The Editorial Team**

# CONTENT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

## How to make a submission:

1. **EMAIL:** districtnewsletter@rotary9660.org.au
2. **SUBJECT:** [Club / Project] - [Article Title]
3. **BODY:** Article, links, images, and videos
4. and/or **ATTACHMENTS:** Article, images, and videos



Each article has **two A4** pages of space to make your submission informative and amazing.

We prefer all documents in **PDF** or **Word** format.

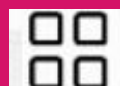
We prefer all video in **MP4** format with a 2 minute maximum length.

We prefer all photos in **PNG** or **JPG** format

Please be mindful of appropriate angles.

## How to use Heyzine

To find the Table of contents on Heyzine- in the bottom right corner you will find this:



View all pages



Download PDF copy



Print copy





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**International President for 2026-27,  
Olayinka (Yinka) Babalola.  
Nigeria**

***CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT***

# District Governor **Di Hall**



## **District Governor Contact:**

[districtgovernor@rotary9660.org.au](mailto:districtgovernor@rotary9660.org.au)

## **All other matters:**

[Di.Hall@rotary9660.org.au](mailto:Di.Hall@rotary9660.org.au)

0411 704 654

## **Dear Fellow Rotarians,**

It's Membership Month!  
Everyday in Rotary is Membership Day! Have you introduced a new member recently? If not, why not? This is everyone's responsibility. Membership is a clinical term which I prefer not to use! I prefer Fellowship or Friendship or Connection or just an invitation to join us in service! How do we keep Rotary strong for the next generation? The answer keeps coming back to people. A club that grows and keeps its members is a club that can do more service, welcome more perspectives, and build the kind of resilience that carries it through the years ahead. Let's learn something from history.....

## **Why Rotary started**

It's worth remembering why we're here in the first place. In 1905, Paul Harris, a Chicago attorney, found himself in a big city where he barely knew anyone. He missed the sense of community which he had growing up in a small Vermont town, so he brought together three other professionals who were men from different trades who wouldn't ordinarily have crossed paths, for regular fellowship and mutual support.

That was the whole idea: professionals from different walks of life, meeting regularly, looking out for one another and their community. Service above Self came later, but the instinct that started it all was connection with people who wanted to belong to something larger than their own work.

That instinct is exactly what made Rotary spread so quickly. It answered a real need: professionals wanted a place to build genuine relationships and put their skills toward something useful beyond their own business. For most of a century, that model barely had to change

## **Why it has to change**

The need Paul Harris identified hasn't gone away. If anything, in an era of remote work. Working from home and digital fragmentation, people are hungrier for real community more than ever. But the way that need gets met has changed enormously, and the way we've traditionally organized clubs hasn't always kept pace. Fixed weekly lunch meetings, long paths to leadership, and membership models built around one working professional per household made sense in 1950

**CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT**



That is now a real barrier for a two-career household, a shift worker, a young professional building a business, or someone who wants to serve without committing to a rigid schedule. If we hold too tightly to the form Rotary took decades ago, we risk losing the thing that Rotary was built to deliver. The clubs thriving right now are the ones treating the weekly meeting, the membership structure, and the path to leadership as tools in service of connection and impact. That's not a departure from what Paul Harris started; it's a return to it. He didn't found a lunch schedule. He founded a way for people to belong to something bigger than themselves. Our job is to keep offering that, in a form that fits how people actually live now.

### Where we are?

Across the district, membership has grown slightly, but this isn't enough. Some clubs are welcoming new members and thriving; others are quietly losing people to relocation, retirement, or simply drifting away because they no longer feel connected. Both stories are happening at once, and both deserve our attention.

### Growth is only half the job!

It's tempting to think of membership as a recruitment exercise. Let's get more names on the roll. But the clubs that are genuinely thriving aren't just recruiting well; they're retaining well.

They make new members feel useful within their first few months, not just welcomed at their first meeting. They give people real projects, real responsibility, and a real reason to stay. I'd ask every club these two questions: who are we bringing in? and are we giving the people already here a reason to stay?

### What I'm asking of clubs

- Have an honest conversation at a board meeting this term about retention, not just recruitment. Ask departing members why they left, and act on what you hear.
- Invite at least one prospective member to a meeting or service project asap. Personal invitations are still the most effective way anyone joins Rotary.
- Consider what flexibility your club can offer: meeting formats, satellite clubs, corporate membership, or hybrid attendance so that Rotary fits into more people's lives, not the other way around.





