

the networker

March 2017 - Issue 17

rotarydistrict9800.com.au

Take Action

INSIDE
Clean Water

Women's Day Breakfast

**Linen for Community
Housing**

Rotary
District 9800



MARCH IS CLEAN WATER & SANITATION MONTH

Clarice's Comments



Rotary's Area of Focus for March: Clean water and sanitation

It's not often I get the chance of having the front page all to myself, so I'll gladly take it.

DG Neville has confessed that he is flat out preparing for the District Conference in Shepparton at the end of the month, so we have let him off the task, just this once.

The conference promises to be great fun: we look forward to some inspirational speakers and lots of networking at the House of Friendship and the social events. My club has books accommodation and a venue for the club dinners, and we look forward to supporting Rebecca and Neville at a really great Rotary event. Shepparton gave us really warm welcome for John Davis' conference in 2008: do you remember how hot it was? Let's hope for just a little bit cooler this time round.

In this second "Networker" for March, we continue the month's theme with articles relating to clean water and sanitation, and Malcolm Baird continues his alarming dissertation on slavery, one of the continuing evils in the world. Dorothy Gilmour reports on the International Women's Day Breakfast, narrowly beating Tony Thomas to the deadline. Tony is off to Amsterdam for a well-deserved break, and no doubt will fill us in on his return. Among our other reports, Lindsay Jolley comments on the GVE Team in Bendigo, so we have lots for you to read.

After the conference we can look forward to the Donations-in-Kind Open Day in April, and the Rotary Foundation's Centennial Gala Dinner in May. These and other events are listed later under "Notices and Events".

So best wishes until I see you in Shepparton.

- Clarice



DG Neville John and Rebecca



Rebecca and friend in Shepparton



International Women's Day Breakfast

By Dorothy Gilmour, Rotary Club of Melbourne

Wednesday, March 8 at 6.30 am, 1,200 people descended into the Crown Palladium in Melbourne to celebrate with Women in Rotary, our International Women's Day. Once again, our Kerry Kornhauser OAM, with a team of volunteers gathered together both professional and non-professional men and women, 90 Year 12 students from local and country private and state schools and well known public figures, who generously provided their time and passion, to explore this year's topic "Women Leaders: What Does It Take?"



At this Breakfast event, Women in Rotary raised app. \$40,000 whilst showcasing our Rotary District 9800 to 80% non-Rotarians whilst introducing and opening a conversation of the need for a gender balanced society.

A market place in the foyer attracted fantastic attention with stalls representing Interplast, Butterfly Foundation, Bridge of Hope, Rotary International and Good Shepherd and many others.

Breakfast food appeared to be a big success with plenty of eggs, bacon and Turkish Golzeme and Croissants and much needed early morning coffee!

Kitty Chiller (former modern pentathlete who represented Australia at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney and our Chef de Mission for Australia at the 2016 Summer Olympics held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) made a riveting key note address. Tom Gleisner provided his entertaining MC enthusiasm and the Panellists, Susan Alberti AC, David Thodey AO, Elida Brereton and Robert Stary appeared to enjoy being moderated by Sara James, Foreign Correspondent and Author as they explored and debated "What Does It Take?"

As Sara James has quoted: "To succeed in the 21st Century, Australia can't afford to waste the leadership talent of half the population." This is one of the driving challenges that Women in Rotary exemplifies in Australia.

In March 2017, Senator Penny Wong wrote in her endorsement letter to Kerry Kornhauser and Women in Rotary: "So today we come together to create a society where our daughters are given the same opportunities as our sons. A society where all of us have equal rights to live safe, happy, healthy and fulfilling lives and equality is a reality to all."

Another endorsement of what Women in Rotary are trying to achieve is embodied in the following excerpt from a letter from The Hon Chief Justice Kiefel AC, Chief Justice of Australia: "On International Women's Day we take pride in what has been achieved. At the same time we recognise that there is more to be done in order that we can truly say that there is equality, particularly of opportunity. We recognise that in other countries the struggle is greater and advances are slower. I know that Women in Rotary are committed to the pursuit of equality and to supporting women, not only those who may achieve great success, but also those to whom life has not yet provided opportunities."

Thank you Women in Rotary and here's to continuing our goal of respecting women from all around the world.



Choking clean water

By Diana Schoberg Photos by Alyce Henson

Blooms of poisonous blue-green algae threaten the western basin of Lake Erie, the source of drinking water for millions of people. Rotarians are joining the fight.

