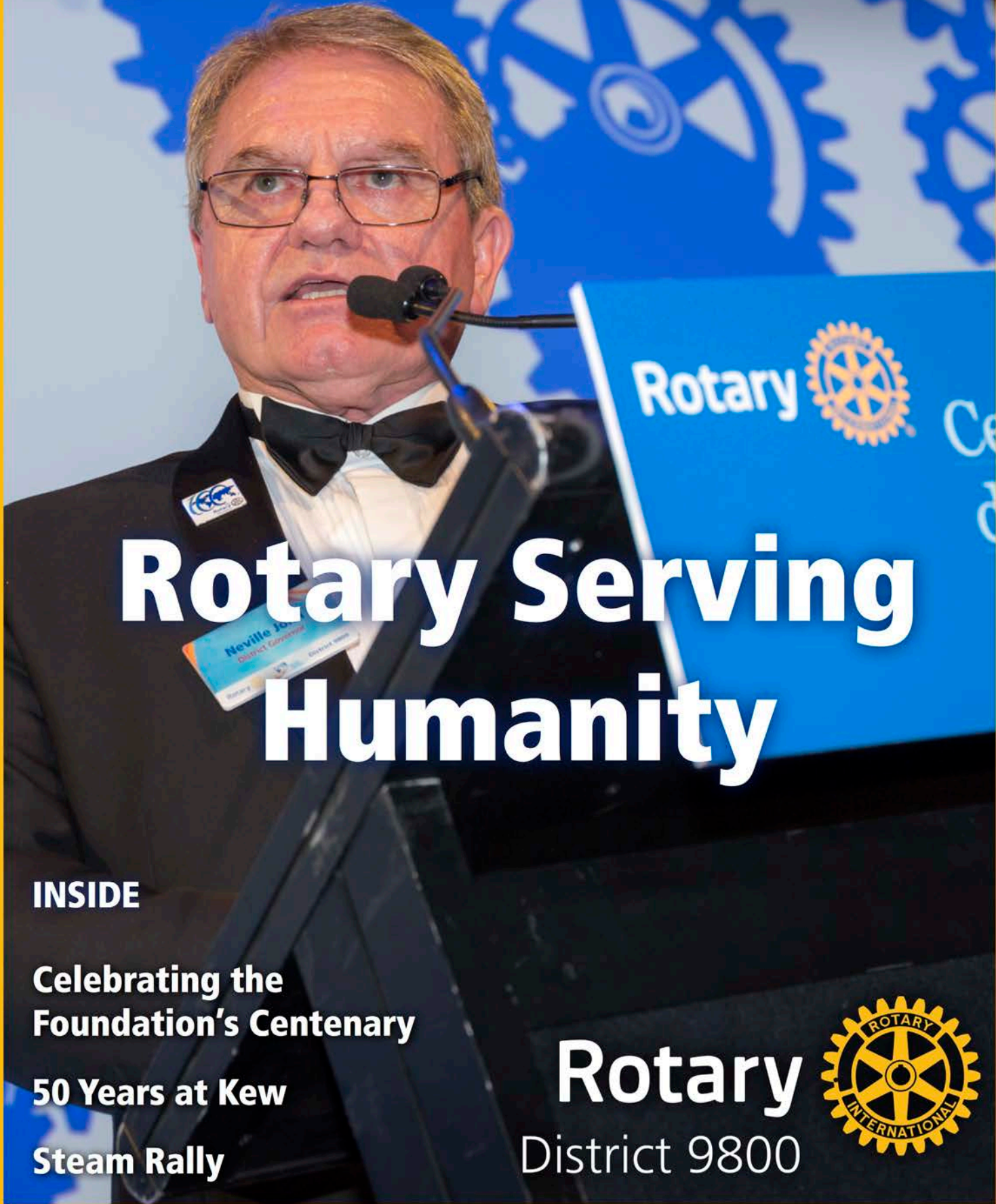


the

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Rotary Serving Humanity

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JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

DG Neville John's Message



Rotary's Area of Focus for June: Fellowship

***"Serving Humanity is the most worthwhile
thing any one of us can do with our lives". –
Paul Harris***

When Rotary International President John F. Germ developed the 2016-2017 theme – Rotary Serving Humanity, he provided us with the opportunity to strengthen our clubs, focus on humanitarian work and showcase what we do in our communities and the wider world to help make them a better place. As John was quoted to say, "the only difference between a small opportunity and a great one is what you do with it".



This is what you have been doing, creating amazing memories in the process. Your efforts in recruiting, retaining and engaging members, showcasing your projects, supporting The Rotary Foundation in its centennial year, utilising Foundation grants, being innovative, flexible and forward thinking. These things will ensure that Rotary is known and appreciated into the future. If we have vibrant, active clubs that engage people in interesting projects and we actively promote what we do to our local communities, new members will come and existing ones will stay.

