



ROTARY PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH ACROSS THE NATION

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A Project of the Australian Institute Youth Advisory Committee
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AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROGRAMS & PROJECTS MANUAL JANUARY, 2014

This manual contains information of some of the many activities of the Fifth Avenue of Service operating in Rotary Clubs across our nation.

The Council on Legislation and the Rotary International Board in 2010 accepted New Generations as the Fifth Avenue of Service and in 2013 changed the name to Youth Services.

The first section is the programs and projects from District and Clubs submitted to the Zone 8 New Generations Advisory Committee.

The second section of this publication resource contains Section 8 of the 2013 Manual of Procedure, which covers the structured programs for Youth Services, accepted by Rotary International and the strong emphasis on the importance of child protection regulations and requirements imposed by Rotary International.

Clubs and Districts should also be aware of the various laws and regulations of child protection operating in their State or Territory.

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WELCOME FROM THE AUSTRALIAN ROTARY INSTITUTE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Welcome to “Youth Projects Across The Nation” which introduces an inspiring range of programs for the younger generations in our communities.

Rotary has always focused on making a difference and providing opportunities through creativity, inventiveness and identifying what the needs are in our current society.

Following the Rotary Institute in 2010, the inaugural committee strived to source information on a range of programs across the breadth of Australia and this has been updated as we have learnt of new programs. The publication was printed in hard copy initially, however is now available in soft copy.

From Leadership to Safety, Rural and Literacy, Science & Environment, Vocational and Migrant Integration, Schools Support and Public Speaking; you will be inspired.

We encourage you to share this publication with your fellow Rotarians; its aim is to provide ideas for the Youth Services Avenue of Service to all our Rotary Clubs – from the simple to the complex.

We look forward to working with the young members of our community to make a difference.

I will be completing my three years on this Committee at 30 June, 2014 and appreciate the support of the Institute in approving the resolution to establish this Committee in 2010 and the Australian Districts for their support. The committee during the term have been great contributors and a huge thank you to them for searching out this amazing range of programs.

We welcome new additions to this document, please email to jdowsettcoburn@gmail.com.

Jennifer Coburn
Australian Rotary Institute Youth Advisory Committee
Past District Governor, D9810

1 PUBLIC SPEAKING

PRIMARY LEVELS

1.1 PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPEECH CONTEST

A Speech contest run at club level between local Primary Schools with a maximum of two finalists from each Primary School participate in a final hosted by Rotary Club. Final event is judged by Toastmasters with winners receiving prizes and return to speak at Rotary Club. Can extend to Cluster Group events and then a District Final. The topics are always fun and upbeat, rather than “super serious”.

Program originated in Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, District 9810 and was based on a similar program in Waimate, New Zealand.



1.2 YEAR SIX SPEAKERS

This program is an Inter School Speaking Competition to which all local primary schools in our area are invited. Year 6 students are involved in the competition. This is a program of the Rotary Club of Belrose, District 9680

SECONDARY LEVELS

1.3 FOUR WAY SPEECH CONTEST

This program is designed to promote public speaking in a competition for Year 10 students in District 9810 on the topic of Rotary’s Four Way Test. Rotary Clubs working in partnership with their local schools and Toastmasters International. Benefits to participating students include exposure to the ideals and ethical values of Rotary, proficiency in the art of public speaking and confidence and self esteem gained from presenting to large audiences.

Students are sponsored by Rotary Clubs and present at Cluster semi finals and then at a District Final – with 3 or 4 finalists presenting their final presentation at the District Conference. Program operating in District 9810 and D9685.

1.4 DAVIDSON SPEAKERS

Students from all years at Davidson High School are invited to compete, despite it appearing to be quite unfair. Participants are the students who have returned from various Rotary Youth programmes and are judged by their presentation and coverage of the experience. It assists their public speaking and gives the participants and High School teachers a better understanding of Rotary. This is a project of the Rotary Club of Belrose in D9685.

2 LITERACY

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

2.1 DICTIONARIES FOR GRADE 3 STUDENTS

This program provides each Grade 3 student in local primary schools with their own personal copy of a good quality Dictionary that they can keep and use through both their primary and secondary schooling periods.
[Program run by Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, D9810]



2.2 PRIMARY SCHOOLS CHALLENGE SHIELD

The School's Challenge Shield is designed for all Primary School students from Kindergarten to Year Six. It is designed to add to the literacy skills as well as having a community focus, especially for the Stage Three students. It also gives the students an opportunity to become familiar with the "Rotary name." Staff and parents of each school are also made more aware of the ideals of Rotary. Each year the New Generations committee decides on a theme that is either topical or relevant to the learning of the student.

Students in Kindergarten are asked to colour a given picture or to design their own. Those in Year One and Two are asked to create a piece of artwork depicting the theme. Years Three and Four are invited to create a poster using a medium of their choice. The students from Years Five and Six are invited to submit a piece of writing that not only fits the theme, but shows their understanding of a suitable genre.

This is a project of the Rotary Club of Holroyd, District 9690

2.3 INTERACTIVE WHITE BOARDS IN DISADVANTAGED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Athol Road Primary School West Campus (formerly Springvale South P.S.) were provided with funding from the Rotary Club of Dingley Village to purchase literacy programs for their interactive whiteboards. These programs are used extensively in every classroom, not only with the interactive whiteboards for classroom delivery, but also on stand alone computers by the children to read and write and complete highly engaging literacy activities

2.4 READING VOLUNTEERS – LISTENING TO CHILDREN READING AT SCHOOL

To boost literacy rates in local community, the Rotary Club of Dingley Village have a partnership program with Keysborough Primary School, Coomoora Campus where they provide reading volunteers who listen to the children read in class.

These children predominantly come from non-English speaking homes. Often there is no-one at home with English skills who can hear them read. Sometimes, the parents do not have enough basic

English skills to help their child, or the parents may be working and the children are left with grandparents who have no English reading skills whatsoever.

The clubs helpers attend the school one morning a week between 9.00 and 10.45am. The children are beautiful well-behaved kids who are all very eager to have the one on one reading attention that we can provide. They are mainly Grade 2 and Grade 3 children, and since we started helping them at the beginning of the year their reading skills have improved considerably. We know that we are making a difference in their future life. What will you get out of this project? You will see enormous literacy improvement in the children you help. You will contribute to ensuring that Australia has one of the highest rates of literacy in the first world. But most of all, you will be responsible for transforming the life of a child and helping them with the literacy skills they will need for their future intellectual and social development.

2.5 TALES FROM A DILLY BAG

Tales from a Dilly Bag literacy project assists young Indigenous children and their classmates to develop **Emergent Literacy skills and understandings**. These skills and understandings, developed during the early childhood years, are needed as the foundation for learning to be literate. Children often build a foundation for becoming literate as they talk with others and storybooks are shared with them. The cost is \$750 and the project is coordinated in D9600.

Components of the Dilly Bag kit

- A dilly bag and a large blue plastic box with approximately 55 quality children's picture storybooks including Indigenous stories suitable for very young children;
- A teacher's folder with project information, a DVD with activity sheets to match the picture books and files for 2 scrapbooks that can be printed and used with young;
- Reading mentor badges x10;
- A craft box containing stationery and craft materials;
- A digital camera, case and memory card – (digital photos may be used as a stimulus for writing with young children).

See Website: www.rotary9600.org/literacy

2.6 PRIMARY SCHOOLS ESSAY COMPETITION

This program invites the local Primary Schools to nominate a Grade 5 or 6 student write and present an essay on their topic of choice. The essay is up to 500 words in length. Each school is limited to 3 submissions and the club approaches up to ten schools.

The essays are corrected and marked by two Club appointed judges, usually current or past school teachers. They are either Members or partners of Members of the club. The Winner & Runner-Up are requested to present their essay to the club; with invitations being extended to their Teacher and Parents. The Winner receives \$150 and Runner Up \$75 and their respective schools receiving \$500 & \$250. The winning essays are published in the Rotary Clubs Annual Report. It is important to ensure submitted essays are original & written by the entrant – this can be achieved by them being written as a part of the school curriculum in class time. [Project of RC Noble Park, D9810]

2.7 BOOKS FOR NEW BORN BABIES (RC Healesville)

The club purchases a stock of books such as Possum Magic or 10 Little Fingers and 10 Little Toes and prepares a Rotary label for the inside cover. Each baby born at the Maroondah Hospital is provided with a book. A small bulk supply of books is purchased and often the book presentation becomes a picture article in our local newspaper. [Project of Rotary Club of Healesville, D9810]

2.8 LIBRARY BOOKS FOR KAR KAR ISLAND, PNG

This program involves the collection of library books and packing and shipping them to Kar Kar island, which is about 70 kilometres north of Madang in Papua New Guinea. This community has a Secondary College and ten feeder Primary Schools. It has secondary college and 10 feeder primary schools [Project of Rotary Club of Howrah Rotary Club, D9830]

3 SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS

3.1 NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

The twelve day program introduces students to the myriad of careers open to them in science and engineering in either Canberra or Perth. The students work alongside experts in their respective fields, as well as have access to industry and university laboratories that would not otherwise be open to students. The twelve days are action packed and students report that it has been a life changing opportunity for them.

This is an Australia wide program for all Districts

3.2 SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Originating from the University of Newcastle, the Science and Engineering Challenge is an outreach program conducted by a variety of Universities in association with Rotary. It involves year 9 and 10 students engaging in a number of exciting activities related to science, technology and engineering. Challenges are conducted from March through to July in the region with Super Challenges (State finals) being held in August.

The Grand Challenge which is the National Final is held in October.

This program is operating in a number of Districts throughout Australia including 9685, 9780, 9800, 9830.

3.3 THE SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Three day program of hands on science in 35 Universities and Tertiary Institutions for year 9 and 10 students. Programs are designed to provide students who have an interest in science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of hands-on science activities under the guidance of scientists who love their work.

Participants perform experiments in the laboratories, meet and hear senior lecturers in the lecture theatres, attend site visits and walk around and experience what it is like to be on the campus of a university or tertiary institution.