For 56 hours in August 2014, nearly a half-million people living along the shores of the largest freshwater lake system in the world could not drink the water out of their taps. They couldn't use it to brush their teeth or wash their dishes. Restaurants shut their doors. Hospitals canceled elective surgeries. Stores ran out of bottled water, and the Ohio National Guard stepped in to help.

It all started with a big swamp. The Great Black Swamp, to be exact. That's what the area southwest of Lake Erie was called, a thickly wooded and deeply mucky wetland almost as big as Connecticut and as old as the glaciers. The mud preserved the skeletons of mastodons that once roamed the area and, later, trapped the wagons of pioneers on their way west, forcing them to make a long detour.



The Maumee watershed is the largest of any of the rivers feeding the Great Lakes, and supplies five percent of Lake Erie's water, considered Ohio's breadbasket.



Rotarian Jim Page spearheaded the effort to clean up a bloom of cyanobacteria that had poisoned the western basin of Lake Erie in 2014.

Beginning in the 1850s, settlers drained most of the swamp to take advantage of the fertile soil, some of the most productive farmland in the country. They laid 15,000 miles of underground drain tiles that still whisk rainwater from farm fields into ditches that then feed into creeks and rivers and eventually the Maumee – an aquatic superhighway to Lake Erie. But in doing so, they removed the lake's "kidneys" – the wetlands that had filtered the water before it reached the Maumee River.

Dry weather in 2016 meant the summer algae bloom was smaller than in previous years, but the problem is big and complex, and the work to clean up the lake is not done.

The Toledo club responded to the current crisis by capitalizing on its connections to address the issue and create a sense of urgency; meanwhile, other Rotary clubs in districts around the lake were embarking on their own

grassroots efforts to tackle the problem from other angles.

Full Story: <https://www.rotary.org/en/news-features/rotarians-take-dangerous-algae-bloom#page-content>



GVE team visits Bendigo

By Lindsay Jolley, Rotary Club of Bendigo South

The District 9800 incoming Philippines Group Vocational Exchange (GVE) team started their Bendigo visit with a guided tour of the recently opened new Bendigo Hospital, the largest regional hospital development in Victoria.



The Philippines GVE team, and members and family of the Rotary Clubs of Bendigo South and of Bendigo. The photograph was provided by Bendigo Health.

Shortly afterwards they were welcomed by the Mayor, Cr Margaret O'Rourke (past Rotarian) at the iconic Bendigo Art Gallery. Margaret's warm welcome clearly made the team feel special.

With remaining energy after their guided tour of the Art Gallery and dinner with their home hosts they visited the Phoenix FM radio station. Presenter Rotarian Cora Fuentes-Mahnic involved all five members in an hour of interviews. A strong Rotary message was delivered.

The next three days were full of the team's vocational visits. The Rotary Clubs of Bendigo South and Bendigo are indebted to the readiness of nine organizations to host the visitors.

Microbiologist Nicole Sanchez was able to spend time at the Australian Clinical Laboratories and Parmalat Australia Ltd, as well as have the latest work on plant phosphate rhizobia inoculant outlined to her at Novozymes Biologicals Australia.

For nurse Leny Arcenas, the Rural Health School at La Trobe University provided the backbone of the opportunities interspersed with visits to the City of Greater Bendigo immunization programme, Bendigo Community Health Services and the Bendigo Medical Centre.

Community water worker Marife Dapito and sanitary engineer Jerick Pecaso were well looked after by Coliban Water and the North Central Catchment Management Authority. They were shown what these organizations were doing out in the community.

Team leader Rotarian Flordeliza ("Lzl") Castro-Ampatuan spread herself around with her charges, and said that the team was grateful for the impressive welcome given by everyone in Bendigo.

LINEN FOR SERVANTS COMMUNITY HOUSING

By Tony Wells, RC North Balwyn

The Rotary Club of North Balwyn has delivered 200 sets bed linen and 200 towels to Servants Community Housing, which provides safe and affordable housing for people in need in the City of Boroondara .

The quality linen had been transferred to the Donations In Kind Store in Footscray from mining operations in Western Australia where it was no longer required at “fly-in fly-out” mining facilities because of the downturn in the industry.

The CEO of Servants, Amanda Donohoe said the linen and towels will be shared between Servants three residences in Boroondara and will help fulfill an ongoing need. She thanked Rotary, the Donations in Kind store and the RC North Balwyn for arranging the donation.



Amanda Donohoe is pictured receiving the linen with RC North Balwyn Rotarians Larry Fitzpatrick, on the tray of the DIK truck, Greg Matthews and Tony Wells.