What I do know and have been banging on about all year is that every Rotary project anywhere in the world starts with an idea ... and those ideas develop and grow by using the powerful network of Rotary to really make a difference. Think about the following things for a moment:



DG Neville John and Rebecca

- Never have our communities needed us more. What we do is important to them. You might think that what you do is small or doesn't matter, but they're not small and everything you do matters, especially to the people you help, because when we work together doing what we can, when we can, with whatever time we have, we really do make a difference.
- Never has there been a better opportunity to become engaged given the growing recognition of and investment in social cohesion by government, social enterprise organisations, philanthropic foundations and the corporate sector, that we can leverage into partnerships using our vast, powerful networks.
- Rotary is one of the best vehicles for individuals to make a difference, whether as a member or a partner, so you are in the right place.
- Rotary is part of the big community conversations on issues like mental health prevention, homelessness, social cohesion, indigenous education and wellbeing, and family violence, just to name a few.

***"We make a living by what we get, but we
make a life by what we give". – Winston S
Churchill***

Continued: -

DG Neville John's Message

Very soon, with fingers and everything else crossed, the world will be polio free. It has been four months since the last reported case of polio and only five reported cases in the last 12 months. Thirty-six months without a case of polio will officially render polio as eradicated. When that time comes Rotary will rightly claim its place as the organization that was primarily instrumental in that achievement. As Bill Gates has said, "without Rotary, this program (eradicate polio) wouldn't be anywhere". We need to be ready with strong, vibrant clubs that engage people in interesting projects, because they will come looking to join us, and we need to be ready.

There were so many highlights this year, with some being:

- Staging of three public showcases of Rotary's work, in Bendigo, Melbourne and Echuca;
- The Group Vocational Exchange with District 3820 in the Philippines;
- Continued growth in membership in the District;
- Stephanie Woollard's recognition at Rotary International's 'Responsible Business Awards' presented at the United Nations Headquarters in New York;
- The District Conference in Shepparton that so many of you attended;
- The celebration of 100 years of The Rotary Foundation at Docklands, that lifted the veil on the profile of Rotary and helped raise around \$5million in endowment pledges and donations to the Foundation.
- The support of Australian Rotary Health's 'Lift the Lid' on mental illness campaign and the many club donations in lieu of flowers on Rebecca's behalf, that saw sufficient funds raised to support one researcher.



These achievements are great, but the work carried out by clubs is the most amazing aspect of what a District Governor is privileged to experience. It is what defines our organisation and the reason why people join and stay. I would like to congratulate you all on your achievements this year and a big thank you to all the Club Presidents for the extra work you shouldered in leading your clubs.



Left: It hardly seems a year since DG Julie Mason pinned the badge on Neville John.
Above: Bill Dagg and DG Neville reminiscing at the DIK Xmas Party.
'Rotary Showcase' at Federation Square.
The Rotary Foundation Centenary Dinner.

DG Neville John's Message

I also acknowledge and thank sincerely the wonderful support provided to clubs and me by the District Leadership Team. Comprising the Board members, Assistant Governors, Avenues of Service Chairs and the many Committees and Sub-Committees, they all do so much to help provide clubs with opportunities to help others. No amount of money could buy what they do and I salute you all.



Past, Present and Future District Governors, hamming it up at International House.

DG Neville at the Conference dinner, preparing to drink to the health of us all.

To 'The Networker' Editor, Gordon Cheyne, and Public Image and Marketing Chair Adrian Nelson, who are retiring from their respective roles, a huge thankyou. Gordon's dry humour makes the task of writing worthwhile. He and Adrian have lifted the vibrancy of The Networker. In recent years, they have succeeded in presenting a high quality publication that is excellent in every way. Those who are regular readers will know what I mean and those that aren't; well they still don't know what they don't know.

Rebecca and I will continue our Rotary journey (after a short break in the Kimberly's), with club duties (Rebecca is now a Rotarian), and for me, district roles such as chairing the Foundation Endowment program and also as part of the Membership Committee assisting the Club Support Team.

We thank you all most sincerely for your friendship and support. If we aggregated all the things that you do that we have seen and heard, we are blown away. It has been an honour to be part of it and I know that you will continue to show the community how Rotary serves humanity and in doing so, demonstrate Rotary: Making a Difference!

With our best wishes,

Neville & Rebecca

District Governor 2016-2017

"Opportunity is what you create and if you wait for one to come, you may be waiting for a long time." – Albert Henry 'Royce' Abbey



DG Neville presented Hazel Payne with the prestigious Rotary International Spouse/Partner Service Award at a Wyndham Rotary meeting recently. Only 100 are awarded across the Rotary world each year and candidates are considered solely on the humanitarian service they have rendered through Rotary. This award recognises spouses and partners who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service. Hazel's proud husband Stephen and her family were there in what was a big surprise. Congratulations Hazel.

D9800 Celebrates the Foundation's Centenary

By Philip Archer, District Director Membership

The Rotary tradition of giving back exceeded all expectations at 'The Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration Dinner', hosted by Rotary International District 9800 and managed by Southbank Rotary. Held at the unique and spectacular Peninsula at Docklands on Wednesday 31st May, 380 Rotarians and friends enjoyed an evening of world-class entertainment, including inspiring guest speakers, exquisite food and wines and lively auctions. With the goal of achieving \$1million in donations and bequests to the Foundation at this event, a staggering \$5 million was raised.

