



Issue 19, 5 November 2007

Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

November is Foundation Month

Congratulations To Our Newest Club - The Rotary Club Of Port Melbourne

On Friday, 26 October over 200 people witnessed the chartering of the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne. In attendance were the DG 9800's Special Representative IPDG Bernie Walshe, the Mayor of The City of Port Philip Cr Janet Bolitho, the Deputy Mayor Tony Logan, District Governor Dick Garner from District 9810, RI Zone Membership Co-ordinator Cathy Roth, DGE Jim Studebaker and DGN Colin Muir, a number of PDG's and many of our 2007-8 Club Presidents. There were also representatives from District 9790. I would particularly like to offer my personal thanks to the club Presidents that made the effort to attend and the gifts they presented to the new club - it really demonstrated to me the true meaning of the family of Rotary.

The Rotary Club of Port Melbourne - for those few hours - became the newest Rotary club in the world and the 71st in our District.

I was privileged to be able to induct 54 members into this new club. What a magnificent start for a Rotary club. To have 54 members on its charter night is absolutely fantastic.

The President of the RC of Melbourne, Peter McCall, presented the Centenary Bell which was commissioned by the Rotary Club of Melbourne in the centenary year of Rotary. It is presented to a club on its charter night and is held by that club only until the next club is chartered in Australia. At that point it is then passed over to that new Club.

The President of the Rotary Club of Yarraville, Kerry McConnell, presented a Sergeant's collection box in her role as the President of the last club to be chartered in our District prior to the RC of Port Melbourne.

A very moving part of a charter night is the presentation of gifts to the new club by the Presidents of clubs in attendance. This is a custom in our District that goes back many years. It is a personal way for each of the attending Presidents that allows them to say 'Welcome and Congratulations' to the new club President on behalf of their own Club.

I have received the Plans and Objectives of the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne and am impressed with the project list they compiled. They are tackling projects and programs across the Four Avenues of Rotary services plus supporting youth activities under the New Generations banner.

These are just a few of the programs contemplated. This is a club that has been very thorough in its preparation and we can expect to see this reflected with the implementation of many successful projects over this Rotary year.

I would encourage all members of the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne to infuse the club with new ideas, energy and enthusiasm. I encourage all new members to explore the new Rotary International website and our new District website.

If you haven't already done so, can I suggest that you subscribe to our new District online newsletter, 'The Networker'. It's relevant, it's immediate and it even has the temerity to poke fun at some sacred cows. You'll enjoy it. Examples of some of their programs include the Kussa Community Project, an integration program for employment training for African women refugees in Melbourne.

There will also be club participation in the Second Bite program too - working with other Rotary clubs to collect food from the South Melbourne Market each week to be distributed to local agencies who can help to feed the homeless and disadvantaged.

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DG John Davis with some of the 54 Charters Members of RC Port Melbourne



In the Vocational area, there are plans for a program which educates children in managing money and there is also a separate scheme which offers support to families of terminally ill patients.

With youth activities, there is an undertaking of support for the Sandridge Lifesaving Club Nipper Swim Program. This will be done with particular reference to attracting new residents and new arrivals from overseas. The club will also investigate the level of safe study environments that can be provided for students 12-18 years old.

On the International front, there are plans to adopt an orphanage in Cambodia and to undertake Safe Water Saves Lives programs.

These are just a few of the programs contemplated. This is a club that has been very thorough in its preparation and we can expect to see this reflected with the implementation of many successful projects over this Rotary year.

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I have also invited all the members of the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne to attend the 76th Annual District Conference in Shepparton on the weekend of 13-16 March 2008 where they will be able to learn more about the wonderful organisation they have joined. I have assured them that they will come away from their first Rotary Conference amazed at the depth and scope of Rotary and be proud to be a Rotarian.

The presentation of a club's charter is a unique occasion. Central in this ceremony is one of the greatest honours that a Rotarian can enjoy - a charter member of a Rotary club and 54 Rotarians now have the honour of always being known as charter members of their club - the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne.

I know that the club will develop its own style. It has already started to interact with the community on several projects and is making a difference helping to better the lives of others.

To the members ... I urge you to be true to yourself and to share your passion for the good works of Rotary with your fellow citizens, as you grow and develop your club.

My thanks go to IPDG Bernie Walshe who has put much time and effort into the formation of this club. Without his efforts, we would not been celebrating the chartering of a new club in District 9800. Thank you IPDG Bernie.

To Charter President Tony and your Board members ... Congratulations on the work you have done. You are now chartered. I wish you every success. May you lead your club with distinction. May you foster good fellowship amongst your members and enjoy your Rotary membership as you continue to grow following the Rotary tradition of providing 'Service Above Self'.

Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary is no longer with us but his life's work is renewed each time a new Rotary club is formed.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Port Melbourne. May you lead the way for many years to show that Rotary Shares.

The Rotary Club of Port Melbourne meets on a Monday night 6.00 for 6.30 at the Lifesaving Club of Victoria, corner Todd Road and the Boulevard Port Melbourne - why not try a make up there over the next month.



DG John Davis & Joan

- John Davis, District Governor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Barbara Pearce, RC Malvern, Classification: Interior Design
- Graham Roper, RC Werribee, Classification: Security Services
- Fabienne Thewlis, RC Malvern, Classification: Local Government/Business Management

Congratulations to RC Malvern who have inducted 7 new members in the last 4 months – great effort!

Quip Corner

My opinions may have changed, but not the fact that I am right.



40+ Rotarian

A day in Camberwell ... and the old school days came flooding back. The Palace Hotel seemed to wink at me as I passed. "I know you Clarice," it seemed to be saying, "You can come in legally now." I was excited. I was going to a jewellery shop to meet Les Brown, a Charter Member of the Camberwell Rotary Club and a jeweller for over 60 years! It gets better ... At a recent reunion with the gals from school, notably Libby, Prue and Georgina, it was agreed that they'd buy me some 'bling' for an upcoming 'significant birthday'. When I told them I was visiting Les they said they would send off three sealed envelopes to Les and ask him to arrange a fitting of bling that the majority thought suited me. How exciting!! We met at the family business in Camberwell. It's now run by Les's son, but Les still drops in to do a bit of 'terrorising'. I'm afraid I was a bit "Sit down, Les and let's get this over" with so we can get to the real business of the day...

C: How did you become involved with Rotary?

LB: My father was a Charter Member at Hawthorn in 1953, so I had an early insight into the workings of Rotary. I was delighted to be invited to become a Charter Member of Camberwell three years later.

C: What is the biggest project you've been involved with as a Rotarian?

LB: The Camberwell club has been involved in many hands on projects. The most memorable for me was when, as a club, we completely renovated and auctioned a house in Harp Road, Kew. From the proceeds we built a school for mentally retarded children. This was a very satisfying project.

C: What is the biggest change in Rotary that you've seen?

LB: The advent of the term 'partner' in Rotary. It's entrenched now, as it should be these days. I think that women, with their different perspectives, have enhanced Rotary tremendously.

C: You've been at the Rotary Club of Camberwell since it was chartered over 50 years ago. Tell me about some of the club legends whose company you've enjoyed.

LB: Ian Barnes, our Charter President – for his enthusiasm, his friendship and the great vision he had for the Rotary Club of Camberwell. John Steven and PDG Don Jago – great Rotarians who have enthusiastically contributed to Rotary at a Club and District level for many years.

C: What's great about the Camberwell Rotary Club?

LB: Extreme fellowship ... it's a great club. I should also mention our partners who are also wholeheartedly involved in our endeavours. If it wasn't for our partners, our longstanding Art Show would struggle.

C: If you could have been present at a famous event in history what would you have chosen and why?

LB: At the signing of the Armistice which ended the First World War and the slaughter of millions. My father was a veteran of Gallipoli and France, and he was adamant that it was " ... not a fight, it was wholesale slaughter".

C: You've been a jeweller for over 60 years. What is the single most impressive piece of jewellery that you've ever seen in that time?

LB: In 1954, Queen Elizabeth II visited Australia for the first time. A brooch of diamonds and sapphires was presented to her. The colours were chosen to represent the colours of Australia. The presentation and craftsmanship were magnificent – quite the most exquisite piece of jewellery I've seen.

C: Do you see a relaxation of Rotary's rules and formalities as a natural progression or do you believe that 'standards have dropped'?

LB: The changing of rules was inevitable. Things have to change to reflect the time. I don't think that the changes have been all that considerable. More important is 'Rotarians understanding Rotary' ... the Manual of Procedure has become a rare document.

C: Another Hawthorn Football Club Rotarian ... what are some of your memories following the mighty Hawks?

LB: I was born in 1925 - the same year that Hawthorn joined the VFL. I remember the 'darker' days. I used to go with a friend to all Hawthorn matches from 1954 through to 1995. I remember the old muddy Glenferrie Oval days. When the Hawks were bad you could walk in and get a seat in the grandstand. Many times I saw Peter Hudson kicking a huge bag of goals and, of course, there was Leigh Matthews – the greatest Hawk of all. Being a Hawthorn supporter has given me some great moments. *(I'm happy for you. They've given me some awful moments –C)*



Queen Elizabeth during her 1954 visit

C: You've lived in the Boroondara area for a long time. If you were encouraging a young couple to settle there, how would you promote the area to them?



LB: No problem about singing the praises of Boroondara – great parks, shopping areas, school ... everything. But for young people the price is prohibitive and that's a great pity.

C: How would you describe your preference in music?

LB: I love the musicals ... all musicals ... 'My Fair Lady', 'Oklahoma', 'South Pacific', 'Cats', 'Le Miserables' and 'Hair'. ('Hair'?? ... *Les, they were naked* –C). I also enjoy a bit of classical music. (*I'm relieved* –C)

C: How do you relax and do you have a favourite drink?

LB: I love watching television documentaries. I also enjoy British drama and comedy. The Americans always seem to have too many guns and insist on playing loud music over everything. With a drink ... I enjoy a dry white and also have a preference for a good D'Arenburg shiraz. (*Yes ... D'Arenburg. Very evocative, Leslie* –C)

C: What qualities do you think a successful Rotary Club President should have?

LB: He or she should understand RI rules and be armed with a good supply of tact. It also helps if the President is able to communicate ideas and understands that the position requires and expects leadership.

C: Who do you think killed JFK - the Mafia, the Cubans, Lee Harvey Oswald or do you have another theory?

LB: Call me conservative, but I'll stick with Lee Harvey Oswald. Wasn't he a communist from way back? (*True true ... and we were told that we all had to check for 'reds under the beds'* –C)

C: In the 1930's and 40's there was bandleader called 'Les Brown and his Band of Renown'. Do have a 'band of renown'?

LB: That would be 'the family'. (*Hmm ... exactly what Marlon Brando said in 'The Godfather'* –C)

C: Complete the following: Life is ...

LB: ... complex.

C: My secret talent is ...

LB: ... undiscovered as yet. But we're looking very hard for it.

C: The way to my heart is ...

LB: ...Yvonne's cooking.

C: I am ...

LB: ...81 and still hoping to contribute.

C: Rotary is ...

LB: ... caring and doing for the good of people everywhere.

C: Rotarians are ...

LB: ... leaders in every community.

Thank you, Les. An old world charmer in an old world suburb ... both showing that refinement and good taste transcend the years. This had been a very pleasant day. However other things beckoned ... So Leslie ... the envelopes, let's see what my friends think... Les explained that he had already opened the envelopes and the girls had, he said, all picked the same thing. He had then resealed the envelopes, so that I could have the thrill of reading my friends' choice. As you know it's never 'all about me' but I confess I was a bit excited. One by one, I opened the envelopes. Libby's decision ... 'a tiara'. Prue ... 'a tiara'. Georgina ... 'a tiara'. Is there something I'm missing? Les brought out the prize. "First fitting, Clarice", he said just as I was about to ponder the subtleties of this 'dedication' a little more. But, as it always does, the mirror beat me. A couple of pouts and I was captured by the moment ... hmm, not bad at all. "A perfect fit", said Les. He was right ... 60 years in the jewellery business ... I mean, Les knew what looked good. And I have to confess that a tiara does lend a certain regal 'something' to one's bearing...

So now it's Princess Clarice. For interested parties, please note we will be in attendance on Oaks Day.

Do look out for us.



'Princess Clarice'

2007/08 GSE Team Member Selections

The 2007/2008 GSE team member selections were finalised on Sunday, 4 November and once again the clubs in the District who nominated candidates should be proud of them. The calibre of all candidates was exceptional, making the task of choosing five team members a difficult one for the selection committee. District Governor John Davis and the GSE selection committee are pleased to announce that the following five candidates were successful:

- **Lena Condos** (RC Melbourne South)
- **Jason Cotter** (RC Altona City)
- **Bronwyn Flanagan** (RC Central Melbourne Sunrise)
- **Michael Hick** (RC Altona)
- **Heidi Schwegler** (RC Wyndham)



Congratulations have been extended to all participants and now Team Leader Anne Peace (RC Echuca-Moama) can commence the task of preparing the team for the exchange next year with District 5650 in Iowa/Nebraska, USA. Any clubs who would like to have the team attend their club meeting for a presentation should feel free to contact Anne.

- Dennis Shore, D9800 GSE Chairman

Aboriginal Community Reach Self Sustainability

The Donydji Community Development project aims to establish a model for the sustainability of remote indigenous communities within the homelands of the Yolngu people of North East Arnhem Land. It seeks to build the capacity of the Community to determine its own future by increasing skills and developing the confidence of the people in their own ability to live self fulfilling lives while living within the security of their kinship group. The project recognises that the program must be owned by the people of the community and must operate in response to the expressed need of the people.

Project Aims:

- Provide the necessary infrastructure including a school, a fully equipped training facility and the necessary housing to ensure that all those members of the community wishing to participate in the program are able to remain in the community.
- Establish an ongoing system of formal primary education, located within fully equipped school facilities and staffed by qualified teachers.
- Create training programs in life skills for the youth of the community designed to equip them with the life and trade skills to enable them to participate in the paid workforce and to live self fulfilling lives.
- Launch training programs in financial management and business operations to give the local people opportunities to learn the necessary skills to operate their own small business enterprises;
- Create within the community opportunities for the people to participate in business enterprises based on their acquired skills in areas such as community maintenance, environmental protection, creative arts and crafts, community protection and indigenous tourism.

Achievements To Date:

- School Building completed (2003 as joint project with RC East Keilor). Primary Education Program successfully established with local women employed as Trainee Teachers. Success recognised by Northern Territory Government with the provision of additional classroom and teacher's accommodation in 2006.
- Training Workshop constructed using volunteers from the Vietnam Veterans Community who travelled to Donydji to work voluntarily for eight weeks constructing the workshop using a prefabricated kit transported from Darwin. The volunteers were ably assisted by young men from the community who were trained by the volunteers in a wide range of building skills.
- Training Workshop was fully equipped mostly by donations in kind made available by two Melbourne based companies.
- In 2006 the Vietnam Veterans returned to Donydji to undertake the first of a series of skills training programs. Programs were conducted in building repairs and maintenance, basic motor mechanics, Community Health, and understanding of the law.
- In 2007 the training programs have continued and the first contract work for local people has been won and successfully completed.
- In 2008 three houses will be provided for young families returning to the community to participate in the training.



Training Workshop

The Rotary Club of Melbourne has raised in excess of \$600,000 to date through grants and donations in kind. When the value of the voluntary work is added, the contribution to the community exceeds \$1,000,000.

Rotary Peace & Conflict Studies Program Applications

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies (RPCS) Program announces a call for applications for the July 2008 program session. The deadline for completed applications to be submitted to The Rotary Foundation for this session is **1 December 2007**.

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program is a professional development program held in Bangkok, Thailand through which up to 30 participants embark on three months of intensive study instructed by some of the leading specialists in the peace and conflict resolution fields. The customised curriculum has been crafted by specialists in the field to capitalise on the experience of both participants and lecturers while balancing theoretical and practical learning.



Ideal for busy professionals, the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program's customised curriculum helps promising leaders expand their global outlook, strengthen their negotiation skills, and ultimately make a positive impact on future peace and conflict resolution efforts worldwide.

For more information please contact Jenn Weidman, Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program Specialist, on +1-847-866-3374 or <mailto:jenn.weidman@rotary.org>. Program materials and participant profiles can be downloaded at www.rotary.org.

Carlton Primary School – Harvest Lunch Celebration

On Friday, 26 October, Tony Broughton and I were guests of Carlton Primary School at the celebration of their Harvest Lunch. This was a wonderful event and the fruition of several years work. The concept of a vegetable garden was the dream of Christopher Burgess, a dedicated teacher who has been at the school for quite some time. Working with the school's Acting Principal, Julie Large, a coalition of strategic partners was built. They included the City of Melbourne, the Gould League and University High School.

The new vegetable garden is just one of a number of developments and improvements at the school. It is located on the north side of the property where it receives plenty of sunlight at all times of the year, and has a 6-foot high cyclone boundary fence. There are a number of garden beds separated by winding paths, and it has a purpose built watering system. The school has ordered a water tank and is waiting on its delivery and installation. Here the emphasis is on sustainability. Attached to the wall is a very impressive new BBQ donated by the Rotary Club of Carlton. So in reality, it is not just a garden, but rather an outdoor classroom for the students and a community centre for parents and friends. It is also a wonderful place of welcome.

Julie Large welcomed all guests and visitors, and invited Mayor John So to officially open the garden. As part of the welcome the students sang the school song. The Year 9 students from University H.S. helped the primary students to



welcome guests. The theme on the bookmark we were given reads, **"Harmony makes all things grow"**. As part of their studies, the students prepared the garden, planted the vegetables, tended the growing plants, and picked them and cleaned them ready for the Sorghum Sisters to convert them into a delicious lunch for staff, visitors and guests. This was done in the kitchen that has been provided by AMES (Adult Multicultural Education Services).

Guests were then escorted to the classroom converted into a restaurant by the students. The work of University H.S. students deserves special mention. They were doing this as part of their Community Engagement project, and it was a great example of leadership and service. Carlton Rotary Club was proud to be part of this very exciting project, and congratulates all involved.

- Paul Carlin

*Carlton Primary School students with guests at the launch (L-R):
Jodie Robison Gould Group; Rob Newton University High School; Melbourne's Lord Mayor Cr.
John So; Chris Burgess Carlton Primary School; Ann-Maree Colborne CEO Gould Group;
Lauren Scanlen Gould Group; Julie Large Principal Carlton Primary School*

Notices & Events

Pin & Win At the Melbourne Cup Carnival!

The Alfred Hospital has been selected as the official charity of the Victoria Racing Club for 2007 and 2008, and the recipient of proceeds from the VRC Melbourne Cup Carnival – Pin and Win Promotion.

Every Melbourne Cup Carnival lapel pins purchased will make a difference to the lives of more than 350,000 patients who are treated at The Alfred each year.

Funds raised through Pin & Win will be directed towards critical care services at The Alfred Hospital, which has



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developed its role as a leader in the treatment of seriously ill patients through its expertise in trauma management and other specialist services.

To maximise the potential sale of the pins, The Alfred is seeking around 400 volunteers to assist with selling of the Pins on each of the Melbourne Cup Carnival Race Days at Flemington.

- Oaks Day **Thursday, 8 November**
- Stakes Day **Saturday, 10 November**

Volunteers will be fully supported including:

- Briefing and training
- Uniform
- Food and drinks including lunch provided
- Free entry into the course for the whole day



To register please contact Carolyn Williams, Development Manager, The Alfred, phone 9076 3222 or email carolyn.williams@alfred.org.au

Fun In A Melton Garden

Visit a unique Melton garden on **Sunday, 11 November** at 10 Greenstead Amble, Kurunjang from 10.00am to 4.00pm. There will be a wonderful display of Classic Cars courtesy of the 1959-61 Ford Fairlane and Classic Cruisers Club of Australia, obtain back copies of Gardening Magazines and enjoy the sausage sizzle! Entry is \$5 per person (children under 15 free) and all proceeds will be donated to The Rotary Foundation and Dying With Dignity.



