



Youth Newsletter to Schools

From the Youth Director

Rotary Batemans Bay has a very proud record of service to the Youth of the Batemans Bay area.

We introduced some of these to various schools through a presentation to the Parents Association by Mr Peter Richardson (Youth Director 2014-2015). This Newsletter is the next part in our communication process with you. I shall send one of these each term to update you on events which have happened or events which will be happening shortly and which may be of interest to your school.

I hope that you will find this of interest and assistance as you provide opportunities for the students of your school.

Alan Russell
Youth Director, 2015-2016.

Recent Happenings

MUNA...Model United Nations Assembly. Students from Year 10 and 11 are invited to form a team to debate resolutions that diplomats would debate at the United Nations.

Held in Old Parliament House each year, each team represents a Nation and speaks on their behalf. They dress in national costume and immerse themselves in the culture and beliefs of their country.

This year we again had two teams competing. Batemans Bay High School represented South Sudan and won the Encouragement Award; St Peter's

Anglican College represented Samoa and won the Peace Prize. Of the five awards our Clubs sponsored teams won two awards this year!

The student's have spoken of their experience at the Club and we hope that there will be the same level of enthusiasm and commitment from teams next year. Our thanks to the Counsellors (teachers from the schools) who prepared the teams and who were present during the weekend's events.

RYPEN...Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment. Students from 14-17 years meet twice a year at Old Mogo Town for a weekend of activity and speakers. We have had students at the May (5) and September (6) camps and both groups have gained much from the experience. This was evident as they spoke of their time at a recent Club meeting. Some of our candidates have been invited back as Camp Counsellors which is great recognition of their talents and ability as leaders.

We will be seeking candidates in March 2016 for the next camp and hope to have students from all our schools participating. This is for the students who are good solid citizens-not the high flyers who 'go to everything'; but for the boys and girls who are a little more quiet and reserved.

RAIC...Rotary Activity In Citizenship. This programme is for a student who is interested in politics and government or who may have a desire to study International Affairs. This year Frances Kerkham attended and had a wonderful time meeting the Governor General, the Prime Minister, the Treasurer, having time in our MP's office as well as attending Parliament.

The programme is held in May during Budget week and the students are involved in the Budget week events. They attend the Budget and the Budget in Reply; they meet Members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers and they live the Canberra experience. Applications will close in March and we have had students from Batemans Bay High School attending over the last three years.

YEP....Youth Exchange Programme. This allows a student to live with families overseas for a year. This year we have selected Taryn McDonald from St Peter's Anglican College. After a number of interviews, Taryn was selected by our District and will travel in January to Germany for the year.

Taryn has been spending time with our student from Denmark, Magnus Zarling who arrived in June. Magnus was 15 on arrival and has since turned 16, is attending Batemans Bay High school and taking advantage of everything we put before him.

Applications for the 2017 Youth Exchange Programme will open in February/March and we encourage students to think about this wonderful opportunity.

Our Club has appointed Counsellors to oversee Taryn's time away and we have Counsellors looking after Magnus while he is here.

Batemans Bay Public School Breakfast Club For several years we have been a proud supporter of the Breakfast Club and look forward to doing so in the future. We support the Club through the time given by our members four mornings a week, a donation of funds and through the donation of kind usually as a Christmas Gift so to prepare for the New Year.

Interact Club We have a junior Rotary Club operating the Batemans Bay High School. The Club has raised funds for a number of projects.

On 9 November the Rotary Club will join with the Interact Club for the Change Over of office holders. Congratulations to the new President and her team and to the Past President and her teams for their efforts.

We are keen to develop Clubs in other schools and are happy to meet with staff to discuss this concept of 'service above self'.

Our Club recognised Frances Kerkham with our highest recognition the Paul Harris Fellowship at our annual changeover. Frances has led and developed the Interact Club over the last three years and done an amazing job.

Early Act This is a Primary School Rotary Club where the students look at ways of supporting projects through some fundraising events.

We are developing one at Mogo School at present. But we are keen to expand this to other schools just as we are with our Interact Club.

What is planned?

School Awards Each year we provide funds to schools for the Awards which are presented at the end of year activities. These are given upon request but once again allow us to assist schools in recognising students for their achievements, progress and devotion to a task.

This year we have already presented an award to a Year 12 student at Batemans Bay High School. Our President attended to present the award and to present the Batemans Bay High School Rotary Shield for Community Service.

School Grants 2016 We have written to Principals of all schools seeking applications for a Grant which could be to a maximum value of \$1500. The Grant is to contribute towards a major programme or event being planned for the new school year.

Applications close at the end of March 2016 and the Grants will be presented in April 2016.

In the past we have given all schools Grants for Numeracy (2013), Literacy (2014) and Performing Arts (upon application 2015).

We look forward to continuing to support all students of the area through these Grants.

RYDA....Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Programme. This is held each year at the end of Term 1 for students in Year 11. The five Shire High Schools send students over two days to hear about road safety and safe driving. This is particularly valuable as they are about to start driving.

Schools will have the dates for 2016 and we encourage all of our secondary schools to send all year 11 students. Buses will be supplied as this event is held at Moruya Raceway.

Rotary Batemans Bay

The Club has a strong commitment to the Youth and this is being led through our Youth Directorate.

The personnel are

Youth Director: Alan Russell

Team: Neil Simpson, Alison Powell, Maureen Manning, John Law,
Frances Southon, Peter Richardson, Sue Leslight.

The Club officials are

President: Vere Gray

Past President: Alan Russell

President Elect: Jeff Thorpe

Any of these people would be happy to answer questions or attend an Assembly, Staff meeting or a Parents Association meeting to highlight our programmes. We would especially enjoy the possibility of introducing the Interact Club and Earlyact Club concepts to you for your consideration as a Co-curricular activity within your school.

Should you wish to make application for any Grants and/or require information, please contact the Youth Director, Alan Russell (0468745751)