Cartons of lovely linen at DIK, West Footscray, just waiting for a good home.



ShelterBox Update

By Mike Greenslade, CEO ShelterBox Australia

You can rightly be proud of your support for ShelterBox: last year we helped close to 140,000 people. We could not do this without the generosity of supporters like you.

In an ever-changing world, we increasingly see the need to be flexible in the way we respond to disasters and a 'one size fits all' approach seriously limits the amount of people we can help. Those who have sponsored boxes will have noticed the increased waiting time for a box to be deployed. That is because we only deploy ShelterBoxes when they are deemed to be the most appropriate form of aid. In 2016 we helped over 29,000 families but only 10% of them received ShelterBoxes.



In certain cases (such as the earthquake in Nepal, cyclone in Vanuatu, and the recent hurricane in Haiti) host governments have not allowed ShelterBoxes to be deployed and have asked that we contribute to communities' efforts to self recover. In these cases, shelter kits and other essential items like water filters and solar lights were deployed. This type of aid is funded by the ShelterBox Solution and we would encourage you to support this flexible fund so that we can better serve the needs of the people we help.

Whilst it's important we recognise our achievements, it's also important that we re-state our vision of a world where no family goes without shelter following disaster or humanitarian crisis. Right now our Operations team are looking into a forgotten crisis in Chad and the growing needs of hundreds of thousands of families fleeing the fighting in Yemen, only to encounter drought in Somaliland. With your help we can move closer to achieving our goal.

This month's quote comes from baseball player, Bo Jackson, "Set your goals high, and don't stop till you get there."

Haiti - Hurricane Matthew

ShelterBox's work in Haiti finished last month, with the return of the evaluation team. The Caribbean nation was struck by Hurricane Matthew last October, even as it struggled to recover from 2010's devastating earthquake. **Three Australia Response Team volunteers** were part of a team that worked with local partners, including **Rotary**, to help those affected. With Haitian government insistent that no more families be moved into tents, we were able to supply ShelterKits, tarpaulins, water filters, mosquito nets and solar lights to nearly **2,000 families**.



Syria – Conflict

It has been over four years since conflict broke out. Since 2011 6.6 million people have been displaced inside Syria; a further 4.8 million Syrian refugees are residing in neighbouring countries. ShelterBox continues to work with its partners to deliver aid to those in need inside Syria. Current distributions are focussing on supporting displaced people with protection from winter conditions. Distributions of 2,900 winter kits are underway with Hand In Hand for Syria, including 1,000 kerosene heaters. A further shipment of 1,400 locally procured shelter kits, is in the pipeline in conjunction with New Zealand-based, Relief Aid.



ShelterBox continues to help those fleeing conflict in Iraq, Cameroon and Niger. We are looking into the forgotten crisis in Chad and drought-stricken Somaliland.

2016 surpassed expectations when it came to the amount of people we could help, all because of donors like you! We hope we can count on your continued support in 2017.

visit our website: www.shelterboxaustralia.org.au

What Can Rotarians Do to Help Alleviate Modern Slavery ?

By Malcolm Baird, RC Brighton North

This is Part 2 of an article which appeared in Networker Issue 16, March 2017.

1/ Create Awareness in Rotarian circles and within the wider public, of the plight of millions who are physically and mentally held in servitude as slaves for commercial gain.

www.globalslaveryindex.org

2/ Elevate, “Basic Education and Literacy” One of the world’s biggest challenges is the extent of poverty and inequality across the globe and certainly within many developing and 3rd world countries.

3/ Elevate “Economic and Community Development” - Help Create and Develop more Viable Communities. Let’s promote more projects and their funding.

4 / Rotarians to Influence Corporations, Governments and Consumers – Supply Chain Ethics & Legislation Enforcement . Rotarians are Consumers, Community and Industry Leaders, Employees, Investors and Voters. So, Rotarians do have considerable influence with a Corporations reputation and with Governments, in their operational management and statutory compliance and enforcement practices. We Rotarians can hold such institutions and organizations to account to ensure ethics and transparency in supply chain management. Slavery is illegal in every country and Governments and politicians need encouragement to enforce laws. Rotarians in each country are in a unique and very strong Community position to influence, speak out and lead, to help alleviate this evil practice. Corporations can review <https://knowthechain.org/> and <http://www.sourcingnetwork.org/anti-slavery-resources/> Support the International Labour Organization <http://50forfreedom.org/> campaign to end modern slavery via governments. Refer - The UK, The Modern Slavery Act <http://www.gov.uk/government/.../transparency-in-supply-chains-a-practical-guide> www.gov.uk/government/publications/transparency-in-supply-chains-a-practical-guide. Similar legislation in other major developed economies would certainly be beneficial.



