

Rotary Club of Armidale AM
Supported By

Rotary Club of Armidale

Rotary Club of North Armidale

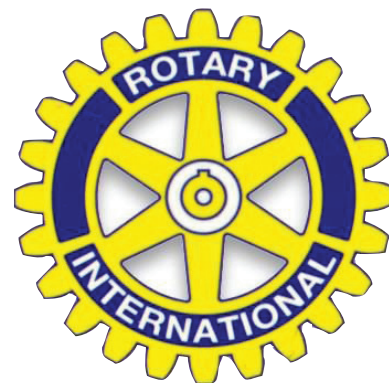
Rotary Club of Armidale Central

Rotary Club of Uralla

Rotary Club of Walcha

Rotary Club of Guyra

2016



Rotary youth expo

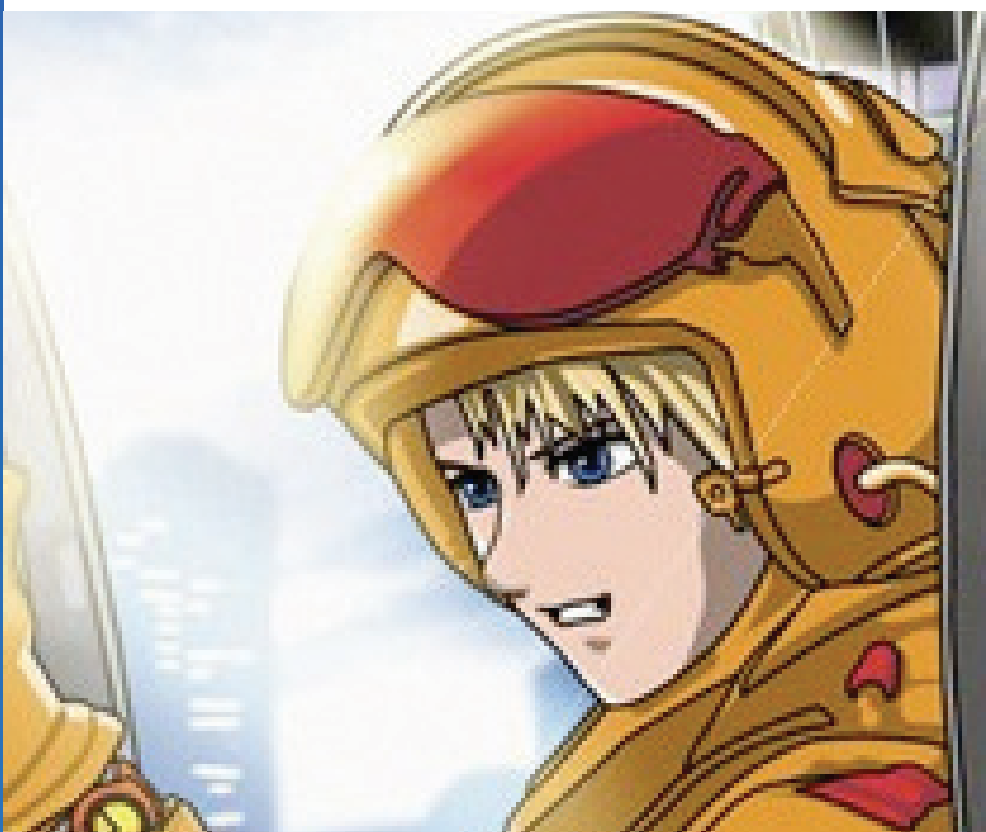
Students ■ Teachers ■ Parents
Learn about the Rotary programs
available for young people

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The Armidale City Bowling Club

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Rotary youth expo



serving others & having fun!



Like us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/d9650youth
(District 9650 Rotary Youth Activities)

Rotary

1.2 million members worldwide

Serving others & having fun!



What is Rotary?

The first Rotary Club was formed when attorney Paul P. Harris called together a meeting of three business acquaintances in downtown Chicago in 1905.

Rotary is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

It is a secular organization open to all persons regardless of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, or political preference. There are 34,282 clubs and over 1.2 million members in over 200 countries worldwide

Members meet regularly, often for breakfast, lunch or dinner, but increasingly as virtual clubs meeting via the Web. Meetings are a social as well as an opportunity to organize work on Club service activities.

Rotary's primary motto is "Service above Self"

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise. This objective is set against the "Rotary 4-way Test", used to see if a planned action is compatible with the Rotarian spirit.