The night was simply incredible. The technical brilliance of the Rotary brand visual displays with rotating wheels really set the scene as guests entered the room. The uplifting opening performance from the Choir of Hard Knocks, directed by Dr Jonathon Welch AM, was both appropriate and the perfect reminder of why believing in people and investing in communities changes lives for the better.

Also speaking was Alistair Gee, Chief Operating Officer of the Institute for Economics and Peace who managed its strategic partnership with Rotary, and was Co-Convener of 'Make Poverty History' campaign.

Continued:



Master of Ceremonies was leading international business journalist and ex Rotex President, Amanda Drury, with the keynote speaker being incoming Rotary International Foundation Chairman, Paul Netzel. As Netzel shared the statistics and video footage on polio eradication, it was clear that everyone was overwhelmed at seeing achievements since the Foundation dedicated itself to the cause in 1953.



Photos: MC Amanda Drury, The Choir of Hard Knocks, and Paul Netzel exchanging gifts with DG Neville John and Rebecca.

The Foundation's Centenary - continued

Over the past century 20 million volunteers have helped immunize 2.4 billion children, preventing 16 million infections, averting 1.6 million deaths, raising \$1.6+ billion and investing \$14 billion overall. In 2017, there have been only 5 reported cases of Polio in the world. Good work is not done for accolades but highlighting the results of what a community can achieve together is important.



***Danielle Matthews and Jonathon Welch
Below: "The Essentials"***

These messages along with video footage from various other projects around the world have been made into commercials that will be broadcast on national TV throughout the year. Photographers and videographers captured all performances and speeches, which can be shared with Rotarians worldwide. We will have YouTube footage available next week along with photos on our District Website.

A heart-wrenching performance of 'You Raise Me Up' by Nicholas Jones, recipient of the OSA/Australian Music Events "Scholar of the Year" prize, followed as again, video footage showed the beautiful faces of children around the world who have been touched by Rotary's work.

The menu was thoughtfully planned, the speeches inspiring, the entertainment thrilling and the generosity humbling. The open auction, silent auction, jewelry raffle and donations were enthusiastically embraced, resulting in five times what was expected, and highlights how much work went into the planning and execution by many hardworking volunteers.

Renowned Australian singer Danielle Matthews accompanied by Dr Jonathon Welch closed the dinner with a powerful rendition from The Phantom of the Opera, and it took no encouragement for the dance floor to fill once the band started playing.

It was a truly memorable evening, and the generosity of those who contributed to its success and to the financial result will help to ensure that the Rotary Foundation will continue its work for the next one hundred years of 'doing good in the world'.

Personal Giving:

If you would like to give a gift to The Rotary Foundation during this our 100th year, the easy way to do this is:

1. Become a Paul Harris Society Member – Annual contribution of US \$1000 per year
2. Become a Bequest Society Member - leave at least US\$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation in your Will
3. Make a donation to The Rotary Foundation
4. Contribute through 'Every Rotarian Every Year'



Please contact DG Neville John (0417 387 216), PDG Dennis Shore (0412 332 226) or Philip Archer (0448 999 555) to assist with the giving process.

More photos at <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/gallery>

How Mr. Condom made Thailand a better place for life and love

Thailand's "Mr. Condom," Mechai Viravaidya, retells the country's bold plan to raise its standard of living, starting in the 1970s. First step: population control. And that means a lot of frank, funny — and very effective — talk about condoms.

Welcome to Thailand. Now, when I was a young man — 40 years ago, the country was very, very poor with lots and lots and lots of people living in poverty. We decided to do something about it, but we didn't begin with a welfare program or a poverty reduction program. But we began with a family-planning program, following a very successful maternal child health activity, sets of activities. So basically, no one would accept family planning if their children didn't survive. So the first

step: get to the children, get to the mothers, and then follow up with family planning. Not just child mortality alone, you need also family planning. Now let me take you back as to why we needed to do it.

In my country, that was the case in 1974. Seven children per family — tremendous growth at 3.3 percent. There was just no future. We needed to reduce the population growth rate. So we said, "Let's do it." The women said, "We agree. We'll use pills, but we need a doctor to prescribe the pills," and we had very, very few doctors. We didn't take no as an answer; we took no as a question. We went to the nurses and the midwives, who were also women, and did a fantastic job at explaining how to use the pill. That was wonderful, but it covered only 20 percent of the country.

What do we do for the other 80 percent — leave them alone and say, "Well, they're not medical personnel." No, we decided to do a bit more. So we went to the ordinary people that you saw. Actually, below that yellow sign — I wish they hadn't wiped that, because there was "Coca-Cola" there. We were so much bigger than Coca-Cola in those days. And no difference, the people they chose were the people we chose. They were well-known in the community, they knew that customers were always right, and they were terrific, and they practiced their family planning themselves. So they could supply pills and condoms throughout the country, in every village of the country. So there we are. We went to the people who were seen as the cause of the problem to be the solution. Wherever there were people — and you can see boats with the women, selling things — here's the floating market selling bananas and crabs and also contraceptives — wherever you find people, you'll find contraceptives in Thailand.