**Rotary**  
District 9660



# CALL FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2028 - 29

Are you a leader? Do you like to create Change?  
Do you like to share ideas? Would you like to  
learn new skills? Would you like to create a new  
Rotary district?

**\*\*\* EXCITING TIMES AHEAD! \*\*\***

**More information**



**Make your own  
contribution today  
and be part of leading  
the best humanitarian  
organisation.**

**Applications close  
14 September 2026**

[kalmamclellan@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kalmamclellan@optusnet.com.au)

# STAY CONNECTED



with Rotary District 9660



<https://www.instagram.com/rotary9660/>



<https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict9660>

As we begin the new Rotary year, we are investing in how we tell Rotary's story and celebrate the outstanding work of our clubs, members and communities.

Whether you are a Rotarian, a partner organisation, or a member of the community, these are the best ways to keep up with District news, projects and events, and to see the impact our members are making.



<https://www.tiktok.com/@rotary.d9660>



# STAY CONNECTED



## with Rotary District 9660

APPLICATIONS  
CLOSE  
18  
SEPTEMBER

**SOUTH CAMP  
2026**

# RYPEN

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment

A long weekend of team building, connection, and leadership.

**Rotary**  
District 9660



3rd - 5th  
Oct 2026

TGABC  
Tea  
Gardens

- ✓ Step outside your **comfort zone**
- ✓ Build confidence & **teambuilding** skills
- ✓ **Strengthen** connections and friendships
- ✓ Learn new skills with **hands-on** activities
- ✓ Discover your **leadership potential**
- ✓ Build confidence, resilience & **problem-solving** skills



**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!**

<https://forms.office.com/r/8rFnk6qbGp>  
<https://support.rotary9660.org.au/rypen>

**CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT**

# Rotary International President

## Grow our membership

Our ability to Create Lasting Impact depends on the strength and diversity of our members. The goal in front of us is clear: Reach 1.25 million Rotarians and retain at least 125,000 Rotaractors by 2030.

But this is not only about numbers. It is about people.

Every new member brings new ideas, energy, and opportunities. When we truly welcome others and share our stories, we expand Rotary's reach and deepen valuable connections.

Don't be afraid to share how Rotary has changed your life when you connect with prospective members. Everyone loves a good story.

I also encourage you to consider how your club invites, includes, and engages with others.

Examine your last seven years of membership and retention data, find your best year, and aim to do better than your best. Explore the membership resources linked below and think about how you can use them to attract more people to Rotary.

**Create  
opportunities for  
lasting impact**



**International President for 2026-27,  
Olayinka (Yinka) Babalola.  
Nigeria**

## MEMBERSHIP, GROWTH & CLUB EXPERIENCE

Our RI President, **Yinka Babalola** asked us to recognise and reward Rotarians and Rotaractors who have Created Lasting Change in our world through their **Service Above Self**.

Worldwide, women make up 28% of Rotary club members and 46% of Rotaract club members. Although we are far from gender parity in Rotary clubs, the progress we've made is due to the dedication of countless people who are committed to advancing women in our organization. These people of action are not only introducing women to Rotary but also facilitating their involvement in leadership roles.

The Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award, named for the first female Rotary club president, recognizes people who are making a difference for women in Rotary. This award honors one Rotary member each year, regardless of gender and length of membership, for actively working to advance women in Rotary. You can **nominate a Rotarian or Rotaractor** for the award during August.

Visit the **Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award Gallery** to learn about past recipients who have led change for women in Rotary. Recognizing members for advancing women in Rotary helps reinforce that we embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion to create an environment where all people feel they belong. Thank you for being part of that and showing we value all people who make a difference.

INKA video  
here

*Join us in Mudgee!*

# 2027 ROTARY DISTRICT 9685 CONFERENCE

Friday, 12 March - Sunday, 14 March 2027

PARKLANDS RESORT, MUDGEE

## — Conference Highlights —



### FRIDAY— CONNECT

Reconnect with fellow Rotarians and friends.



### SATURDAY – COLLABORATE

A full day of ideas, learning and shared experiences.



### SATURDAY AFTERNOON – COUNTRY FAIR

Enjoy local artisans, food and wine in a relaxed country setting.



### EVENING BUSH DANCE

Prizes for the best decorated table, plus a Boot Decorating Competition.



### SUNDAY – CELEBRATE

Celebrate Rotary, friendships and the year ahead.