The program also provides about further studies in science, technology & engineering. It highlights the wide range of careers that allow students to pursue their interest and abilities in the sciences. One aspect of the programs often commented on by participants is the opportunity to meet and share ideas with students from different schools. Each program includes a BBQ or other social activity.

3.4 ROTARY MURRAY – DARLING HEALTH OF THE RIVER SYSTEM YOUTH FORUM

The objective is the learning about the health of our rivers and the ways that river health impacts on our lives. During the drought years in particular, the students have appreciated the opportunity to have hands on experience with environmental issues. The students learn about the biology of the river and the impact of our use of the resource. Program also includes aboriginal cultural content.

This is a joint project between the Rotary Clubs of Sunraysia in D9520 and the Murray-Darling Freshwater Research Centre.

3.5 PRIMARY SCHOOL VEGETABLE GARDEN

This program is where Rotary Clubs support local Primary Schools with the establishment of vegetable gardens in the schoolgrounds. Support can be by assisting with advice, provision of trees for orchard, etc. Schools usually use the produce to cook lunches for the children. The Stephanie Alexander School Gardens scheme is one which Rotary can support in local schools.

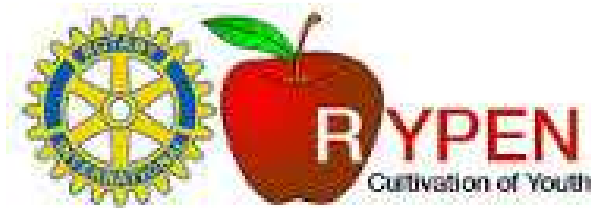
4 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

4.1 ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS [RYLA]

RYLA is a week long residential personal development program for young people aged 18 to 25, which focuses on self development, leadership and community. The RYLA philosophy embraces the idea that concepts such as self-awareness, leadership, responsibility, choice, listening, facilitation, co-operation and community are all relevant to young people. The notion of leadership revolves around these key factors, and RYLA promotes the idea that all young people can be leaders. RYLA is run by all Districts throughout Australia and District 9685 have taken the initiative to run RYLA and RYPEN programs in Timor Leste (in D9550).



4.2 ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT [RYPEN]



RYPEN is a Weekend Live In Leadership Seminar. The stated aim is to communicate to young people a series of ideas, problems and social experiences, which will assist them in forming their own values and moral standards. Development of interpersonal, social and leadership skills are gained in a fun based environment and engaged in enjoyable and interesting experiences. Students are required to be involved through various roles and they are assigned tasks.

4.3 CAMP AWAKENINGS

Camp Awakenings is a two and a half day youth development program for Year nine students. Camp Awakenings is focused on building support networks for the participants through friendship and trust. Through self belief and motivation the participants develop their own methods to counter the challenges faced by youth of today.

During the program, the students participate in many team building activities, attend various presentations on youth related issues and are challenged by various high excitement adventure activities. Camp Awakenings provides students with a supportive environment to grow and develop at their own pace. All students benefit from the Camp in their own unique way. [Project of Rotary Club of Aspendale, D9810]

4.4 RECOGNITION OF YOUTH AWARDS (ROYA)

This programme was set up to mark the 75th anniversary of Rotary and has been conducted ever since. It is far more than just a popular person contest. Rather it seeks to identify involved, concerned young people of all-round ability, already embarked upon community affairs and conscious of opportunities to participate in a wide range of interest groups.

The contest is divided into two sections: Senior 17-19 years and Junior 13-16 years with winners being recognised by trophies and certificates. Further, sponsors of the winning candidates may nominate a charity or approved community service to receive a donation to assist its development.

Whilst there are winners, the main thrust of the program is to recognise and encourage all nominated candidates to continue in their efforts of providing leadership within their own communities. Sponsoring Rotary clubs can give direction and support by nominating outstanding candidates, inviting them to meetings both before and after the contest and by maintaining contact so that avenues of support remain open. This program is run in Districts 9675 and 9685 by the District Youth Committees.

4.5 YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES ASSOCIATION

Youth Opportunities Association (YO) is a not for profit organisation that works in partnership with schools and other organisations to provide young people with Personal Leadership Training (PLT). The Personal Leadership Training works as catalyst for identifying and fulfilling personal potential. Secondary schools throughout South Australia use the PLT to complement their curriculum and attest to the many benefits of the training. Aimed outcomes include more motivated students with a positive confident attitude that results in better marks, retention rates and relationships with peers and teachers.

The Personal Leadership Training, as it is known now, trains young people in the knowledge and skills required for them to live enterprising and successful lives. It teaches them to become leaders of their lives independent of their circumstances.

The PLT involves seminars, an intensive 10 week program and on-going follow up for two years after completion of the program. The intensive 10 week Personal Leadership Program is delivered by two trainers working one day per week for a school term with a group of 12-20 students

4.6 SHINE ON AWARDS



The Theme: Focus on the Abilities of those with Disabilities

The Awards were established to recognise the outstanding community service given by people with disabilities, who by their actions, serve as "shining examples" to the community. Through their

commitment to helping others in the Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self", they provide a significant contribution to the community. The awards are presented each year usually at the Awards Ceremony. The "Shine On" Trophy is specially designed with the Shine On logo.

First presented in Brisbane in 1993, the Shine On Awards was the initiative of Past President Bernie Jaks, AO. From 1993 to 1996 the D9600 committee invited all Clubs in Australia to nominate candidates. Each year a Roll of Honour of awards was sent to Clubs Australia wide. In 1997 and 1998 Victorian Rotary Districts, operating under the auspices of the Queensland committee, conducted its own Awards Ceremony. From 1999, the combined Victorian Districts committee administered the awards in Victoria and established two separate sections, based on common selection criteria, for youth and adults. The Awards Ceremony presentations are now hosted, in rotation, by a club in a different Victorian District annually.

4.7 ACHIEVEMENT

Achievement 2010 is a three day, all inclusive residential workshop held in October annually (Fri to Sun) at a boutique hotel situated in Doncaster. The Faculty for this workshop includes successful business leaders, motivational speakers and high achievers thus providing a unique opportunity for all participants to learn first-hand from successful and motivated people working in diverse areas.



Benefits reported by previous participants include:

- Increased awareness of business process.
- The importance of teamwork at the workplace
- Highlighting the importance of goal setting
- Greater appreciation of personal styles and preferences
- Experiencing a competitive business atmosphere
- The importance of building rapport with people
- Realising that 'winning and losing' really does count in the world of business.
- Improving communication between individuals and managers
- Enhancing motivation to continue learning and personal development, setting clear career goals and an answer to the question, "What's in it for me?"

Participation for this workshop is limited to only 30 places. Achievement is a project of the Rotary Club of Doncaster in District 9810 and has been running the program since 1992.

4.8 PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP

Pride of Workmanship is an approved Rotary project instigated in 1975 by the Rotary Club of Pennant Hills (Australia, District 9680). The Pride of Workmanship Program enables managers in our society to help employees achieve the goal of job satisfaction, and publicly recognize them for their efforts.

Participating businesses promote the Pride of Workmanship theme of "Do it once- do it well" throughout their organization and nominate employees worthy of recognition, not only within the organization, but the wider community. Nominees of the Pride of Workmanship Program are presented with a trophy in recognition of their achievements.

4.9 REGIONAL YOUTH TRANSITION SEMINAR (RYTS)

RYTS was started in 1984 by a group of Rotaractors who felt that young people about to leave school could benefit from additional life skills. RYTS is a week of interaction with highly qualified people who give their time freely to be involved. RYTS is also about raucous laughter and sensitive sentimental moments, loud music and some quiet effective times with fellow attendees many of whom will become lifelong friends. Participants may even shed a tear or two when they leave. The RYTS team consists of young adults, a little older than the participants, who have seen the advantages of RYTS and return annually to be the leaders.

RYTS is about the participants as they approach a time in life which comes with major changes in lifestyle, new freedoms, hopes, aspirations and opportunities, to put into affect long held ambitions, and acceptance of more serious responsibilities. Its Motto is: You Can Be What You Believe You Can Be

[RYTS is a project of District 9640]

4.10 ROTARY ADVENTURE IN CITIZENSHIP

This program, run in partnership with the Parliamentary Education Office, is held in Canberra annually (May). It is an intensive, week long program to prepare 45 young adults for full participation as citizens of Australia. The program puts the participants "Inside Canberra". The program commenced in 1990 and is run by the Rotary Clubs of Canberra and Woden. The contacts of Rotarians build the program into a broader one than a "school trip to Canberra" with delegates being home hosted by families in Canberra. The program is for Year 11 or equivalent students. Website is www.raic.org.au. Cost of the program in 2011 was \$1,000. All participants are to be sponsored by a Rotary Club.

[RAIC is a project of Rotary Club of Canberra, Rotary Club of Woden, D9710]

4.11 PRIMARY SCHOOLS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Initiated by the Rotary Club of Mordialloc and Mentone Primary School, the leadership conference brings together student leaders from local cluster schools. The leaders – normally grade 5 and 6 students – work with presenters and rotary members to develop skills and programs to allow leadership programs to develop at their individual school. [Program of RC Mordialloc, D9810]

4.12 YEAR 9 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The age difference might be 60 + years, however the discussion of teenage years and how they differ for the 15 year olds of 2011 and those born in the 1930's or before, is worth listening to. The Rotary Clubs of Mordialloc, Aspendale, Braeside, and Chelsea combine to provide members who are interviewed by students of Parkdale Secondary College. Discussions range over- family life when growing up, expectations, work life, educational opportunities – the agenda is open – the interaction is fantastic. [Project of RC Mordialloc, D9810]

4.13 YOUTH LED DEVELOPMENT FORUM (YLDF)

The YLDF began in 2013 with Macquarie University in February. With equal numbers of participants from Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea and Australia , the program includes workshops and top level guest speakers over three days. Designed to assist developing country youth and provide a cultural exchange for students from the three countries. The Timor Leste participants are all RYLA alumni and selected by Rotary.

4.14 RELAYID: ROTARY EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR YOUTH WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

This is based on the RYLA model, but is designed for those with special needs. It runs for three days. It is a District program run By D9670.