And then we decided, why not get to religion because in the Philippines, the Catholic Church was pretty strong, and Thai people were Buddhist. We went to them and they said, "Look, could you help us?" I'm there — the one in blue, not the yellow — holding a bowl of holy water for the monk to sprinkle holy water on pills and condoms for the sanctity of the family. And this picture was sent throughout the country. So some of the monks in the villages were doing the same thing themselves. And the women were saying, "No wonder we have no side-effects. It's been blessed." That was their perception.

Full TED Talk:

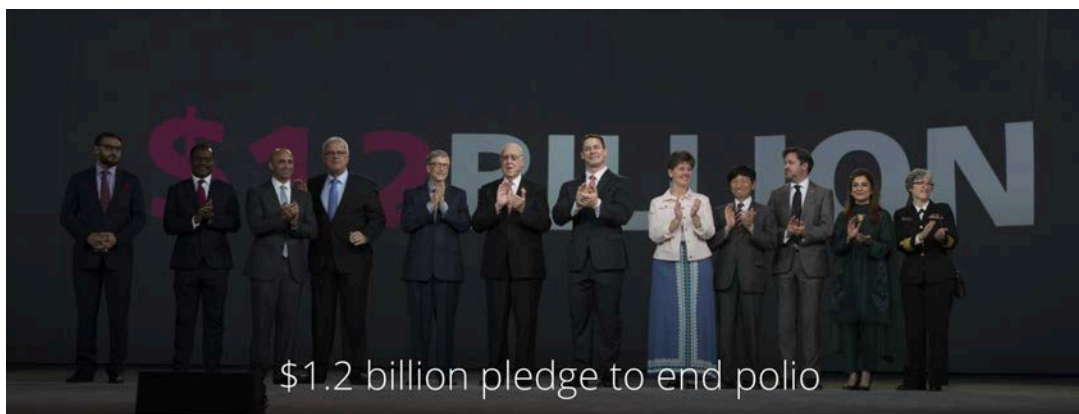
https://www.ted.com/talks/mechai_viravaidya_how_mr_condom_made_thailand_a_better_place



\$1.2 Billion Pledge to End Polio

By Ryan Hyland and Teresa Schmedding

With polio on the brink of eradication, nations from around the world and key donors pledged more than \$1 billion on Monday to energize the global fight to end the paralyzing disease.



The historic pledges of new funds at the Rotary Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, will go toward drastically shrinking the **\$1.5 billion** gap in the funding that the partners of the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative** say is needed to reduce polio cases to zero worldwide. Just five cases have been reported this year, the lowest number in history.

Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, said ending polio would be one of the world's greatest achievements.

"Polio is the thing I spend the most time on. Everyday I look at my email to see if we have a new case," Gates said. "I'm very inspired to be part of this. I'm also very humbled."

Rotary International President John F. Germ announced that Rotary would increase its commitment and raise \$50 million per year over the next three years. Rotary has raised more than \$1.7 billion to fight the disease since 1985.

"Right now, every time a new case is identified, it really could be the last one the world ever sees," Germ said.

Gates told the crowd of nearly 24,000 that, starting 1 July, his **foundation** will extend its 2-to-1 match to cover up to \$50 million in donations to Rotary for each of the next three years. The match and donations to Rotary would add up to \$150 million per year over the next three years, which will add up to \$450 million to the fight.

The new funding will go toward polio eradication efforts such as disease surveillance, responses to any outbreaks, and the vaccination of more than 400 million children annually.

See the list of pledges: <https://www.rotary.org/en/polio-pledges-2017-convention>

Or Read about Bill Gates' keynote speech on polio <https://www.rotary.org/en/bill-gates-rotary-convention>



Bill Gates, co-chair of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and RI President John F. Germ share the recent news about their partnership in the fight to eradicate polio.

Echuca Moama Steam Rally

By Geoff Tighe, RC Echuca-Moama

Rotary Community Park in Echuca was once again the setting for the 54th Steam Rally Echuca Moama.



This park is headquarters for local Rotarians and usually home to an adult horse group, a vintage car club, a men's shed group, a miniature railway organisation and a small engines band of enthusiasts besides being safe refuge for RV caravanners, campers, Scouts and passive recreationists. It was magically transformed, almost overnight, into a carnival-like setting for that "one weekend in June"

The Rally program promised two full days packed with excitement and spectacular entertainment. A brave call perhaps, with a novice team headed by Director Cliff Downey and Event Co-Ordinator Sarah Hancock. In the event, the novice team pulled through with flying colours, ably assisted by Club members and an army of volunteers.

This year we had axemen, the Clan MacLeod Pipe Band, the Echuca Federal Band, freelance musicians, face painters, blade shearers, blacksmiths, hay balers and so much more. And of course, we had the perennial favourites – the Grand Parade each day and Burning of the Dunny on Sunday. Once again, they proved to be stand-out Rally events

There were Steam Traction Engines, Steam Rollers and Steam Wagons. Then we had portable and stationary steam engines and pumps, oil and petrol engines, vintage tractors, historic vehicles and

horse drawn vehicles. Once we get past all those exhibits, we can enjoy the midget brigade of model steam engines and model locomotives so loved by rail gunzels

With the help of his lieutenant, Ian Salek, DG Neville John arranged for a contingent of D9800 Rotarians to descend upon Echuca and set up a massive "Rotary Showcase" exhibition displaying almost twenty different activities involving Rotary at local, regional and international level.