Antique & Collectibles Day

The Rotary Club of Brighton Beach in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Brighton invite you to an Antique & Collectibles Day on **Sunday, 11 November 2007**, to be held at the Brighton Town Hall from 10.30am – 4.30pm.

Appraisals will be done by several Members of Antique Guild, Antique Experts and Dealers. So bring along your clocks, jewellery, art, ceramics, small furniture, silverware, china, lamps, knick knacks and bric-a-brac!

The entry is \$5 and appraisals \$5 per item. Afternoon tea, coffee, cakes etc are provided.

Enquiries: 0438 758 651 or mailto:ken@enmin.com.au

AGM District 9800 Inc

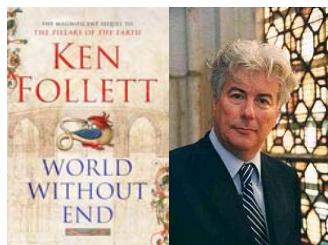
The AGM for District 9800 Inc will be held at International House on **Monday, 12 November** at Grey Court Theatre, International House, 241 Royal Parade, Parkville at 6.00pm, under the Rules and Statement of Purpose of District 9800 Inc no member (read Club) shall be entitled to appoint a proxy to attend or vote at any general meeting. This means that we must have a minimum of 36 Club Presidents or their delegate in attendance for a quorum. Note that if the President is unable to attend a delegate under 22.3.2 may be appointed by completing the form in Schedule 1 of the Rules and Statement of purpose signed by the President or two Board members and handed to the District Secretary before the scheduled start of the meeting.

Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants & Volunteer Grants

The D9800 Foundation Grants Committee Chairman invites Club Presidents and President Elects, Club Foundation Chairmen, and Club International Chairmen to attend an information evening on Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants, and Volunteer Grants to be held immediately following the District 9800 Annual General Meeting on **Monday, 12 November** at Grey Court Theatre, International House, 241 Royal Parade, Parkville.

This information evening will conclude by 7.30pm and will provide you with relevant and up-to-date information on all aspects of our Humanitarian Grants Program.

This is a great opportunity to more fully understand how your club can take advantage of Foundation funding to support your local and international humanitarian programs.



Dinner With Ken Follett

RC Toorak invites you to a dinner with renowned UK author, Ken Follett, 7pm for 7.30 **Monday, 12 November** at Lincoln of Toorak (Level 2, Trak Centre, 445 Toorak Road, Toorak). There is ample parking in Trak Centre car park (enter Jackson Street).

Ken Follett will launch and personally sign his sequel to *The Pillars of the Earth*. *World Without End* is one of the most anticipated books in memory and is one of the biggest releases on Pan Macmillan's list this year.



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Special guest at the launch will be the Hon Jeff Kennett AC proudly supporting beyondblue.



\$95.00 per person includes two course meal and all beverages
\$950.00 table of 10
\$1140.00 table of 12

Contact Alan Freedman on 0419 357 864 or at barhampton@bigpond.com (RSVP: 5 November), or check the D9800 website to download your booking form (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>).

Michael Gawenda Speaker At The PHF Breakfast

Triple Walkley Award journalist and former Editor-in-Chief of *The Age*, Michael Gawenda, will address guests at the Annual Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Breakfast at the RACV Club in the city, Level 17, 501 Bourke Street, on **13 November 2007**. This is a District-wide event to which all Paul Harris Fellows are especially invited, together with other Rotarians and guests. Starting time is 7.15 am, conclusion 9.00 am. Cost is \$50.00. To book, please contact Richard Mitchell on 9642 8935, fax 9642 4800, email mitchco@bigpond.net.au.

Michael Gawenda will speak on his experiences from 2004 as Washington correspondent for *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and in particular about reporting on Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and his newly published book, *American Notebook*.

Clubs are urged to encourage all PHFs to attend this function, at which they will be acknowledged, and to support the Rotary Foundation by organising tables. However individual guests will also be appropriately seated. Parking is available the RACV Club at a cost of \$11 until 9.30 am.

Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night

Melton Valley Rotary Club are holding their Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night on **Wednesday, 14 November** (6.00pm for a 6.30pm start) at the Melton Valley Golf Club, Melton Valley Drive, Melton.

Cost for 2 course meal and evening of fun and frivolity is \$25.00 per head. Limited Spaces so please book early! All proceeds from the evening will go to the Tibetan Village Project.

Please phone Barbara Richards on 9747 0054 or 0407 556 178, or email barbararichards@bigpond.com.

The Royce Abbey Oration

RC Brighton is pleased to invite you to The Royce Abbey Oration to be held at Milanos, Brighton Beach at 6.15 for 6.30pm on **Thursday, 15 November**. Lady Southey A.C. formerly Lieutenant Governor of Victoria and Past President of Philanthropy Australia will give the Oration. She is a member of the Myer family of Melbourne and is involved in a number of Voluntary Organisations. Bookings are essential (\$30 per head) and can be made to Greg Biggin on 9592 7137 (fax 9593 1740), or PDG John King on 9592 9120 (fax 9592 9278, email jwking@hotmail.net.au).

Potential Rotary Leaders Seminar Update

In Networker 14 we advised you of the upcoming PRLS Seminar in October. Unfortunately the two facilitators from New Zealand who are to run both the Basic PRLS and Master PRLS have not been able to get suitable flights inbound and outbound to Australia for the weekend of 20-21 October. Therefore the seminar has been moved to the PRLS training program to the weekend of **17-18 November**. The venue and times remain unchanged.

The new dates may also allow people who were not able to attend the seminar in October to now attend in November.

The original registration form can still be used to register for the November seminar – see your Club President email the District Governor).

The Master PRLS program for 9800 Rotarians is now full, however, if Rotarians from our District wish to be placed on a waiting list they may still be able to attend depending on the numbers from District 9810.

Basic PRLS will be Saturday, 17 November and the Master program will be on the Sunday, 18 November.

There are still places available for the Basic program, and Presidents-Elect are particularly encouraged to register as the timing is now ideal - it will follow on from Pre-Pets on 28 October and will give you the additional skills as you progress your year as President.

The revised closing date for registrations will be **12 November**.

PRLS is a great program and all who attend will certainly benefit from the experience.

Both Rotary Districts 9800 and 9810 have combined their resources to bring PRLS (Potential Rotary Leaders Seminar) to Melbourne for the first time. Both Districts identified in their 2007-8 strategy plan for their Districts that there was a need for additional leader training for Rotarians wishing to take on a leadership role in either their club or District. PRLS offers the opportunity to provide additional skills and training to take on a leadership role in Rotary but participants have found the information and experience provided during the seminar can also be used in their vocation.



The PRLS training concept was successfully adopted by a number of North American Districts. The program was introduced to Southern Africa and then in 2006 to Queensland. In November 2006 some of the DGE attended an orientation day for PRLS which was run by Rotarians from District 5240. DGE John Davis 9800 and Dick Garner 9810 felt that the PRLS training would be advantageous for Rotarians in their Districts and planned to introduce the training in the 2007–08 Rotary year.

We are very fortunate that we have been able to get two top PRLS presenters to run our first PRLS training courses. Laurie and Maureen Bond are both experienced Rotarians and established the PRLS programs in six Southern African Districts. Recently they have moved to New Zealand and they will visit Melbourne to assist 9800 and 9810 to establish our training programs. Laurie and Maureen will run the first courses and also help us in "Training our Trainers". We will then be able to run our own future PRLS leadership programs.

The aims of PRLS are:

- Develop leaders for Business, Home and Social life.
- Develop Rotary leaders beyond club level, Rotary at club level, and Rotary at District level.
- Grow and benefit Rotarians.
- Sell Rotary to non-Rotarians.
- Grow Rotary commitment.
- Rotary membership development and retention.

The Presidents Rotary Leadership Program (PRLS) will be held over 2 days – Basic PRLS on Saturday, 17 November and Master PRLS on Sunday, 18 November – at the Quality Inn, Tullamarine.

DG 9800 John Davis and DG 9810 Dick Garner invite you to participate in this excellent program by completing and forwarding the application form available on the D9800 website by 12 November 2007.

Places are restricted to 25 per District on Day 1 and 12 per District on Day 2 so you are encouraged to reply early as these places will fill quickly and will be processed on a first in first served basis.

Art Auction

The Rotary Club of Carlton's Art Auction promotes the works of young and upcoming artists who are serious about establishing careers in the Arts, as well as established figures in the Art World. Participating artists include painters, printmakers and sculptors.

Proceeds of the Art Auction will go towards community projects.

A theme has been suggested for those Artists wishing to utilise a unifying concept: celebration of food, wine, the pleasures of the table, people at leisure--away from the daily grind, the cornucopia of our rich and fertile land, the markets, bacchanalia, street scenes. However much of the work will be of a more general nature.

Viewing days are **16 November** (9.00am – 5.00pm), **17 November** (1.00pm – 5.00pm) and **18 November** (10.00am – 3.00pm). Most works will be sold by silent auction and only between 15 and 20 major works will be auctioned in the theatre of the Royal Society, commencing at 3:00 pm on **18 November**. For more information, please email carlton@rotaryd9800.org or visit <http://www.carltonrotary.org.au/>

Relay For Life Launch

The official launch of the 'Relay For Life' in Moorabool will be on **17 November** at the Darley Market 11am-12pm. The Bacchus Marsh, Melton and Melton Valley clubs are all involved and this event - which will be held on 29 March 2008 - should be fun and send a message of hope to cancer survivors and carers in the area. If any other clubs in the area wish to join us and form a team, please come to the launch or contact Bob Levy on 5367 3314 or at eagles_landing@hotmail.net.au. What is a Relay For Life? Check out www.relayforlife.org.au

RC Richmond Meeting Change

The Rotary Club of Richmond will meet on **Monday, 19 November** at Hawthorn Receptions, 555 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn (6.30 for 7pm) for the Richmond Rotary Club's Celebratory Dinner for the Rotary Youth Arts Project.

Tom Hafey At Daylesford Community Fundraising Breakfast

RC Daylesford welcomes AFL legend, Tom Hafey as their guest speaker at their 3rd Community Fundraising Breakfast on **21 November 2007** from 7.00am to 8.45am, at Hepburn Springs Golf Club, Sault Ballan Road, Daylesford (\$27.50 per head - bookings need to be made promptly as numbers are limited).

Tom will be talking about his sporting and media career, and funds raised will be donated to the Museum and towards the installation of historical story and information boards throughout the Shire, beginning with a storyboard about the Lost Children.

RSVP with payment: PO Box 23 Daylesford, 3460 by 14 November or for more information, please contact Lee on 5348 2144 or Bronwen on 5348 1112.



RI President-Elect D.K. Lee Visits Australia

President David Gibb and the Rotary Club of Ballarat South would like to invite all Rotarians throughout the District and beyond to join them for a dinner meeting at the Doherty Hotel-Ballararat Lodge, Main Road, Ballarat on **Thursday, 22 November**, 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Attending will be the very distinguished guest speaker Rotary International President-Elect, Dong Kurn Lee and his wife Young Ja. Also attending from right across Australia will be District Governors, District Governors Elect and District Governor Nominees, along with many Past Officers of Rotary International as this is part of their annual Zone Institute to be held in Ballarat during the week commencing November 18 2007.

There is seating for 500 available and partners are welcome. Cost is \$45.00 per person.

For more details or to register, please contact Secretary Desley Beechey on 5343 2318 or <mailto:desleyb@bhs.org.au>.

Do A Good Deed

Are you sick of going to auctions where your wallet just doesn't hold enough cash? Then come along to the Rotary Club of Brimbank Central's Charity Auction on **Saturday, 24 November** at the Starlight Centre, Taylors Lakes Hotel, 7 Keilor Melton Road, Taylors Lakes from 6:30pm.

Items for juniors to geriatrics. Big items, small items, low cost items, high-end items, personal items, household items. Something for everyone.

Food, fun, fellowship and give-aways. One person from each table guaranteed to win a prize.

Don't miss out - purchase your tickets now! \$35 per person (includes 3 course meal) and drinks at bar prices.

For further details, please contact Lewis Bordon on 9364 4192 (bh), 9310 8140 (ah) or 0412 532300.

For a complete list of auction items check out our website: <http://www.brimbankrotary.org.au/> (click on the projects button).

ARHRF Dinner

The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund is putting on a dinner at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club on **29 November** to host eminent visiting Psychologist and Paediatric Surgeon Professor, Annette La Greca, and Christine Nixon, Chief Commissioner Victoria Police.

Matching two great speakers - a Chief Commissioner of Police, and a world acclaimed expert on children's and adolescents reactions to traumatic events (e.g. Natural disasters, terrorists attacks) – will make for a very stimulating evening.

Professor La Greca will speak on her involvement in:

- Hurricane Andrew
- September 11th terrorist attack
- Kobe Earthquake
- Helping children cope with disasters and terrorism
- 'Keeping Children Safe' project

The Chief Commissioner will speak on related matters from the police and emergency services point of view.

The primary purpose of the dinner is to stimulate debate on the subject, and to promote awareness of the work of the ARHRF by targeting Rotarians, professional groups, and the public in general.

The cost for dinner is \$65 per head, with drinks at bar prices. Because the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club is a private club regulations governing such organisations stipulate guests will need to provide their full name and address when purchasing tickets. Please contact the ticket secretary Judy Nettleton on 9427 7233 (bh), or <mailto:aceheat@ace-heat.com.au>.

The Variety Clubs Christmas Party For Special Children



The Rotary Club of Essendon North invites you to help out with the Variety Clubs Christmas Party for Special Children. The set up day is **Tuesday 11 December 2007** and the party is on **Wednesday, 12 December**.

Rotary club members who wish to participate in this most worthy event this year, please contact Events Australia for the current application forms (Events Australia, 407 City Road, South Melbourne Vic 3205. Ph: 9929 4407, Fax: 9699 4655. Email: lauren@eventsaust.com.au).

Please contact Jim Thompson of RC Essendon North on 9354 6694 with any queries.



Blues Festival to Mark the 150th Anniversary of Point Cook Homestead

The Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook will be holding a Blues Music Festival at the Point Cook Homestead on **Sunday, 10 February 2008** to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead.

Proceeds from the Festival will go towards a \$50,000 upgrade of the Point Cook Coastal Park Playground which is due for completion in March 2008.

The club is seeking support from other Rotarians in the District to help as volunteers on 10 February 2008, as the Laverton Point Cook club is only small. A crowd of around 3,000 is expected and volunteer roles include marshalling, car park, information officers, ticket sellers/checkers, set up and pack up, and general assistance. If you would like to register as a volunteer for the event, please contact Chris Egger on <mailto:cegger@ntc.gov.au> or phone 9236 5033 (bh) or 0407 846 382.

Sponsors are also being sought for the event so if you have a business and would like to be a sponsor, please contact Emma Sutcliffe on 9395 7501 or mobile 0409 040 499 or <mailto:emmamike@bigpond.com>.



*John Ray, then Wyndham City Councillor
Leigh Barrat and John Argote from Parks Victoria*

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

Altona City Rotary Club is holding its Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects.

Commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (we're giving you lots of time to get your entries in before the 14 February deadline!), there will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes.

All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli.

A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on 24 April 2008, together with local Rotarians.

Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

Option 1: Seven day tour (**21-28 April 2008**) includes visit to the capital of three empires, Istanbul and ancient Troy.

Option 2: Three week walking tour (**8-25 April 2008**) tour which, apart from Istanbul, includes visits to World Heritage listed Cappadocia in central Turkey, following Roman roads in southern Turkey, Epheusus, Troy and joining with others for the launch and ceremony at Gallipoli.

If you wish, your itinerary can be rearranged according to your requirements.

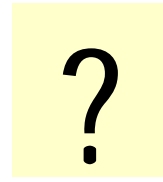
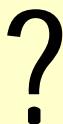
To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.



Know someone who would make a
great Rotarian?



Bring them along
to your next meeting.





Foundation Month With Chris Don

The Foundation Of Rotary International

Over the next few weeks I will be showcasing the signature programs of our Foundation, and those Rotarians within our District who are directly involved in their administration and stewardship.

I will also be introducing to you the various recipients of our Educational Grants, as well as our visiting Ambassadorial Scholars and Teachers.

The various Districts Humanitarian projects, funded through the Foundation, will also be highlighted along with those Rotarians who are directly involved in each project.

Educational Programs

- Group Study Exchange (GSE)
- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars
- Rotary World Peace Fellowships
- Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace & Conflict Resolution
- The Royce & Jean Abbey Endowment Fund

Humanitarian Programs

- Matching Grants
- District Simplified Grants (DSG)
- Volunteer Service Grants
- Rotary Grants for University Teacher Grants
- Health, Hunger & Humanity Grants (3H)
- PolioPlus & PolioPlus Partners
- Rotary Foundation Alumni

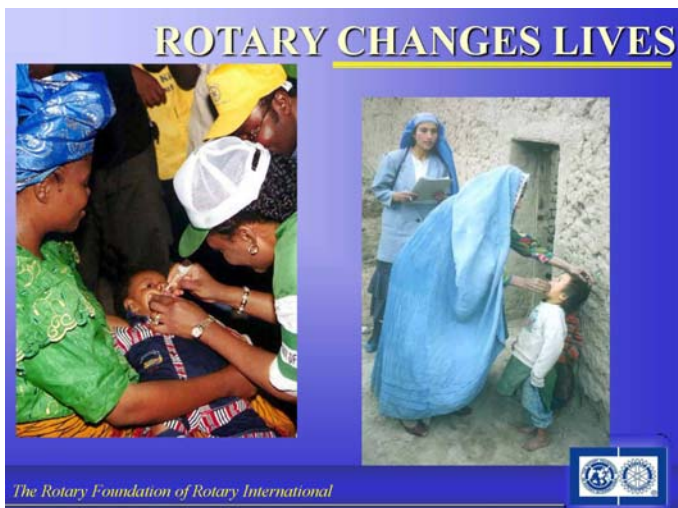
Without the Foundation which is supported by contributions primarily by Rotarians and friends of Rotary, many, if not all, of the programs wouldn't exist.

Global Challenges would remain just that ... a challenge, whereas through our Foundation we are in fact succeeding to improve the quality of life of so many of the world's desperately poor and disadvantaged.

With this I mind, I will be showing you how your individual contribution either through the Centurion Sustaining Members Fund (Every Rotarian Every Year), our recently chartered Paul Harris Society or bequests, can directly help. I will also be identifying how our District clubs can ensure the ongoing financial viability of the Foundation by contributing through their annual giving.

President of Rotary International, Wilf Wilkinson, said, "As Rotarians we give generously, yet we gain so much more: the pleasure of helping others, the satisfaction of knowing that we're doing the right thing, the joys of fellowship and friendship."

- Chris Don, District Foundation Committee Chairman





How's Your Club Shaping Up?

Sorry - no congratulations this month as 100% reporting was not achieved for September 2007. You did well for the first for 2 months, but a slight hiccup this month, please let us try to get back to 100% reporting next month and for the remainder of this Rotary year.