5 RURAL FOCUS

5.1 DEFYING THE DRIFT

Over a weekend, a seminar will be conducted at the Marcus Oldham College in Geelong involving young people from the Mallee and areas throughout District 9780. The purpose of the project is to encourage young people to pursue careers in agriculture and stop the drift of the young into the cities. The program includes leadership, team building, community mapping to determine who and what is in their local community. The participants get to understand who are the decision-makers and how that translates into opportunities for themselves and understand the value of networking. Students also meet a group of regional Victorians who had developed careers in agriculture who provide inspiration to the participants. This is a project of District 9780.



5.2 AUDI VICTORIA ROTARY YOUTH SQUAD

This program allows selected youth from Regional Victoria a chance to enjoy a memorable experience via participation in Australia's largest sailing event, Audi Victoria Week. Those selected have the opportunity to take part in the annual passage race from Melbourne to Geelong aboard a competing yacht. Participants also enjoy being a guest at the annual Australia Post Australia Day Luncheon where they have the opportunity to mix with celebrities and dignitaries.

"The core objective was to connect Regional Victoria to the metropolitan Australia Day celebration, thus creating a wide eyed, awe inspiring 'day in the life of Australia Day experience.'" John Bertrand A.M. Melbourne Metropolitan Rotary Clubs are invited to host the six students, male and female, age from 15yrs to 17 yrs, for the duration of the program, around the Australia Day celebrations. This is a project of District 9800.

5.3 VICTORIAN AGRICULTURAL SHOWS RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

The Rural Ambassador Award is conducted annually by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Ltd and Victorian Agricultural Shows Ltd. In the 2010/11 Rotary year, the Victorian Districts have been invited to become partners in the program. Rotary's role will evolve in future years with the promotion of the program and nomination of new candidates in the new RAS year.

The aims of the award are:

- To highlight the talent, creativity and ingenuity of young rural Victorians and in doing so, to encourage entrants to be role models across local communities.
- To encourage and reward enthusiastic, skilful and industrious young people living, or having an involvement, in rural environments.
- To assist all entrants, through their participation, to develop strong communication and leadership qualities.

- To enable entrants to gain a greater proficiency in their chosen field(s) and to develop their reputations and statures in those fields.

5.4 THE AGRICULTURAL SKILLS & TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE (TASTE)

TASTE is a program for Year 10, 11 and 12 students held at two campuses of the Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC) in Queensland during the June/July and September/October school holidays. The four-day program is designed to help young people explore agricultural training opportunities and engage in training for different types of careers in the rural industry. TASTE gives students an appreciation of innovative technologies and the specific practical skills used across a wide range of career fields.

What will you do at TASTE?

Throughout the four days of the program you will live and breathe the rural experience in areas such as operating machinery and equipment, riding motorcycles and quad bikes; feeding livestock; exploring the science behind agriculture; and using GPS equipment for locating and plotting positions. If your interest is in horticulture, cropping or how you can make a difference to the environment this program is perfect. Depending on your choice of campus you could be introduced to horse riding, working livestock, handling wool or caring for the environment.

Other activities during the week include farm walks, tours of local agricultural and horticultural enterprises and interactive training demonstrations. The program is not just about experiencing the facilities and the training however, it also focuses on getting students to participate in a variety of group activities developing their problem solving and communication skills and the conceptual thinking which will be integral to success in their studies and jobs. Students will have heaps of fun along the way with a variety of social activities planned, which were a big hit with previous participants. TASTE is a great way to explore your options for the future [Program of District 9570]

5.5 ARETHUSA COLLEGE, BRIBIE ISLAND ROTARY BEEF CATTLE PROJECT

A joint community project between Arethusa College (a special school serving the needs of students with learning and social difficulties) and the Rotary Club of Bribie Island (D9600, Qld). Foodbank (Australia's largest hunger relief organization) will distribute beef provided by the program to hungry and homeless families through their network of over 300 charities around Australia.

The students help to raise and manage pedigree beef cattle. Some are retained for breeding, others will be fattened, slaughtered and donated to Foodbank.

The project is noteworthy, because:

- It satisfies requirements of The Rotary Foundation in addressing the alleviation of poverty, hunger, education and health(mental) and is sustainable in the long term, qualifying for a District TRF grant.
- It provides animal-assisted therapy to the students involved, helping them to develop empathy and responsibility, as well as vocationally-based education.
- It involves a cooperative relationship between a Rotary Club and a community school providing education for students with special needs.

- It has been recognized with a local Impact Award from the Schools First Initiative, which is a partnership of National Australia Bank with the Foundation for Young Australians and Australian Council for Educational Research. The \$50,000 award to the school is specifically for expenditure on this project. These awards are made to schools that have an established community partnership which is delivering meaningful, positive, student outcomes.
- It is an action-oriented service project which has attracted significant local and regional publicity for Rotary and Arethusa College. [Program of RC Bribie Island, D9600]

5.6 ROTARY YOUTH CROPS, AGRONOMY AND GRAIN SEEDS (RYCAGS)

Run by District 9670, the program goes for three days and provides students with the opportunity to learn about the farming and grazing industries.

5.7 ROTARY YOUTH COTTON PROGRAM (RYCOTT)

Run by District 9670, the program goes for three days and provides students with the opportunity to learn about the cotton industry.

6 COMMUNITY FOCUS

PRIMARY LEVEL

6.1 EARLYACT CLUB

EarlyAct™ is a school-wide service club for primary school students, sponsored by a local Rotary Club.

In Australia, Earlyact operates as a voluntary club from Years 4 to 7 [9 to 12 year olds]. In the USA and South Africa, it operates with a different model with representatives from all classes in the school much the way our Student Councils operate in our schools now. The mission and operation of EarlyAct™ are closely linked to the ideals of Rotary and provide the foundation and natural succession into Interact into High School. EarlyAct operates in districts throughout Australia, but not all. [D9550, 9600]

6.2 ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION

Promote the recognition of ANZAC Day by young people in schools throughout Rotary District and municipality leading up to the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign in 2015. Two students from each school lay a wreath at the Cenotaph. Dignitaries also lay wreaths from Council, RSL, Rotary, Members of Parliament, etc. This project is now run by a number of clubs in District 9810 and was initiated by the Rotary Club of Templestowe.

6.3 PRIMARY SCHOOLS FRIENDSHIP AWARDS

The friendship award concept is for the girl and boy who will support their classmates and those in lower grades by providing guidance and counselling to those who seek assistance or who are perceived to need assistance. They are role models for their peers. Often the winners are not the brightest, fastest, most popular etc. but the student who is caring. This is a project conducted by the Rotary Club of Hampton in District 9810.

6.4 ART CONTEST (Both Primary & Secondary)

To provide open communication with our local primary and secondary schools and encouraging the support of Art in the community. The theme of the project is always the promotion of Rotary. The project commences in February and is completed in June with judging and award presentations. This project is run by the Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook in District 9685

6.5 PRIMARY SCHOOLS CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

To promote good citizenship by recognition of the students, usually 1 boy & 1 girl from all schools in club area. During the presentation evening, a suitable guest speaker addresses the audience on the relevant issues of good citizenship through positive actions in all areas of the community. A photographer is present and photos may be purchased from him. He does individuals and group photos and this avoids parents running up taking photos & interrupting the proceedings. This is a project of the Rotary & Rotaract Clubs of Burwood in District 9675.

SECONDARY LEVEL

6.6 INTERACT CLUB

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Club membership varies greatly. They can draw from the student body of a single school or from two or more schools in the same community.

Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through these efforts, Interactors develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of

- Developing leadership skills and personal integrity
- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas, Interact has become a worldwide phenomenon. Almost 200,000 young people are involved in Interact.

6.7 CITIZENSHIP AWARDS – SECONDARY

Awarding of a Citizenship Award for student who displays community endeavour and success in their schooling. The students are selected by the school to be recipients of the recognition. [Project of Rotary Club of Beaumaris D9810]

6.8 LORD SOMERS & POWERHOUSE CAMPS

These camps are organized through Lord Somers & Powerhouse which is a not-for-profit youth organization. Camps are held in January for young people aged 16.5 to 18 years. The purpose of the annual camps is to bring together young people from across the entire spectrum of society by selecting an equal mix of candidates from secondary colleges, private schools, industry and commerce and welfare groups. Year 11 students are preferred.

The Camp aims to break down superficial social barriers and provide a source of inspiration and aspiration to our youth. Through carefully selected activities the camps underline the value and satisfaction of teamwork, loyalty, tolerance and respect for different viewpoints and develops leadership skills. The motto is "Play the Game" and to be involved. District 9800 is involved in this program.

TERTIARY LEVEL

6.9 ROTARACT CLUB

Rotaract is a professional development, leadership and community service organization for young men and women between the ages of 18 to 30, focusing on the development of young adults as leaders in their communities and workplaces.

Most Rotaract activities take place at club level – meeting on a fortnightly basis, with focus on service projects and engagement. The purpose of Rotaract is to provide an opportunity for young men and women to enhance their knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address the physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service.



Rotaract clubs are sponsored and supported by a single or cluster of Rotary Clubs. Rotaract is a re-emerging part of Rotary and growing steadily throughout Australia. It now has a National Structure. Refer to website: www.rotaract.org.au

6.10 EQUIPMENT FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRES / HOUSES

This project is based on a grant approach to assist programs conducted in local Neighbourhood Houses or Centres. Contact is made with the Centre to seek information on their needs for programs they are conducting for our new generations including teenagers. Clubs involved in this area have supported programs including toys for the Parent / Children Room, Child Proof Fencing & Gates for the Centre. Purchase of musical instruments and reading books are also suitable projects. In some areas, clubs have assisted in the establishment of a community garden at the Centre.

6.11 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM FOR ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

This project is one of support for local organisations who apply for funding from the Rotary Clubs "Community Grants Program" where organisations can apply for a maximum of \$2,000 for their needs. The organisation must have an ABN and reside or main focus be in the local municipality.

There is no restriction on the use of the Grant Money i.e. we have supplied for funding for things as diverse as the purchase of a vacuum cleaner, to whiteboards, to play equipment, a venetian blind, equipment for Scout Jamboree, etc etc.

The Rotary club advertises in the local Newspaper together with an Application Form. Grant recipients are invited to a club dinner when the cheques are presented. Most years we expend around \$8,000 - \$9,000.