The 4-Way Test considers the following questions in respect to thinking, saying or doing:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Why does Rotary Support Youth Programs?

Youth Service became Rotary's fifth avenue of Service in 2010. Importantly, Rotary recognises 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.



Rotary Youth Activity Calendar

2016

DATE	ACTIVITY
MAY	
22 - 24	Rotary Aviation Careers Expo
27 - 29	Model United Nations Assembly
JULY	
24 - 26	RYAG Equine
AUGUST	
August 2016 - March 2017	District Public Speaking
SEPTEMBER	
15 - 18	District 9650 Youth Marine Experience
OCTOBER	
First week	RYAG Dairy
Early October	RYSTARS - Rotary Youth Studying Astronomy and Related Sciences
DECEMBER	
TBC	Honeywell Engineering Summer Science School

2017

DATE	ACTIVITY
JANUARY	
2 - 14	National Youth Science Program (Session A)
16 - 28	National Youth Science Program (Session C)
19 - 21	The Science Experience
January to December	Youth Exchange Program
APRIL	
1 - 8	Rotary Youth Leadership Award
April to September	Rotary Youth Exchange (NZ matched)



School-Rotary Connections

Students wishing to apply for a Rotary youth program must generally apply through their local Club - each school is tied to a specific Club.

The table below lists each Club and the school for which it is responsible. Contact details for each Club vary throughout the year as Rotary Clubs change their Board members around June/July. Current contact details for the Club Secretary are available on the Rotary District 9650 web site.

Rotary Club	Linked School	Rotary Contact
Armidale	Armidale High School	P.O. Box 49, Armidale NSW 2350
Armidale AM	Duval and NEGS	P.O. Box 958, Armidale NSW 2350
Armidale Central	O'Connor Catholic College	P.O. Box 1150, Armidale NSW 2350
Armidale North	PLC and TAS	P.O. Box 500, Armidale NSW 2350
Guyra	Guyra Central School	P.O. Box 91, Guyra NSW 2365
Uralla	Uralla Central School	P.O. Box 57, Uralla NSW 2358
Walcha	Walcha Central School	P.O. Box 123, Walcha NSW 2354

Facebook and Rotary Youth Activities

A Facebook page has been created to enable regular messages, photos and videos to be posted. Stories from participating students about their experiences at Rotary events, reminders of application closing dates and updates on new events and current details will be provided.

Like us on Facebook:

District 9650 Rotary Youth Activities
[Facebook.com/d9650youth](https://www.facebook.com/d9650youth)





Are you ready for the challenge and the rewards of living in another country as an exchange student?



Youth Exchange Program (YEP)

YEP provides the opportunity for thousands of students to live overseas for a year where several Rotary families host them. They become part of those families and their communities. These Rotary families are volunteers who will welcome and care for you, supervise your year and introduce you to their culture and lifestyle.

You will attend school in your local community, as well as participating in Rotary activities and civic functions. At the same time you will make new friends, visit exciting places and experience adventures that you will recount for a lifetime

Dates

January 2017 – January 2018

Target

Students aged 15-17.5 years of age at the time of departure January 2017

Cost

As a guide, the up-front cost for Youth Exchange from this District (9650) has a projected cost of approx. \$7,850. This varies from year to year, depending on the cost of insurance, airline fuel charges and number of participants.

The up-front cost covers:

- Airfares, Visas and Travel Documents
- Full Health, Accident and Travel Insurance, Property Insurance
- A briefing weekend fully accommodated in July
- A briefing weekend late November (after the HSC) fully accommodated.
- Debriefing Weekend in early February after your return fully accommodated
- Blazer supplied by your sponsoring club
- Business Cards with your photo
- Administration costs

The Host Rotary Club overseas will provide:

- Full board
- Pocket money approx equivalent US\$100.00 per month but may vary from club to club
- School Enrolment Fees at local high schools
- Travel, food and accommodation at Rotary events

**NOT included are:**

- Clothing and personal toiletries
- Passport & Extra Travel (e.g Eurotour during holidays with other students)
- Souvenirs and gifts
- Some school excursions
- Medications
- Language Tuition
- An Emergency fund of approximately \$500

Amounts vary but we suggest you allow approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000 for additional expenses throughout the year depending on the country, for example the Eurotour alone costs approx \$2,800.