Club	Cluster	Meetings Held	Attendance	Club	Cluster	Meetings Held	Attendance
Albert Park	Batman	4	45%	Brunswick	Heritage	4	35%
Central Melb. Sunrise	Batman	4	61%	Carlton	Heritage	4	74%
Melbourne	Batman			Collingwood	Heritage	4	71%
Melbourne Latrobe	Batman			Fitzroy	Heritage	4	74%
Melbourne South	Batman	4	61%	Richmond	Heritage	4	45%
Southbank	Batman	4	64%	Flemington	Hobsons Bay	4	83%
Brighton	Beachside	4	64%	Footscray	Hobsons Bay	4	45%
Brighton Beach	Beachside	4	43%	Maribyrnong Highpoint	Hobsons Bay	4	62%
Brighton North	Beachside	4	58%	Point Gellibrand	Hobsons Bay	4	89%
Caulfield	Beachside	3	70%	West Footscray	Hobsons Bay	4	70%
Elsternwick	Beachside	4	64%	Williamstown	Hobsons Bay	4	62%
Glen Eira	Beachside	4	60%	Yarraville	Hobsons Bay	4	72%
Castlemaine	Calder	4	75%	Chadstone/East Malvern	Monash	4	81%
Daylesford	Calder	4	87%	Malvern	Monash	4	74%
Gisborne	Calder	4	75%	Prahran	Monash	4	66%
Kyneton	Calder	4	67%	South Yarra	Monash	4	65%
Woodend	Calder	4	68%	St Kilda	Monash		
Balwyn	Eastside	4	68%	Toorak	Monash	4	64%
Boroondara	Eastside	4	71%	Altona	Port Phillip	4	78%
Camberwell	Eastside	4	72%	Altona City	Port Phillip	4	82%
Canterbury	Eastside	4	68%	Hoppers Crossing	Port Phillip	4	75%
North Balwyn	Eastside	4	84%	Laverton Point Cook	Port Phillip	4	66%
Essendon	Gateway	4	59%	Werribee	Port Phillip	4	71%
Essendon North	Gateway	4	70%	Wyndham	Port Phillip	4	80%
Keilor	Gateway	4	80%	Bacchus Marsh	Westside	4	64%
Keilor East	Gateway	4	79%	Brimbank Central	Westside	4	81%
Melbourne North	Gateway	4	67%	Melton	Westside	4	82%
Moonee Valley	Gateway	4	54%	Melton Valley	Westside	4	81%
Tullamarine	Gateway	4	66%	Sunshine	Westside	4	61%
Bendigo	Goldfields	4	72%	Glenferrie	Yarra	4	66%
Bendigo Sandhurst	Goldfields	4	68%	Hawthorn	Yarra	4	62%
Bendigo South	Goldfields	4	68%	Kew	Yarra	4	70%
Bendigo Strathdale	Goldfields	4	70%	Kew-on-Yarra	Yarra	4	84%
Eaglehawk	Goldfields	4	87%	No. of Clubs Reporting % Average of Reported % of Clubs Reporting			67
Echuca-Moama	Goldfields	4	74%				68.5
Kangaroo Flat	Goldfields	4	59%				96
Rochester	Goldfields	4	59%				

Problems can become opportunities when YOU choose for them to be!

- Wes Truscott



Issue 20, 12 November 2007

Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

November is Foundation Month

Rotary - Working For Peace In The World

A Program Of The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Centre for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution is one of the Foundation's newest educational program initiatives and a major educational priority for achieving its mission of promoting global understanding and peace. Six Rotary centres have been established with outstanding universities throughout the world. Each year, up to 60 Rotary World Peace Fellows are selected on a worldwide basis to study for a one to two year graduate program leading to a Masters degree or equivalent in International Relations, Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution. The University of Queensland is one of the six universities in the world to be selected to run this program. The program has only been running for 7 years and our District has had 6 successful candidates. This is a fantastic record when only 60 candidates are selected worldwide each year. There are a few elements of the program which underpin its unique character.

- The Rotary Fellowship is the only scholarship directly orientated towards peace studies.
- The Rotary Centre's program values field and professional experiences *as well as* academic achievement.
- The Rotary World Peace Fellowship combines academic experience with field training.
- The Rotary Peace Fellowship creates a solid network of personal and professional relationships devoted to peace initiatives around the world.

While our candidate was not successful this year for the two year Master's program of the World Peace Scholarship, I am pleased to advise that our candidate, Susan Carew, sponsored by the RC of Canterbury, has been selected for the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies program. This program, the newest educational program, of the Foundation is a 3 month professional development certificate program held at the University of Chulalongkorn, Bangkok. It will run from 26 January 2008 to 11 April 2008. We believe that Susan is the first person from Australia to have been selected to attend this course. *The course is fully funded by the Foundation's World Fund.*

The current holder of the Rotary World Peace Fellowship in our District is Pia Simonsen who is studying at Duke University North Carolina USA. *Pia's selection has a wider context. She was a Rotary Exchange student of D9800 in 2003 and spent a year in Denmark.* She has been an excellent candidate and is a wonderful ambassador for Rotary's programs. I have included below extracts from her first report which shows the worth of this Foundation program.

Introduction

It comes as a great surprise to me that it's already time to write my first report and to simultaneously realize that it has been a deeply enriching and jam-packed experience thus far! First and foremost, I wish to reiterate my great pleasure and honor to be a recipient of this prestigious scholarship and to express my sincere thanks to the Rotary Foundation, and wider community, who have enabled this wonderful peace building initiative to occur.

1. Involvement with Rotarians in Host Area

I have been blessed with the support and friendship of my Counselor, Bart Cleary, and his wife, Cindy. They have been simply wonderful - and helpful far, far beyond all expectations. After picking me up at the airport and letting me stay for over a week, they have also generously assisted with finding an apartment, buying furniture and a car, establishing a bank account, and many others. They have been invaluable in helping me adjust and feel a part of the local community.

I have also enjoyed the friendship of several other Rotarians including Carol and Tim Allen, Bill and Renee Wickers, Jim and Florence Peacock, Arthur and Caroline Rogers, and enjoyed a 'flying visit' by Bob Fels from my home district (9800). Additionally, I have greatly appreciated the assistance of Susan Carol, Terry Meyer, Michael Donlan and several others, both prior to our arrival and now.

Unfortunately I have a core class at the same time as the Oxford Rotary Club Meeting which has greatly curtailed my ability to regularly visit, however I was able to attend an interesting presentation about the arrival of the Vietnamese boat people to America. I was also able to attend a Durham Bulls baseball match as a guest of the Oxford Club, who had organized a community visit for local disadvantaged youths. I'm very much looking forward to deepening my interactions with them, and other Rotary clubs, in the future.

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2. Program Impressions, Academic Activities and Progress

I have commenced the two-year Masters Program in International Development Policy (PIDP) at Duke University. I am enrolled in:

- International Conflict Management
- Policy Analysis of development
- Economic foundations Special Topics in International Development Policy: Introduction to Peace and Conflict
- Special Topics in International Development Policy: Combating Corruption

I have been tremendously impressed with the course – in terms of content, structure and teaching. The Program in International Development is unique as it straddles both academic rigor and hands-on practitioner knowledge. This is reflected in the composition of my class which draws together 33 people from 14 countries, from places as varied as Myanmar and Bolivia. We range from the business sector to government officials to NGO workers, and that depth and variety of experience adds greatly to our understanding of international development and governance.

As our program is small, we receive great personal attention from our lecturers and the opportunity to build very strong personal friendships amongst our classmates. The expectations and workload placed upon us are very high, and at times it can be extremely challenging. However, I already can see that some of the skills I have learnt in my Policy Analysis class, such as models for stakeholder analysis or policy problem identification, are ones which would have been very useful in my previous employment and are a strong foundation for future peace building contributions.

Although I cannot describe each class here, each one has offered new insights. For instance, Terry Barnett's class illustrates the importance of building peace at an interpersonal level, how identity and personality affect our negotiations, and to apply this knowledge to a current international conflict.

The triangle area is rich with universities and organizations so in addition to regular classes, I have been able to observe, and occasionally meet, highly esteemed people such as Sir Mark Malloch Brown (former Deputy-General of the United Nations) and Dr Jane Goodall (UN Messenger of Peace). The Duke Center for International Development also offers us a dizzying array of informational and networking events to attend.

3. Successes and Challenges as a Rotary World Peace Fellow

In terms of successes, I have been pleased with my academic progress. I have enjoyed the opportunity to reevaluate my professional experiences, and particularly those related to Timor-Leste, in light of academic frameworks and gaining skills to offer new perspectives and practical solutions. For instance, in my combating corruption class paper I evaluated the prevalence and types of corruption in Timor-Leste and proposed an Anti-Corruption Implementation Plan. Overall, these two months have only served to confirm my determination to work in the area of good governance.

I have also been proud to be elected as both Rotary Class VI representative and PIDP Class representative. In both cases, I act as a liaison between the fellows and staff to represent their concerns and interests, as well as participate in various events.

In addition to gaining leadership skills and development management capacities, I have come to appreciate this fellowship is a time for personal transformation, which improves my ability to contribute to the wider community. Unsurprisingly, it has been difficult to establish a balanced life in a new country, and to adjust to different cultural values and academic systems. I am learning a great deal about myself, my own strengths and weaknesses, as I embrace this challenge wholeheartedly. I hope that we in Class VI can play a proactive and positive role in preparing and assisting future fellows in this transition."



DG John Davis & Joan

DG note: Those Rotarians who attended the District Assembly in May this year would have heard Tania Miletic speak. Tania was our District's first Rotary World Peace Scholar. The growing network of Rotary Peace Fellows around the world, with people such as Tania and Pia, are giving us, our children, grandchildren, and generations to come another forum to address World Peace. It is a great accolade for the 'Service Above Self' theme of Rotary and our magnificent Rotary Foundation.

- John Davis, District Governor

New Members

Welcome to the following new member:

- Karin Penttila, RC Brunswick. Karin's husband Lauri was a member at RC Brunswick from 1965 until he passed away in August 2006.

It is only when you take full responsibility for the things that occur in your life that you become truly powerful!

- Wes Truscott



40+ Rotarian

I'm over it !! My final day at the races (The Oaks) was a disaster. The moment came when a 'sub-20-something' dolly bird was describing "Daddy's new car". A theatrical swish of her hand, which happened to be holding a full glass of champagne, and my multi-feathered fascinator became 'a statistic'. Like those slow motion ads where you see people throw paint, I saw my dignity flash before eyes. Too late! A direct hit saw 15 wet feathers pointing south over my face. My lame rebuke of "Why aren't you at school?", was countered by "Sorry, Sweetie". I just left.

But life's improved. Beemer purring, I was off to interview Rotary Club of Altona Charter Member, Jim Mann. Jim has wound down his involvement in his accounting practice and lives at Lara, a short hop from Geelong. I'd heard that Jim enjoyed the 'noble grape' and was delighted when he suggested that we drive on to Anakie and sample some of the varieties offered at del Rios of Anakie. Owner, Gus del Rio was a former Rotarian at Footscray. He has remained a great friend of Rotary and his wines are excellent. It was late morning so we found a shady spot and Gus sealed the occasion ... a chilled 2003 chardonnay which he said was 'a little precursor'. Wet feathers seemed a lifetime away...

C: *So James, how did you become involved with Rotary?*

JM: I was invited to join at the original formation of the club.

C: *What is the biggest project you've been involved with as a Rotarian?*

JM: Back in 1976 involvement in the details and setting up of the Art Show.

C: *What is the biggest change in Rotary that you've seen?*

JM: The admittance of female members. *(Ah ... the perennial influence of the stronger gender never fails to leave an impression. -C)*

C: *As a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Altona you have seen the whole story unfold. Tell me about some of the club legends whose company you've enjoyed.*

JM: There was Reg Higgins, a dynamic and hugely energetic man and also my uncle, Jack Piggott, all Rotarians are legends anyway. *(I agree ... most of the time. -C)*

C: *What's great about the Altona Rotary Club?*

JM: The people in it. Great friends who have provided some wonderful memories.

C: *If you could have been present at a famous event in history, what would you have chosen and why?*

JM: The day at the Melbourne Exhibition Building when Australia's status as a separate nation was confirmed.

C: *You've had an accounting business for a long time. How has the role of the accountant changed since you first joined Rotary all those years ago?*

JM: Computers have made a huge difference. They were supposed to make a paperless society, but computer-generated paperwork and deadlines are now the bane of the public accountant. Having said that, I must still acknowledge the beneficial role of computers.

C: *Do you see a relaxation of Rotary's rules and formalities as a natural progression or do you believe that "standards have dropped"?*

JM: A certain amount of rule and regulation is important to any organisation. I think the significant things have been well maintained by Rotary. *(What a diplomatic response. -C)*

C: *I have it on good authority that red, white and blue blood runs through your veins in football, but even more so in cricket. Tell me about your involvement with the Bulldogs, particularly the cricket team.*

JM: I started playing with Footscray Cricket Club in 1949 and still enjoy attending the District cricket matches and the company of past and present cricketers.

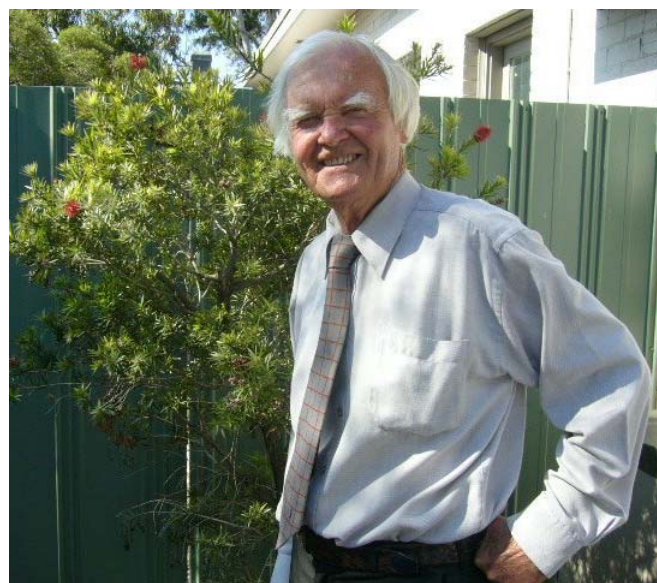
C: *You've worked in Altona for 'a thousand years'. How has Altona changed during that time?*

JM: Altona North is my patch. It's changed from paddocks to pleasant suburban, seriously industrial without losing it's charm. *(Sounds a bit like me ... live in a pleasant suburb, very industrious and my charm is unquestioned. -C)*

C: *How would you describe your preference in music?*

JM: I've always been a classical music buff even though I can't play a note. Been a MSO subscriber for many years. *(Arrgh ... another 'classical' Rotarian -C)*

C: *You live in Lara and I believe that in the nearby hills grapes are grown. Tell me about your pursuit of the noble grape and your favourite tippie.*





JM: Red wine of all types is a favourite recreation of mine. I can strongly recommend any wine from anywhere around Geelong.

C: *As Club President in 1970-71, what qualities do you think a successful Rotary Club President should have?*

JM: The ability to sleep well. (*I have 1000 responses to that but I'll remain dumb. –C*)

C: *Marilyn Monroe – screen goddess, dumb blonde or tragic star? Do you think that one of these describes her or is it a combination of all three?*

JM: I've always loved looking at blondes, dumb or otherwise, her most important attribute was her luscious figure. (*"Luscious" James? Really, you men are so two dimensional ... By the way, did you notice my blonde tips? –C*)

C: *Of all the cars you've owned, what was your favourite? Why?*

JM: I had Hondas for 30 years and never once got let down on the lonely stretches of the Princes Highway.

C: *Complete the following: Life is ...*

JM: ... great when you are over 70. I'm looking forward soon to the over 80 bit.

C: *My secret talent is ...*

JM: ... I'd like to say a ballet dancer. But I guess that's listening to too much classical music driving home to Lara at night.

C: *The way to my heart is ...*

JM: ... definitely through my stomach. I love good food and drink.

C: *I am ...*

JM: ... not yet useless, I was coaching my grandson some cricket yesterday.

C: *Rotary is ...*

JM: ... an organisation of men and women with great goals that make it immensely respected.

C: *Rotarians are ...*

JM: ... many are mature and been through the kaleidoscope of life. They have, bless 'em, retained and nurtured their sense of fun and good humour.

And so had Jim - heading for 80 years and relishing the challenge. We sampled a few more of Gus's wines ... an excellent pinot and cab/sav 'you could take anywhere'. There's something about sitting at a vineyard. It's very soothing ... I think that it brings out the 'cultivator' in me. I do know that I tend to gush on a bit ... so in return for some interesting historical information, Jim was rewarded with my disastrous Cup carnival ... wet feathers et al. Gus rescued the situation with a strong black coffee and a stroll around the grapes. Jim's a marvel – still working the odd day in the office, still getting very involved with the cricket at Footscray and still a glint in the eye when wine is mentioned. Nice instincts.

Back to Far East Prahara and a less 'wholesome' environment. The drive back was pleasant enough and I thought about the number of times that Jim had gone back and forth this way. Which reminds me ... if you see a gentleman in his 70's, wearing a leotard and ballet shoes, pirouetting along Geelong Road ... it's Jim, living out his dreams. Give him a lift home ... he lives in Lara.

Shelterbox Sends Emergency Aid To Mexico



Australian Rotary Donations Have Sponsored 85 Of The First 200 Boxes

Emergency help for thousands of Mexico's flood victims is well on its way from ShelterBox in Cornwall.

Floods in the Mexican state of Tabasco are estimated to have left 800,000 people homeless with tens of thousands still trapped on the roofs of flooded buildings. Local officials say water levels reached 6 metres at their peak but have now finally begun to drop.

In response to the disaster, ShelterBox began work on its relief operation over the weekend, packing an initial consignment of 200 boxes of emergency aid.

Now sponsored by Rotary Clubs from six countries, ShelterBox specialises in providing emergency accommodation and other survival essentials to disaster victims. Aid is delivered in pre-packaged kits – 'ShelterBoxes' – each designed to help a family of 10 survive for at least six months.

The boxes being sent to Mexico will leave the UK and will be flown to Mexico City via Houston. From there, the boxes will be transported on to the Tabasco state capital of Villahermosa.

Two American members of a ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) will be joined by two British volunteers. The SRT members will work with local state officials and Rotary clubs to assess the situation and evaluate where aid is needed most.



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ShelterBox founder and CEO Tom Henderson said, "The situation in Tabasco has been described as like Hurricane Katrina but bigger. The Mexican authorities are still rescuing thousands of people trapped by the floods and getting medical aid to those in need. But while this first phase of the response to the disaster continues, we've been preparing for the next stage, which is providing emergency shelter for those who have lost their homes."

"It's far too early to say at this stage how many people will be left homeless once the waters recede but this is a major catastrophe for Mexico and ShelterBox will do what it can to help. Our aid will be on the ground within days and our SRT volunteers will be ready to make sure that it gets to where it's needed."

"We will be looking at sending more aid but that decision will depend on us having the funds available and for that we do rely on the support of the public."

ShelterBox Australia Administrator PDG Ray Stewart confirmed that 85 ShelterBoxes purchased with donations from Australian Rotary Clubs and friends were amongst the first deployment of 200 boxes. "800,000 people in Mexico now homeless is almost impossible to comprehend. The need for donations has grown dramatically since this latest disaster, so on behalf of ShelterBox Australia, please help if you can", Ray said.

Although ShelterBox is now the biggest Rotary Club project in the world, we can never supply enough ShelterBoxes to meet the demand.

The cost of a complete ShelterBox is \$1,200. This includes the cost of all materials, packing, storage, transport worldwide and distribution as well as the usual overheads. Donations of less than the cost of a complete ShelterBox are welcomed and are used to purchase individual items for a ShelterBox.

To find out more about this important project, visit <http://www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au/> and <http://www.shelterbox.org/>, or contact PDG Ray Stewart, Administrator, ShelterBox Australia on 1300 881 913 and shelterboxaust@westnet.com.au. Alternatively, send your donation to Roger Fasken at the Rotary Club of Kew who are co-ordinating donations for ShelterBox (PO Box 101, Kew, 3101).