6.12 BUILDING OF PLAYGROUND IN RURAL COMMUNITY

The Rotary Club of Huntingdale initiated a project in the township of Rainbow to assist in the funding of a Childrens Playground. In a linking of community organisations, the local shire sourced grants and the project grew with the Council managing the project. A working bee for the installation was held with the club involved in travelling from the city to the country to work on the project. [Project of RC Huntingdale, D9810]

6.13 SCHOOL “REMOVAL OF GRAFITTI” KITS

This project assists local schools with the provision of “Graffiti Removal Kits” to ensure school buildings / fences are maintained in a graffiti free state.

6.14 DEBUTANTE BALL

Several clubs throughout Australia hold Annual Debutante Balls where students are presented to the Club President or District Governor and local Mayor.

The Debutantes (Debs) are traditionally sourced from mainly year 11 students at a number of local colleges / high schools enjoy presenting their dances during the course of the evening ranging from Waltz numbers to the Rumba, Cha Cha Cha's, evening three step and sundry other variations. Healesville usually has 20 to 30 debutantes each year.

The Debs rehearse on a weekly basis under the authoritative direction and guidance of a dance instructor who may be a member of the local club or a volunteer Dance Instructor who is happy to assist Rotary. Rotarians should be on hand to supervise all training sessions and at the Ball. The evenings are always a delightful revelation with the girls stunning in their formal evening gowns and the boys decked out in their dinner jackets, always having come a long way in the preparation time. The Charity Deb ball is not only a Community project, but is often a key fundraiser for the Rotary Club. [Project organized by RC Altona City - D9800; Emerald & District - D9810; RC Healesville – D9810]

7 ASSISTING UNDERPRIVILEGED

7.1 BACKPACKS PROJECT

The Rotary Club of Bayside [D9810] conduct an Annual Literacy Backpack Project, usually at the beginning of the year, so it is complete in time for children to go back to school. This innovative project was started in 2006 to support the educational needs of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Funds are raised to purchase backpacks that the club filled with educational supplies. Considerable thought was placed into purchasing these items so that they were attractive to young people and that they felt comfortable attending school with the “right” materials. Items such as brightly coloured gel pens, textas, coloured pencils, glitter glue, lunch boxes and exercise books were included. The recipients of the Backpacks are sourced through other relevant organisations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, local Rotary Clubs in rural areas affected by weather conditions (flood / drought) or local Council / Church groups. The club have provided their backpacks to assist children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use and are now in the care of extended family (kinship care). [Project of RC Bayside, D9810]

7.2 SPONSORSHIP OF EDUCATION COSTS FOR STUDENTS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Sponsoring the education of two students from Papua New Guinea who come from poor villages with very little opportunity for a further education. The Rotary Club pays their university and school fees and assists with other costs such as transport and school books.

One student is studying Agriculture at Rabaul University and the other student is completing her senior high school studies. [Project of RC Beaumaris, D9810]

7.3 CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Rotarians provide Christmas presents to be distributed to disadvantaged children in and around Melbourne. Link with local Council Social Services, Salvation Army or other Church / Welfare organizations to identify those in need. Another option is to do this in conjunction with a Soup Van and distribute gifts at Christmas.

The Koonung Secondary Interact Club [D9810] established a Christmas Giving Tree at the School and invites students, staff and their families to place gifts at the tree. Additionally, they run a fundraiser to raise funds for additional gifts. They utilise the services of the Salvation Army to distribute the gifts to those in need.

7.4 FUNDING OF SWIMMING LESSONS FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

The Rotary Club of Dingley Village assists students who cannot swim by funding the cost of their swimming lessons. This has a dual impact of firstly assisting the students in learning to swim, but secondly, by ensuring they are not left out at school activities. The school assists in advising the club of situations where support is needed in a discrete manner.

[Program of Rotary Club of Dingley Village, D9810]

7.5 SUPPORT OF ORPHANAGES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

There are Orphanages in many countries which are actively supported by Rotary Clubs. The types of support varies from club to club and district to district; but the following are some of the ways clubs are engaged:

- Development of gardens / farms to provide supply of food for the children
- Water conservation tanks to assist with fresh water, water for food crops, and for animals
- Health checks and immunizations
- Hygiene education and support
- Water & sanitation
- Cooking facilities – pots, etc
- Blankets and clothing

7.6 SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

There are schools in many countries which are actively supported by Rotary Clubs. The types of support varies from club to club and district to district; but the following are some of the ways clubs are engaged:

- Establishment of Computer Facilities – Laptops for children to learn basic Computing Skills
- Provision of Solar Power at school – to enable computers to be utilized by students and staff
- Establishment of Library with new books and other literacy aids
- Provision of teaching aids
- Provision of water & sanitation
- Provision of seating in school yard for children
- Provision of educational necessities – blackboards, chalk, library books, school desks, flip charts, stationery, class text sets, mathematics tools, musical instruments, art & craft materials, exercise books
- Provide and install playground equipment and sports equipment for schools'
- School garden / farm to supply food for children
- Establishment of Childrens Reading Rooms in Schools and/or community halls.

7.7 ABCD – ART BUILDING CHILDREN'S DREAMS

ABCD stands for "Art Building Children's Dreams" and was adopted as a major International project by the Rotary Club of Templestowe during 2009. The project has been incorporated as a separate entity and has its own website www.abcdreams.org.au. The ABCD concept is very simple: children in disadvantaged communities paint or draw a picture of their dreams. The drawings are combined with photographs and stories to create a very special and unique work of art. This in turn is sold and 100% of the proceeds go to pay for the child's education.

The objectives are to provide scholarships, bursaries and prizes to children in developing nations to assist with their education and to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the arts from children in developing nations through presentations, seminars and fundraising events. [Project of Rotary Club of Templestowe, D9810]

7.8 COMMUNITIES IN NEED: CONSTRUCTION PROJECT THROUGH APPRENTICE PROGRAM

District 9810 in partnership with Box Hill Institute have developed a partnership to work together to fund and deliver humanitarian building projects in third world countries and Australian nearer neighbours. They have completed projects in The Solomon Islands and Timor Leste. The projects are registered with RAWCS and the participants in the program are led by an experienced Rotarian who has strong trade skills and international volunteering experience. The participants in the team include up to two trade teachers and eight apprentices in the range of trades.

The projects are funded through fundraising and club contributions so that apprentices who would otherwise not have an opportunity to gain international volunteering experience can take part. The local community will also assist.

Box Hill Institute have as one of their key approaches to education: A culture of community involvement. This program brings the community and the Institute together in a meaningful project. The total cost of the project is generally at least approximately \$40,000. [Project of District 9810]

7.9 BIRTHING KITS FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The packing and shipping of Birthing Kits to Papua New Guinea is an important project which supports mothers in the birth of their babies. With the basic essentials of an Underpad, Examination Gloves, Gauze Squares, Soap, Scalpel Blade and Cotton Tape – the club sources, pack and ship 1000 annually to PNG.

These are shipped to a local hospital for use by the Nurses in their roles assisting the mothers. The kits are boxed up and shipped in containers where space permits for a contribution towards the cost of the container via the Donations In Kind store. [Project of Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, D9810]



7.10 BABY BUNDLES FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

This program was initiated to support needy families that reside in the City of Knox who have recently given birth, or are about to have a new baby. The names of these families are usually provided to us by local support agencies. Privacy laws mean that the agency must obtain permission to pass the contact information onto us.

Once the permission is provided, the recipient is called and the offer of assistance is made. The answers can vary from baby formula, bottles, sterilizers, clothes or blankets. Where possible, a book for the mother to share with the child and a small toy may be included. If the baby has not been born, a toiletries bag for the mum may also be made up. The most frequent request is always nappies. Each hamper is made up individually to the value of \$150.00. At times the project was able to source donations of baby goods such as creams, dummies, bottles etc, so they have also been included. Once everything is put together the hamper is placed in a bag donated by Toys R Us at Knox City. A "With Compliments" card from The Rotary Club with a short note is also included in

the pack. The recipient is again contacted and the hamper is delivered with the assistance of another member of the club. [Project of the former Rotary Club of Wantirna, D9810]

7.11 WOMENS FOUNDATION OF NEPAL – CHILDRENS SUPPORT

In partnership with the RC of Kathmandu, this program supports the health, welfare and education of approximately seventy children at the Womens Foundation of Nepal. Agriculture production (mushroom and soy beans) and crafts (scarves, clothing) have been established and the necessary skills are taught - this activity provides a growing income.

Education programs are provided to equip the children to enter primary school. Three of the children, through the financial generosity of members, have been brought to Australia to undertake TAFE / University courses. Funding comes from local fundraising, individual donations and donations from other Rotary clubs. [Project of Rotary Club of Healesville, D9810]

7.12 CHILDRENS NUTRITION AND HEALTH

In Kariakomo, Kenya and Nanziga, Uganda, there is a project to provide milking cows and goats, support for animal husbandry, vegetable growing (using the manure) to enhance the nutrition and health of children in orphanages and with widows trying to look after many children left alone because of the ravages of AIDS.

In addition, in Kariakomo, the project is also building and furnishing nine classrooms and a library. Funding comes from local fundraising, individual donations and donations from other Rotary clubs. [Project of Rotary Club of Healesville, D9810]

8 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

8.1 MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY

Model United Nations Assembly is a “replication of the United Nations”. It is open for Secondary Students with pairs of students representing a country and debating a number of resolutions from that countries perspective, as though they are sitting in the United Nations. Students dress in “attire to represent their respective country.”



The purpose of MUNA is to encourage young people to learn about other nations and to understand and appreciate the workings of the United Nations while they develop debating skills and gain self confidence in public speaking. MUNA is now held in many districts since its inception in NSW. Districts 9685, 9570, 9800, 9810 and 9830.

8.2 YOUTH EXCHANGE

8.2.1 Long Term Youth Exchange



Provide secondary school students aged 15 to 18 sponsored by a Rotary Club, with the opportunity to live and study abroad with a host family for one academic year, to learn a new language; a new way of living and a great deal about themselves. Exchange students are part of the ambassadorial team of Rotary International promoting international goodwill, peace and understanding. Youth Exchange students spend one year living in another town / city, usually hosted by 3 or 4 host families. Students become a part of those families and their community. All students are provided with a Rotary Counselor – both in home country and exchange country. Long Term Exchange is conducted by districts throughout Australia.