The exhibition was staged in the freshly minted Men's Shed and proved to be a real showstopper. Excellent reports were received all weekend on the quality of the exhibition and the amenity of the venue. A pleasing result of the Rotary Showcase was the number of membership inquiries made – name and contact details included.

Rally Director Cliff thanked three special groups in his editorial printed in the official program: the more than 200 volunteers who make the Rally possible, the paying customers, and the resilient members of the Rotary Club of Echuca-Moama.

Steam Rally 54 was a community success. Now, we take a breather, install a new president and soon we begin the task of planning No. 55

"Rob's Pictures" of the rally can be seen at <http://robspictures.zenfolio.com/p917746126>



The World's Outstanding Foundation *From Rotary Weekly*

The Association of Fundraising Professionals recognized The Rotary Foundation with its annual Award for Outstanding Foundation at its 2017 conference in San Francisco.

The award honors organizations that show philanthropic commitment and leadership through financial support, innovation, encouragement of others, and involvement in public affairs. Some of the boldest names in American giving — Kellogg, Komen, and MacArthur, among others —are past honorees.



Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair-elect Paul Netzel accepts the Award for Outstanding Foundation, on Rotary's behalf, at the Association of Fundraising Professionals 2017 conference.

The announcement came on 15 November, known to industry professionals since the 1980s as National Philanthropy Day. The award was presented 2 May at the AFP's annual conference.

Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair-elect Paul Netzel accepted the award on Rotary's behalf, and Eric Schmelling, Rotary's chief philanthropy officer, also attended the conference. The event drew more than 3,400 senior-level fundraising professionals from 33 countries.

"In our Centennial year, we are deeply honored to receive this recognition from the Association of Fundraising Professionals," said Netzel.

AFP's committee of judges cited Rotary's comprehensive campaign to eradicate polio as a major driver of the selection.

"With the generous support of our members and partners, we've taken on some of the toughest humanitarian challenges in the world, none more so than the devastating disease of polio," said Netzel. "We will defeat polio, and it will be a landmark achievement for global public health."

The committee also mentioned that Rotary applies a methodical, purposeful approach to support a wide variety of causes, from providing clean water to educating the next generation of peace professionals.

"This award helps to spread our belief that service to humankind truly changes our world, and for that reason, it is the greatest work of life," said Netzel.

Fifty Years at Kew

By Murray Chessell, RC Kew

Paul Harris said that Rotary ...is not an organisation for retrospection...but one hundred members and friends of the RC Kew thoroughly enjoyed celebrating its 50th anniversary at a very happy lunch party at Kew Golf Club on Friday last 16 June.

Kew was sponsored by Hawthorn in 1967 – a time of strong growth for Rotary in District 9800 – and in proposing the formal toast to Kew to mark the half century, PDG Bernie Walshe remarked on the close bond the two clubs have always enjoyed.

He was joined at the lunch by two of Hawthorn's other PDGs, Dennis Shore and David Rosback, and a large contingent of Hawthorn Rotarians. We were also honoured by a strong representation from District including DG Neville John and Rebecca, PGD Murray Verso and Irene, AG Ros McMorrow and John and Marjorie Gerlinger, and members from other clubs

Keith Holdsworth who died in 2008, was the last of our charter members, but the memory of these pioneering members who had faithfully transplanted the rotary principles and practice from Hawthorn to Kew 50 years earlier, was honoured in a toast by John Kennedy. John is our longest serving member with 52 years of Rotary service, 45 of them at Kew.

Our longest serving Kew member, PP Dr Bill Pick, who joined the Club in its first year, was also in attendance, as were 21 other past presidents who were all introduced to the meeting to a warm and appreciative reception.

Ron McCartney prepared and put a 50 year history booklet in each place before lunch and the diversity of projects, the satisfaction of service shared, and the warmth of benign friendships, were recalled in many conversations over lunch

Two special Awards were presented: Peter Hoban – described as the 'face of the Rotary Club of Kew' for many years, was honoured as the 'Club man half century' with an award presented by PDG Dennis Shore.



Jill Forsyth's remarkable contribution was marked with an award presented by PDG Murray Verso for 'exceptional service above self'. Her selfless work for the Alola Foundation in Timor Leste, the Good Deeds Good Reads shop in Camberwell and the recent Solomon Islands Diabetes education initiative – all initiated and substantially implemented by her, were noted amongst the highlights.

Kristy Bradie, our newest member emailed after the event – '... It was really great and hugely inspirational for me as a new member.' I'm confident Paul Harris would cut us a bit of slack every 50 years or so.

Photos : DG Neville John presenting President Bob Slater with a congratulatory certificate from Rotary International.

PDG Murray Verso presenting the award to Jill Forsyth.