Join The Celebration Of Rotary Foundation Month

Participate In An Online Discussion With Rotary Foundation Trustee Carolyn Jones

In celebration of 'Rotary Foundation Month', the International Computer Users Fellowship of Rotarians (ICUFR) is sponsoring an online discussion with Rotary Foundation Trustee, Carolyn Jones. Trustee Jones, the first female Trustee in the 90 year history of The Rotary Foundation, will answer your questions about the Foundation online during a 51 hour period beginning at 5.00pm, CST, on Sunday, 25 November and ending at 8.00pm CST on Tuesday, 27 November. This free-wheeling, informative discussion with Trustee Jones will take place on the ICUFR's 'Community Forum' at <http://www2.icufr.org>. (Please note the "www2" in the address.)

The online discussion will start with a short posting by the Chairman of the ICUFR, introducing Trustee Jones and telling you some of her background and Rotary interests. For the next 51 hours, all registered users of the Community Forum may post questions to Trustee Jones and she will periodically respond to the questions during the allotted time.

For Rotarians not already registered at the ICUFR's Community Forums, you must register in order to post in the Forum (you may enter as a 'guest' and read the discussion in the Community Forum but will not be able to 'post' without registering). You can register, at any time, by clicking on 'Register' at the top section of the opening page of the Community Forums (<http://www2.icufr.org>). A 'Terms' page will next appear and, once you accept the terms, you will automatically go to the 'Registration' page. Please complete all 'required' information. When you register, please make sure you make a personal, private record of the 'User Name' and 'Password' you decide to use when registering in the Community Forums. Additionally information for a 'Profile' is optional. However, please use your full name as your ID, and additionally, in the 'Profile', please put in your Club Name and District number. This is necessary to be sure we do not get non-Rotarians registered. After you register, you may get an email asking you to confirm your registration. Just follow the instructions in the email, if one is received. Registering for the Community Forums carries no obligation, and you will not be placed on an email list as a result of registering, unless you post to the Community Forum and indicate that you wish to receive email notices to responses to your post.

We suggest you go to the ICUFR's Community Forums now, register and then poke around for a while to get a 'feel' for the Community Forums. Post a message or two in any of the section and topics, make some friends, and be ready for the discussion with Trustee Carolyn Jones. On Sunday, 25 November on or after 5.00pm CST, you can log into the ICUFR's Community Forums, and be ready to go. Scroll down to 'Hot Topics', click on 'The Rotary Foundation' and then click on 'Discussion with Trustee Carolyn Jones'. Then fire away with your questions about The Rotary Foundation, the role of Carolyn Jones as the first female Trustee, or any related question you may have.



If you have any questions, you can ask them in the ICUFR's Community Forums in the 'Computer Help and Ideas' section under the topic of 'Help Using this Forum', or, alternatively, write to Dan Mooers at dwm@mooers-law.com and he'll help with your questions.

See you online on Sunday, 25 November - **COME CELEBRATE ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH!**

2007 Rotary Assisted Bike Ed Program

Two teachers from Braybrook Primary School were sponsored by the Rotary Club of Flemington to undertake the 'Bicycle Education Instructors Training Course'. The course was run over two days and involved the study of topics such as:

- Program Planning
- Administrative guidelines for TSE
- Cycling equipment checks
- Individual and group riding skills
- Road rules
- Shared pathway riding
- On-road riding



Each participant was instructed in the above topics and learnt

how they can run a Bike ED program for their schools. There were 22 participants in the two day course, most participants being primary, secondary and special education teachers, as well as police officers and some volunteers from various community projects, thus the future for the program seems very strong.

Both of the teachers from Braybrook Primary School were awarded their Instructors Certificate which is valid for five years, and plans are already on the table to have a Braybrook Primary School Bike Ed program running in 2008. We look forward to following their progress and wish them all the best.

The Rotary Club of Flemington is now arranging all the information gathered during the course and hopes to build a module that can be taken up by other Rotary clubs to expand the Bike Ed program. The aim is to be able to hand a complete package to any Rotary club, which will have contact details, course structures and a brief outline of what to expect.

UN Association's Humanitarian Award For Rotary

The profile of water and sanitation in Rotary International received a tremendous boost on 25 October. On that day the United Nations Association of New York honoured RI and The Rotary Foundation with its 2007 Humanitarian Award, in recognition of Rotary's significant efforts to provide safe water and sanitation and its commitment to sustainable development worldwide.

"In the years since RI has started focusing on water as one of its annual service emphases ... We've learned just how much can be accomplished with relatively little, how a single small water project, perhaps a pump or a filter, can change the life of a community," says RI president Wilf Wilkinson. "However, our work has also included participation in many other major water projects."

The award is presented annually in observance of United Nations Day (24 October). This year's award ceremony focused on the global water crisis. Professor Jeffrey D Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and special adviser to the UN Secretary-General, served as Honorary Chair of the event.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit organisations and enterprises working to alleviate water-related problems around the world.



This message comes to you from WASRAG (the Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group). While under the general auspices of Rotary International, this group operates independently of RI and receives no funding from it. As is so often the case with Rotary, all the members of WASRAG are volunteers and we need funds to help run the day-to-day operations of the Group. Please help us by logging on to www.wasrag.org, clicking on "Sign Up" and becoming either a Charter Member (\$100) or an Annual Member (\$25 per year).

Questions can be directed to Anna Shepherd via info@wasrag.org.



A Quiet Achiever – Alex Buchanan

A Rotarian for over 40 years, District Foundation Service Award recipient, food technologist and researcher, father of the Australian Milk Biscuit, Australian Liaison Officer, Foundation Member of The United Nations University World Hunger Program Council, Initiator of Rotary Foundation Matching Grants in Cambodia, East Timor and India ... the list of achievements and contributions in initiating and managing International Humanitarian programs just goes on and on.

Meet 73-year-old Alex Buchanan - PhD (Biochemistry), University of London - one of the District's most respected Rotarians.

Q: *How long have you been a Rotarian?*

A: Off and on for 40 years, starting with Moorabbin in suburban Melbourne for 4 years then Bangkok South in Thailand for 2 years then a gap of 15 years while I was traveling too much, then Glenferrie, again in suburban Melbourne, for 13 years before I joined Melbourne, the oldest Rotary Club in Australia in 2000.

Q: *What is your profession?*

A: Food technologist and researcher.

Q: *How did you come to join Rotary?*

A: I joined Rotary because I knew it so well after attending and speaking to dozens of Rotary Clubs in my role as an Ambassadorial Scholar, before during and after my year at Iowa State University in 1959-60.

Q: *Which club offices have you held?*

A: Board member and President.

Q: *What Rotary and professional awards and honors have you received?*

A: Fulbright Travel Grant (1959), CSIRO Studentship (1966-68), Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (1985), Fellow of the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology (AIFST), Professorial Fellow - Victoria University, AIFST Award of Merit (1979), Foundation Member of the Board - UN University World Hunger Program, Foundation member of the Council of Victoria University (1993-95), Editor - ASEAN Food Journal (1986-95), Centenary Medal "for service to Australian society in food science and technology" (2003), D9820 Rotary Foundation Award in 1996 as the alumni benefiting the most from a Rotary Foundation Award and "providing nourishment in underprivileged countries suffering from famine", D9800 Rotary Foundation District Service Award in 2006, Paul Harris Fellowship in 1999.

Q: *How does your profession help you combat hunger as a Rotarian?*

A: At the Australian national research organization, CSIRO, I developed a high protein "Milk" biscuit that became a successful commercial product with sales of over 4 million dollars per annum for 25 years to the Australian Government alone. A government stockpile of 100 tonnes supported emergency food aid needs. Many Rotary clubs also used them in international projects and they featured in the formal presentation of Rotary activities at the Rotary International World Conference in Melbourne. Later, during 2 years in Thailand, I worked with Thai researchers to develop a new affordable nutritionally balanced infant food using local raw materials. The last I heard it was still being produced commercially and distributed from Health Centers throughout Thailand. This research was a catalyst for the first technical co-operation project between the ASEAN countries, then comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand with sponsorship from Australia. For the next 11 years I managed this technical co-operation project between Australia and the ASEAN countries. Australia contributed up to \$8 million per year for regional food research, stimulating the ASEAN governments to put in even more. At least 3 other Rotary Ambassadorial scholars, Achmad Birowo from Indonesia, Nga Been Hen from Singapore and Elisa Cabahug from the Philippines were active in this successful international co-operation. Back in Australia, I spent 3 years as Executive Director of the ATSE Crawford Fund that has been described as "the world's most successful national support organization for international agricultural research and training". This encouraged my old friend PRIP Royce Abbey to use the Crawford Fund to administer agricultural scholarships funded by the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowed Fund of The Rotary Foundation. So far, about 10 agriculturalists from Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor and Kiribati have come to Australia for up to 3 months tailor-made practical training, under Royce Abbey Agricultural scholarships, with some outstanding successes. Rotary Vocational Service to me means: Using one's vocation to help others, at home and abroad.

Q: *How did your Rotary Foundation scholarship (1959-60) help shape your world view?*

A: Living and working on the other side of the world creates a whole new perspective for a young student. It gave me an appreciation of how and why the perspective of a big country like the US can be different to a small country like Australia, even when both are relatively affluent.





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Q: *Do you feel your scholarship experience helped prepare you for your work? If so, how?*

A: The scholarship was my introduction to research, which I really enjoyed. But more importantly, the public speaking and mixing with new people allowed a level of social development that I would never have achieved in the familiar surroundings of "home". As the only one in my department doing a Master of Science degree in 9 months, I had never worked so hard in my life. Living in the Sigma Chi fraternity house with regular visits to Rotary Clubs and conferences made it easy to create untold new adventures, and enabled a timid country boy to really come out of his shell. Pinning kangaroo pins on over 600 coeds at ISU and other assorted females also created a certain amount of notoriety.

Q: *Your favorite club project?*

A: In Baucau, East Timor, Rotary established a roofing company now employing 15 people, established a campus for the Dili Institute of Technology and started a micro-enterprise/revolving loan fund which helped over 200 locals, mostly women, develop micro enterprises in and around Baucau.

Q: *Your proudest achievement?*

A: Remaining healthy after 28 years as an insulin dependent diabetic, with none of the usual complications related to diabetes.

Q: *Your most humbling moment?*

A: My father was the outstanding community leader in our small community and it was beyond my imagination that I would ever achieve at his level. Then after I left Poowong and was working in the big smoke, I saw the pride on my dad's face when he was introduced as "Alex's father".

Q: *Complete the following: My life won't be complete until I...*

A: ...break my age at golf.

Q: *The book currently on my night table is...*

A: ... "Memoirs of a Rebel Journalist -- The autobiography of Wilfred Burchett." Wilfred is described by one of the editors as "the greatest journalist Australia has ever produced and one of the best foreign correspondents the world has ever seen". There is probably no other man who was on intimate terms with both Ho Chi Minh and Henry Kissinger. Wilfred was brought up in the same village as myself, Poowong, near Melbourne. Our small primary school had about 30 students with 2 teachers for 8 grades by the time I was there from 1939-44, but would have been smaller when Wilfred was there. Wilfred later became a dedicated communist sympathizer. He was famous for his reporting in World War II. He was the first westerner to witness and report on the aftermath of the atom bomb at Hiroshima. He later covered the Korean and Vietnam wars from the "other" side.

Q: *Leisure activities I enjoy are...*

A: ... golf and gardening at Flinders where 2 acres of blackberry surrounding 2 creeks on our block has been turned into a garden.

Q: *Nobody in my club knows...*

A: ... that I have been listed in "Who's Who in Australia" since 1971.

Q: *My favorite part of every Rotary meeting is...*

A: ... the opening prayer at RC Melbourne is different every week and sometimes can be even better than the outstanding speakers this big club regularly attracts.

Q: *If I hadn't become a Rotarian...*

A: ... I would have looked for another organization involved in overseas service.

Q: *When I tell people I'm in Rotary, they often ask...*

A: ... "Which club do you belong to?"

Q: *The person who has had the greatest impact on my life is...*

A: ... The most profound influences have been my parents, my wife for 40 years, and Bill Pirie who was my PhD supervisor. Bill taught me how to do research, during lessons in the lab and in the pub. He nearly won a Nobel Prize for being the first scientist to crystallize a virus and so demonstrate that it was pure protein. He said that Dick Synge, his first PhD student, was "the first of my students to win a Nobel Prize". He arranged for Dick to be "external examiner" for my PhD. They collaborated so well that I was able to complete the degree within 2 years and get back to real work.

Q: *A famous person, living or dead, I'd like to meet is...*

A: ... Kenneth Kaunda. He was President of Zambia when it became independent in 1964 and pledged to give every Zambian a pint of milk a day. Six years later he set up a "school milk" program using high protein milk biscuits from Australia until we helped him start making them in Zambia. What would he say to the current rulers in Africa and the international community on how to retrieve the terrible state of that devastated continent?

Q: *My friends think...*

A: ... I have always been lucky and that is true. But my generation grew up in Australia in the years following the Second World War when the opportunities were boundless and our governments offered free education.



Q: *I was drawn to Rotary because...*

A: ... it changed my life with the opportunity to work, travel and study in the USA. This led to the experiences and qualifications (MS) to get a job in research with the CSIRO.

Q: *Three words that best describe me are...*

A: ... lucky, lucky, lucky.

Q: *One of my hidden talents is...*

A: ... destroying mountains of invasive blackberry!

Q: *If you could visit any Rotary club in the world, which one would it be and why?*

A: Mount Pleasant, Iowa to say thank you to the club and the family of PDG Ralph Taylor for their tolerance and hospitality to the 3 young Ambassadorial Scholars that they looked after so well there in 1959-60. The other 2 were Dinah Burford from the UK and the late Achmad Birowo from Indonesia.

Notices & Events

Volunteers Needed For The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-Athlon

Through your club, organisation, or group USMEvents would like to offer you the opportunity to be involved in assisting them to organise volunteers for the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids Try-Athlon ... can you help?

A donation to your club of \$25 per volunteer is offered in return for your members acting as road marshals and various other positions required for this swim, cycle and run event at the event at Catani gardens, Sunday, 24 February 2008. Each volunteer will receive a hat, t-shirt, and some sponsor's products in a kit bag. Minimum age for volunteers is 16 years.

In conjunction with Sanitarium Weet-Bix, USMEvents are committed to helping kids in Australia nurture healthy lifestyles.

To raise funds for your club, please contact either brian@usmevents.com.au or tony.mitchellhill@usmevents.com.au by **Friday, 10 November**.

Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night

Melton Valley Rotary Club are holding their Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night on **Wednesday, 14 November** (6.00pm for a 6.30pm start) at the Melton Valley Golf Club, Melton Valley Drive, Melton.

Cost for 2 course meal and evening of fun and frivolity is \$25.00 per head. Limited Spaces so please book early! All proceeds from the evening will go to the Tibetan Village Project.

Please phone Barbara Richards on 9747 0054 or 0407 556 178, or email barbararichards@bigpond.com.

The Royce Abbey Oration

RC Brighton is pleased to invite you to The Royce Abbey Oration to be held at Milanos, Brighton Beach at 6.15 for 6.30pm on **Thursday, 15 November**. Lady Southey A.C. formerly Lieutenant Governor of Victoria and Past President of Philanthropy Australia will give the Oration. She is a member of the Myer family of Melbourne and is involved in a number of Voluntary Organisations. Bookings are essential (\$30 per head) and can be made to Greg Biggin on 9592 7137 (fax 9593 1740), or PDG John King on 9592 9120 (fax 9592 9278, email jwking@hotmail.net.au).

Art Auction

The Rotary Club of Carlton's Art Auction promotes the works of young and upcoming artists who are serious about establishing careers in the Arts, as well as established figures in the Art World. Participating artists include painters, printmakers and sculptors.

Proceeds of the Art Auction will go towards community projects.

A theme has been suggested for those Artists wishing to utilise a unifying concept: celebration of food, wine, the pleasures of the table, people at leisure--away from the daily grind, the cornucopia of our rich and fertile land, the markets, bacchanalia, street scenes. However much of the work will be of a more general nature.

Viewing days are **16 November** (9.00am – 5.00pm), **17 November** (1.00pm – 5.00pm) and **18 November** (10.00am – 3.00pm). Most works will be sold by silent auction and only between 15 and 20 major works will be auctioned in the theatre of the Royal Society, commencing at 3:00 pm on **18 November**. For more information, please email carlton@rotaryd9800.org or visit <http://www.carltonrotary.org.au/>



*Phil Kreveld's
'Louisa, at Mario's'*



Relay For Life Launch

The official launch of the 'Relay For Life' in Moorabool will be on **17 November** at the Darley Market 11am-12pm. The Bacchus Marsh, Melton and Melton Valley clubs are all involved and this event - which will be held on 29 March 2008 - should be fun and send a message of hope to cancer survivors and carers in the area. If any other clubs in the area wish to join us and form a team, please come to the launch or contact Bob Levy on 5367 3314 or at eagles_landing@hotmail.net.au. What is a Relay For Life? Check out www.relayforlife.org.au

RC Richmond Meeting Change

The Rotary Club of Richmond will meet on **Monday, 19 November** at Hawthorn Receptions, 555 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn (6.30 for 7pm) for the Richmond Rotary Club's Celebratory Dinner for the Rotary Youth Arts Project.

Tom Hafey At Daylesford Community Fundraising Breakfast

RC Daylesford welcomes AFL legend, Tom Hafey as their guest speaker at their 3rd Community Fundraising Breakfast on **21 November 2007** from 7.00am to 8.45am, at Hepburn Springs Golf Club, Sault Ballan Road, Daylesford (\$27.50 per head - bookings need to be made promptly as numbers are limited).

Tom will be talking about his sporting and media career, and funds raised will be donated to the Museum and towards the installation of historical story and information boards throughout the Shire, beginning with a storyboard about the Lost Children.

RSVP with payment: PO Box 23 Daylesford, 3460 by 14 November or for more information, please contact Lee on 5348 2144 or Bronwen on 5348 1112.

RI President-Elect D.K. Lee Visits Australia

President David Gibb and the Rotary Club of Ballarat South would like to invite all Rotarians throughout the District and beyond to join them for a dinner meeting at the Doherty Hotel-Ballararat Lodge, Main Road, Ballarat on **Thursday, 22 November**, 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Attending will be the very distinguished guest speaker Rotary International President-Elect, Dong Kurn Lee and his wife Young Ja. Also attending from right across Australia will be District Governors, District Governors Elect and District Governor Nominees, along with many Past Officers of Rotary International as this is part of their annual Zone Institute to be held in Ballarat during the week commencing November 18 2007.

There is seating for 500 available and partners are welcome. Cost is \$45.00 per person.

For more details or to register, please contact Secretary Desley Beechey on 5343 2318 or mailto:desleyb@bhs.org.au.

Rotary Club of Melbourne Festive Wine Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Melbourne have an exciting, great value Festive Wine Fundraiser Offer of export only wines that are unavailable on the Australian market. These are at very attractive prices and other District 9800 Clubs are very welcome to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

Melbourne will credit 75% of the funds raised from your Club's order of ten cases or more to your fundraising activities.

Please note we will deliver to one location only and orders must be received by **23 November**.

Please follow the link to the club website for more information tasting notes and order forms

http://www.rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/html/s02_article/article_view.asp?id=1313&nav_cat_id=-1&nav_top_id=-1



Do A Good Deed

Are you sick of going to auctions where your wallet just doesn't hold enough cash? Then come along to the Rotary Club of Brimbank Central's Charity Auction on **Saturday, 24 November** at the Starlight Centre, Taylors Lakes Hotel, 7 Keilor Melton Road, Taylors Lakes from 6:30pm.