For my last view or Idea - Can I be a little controversial: Could Rotary International address this major humanitarian and moral issue, by looking at it from a slightly different direction ?

5/ Put the subject of Modern Slavery on the Rotary International Agenda - and Develop a long term Strategy.

Call for ideas and potential action plans from within the top 10 - 12 Slavery Index Countries, Rotary family countries, with a Modern Slavery Issue, from Rotary Clubs and Districts operating in those countries. (From the Global Slavery Index that is, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Indonesia, Egypt, Turkey, Thailand, Philippines, Mexico, Japan, Cambodia.) (Approx 8300 clubs and 280,000 Rotarians). Don’t wait for project submissions or grant requests, from Rotary Clubs in developed countries to tackle poverty, basic education and literacy and economic development projects in those countries, - Ask the local Rotary Clubs, District Governors and DG’s elect, in developing countries as to how the Rotary International Family can help support them, with project support, to alleviate slavery and human trafficking in their country. **-continued:-**



Modern Slavery - Continued

Where can Rotary International and other Rotary Clubs and member countries help to Influence and support their Communities, their Government, their Corporations, with specific areas of focus projects, with legislation developments around employment conditions for domestic and foreign workers, recruitment agents registration, with law enforcement training, and corporate supply chain ethical procedures? The Rotary Foundation team in Evanston Illinois, has a very strong and skilled team that could help lead this process along with the Cadre of Technical Advisers who could assist to draw up 5 – 10yr strategic action plans - to tackle modern slavery in the major, 10 to 15 countries, country by country action plans, (different as per each country requirements), just like for Polio. With 160 plus member countries, 530+ Districts, 33,000+ Clubs, and 1.2m members Rotary International could start a wave of change in Regions of poverty and modern slavery over the next decade and ongoing.



My thoughts are a slightly controversial approach and I would welcome feedback and particularly others thoughts and action plans on the best way forward for the Rotary International Board to help alleviate modern slavery.

My desire: **The Rotary International Board and the Foundation to lead and encourage a long term “Strategy”, with action Plans for all Rotarians to assist to alleviate the extent of poverty and modern slavery in our world.**

I can envisage many non Rotarians, individual philanthropists and many international education foundation organizations supporting and financially contributing to such a Rotary International “Strategy”. Rotarians can and do have a wide range of skills, expertise and influence and do deliver.

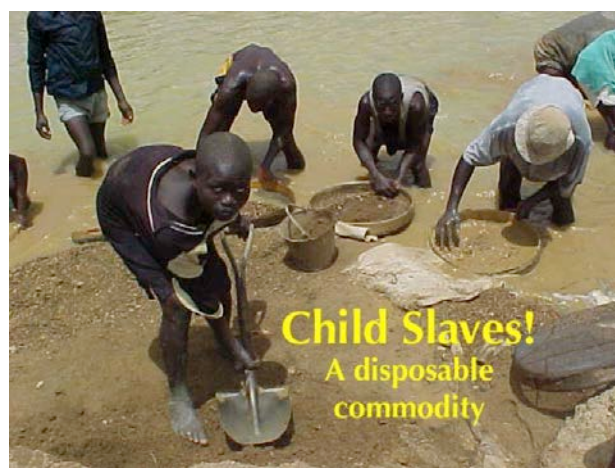
Check out the following funding opportunity: **Mac Arthur Foundation**

www.macfound.org/programs/100change

Challenge, “100 and Change” is a current competition to secure a \$100M foundation grant -- “ to fund a single proposal that promises real and measurable progress in solving a critical problem of our time”. Could a Rotary International Foundation, Walk Free, Free the Slaves and the International Justice Mission cooperative Team make an application, with a Strategy project submission in the 2nd round competition in 2019 ? A combined submission would certainly focus and crystallise thinking and achieve world attention to alleviating modern slavery. (Alternative sources of funding may subsequently unfold after such a public airing of the modern slavery issue and the developed R I strategy).

An articulated Strategy would demonstrate and enhance the reality of what Rotary International stands for, by changing opportunity in communities in greatest need. Rotary International would truly be revitalised, enhance and retain its reputation from its actions of being the leading Humanitarian Organization in the world.

If people do nothing, if we Rotarians do nothing, there will be little change and the scale of Modern Slavery will live on. Let’s be the Rotarians that speak up and lead an abolition movement as part of our humanitarian endeavours.