Naturally, these costs need to be considered in the context of what it normally costs to keep a student for 12 months living at home.

Application

Applicants must be selected and sponsored by a local Rotary club and complete a written application. A Rotary District committee will select exchangees after an interview. The interviews will be carried out on the 4th-5th June 2016. Many Clubs assist their sponsored student by preparing them for the interview.

Closing Date

31 May 2016

Application Form

<http://www.rotaryyouthexchange9650.com.au/apply-now/initial-application-form.html>

Further Information

www.rotaryyouthexchange9650.com.au, or

Rotary District 9650 YEP Chair

Peter Paff

T: 6655 4283

M: 0428 140752

E: chairyepd9650@gmail.com



Three months with a NZ family then
home with a new friend who lives
with your family for three months



Rotary Youth Exchange NZ (RANZE)

This program has many similarities to the Youth Exchange program. However, the difference is that this is a 'family to family' exchange where an Australian student hosted in NZ then reciprocates i.e. their family hosts the son or daughter of their NZ host family. The exchange is for three months each way.

Dates

The exchanges occur between April - September each year i.e. April/May/June, then students move countries and reciprocate during July/August/September.

Target

Students 15 - 16 years of age

Cost

Approximately \$4,500. However, these costs need to be considered in the context of what it normally costs to keep a student for three months living at home

Application

Process

1. Expressions of Interest posted to all schools early- to mid-March.
2. Application forms posted out shortly after – Club interviews to take place mid-August and Application forms due back by 30 August.
3. District 9650 interviews take place during September.
4. Successful students notified by December with details of their match to start communicating and building a bond before they meet in April.
5. Final briefing held mid-February when students receive their uniform, business cards, badges, labels and student handbook.

Further Information

Les Moulds, Chair

E: lymoulds@bigpond.com

M: 0427 221 374

Deb Farquhar, Secretary

E: deb@ballyrogan.com.au

M: 0428 656 66



Thinking about a career in science,
engineering and technology?



National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)

The National Youth Science Forum is a twelve-day program for students moving into Year 12 who are thinking about a career in science, engineering and technology.

The National Youth Science Forum, in Australia and overseas, *'aims to give a deeper insight into science and its applications for the benefit of all mankind: and to develop a greater understanding between young people of all nations'*. Students are selected based not just on their academic achievements, but also on their other interests and their social and communication skills. In the January NYSF programs, and throughout their NYSF experience, these young scientists will acquire additional skills that will allow them to take their place as tomorrow's leaders.

The NYSF helps students moving into Year 12, who wish to follow careers in science, engineering and technology by introducing them to research and researchers, by encouraging the achievement of excellence in all their undertakings, and by helping to develop their communication and interpersonal skills. It also fosters discussion of, and interest in major national and global issues and emphasizes the importance of maintaining continuing active interests in sport, arts and music.

Dates

NYSF is held in January each year, with three programs conducted. Two groups undertake their program in Canberra and another group meets in Perth. Dates of the Canberra sessions are below:

Session A: Monday 2nd January - Saturday 14th January 2017

Session C: Monday 16th January - Saturday 28 January 2017

Target

Students are selected while they are in Year 11 and attend the program in January of their Year 12 studies.

Cost

Each Rotary Club makes its own decision on the financial contribution that it will offer to support a student selected to attend NYSF. Generally this is negotiated with the student's family. Every effort is made to support successful applicants so that no deserving student needs to turn down a place at the NYSF because of an inability to pay.



Thinking about a career in science,
engineering and technology?



Application

The selection process for NYSF is exhaustive because of the competitive nature of places on the program. Students first submit an Expression of Interest to their local Rotary Club. The Club then nominates applicants to go forward to the District selection process. A Club may interview applicants and also offer 'training' to those that are nominated for consideration at District level. The District, which comprises around 56 Clubs, was able to select 19 students to attend NYSF in 2014.

Closing Dates

Round 1 - Expression of Interest to Club - 31 May, 2016

Round 2 - application to District - to be confirmed

Round 3 - District interviews and selection - to be confirmed.

Application Form

Available at www.nysf.edu.au/eoi

Complete the application, print it and send to your contact Rotary Club with additional documentation:

- A carefully written letter outlining your personal interests and achievements and giving reasons why you should be chosen, and;
- A copy of your Year 10 report latest available Year 11 results.