## — Join Us —



DISTRICT 9685 GOVERNOR  
MICHELE ELLERY  
AND HUSBAND DAVID

*Book Now*



## TICKETS AND PRICING

Early Bird Conference - \$345  
Available until 30 September 2026

Full Conference - \$395  
Available until 28 February 2027

For accommodation options and special deals, visit the conference website:  
[rotarydistrict9685.org.au/page/conference](http://rotarydistrict9685.org.au/page/conference)



# District grants Now Open!

**Up to \$3,000 on  
offer  
Apply via Dacdb**



**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>  
November.  
Grants are  
announced**

**Application  
close Monday  
21<sup>st</sup> September**

## CONTACTS FOR GRANTS:

**PDG Ken hall**  
[ken.Hall@Rotary9660.org.au](mailto:ken.Hall@Rotary9660.org.au)  
0419 613 982

**Glenda Briggs**  
[Glenda.Briggs@Rotary9660.org.au](mailto:Glenda.Briggs@Rotary9660.org.au)  
0408 180 822

## The Rotary Foundation

Thank you for your support of The Rotary Foundation. Your efforts help our programs create positive, lasting change in your community and around the globe. One meaningful way to strengthen that impact is to encourage members to enroll in Rotary Direct, our Foundation's recurring giving program.

Last year, thanks to generous donors, our Foundation was able to fund more than 1,488 global grants, 457 district grants, and 57 disaster response grants to help communities in need. Rotary Direct is one of the easiest and most secure ways for our donors to support this work. Because contributions are automated, donors don't need to send checks or remember to make an annual contribution.

Rotary Direct saves time and reduces administrative costs. It offers flexible giving options to fit every donor:

- Monthly, quarterly, and annual gift options.
- Easy, secure, and automated contributions.

You can invite your members to enroll using any of these options:

- Visit the Rotary Direct page.
- Return a completed Rotary Direct enrollment form.
- Enroll via phone by calling +1-866-976-8279 if in the U.S. or the international office that serves their area.

For more information, you can refer to these frequently asked questions. If you have additional questions, reply to this email or write to our Donor Engagement staff.

Thank you for your dedication to Doing Good in the World.

# The Rotary Foundation

As we begin a new Rotary year, I am filled with optimism about what we can accomplish as leaders together.

Every year offers a new opportunity to strengthen our commitment to service, increase our impact, and build on the incredible work Rotary members are doing around the world. Through The Rotary Foundation, we turn our shared values into meaningful action that brings hope, opportunity, and stability to communities near and far.

Our Foundation provides the support that helps Rotary members create lasting change. Because of generous supporters like you, we're protecting millions of children every year from polio, expanding access to clean water and education, supporting peacebuilding efforts, and responding when communities have faced crisis.

As leaders, we understand the importance of setting the example. That's why I have already made my gift to The Rotary Foundation this year, and I invite you to do the same. A contribution early in the year provides momentum for the months ahead. No matter the size of your gift, your support helps fund sustainable projects that create opportunities, transform lives, and strengthen communities.

I hope you'll join me in making a gift to our Foundation. Together, we can empower Rotary members around the world to continue creating positive and sustainable change.

Thank you for your leadership and for all you do to advance Rotary's mission.

With gratitude,

**Jennifer Jones**  
**2026-27 Trustee Chair**  
**The Rotary Foundation**

insert  
video here

# Australian Rotary Foundation Trust

## The late PDG Maurie and Deidre Stack established with the Australian Rotary Foundation Trust

District 9660 is proud to announce a generous new gift from the late PDG Maurie and Deidre Stack, who have contributed US\$63,000 to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust. Preference will be given to clubs which have never applied for a global grant. The grants are available to support projects in Australia and/or overseas and require an international partner.

The gift will support up to 3 global grants through The Rotary Foundation, focused on one of Rotary's key areas of focus. District 9660 will sponsor the resulting grant(s) in line with current Foundation and TRF guidelines.

We thank Maurie and Dee for their generosity and continued commitment to Rotary's global service mission. Gifts like this one make a lasting difference in communities served by Rotary Foundation grants.

PDG Ken Hall  
Ken.hall@rotary9660.org.au  
0419613982



## ROTARY AWARDS



**The Club Excellence Award.** Each year, Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs can earn this prestigious award for all-around excellence by setting and achieving goals that strengthen the club, the district, and Rotary. When at least 50% of the Rotary clubs in a district earn the Club Excellence Award, the district earns the District Excellence Award. You can find the club excellence goals for Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs, as well as FAQs and more, at [rotary.org/ClubExcellence](http://rotary.org/ClubExcellence). And then track your club or district's progress with the Club Excellence Recipients Report.