Read about The Rotarian Action Group Against Slavery <http://ragas.online/>

Malcolm Baird is available for Club presentations.

Water Solutions by Disaster Aid Australia

If you attended either of our recent Rotary Showcases in Bendigo or in the Atrium at Federation Square, you may have met the team from Disaster Aid Australia demonstrating their clean water solutions. Disaster Aid evolved as a project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills here in Victoria.

SkyHydrant™ Sustainable Drinking Water Solutions

Disaster Aid International is working with the SkyJuice Foundation to bring safe, clean, drinking water to villages in India, Malaysia and the Philippines.

- The SkyHydrant water purification unit produces safe drinking water without the need for power or chemicals
- The SkyHydrant is a low cost, lightweight (16 kg) portable and easy to deploy in the field
- The UF membrane is robust, cleanable and has a service life of 10 years
- Operating functions are simple and manual, with virtually no consumables
- Safe water for less than \$1 per person per year
- Designed to produce water for 500-1000 people as stand alone unit, or can be configured for larger capacity.
- A single unit can produce up to 1000 litres per hour.
- Clean drinking water can be produced from the majority of non-saline surface and ground water.

How does the SkyHydrant Work?

The ultrafiltration (UF) membrane, consisting of thousands of microporous hollow fibres, removes harmful bacteria, micro-organisms, dirt and other contaminating particles. No chemicals, coagulants, pumps or energy are required for the filtration process - the system operates under gravity with a minimum head pressure of 1 metre. Cleaning process is simple and manual. Drain down concentrate is completely organic.

Who is SkyJuice?

The SkyJuice Foundation is a not for profit organisation incorporated in Australia. The Foundation's charter is to provide low cost, sustainable water treatment solutions for humanitarian programs and for emergency and disaster relief efforts.

Sawyer Water Filters

The Sawyer filter is a low cost all-in-one water filter ideal for providing emergency drinking water.

The "build your own gravity system" can yield up to 540 gallons of clean water per day from any fresh water source and removes 99.9999% of all bacteria, such as salmonella, cholera and E.coli; removes 99.9999% of all protozoa, such as giardia and cryptosporidium.



Aquabox

As a father, imagine if your only choice was to give your wife or children contaminated water or watch them slowly die in the next few days of dehydration.

We take clean water for granted every day. In the midst of devastation and disasters, there are few gifts more valuable than the gift of clean safe water.

Aquabox is essentially a lifesaving water tank with water filters and water treatment tablets that can convert up to 2,000 litres of polluted water, making it safe and pleasant to drink. The boxes are also filled with emergency aid to reduce the suffering during the aftermath of a disaster. This local initiative is powered by the voluntary members of the Rotary Club of Eltham, Victoria, Australia

Estimates suggest 25,000 children die every day from the effects of drinking polluted water. With your help Aquabox can play a vital part in minimising the after effects of disaster.

The Boxes

The AQUABOX comprises three simple components, a rigid re-inforced 75 litre plastic container, a re-useable carbon activated filter and dispensing tap. The container is filled with whatever water can be found locally and is initially strained manually through a sieve to remove solid material. Two purification tablets (effervescent chlorine release type) are then added. After 2 hours, potable water may be drawn through the filter and tap. Many of the outbreaks of disease and infection which commonly follow disasters are as a direct result of drinking polluted water and the bacilli contained therein. These can rapidly cause epidemics such as Typhoid and Cholera but can be simply and easily purified using the AQUABOX. Each set of carbon filter and purification tablets will purify up to 100 litres of water, from almost any source, into safe drinking water.

In many regions of the world, particularly in the absence of deep-well installations, the AQUABOX 30 version is frequently used on a longer term basis. This can combat endemic diseases such as Bilharzia.

Though simple and 'user friendly' the AQUABOX, is normally only released 'into the field' under the supervision of experienced agencies. It is always accompanied by a 'language free pictogram' manual. There are two varieties of Aquabox – the Aquabox 'Family' which can produce 2,000 litres of drinkable water and the Aquabox '30' which can produce 30,000 litres of water (but lacks the humanitarian aid items).

Read about the various Aquaboxes at <http://www.aquabox.com.au>

Disaster Relief in Fiji

120 Aquaboxes travelled to Fiji, to be available for first response disaster relief in the South Pacific last November. The boxes were managed by the Rotary Club of Suva, under the auspices of the Rotary New Zealand World Community Service (RNZWCS) organisation.