Further Information

General information - www.nysf.edu.au

Promo video - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uu9s50bRdak&hl=en-GB&gl=AU>



Learning about other cultures -
Learning to be a diplomat



Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

Model United Nations Assembly is a Rotary sponsored youth activity which mimics a meeting of the United Nations itself. A number of nations that hold membership in the UN are represented by delegations (teams consisting of two year 11 students – or year 10s if OK with their school).

Once registrations are received teams will be allocated a country to represent. Local Rotarian families billet team members (if desired). Teachers, parents and students wishing to may stay in accommodation of their choice.

Dates

27th to 29th May 2016

(we are sorry if you missed this event. However, it's a regular each year so if you Like our Facebook page we'll ensure you hear about it in time to attend in 2017).

Target

Students in Years 11 or 10

Cost

\$230 per team (two students) – generally payable by sponsoring Rotary Club. This covers participation by two students plus a teacher or counsellor over the weekend including lunches, snacks, Saturday night dinner & entertainment, as well as sundry materials.

Application

Contact your local Rotary Club to gain their support to sponsor a team(s) from your school, then complete a registration form for each team you wish to enter.

Closing Date

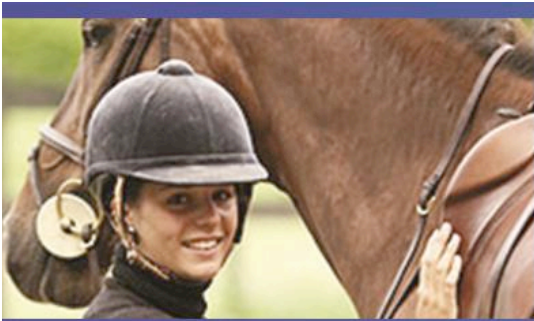
31st March 2016

Application Form

Tania Powick
Rotary Club of Kempsey
P O Box 126, Kempsey NSW 2440

Further Information

Tania Powick, MUNA Committee E: 9650muna@gmail.com M: 0419 625 556



Hop on for the ride
of your life!



Rotary Youth Agriculture Equine (RYAG Equine)

RYAG Equine is a 3-day programme held in Tamworth, aimed at students interested in a career within the equine industry.

It aims to create awareness of the many facets of the equine industry by engaging industry experts to both run lectures and participate in field trips. Tours through the Australian Livestock and Equestrian Centre and attendance at events being conducted are a highlight. In addition, visits to a local equine veterinary practice, an equine dentist and an early morning start at the racetrack ensure an action and entertaining few days.

Dates

24 – 26 June 2016

Target

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12

Cost

\$280 - covers accommodation, meals and activities.

Application

Schools are notified throughout the district and interested students approach a local Rotary Club to sponsor them.

Closing Date

Two weeks prior to camp

Application Form

Available from Barry Biffin,

E: judithandbarry@bigpond.com

M: 0439 449 888

Applications submitted to:

Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light

PO Box 1097

Tamworth NSW 2340

Further Information

E: judithandbarry@bigpond.com



Mmmooo!



Rotary Youth Agriculture Dairy (RYAG Dairy)

RYAG Dairy seeks to give students first hand experiences in the dairy industry. They will participate in milkings at different dairies, care for and teach to lead a dairy heifer, learn about animal health and nutrition and try their hand at artificial insemination. They will also learn about local grasses and weeds. We always find time for some fun activities such as whip cracking and archery.

Dates

26 – 29 September 2016

Target

Year 9 and 10 students who are recommended by their Agriculture teacher. Access to participating dairy farms and heifer availability restricts student numbers to 16.

Cost

\$200 - usually \$100 from parents and \$100 from sponsoring Rotary club.

Application

Invitations to attend are sent to Rotary clubs and secondary schools in the district in late June early July.

Closing Date

Mid-September

Application Form

Application forms are available from www.rotary9650.org.au/D9650_Youth/RYAG-Dairy.htm and should be returned to RYAG Dairy, PO Box 57, Wingham 2429.