Start thinking about recognition early in your term so you don't miss an opportunity to motivate and recognize those club members, community members, and clubs that are making an impact.

**Our RI President Yinka told us to recognise Rotarians who are doing a good job!!  
Do YOU like a reward?? Do you like to be recognised for your good work? The real answer is that everyone likes to receive a compliment!!**

Any questions about Rotary awards, write to our Awards staff at [riawards@rotary.org](mailto:riawards@rotary.org).



# Dollar for Dusty



## A 12-Year-Old's 500km Mission to Bring Healthcare Home

### Introducing little wings

Dusty, 12, from Warren NSW, is walking 500km to Canberra (30 August–14 September) to raise 1 million for Little Wings, a charity providing free flights and transport for seriously ill children in regional NSW, QLD and the ACT to access specialist care at major hospitals.

Dusty's motivation is personal: after his father's car accident, he helped care for his younger brother Angus, who was later diagnosed with Autism, ADHD and a learning disorder through a Little Wings-funded trip to Royal Far West. Getting that diagnosis changed his brother's life, but Dusty knows many regional kids are still waiting, sometimes up to six years, to see a paediatrician.

Little Wings addresses this gap through free medical transport and its Medical Wings program, which flies specialists directly into regional towns for monthly, no-gap-fee clinics a model that's expanded since February 2025 through new community partnerships.

Funds from Dusty's walk will help bring more paediatricians to western NSW. The community is encouraged to donate and share his story, under the message: "No child left behind."

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August to Monday  
14<sup>th</sup> September**

## How can rotarians help?

**SUPPORT THE DOLLAR FOR DUSTY SCHOOL  
OVAL 1KM WALK FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE**

**ROTARY CLUBS LOCATED ALONG DUSTY'S  
WALKING ROUTE ARE INVITED TO HELP**

**DONATE TO FUND A LITTLE WINGS  
FLIGHT, FLYING A PAEDIATRICAN INTO A  
REGIONAL TOWN**

**FOLLOW AND SHARE DUSTY'S JOURNEY**



**ROTARIANS TO SHARE PROPOSAL WITH THEIR  
FEDERAL MEMBER OF PARLIMENT**



**Rotary**  
District 9660



**AUGUST**

# **Membership & New Club Development**



# WORLD POLIO DAY



Imagine bringing your community together for an inspiring night at the movies while helping Rotary achieve its number one humanitarian goal – **Eradicating polio.**

**This World Polio Month 2026**, we're inviting Rotary clubs across Australia to host a Rotary Movie Fundraiser in support of End Polio Now.

This year, we're delighted to partner with **Maslow Entertainment** to offer clubs the opportunity to screen the acclaimed new Australian documentary *Guided by Horses* ahead of, or alongside, its wider cinema release.

## GUIDED BY HORSES

**21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026**

Set against the breathtaking outback, *Guided by horses* tells the remarkable story of an aboriginal professor Juli Coffin and the transformative bonds between young indigenous and wild horses. Touching themes of resilience, hope, connection and healing, it is powerful film that will spark meaningful connections long after the credits roll.

Whether you're planning a club social event, community fundraiser or World Polio Celebration. This is a great opportunity to watch a great film and to raise vital funds for End Polio now

### *How to host a screening:*

- Contact your local cinema
- set your own ticket price
- Invite rotary members, Friend, Family and wider community
- Make the event your own
- Register your details with us

### *World Polio Immunisation*

- World Polio Day Visit October 2026
- National Immunisation day March 2027

**CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**

### *Register your Screening :*

**Please email: [Avenett.bahsin@rotary.org](mailto:Avenett.bahsin@rotary.org)**

- Rotary club name
- Cinema name and location
- screening time and date
- booking link and contact details
- Contact details

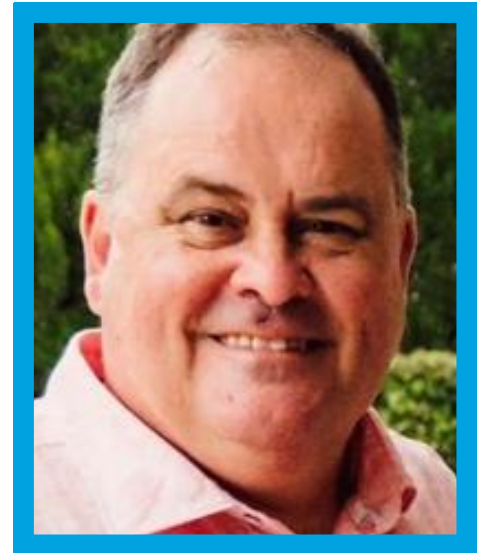


# Rotary community leader

## Bryan Singh- Area 7

**Bryan Singh is a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise (2009).**

He has served the roles of Club President, Secretary, since 2017 he has been Club Executive Secretary & Administration Officer. Bryan has been the Youth Protection Officer for the last four years. Bryan is familiar with District Governance, he has been involved with the Youth Exchange Program as a host parent (alongside my wife Helen) twice and as a YEP Counsellor