Items for juniors to geriatrics. Big items, small items, low cost items, high-end items, personal items, household items. Something for everyone.

Food, fun, fellowship and give-aways. One person from each table guaranteed to win a prize.

Don't miss out - purchase your tickets now! \$35 per person (includes 3 course meal) and drinks at bar prices.



For further details, please contact Lewis Bordon on 9364 4192 (bh), 9310 8140 (ah) or 0412 532300.

For a complete list of auction items check out our website: <http://www.brimbankrotary.org.au/> (click on the projects button).

19th Annual Truck Show & Country Music

Castlemaine RC invite you to the 19th Annual Truck Show at the Campbells Creek Sports Ground.

There will be plenty of entertainment and plenty of fun for the whole family:

Saturday, 24 November

- Truck & Classic Ute Show
- Big Rig competition
- Country Music/ Rock Sweet Music
- Saturday night featuring Ruckus
- Lots of free Kids Entertainment

Sunday, 25 November is Family Day

- 7.30am Truckies Breakfast
- 9.30am Truck Convoy over 80 vehicles down the middle of Castlemaine
- Judging of Trucks/Utes in lots of categories.
- Lots of Prize money to be won.
- Special appearance by the School Of Hard Knocks
- Cost Entry \$10.00 Kids under 12 free
- Country Music all day Sweet Rock plus Ruckus
- 12.00 noon Grand Charity Auction
- Team Truck Show pull Men's & Women's Teams.

Rotary Club Of Bendigo – Meeting Change

The Rotary Club of Bendigo has transferred their normal meeting from **Tuesday, 27 November** to Friday, 30 November. Time is 12.30pm for 1.00pm at the Bendigo Club, 22 Park Street, Bendigo. Special Guest Speaker is Donald McGauchie, Chairman of Telstra and, among other Directorships, is currently a Director of the Reserve Bank of Australia.



Men's Health Night

Waiting for a problem is often too late! Come and find out what men need to do to stop their wheels falling off...

The Rotary Club of Williamstown is hosting this free information evening (gold coin donation to Rotary appreciated) to learn more about why women live longer than men, depression in men, sudden unexpected death, heart attack risk factors, how prostate disease is diagnosed, ways to reduce your cancer risk, and how to live a longer and happier life. Entertaining and informative speakers will include Dr Murray Verso – General Practitioner, Dr Deepak Haikerwal – Cardiologist, and Mr David Ellis – Urologist.

The Men's Health Night is being held from 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 27 November** at the Mechanics Institute Hall, Electra Street, Williamstown. Contact Yvonne Moon on 0407 303 255 or Murray Verso on 9397 1366 for more information.

ARHRF Dinner

The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund is putting on a dinner at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club on **29 November** to host eminent visiting Psychologist and Paediatric Surgeon Professor, Annette La Greca, and Christine Nixon, Chief Commissioner Victoria Police.

Matching two great speakers - a Chief Commissioner of Police, and a world acclaimed expert on children's and adolescents reactions to traumatic events (e.g. Natural disasters, terrorists attacks) – will make for a very stimulating evening.

Professor La Greca will speak on her involvement in:

- Hurricane Andrew
- September 11th terrorist attack
- Kobe Earthquake
- Helping children cope with disasters and terrorism
- 'Keeping Children Safe' project

The Chief Commissioner will speak on related matters from the police and emergency services point of view.

The primary purpose of the dinner is to stimulate debate on the subject, and to promote awareness of the work of the ARHRF by targeting Rotarians, professional groups, and the public in general.

The cost for dinner is \$65 per head, with drinks at bar prices. Because the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club is a private club regulations governing such organisations stipulate guests will need to provide their full name and address when purchasing tickets. Please contact the ticket secretary Judy Nettleton on 9427 7233 (bh), or <mailto:aceheat@ace-heat.com.au>.



Hollywood Scandal! Murder Mystery! Auction Night!

The Rotary Club of Altona is pleased to present an interactive night of mayhem, murder and auction sales on **Friday, 30 November** from 7.00pm at the Finnish Hall, 119 Pier Street, Altona. Come as your favourite character for your chance to win a prize for best costume. Auction items include a 2007 signed Geelong football and Bulldog jumper, original paintings by Ted Dansey and Ray Hewitt, a DVD player, toys, hampers, beauty goods, accommodation, vouchers and much more.

This is a fundraising event to support local community projects including a new vehicle for St John Ambulance, upgrading Altona's rotunda and youth projects.

Tickets are limited so be sure to get in early. The \$40.00 per head ticket (tables of eight) includes champagne and canapés on arrival, followed by a spit roast (BYO drinks).

To make your booking, call 9398 4717, 9391 8504 or 0412 315 450.

The Variety Clubs Christmas Party For Special Children



The Rotary Club of Essendon North invites you to help out with the Variety Clubs Christmas Party for Special Children. The set up day is **Tuesday 11 December 2007** and the party is on **Wednesday, 12 December**.

Rotary club members who wish to participate in this most worthy event this year, please contact Events Australia for the current application forms (Events Australia, 407 City Road, South Melbourne Vic 3205. Ph: 9929 4407, Fax: 9699 4655. Email: lauren@eventsaust.com.au).

Please contact Jim Thompson of RC Essendon North on 9354 6694 with any queries.

Blues Festival to Mark the 150th Anniversary of Point Cook Homestead

The Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook will be holding a Blues Music Festival at the Point Cook Homestead on **Sunday, 10 February 2008** to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead.

Proceeds from the Festival will go towards a \$50,000 upgrade of the Point Cook Coastal Park Playground which is due for completion in March 2008.

The club is seeking support from other Rotarians in the District to help as volunteers on 10 February 2008, as the Laverton Point Cook club is only small. A crowd of around 3,000 is expected and volunteer roles include marshalling, car park, information officers, ticket sellers/checkers, set up and pack up, and general assistance. If you would like to register as a volunteer for the event, please contact Chris Egger on mailto:cegger@ntc.gov.au or phone 9236 5033 (bh) or 0407 846 382.

Sponsors are also being sought for the event so if you are have a business and would like to be a sponsor, please contact Emma Sutcliffe on 9395 7501 or mobile 0409 040 499 or mailto:emmamike@bigpond.com.



*John Ray, then Wyndham City Councillor
Leigh Barrat and John Argote from Parks Victoria*

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

Altona City Rotary Club is holding its Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects.

Commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (we're giving you lots of time to get your entries in before the 14 February deadline!), there will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes.

All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli.



A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on 24 April 2008, together with local Rotarians.

Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

Option 1: Seven day tour (**21-28 April 2008**) includes visit to the capital of three empires, Istanbul and ancient Troy.

Option 2: Three week walking tour (**8-25 April 2008**) tour which, apart from Istanbul, includes visits to World Heritage listed Cappadocia in central Turkey, following Roman roads in southern Turkey, Epheus, Troy and joining with others for the launch and ceremony at Gallipoli.

If you wish, your itinerary can be rearranged according to your requirements.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Featured Club

Rotary Club Of Werribee

Chartered 16 August, 1968

This week, I took the 'Featured Club' segment over the Westgate Bridge to Werribee and caught up with Rotary Club of Werribee President, Wendy Roper.

C: What differentiates the Rotary Club of Werribee from all others?

WR: It's name and the majority of members live in Werribee.

C: What past projects would rank in your club's 'Hall of Fame'?

WR: Numerous FAIM trips; Rotary's 100th birthday – 9800 District Picnic to Werribee Mansion; and, organising several DG changeovers.

C: What does your club have in the pipeline for the 2007/08 Rotary year?

WR: MS Mega Swim, the Annual Golf Day, and distributor for plum puddings/cakes on behalf of RC Collingwood.

C: Tell us about the area around the Rotary Club of Werribee – the way that it is changing and developing, and any local features of note.

WR: The City of Wyndham is within the top 5 growing municipalities within Australia.

C: What is the Rotary Club of Werribee's passion?

WR: FAIM trips every 2 years and an ongoing commitment to Camp Getaway.

C: If you had to liken your club to a car, what model would it be and why?

WR: The Holden Statesman donated by Tino Ballan (Charter Member), from Ballan Holden. Why? To show support to a club member.

C: Forty years ago Werribee shopping centre was a main street with a few Falcon GTs and Holden Monaros 'at the ready'. What is shopping in Werribee like today?

WR: Werribee Plaza Shopping Centre is one of the largest regional shopping centres in Melbourne.

C: Who are the longest serving members in your club?

WR: Ian Knight and Tino Ballan are Charter Members.

C: Over the years there must have been some interesting events and characters along the way. What are some weird/funny events and/or characters that you could mention?

WR: The Country Picnic 20 years ago.

C: The Mansion at Werribee Park, Werribee Open Range Zoo and the Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre – three outstanding facilities in your area. Do you roll your eyes when people's first association with Werribee is the sewerage treatment plant?

WR: Definitely.

C: If there was a cheque for \$1 million made out to RC Werribee with a note saying, "Spend it all on worthwhile community projects or lose it", how do you think you would spend it?

WR: A project to assist youth/adolescents to stay off the streets and create new interests.

C: If I was keen to get involved with the Rotary club of Werribee, how would I go about making contact with the club?





WR: Via the club's website, the Community Directory, 9800 Directory or Google.

A quick trip to The Mansion at Werribee Park confirmed what an outstanding facility it is. Werribee really is quite close Melbourne. Venue of some outstanding events, it will soon play host to an Elton John concert – another big occasion for Werribee.

On the other hand ... the Rotary Club of Werribee's 'Country Picnic' 20 years ago must have been something too.

Foundation Month With Chris Don

Without the generous contributions from individual Rotarians and partners, as well as the Annual Giving from our Rotary Clubs, the many educational and humanitarian programs that are supported by the Foundation wouldn't exist.

Along with our Contributions Chairman, PDG John Wigley, I would like to acknowledge those clubs that have made the decision that by supporting the Foundation, the ideals of Rotary are not only enhanced but the mission of providing assistance to the world's needy can be fulfilled.

The following is a list of our top 12 Clubs on a per capita basis for 2006/2007:

Club	Members	\$'s Per Member	Club	Members	\$'s Per Member
1. Camberwell	67	\$274.65	7. Albert Park	27	\$183.99
2. Chadstone/East Malvern	39	\$241.12	8. Altona	26	\$165.34
3. Melbourne	245	\$228.85	9. Central Melbourne	55	\$165.09
4. Melbourne Latrobe	14	\$213.91	10. Maribyrnong Highpoint	16	\$164.23
5. Fitzroy	29	\$212.83	11. Brimbank Central	30	\$164.15
6. Balwyn	76	\$209.79	12. Toorak	39	\$163.97

**Congratulations to all Rotarians –
Our District exceeded the World President's target of US\$100 contribution per Rotarian
for the 2006/2007 year!**

It is important to understand that Foundation Funds are made available to all Rotary Clubs to initiate and support their specific projects through Matching, Volunteer & District Simplified Grants.

Paul Harris Society of District 9800

I am delighted to welcome DG John Davis and District Foundation Committee Secretary Sandi Fulcher as new members of our Paul Harris Society.

The Paul Harris Society, chartered in June 2007, is a new level of donor recognition and currently the only District Society in Australia. Members have pledged US\$1000 to the Foundation per year on an ongoing basis. Information on becoming a member can be obtained from PDG John Wigley or PP John Rafter the Society's Administrator.

Centurion Sustaining Members Fund (Every Rotarian Every Year)

An increasing number of Rotarians and partners are supporting the Foundation by becoming Centurions. With an annual personal contribution of \$100, our District now has in excess of 400 members.

Our 2007/2008 goal is to achieve 500. The one disappointing aspect is the significant number of Rotarians who contribute for the initial year, then make a decision not to renew their membership. Please reconsider your support of our Foundation.

Please keep in mind that both the Centurion Sustaining Members Fund and the Paul Harris Society of D9800 are tax deductible.

Make our Foundation your choice of charity.

Without your contribution so much of our global success would not have been achieved.



Chris Don with Australian astronaut, Andy Thomas

- Chris Don, District Foundation Committee Chairman

"The way Rotary reacts when calamity strikes
demonstrates the hugh power of Rotary."

- Ravi Ravindran, Sri Lanka



Issue 21, 19 November 2007

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A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

November is Foundation Month

The Rotary Institute...

... a place for burnt out Rotarians or is it something else?

In Rotary International there are 34 Zones around the world. Australia is located in Zones 7 and 8.

This year, our 42nd Zone Institute meeting will be held in Ballarat from 22 to 25 November at Ballarat. The venue each year is normally rotated around Australia or in the case of 2008, New Zealand.

The Institute is convened by the RI Zone Director. Currently, this is Ian Riseley, a member of the RC of Sandringham in District 9810. Ian also took up his appointment as RI Treasurer from the 1st July 2007, and was in attendance at our District Change Over this year. Ian will complete his term as an RI Director on 30 June 2008. The Institute is planned and run by a committee of experienced Rotarians and we congratulate our own PDG John Wigley, the Deputy Chairman of the Institute, for designing a most interesting program.

The Institutes held in Australia and New Zealand also take the opportunity to hold a pre-institute meeting of each District's DGN, DGE, and DG from 19–23 November. The DGN and DGE meet together with their partners over the 3 days to learn about their upcoming role as District Governor, while the District Governors meet to discuss and resolve any issues facing the 23 Rotary Districts in Australia. This meeting is the only meeting in the year where all the current District Governors meet at the same time.

The Zone Institute is similar in many ways to a District Conference but is designed for the attendance and participation of only past, present and incoming officers of Rotary International, resident within the area the Institute is to serve. Rotary Institutes are information meetings with no administration responsibility or authority.

The purpose of the Institute is to:

- Accurately inform current and past RI officers concerning policies and programs of RI and the Rotary Foundation.
- Promote support for these policies and programs and solicit suggestions for improvements and innovation.
- Inform the RI Board of successful program development for their consideration and further development.
- Inspire, motivate and inform DGN's and DGE's for subsequent leadership.
- Provide a forum for learning discussion and inspiration, which will engender fellowship and a team spirit among the participants.

This is the only opportunity District Governors come together in the same place at the same time.

As DG's are the voting delegates for many of the national bodies such as RAWCS, RDU, ARHRF and ROMAC, these bodies hold their AGM's over the period of the Institute while the District Governors are in attendance.

Rotary International will normally send a Foundation Trustee to the Institute who will speak at a Foundation meeting and also to the current and incoming officers of RI. The Foundation Trustee will also address the main Institute as a key note speaker. This year the Trustee is Rolf Hörndler from Germany who is a member of the Rotary Club of Nürnberg-Fürth.

A special feature of the Institute is the participation of the RI President Elect in both the pre-Institute and the Institute proceedings. This year the President Elect is Dong-Kurn (DK) Lee from South Korea (the Rotary Club of Seoul-Hangang). The participation of the President Elect in both the business and social functions allows all delegates to get to know the incoming President of Rotary as a person. Further, it allows the District Governors Elect to bond with, and establish a working relationship with the Rotary International President in their year of office.



DG John Davis & Joan

A special dinner open to all Rotarians and partners will be held on Thursday, 22 November where D.K Lee is the guest speaker (please see the Notices & Events section for more details). This will provide an excellent opportunity to hear his views on Rotary and associated matters and to allow as many Rotarians and partners to meet him and his wife, Young Ja.

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Far from being a theatre for burnout, the Rotary Institute provides an excellent forum for decision making and extending the personal bonds of Rotarians everywhere. I hope that in future you may also have the opportunity to attend a Zone Institute ... a great learning and personal experience, and another part of the Family of Rotary.

- John Davis, District Governor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Bettina Harlos, Rotary Club of Southbank, Classification: Recruitment, IT
- Paul McIntyre, Rotary Club of Southbank, Classification: Media Services

Featured Club

CLUB NAME: Keilor

CHARTERED: 31 August 1962



SNAKE!!! Not your normal back garden variety, but a veritable monster. Whenever I hear the name 'Keilor', I think 'Snake'. The year was 19... and I was a mere slip of a girl. Although I was born here, my mother and father were both British ... my father to his bootstraps (... or boot heels ... or something). Dad thought it was important that his 'Orstralian' children engage the bush. Dad's idea of wild frontier was the Maribyrnong River at Keilor.

Now, I kid you not ... when we 'went bush', Dad wore a pith helmet and khaki shorts. He looked like a cartoon from a Rudyard Kipling joke book ... which he was, bless him. He loved his various monarchs and, with bristling moustache and umbrella, I think he was a prototype for Terry Thomas (or David Niven).

The snake was a big, BIG, brown snake. My enduring memory is of my brave Dad, protective left arm extended to the family, while his right arm was 'parrying and thrusting' at the monster. The snake considered 'Empire Man' for a moment and finally slithered off. At that point - in the 'legend' department - my nobbly-kneed, pith helmeted old Dad had left Arnie Schwarzeneger way behind.

I've digressed horribly ... but coincidences are weird. I was off to meet with Rotary Club of Keilor President, Harold Simpson. As I crossed the river, I glanced at the 'snake spot' and thought, "How incredible, Dad's name was Harold". Hmm, all too much ... Harold suggested something stronger than coffee and we headed for the bluestone Keilor Hotel ... thankfully well away from the river.

C: *What differentiates the Rotary Club of Keilor from all others?*

HS: We are very much a hands on club. That is, we roll up our sleeves and get stuck into the projects ourselves.

C: *What past projects would rank in your club's 'Hall of Fame'?*

HS: One of the club's biggest projects was back in 1984 when it held a very successful open day at Essendon Airport. With the funds received, the club was able to set up the Keilor Trust Fund which has been the catalyst for the club to undertake projects such as aged care accommodation, half way housing etc.

C: *What has your club in the pipeline for the 2007/08 Rotary year?*

HS: The club is involved with an Autism group that caters for adult people in the Keilor area. We are in the process of helping them find a new home and setting it up. Hopefully the paperwork on the new home will be finalised this week. Also the club will continue to contribute funds and manpower to the construction of the facilities at Camp Getaway.

C: *Tell us about the area around the Rotary Club of Keilor - the way that it is changing and developing and any local features of note.*

HS: When the club began, Keilor/Niddrie was a residential area just starting to grow. It has some ties back to the old days such as the Keilor Hotel - on the track to the gold fields. Large areas of farm land surrounded the area and housing increased. Today, with the construction of the ring road, large sections of this undeveloped land are being





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used for commercial and industrial buildings because of the close access to all roads out of town and Tullamarine Airport. The population in the area is ageing with many of the old locals moving into the retirement villages or the dual occupancies that have been built so they can stay in the area.

C: What is the Rotary Club of Keilor's passion?

HS: To put back into and support the local community projects, and to let the locals know that there is a Rotary Club of Keilor.

C: If you had to liken your club to a song, what would it be and who would you get to sing it?

HS: 'Up There Cazaly' - it's a great team song. To sing it? Certainly no-one in the club!

C: Take me back to August 1962 when the Club was chartered ...what did the main street look like and what would a bunch of 20 year olds do for 'a bit of fun'?

HS: Keilor Road was the main street. It had nowhere near the amount of retail and business that exists today. One of our Charter Members, the late Murray Hicks, had the newsagency in Keilor Road. Murray reckoned that when he started there, the road was a lot narrower and the tram to the airport ran up Treadwell Avenue and not Mathews Avenue as it does now. The old boys of the club tell us that sport was a big part of their spare time as many of the local churches had cricket, tennis and football teams. A lot of the socializing was undertaken with church activities, dances etc

C: Who is the longest serving member in your club?

HS: Jack Batchelor (45 years) is a Charter Member - the only one left. Angus Abbey has just recently retired from active duties at the club. He was also a Charter Member.