8.2.2 Rotary Australia New Zealand Student Exchange (Short Term)

This Exchange Program involves individual students exchange to New Zealand for a 3 month period. It is run by some Districts in Australia and all New Zealand Districts. It is designed for 14 to 16 year olds to experience a “true exchange” with a family in the other country. New Zealand students come to Australia and attend school with their matched student here during Term 2. Both students return to New Zealand and attend the New Zealand student’s school during Term 3. Each year, it alternates as which country goes first. In 2011, there were approximately 120 students from Australia and New Zealand involved in the program. This Exchange is available throughout Australia, but not all Districts take part.

8.2.3 Pacific Australia Cultural Exchange (PACE)

PACE is an international goodwill program for young people. It was devised to offer the advantages of an exchange program to young people who would have difficulty nominating for the longer term Youth Exchange Program. It has successfully conducted exchanges for students aged 14-17 between Australia and nations of the Pacific area since its inception in 1983.

The exchange, as its name implies, is a cultural program aimed at developing understandings between nations and promoting goodwill for all concerned. After a rigorous selection process, successful applicants are required to attend briefing sessions to outline the objectives of the program and to become conversant with facets of the intercultural experience.

Students depart Australia in late December to return one month later in time to continue normal school studies. Whilst they are overseas, many families welcome students from the exchange countries into their homes to share lifestyles and enjoy cultural differences. [Program of former District 9690 – now 9675 / 9685]

9 SAFETY OF NEW GENERATIONS

9.1 ROTARY YOUTH DRIVER AWARENESS [RYDA]

The RYDA program is facilitated in partnership with Rotary. It initiated in District 9680 in New South Wales. The program is organised by Rotary Clubs in many districts throughout Australia (ie NSW, Qld, SA, Tas and WA). The objective is to reduce the number of vehicle accidents involving young people and death and serious injuries incurred.

The RYDA program was developed in response to the tragic loss of young people in road accidents. Young people aged 17 to 25 represent less than 15% of the population, yet account for over one quarter of deaths and injuries on our roads. The program is a community based road initiative, aiming to deliver practical road safety information, targeting “attitude and awareness” of young drivers and passengers. It also serves to supply an informative road safety education resource to secondary schools and establishes in students a positive attitude to responsible motoring. Most importantly, the program creates an understanding through the school community to the broader community that road safety is an inherent problem in our society and that we have an individual and collective responsibility for the safety, health and security of each other. [RYDA is held in Districts 9690, 9520, 9550, 9600, 9800, 9830]

9.2 YOUTH SUICIDE AWARENESS

In Australia, young people are the only group whose health has not improved over the past three decades. Suicide is the largest single cause of death of teenagers, and represents 19% of all deaths between the ages of 10 and 24. Sadly for each reported suicide, there are more than twenty suicide attempts in this age group. Its causes remain perplexingly complex, but common risk factors can be identified. Many victims have experienced bullying at school. Most have never received any form of counseling. More than one third has experimented with illicit and prescribed drugs. Many have come into contact with the police. Significantly, more than half have experienced a recent break-up in a relationship with a boyfriend or girlfriend. More than 75% of all mental health problems manifest themselves before the age of twenty five, so it is critical that an approach based on early intervention is taken.

Many Rotary Clubs in District 9800 and beyond have acknowledged this need, providing financial support to the Centre for Adolescent Health where no fewer than eight major research projects with immediate relevance to youth suicide are underway or have recently been completed. This ground-breaking research informs staff providing a Graduate Diploma in Adolescent Health and Welfare for professionals who work directly with young people and who, at the completion of the two year program are better prepared to recognize, and deal with, the early warning signs of mental ill-health within the communities of young people with whom they work.

Since 1996, your Youth Suicide Awareness Committee has sought funding from Rotary Clubs for teachers, police officers, youth and social workers, school nurses and corrections officers to complete the Graduate Diploma in Adolescent Health & Welfare. The course is administered by the University of Melbourne and the Centre has close ties with the Royal Children’s Hospital. While the treatment of mental health illness is a key component of the work at the Centre, the emphasis is

primarily on young people in the settings in which they live and work – not in psychiatric clinics. The Centre's primary focus is upon early interventions, providing a holistic and practical approach that professionals can use in their work-places.

District 9800 have a committee focussed on this important area. The committee is happy to organise Guest Speakers for clubs or other events in their District.

District 9640 also have a District Committee who promotes the awareness of the serious problem of youth suicide and provides information to clubs and individuals with the aim of reducing the incidence of youth suicide.

9.3 CAR TORQUE 3777

Car Skills for Life: This program is operated through the Healesville Living and Learning Centre and assists youths in their application to learn and develop motor mechanical skills. Sessions are run on a weekly basis. Car Torque program is in partnership with Healesville High School (who supply the students), local Police, motor mechanics and emergency services (CFA, SES). Members of Healesville Rotary Club are involved in providing a 20 week program of motor mechanics and driver safety education to a small group of middle and senior secondary students. With access to a fully equipped workshop, participants can rebuild a car, take part in advanced driving courses and meet people who share a similar passion for cars.

This program is in its fifth year and forms part of the formal education provided by the High School. The Rotary Club makes an annual donation to support this program. [A Project of the Rotary Club of Healesville, D9810]

9.4 CONCERN AUSTRALIA HAND BRAKE TURN (SPONSORSHIP OF PARTICIPANTS / PROGRAM)

Hand Brake Turn program provides hand-on training in practical real-world skills together with social support, the program aims to transform the lives of young people aged 15 to 19 who have had difficulty within the mainstream education system. Handbrake Turn combines eight weeks of intensive training in automotive with social skills development and is followed by up to 12 months of job-search and personal support. The unique experience based around a Nationally accredited Qualification in Automotive aims to transform young peoples' negative life beliefs which in turn open doors to employment and assists in their engagement with positive social communities. During the training, the young people also participate in the Community Car Donation project in which a vehicle is restored and made roadworthy, then donated to a local victim of crime or a family in need in the local community.

Scholarship sponsors will receive course updates, invitations to graduation ceremonies and formal Hand Brake Turn events and media opportunities organised by Hand Brake Turn Staff. [Program supported by Rotary Club of Forest Hill, D9810]

9.5 RIGHT STEPS PROGRAM (SPONSORSHIP OF PARTICIPANTS)

Right Step is a new, innovative program run by Youth Connect in conjunction with the Victoria Police and Moorabbin Justice Centre which is aimed at reducing youth recidivism amongst 10-18 year olds.

It involves a program of life skills, capacity building, information and referral, mediation and mentoring and will involve 120 young offenders over a three year period.

The program is unique and groundbreaking for Victoria. Police and magistrates will be able to refer young offenders at risk of further youth or adult criminal behaviour to Right Step, potentially curtailing the need for further police involvement or progression into the justice system. The program's primary target group are those young people under police caution or being dealt with through the new Moorabbin Justice Centre.

All young people targeted for Right Step support will be at high risk of recidivist behaviour and in need of individualised, early intervention support to prevent them becoming an ongoing risk to themselves and general community well-being and safety. The program will be overseen by a steering group made up of partner community agencies in addition to Victoria Police and Moorabbin Justice Centre (Magistrate Court). [Program supported by Rotary Club of Bentleigh Moorabbin Central, D9810]

9.6 JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRE – CHRISTMAS CARDS PROGRAM

This project provides a stock of Christmas Cards to the juveniles in the Detention Centre to enable them to send Christmas Cards to their family and friends. This provides an invaluable support at this difficult time of the year for themselves personally and their families. [Program of RC Forest Hill, D9810]

9.7 CYBER BULLYING INFORMATION EVENING

Following a visit and presentation by Secondary School Students from the Bayside area, this opportunity evolved. The students provided a very insightful and educational talk on the risks facing modern youth in a virtual world. The clubs involvement was as a partner in an Information Evening open to the general public organized by the City Council. As this program was held in conjunction with the Council, it involved no financial outlay by the Club. Any similar program held by other Clubs would be of interest to a wide range of group and ages within a local area. [Project of RC Bayside, D9810 – 2009]

9.8 WALK THE TORQUE

Walk the Torque is a community event, consisting of a 10Km cross-country fun run, and a 5Km event for family members to run, jog, or walk. Sponsorship money, and money raised will be used to benefit senior school students, plus other young P-Platers and Learner Drivers, with educational and practical courses on safe driving.

The Manningham City Council, through its *Drive Alive Today Tomorrow (DATT)* committee, took the initiative to improve the safety and driving attitude of young drivers, following the unacceptably high road toll – death and serious injury – among this age group.

The committee commissioned the *Rotary Club of Doncaster Sunrise*, now merged with the *Rotary Club of Doncaster*, to organise the event. *Walk the Torque 2011* is the fourth annual event to be

held, previous events having helped to subsidise the costs of the Education Department's *Fit to Drive* courses held in Manningham schools for year 10 (pre-Learner) students, and for over 600 Learner and P-Plate young drivers to attend a hands-on, safe driving course. [Project of RC Doncaster, D9810]

9.9 PARENTS ALCOHOL & DRUG RESOURCE BOOK

The Parent's Alcohol & Drug Resource Book is a publication put together by a dedicated group of parents from Trinity Grammar School. The Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills has linked with Trinity Grammar School to promote and make available its Alcohol and Drug Resource Booklet to local schools in immediate community and to the broader Rotary District.

By offering useful strategies and information that promotes positive adolescent health and well-being, the book is targeted at parents of all students commencing secondary school. Overall, the objectives are to promote alcohol and drug awareness, provide support networks amongst parents as well as assisting schools to develop drug and alcohol policies. The book is offered to parents of Year 7 students and must be printed, it cannot be utilized as a soft copy in accordance with Trinity Grammar School requirements. [Project of Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, D9810]

9.10 LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM

The Rotary Club of Deloraine has been running the Learn To Swim Program for over 26 years as a free community service for the children of the Deloraine and district areas. It is aimed at those children who cannot swim with the ability to save themselves and/or others. Children under the age of 5 will not be enrolled.