Crowdfunding campaign

Last month a crowdfunding campaign for Aquabox was launched at Chuffed.org. The aim is to raise \$16,000 in 60 days, to enable 24 Aquaboxes to be pre-positioned in disaster prone areas. It ensures the life saving benefits of Aquabox can be made quickly available in the event of a natural disaster.



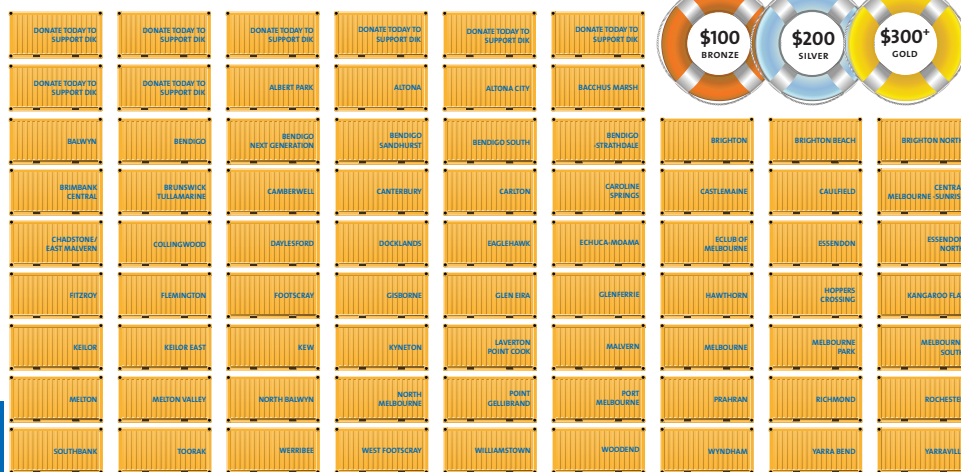
Notices and Events



AHOY THERE! IS YOUR CLUB ON BOARD?

Be a part of the Rotary Foundation 500th Centenary Container celebration

Donate today at www.rotarydik.org.au/donate or come & speak to us to find out how you can be involved



500 Reasons to Celebrate



In the past 16 years we have help to ship 500 containers full of equipment and material worth \$50 million to 25 countries. It has been donated to people in need and it is improving lives and providing a better future for many.

Schools and Business can help by donating their surplus reusable goods



Ask a Rotarian



We are committed to recycling



In the past 16 years we have helped to recycle 30,000m3 of reusable material, most of which would have become landfill.

It is improving lives locally and overseas.

You can help us reduce our carbon footprint and care for the disadvantaged



Ask a Rotarian



Notices and Events

A NEW ROUND OF MEMBERSHIP GRANTS

Earn a \$1,000 grant for your new members to invest in a new Community Project for your Club: Simply induct four members between 1 January and 31 March 2017 and the \$1,000 grant will be presented to your New Members to use as seed funding on a project of their choice!!! A maximum of 10 grants are available.

All clubs in our District are eligible to receive this grant including those clubs that qualified for the previous \$1,000 grants in 2016-17. Full details are contained in the attached flyer. [Download Membership Grant Guidelines](#)



CELEBRATE WITH US IN ATLANTA

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION MARKS 100 YEARS OF DOING GOOD. On behalf of The Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration Committee, I'd like to personally invite you to the 2017 Rotary Convention in Atlanta, where we'll commemorate 100 years of Doing Good in the World.

When you register, purchase a ticket for The Rotary Foundation's 100th Birthday Party on **14 June** in the House of Friendship. Thousands of us will come together with President John F. Germ to celebrate our accomplishments and mark this important milestone in the city where it all began.

You've been to the Rotary Convention, but you won't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime celebration.

Make it even more special by bringing a friend! Register by 31 March to take advantage of the preregistration discount.

- Spread the word! [Download promotional materials](#) for social media, posters, and more.



Western Emergency Relief Network

accepts donations of good condition household items such as: Bedding: Doonas & Covers, Pillows & Covers, Linen i.e. Sheets, Towels & Blankets. Kitchen Items: Kettles, Toasters, Crockery, Glasses, Cutlery, Pots & Pans. Furniture: Beds all sizes, Clean mattresses. Tallboys, Dressing Tables, Bookcases, Dining Tables and Chairs, TV's. White Goods: Fridges, Freezers, Washing Machines, Dryers, Fans & Heaters. If you'd like to donate items call Ross as above or 0476104736 to organise a pick up.



The Rotary Fair Trade Store

in Camberwell Junction is a combined project of Boroondara Rotary clubs, raising funds for DIK, the D9800 Donations in Kind Store, and local humanitarian charities such as Camcare.