The Club History is at <http://www.rotaryclubofkew.org.au/index.php/about-us-2/club-history-2>

Sputnik Girl's Orphanage

By Lesley McCarthy, RCFlemington

Rotary's mantra of People of Action Sharing Ideas, Joining Leaders and Taking Action was fully demonstrated in the recent International project by the Rotary Club of Flemington.

Supported by a District Matching Grant, reinforced by the amazing people at Donations in Kind and their stock, and involving people from across many places and from many organisations, this project involved purchasing, filling and shipping a container to an impoverished girls orphanage in a remote area of Sri Lanka.

The seed idea came through South Australian friends of Peter Cribb who were mentoring a young Sri Lankan PhD candidate who was involved with the orphanage. The girls, and the local community, were in great need of educational materials and equipment in order to equip them with an income producing skill for their future. From this initial discussion, the project evolved to encompass not only the school and home, but also the community.

A significant donation from other friends in South Australia, a contribution from the club, and a Foundation grant resulted in purchase of a container, which will be turned into a community library providing a venue and materials for everyone.

Joining Leaders from the Rotary Clubs of Highton, Footscray and Kurunegala were Geelong City Council, Anton von Dirnik from Donations in Kind Geelong, St Leonards College in Brighton, the Eritrean Australian Humanitarian Association, the MG Car Club Geelong, Flemington Cycles, Bendigo Kangan TAFE. Jack Watson of Computers for Kids and many Rotarians and members of the community made this an interwoven network of expertise, effort and commitment.

Taking Action has sent this 40' container – together with door, windows and solar panels to be fitted on site to a small village where it will change lives forever. This container held:

2 complete children's playgrounds with

thanks to the City of Geelong

40 bicycles

15 sewing machines and 300 rolls of fabric

25 computers

55 school desks and 200 chairs

15 metres of library shelving and 350 boxes of children's books

20 boxes of school stationery

50 boxes of children's toys for the Toy Library

Filing cabinets, metal cupboards, whiteboards, electric fans, a Braille Machine, 2 printers

31 days after leaving Donations in Kind the container was unloaded onto the prepared concrete footings in Kanumale, 102 km northeast of Colombo to great delight, smiles and willing workers to unload goods.



Unloading the children's playground at the Sputnik Girl's Orphanage in Sri Lanka.

The Sputnik Girls Orphanage will benefit from the bicycles, computers, and sewing machines; the school will receive much needed educational materials; however the wider community of surrounding villages with well over 2000 families and in excess of 5000 children will now have access to a Library, Toy Library and a Children's Playground park.

This project has been 15 months in the pipeline, and changed shape frequently, but the result is life changing for the communities of Kanumale, Kurunegala, Gepallawa, Cloviswatta, Ranjanagama, Piduruwella, Ratmale and Kadrugahamaditta.

The Global Scourge of Human Trafficking

By Sallyann Price

Actor and philanthropist Ashton Kutcher took the stage today at the [Rotary International Convention](#) in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, to address a major human rights issue: human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Kutcher, who rose to fame in the early 2000s with a series of hit film and television roles, is co-founder of [Thorn: Digital Defenders of Children](#), an organization that combats human trafficking and the conditions that enable it. Trafficking in humans takes many forms but includes forced labor and sex slavery. It is among the world's largest illicit trades, with many of the transactions happening online.

"As a young man coming up in the public school system in the United States, I thought slavery was done, a thing of the past," Kutcher said. "When I realized this was happening – happening even right here in Atlanta, a hotbed for trafficking as a travel hub – I was floored, and set out to learn as much as I could about it."



Thorn specifically works to address sexual exploitation and the proliferation of child pornography online. By exploring and supporting new digital strategies for identifying victims, deterring predators, and disrupting platforms, Thorn helps lead the global conversation on trafficking – a conversation that's continuing at Rotary's annual convention.

More than 40,000 people, including Rotary members, partners, and friends from 175 countries and territories, have gathered in Atlanta this week to exchange ideas on how they can work together to improve lives in their communities.

Kutcher joined other prominent voices for a panel discussion on trafficking and how communities can combat it. Gary Haugen spoke about his work as CEO of [International Justice Mission](#), a nonprofit that aims to strengthen local law enforcement and support survivors of trafficking.

Also at the panel, U.S. Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee discussed the legislative framework that allows traffickers to thrive in plain sight, and survivor [Rebecca Bender](#) offered moving testimony about the abuse she endured in the United States.

Recognizing the role that vast global networks like Rotary play in sustainable social change, Kutcher encouraged attendees to join the fight.

"There's an inbound pipeline to trafficking," Kutcher said, "and that is vulnerability and poverty," two issues that Rotary addresses through humanitarian projects and partnerships. Kutcher cited the example of the foster care system in the U.S. "Kids going into this system don't have someone in their lives that loves them, which makes them vulnerable to someone who reaches out and shows them that attention. That's how traffickers get in."

Haugen pointed out that Rotary is already connecting with vulnerable groups, building relationships, and improving lives.

"What's clear is this issue is everywhere around the world," Haugen said. "There are survivors like Rebecca back home in your neighborhood and your country. Educate, serve survivors, and encourage local law enforcement, and Rotary can change this in our lifetimes."