Children are graded according to ability, not Family Group. Children are encouraged to work towards a swimming goal and so improve from year to year. It is advisable for Parents/Guardians to purchase Rash Vests. Boys need to wear a proper bathing costume, not shorts to the knee.

Sessions will run from 10am to 4pm with each class consisting of a 30 minute lesson. Qualified instructors have been employed to run these classes. [Project of Rotary Club of Deloraine, D9830]

10 VOCATIONAL SKILLS PROGRAM

10.1 ROTARY YOUTH VOCATIONAL AWARDS (RYVA)

Running since 1994, this program run by the Rotary Club of Padstow invites 16 to 18 local Secondary Schools to nominate a senior student who has very successfully completed a Vocational Education and Training Course as part of their Higher School Certificate studies. A formal Presentation Ceremony is held at night where between 45 and 50 nominated students are presented with a Certificate and Citation which has been written by a teacher. RYVA has a very high profile in the Secondary Schools, the local community and with students and their parents. Students use the Certificate and the Citation as part of their CVs when applying for further study and/or employment. Feedback from students is the Awards have been of assistance in their career pathways.

The objectives of the project include the acknowledgement of student achievement in vocational studies for career pathways, support for local secondary schools, community awareness of Rotary's New Generations Programs and raising the profile of the local Rotary Club and Rotary International in the local community. Presentations are held in School Halls; catering for the event is undertaken by the Hospitality students with support from teachers. Rotary Club and the host school work together to organize the event. This project costs approx \$1,000; being \$500 for catering, \$300 for invitations, Certificates & Printing and \$200 for photographs and other incidental costs. [Program of RC Padstow, D9675]

10.2 PEAK HILL EXCHANGE

During May each year, six to eight students from Peak Hill are given the opportunity to be hosted by the Rotary Club of Belrose and visit a number of various industries so they may be able to decide their future directions in working life and also experience city life. The Rotary members then go to Peak Hill and conduct Mock Interviews with the students to assist them when applying for jobs. [Project of the Rotary Club of Belrose, D9685]

10.3 STORM THE STAGE

Storm The Stage originated in Cannington, Western Australia in 2005. The program is offered to young performers aged 16-19 years in the fields of Musical Theatre and Drama and the final will showcase finalists to some of Australia's leading entertainment representatives. Cash prizes are awarded to the national winners. The program has Hugh Jackman as its patron. [Project of D9800, 9830]

10.4 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Students from local Secondary College are interviewed over a period of time by a team of voluntary Rotarians and Friends of Rotary. The aim is to provide Interview Practice and constructive feedback. Some Mock Interview programs include the application for the role in addition to the actual interview.

10.5 FIRST STEPS YOUTH JOB SEARCH PROGRAM

The First Steps Youth Job Search Program is an interactive website developed to help young job seekers gain their first workplace opportunity. It guides them through the process of putting a resume together when they have never worked before, conduct a job search, prepare for an interview and make sound decisions regarding a job offer.

It also helps to point young job seekers in the right direction, assisting them to develop the self-awareness, goals, common sense, and confidence to get a job and succeed in it. The First Steps program has been developed into an interactive online resource aimed at the 15 to 25 year olds most likely to be looking for their first workplace opportunity.

The Website Address is: www.job-first-steps.net. [Project of RC Southbank, D9800 and RC Huon Valley, D9830]

10.6 ACCLAIM AWARDS – OUTSTANDING OPERA STUDENT

The Acclaim Italian Opera Fellowship provide four young Australian singers with the ‘Opera’ opportunity of a lifetime! It is a combined project of the Rotary Clubs of Cheltenham and Melbourne and has a number of significant corporate partners. The major recipient of the Acclaim Awards receive a Professional Contract to perform in the Pergolesi-Spontini Festival, tuition and coaching in singing in the Italian language, return travel from Australia to Jesi, Italy and performance clothing from Linda Britten Australia / Antonio Oriti Menswear.

Both Acclaim and the Fondazione Pergolesi Spontini believe strongly in the importance of cultural exchange. This brilliant opportunity will allow young Australian singers to experience, first hand, the Italian Opera language and style free of financial burden. They will also be presented on the European stage by one of the most respected organisations in Italy. www.acclaimawards.com.au [Project of RC Cheltenham, D9810; RC Melbourne, D9800]

10.6 CLUSTER DINNER ENTERTAINERS

The dinners may be attended by the Cluster of Rotary Club members however the entertainment and hosting is provided by local secondary school students. The clubs get to see the talent of the various students – Rock Eisteddfod, music, dance and leadership are all on display during the evening. [Project of RC Aspendale, D9810]

10.7 TRY A TRADE, TRY A PROFESSION

This program run by D9670 runs for a single day. It provides school students with hands on experience in various trades and professions to assist them when making decisions around their future employment.

11 SCHOLARSHIPS

11.1 INDIGENOUS HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

The object of this program is to provide a scholarship, which can be used to assist Indigenous students with their day-to-day expenses while they undertake a course in a wide range of health related professions. The scholarship is paid in addition to the Government study allowance. The purpose of the program is to assist students to gain an education which will in turn enable them to use this education for the benefit of other Indigenous people - hopefully, but not necessarily, in some of our remote areas.

This program commenced with the intention of training doctors to work amongst other Indigenous people, but the scope of the scheme was enlarged to permit the training, firstly of nurses, and eventually any health related profession. The value of each scholarship is \$5,000 per year. A Rotary Club contributes \$2,500 per year and the State or Commonwealth Government provides a similar amount. The Commonwealth Government also provides funding for the administration of the program within the Australian Rotary Health office.

Since its inception this program has spread, and interested clubs and committees in each of the mainland states and in the Northern Territory are sponsoring students. www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au/Programs/Indigenous Health Scholarship

11.2 APPRENTICES AWARDS / RECOGNITIONS

Below is one example of an Apprentice of the Year Award program from the former RC Wantirna

The club's Apprentice of the Year award each year (in May-June) was presented to the final year apprentice from Swinburne TAFE from the previous year as selected by the club from a short list chosen by Swinburne from applications received. Thus, the award for 2013 would be to a final year apprentice from 2012.

Whilst this club is no longer operating, the background is provided. Swinburne has TAFE campuses in various locations and apprentices from any campus were able to apply. The TAFE would undertake some research and encourage the best apprentices to apply. As one of the club's criteria for the award was community involvement, this featured on the application form. Applications were invited in March each year, with applications closing in late April. The 'heads' of the various trades then selected a short list and these applications are forwarded to the club. The short listed applicants are interviewed (in May) by two representatives of the club (usually the President and Vocational Director) and one from Swinburne, but the selection of the awardee is in the hands of the club representatives.

The award comprised a certificate and 'tools of trade' to the value of \$500 or a cheque made out to the awardee's supplier of choice rather than 'tools' themselves, as the awardee wants to choose the tools or, in one case, put the money towards a piece of equipment. A certificate was presented to the winners employer.

Two presentations were made - one at a Swinburne Awards Night – being the Certificate and the

other at a club meeting which included the tools etc. [Project of former Rotary Club of Wantirna, D9810]

11.3 SCHOLARSHIP FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

This program is provided to assist a disadvantaged student at a local Secondary College. The School staff identify a student in financial need and who would benefit from a scholarship to assist with the cost of books and school clothing. The value of the scholarship is \$400 pa. [Program of RC Mt Waverley, D9810]

12 HEALTH

12.1 FAMILY DAY FOR AUTISTIC CHILDREN & FAMILIES (RC Cheltenham)

The Rotary Club of Cheltenham [D9810] has hosted a Family Day for Southern Autistic School since 1990. Held in March, the club accesses a Qantas DC3 for the day and provides the children with rides in the aircraft. The day also includes Jumping Castles, vintage fire engine, playground and a BBQ and drinks for everyone to enjoy. The day is organized as a joint activity of the Rotary Club and Southern Autistic School.

12.2 AMPLIFIER FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

This project has identified a specific requirement for children with special needs at a local childrens centre. The club through liaising with the centre has addressed the need and ensured that the children have access to the amplifier to assist in their care and development. [Project of RC Forest Hill, D9810]

12.3 MENTAL HEALTH FORUM FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS (RC MASH)

Following the introduction of Mental Health Forums throughout the community by Australian Rotary Health, this forum was focused on the secondary school community. Hosted by the local Tertiary Institute, the forum had a client, carer and clinician. The model for these forums is available through the Australian Rotary Health, however funding is undertaken locally by the Rotary Club or sponsors. New models are being developed and contact with Australian Rotary Health is recommended.

12.4 KIDS MATTER

KidsMatter is a primary school mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention initiative developed in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, beyondblue: the national depression initiative, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council (APAPDC) and supported by Australian Rotary Health.

The **KidsMatter** initiative aims to: Improve the mental health and well-being of primary school students

- ◆ Reduce mental health problems among students (eg., anxiety, depression and behavioural problems)
- ◆ Achieve greater support and assistance for students at risk or experiencing mental health problems.

Schools have a significant influence on students' emotional, social and behavioural development. There is a growing understanding that the primary school years represent a significant opportunity for mental health promotion, and the prevention and early intervention of mental health problems in children. Students who are mentally healthy learn better, have better relationships with teachers, family members and peers, and exhibit greater resiliency in meeting life's challenges.

Ultimately these students are better placed to successfully negotiate the transition into adolescence and adulthood: they are less likely to exhibit serious mental health problems and health risk behaviours and have a greater capacity to achieve long-term education and career goals. Further information on this program is available at the Australian Rotary Health website: www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au Other Projects / Kids Matter.

12.5 THOMAS THE TANK FUN RUN

The Kids Fun Run with Thomas is an annual fundraising event organised by the Rotary Club of Emerald and District. Held at Gembrook Station each year, the event provides a unique opportunity for a wonderful day out whilst supporting children's health. Puffing Billy Railway personnel and volunteers, the Rotary Club of Emerald and District, community volunteers all come together with participating children and their families to make this event happen. The inaugural Kids Fun Run with Thomas took place in 2002. Since that time it has grown to be a much loved and anticipated event in the local calendar, attracting participants from ages 0-12 years of age from all over Melbourne.