Bryan has regularly attended District Conferences and the Rotary International Conference in Melbourne. Outside of Rotary he is on a number of boards and committees, including President of Friends of Nioka, a palliative care charity and the Tamworth Foundation for Musical Education. These roles have included regular stakeholder management, media commitments, advocacy and donor relationships. You'll regularly find Bryan with my five grandchildren who live in Tamworth and Sydney, and over the last 40 years he has been a Director and shareholder of several successful private companies in the commercial property sector which has given me excellent governance, change management and strategic goal setting skills. He prides himself on the values of reliability and walking the walk when you've talked the talk. Speaking of talking, he does that a lot and is someone who is approachable for Rotarians across our region.

Bryan will be working with Barraba, E Club, Manilla, Quirindi, Tamworth, Tamworth Calala, Tamworth First Light, Tamworth Sunshine Interact, Tamworth Sunrise, Tamworth West

**Bryan Singh**  
**0418659834**

**[rcl.area7@rotary9660.org.au](mailto:rcl.area7@rotary9660.org.au)**

# DISTRICT CALENDAR

|                                     |                                                                    |                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>25–27 August 2026</b>            | Science & Engineering Challenge NSW State Final                    |                 |
| <b>30 Aug 2026</b>                  | Board Meeting                                                      | Teams 7:00 pm   |
| <b>7–19 September 2026</b>          | Friendship Exchange                                                | Brazil          |
| <b>20-sept-26</b>                   | goverenace Training                                                | Teams 7-30-8.30 |
| <b>11–13 September 2026</b>         | YEP Outbound Student Briefing                                      | TBA             |
| <b>13-Sep-26</b>                    | RCL Meeting                                                        | Teams 7:00 pm   |
| <b>3–4 October 2026</b>             | RYPEN                                                              | Newcastle       |
| <b>11 Oct 2026</b>                  | Showcase Mandatory Training / Showcase of Projects & Event         | Sawtell         |
| <b>18 Oct 2026</b>                  | Operations Meeting                                                 | Teams 7:00 pm   |
| <b>24 Oct 2026</b>                  | Finance Committee Meeting                                          | Teams 5:00 pm   |
| <b>25 Oct 2026</b>                  | Board Meeting                                                      | Teams 7:00 pm   |
| <b>30 October – 1 November 2026</b> | Zone Conference                                                    | Melbourne       |
| <b>21–22 November 2026</b>          | Showcase & AGM / Mandatory Training / Showcase of Projects & Event | Tamworth        |
| <b>28–30 November 2026</b>          | YEP Outbound Students Final Briefing                               | TBA             |
| <b>7 Feb 2027</b>                   | Operations Meeting                                                 | Teams 7:00 pm   |

# DISTRICT CALENDAR

|                               |                                                                    |               |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>13 Feb 2027</b>            | Finance Committee Meeting                                          | Teams 5:00 pm |
| <b>20–21 February 2027</b>    | Training (Peter Comino Team)                                       | Tamworth      |
| <b>28 Feb 2027</b>            | Board Meeting                                                      | Teams 7:00 pm |
| <b>12–14 March 2027</b>       | District 9685 Conference                                           | Mudgee        |
| <b>20–21 March 2027</b>       | Showcase & AGM / Mandatory Training / Showcase of Projects & Event | Dubbo         |
| <b>28 Mar 2027</b>            | RCL Meeting                                                        | Teams 7:00 pm |
| <b>15 May 2027</b>            | Finance Committee Meeting                                          | Teams 5:00 pm |
| <b>16 May 2027</b>            | Operations Meeting                                                 | Teams 7:00 pm |
| <b>May 28th–June 5th 2027</b> | RYLA                                                               | Grassy Head   |
| <b>30 May 2027</b>            | Board Meeting (Combined)                                           | Teams 7:00 pm |
| <b>12–14 June 2027</b>        | RYPEN                                                              | Bonny Hills   |
| <b>26–30 June 2027</b>        | International Convention                                           | Barcelona     |
| <b>30 Jun 2027</b>            | District Changeover                                                | TBC           |