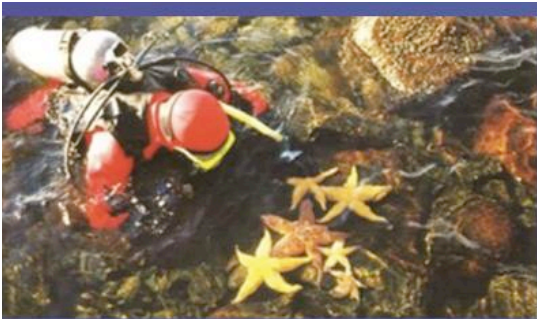
Further Information

Allan Brown

Rotary Club of Wingham

E: alsbrown@westnet.com.au

P: 0438 619 962



Experience the awesome
diversity and incredible beauty
of the marine environment



District 9650 Youth Marine Experience

The program aims to:

- Develop a special interest in marine biology and related sciences and technologies.
- Give hands on experience in dealing with marine animals and plants.
- Show students the awesome diversity and incredible beauty of a fragile marine environment.

The experience will include the following:

Snorkelling in Solitary Islands Marine Park; canoe & bush tucker tours of Bongil Bongil National Park; hands on tour of Dolphin Marine Magic; walking tour of Muttonbird Island; hands on laboratory work with National Marine Science Centre; and guided tour of the Solitary Islands Aquarium

Dates

15 – 18 September 2016

Target

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 with a special interest in Marine Sciences.

Cost

Approx. \$450 per student to cover accommodation, all food, travel to various field trips and venues and also snorkelling if weather permits.

Application

Closing Date 18 August 2016

Application Form

Contact gardeners3@bigpond.com to apply for an application form. Students will be asked to write a short essay/answer questions about their interest in Marine Sciences.

Further Information

Ingrid Gardiner

Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour Daybreak

M: 0409 860 637



A residential, two-night careers expo on aviation careers



Rotary Aviation Careers Expo (RACE)

The program is a residential, two-night careers expo on aviation careers at the Tamworth Regional Airport with accommodation and meals through BAE Systems. Between 20-32 students access on-site visits during the day to APAC, Qantaslink, Sigma Aerospace, the Tamworth airport control tower on the Monday, and the three arms of the Defence Force on the Tuesday as well as the BAE lecture theatre.

Dates

22 - 24 May 2016

Target

Students in Years 9 - 11

Cost

\$120 per student to cover accommodation, meals and course materials

Application

Closing Date

Friday 6th May 2016 (we are sorry if you missed this event. However, it's a regular each year so if you Like our Facebook page we'll ensure you hear about it in time to attend the 2017 program).

Application Form

Submit to: RACE
PO Box 1699
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Further Information

Greg Thomas
M: 0425 262 223



Opportunities to study Astronomy and Related Sciences



Rotary Youth Studying Astronomy and Related Sciences (RYSTARS)

This activity caters for students interested in astronomy as a possible career path. It runs for three to four days. RYSTARS includes night viewing, lectures, and a visit to the observatory at Siding Spring. Budget accommodation is arranged.

Dates

Dates for the 2016 program had not been set as April 2016. However, in previous years it has been conducted in early-October.

Target

Students in Years 10 and 11. Limited to 20.

Application

Letters usually go to schools and Rotary Clubs during Term 2.

Further Information

E: Aileen Bell - ianandaileen@bigpond.com

or

Secretary

Rotary Club of Coonabarabran

P.O. Box 265

Coonabarabran NSW 2357



District Public Speaking Competition

This competition aims to broaden the public speaking experience of Year 11 students. Several rounds of speaking culminate with four finalists presenting a prepared and an impromptu speech at the annual conference of Rotary District 9650 – this includes the four Armidale Clubs, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha. The prepared speech is of the competitor's own choice but must include a reference to one or more of the principles of the Rotary four-way test.

Dates

Round 1 – Club level – by the end of August 2016;

Round 2 – Cluster level – by end of October 2016;

Round 3 – Semi-finals – February 2017; and,

Round 4 - Finals - at the District 9650 Conference (date decided by District Governor of the Day).

Target

Students in Years 10 and 11

Cost

Nil

Application

Students apply to the Rotary Club that liaises with their school. The Club invites applicants to a Club meeting for a Round 1 presentation. If a Club receives more than one application it will select one candidate to go forward to Round 2.

Application Form

Information booklets will be available on the District web site <http://rotary9650.org.au/> by June 2016.

Further Information

Joyce Durey

Rotary Club of Armidale North

T: 6771 2734

M: 0407 005 910



Honeywell Engineering Summer Science School

(The conduct and details of this event for 2016 have not been confirmed. The information below may be subject to change.)

The Honeywell Engineering Summer School (HESS) brings together 100 Year 11 students who are interested in pursuing engineering as a career.