It is located at the **rear** of 654 Burke Rd, Camberwell, (enter from the car park). Open from 10 - 4.30, 7 days a week. Specializing in good quality collectibles and books, the store welcomes useful donations from Rotary members and families who may be downsizing, or spring cleaning.

Volunteers are always needed in customer service, any day. It also run sorting days on Thursday mornings and Monday afternoons for corporate or club involvement.

To get involved, please call Carl on 0418 328 499 or Jill on 9882 7724



Notices and Events

MOONEE VALLEY ART SHOW

The Rotary Clubs of Keilor East and Essendon present the third annual Moonee Valley Art Show in heritage listed North Park Mansion, built in 1888 and rarely open to the public. Buy and view art by established and emerging artists, meet our judge and Award winners at the Cocktail Party, and enjoy delicious food and wine, craft stalls, live entertainment, artists in action and a whole lot more!

North Park Mansion, 69 Woodland St, Essendon

Gala Opening Cocktail Party featuring **Wendy Stapleton** and her band, plus the **Australian Women's Choir**, **Friday March 24** (6.30pm – 11.30pm), tickets available online (adults \$55).

Art Show, **Saturday 25** (11am – 6pm) **Sunday 26** (10am – 4pm) **March**, tickets at the gate (tickets from \$5). <http://www.mooneevalleyartshow.com.au/>



DIK OPEN DAY

An Invitation to a very special event, help us celebrate shipping the 500th container this century.

We are opening the Store on a Saturday to give the people who can't attend during the week the opportunity to see our Districts largest hands-on project and to get a full understanding of the volume and type of goods that are available for their Club Projects. Our focus is on giving working people and country Clubs the opportunity to visit, but everyone is welcome.

- If you have never seen your Store we guarantee that you will be impressed.
- Have you seen the extended Store; we now lease the whole building?
- Come, look and touch the equipment worth millions that is available for your projects.
- Over the last 16 years Clubs have shipped goods worth \$50 million to hundreds of projects. If this is a new area for your Club come and find out how easy it is to help people in need this way.

Use it as a membership opportunity, your prospects will be able to see a major project and understand the power of Rotary.

You should consider coming for these reasons alone, but this year offers much more

It's also a major Rotary Foundation Centennial Event: the 500th container is your Rotary Foundation Centennial Container that will ship goods to Timor Leste.

- Come and join the party and inspect the container
- **Saturday 8th of April** 10.00 -3.00, official (very short) speech at 12.30
- It's a party so food and drink will be available.
- We hope you will be able to join us and share in the fun.
- **For catering purposes please RSVP**
dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com

For more information Laurie Fisher.

Telephone: 0428 550 574, Email: dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com

Website www.rotarydik.org





Help us celebrate shipping the

500th container this century!



Join us on Saturday 8th of April 10.00 - 3.00
Shed 40 / 400 Somerville Road, West Footscray
(official short speech at 12.30)

It's a party so food and drink will be available
We hope you will be able to join us and share in the fun.
Please RSVP for catering purposes to dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com

The 500th Container is a major Rotary Foundation Centennial Event,
it is your Rotary Foundation Centennial Container.

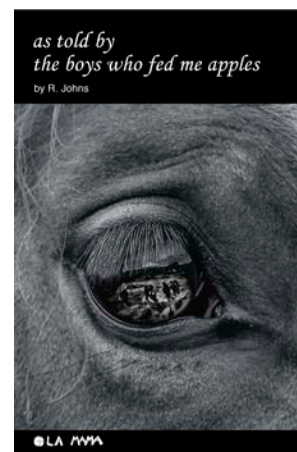
Notices and Events

The boys who fed me apples

Sandy was the only one of 136,000 Australian World War 1 war horses to return home. Sandy's fragmented war story (and that of three soldiers who served with him) is told through physical performance which crosses over with a visceral, poetic text and a haunting, original sound design.

La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond St Carlton

March 22nd - April 2nd. Weds 6.30pm, Thurs- Sat 7.30 pm, Sun 4pm. Matinees Wed 1 pm and Thurs 11am. Bookings : 9347 6142 Approximately 85 mins. Selected for the 2017 VCAA Drama Playlist. This project has been supported by the Australian Government's Anzac Centenary Arts and Culture Fund and Big West Festival. Playwright Rosemary Johns is a volunteer at the Flemington Rotary Opportunity Shop.



ARE YOU A GOLFING ROTARIAN?