C: Over the years there must have been some interesting events and characters along the way. What are some weird, funny events and/or characters that you can mention?

HS: When Col Gibbons was District Governor, he arrived at the conference inside the Adelaide Convention Centre riding a motorbike and wearing the District Governor's jacket which was multi striped rainbow coloured. At the end of the convention this jacket was auctioned off. Over the years Col has dressed up as many identities to the amusement of members and guests at functions.

C: I understand that the Rotary Club of Keilor is now organising market days with stallholders etc. Very exciting ... tell me about it and how people can get involved.

HS: On the first Sunday of each month, the club holds a market in the car park of the Keilor Hotel. The gate takings are usually donated to a local project. The money raised from stallholder fees and our club's very successful food stall, go into funds to carry out the larger projects. Many of the locals come down for breakfast ... it's a great day. We are always looking for stallholders that have something different to offer and fresh produce stalls are very welcome. Every couple of months we run an added attraction to the market such as a classic car show, community service day with the Police, SES etc involved. If there are any prospective stallholders out there, can get in touch with Norm Draper on 9337 8914.

C: If there was a cheque for \$1 million made out to the Rotary Club of Keilor with a note saying, "Spend it all on worthwhile community projects or lose it", where do you think would you spend it?

HS: You mean apart from the current Presidents Retirement Residence? (A noble pursuit. -C) Locally it would be addressing health issues and accommodation for the aged. Unfortunately this is an 'expanding market' and the needs already exceed the avenues of supply. Internationally, I believe we'd be keen on assisting with the health and education of young people in underdeveloped countries. We would seek to add meaning to their lives, to encourage further study directed towards improving themselves, and the prosperity of their village, town and country.

C: If I was keen to get involved with the Rotary Club of Keilor, how would I go about making contact with the club?

HS: Contact me on 9379 4163, 0418 587 477 or send an email to [info@ magicinthemiddle.com.au](mailto:info@magicinthemiddle.com.au).

If you're ever taking a weekend drive, think of Keilor. Olive trees growing within 10km of the CBD. Magic. Better still ... think of taking in the Rotary Club of Keilor's market day. If your inclinations tend to tipping, the Keilor Hotel now has the Clarice imprimatur.

As I farewelled Harold I thought of the goldminers nearly 150 years ago ... loaded up with chattels and hope ... winding their way down into the valley at Keilor before trudging wearily up the other side en route to Castlemaine and Bendigo. Hardy souls ... men, women and children ... resolute and brave. But none braver than my knight in shining armour ... the Queen's man with pith helmet askew and umbrella thrusting. The Battle of Keilor ... the monster vanquished. If I live to be a hundred ... for me, there'll never be a bigger hero.



Often untoward things occur in life ...
having said that,
I can only do the best I can in the Time I'm in!
- Wes Truscott



WASRAG Water & Sanitation Conference

Thursday June 12th, 2008 at the Los Angeles Convention Centre

The day before the International Institute, three days before the opening of the Rotary Convention, Rotarians from around the world will come together to discuss how we can collectively tackle the water and sanitation challenge laid out in the Millennium Development Goals.

The program will include:

- Keynote addresses by leaders from the United Nations, NGOs, major corporations and/or foundations.
- Reports from task forces on sustainability and on best practices.
- A presentation of "Success Stories" – with lessons learned.
- Breakout discussions on issues selected by members.
- A networking lunch – to develop partnership.

We want EVERY Rotarian interested in leading a water or sanitation project to come prepared to share ideas.

More information will come later. In the meantime, please book the date NOW to be able to share your insights with other Rotarians on this most critical humanitarian issue of the decade.

For more information and/or suggestions, please contact info@wasrag.org

Shelterbox Aid In Bangladesh

16 November - Bangladesh: ShelterBox has sprung into immediate action to help victims of the cyclone that hit Bangladesh yesterday.

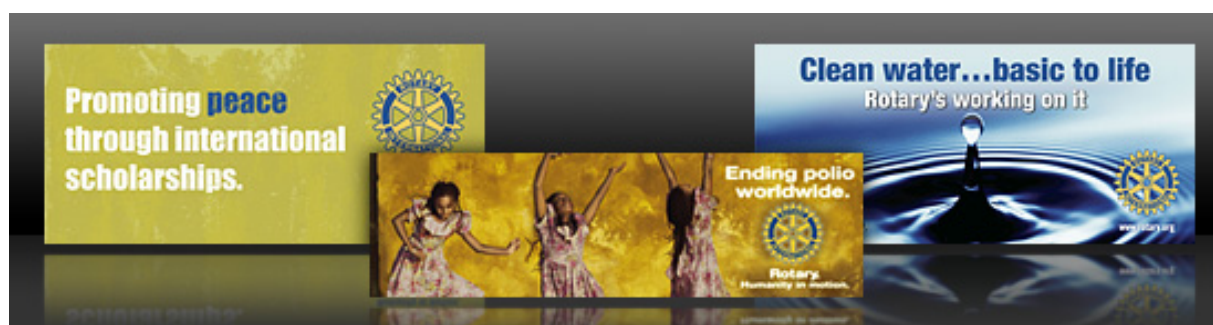
Cyclone Sidr hit Bangladesh yesterday, with 150mph winds creating a 15ft (5m) storm surge that overwhelmed coastal defences. First estimates are of 250 people killed but officials say the death toll is likely to rise much higher. Reports also indicate three coastal towns with a combined population of 700,000 have been devastated by the storm.

ShelterBox personnel had monitored reports of the storm from the charity's Cornwall HQ and plans to send help have now swung into place. However, rather than being dispatched from the UK, the charity is using a consignment of boxes already pre-positioned in Dubai.

ShelterBox founder and chief executive Tom Henderson explained: "Earlier this year we set up a number of strategic stores around the world. These boxes were sent to Dubai by sea some months ago. Having them ready and waiting means we can about halve both the flying distance and the time to get the aid there - as well as reduce costs."

It is hoped that 230 ShelterBoxes stored at Dubai will be on a plane to Bangladesh within 24 hours. Contained in each box is a 10-person ShelterBox tent, blankets, water containers and a variety of other equipment.

Volunteers from the ShelterBox Response Team will also fly out to help oversee the distribution of the boxes and assess what further help the charity can give. Mr Henderson said: "With the number of people affected, it's quite likely we will be asked for more help. This first consignment contains aid for more than 2,000 people but a lot more will be needed."





Tongan Health Minister Thanks ROMAC

Following is an extract for a letter received by ROMAC representatives from Mr Viliami Tau Tangi, Honorable Minister of Health, Tonga.

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all the people that form ROMAC for their generous assistance in recently treating four Tongan children diagnosed with rheumatic heart disease.

With much improved medical care for heart disease it is becoming a major treatable health issues in Tonga and morbidity and mortality is reduced as a result of the Tongan Governments support of overseas treatment of children. On an annual basis Tonga refer 15-20 cases a year for Valvular surgery.

Whilst the government of Tonga is trying its best to meet the needs of young people our current fiscal situation makes it difficult to meet all the requirements on a timely basis.

Therefore, it is a blessing for these four children, Miss Siesia Finau, Mr Sione Tiukeitei, Mr Fineasi Tonga and Mr Tevita 'Aukafolau to benefit from the generosity of ROMAC.

I want to thank ROMAC and all its members for their goodwill, donation of funds and the support shown to the children and carers during their stay in Australia.

May God continue to bless your mission in life and give you the strength and power to continue to meet the medical needs of children throughout the world.

RC Flemington Assists Local Police & Community



Phillip Templeton with Leading Senior Constable Shane Davies & Leading Senior Constable Nathan Vipond

Thanks to the great support of Flemington Rotary Club, Flemington Primary School and Flemington Cycles we have been able to start up the first police bike patrol program out of Flemington Police station.

There are 6 qualified bicycle patrol officers at the station and the introduction of these two new Giant Alias bikes will allow the police to patrol Flemington and surrounding suburbs, opening up back streets and alley ways, which have been quite difficult to police in the vans, while also freeing the van units to attend other call outs.

One of the largest benefits will be seen is the relationship between the public and the police, as this program allows the officers to participate in programs where presence in police vans is seen to be more negative than positive, where as the proactive nature of the bike patrols can only be viewed as sensational.

Thanks to all those involved in the program.

Useful Programs & Websites

Africare (<http://www.africare.org/aids/aids.html>)

Africare's HIV/AIDS Initiative promotes prevention through basic HIV/AIDS information and counseling; education on topics such as gender inequity, cross-generational and transactional sex, life skills, and stigma reduction; and techniques ranging from peer education to creative uses of drama.

AmeriCares (<http://www.americares.org/>)

Provides immediate response to emergency medical needs, as well as supporting long-term humanitarian assistance programs, for all people around the world, irrespective of race, creed or political persuasion. It solicits donations of medicines, medical supplies and

other relief materials from US and international manufacturers and delivers them quickly and efficiently to indigenous health care and welfare professionals around the world.



AMREF (www.amref.org)

The African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) aims to improve the health of disadvantaged people in Africa as a means for them to escape



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poverty and improve the quality of their lives. AMREF defines the disadvantaged as people who suffer from high prevalence and severe impact of major health problems like malaria, HIV/AIDS, poor water and sanitation, lack of information about adolescent and reproductive health, and poor access to health care.

Covering Kids & Families

(<http://www.coveringkidsandfamilies.org/>)

Addresses the need to reduce the number of uninsured children and adults who are eligible for public health care coverage programs but not enrolled. *Covering Kids & Families* operates through statewide projects in 45 states and the District of Columbia and more than 140 local community projects.

Doctors of the World

(<http://www.doctorsoftheworld.org/>)

Mobilizes the health sector to promote and protect basic human rights and civil liberties for all people, in the US and abroad. In collaboration with a network of affiliates around the world and in partnership with local communities, we work where health is diminished or endangered by violations of human rights and civil liberties.



Doctors Without Borders

(<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>)

Médecins Sans Frontières is an independent humanitarian organization for medical aid. Annually, some 3,000 volunteer doctors, nurses and support staff work in

trouble spots around the world helping those living

on the edge of human tolerance.



The Fred Hollows Foundation

(<http://www.hollows.org/>)

An NGO which seeks to eradicate avoidable blindness in developing countries and to improve the health outcomes of Indigenous Australians. We use a sustainable development approach to achieve our objectives.

The Gift of Life Foundation

(<http://www.golfound.com/>)

An efficient and caring system of prenatal services, education, tracking, and care coordination for pregnant women and their babies – regardless of their ability to pay. Services include: prenatal care, delivery, postpartum care, nutrition counseling, and child health services.



Gift of Life Foundation

Global Health through Education, Training & Service (GHETS)

(<http://www.ghets.org/>)



A non-governmental, non-profit organization based in the US dedicated to improving health in developing countries through innovations in education and service. GHETS facilitates partnerships between communities, healthcare providers and training institutions, leveraging local assets to meet the needs of underserved populations.

The Global Health Council

(<http://www.web.globalhealth.org/>)

Dedicated to saving lives by improving health throughout the world. Our diverse membership is comprised of health-care professionals and organizations that include NGOs, foundations, corporations, government agencies and academic institutions that work to ensure global health for all.

Hellen Keller International

(<http://www.hki.org/>)

Founded in 1915, it is among the oldest international nonprofit organizations devoted to fighting and treating preventable blindness worldwide. HKI builds local capacity and provides technical and scientific assistance to governments, international, national and local organizations, and individuals around the world.

- Taken from
http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rq05_whyh_org.pdf

Notices & Events

RI President-Elect D.K. Lee Visits Australia

President David Gibb and the Rotary Club of Ballarat South would like to invite all Rotarians throughout the District and beyond to join them for a dinner meeting at the Doherty Hotel-Ballararat Lodge, Main Road, Ballarat on **Thursday, 22 November**, 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Attending will be the very distinguished guest speaker Rotary International President-Elect, Dong Kurn Lee and his wife Young Ja. Also attending from right across Australia will be District Governors, District Governors Elect and District Governor Nominees, along with many Past Officers of Rotary International as this is part of their annual Zone Institute to be held in Ballarat during the week commencing November 18 2007.



There is seating for 500 available and partners are welcome. Cost is \$45.00 per person.

For more details or to register, please contact Secretary Desley Beechey on 5343 2318 or <mailto:desleyb@bhs.org.au>.

Rotary Club of Melbourne Festive Wine Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Melbourne have an exciting, great value Festive Wine Fundraiser Offer of export only wines that are unavailable on the Australian market. These are at very attractive prices and other District 9800 Clubs are very welcome to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

Melbourne will credit 75% of the funds raised from your Club's order of ten cases or more to your fundraising activities.

Please note we will deliver to one location only and orders must be received by **23 November**.

Please follow the link to the club website for more information tasting notes and order forms
http://www.rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/html/s02_article/article_view.asp?id=1313&nav_cat_id=-1&nav_top_id=-1



Do A Good Deed

Are you sick of going to auctions where your wallet just doesn't hold enough cash? Then come along to the Rotary Club of Brimbank Central's Charity Auction on **Saturday, 24 November** at the Starlight Centre, Taylors Lakes Hotel, 7 Keilor Melton Road, Taylors Lakes from 6:30pm.

Items for juniors to geriatrics. Big items, small items, low cost items, high-end items, personal items, household items. Something for everyone.

Food, fun, fellowship and give-aways. One person from each table guaranteed to win a prize.

Don't miss out - purchase your tickets now! \$35 per person (includes 3 course meal) and drinks at bar prices.

For further details, please contact Lewis Bordon on 9364 4192 (bh), 9310 8140 (ah) or 0412 532300.

For a complete list of auction items check out our website: <http://www.brimbankrotary.org.au/> (click on the projects button).

19th Annual Truck Show & Country Music

Castlemaine RC invite you to the 19th Annual Truck Show at the Campbells Creek Sports Ground.

There will be plenty of entertainment and plenty of fun for the whole family:

Saturday, 24 November

- Truck & Classic Ute Show
- Big Rig competition
- Country Music/ Rock Sweet Music
- Saturday night featuring Ruckus
- Lots of free Kids Entertainment

Sunday, 25 November is Family Day

- 7.30am Truckies Breakfast
- 9.30am Truck Convoy over 80 vehicles down the middle of Castlemaine
- Judging of Trucks/Utes in lots of categories.
- Lots of Prize money to be won.
- Special appearance by the School Of Hard Knocks
- Cost Entry \$10.00 Kids under 12 free
- Country Music all day Sweet Rock plus Ruckus
- 12.00 noon Grand Charity Auction
- Team Truck Show pull Men's & Women's Teams.

Rotary Club Of Bendigo – Meeting Change

The Rotary Club of Bendigo has transferred their normal meeting from **Tuesday, 27 November** to Friday, 30 November. Time is 12.30pm for 1.00pm at the Bendigo Club, 22 Park Street, Bendigo. Special Guest Speaker is Donald McGauchie, Chairman of Telstra and, among other Directorships, is currently a Director of the Reserve Bank of Australia.



Men's Health Night

Waiting for a problem is often too late! Come and find out what men need to do to stop their wheels falling off...

The Rotary Club of Williamstown is hosting this free information evening (gold coin donation to Rotary appreciated) to learn more about why women live longer than men, depression in men, sudden unexpected death, heart attack risk factors, how prostate disease is



diagnosed, ways to reduce your cancer risk, and how to live a longer and happier life. Entertaining and informative speakers will include Dr Murray Verso – General Practitioner, Dr Deepak Haikerwal – Cardiologist, and Mr David Ellis – Urologist.

The Men's Health Night is being held from 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 27 November** at the Mechanics Institute Hall, Electra Street, Williamstown. Contact Yvonne Moon on 0407 303 255 or Murray Verso on 9397 1366 for more information.

Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night

Melton Valley Rotary Club are holding their Annual Tibetan Village Project Auction Night on **Wednesday, 28 November** 6 pm for 6.30 start at the Melton Valley Golf Club, Melton Valley Drive, Melton. Cost for 2 course meal and evening of fun and frivolity is \$25.00 per head with all proceeds from the evening going to the Tibetan Village Project. Limited spaces so please book in early. RSVP by Monday, 26 November to 9747 0054, 0407 556 178 or email barbararichards@bigpond.com

Timor-Leste 2007 - The Pursuit of Freedom, With Meaning

Friends of Alola in Victoria are pleased to invite you to a special cocktail evening with Kirsty Sword Gusmão, who will speak about 'Timor-Leste 2007 - The Pursuit of Freedom, with Meaning'. **Thursday, 29 November 2007**, 6.30pm-8.30pm at William Angliss Conference Centre, Level 5, 555 La Trobe St Melbourne (corner of King & Lonsdale Streets). The cost is \$60/\$35 concession (includes drinks and canapés). Bookings are essential and can be made via vic@alolafoundation.org or phone 0437 983 070. The Christmas Gift Certificates will also be launched on the evening. All proceeds to fund Alola's programs in Timor-Leste.

For more info go to www.alolafoundation.org or contact PP Virginia Turner, Regional RAWCS Secretary, D9800 RAWCS Chairperson on 9592 4691.

ARHRF Dinner

The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund is putting on a dinner at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club on **29 November** to host eminent visiting Psychologist and Paediatric Surgeon Professor, Annette La Greca, and Christine Nixon, Chief Commissioner Victoria Police.

Matching two great speakers - a Chief Commissioner of Police, and a world acclaimed expert on children's and adolescents reactions to traumatic events (e.g. Natural disasters, terrorists attacks) – will make for a very stimulating evening.

Professor La Greca will speak on her involvement in:

- Hurricane Andrew
- September 11th terrorist attack
- Kobe Earthquake
- Helping children cope with disasters and terrorism
- 'Keeping Children Safe' project

The Chief Commissioner will speak on related matters from the police and emergency services point of view.

The primary purpose of the dinner is to stimulate debate on the subject, and to promote awareness of the work of the ARHRF by targeting Rotarians, professional groups, and the public in general.

The cost for dinner is \$65 per head, with drinks at bar prices. Because the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club is a private club regulations governing such organisations stipulate guests will need to provide their full name and address when purchasing tickets. Please contact the ticket secretary Judy Nettleton on 9427 7233 (bh), or <mailto:aceheat@ace-heat.com.au>.



Hollywood Scandal! Murder Mystery! Auction Night!

The Rotary Club of Altona is pleased to present an interactive night of mayhem, murder and auction sales on **Friday, 30 November** from 7.00pm at the Finnish Hall, 119 Pier Street, Altona. Come as your favourite character for your chance to win a prize for best costume. Auction items include a 2007 signed Geelong football and Bulldog jumper, original paintings by Ted Dansey and Ray Hewitt, a DVD player, toys, hampers, beauty goods, accommodation, vouchers and much more.

This is a fundraising event to support local community projects including a new vehicle for St John Ambulance, upgrading Altona's rotunda and youth projects.

Tickets are limited so be sure to get in early. The \$40.00 per head ticket (tables of eight) includes champagne and canapés on arrival, followed by a spit roast (BYO drinks).

To make your booking, call 9398 4717, 9391 8504 or 0412 315 450.



Rotary Peace & Conflict Studies Program Applications

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies (RPCS) Program announces a call for applications for the July 2008 program session. The deadline for completed applications to be submitted to The Rotary Foundation for this session is **1 December 2007**.

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program is a professional development program held in Bangkok, Thailand through which up to 30 participants embark on three months of intensive study instructed by some of the leading specialists in the peace and conflict resolution fields. The customised curriculum has been crafted by specialists in the field to capitalise on the experience of both participants and lecturers while balancing theoretical and practical learning.

Ideal for busy professionals, the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program's customised curriculum helps promising leaders expand their global outlook, strengthen their negotiation skills, and ultimately make a positive impact on future peace and conflict resolution efforts worldwide.

