



**NORTHERN CONNECTIONS
 ROTARY DISTRICT 9560 CONFERENCE 2024
 3 - 5 MAY | DARWIN NT**



Connecting with Rotary, connecting with our communities, in Northern Australia and Timor-Leste and beyond

NORTHERN CONNECTIONS Thursday 2 May 2024	
5.30pm to 9.00pm	Mindil Beach Markets
NORTHERN CONNECTIONS Friday 3 May 2024	
2.00pm to 5.00pm	Conference Registration in the Lobby Lounge at DoubleTree by Hilton 116 The Esplanade Darwin
5.30pm to 7.00pm	Welcome Reception Parliament House Darwin Proudly supported by the Northern Territory Government
NORTHERN CONNECTIONS Saturday 4 May 2024	
8.30am to 9.00am	Event Registration Grand Ballroom DoubleTree by Hilton 116 The Esplanade Darwin
9.00am to 9.30am	Opening Ceremony Master of Ceremonies – Mr Grant Lindsay Acknowledgement of Country Flag Ceremony and National Anthem Welcome by District Governor and Lord Mayor of Darwin



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9.30am to 10.30am	<p>Session 1 -Extraordinary journeys</p> <p>Rotary International President Gordon McInally The Hon. Hieu Van Le AC South Australia's Governor from September 2014 until August 2021. A Journey of Boat People Refugees to Australia Professor Len Notaras AO Executive Director of the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre in Darwin</p>
10.30am to 10.50am	Morning tea
10.50am to 12.15pm	<p>Session 2 – Rotary supported overseas projects</p> <p>Barry Tennent - RAWCS Project in Cambodia Victoria Porter – Assisting women to be self-sufficient in Kenya Dr Malathi Waran – Hope for Sri Lanka through Vanni Hope</p>
12.15pm to 12.30pm	Remembering Rotary members
12.30pm to 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm to 3.00pm	<p>Session 3 - First Nations Focus</p> <p>Prof Tom Calma AO – After the Referendum – The state of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs and what are the next steps Dr Jose Ramos Horta – President Timor-Leste Ms Teegan Wattam – recipient of Australian Indigenous Education Foundation Scholarship and the Sabaratnam Prathapan Scholarship at Charles Darwin University</p>
3.00pm to 3.20pm	Afternoon tea



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3.20pm to 4.45pm	<p>Session 4 – Connecting with Community</p> <p>Vicki Lettuce – My journey as a Rotary Group Study Exchange Scholar. Vicki is the Franchisee of six McDonald’s restaurants in the NT. Emma Weatherley - Managing Director of FSHD Global Research Foundation. Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy (FSHD) is a highly complex, progressive muscle wasting disease causing weakening and loss of skeletal muscle in adults and children. Belinda Jennings - The Timor-Leste Australia Maternal and Newborn Health Vocational Training Team program.</p>
4.45pm	<p>Day 1 Conference Close Enjoy a night in Darwin doing whatever you want to. Suggestions are: Darwin Sailing Club to watch the sunset. Food and drinks available for purchase. Deckchair cinema – dine under the stars and watch a great movie. Culinary choice – Choose to dine at one of the recommended restaurants Waterfront Precinct – choose from a range of restaurants</p>

NORTHERN CONNECTIONS Sunday 5 May 2024	
7.00am – 8.00am	Walk with Allan Mitchell – guided city walk. Meet at front of DoubleTree by Hilton 116 The Esplanade
9.00am-10.30am	<p>Session 5 – Connecting with Rotary</p> <p>PDG Joanne Schilling – Chair of the Audit Committee of Rotary International Dr Sarita Lawyler and Dr Belinda Washington– My journey with Rotary. Youth Chair – Rotaract, RYLA, RYPEN, Rotakids Rotary Youth Exchange Program – ROMAC chair - Darcy Walsh</p>
10.30-10.50am	Morning tea



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10.50am-12.30pm	Session 6 – Home Grown Hon Chief Justice Michael Grant AO KC Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory. How the Northern Territory has developed to make it a viable option for its young people to stay, study and work. Professor Scott Bowman AO is Vice-Chancellor and President of Charles Darwin University. Luke Gosling OAM MP House of Representatives, Australian Government.
12.30pm-1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm-3.00pm	Session 7 – Northern Connections Prof James Smith – Rotary in 30 years. Andrew Gillespie – 2025 District Conference. Derek Pugh – Telegraph Line Adelaide to Darwin.
3.00pm-3.15pm	Conference Close
7.00pm-10.00pm	Gala Dinner in Ballroom.
NORTHERN CONNECTIONS Monday 6 May 2024	
2Public Holiday in the Northern Territory for May Day. Most restaurants, shopping centres and tourist attractions will be open.	