# ShelterBox

## Off the Grid

This fundraising campaign kicked off on 20 June (World Refugee Day) through to 19 August (World Humanitarian Day). The concept is simple: Get together with friends, family, colleagues etc, camp out and power down for a purpose for 24 hours – experience what life is like for so many without the comforts of (what we know as) home. It's not too late to register and you can do this as a team or an individual by clicking on this link [Off The Grid](#)

If you're not into the camping out part of it, you can still contribute by sponsoring someone who is. Don't know who to sponsor? Go to [Off The Grid](#) A donation to the ShelterBox Australia Conference Team (see below) would be most welcome.

## Shelterbox conference

The annual ShelterBox Conference is happening later this month on the Gold Coast. Volunteers and Board Members will be attending from across Australia. Some attendees will be camping out in tents as part of the Off The Grid fundraising campaign

## Trek4shelter

Are you someone who enjoys the company of others while out on a hike and enjoying the fresh air? This is something for those with a sense of adventure for a purpose - a 4-day hike, 15-18 October. Trek along Stage One of the iconic Hume and Hovell Track in South-Eastern NSW. Your participation will be raising much needed funds to support displaced people around the world following disaster and conflict.



### THANK YOU!

ShelterBox Australia wishes to thank individuals, Rotary Clubs and others for their very generous donations throughout the 2025-2026 financial year. Across Australia, \$1,421,414 which included two generous bequests, was raised.

This is such an achievement given the current challenging financial climate, but will have a lasting impact on the lives of people recovering from disaster or conflict by providing emergency shelter.

On behalf of those we help, THANK YOU!

Rotary  
District 9660



# SAWTELL SHOWCASE

11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER,  
SAWTELL RSL

A day of inspiration, connection and celebration

Showcase, Training,  
Fellowship, & Planning

\$35

This is an opportunity for clubs to showcase the projects you are proud of, create plans for the year ahead, take part in practical training and have real input into the future of Rotary.

It is a day built around the people who do the work, with time to learn from each other, compare what is working and enjoy the fellowship that keeps clubs strong.

**RSVP 2 weeks prior**

**REGISTER NOW**

<https://www.trybooking.com/DNXKW>





# Say No To Domestic Violence



**A District 9660 focus for this year and we are working on a plan.**

Say No to Domestic Violence has partnered with the Bunnings, Police, Rotary, your local Council and other associated activities who are promoting this message.

If your club is in one of these areas , please contact your RCL.

Armidale. Cessnock, Coffs Harbour, Dubbo, Glendale, Maitland, Tamworth, Taree, Wallsend.

Please add 28 November 2026 to your calendar for an all-hands-on-deck for this program. Your Bunnings car park will have all these organisations present, cooking a sausage sizzle and promoting our action for this program. Rotary being seen and being heard.

The aim is that Rotarians would wear their purple DV shirts. NSW Police will wear their uniform, but may wear purple DV aprons. A design for the aprons is being investigated.

Rotary may be able to join the apron brigade.

Your RCL has all the information to date. Start planning with your local police and other groups in your area. A great day to promote Rotary!



## STOP *the* VIOLENCE END *the* SILENCE

**SAY NO TO DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE**



## CREATE LASTING IMPACT



August 2026 | Club Spotlight

### Rotary Club of Taree: From Rural Australia to Saving Mothers' Lives Across Continents

One of Rotary's greatest strengths is that even a regional club can make a global impact. Over the past several years, the Rotary Club of Taree has developed strong international partnerships spanning the Philippines and the Democratic Republic of Congo, bringing together Rotary clubs, governments, hospitals and healthcare professionals with one shared purpose; to improve maternal and newborn health and reduce preventable maternal deaths



In Quezon Province, Philippines, the club recently celebrated the successful implementation of The Rotary Foundation Global Grant GG2689595 – Wheels for Life: Saving Moms & Babies in Quezon Province.

Working alongside the Rotary Club of Lucena, the Provincial Government of Quezon, the Quezon Provincial Health Office and Quezon Medical Center, the project has delivered approximately PHP 6.8 million (USD 119,742) worth of life-saving medical equipment to strengthen maternal, newborn and neonatal services throughout the province.

[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)

This achievement builds on an earlier Balwyn Centenary Grant that equipped the province's Mobile Women's Health Van and supported emergency obstetric services. Together, these complementary projects demonstrate Rotary's commitment to creating sustainable healthcare systems—not simply donating equipment, but strengthening local capacity for years to come.