[Learn more about how Rotary and Thorn](#) are working together to fight trafficking, and how you can help.

Welcome New Members

The Rotary Club of Gisborne recently inducted their 10th new member for the year. The membership committee has targeted local companies to become Corporate Members offering them more opportunity to be involved in the local community.

Their photo shows CEO Don Tidbury and Community Engagement Manager Kelly Milne from Macedon Ranges Health and Branch Manager Jane Lincoln from Bendigo Bank, Gisborne and Calder AG Graeme Batrouney.

Caulfield Rotary Club welcomed Claud Bennie as a member at their last meeting. Claud has the classification of Wellness Management. The club met him at one of their barbeques and over lots of chats were able to introduce him to Rotary and all its good works.

Their photo shows a happy President John Lord with Claud Bennie.



Joining Rotary?

We are excited to hear of a new process for collecting and communicating online membership leads that will make it easier for club officers and district leaders to follow up on leads, and for prospective members to join a club.

Prospective members who visit Rotary.org and select the “Join” button will provide their information using an online form. That information will be sent to Rotary, where the candidate will be screened for basic membership qualifications before being forwarded to district governors and district membership chairs to assign to clubs for follow up.

A similar process will be in place for members to make referrals to other clubs or seek out a new club for themselves. All of these leads will be readily available when you sign in to MyRotary.

Watch for this new process to be launched in mid-November.



Red Flags

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN MAGAZINE, JUNE 10-11, 2017

There's trouble behind the scenes of Surf Life Saving Australia. What do we know about how our charities are run?

The full answer to that won't be known for some time – police are still investigating as Surf Life Saving NSW pursues Hanks for restitution in the NSW Supreme Court. But the case joins a conga line of recent scandals that have shaken the charity and not-for-profit sector.



Last month the NSW Government launched an inquiry into the state's Returned Servicemen's League, following revelations that the RSL paid consultancy fees to its own directors and allowed its president to rack up six-figure credit card bills. A few weeks earlier, the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption began grilling Eman Sharobeem, a former Australian of the Year finalist accused of rorting \$685,000 from two immigrant health organisations in western Sydney. In January, cricket legend Shane Warne shut down his charitable foundation following media reports it donated as little as 11 cents in the dollar to charity annually. In Queensland, police have charged Jean Madden, a former Young Australian of the Year contender, with defrauding her homeless charity Street Swags.

Worthy charities such as Oxfam and the Wilderness Society are also under the spotlight for outsourcing their fundraising to companies that underpay workers. In October the Fair Work Ombudsman announced an inquiry into such practices that will focus on 15 randomly selected charities. A consumer backlash against intrusive fundraising from charity street spruikers and telephone call centres has led to a spike in complaints to regulatory agencies.

Professor Sandra van der Laan of the University of Sydney Business School says these issues are symptomatic of a tax-exempt industry that has grown too big for regulators to keep up with. Van der Laan is an accountant with a longstanding interest in charities, but even she was surprised two years ago by the revelation that there are more than 50,000 charities in Australia with combined revenue of more than \$100 billion. Those figures came from the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), a federal regulatory body set up by the Gillard Labor government that maintains the only accurate register of organisations in the sector.

Technology has helped fuel that growth, enabling big charities and their fundraising contractors to compile vast databases of likely donors and allowing even the smallest single-issue charities to reach a potentially global audience via Instagram, Facebook and GoFundMe pages. The result has been a proliferation of both worthy and disreputable organisations and individuals. Belle Gibson, the Melbourne "wellness" entrepreneur who was recently prosecuted for faking cancer and conducting phony charity events, acquired 200,000 Instagram followers and secured inter-national contracts with Penguin Books and Apple before she was exposed as a fraud.

David Rogers, chief executive of the small -cancer charity Challenge, questions whether organisations with \$150 million in the bank can rightly be called not-for-profit organisations, saying some are akin to multinational companies. "What people don't realise is that this is a growth industry and some people see it as a way of making money," says Rogers. "And if you're launching a charity to make a profit, you're doing it for the wrong reasons."

STORY: RICHARD GUILLIATT | **PHOTOGRAPHY:** KENNY SMITH

How to Make News

Every week, you open your copy of *The Networker* and read about people just like you who are working on great service projects just like yours. Occasionally, you say to yourself - Hey, why don't I ever see my club in here?



In any given month, a sizable number of the 1.2 million Rotarians in the more than 32,000 clubs around the world ask the same question.

Despite the hard work that goes into Rotary projects, only a few appear in your magazine.

At *The Networker* we can give you the opportunity to showcase your projects to other clubs in District 9800. Just supply us with the news – I'm sure every club has a wordsmith who can put a newsworthy article together.

What tips the scales in favor of the submissions that end up as magazine articles?

1. Great photos.

Strong photographs greatly increase your chance of receiving coverage. The best photos are compelling action shots – a doctor performing surgery, a polio immunization team at work, villagers pumping water from their new well. We prefer to receive digital photos by e-mail.

-The file format must be either .tif or .jpg. Photos embedded in Word documents, Powerpoint presentations, PDFs, or e-mail are difficult, or not usable.