Throughout the week-long program students are introduced to five universities – University of Sydney (host), University of New South Wales, University of Western Sydney, University of Technology, Sydney, and University of Wollongong. Students are also taken behind the scenes of some major engineering companies and projects to see engineers at work. Participants are mentored by students of the host university and accommodated at Dunmore Lang College, Macquarie Park.

Dates

First week of December

Target

Students in Year 11

Application

Brochures generally sent to high schools in May.

Closing Date

Places are limited to approx. 100, and are accepted on a 'first in first served' basis.

Application Form

Applications are available online usually in May

<https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/sydney-division/honeywell-summer-school>

Further Information

W: www.engineersaustralia.org.au/sydney-division/honeywell-summer-school

David Steller, Rotary Club of Armidale Central

T: 6772 8074

E: stellerd@optusnet.com.au



The Science Experience

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience is a national program that gives students entering Years 9, 10 and 11 an insight into the exciting potential of a career in science and the vital role of scientists in today's society. Hands-on activities include chemistry experiments, DNA extraction, solving crimes, creating and understanding musical instruments, computer programming and testing your own biomechanics with sports science activities.

The UNE experience is designed so that students can stay on campus and experience what it is like to live at university in a residential college. A trivia night at the college as well as rock climbing and swimming at Sport UNE's superb facilities are part of the program. Students will visit Dangar Falls, one of the spectacular gorges in the New England region for some afternoon bushwalking and night time spotlighting.

In addition to all this, for the first time in 2017, students will have the opportunity to explore the brand new Natural History Museum, boasting a 3D sculpture of Australia's predatory dinosaur, *Australovenator wintonensis*.

Students can interact with, and ask questions of scientists from industry, academia, consulting and government in a career panel discussion that focuses on the changing job market in science and help students identify their passions and interests in science.

Dates

19-21 January 2017

Target

Students entering Years 9, 10 or 11 in the year of the program.

Cost

\$120 registration plus \$50 per night for accommodation if required.

**Application**

Download an application form from www.scienceexperience.com.au . Application and payment details can be emailed to admin@scienceexperience.com.au or sent by post to:

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience
PO Box 158
Monbulk Vic 3793

Closing Date

Places are limited to 30, and are accepted on a 'first in first served' basis.

Further Information

David Steller
Rotary Club of Armidale Central
T: 6772 8074 (H) or 6770 3842 (W)

or

Dr Kirsti Abbott at UNE
M: 0466 726 525



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

RYLA is a post-secondary Rotary program. It is a leadership recognition program where local Rotary clubs and employers nominate participants who have shown the potential to lead, either within the community or at work. It provides an opportunity to participate in a challenging week-long residential conference where young people:

Discover ways to become a better role model and more adequately face decisions on important personal, work and social issues;

Exchange ideas, opinions and plans with talented, energetic people in a supportive atmosphere free from pressure and distraction;

Develop a close rapport with a local Rotary club, acquainting you with a leading service organisation and decision makers within your community.

Everyone comes to RYLA hoping to gain different things. Sometimes these things are exactly what you gain from participating – other times, you learn something completely different. What you can expect though, is to meet people from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, to hear from a series of speakers, all with different perspectives on leadership, personal development and community, and to participate in outdoor activities to motivate and help develop effective teamwork and interpersonal skills.

Dates

1 – 8 April 2017

Target

18-25 years of age

Further Information

www.rotary9650.org.au/ryla

E: David Mayne - david.mayne@wescomld.id.au

Your initial expression of interest in participating in this program should be directed to your local Rotary Club.



Programs Not Being Offered in 2016

Some Rotary Youth programs are not offered each year. In particular, the agriculture-based programs can be affected by drought, availability of local Primary Industries staff that assist in running the event or factors affecting the Rotary Club organising the event. If you are interested in attending one of these activities in 2017 please contact the Rotary Club that runs the event for further information.

Rotary Youth Agriculture Cotton (RYAG Cotton)

The Rotary Youth in Cotton camp aims to create awareness about cotton production systems over four days of lectures presented by industry experts and practical activities and field trips. It highlights the many opportunities the cotton industry holds, introducing students to careers such as farm management, agronomy, plant operation and cotton ginning.