Meanwhile, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rotary Club of Taree has helped establish a Train the Trainer in Obstetric Emergencies program. Rather than providing one-off education, local doctors and midwives are trained to become educators themselves, creating a sustainable model that continues to multiply skills and save lives long after the initial training has concluded. These projects demonstrate that International Service is about far more than fundraising. It is about building trusted partnerships, sharing knowledge, empowering local communities and creating lasting impact.

## Project Opportunity

Uganda seeks an Australian Rotary partner. Following the success of the Train the Trainer program in the Democratic Republic of Congo, healthcare leaders in Uganda have approached Rotary seeking support to establish a similar program.

We are currently looking for a District 9660 Rotary club interested in becoming the Australian partner for this exciting humanitarian initiative. If your club is looking for a meaningful international project with sustainable, measurable outcomes, I'd love to hear from you.

Email [international.chair@rotary9660.org.au](mailto:international.chair@rotary9660.org.au)

## Global Grant Corner

Start with partnerships—not paperwork. Successful Global Grants begin with strong relationships and genuine community needs. Before discussing budgets or completing applications:

- Build a relationship with your host Rotary club.
- Listen to the community's priorities.
- Design a sustainable project together.
- Then develop the grant application.

The strongest Global Grants are built on trust, collaboration and shared ownership.

## Friendship Across Borders

International Service is also about friendships. This September, a delegation of eight members and friends of Rotary Club of Taree will travel to the Philippines to visit our humanitarian projects, meet local Rotarians and witness first-hand the impact of Rotary's support.

The journey will continue to Japan, where we'll celebrate the 40th Anniversary of our sister club, Rotary Club of Okayama Chuo—a wonderful reminder that Rotary friendships often become lifelong friendships.

## Could Your Club Be Our Next Spotlight?

Every club has a story worth sharing.

Has your club:

- completed an international project?
- partnered with an overseas Rotary club?
- hosted an international friendship exchange?
- started planning a Global Grant?
- developed an innovative humanitarian initiative?

## I'd love to feature your club in a future edition of Rotary Without Borders.

By sharing our stories, we inspire other clubs to think globally while continuing to serve locally.

Feature Your Club in the Next Edition of Rotary Without Borders

Have an international project to share?

Looking for an overseas partner?

Need advice on a District or Global Grant?

[international.chair@rotary9660.org.au](mailto:international.chair@rotary9660.org.au)



**Dr Grace Maano**  
District International Service Chair  
2026-2027  
[rotary9660.international@gmail.com](mailto:rotary9660.international@gmail.com)

# BEYOND OUR Borders

A regular **International Service** update from Rotary District 9660

**“In a world where you can be anything, be kind and make a difference.”**  
— Rotary International

**Rotary**  
District 9660

### ROTARY'S FIVE AVENUES OF SERVICE



**CLUB SERVICE**  
Strengthening fellowship and leadership in our clubs.



**VOCATIONAL SERVICE**  
Using our skills and expertise to serve others.



**COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
Improving lives and strengthening communities.



**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**  
Building relationships and creating hope across borders.



**YOUTH SERVICE**  
Empowering the next generation through opportunities and guidance.

## 2027 Leaders Locked In

Choosing Leaders is the most difficult task we undertake. So many deserving Expressions of Interest were received that we were spoilt for choice. These five successful candidates will continue on their leadership journey. They will undertake specific leadership training and immerse themselves into the 2027 program focusing on peer-led delivery.

### Leaders Leader

Tobi-Lee Clough – RC Tamworth First Light

29th May – 5th June 2027  
Yarra Adventure Park, Stuarts Point

### Leaders

Rosemary Morison – RC Greenhills-Maitland

Colin Fogarty – RC Tamworth First Light

Lacey Treanor – RC Kempsey West

Rueben Baker-Bennic – RC Tamworth First Light

[CLICK HERE FOR APPLICATIONS](#)