The day not only includes the kids' fun runs, 'Thomas' joy rides from Gembrook Station as the kids run alongside, a children's 'Thomas' hunt and range of fun events in the park next to the station. This project has raised funds for children's health and also Polio Eradication Program. [Project of RC Emerald & District, D9810]

12.6 KIND CUTS FOR KIDS

The Kind Cuts For Kids Foundation is a not-for-profit organization and its aims include:

- To improve Medical Services to children in Developing Countries
- To advance Health care by education, demonstration and skill transfer to the Local health care professionals
- To help remedy the current deficiencies in the health care Infrastructure (in the areas of knowledge, finances, equipment and manpower) and propose workable solutions appropriate to the Country.

The Rotary Club of Manningham [D9810] supports this project through donations and sponsorship.

12.7 ASSISTING "SUPPORT HOMES" LINKED WITH HOSPITAL STAYS FOR CHILDREN

These are facilities located near to major hospitals in Melbourne and include Ronald McDonald House and the Bone Marrow Donor Institute through the BMDI Rotary House. District 9790 is a strong supporter of the BMDI Rotary House together with other Rotary Districts and clubs. Ronald McDonald House at Monash Hospital has a Rotary representative on its Board through the Rotary Club of Huntingdale.

12.8 VISION AUSTRALIA'S FELIX LIBRARY

Feelix is a unique library developed for children aged six and under who are blind or have low vision. It enables young borrowers to enjoy the same stories as their peers while being introduced to braille and tactile materials. Feelix aims to inspire children to learn about the world around them while

developing their language skills and teaching them about written communication. It also helps parents to build confidence in their teaching abilities.

The titles are chosen for their fun language and engaging subjects. Each book has an accompanying kit that includes tactile and audio features. The kits are packed into small suitcases and are sent free of charge to families on request. Each of the kits in a Felix library contains a traditional picture storybook annotated with braille, an audio recording of the story and a handbook with tactile graphics that enables children to tell the story to themselves or share it with others.

The kits also include tactile aids that help the children enter the world of the story. The child uses them as a reference point and an imaginative springboard as they listen to the story. For example, an enamel tea set is in the kit for "The Tiger who came to tea". Kits are given an "echidna grading" according to the complexity of the book. Preschoolers in NSW, ACT, Victoria, Tasmania or Queensland who are blind or have low vision can join Felix. It costs approximately \$400 to compile a Felix Kit. [Former Rotary Club of Wantirna, D9810 supports this project]

12.9 LEGO FOR SCHOOLS

The Lego for Schools project has been a delightful project of the Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills which collects lego and duplo from the community and distributes it to their local schools who have programs specifically for students who have conditions which make life in the schoolyard just too big a challenge, such as Aspergers, on the Autism Spectrum being just two examples. The club supports a specialist Secondary School where Lego is used as a calming tool in their curriculum first thing in the morning. Excellent opportunity for marketing of club through press. Need to appeal to the public for donations. [Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, D9810 runs this project]



13 MIGRANT INTEGRATION PROGRAM

13.1 MULTICULTURAL YOUTH SERVICES – SUDANESE YOUTH CAMP

SEAAC Multicultural Youth Services organised a three day Sudanese Youth Camp in Allambee Reserve Gippsland. Eighteen Australian- Sudanese Young People attended the trip which featured a dynamic and jam packed schedule of informative, engaging and fun activities. Some of the information sessions that SEAAC provided for the group included topics such as: a series of employment workshops; Respect, Protect, Connect relationships workshop; a Support services workshop and a presentation by Monash Youth and Family Services. In addition these sessions and the whole camp were run with the help from five youth leaders. The experience for everyone was overwhelmingly positive and highlighted the importance of such programs in building rapport and mutual understanding and respect as well as empowering these young adults to be informed and well skilled citizens of society.

This program was initiated by the Rotary Club of Clayton and supported by the local Traders Association and the Monash City Council. [Project of RC Clayton, D9810]

13.2 BURMESE REFUGEE’S HOMEWORK CLUB, PROVISION OF COMPUTERS, FOOD PREPARATION & CHORAL SINGING (RC WARRANDYTE DONVALE)

This project developed when the local Secondary School requested the assistance of the local Rotary Clubs to assist with the influx of Burmese Students at the school. The main aim was to provide volunteers to attend the school “after school hours” to attend “homework sessions” and to be on hand to offer assistance.

Due to the difficulty with English, the students were not keeping up with the rest of Classes as they had minimal resources & were still settling into the community. The Rotary members would also advise where all local facilities were and would just talk to students, if that was their need.

The school ensured that the students had access to the library & computers to facilitate their homework as they did not have computers in their homes. This project was a real win-win in breaking down barriers and providing a very real need in the community. This program has now drawn to a close, as the school has now made available Laptops to all students under the Federal Government Scheme. [Program of RC Warrandyte-Donvale, D9810]

14 SCHOOLS SUPPORT PROGRAMS

14.1 GAWA SCHOOL COMMUNITY, ECHO ISLAND PRE SCHOOL, NORTHERN TERRITORY (RC Monbulk)

Gawa Christian school is situated on Elcho Island in a very remote area of the NT. The students and their families live in their Homelands near the main township of Galiwinku, about 1½ -2 hrs 4WD from the school. The students and sometimes their families live in when they attend school. The school provides western education in conjunction with the teaching of traditional skills, hunting and gathering, Indigenous language preservation and preparation and eating of healthy western foods. This school was opened at the instigation of the elders to help this generation of their children to escape the conflict and negative influences of the main township and to give them an education.

The Rotary Club of Monbulk has provided soccer and netball equipment with objective of providing added incentive for the students to attend school on a regular basis. Also supported the biannual interstate visit to Victoria of students deemed by the school to 'be deserving' due to excellent attendance and quality of school work. The Club has provided outdoor table/seating settings to support the school's Amala Youth (Mums & Bubs) program which aims to generate improved dental health, safe food handling practices, healthier eating, early preparation for school life and structured learning. The Rotary Club is attempting to identify practical ways in which they might be able to support health or dental programs or identify a specific project to benefit the townspeople of Galiwinku. [Project of RC Monbulk, D9810]

14.2 SECURITY COVER FOR SCHOOL SAND PIT

This project is to provide a security cover for a Sand Pit at Clarendon Vale Primary School. The infant school was not able to use the sandpit as it was frequently fouled with undesirable items such as dog droppings and other nasties. The school was not able to finance it completely and Education Department grants were not available. The Sandpit was open to the elements and with some innovative and strategic thinking (and planning), a secure framed cover was built over the sandpit ensuring that it is clean and able to be used by the children at all times. Refer to www.howrahrotary.org.au / School Sandpit for photographs of this project. [Project of Rotary Club of Howrah, D9830]

15 ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

15.1 MAKE EVERY CHILD COUNT, CHAM RESH SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE (RC Glen Waverley)

This project is to support the village of Cham Resh including the facilities for children. The Primary School has two classrooms and 65 students with two teachers. This project includes the renovation of the school and the compound. The provision of education is vital in developing countries to bring people out of poverty and giving them a sense of dignity, self-worth and confidence. The project includes funding towards an additional teaching staff at the school. All families have been provided with a ceramic water filter, to assist in the provision of clean drinking water. This project has additional components in the provision of Water Tanks, a School Agricultural Garden Project and the provision of Adult Literacy Classes. [Project of RC Glen Waverley, D9810]

15.2 SPIRIT OF SHARING

Spirit of Sharing has been set up with the Rotary Clubs of Glen Waverley and Belgrave [D9810] to provide sporting and educational goods to improve the lives of underprivileged children in Fiji. 'Spirit of Sharing' has no political or religious affiliations and has the support of Rotary International. 'Spirit of Sharing' is helping in the construction of dormitories and classrooms in needy schools in the region. www.spiritofsharing.com.au

16 OTHER PROJECTS IMPACTING ON YOUTH

16.1 SCHOOLS WATER CAPTURE PROJECT

Some years ago, the Rotary Club of Hampton initiated a project with Hampton Primary School for the capture of water off hard playing surfaces, storing the water underground and using the water for the flushing of toilets or for the school vegetable garden.

The project was a joint effort between Club members, school parents, school children and staff. All components of the project raised money and additional funds were received from the State Government, Local Council and the company providing the storage 'unibuilt' tanks.

The children and parents assembled the tanks in a lego style concept whilst other parents and club members excavated the underground storage area. Once assembled the units were lowered into the hole, connection pipes attached and the whole area covered over and allowed to settle before the area could be walked on again. Electrical equipment etc was added so that the flushing system could operate effectively. A school parent undertook the plumbing requirements. [D9810]

16.2 THE PORTSEA CAMP

The Portsea Camp is supported by a number of Rotary Districts in Victoria. District 9800 have an Annual Working Bee in early October to assist in maintaining this site which provides camps for underprivileged children in Victoria. Rotaractors also support the working bees. [D9800 and D9810].

17 ALUMNI

Hundreds of young people are recipients of the vast range of Rotary programs throughout Australia and right throughout the world. Individually, they are connected to their individual program and keep in touch with the friends made from that youth program.

17.1 ROTEX

Rotex is a group of returned exchange students who, after spending a year away, come together as a support group for the exchange students being hosted by clubs in their home district and for others who have been away and are now adjusting to life back home. Having been overseas and experiencing life as an exchange student, Rotex plays an important part in supporting and ensuring the happiness of the inbound exchange students. Contact your local District Youth Exchange Committee for additional details.

17.2 ROTARY

There have been a number of Rotary Clubs throughout the country which have specifically identified a niche for young people or Generation Y's. The Rotary Club of City Central Hobart [9830] and it provides opportunities for young professionals to enjoy service and building networks and friendships and there is a club in District 9800 for Under 40's and others around the country.

18 EXTRACT FROM MANUAL OF PROCEDURE 2013

Youth service recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding. (SRCC 5)

It is the responsibility of each Rotarian to prepare young people by improving their life skills to ensure a better future while recognizing the diversity of their needs. All clubs and districts are encouraged to undertake projects that support the fundamental needs of the New Generations: health, human values, education, and self-development. (RCP 8.060.)