For more information please contact Jenn Weidman, Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program Specialist, on +1-847-866-3374 or <mailto:jenn.weidman@rotary.org>. Program materials and participant profiles can be downloaded at www.rotary.org.

The Variety Clubs Christmas Party For Special Children

The Rotary Club of Essendon North invites you to help out with the Variety Clubs Christmas Party for Special Children. The set up day is **Tuesday 11 December 2007** and the party is on **Wednesday, 12 December**.



Rotary club members who wish to participate in this most worthy event this year, please contact Events Australia for the current application forms (Events Australia, 407 City Road, South Melbourne Vic 3205. Ph: 9929 4407, Fax: 9699 4655. Email: lauren@eventsaust.com.au).

Please contact Jim Thompson of RC Essendon North on 9354 6694 with any queries.

Blues Festival to Mark the 150th Anniversary of Point Cook Homestead

The Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook will be holding a Blues Music Festival at the Point Cook Homestead on **Sunday, 10 February 2008** to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead.

Proceeds from the Festival will go towards a \$50,000 upgrade of the Point Cook Coastal Park Playground which is due for completion in March 2008.

The club is seeking support from other Rotarians in the District to help as volunteers on 10 February 2008, as the Laverton Point Cook club is only small. A crowd of around 3,000 is expected and volunteer roles include marshalling, car park, information officers, ticket sellers/checkers, set up and pack up, and general assistance. If you would like to register as a volunteer for the event, please contact Chris Egger on <mailto:cegger@ntc.gov.au> or phone 9236 5033 (bh) or 0407 846 382.

Sponsors are also being sought for the event so if you are have a business and would like to be a sponsor, please contact Emma Sutcliffe on 9395 7501 or mobile 0409 040 499 or <mailto:emmamike@bigpond.com>.



*John Ray, then Wyndham City Councillor
Leigh Barrat and John Argote from Parks Victoria*

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

Altona City Rotary Club is holding its Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects.

Commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (we're giving you lots of time to get your entries in before the 14 February deadline!), there will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes.

All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Quip Corner:

As I said before, I never repeat myself.



Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli.

A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on 24 April 2008, together with local Rotarians.

Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

Option 1: Seven day tour (**21-28 April 2008**) includes visit to the capital of three empires, Istanbul and ancient Troy.

Option 2: Three week walking tour (**8-25 April 2008**) tour which, apart from Istanbul, includes visits to World Heritage listed Cappadocia in central Turkey, following Roman roads in southern Turkey, Epheusus, Troy and joining with others for the launch and ceremony at Gallipoli.

If you wish, your itinerary can be rearranged according to your requirements.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Foundation Month With Chris Don

This week, I'd like to share with you RI President Wilf Wilkinson's message for Foundation Month:



RI President,
Wilf Wilkinson

The Rotary Foundation is the engine that drives Rotary's international humanitarian service. Without the Foundation, many of Rotary's signature programs wouldn't exist. There would be no PolioPlus, no Humanitarian Grants, no Ambassadorial Scholarships, no Rotary World Peace Fellowships. Without the Foundation, Rotary would be a very different and less powerful force for good in the world.

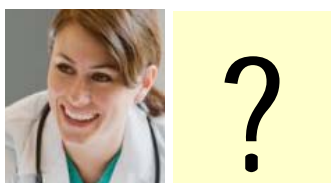
As Rotarians, we give generously, yet we gain so much more: the pleasure of helping others, the satisfaction of knowing that we're doing the right thing, the joys of fellowship and friendship. As club members, we gain the global power of Rotary in our service – the power of more than 1.2 million Rotarians all over the world, each a potential partner in our projects.

I have long been a great believer in the Foundation. As early as 1980, I was involved with one of the very first Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants, immunizing children in southern India against red measles. As a trustee, I traveled the world promoting the Foundation's programs and assessing projects. Over and over, I saw the real, direct difference that Foundation resources made in Rotarians' work.

I call on every one of you, as Rotarians, to choose this month to make your annual gift to the Foundation – and to make a gift not only this year but every year to come. I take this commitment very seriously myself; my wife and I have contributed at the Major Donor level, and all our children are Paul Harris Fellows. All of us know firsthand exactly how much our gift means and how much it strengthens the organization that we care about so deeply. As RI president, I feel a special responsibility to promote Every Rotarian, Every Year, which has been so successful already in increasing support for our Foundation. I'm confident that this year, we can meet our goal of US\$120 million – an average gift of \$100 from every Rotarian.

It's a basic principle of Rotary that we can do much more together than we could ever do alone. The Rotary Foundation allows us to pool our resources, help each other, and thereby reach heights of service that would be simply unattainable otherwise. The Foundation is there for all of us, and it's our responsibility to be there for it. And that's why each of us must answer the call of Every Rotarian, Every Year.

- Chris Don, District Foundation Committee Chairman



Know someone who would make a
great Rotarian?



Bring them along
to your next meeting.





November is Foundation Month

The Rotary Foundation Today & Tomorrow

At the International Assembly in San Diego this year I was privileged to hear Luis Vincent Giay, the 2006-7 Chair of the Rotary Foundation Trust, give an address on the Foundation. I would like to share with you some of the matters raised by Chairman Giay in this address...

"In 2007, we celebrate the first 90 years of our Foundation, which was created on the dreams of Paul Harris, the vision of Arch Klump, and the achievements of Rotarians worldwide. No question about it- our Foundation is enjoying the greatest moment in its history.

Last year, our Foundation surpassed all expectations with regard to service and operations.

The contributions and revenue from investments in 2005-6 totalled US\$162.1 million.

The Permanent Fund surpassed the US\$ 500 million mark far more quickly than expected and should reach its goal of \$1 billion sooner than any of us would have expected.

Excluding investment in Polio Plus, 2,640 humanitarian grants totalling over US\$30M were approved - a record amount.

The number of matching grants approved that were sustained by the World Fund increased by 19%, the average amount of each matching grant increased by 28%, and the use of the District Designated Fund grew by 24%.

Since the creation of matching grants, over 25,000 projects have received financing.

In addition to this remarkable growth in our humanitarian programs, we have continued to maintain the same level of educational scholarships and, this year, we carried out the most Group Study Exchanges in our History- 515 groups participated. (The District 9800 GSE team to District 5650, set to leave for the USA in March 2008 and led by Anne Peace, is funded by the Foundation -Ed.)

Over 200,000 Foundations operate in the United States. Charity navigator, an independent organization that evaluates the performance of US-based charitable organizations, has ranked our Rotary Foundation among the top 50. In awarding the maximum rating of four stars, Charity navigator cites our Foundation's efficient administration, with sound investments and excellent control over the use of its programs.

*Today one word clearly describes our Foundation: **credibility**. Our Foundation is credible, solid, strong and well known.*

Our Foundation is also in a process of change and adaptation as never before. For Rotary to be successful in its second century, we need a Foundation that is vigorous, international, proactive, competent, organized, visionary, and capable of meeting the world's demands - particularly those of Rotarians and clubs.

I would like to share with you the Trustees' primary objectives for the future of The Rotary Foundation.

- 1.A "premier Foundation" ready to support and serve Rotary International, the clubs, and Rotarians so that larger and more important community and international service projects can be carried out.
- 2.A Foundation that is well advanced and prepared to be proactive rather than reactive when facing problems. We must be prepared to sustain Rotary during its second century with even greater strength.
- 3.A Foundation ready to serve Rotarians and not create more work, more red tape, and more bureaucracy for them. We must provide immediate solutions to problems. Speed and simplicity are paramount.
- 4.A Foundation that keeps Rotarians much more involved in the administration of projects at the District level, with greater control over their approval, reception of funds and the production of final reports.
- 5.A Foundation that is financially sound, with a Permanent Fund that in 2015 will be able to sustain programs costing US\$400M per year.



DG John Davis & Joan

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6. A Foundation that takes an active stand on a trend that will become a reality over the next 25 years, some US\$300 trillion will change hands and pass from one generation to the next as older people die. A large portion of these resources will be transferred to foundations, charitable works, churches and non profit organizations. Our Foundation must have a well defined, aggressive policy in place for receiving additional contributions.

In short, our Foundation is one to which we are proud to belong."

For the Foundation to carry on its great work, it must have the support of its member Rotary clubs. I would ask all Club Presidents this 2007-8 Rotary year to allocate funds from their club to support the Foundation. As in previous years, we would encourage each club in our District, if they have not already done so, to present their club's contribution to the Foundation at the District Conference in March 2008. In this most important forum, all clubs will be acknowledged and thanked for the support they have given to our Charity - The Rotary Foundation.

Individuals also have several options of supporting the Foundation. They can become a Centurion member. Another avenue is membership of the Paul Harris Society - this group already has 18 members in our District.

A further option is to become a benefactor.

More concise details on how clubs and individuals can give financial support to the Foundation should be directed to PDG John Wigley. John's contact details are in the District Information Directory.

- John Davis, District Governor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Ray Lindner, RC Point Gellibrand, Classification: Automotive Restorer
- Ray Pape, RC Albert Park, Classification: Commercial Cleaning



President Graeme Kennedy welcomes Ray Lindner

40+ Rotarian



Have you ever wondered about going back in time? I have. For some reason, I'm fascinated by the period 1860 – 1920. So much happened ... in politics, in technology and socially. And gentlemen were gentlemen.

Imagine my delight as I walked into the workshop of Reg Harris, 91 year old Hawthorn Rotarian and avid restorer of vintage and veteran cars. "He's a crusty old beggar," said my Hawthorn spy, "I don't know how Cora puts up with him". Well ... Reg and Cora Harris have been married for 68 years!! Reg 'harumphed' as I introduced myself and pointed to a chair. "This is a 1912 Raunch & Lang - it's an early electric car," said Reg. It was gorgeous – brass fittings, leather seats and a nameplate that shone. I dreamily thought about taking a spin in the 'R&L' ... Reg with his goggles and dustcoat and me with a parasol.

"Watch out for that sump oil," said Reg, snapping me back to 2007. It seemed like a good cue to start the interview ...

C: *Now Reginald (I love "Reginald"... Reg didn't) ... sorry Reg ... tell me, how did you become involved with Rotary?*

RH: I was encouraged by Bill Johnstone, manager of the Commercial Bank Of Australia in Hawthorn to get involved with the new Rotary Club being chartered. I was inducted in 1955.

C: *What is the biggest project you've been involved with as a Rotarian?*

RH: The 1964 Art Show at the Hawthorn Town Hall, the 1959-60 Lorne Conference of DG Horace Bedggood, and organising the car parking at the pre-Australian Open tennis tournament at Kooyong.

C: *What is the biggest change in Rotary that you've seen?*

RH: Women in Rotary. (A most definite response. There was no point in taking it further -C).

C: *As a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Hawthorn for over 50 years, you've seen most of the story unfold. Tell me about some of the club legends whose company you've enjoyed.*

RH: Geoff Stevens – District Governor 1970-71, Alan Patterson – Commissioner of The Board of Works, and Bill Brown – a principal in Pioneer, the pre-stressed concrete company.

C: *What's great about the Hawthorn Rotary Club?*

RH: It has excellent fellowship and a very good record regarding the support of worthy projects.



Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



C: *If you could have been present at a famous event in history what would you have chosen and why?*

RH: The Battle of The Coral Sea ... a momentous event in World War II. The Allied victory in this battle unquestionably saved Australia from invasion.

C: *You've lived and worked around the Hawthorn area for many decades. How dramatically has the area changed since those early days?*

RH: Manufacturing became impractical because of rising rental. It has been replaced by office accommodation and retail outlets. Visually the changes have been enormous.

C: *Do you see a relaxation of Rotary's rules and formalities as a natural progression or do you believe that "standards have dropped"?*

RH: No. Standards have been relaxed to embrace the requirements of today's lifestyle.

C: *Your great passion is the restoration of vintage cars. Tell me how the interest developed and how you go about the restoring process.*

RH: My first restoration was a 1910 'Little' the forerunner to the Chevrolet. This kindled my interest and led to further involvement, resulting in approximately 25 restorations.

C: *You've travelled widely. What was your favourite overseas destination and why?*

RH: Italy – a beautiful country, very friendly people and many places of interest ... Pompeii, Isle of Capri ... anywhere in that southern region of mainland Italy.

C: *How would you describe your preference in music?*

RH: Traditional Jazz. Cora and I head to the Amora Hotel in Richmond for lunch on Sundays. They have a jazz trio playing there. The music is fantastic!

C: *I believe that you enjoy a glass of wine. What is your favourite drop?*

RH: I really enjoy red wine. Lindemans Bin 45 Cabernet Sauvignon is a real favourite.

C: *What qualities do you think a successful Rotary Club President should have?*

RH: Tolerance. Also the ability to earn the respect and support of the membership.

C: *Who do you think was the most stunning female movie star of the 1930's and 40's - Carol Lombard, Rita Hayworth or someone else?*

RH: Ingrid Bergman ... she gave me a warm inner glow.

C: *Of all the cars you've owned and restored what was your favourite? Why?*

RH: A Yellow Cab. A 1925 Brougham. Very, very rare. At present it's in a museum.

C: *Complete the following: Life is ...*

RH: ... for the living.

C: *My secret talent is ...*

RH: ... bugged if I know - ask Cora!

C: *The way to my heart is ...*

RH: ... another question for Cora.

C: *I am ...*

RH: ... intolerant – it comes with age.

C: *Rotary is ...*

RH: ... somewhere to go for lunch.

C: *Rotarians are ...*

RH: ... not a bad lot.

Reg was telling me that they have a monthly lunch in the workshop. The event is always catered for and there's no point coming if you're not a 'petrol head'. This had been a great day. 'Grumpy Reg' wasn't grumpy at all. How come they're all a bit scared of him at Hawthorn?

I started to resume my dreaming of the Reg and Clarice (well, 'Clarry' to Reg ... he said that Clarry was a fine old name) driving in the Dandenongs in 1913 ... I just adore that era. But I guess Cora would have had issues with that.

I thought that Reg seemed anxious to get back to work ... I'd better go. No way. "Refreshment," said Reg. "Clarry, be a good girl and reach up behind the teabags." I did. What do you know ... a bottle of Lindemans Bin 45. With a wink and a deft removal of the cork, he produced two wine glasses. "Don't get too many young ladies in here," he said. I loved the 'young' bit and we laughed on about my ignorance of all things mechanical.

Sorry Cora ... I did monopolise Reg for a couple of hours. But ... hey ... you've had him for 68 years!!!

Today's problems are the price we pay for tomorrow's progress.

- Wes Truscott



ShelterBox Needs Your Help!

You may have heard on the radio or read in the newspapers about the cyclone that devastated the Oro Bay and Popondetta regions in Papua New Guinea on 24 November 2007. It has been reported that 160 people are dead and many missing. Many houses have been destroyed and the wharf at Oro Bay has been washed away, along with bridges between Popondetta and Oro Bay.

There is a severe shortage of provisions such as food, fuel and materials, as roads and bridges in the area have all suffered severe damage. Therefore the first priority is to ferry provisions to Popondetta airfield and use helicopters to distribute the provisions until repairs to the infrastructure are complete – a role that is being carried out by the Papua New Guinea and Australian Defence Forces.

The trust has authorized the release of over 220 boxes from storage in Melbourne with Darren Mayne - a member of the Shelter Box Response Team (SRT) and a Rotarian from the RC of Endeavour Hills - working around the clock co-ordinating uplift and transport to PNG. Darren and his team, including the President of the RC of Pt Moresby, the local Assistant Governor and others in PNG are seeking out the best method of getting the boxes to the region. There are two Australian SRT members are leaving to PNG ahead of the boxes.

ShelterBox UK have authorized a further 200 boxes from Cornwall.

Rotary District 9800 will then undoubtedly have a role in the rebuilding phase, where we can provide materials and manpower to assist with the repair, rebuilding and re-equipping of public structures such as schools and medical facilities. These functions however will need to wait until the situation has stabilized and we can obtain an accurate assessment of what is required as outlined by the government of Papua New Guinea.

A ShelterBox provides shelter for up to 20 people and contains:

- 10 person tent
- 10 thermal blankets
- Multi fuel cooker, cooking pans, utensils, bowls and mugs.
- Water purification tablets.
- Collapsible water containers
- Children's pack, spade, rope, tool kit and other basic equipment.
- After being unpacked a Shelter Box can be utilized to store 185 litres of water.



We need to replace the ShelterBoxes taken out of the warehouse as quickly as possible. Your club can be part of the relief effort by putting together a sum of \$1200 either from donations from the public, individual Rotarians or by clubs.

Please forward all donations to Shelter Box Australia, The Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills Inc, PO Box 790, Endeavour Hills Victoria 3802. For tax deductible donations, make cheques out to "ShelterBox RAWCS" and forward to the above address. Further information is available by phoning 1300 881 913, emailing shelterboxaustralia@westnet.com.au or visiting <http://www.shelterbox.org/>.



RI President Elect, Mr. D.K. Lee On The Airwaves

Tune in to the Rotary & Community Service Show (94.1FM 3WBC) this Friday, 30 November at 6.00pm to listen to an interview with Rotary International President Elect, Mr. D.K. Lee. D.K. was in Ballarat last week for the Rotary Institute. Brian Bloomer's interview with him covers many topics, including D.K.'s emphasis for next year as RI President.

Just a reminder that the Rotary & Community Service Radio Show is a fantastic opportunity for your club projects to receive free promotion on the radio to the listening audience of 3WBC 94.1FM (Whitehorse Boroondara Community Radio) during the Rotary 7 Community Service show each Friday 6.00 – 8.00pm.



The objective of the show is to give the audience a better understanding of the projects and activities Rotary and other community service organisations support. This is another opportunity to engage the Rotary theme - Rotary Shares - by sharing the "Rotary doing good in the world" message with the listening audience.

Brian Bloomer is the Producer and Presenter of the show and is a member of the Rotary Club of Canterbury. The casual chat/interview format is interspersed with 70's, 80s and current rock/popular music thrown in for good measure, with a mostly Australian content. Brian interviews Rotary special guests about their experiences such as Rotary Youth Exchange students, Rotary Group Study Exchange teams, Rotary club members, and special project leaders, along with many other projects in the 9800 and 9810 Districts.

3WBC 94.1FM has official transmission coverage in the inner eastern suburbs of Melbourne (Kew to Box Hill, and North Balwyn to Ashburton), with spill over into Melbourne City and out to Ringwood and south to parts of the Mornington Peninsular.

The promotion of your projects or events can be in the form of on-air announcements from your project flyer or an in-person interview on air.

The offer of **FREE** publicity is open to all clubs. Simply contact Brian on 0405 124 958 or via brian.bloomer@3wbc.org.au. You can also visit the Rotary Club of Canterbury web site - www.canterburyrotary.org - and click on the Radio Show tab for this year's program and additional information.

Promote Your Club At Camberwell Market



The Rotary Club of Balwyn as Market Manager in conjunction with the Boroondara Cluster Group Clubs invites the participation of District clubs in promotional activities (excluding fund raising) at the Sunday Market.

Those promotional activities may be undertaken utilising the Rotary tent as illustrated and naturally that is free of charge. Individual Clubs may only participate once in any Rotary year.

Bookings for the tent may be arranged through the General Manager of the Market – PP Colin Campbell, telephone 0412 244 625 or email colinandbevcampbell@msn.com.au.

The Rotary tent is simple to erect and easily transportable and any club using the tent must be responsible for its erection and dismantling and return to Colin Campbell.

Participating clubs are reminded that the market commences at 6.30am each Sunday and closes at 1.00pm. and all stall holders/participants must be in place no later than 8.00am on any given Sunday.