Dates

previously conducted in early May

Target

Students in Years 10 and 11

Further Information

Tamsin Quirk
Rotary Club of Moree on Gwydir
M: 0400 372 367

Rotary Youth Agriculture Sheep (RYAG Sheep)

Contact Rotary Club of Walcha

Rotary Youth Agriculture Beef (RYAG Beef)

Contact Rotary Club of Coonabarabran



Parents Q & A

What level of care and oversight is provided to students who participate in activities that have a residential component? How are supervisors selected?

Rotary takes its duty of care of students very seriously. Guidelines and training are provided to Club office bearers and volunteers to assist them understand their responsibilities.

Each Club conducting an activity is responsible for selecting its volunteers. Members or families hosting students during a program are vetted by the Club and required to sign a declaration to indicate that they are not a Prohibited Employment Declaration form.

What insurance cover is provided for the students during activities?

All Rotary projects and programs organizers are required to submit an application for insurance coverage under Rotary's insurance policy. Applications include a risk assessment and consideration of how student and volunteer safety can be enhanced.

World wide on a 24 hours per day basis from when students leave their normal place of domicile until they return thereto. The policy period is 12 months, plus up to 14 days additional cover beyond the 12 month period in respect to private travel.

What are the costs for parents and students?

This varies from program to program. However, because the programs each have a significant volunteer element the costs are contained. So, for example, in the youth exchange programs, accommodation is provided by host families at no charge to the student.

The cost of many programs are subsidized by local Clubs that offer sponsorship of students. Check with your local Club



What rules or guidelines might be applied during these activities?

The guidelines in place for Rotary activities are provided to ensure a safe environment for students. They also provide certainty for students and parents in a range of situations. In addition, they address and respond to local laws.

In general a student participating in a Rotary activity will be required to sign an application form or Agreement that stipulates specifically the rules governing the activity. The following are extracts from the Agreement for students participating in a Youth Exchange Program:

Drugs:

- I will not use drugs, except those provided by a physician for valid medical reasons. Use of illegal drugs will result in my immediate return home. **Driving:**
- I will not operate any motorised vehicle, including but not limited to cars, trucks, motorcycles, aircraft, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, boats, and other watercraft.
- I will not travel in a vehicle driven by an unlicensed or learner driver.

Drinking:

- I acknowledge that illegal drinking of alcoholic beverages is prohibited. If I am of legal age I will refrain.
- I acknowledge that if my host Rotary Club or host family offers me an alcoholic drink, it is permissible to accept it under their supervision.

Dating:

- I will not form a steady and serious romantic attachment. I understand that sexual activities will result in my immediate return home.

Smoking:

- I understand that some countries have very strict laws governing smoking in public, and at school and that smoking is often socially unacceptable, and is discouraged at Rotary functions, whilst in school uniform or Rotary blazer.
- I will respect the preferences of my host families and of the members of my host Rotary Club and District.
- If I indicated that I was a non-smoker on my Application Form, I will not smoke during my Exchange Year.



Students Responsibilities

The responsibilities of students attending Rotary youth activities are important, but not onerous.

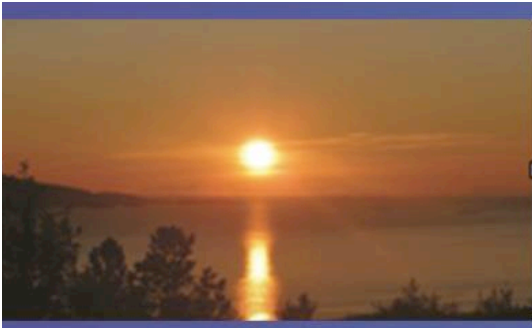
Rotary Clubs that are sponsoring students want to meet them and learn a little about them. Before attending a Rotary activity you will generally be invited to attend a Club meeting and give a short talk about yourself. Following the activity you will be expected to visit the Club again and give a presentation on your experience (approx. 10 minutes duration) and answer questions from members.

For some activities (Youth Exchange Program – YEP - and National Youth Science Forum – NYSF) you may be invited to attend pre-selection training to help familiarize you with the selection process and give you information and tuition to help your chances of being chosen. Youth Exchange Program participants also have a series of weekend familiarization and orientation meetings prior to departure overseas for 12 months.

YEP students are required to write a short report each month detailing their activities, progress and any issues that they wish to raise. This helps to keep Club members informed of your progress. The Armidale AM Club circulated these reports to all members and, with the permission of the student, arranged to print an edited version in the paper as a way of informing friends of the student and promoting the exchange program and Rotary.