Did you know there is a fellowship of golfing Rotarians who, with their partners, play a golf tournament each year at some of Australia's premium golf courses? The great news is, the Rotary Club of Ascot is hosting the **39th Annual AGFR Golf Tournament in Perth** at The Western Australian Golf Club and Mount Lawley Golf Club from **2nd April until the 7th of April 2017**.

We provide fellowship for golf-loving Rotarians and their partners from all around Australia as part of the 4th Object of Rotary, and offer an opportunity to play at some of Australia's premier golf clubs while having lots of fun. Past events have been held in every state and territory and Rotarians come from all around Australia. Its a great way to see our beautiful country and make likeminded friends. But we are also not well known about.

For further information and a registration form visit either our dedicated website <http://agfirtournament.wixsite.com/2017> or the AGFR website <https://agfr.org> Our dedicated email address for all queries and completed registration forms is agfirtournament@outlook.com



Ride the Bellarine

April 9, Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula. Last year more than \$23,000 was raised for *End Polio Now*. Run by the 15 Clubs of Geelong & District, on behalf of D 9780 Website for Registrations and Donations: ridethebellarine.rotary9780.org

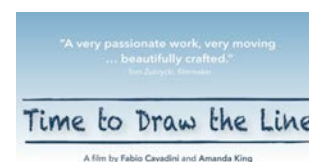


Time To Draw the Line

Great news! Friends of Baguia (supported by Hawthorn Rotary) is hosting a special one-time screening of the film ***Time To Draw the Line***, **Tuesday May 2nd**, 7pm at Palace Cinemas Como. This film is about the campaign for a fair go for East Timor and that nation's desire to settle it's long running boundary dispute with Australia.

Friends of Baguia president Derarca O'Mahony will be introducing the film, which includes footage of our projects. It is a great film to update yourself on this issue.

To reserve your tickets, please visit the Demand Film Event Page <https://tickets.demand.film/event/1539>



Notices and Events

Wedding Expo 2017 at Encore

Sunday 30 April 2017 - 10am – 4pm Gold coin donation
Encore Events Centre, 80 Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing.

An Expo for those planning a wedding in Melbourne's West is being held on 30 April 2017.

There will be a wide range of industry specialists in attendance including: Marriage Celebrants, Wedding Photographers, Hair and Make-Up, Bonbonnières, Fireworks, Wedding Invitations and Stationery, Wedding Reception Venues, Wedding

Cakes, Wedding Florists, Wedding Dresses, Wedding Gown Cleaning, Mother-of-the-Bride Wear, Male Formal Wear, Wedding Gifts, Decorations, and Wedding Cars and Limousines.

The event is open to potential exhibitors and details are available through the Email address above.

All proceeds raised are going towards the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing for use on their community and international projects.

We look forward to assisting you on the day with your wedding requirements and thank you for your support.

Find us on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/rotaryclubhopperscrossing

Visit our website at www.hopperscrossingrotary.org.au.



The Rotary Foundation's Centennial Gala Dinner – 100 Years of 'Doing Good In The World' - 31st May 2017

Since the Rotary Foundation was established in 1917, it has spent more than US\$3 billion on programs and projects to improve the lives of millions worldwide.

In conjunction with District Foundation Chair, PDG Dennis Shore, Southbank Rotary will be assisting with organising a major District event to celebrate 100 years of The Rotary Foundation.

More details will be widely circulated before the end of this month but for now, **Save the Date: 31st May 2017 at**

The Atlantic, Central Pier, Docklands.



2017 DISTRICT 9800
CONFERENCE
SHEPPARTON - VICTORIA
30 MARCH - 1 APRIL



Connecting Communities - Serving Humanity

Our Contributors



District Governor Neville John is a member of Central Melbourne Rotary Club.



Tony Thomas frequently contributes to "The Networker", and blogs at quadrant.org.au (usually outrageously)



David Dippie of Keilor RC is a Rotarian who wants to change the world. Keep an eye on this man!



Dennis Shore was D9800 District Governor in 2012-13, and he is now District Foundation Director.



Our Glamorous Girl Friday Clarice replies to the letters we receive at "The Networker".



Matthew Scott of Bendigo South teaches Religion and Media Studies.



Lucienne Heyworth was a Rotary Peace Fellow – Uppsala, Class IV (2015-2017)



Kerry Kornhauser of Albert Park Rotary believes in "Women in Rotary" and that "Rotary is not just for blokes"



DG Nominee Bronwyn Stephens is just back from Cambodia where she supports several projects.



Malcolm Baird of Brighton North is available for Club Presentations on Child Slavery.