Notices & Events

Rotary Club Of Bendigo – Meeting Change

The Rotary Club of Bendigo has transferred their normal meeting from **Tuesday, 27 November** to Friday, 30 November. Time is 12.30pm for 1.00pm at the Bendigo Club, 22 Park Street, Bendigo. Special Guest Speaker is Donald McGauchie, Chairman of Telstra and, among other Directorships, is currently a Director of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

RC Essendon North – Meeting Cancellation

The meeting on **Wednesday, 28 November** has been cancelled. Meetings will resume as per usual next week.



Men's Health Night

Waiting for a problem is often too late! Come and find out what men need to do to stop their wheels falling off...

The Rotary Club of Williamstown is hosting this free information evening (gold coin donation to Rotary appreciated) to learn more about why women live longer than men, depression in men, sudden unexpected death, heart attack risk factors, how prostate disease is diagnosed, ways to reduce your cancer risk, and how to live a longer and happier life. Entertaining and informative speakers will include Dr Murray Verso – General Practitioner, Dr Deepak Haikerwal – Cardiologist, and Mr David Ellis – Urologist.



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The cost for dinner is \$65 per head, with drinks at bar prices. Because the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club is a private club regulations governing such organisations stipulate guests will need to provide their full name and address when purchasing tickets. Please contact the ticket secretary Judy Nettleton on 9427 7233 (bh), or <mailto:aceheat@ace-heat.com.au>.



Hollywood Scandal! Murder Mystery! Auction Night!

The Rotary Club of Altona is pleased to present an interactive night of mayhem, murder and auction sales on **Friday, 30 November** from 7.00pm at the Finnish Hall, 119 Pier Street, Altona. Come as your favourite character for your chance to win a prize for best costume. Auction items include a 2007 signed Geelong football and Bulldog jumper, original paintings by Ted Dansey and Ray Hewitt, a DVD player, toys, hampers, beauty goods, accommodation, vouchers and much more.

This is a fundraising event to support local community projects including a new vehicle for St John Ambulance, upgrading Altona's rotunda and youth projects.

Tickets are limited so be sure to get in early. The \$40.00 per head ticket (tables of eight) includes champagne and canapés on arrival, followed by a spit roast (BYO drinks).

To make your booking, call 9398 4717, 9391 8504 or 0412 315 450.

Quizmania!

The Rotaract and Interact clubs of North Balwyn invite you to Quizmania – a fantastic night of mind twisting trivia to raise money for Rotaplast, providing reconstructive surgery for children their annual trivia night – on **Saturday, 1**



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December 2007 from 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. This night will be full of trivia, games, entertainment and fantastic prizes. All proceeds from the night will be donated to Rotaplast.

At a cost of \$15 per head (Students - \$10 and Family - \$40), all Rotary clubs in our district are encouraged to put together a table (8-10 people) for the night and support this worthy cause. BYO drinks and nibbles, tea and coffee provided.

If you would like further information about the night, please contact Jacinta on 0407 830 011 or Nathan on 0438 179 295, or book via mailto:interact_bhs@hotmail.com.

Rotary Peace & Conflict Studies Program Applications

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies (RPCS) Program announces a call for applications for the July 2008 program session. The deadline for completed applications to be submitted to The Rotary Foundation for this session is **1 December 2007**.

The Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program is a professional development program held in Bangkok, Thailand through which up to 30 participants embark on three months of intensive study instructed by some of the leading specialists in the peace and conflict resolution fields. The customised curriculum has been crafted by specialists in the field to capitalise on the experience of both participants and lecturers while balancing theoretical and practical learning.

Ideal for busy professionals, the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program's customised curriculum helps promising leaders expand their global outlook, strengthen their negotiation skills, and ultimately make a positive impact on future peace and conflict resolution efforts worldwide.

For more information please contact Jenn Weidman, Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program Specialist, on +1-847-866-3374 or <mailto:jenn.weidman@rotary.org>. Program materials and participant profiles can be downloaded at www.rotary.org.

The Variety Clubs Christmas Party For Special Children



The Rotary Club of Essendon North invites you to help out with the Variety Clubs Christmas Party for Special Children. The set up day is **Tuesday 11 December 2007** and the party is on **Wednesday, 12 December**.

Rotary club members who wish to participate in this most worthy event this year, please contact Events Australia for the current application forms (Events Australia, 407 City Road, South Melbourne Vic 3205. Ph: 9929 4407, Fax: 9699 4655. Email: lauren@eventsaust.com.au).

Please contact Jim Thompson of RC Essendon North on 9354 6694 with any queries.

Blues Festival to Mark the 150th Anniversary of Point Cook Homestead

The Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook will be holding a Blues Music Festival at the Point Cook Homestead on **Sunday, 10 February 2008** to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Point Cook Homestead.

Proceeds from the Festival will go towards a \$50,000 upgrade of the Point Cook Coastal Park Playground which is due for completion in March 2008.

The club is seeking support from other Rotarians in the District to help as volunteers on 10 February 2008, as the Laverton Point Cook club is only small. A crowd of around 3,000 is expected and volunteer roles include marshalling, car park, information officers, ticket sellers/checkers, set up and pack up, and general assistance. If you would like to register as a volunteer for the event, please contact Chris Egger on <mailto:cegger@ntc.gov.au> or phone 9236 5033 (bh) or 0407 846 382.



*John Ray, then Wyndham City Councillor
Leigh Barrat and John Argote from Parks Victoria*

Rotary Southern Districts Shine On Awards

Rotary Southern Districts 9780, 9790, 9800, 9810 and 9830 'Shine On Awards' function is designed to focus on and honour the abilities and community achievements of those with a disability. There are two categories - Youth (15-20 y.o.) and Adult (21 years of age and over).



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As you know, our prestigious Rotary Shine On Awards event has grown in popularity since 1998 and is now a multi-District Rotary annual celebration, with hosting shared in turn by our 5 Rotary Districts called the Southern Districts (in deference to the Districts with clubs crossing the borders into S.A. and NSW).

The coming ceremony is to be held on Sunday afternoon, May 4, 2008, and hosted by District 9790's Rotary Club of Appin Park, Wangaratta. They are already busy organising to make it a wonderful experience for everyone concerned, with country hospitality at its best!

Nominations close on **25 February 2008**. It is early days yet, but please don't let this get lost in the busy Christmas season.

If you have any queries or you just need another copy of the Rotary Shine On Guidelines and Nomination Form, email DawnWatson@yahoo.com or call Dawn on 9337 4710.

Sponsors are also being sought for the event so if you are have a business and would like to be a sponsor, please contact Emma Sutcliffe on 9395 7501 or mobile 0409 040 499 or <mailto:emmamike@bigpond.com>.

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

Altona City Rotary Club is holding its Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects.

Commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (we're giving you lots of time to get your entries in before the 14 February deadline!), there will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes.

All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli.

A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on 24 April 2008, together with local Rotarians.

Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

Option 1: Seven day tour (**21-28 April 2008**) includes visit to the capital of three empires, Istanbul and ancient Troy.

Option 2: Three week walking tour (**8-25 April 2008**) tour which, apart from Istanbul, includes visits to World Heritage listed Cappadocia in central Turkey, following Roman roads in southern Turkey, Epheusus, Troy and joining with others for the launch and ceremony at Gallipoli.

If you wish, your itinerary can be rearranged according to your requirements.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Featured Club

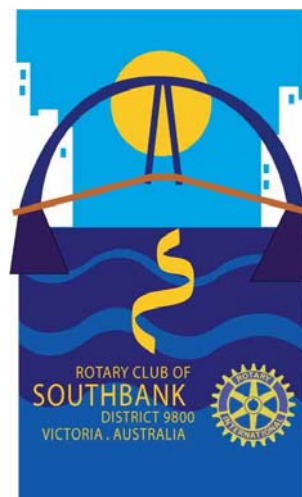
CLUB NAME: Southbank

CHARTERED: 3 June 1999

The 'comedians' on 'The Networker' editorial staff were in stitches. "This'll be a 'PDF'," said one. "Portable Document Format?" I asked. "No ... Power Dressing Fest," he countered. *Blokes really are hopeless!!* I just rolled my eyes and walked out onto beautiful Southbank ... the location and the 'Featured Club' venue for this week's issue. Southbank is that classy, 'international feel' part of Melbourne. Just like the Rotary Club of Southbank who, incidentally, would never have offered membership to Uriah Heep. President Barbara Adams advised that she'd 'negotiated a few hours' to chat. So, I was delighted when this impeccably dressed woman stood to greet me and delivered an oration worthy of Cicero.

BA: Clarice – I must admit to a touch of nerves at being interviewed by such a sophisticated and highly perceptive woman, particularly one so gifted at charming her way into the hearts of so many. However, I have now 'armed' myself with a lovely chilled glass of pinot grigio (I hope you approve!) and look forward to sharing with you the spirit of Southbank Rotary.

I was impressed. One breath ... and one word of 94 syllables. I'd been gazumped ... was she reading from *my script* or was she really that 'switched on'?





A woman of substance and refinement ... right down to the pinot grigio, which I do prefer to pinot gris. She'd 'Clariced' me and I needed to wrest back some semblance of control. So, I took a generous gulp of the gorgeous Mornington Peninsula number and lamely launched into my predictable first question

Quip Corner:

You fail to overlook the crucial point.

C: *So Barbara - nice wine, by the way - what differentiates the Rotary Club of Southbank from all others?*

BA: Well, maybe not from all others as there are several other recently Chartered clubs in our District, but Southbank could certainly be seen as one of the 'new generation' of Rotary clubs. With a membership demographic quite different from many, Southbank proudly displays the membership characteristics that we are being encouraged to foster. We have an age range from late 20's to 60's and an (almost) equal gender representation - although, to be clear, we don't see ourselves as having male and female Rotarians ... we are all simply Rotarians. *(I love forthright, ferocious democracy ... well done! -C)*

C: *What past projects would rank in your club's 'Hall of Fame'?*

BA: I think the project that most reflects the innovative (some may say 'fearless') approach of our club is 'The World's Biggest Garage Sale' which was the Club's first major project, held just two years after Chartering. This event saw hundreds of stall holders selling their wares in the halls of the Melbourne Exhibition Centre - most stunning was the response from the public, with thousands of people streaming into the venue. On that day alone, we raised several tens of thousand dollars - \$9,000 of which came from the sausage-sizzle alone! Clarice, I am sure you will agree, that's one huge sausage sizzle ... I still go misty-eyed at the smell of BBQ'd onions! *(That's beautiful, Barbara. -C)* Seriously though, such a huge fundraiser so early in our club's life was invaluable in setting us up financially and has enabled us to support our projects over many years. *(Fabulous project. Fabulous outcome ... nothing daunts Southbank. -C)*

C: *What has your club in the pipeline for the 2007/08 Rotary year?*

BA: We have a very exciting and optimistic Club Plan for this Rotary year and beyond, and have already enjoyed many successful fellowship and community service activities. Importantly though, we are focussed on involving all members in the process of determining the future direction of our club. With regular Club Nights scheduled into our meeting program, we are able to work together to improve what we are currently doing and capture ideas for new projects and activities.

C: *The Southbank Club, established for just over 9 years, is relatively young. Is there a Club culture ... either developed or developing that is uniquely "Southbank"?*

BA: Our club culture could best be described as informal - we don't worry too much about ceremony or formality. Our focus is on welcoming our many visitors, enjoying each other's company and just getting on with the business of Service. And, let's not forget 'Rotary on the Couch' which is the Southbank version of post-meeting fellowship. *(...(splutter)...you did say that you had a relatively young membership. -C)* Clarice, we would love to have you join us one Tuesday after our meeting when we get together 'on the couch' at JJ's Bar. *(Sounds fascinating. I'm very tempted. -C)*

C: *What is the Rotary Club of Southbank's passion?*

BA: We have many members who have inspired us with their individual passions and have brought many wonderful service opportunities to our club. Some examples are a fabulous cocktail party to support the removal of land mines; the many projects currently being funded in Bali as a result of our Rotary Southbank Bali Trust; and our support for the Xanana Vocational Education Trust - all projects and activities created through the passion of individual members.

C: *If you had to liken your Club to a song, what would it be and who would you get to sing it?*

BA: Clarice, this is a very difficult question! Perhaps I could beg your indulgence to answer this one from a personal perspective. A song that currently motivates and inspires me (and I hope also represents the mindset of all Rotarians) is "Proud", sung by Heather Small. Whilst the title may sound somewhat self-focussed, it is actually the opposite ... with lyrics that encourage us to ask ourselves "What have you done today to make you feel proud?" Food for thought ... *("Food" indeed, Barbara. Just then a gorgeous 'something' linguini found it's way to our table. As I expected, a perfect complement for the pinot grigio ... or the pinot grigio was a perfec ... doesn't matter. -C)*

C: *If you were planning to take the Southbank members away on 'lost weekend' of food, wine and fun, where would be the ideal spot and why?*

BA: I think we have already done that! Earlier this year, we hosted the RYPEN Camp at Lancefield's Week-a-Way Camp. What a fabulous time we had cooking up a storm for the kids and generally having an absolutely hilarious weekend away. *(I think that 'away weekends' build tremendous camaraderie. -C)*

C: *Despite its many attractions, the Melbourne CBD still has homeless people. As an inner city club, is this an area that you are looking to address in the future?*

BA: You are absolutely correct Clarice - homelessness is an issue of which we are acutely aware. For many years, several of our members have been volunteering at Hanover's crisis accommodation centre in Southbank. Every Friday and Sunday evening, we join a group of private volunteers (Maslow) to cook a BBQ for the Hanover



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residents. In addition, we are just about to embark on a fabulous partnership with The Big Issue and will be supporting the Community Street Soccer program and Homeless World (Soccer) Cup, to be held in Melbourne next November. Both of these initiatives work to break the cycle of homelessness by providing opportunities for individuals to re-engage with the broader community. (*'Breaking the cycle' is so important. The street soccer and the Homeless World Cup are wonderful innovations which address many elements ... not the least being 'self worth'. -C)*

C: *The Rotary Club of Southbank is seen by many as 'different'. This 'difference' is always couched in complimentary terms. Why's that?*

BA: Anecdotally, I hear that Southbank has a reputation for doing things differently and (most importantly) well. I would have to agree that we do approach our projects and activities in a professional and responsible way. That sounds a bit boring doesn't it ... but, be assured, we also have a great deal of fun along the way!

C: *Over the years, what has been a Rotary Club of Southbank weird or funny incident that still has members chuckling?*

BA: Sorry Clarice, I didn't hear the question properly ... were you asking about our weird and funny members? Well, we have plenty of those – oh, sorry ... you said 'incidents' not 'members'. (... *kicking in beautifully that pinot grigio. You certainly know your wines, Barbara. -C*) That's OK, we have some of those too! I guess the one that springs to mind originated at our first World's Biggest Garage Sale and involved one of our members who was celebrating a birthday being subjected to endless (and I mean, endless!) rounds of "Happy Birthday" ... over a period of several hours! And still to this day, having a birthday in our club is somewhat of an auditory torture! (*Probably hard on the ears too. -C*)

C: *Another bottle do you think ... sure, why not. Now Barbara, think very carefully (as I'm now trying to do...) If there was a cheque for \$1 million made out to the Rotary Club of Southbank with a note saying, "Spend it all on worthwhile community projects or lose it", where do you think would you spend it?*

BA: Whilst the possibilities for allocating \$1 million to one of our projects is an exciting prospect, I would have to say that some of the most rewarding work that we have been involved in has been focussed more on engaging with our community than in handing out dollars. Having said that though, I am absolutely confident that we would have no problems allocating \$1 million – maybe in supporting the provision of affordable (and safe) housing for those in our community who struggle daily to make ends meet.

C: *If I was keen to get involved with the Rotary Club of Southbank, how would I go about it?*

BA: That's easy – just visit one of our meetings (Tuesdays, 6.00pm for 6.30pm at Crown Towers Hotel, Whiteman Street, Southbank - Level 1, Garden Room), email us at meetings@rotary.to or visit our website at www.rotary.to. Clarice, you are just the type of person we would love to have as a Southbank Rotarian ... intelligent, witty, forward-thinking, sophisticated, kind-hearted, generous and devastatingly attractive!

Hmm ... only about 50 syllables in that very generous Barbara 'sentence-word' ... I couldn't think of an adequate response to that one, so we clinked glasses and set about sorting out the remainder of the pinot grigio. 'Formal' interview over, we pursued a few less formal subjects. Seems that young Barbara and I had a few common friends ... I mean 'common' in the sense of ... you know. There was much chuckling as each of us contributed to some 'social updating' ... "whatever happened to so and so" and "didn't he marry Sally Whatshername..." - that sort of thing.

Finally, it was time to go. It had been a great day with the vibrant president from 'switched on' Southbank Rotary. We agreed that we lived in opposite directions, so we 'air kissed' from a metre away (as you do) and headed off. After walking 30 metres ... and in 'an inspired common moment of insight' ... we realised we were both going the wrong way. Embarrassed, we sashayed back past each other ... another double-sided, one metre air kiss and it was over. More power to Southbank and their perceptive president.

Barbara, we must do it again.



Foundation Month With Chris Don

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships

The Foundation sponsors one of the largest International Scholarship Programs in the world. Scholars study in a different country where they serve as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill. Since 1947 more than 47,000 scholars from 110 countries have received scholarships of more than US\$476 million through The Rotary Foundation.

Our District's current Ambassador Scholar, Holly Bannon Murphy, is studying in Ghana. Holly has volunteered with an NGO called Women United Against Aids and is studying African politics and Arabic. She reports to Foundation Chairman Chris that she is finding her assignment both fulfilling and incredibly exciting.

Previously Holly was working with the Child Development Foundation in Uganda.



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They are currently seeking program support and have requested that if any Rotary Clubs are interested in working with them that there are a number of critical programs that they are undertaking that require funding.

Foundation Matching Grant opportunities exist with D9200 in Uganda.

Foundation Chairman Chris Don can advise you of the projects, funding estimates and Ugandan Rotary contacts.

The photo shows Holly with a group of midwives from a Uganda village, 2 hours from Mbale. Holly is working with the midwives on an 'educational day', where she has conducted a seminar about preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS from pregnant women to their children during and after childbirth.

As Rotarians we can be proud of the work our Foundation does in providing funding for such wonderful young Australians such as Holly in their endeavor to provide tangible assistance to the world's disadvantaged.

Visiting our District from Switzerland is Ambassadorial Scholar Claudine Rieubland. Claudine is studying medical genetics at Genetic Health Services Victoria located at the Royal Children's Hospital. Her interest involves her with clinical genetics which includes the diagnosis, prognosis, management and prevention of generic diseases. She is on a one year training program including clinical, educational and research activities.



Following her studies here in Melbourne, Claudine will return to Geneva to complete her studying to obtain the title of Medical Geneticist.

Claudine's counselors are Virginia Turner from the RC of Brighton North & Janice Kesterton from the RC of Richmond.

Already Claudine has presented at a number of Clubs, has visited Camp Getaway, the DIK store and will be attending our District Conference.

A new position established by Foundation Chairman Chris Don is that of District Coordinator of Counselors for visiting Ambassadorial Scholars. David Gorman from the RC of Albert Park has been appointed and is responsible for the selection, training & mentoring of our Districts Counselors. Any one interested

in applying as a counselor for the 2009 program

should contact David.

Claudine was delighted to be invited to speak at the District's newest Club, the RC of Port Melbourne and is pictured above with Club President, Tony Harrison.

During the early part of 2008 three more Scholars will be arriving from overseas to spend time in our District. All visiting Scholars will be attending our District Conference and I am sure will be looking forward to meeting District Rotarians and partners. Speaking engagements for these Scholars can be confirmed through David Gorman.