Past students may also be invited to help promote the event they attended to prospective applicants in the following year.

Clubs do not want to burden students with their requirements, but they are keen to get to know each student and build a friendly relationship. As a service organization, some Clubs appreciate it when their students offer to help at one of their activities e.g. cooking at a BBQ. Clubs always appreciate it when students reciprocate the support that they received. 'What goes around, comes around' is a great way to build positive community support.



You will make great lifelong friends
from all over the world!



Rotary Bio:

Sophie Wicks- 2015 Rotary Youth Exchange (YEP) Student

What attracted you to apply for the YEP?

I knew I had wanted to go on exchange for a really long time but I didn't really know which organisations offered it or were the best to go with. My mum had heard about a few different options including Rotary, and so I was in the process of doing some research. My school advertised the Rotary Youth Expo and so my dad and I went along to hear about Rotary and enable me to consider it as an option. The presentation made by the secretary as well as one of the students who was currently out on exchange helped solidify YEP as the option for me. I got a handful great advice and the whole process was helpful and wonderful.

What did you have to do to get selected? What Advice would you give to students?

Selection was relatively easy, one of the pieces of advice I got given at the Expo was that putting an application in was almost a guarantee of acceptance into the program. There was also a set of interviews, which were a little confronting but necessary because they help tell the panel if you would be able to handle yourself in certain situations and it also lets you know the type of things that can happen while your on exchange. My advice would have to be that you have to really think about exchange and don't just rely on split second decisions because it is actually a year and a year is a long time. I would also advise that you talk to someone who has been through the experience and who can help you if there is something that you are confused about.

Tell us about your exchange

Everyone always asks me to explain my favourite moment on exchange and honestly I can't think of just one. Yes sure there were moments where everything was horrible and I wanted to come home, but for every bad moment there were 600 better ones to make up for them. I was in District 1470 in Denmark. It is called the Copenhagen district because that's where the majority of the district is based. I lived in a town called Ballerup, which was twice the size of Armidale and my school was also twice the size of my Australian school. I was very lucky that I had some amazing friends within my school but also in the exchange world, I have friends in Europe, Asia, Oceania, North America and South America, which coincidentally means I now have a bed in all the continents in



You will make great lifelong friends
from all over the world!



the world. I had so many amazing experiences, saw so many countries, learnt a brand new language, and became immersed in a culture, which I believe I was always meant to be a part of.

What Impact has YEP had on you and your life?

My exchange year has been the most positive and negative experience on me. I believed that I knew exactly where my life was going before I left and now I am back questioning every decision I had made before that because I no longer know where my life is going. However I wouldn't change it for the world. I would do it over and over again. I believe that I have learnt more about who I am and what I can do and I now have that everlasting feeling of wanderlust and can't wait to just get out and see the world again.



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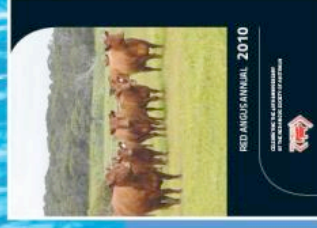
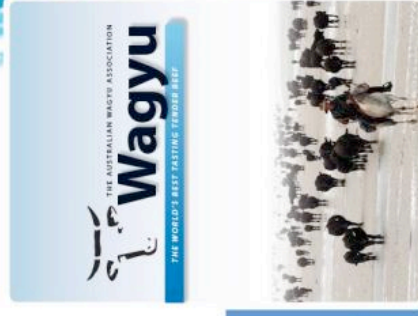
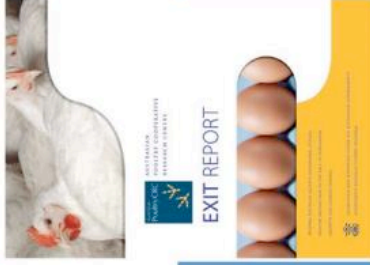


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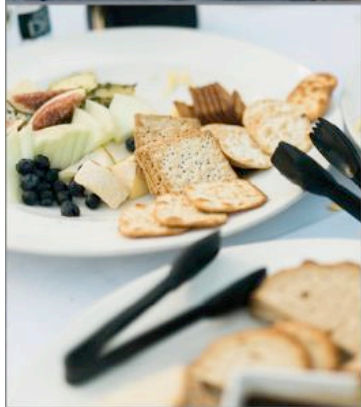
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