**Rotary**  
District 9660



# YOU HAVE A VOICE

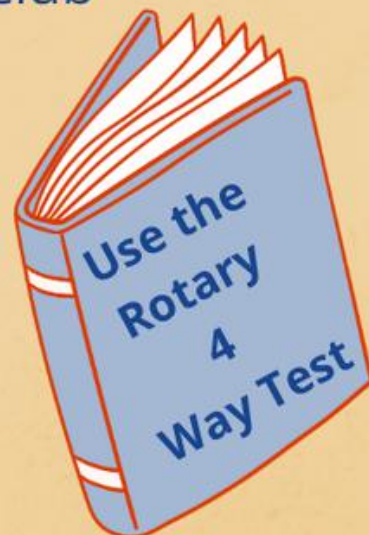
## Rotary Public Speaking Competition

Contact your Rotary Club

**NOW!!**



**Own topic**



**Cash Prizes**

5 minute prepared speech  
2 minute Impromptu





Hosted by  
The Rotary Club  
of Cessnock

# BOOKED OUT

YOU ARE INVITED TO

## Picnic at TIFFANY'S

*A stylish evening inspired by Audrey Hepburn*

If you have been to one of our previous picnics and loved it or you saw our photos and wished you had been there – don't miss out on our next picnic at Tiffany's!

 THE HISTORIC GARDENS OF MARTHAVILLE  
200 Wollombi Rd, Cessnock NSW 2325

 SATURDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

 5.00PM

Ladies, it's time to get dressed up in your favourite black dress and pearls. Add a touch of Audrey elegance with a large brimmed hat, sunglasses, long black gloves or your hair swept up in style.

Gentlemen, please wear smart casual.

*As with our previous picnics, there will be a prize for Best Dressed!*

### TICKETS

**\$25 PER PERSON**  
Bring your own picnic  
food and beverages

**\$55 PER PERSON**  
Picnic hamper provided  
(please bring your own beverages)

*Your ticket includes:*

 LIVE  
ENTERTAINMENT

 DECORATED  
TABLES & CHAIRS

 OUR OWN  
PHOTOGRAPHER

 A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN  
SETTING

FUNDS RAISED TO  
FUND LOCAL  
SCHOLARSHIPS



*Scan the QR code  
to purchase tickets* →



**Are you interested? Ready to Travel?**

**Friendship Exchange District 9660 and District 4845**

Resistencia Oeste in Argentina  
Proposed Date: October/November 2027

Search Resistencia Argentina for more  
information

Express your interest by following the  
link below:



**[Rotary Friendship Exchange – Fill out form](#)**

# DORRIGO 2026

## LIFT THE LID WALK

PHYSICAL HEALTH  
FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH



Contact Sara on 0408 289 365 or  
82capella@gmail.com for more detail

Rotary  
Districts of Australia



# SUNDAY OCT 18TH

FROM 9AM, DANGAR FALLS

\*\* \$30 registration - FREE event T-shirt with early bird registration (29th September 2026) \*\*

[WWW.LIFTTHELIDWALK.COM.AU/DORRIGO](http://WWW.LIFTTHELIDWALK.COM.AU/DORRIGO)

WE **FUND** POSSIBILITY™



Rotary  
Districts of Australia



AUSTRALIAN  
ROTARY  
HEALTH

The health charity Rotary clubs and Rotarians power.

**CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT**

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup>  
August**

**9:30am – 4:00pm**

**Armidale City  
Bowling Club**

10-90 Dumas Road,  
Armidale, NSW 2350

**Cost: \$5**

Lunch + refreshments  
provided

### **Accommodation**

Only required if  
travelling

### **Contact**

James Reilly  
RCL Area 6  
(RC of Walcha)  
0428 771 488

**THIS IS AN  
OPPORTUNITY FOR  
AREA CLUBS TO:**

- Showcase projects
- Create plans
- Participate in training
- Have input into the future of Rotary

**RSVP 2 weeks prior**

**REGISTER NOW**

<https://www.trybooking.com/DNXKW>



**Rotary**  
Club of Sawtell



**FRI SEP 4TH 2026**

# **TRIVIA FUNDRAISER**

**6.30PM ARRIVAL FOR 7.30PM SHARP START**

**TO BENEFIT:  
ROTARY'S YOUTH &  
LITERACY PROGRAMS**

**SAWTELL R.S.L  
PRINCESS ROOM  
\$20 PER PERSON ENTRY  
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!**

**8-12 PLAYERS PER TABLE  
BISTRO OPENS AT 5.00PM**

**PAYMENTS: ROTARY ACC:  
BSB 533-000 ACC:32813836**



**CONTACT ALAN FREEDMAN  
ALAN.L.FREEDMAN@BIGPOND.COM | PHONE 0419 357 864**



**JOIN US TODAY!**

# NEPAL 2027

## FOR ALL ABILITIES

- 11 days
- Introductory Trekking
- Raising vital funds for A4WH hospital in Dolakha
- Meet Dr Ray Hodgson and his team

## MORE INFO



**1300 792 501**

**HUMACHARITYCHALLENGE.COM**