Statement of Conduct for Working With Youth

Rotary International strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. (RCP 2.110.1.)

Youth Protection

All Rotarians, clubs, and districts must follow the Statement of Conduct for Working With Youth and the RI guidelines for abuse and harassment prevention established by the general secretary, which include the following requirements:

- 1) An independent and thorough investigation must be made into any claims of sexual abuse or harassment.
- 2) Any adult involved in a Rotary youth program against whom an allegation of sexual abuse or harassment is made must be removed from all contact with youth until the matter is resolved.
- 3) Any allegation of abuse must be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency, in accordance with RI's zero-tolerance policy.
- 4) A club must terminate the membership of any Rotarian who admits to, is convicted of, or is otherwise found to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment. A non-Rotarian who admits to, is convicted of, or is otherwise found to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment must be prohibited from working with youth in a Rotary context. A club may not grant membership to a person who is known to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment.
- 5) If an investigation into a claim of sexual abuse or harassment is inconclusive, then, for the safety of youth participants and the protection of the accused, additional safeguards must be put in place to ensure the protection of any youth with whom the individual may have future contact. If there are subsequent claims of sexual abuse or harassment, the adult shall be permanently prohibited from working with youth in a Rotary context. Regardless of criminal or civil guilt, the continued presence of the adult could be detrimental to the reputation of the organization and could be harmful to youth. It can also benefit the adult in preventing additional accusations from other youth.

A person who is accused but later cleared of charges may apply to be reinstated to participate in youth programs. Reinstatement is not a right, and no guarantee is made that he or she will be instated to his or her former position. (RCP 2.110.3.)

Failure to Comply With Youth Protection Laws

A club must appropriately address any allegations that one of its members has violated youth protection laws. Any club that fails to do so may have its membership suspended or terminated by the RI Board. (RIB 3.030.4.)

International Travel by Youth

Recognizing that Rotary clubs and districts are encouraged to undertake activities that develop youth, club and district programs or activities that involve minors undertaking travel outside their local community must develop, maintain, and comply with youth protection policies and written procedures. With the exception of travel and tours operated by or on behalf of host districts, Youth Exchange travel is subject to the policies outlined in Rotary Code of Policies section 41.060.11.

Clubs and districts

- 1) Shall obtain written permission from the parents or guardians of all youth participants in advance of travel outside the local community
- 2) Shall provide parents or legal guardians with specific details about the program, location of event, travel itineraries, sleeping accommodations, and contact information for program organizers before departure
- 3) Should, when traveling 150 miles away from home residence or out of home country, require the parents or legal guardians of each minor to provide travel insurance for the minor, which includes such coverage as medical (when traveling outside home country), emergency medical evacuation, repatriation of remains, and legal liability, in amounts satisfactory to the club or district organizing the activity or event, with coverage from the time of the minor's departure from home until the return home

Club and district policies and procedures should include:

- 1) Volunteer application and screening procedures
- 2) Outlines of volunteer job descriptions and responsibilities
- 3) Supervision standards for ratio of adults to minors
- 4) A crisis management plan, including:
 - a) Handling medical and other emergencies and providing for adult support
 - b) Procedures for communicating with parents and legal guardians
- 5) Written guidelines for reporting and follow-through on allegations or incidents consistent with RI policy (RCP 2.110.4.)

Rotary clubs may not send or receive Youth Exchange students outside of the structure of their district's Youth Exchange program. No individual Rotarian, club, or district shall undertake an alternative program structure to send minors abroad that circumvents RI youth protection policies, Youth Exchange policy, or the immigration and travel policies of any nation or government. No individual Rotarian, club, or district shall assist or cooperate in sending a young person abroad on an international travel activity unless careful plans are made in advance covering every aspect of the proposed trip, including approval from the district youth protection officer and district Youth Exchange committee chair. In districts without a youth protection officer, the district governor and the district Youth Exchange committee chair must approve the arrangements. (RCP 41.060.22.)

For a complete guide to abuse and harassment prevention and guidelines, see the [*Abuse and Harassment Prevention Training Manual and Leaders' Guide*](#) (775).

ROTARY'S PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Programs are organized activities for clubs and districts, recommended by the RI Board, that Rotary supports through guidelines, resources, and staff support. Additional program information can be found at www.rotary.org.

Interact

Interact is a club for young people ages 12-18 who join together to tackle issues in their school or community. Interactors serve others, develop leadership skills, and make new friends. With their Rotary sponsors, Interact clubs carry out a minimum of two service projects per year — one to help the community and another to promote international understanding. (RCP 41.010.)

Interact clubs are organized, sponsored, and supervised by Rotary clubs that are located within their district boundaries. At least one Rotary club must serve as the Interact club's sponsor. Rotary International must certify all Interact clubs, and all sponsoring Rotary clubs must provide annual updates about the Interact club, including the Interact club president, Rotarian adviser, or faculty adviser, every year. Interact clubs may be school-based or community-based. (RCP 41.010.)

Information on how to start and sustain an Interact club can be found in the *Interact Handbook* (654) and at www.rotary.org.

Rotaract

Rotaract is a club for university students and young adults ages 18-30 in which young leaders connect to exchange ideas, serve their communities, and build lasting friendships. With Rotary clubs as sponsors, Rotaract clubs conduct hands-on service projects, help their members develop as young professionals, and connect with the vibrant global community of Rotaract. (RCP 41.020.)

Rotaract clubs are organized, sponsored, and supervised by Rotary clubs that are located within their district boundaries. Rotary International must certify all Rotaract clubs. Rotaract clubs are required to send information to RI twice each year. They must submit membership rosters no later than 30 September and 31 March. Rotaract clubs may be university-based or community-based. (RCP 41.020.)

The position of district Rotaract representative provides Rotaractors the opportunity to grow as leaders within their districts and advance Rotaract in their regions. Any district with two or more Rotaract clubs must elect a district Rotaract representative. The district Rotaract committee and the district governor determine the method of election. Before taking office, the district Rotaract representative must have served as a Rotaract club president or as a member of the district Rotaract committee for one full term. The district governor and the district Rotaract committee chair should be consulted to resolve any election disputes. Rotary International will not intervene. (RCP 41.020.)

The district Rotaract committee should be composed of equal numbers of Rotarians and Rotaractors, with the district Rotaract committee chair (a Rotarian) and the district Rotaract representative (a Rotaractor) serving as co-chairs. District Rotaract committee chairs and representatives should help Rotaract clubs develop collaborative relationships with their sponsoring Rotary clubs and establish personal contacts with the members. (RCP 41.020.)

The continued well-being of Rotaract clubs depends on the guidance, support, and active participation of their sponsor Rotary clubs. Rotarians should be involved in the training of Rotaractors, Rotaract club officers, directors, and committee chairs. Sponsor Rotary clubs should

- Pay for and strongly encourage the attendance of club officers, directors, and committee chairs at all relevant and necessary district-level training meetings
- Appoint Rotarian mentors to Rotaractors in their sponsored Rotaract clubs
- Promote multidistrict and international training opportunities for Rotaractors, including the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting.

Rotary districts shall pay for the attendance of district Rotaract representatives at district, multidistrict, or international leadership training meetings.

District governors are encouraged to defray all or part of the costs associated with the attendance of district Rotaract representatives-elect at the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting. (RCP 41.020.)

More information about Rotaract can be found in the *Rotaract Handbook* (562) and at www.rotary.org.

Rotary Youth Exchange

Youth Exchange provides youth ages 15-19 an opportunity to visit or study in a country other than their own. If the laws and regulations of the specific countries involved permit it and the participating clubs and districts agree, older participants may be eligible.

There are two types of Youth Exchange:

- Long-term exchanges allow the student to study in another country for an academic year
- Short-term exchanges allow the student to visit another country for as little as a few weeks

All students must apply locally and be sponsored by a Rotary club in their community. Their parents or legal guardians are expected to provide health, accident, and liability insurance and roundtrip transportation to and from the hosting district. Host families for the students are expected to provide room and board for the student, while the hosting or receiving district should provide for all educational expenses, as well as a modest monthly allowance for those students on a long-term exchange. Exchanges are organized between sponsoring and hosting districts by agreement and are expected to be reciprocal. All club, district, and multidistrict Youth Exchange programs are encouraged to enhance risk management efforts to prevent and respond appropriately to any alleged instances of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse involving program participants. In addition, clubs and districts are strongly encouraged to consult legal counsel regarding liability issues before undertaking Youth Exchange activities, including advice on securing liability insurance.

Governors are encouraged to appoint district Youth Exchange officers or committees and include incoming governors as members of these committees. The district Youth Exchange officers or committees are under the supervision of their respective governors. (RCP 41.060.)

Youth Exchange District Certification

The general secretary maintains a district certification program for Youth Exchange. The certification process requires all district Youth Exchange programs to provide Rotary International with documentation illustrating that they have adopted the youth protection, student support, and other guidelines. All club and district Youth Exchange programs must comply with RI youth protection policies and other requirements in order to participate in the Youth Exchange program.

Only certified districts may participate in the Youth Exchange program, and districts conducting exchanges with noncertified districts jeopardize their own certification status. (RCP 41.060.)

Additional Youth Exchange information can be found in the [Youth Exchange Handbook](#) (746) and at www.rotary.org.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a leadership development program organized at the club, district, or multidistrict level. While participants can be any age, most events focus on secondary school students, university students, or young adults. Rotarians can use RYLA to engage at-risk youth, reconnect with Rotary alumni, or mentor young professionals to become responsible leaders. (RCP 41.050.)

RYLA programs should include a core curriculum addressing the following topics:

- 1) Fundamentals of leadership
- 2) Ethics of positive leadership
- 3) Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- 4) Problem solving and conflict management
- 5) What Rotary is and what it does for the community
- 6) Building self-confidence and self-esteem
- 7) The elements of community and global citizenship, while reflecting issues of local relevance carried out in a manner appropriate to local customs (RCP 41.050.3.)

More information about RYLA can be found in [Rotary Youth Leadership Awards](#) (694) and at www.rotary.org.

19 CONTACTS FOR AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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