2. A newsworthy story.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- Is it timely? Keep in mind that we work one week ahead.
- Is it unusual? Point out what makes your project unique or innovative. Everyone holds fundraisers – what makes yours interesting enough to be included in *The Networker*?
- Can other clubs adopt it? Let us know if the project has been, or could be, replicated by other clubs.
- How did you measure the result?
- Who was helped? Is there an inspiring story to be told?

If we decide to cover your story, we may contact you for more information, so don't forget to include the names and phone numbers of the Rotarians who made the project happen.

Contact Clarice at clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au

The fatal five

To increase the chances of your club's work being featured in *The Networker*, here's what to avoid:

1. Orchestrated group shots or photos of people shaking hands, receiving checks, or otherwise posed and smiling for the camera
2. News of fundraising dinners, check presentations, and dedication ceremonies that didn't involve much action
3. Stories that reveal a strong political bias
4. Accounts of district conferences or other meetings
5. Requests for publicity to help get a project off the ground

Clarice's Comments

It is time to say goodbye to Gordon Cheyne as Editor of "The Networker".

I remember well when Philip Archer invited him to join the team in 2009. Philip was responsible for Rotary's Image and Communications at the time, and Colin Muir was District Governor. As you know, Colin is a fun guy, but not all that great at meeting deadlines. He often missed the Thursday noon deadline, but would cheerily ring up around midnight with a promise to get his comments to us within half an hour. This came as a bit of a surprise to Gordon, as did the monthly 7.00 am Communications Team breakfast meetings in the Botanical Gardens.



Colin Muir was a fun DG to work with.

The District Website was a bit clunky in those days, and loading "The Networker" in differing typefaces for

headings and body took some patience. When we moved on to using "InDesign", Adobe's high-end desk-top publishing software, we were subjected to the occasional "wee swearie" in the office, but the staff at The Archway Group and StreamScape were invaluable in assisting both Gordon and myself in its use. He asked me to thank Noel Hobley of Bendigo and Max Martin of Brighton who stood in to produce "The Networker", all our contributors, and of course our wonderful wizard, Webmaster Stuart McArthur.



"Do I have a job for you", said Philip Archer, "the best job in the District!"

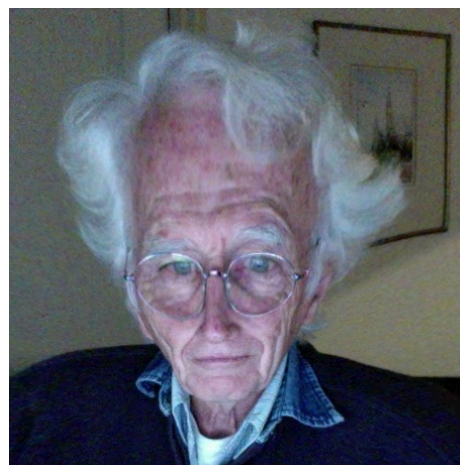
Over the years the team had a lot of fun together: Gordon tried to keep us focussed on Rotary's topic of the month, and to avoid anything too controversial. He was always generous in giving me credit for my work, especially if errors or omissions were involved. But I did feel he was a bit uncharitable when he referred to my University Qualifications as "a Ph.D. in Snappy Answers".

Yes, Gordon, it's definitely time to move on. We look forward to great things from incoming Editor, Lesley McCarthy of Flemington Rotary Club: I'm sure we can hit it off together.

Saying goodbye doesn't mean anything. It's the time we spent together that matters, not how we left it. - Trey Parker

That's all for now.

Clarice.



"InDesign" made Editor Gordon Cheyne tear his hair out. Fortunately he has some left.

Notices and Events

District 9800 Changeover Lunch

The Rotary Club of Brighton invites you and your partner to join District Governor Neville John and Rebecca and Incoming District Governor Peter Frueh and Anne in an afternoon of fellowship and entertainment.

25th June, 11.30 for 12 noon

RACV City Club, 17th Floor, 501 Bourke Street, Cost: \$79.00 per person (includes wine, beer, soft drinks, two course lunch)

RSVP by 13 June. Bookings: www.rotarybrighton.com.au/events

Dress: Lounge suit

Enquiries: Lauren McMaster Phone: 9514 3430

events@rotarybrighton.com.au

Central location with excellent access to public transport. Parking on site at cost of \$21.40 per vehicle.



MOUNT LANGI GHIRAN

THE ROTARY WINE CLUB

The Rotary Wine Club is excited to offer members an exclusive opportunity to purchase the wines from the iconic Victorian winery; Mount Langi Ghiran at a special members price of

20% off web prices.

TO ORDER:

Shop these wines online at www.langi.com.au & enter coupon code **ROTARY2017** at the checkout.

Alternatively, visit our cellar door & present this flyer to receive your discount.



CELLAR DOOR

Open 10 am - 5 pm Ph: +61 03 5354 3207 E: info@langi.com.au
80 Vine Road, Bayindeen VIC 3375



*For each bottle of wine purchased using the coupon code, Mount Langi Ghiran will donate \$2 to Rotary Australia.
*Discount will not apply to special offers.

Our Contributors



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



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



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



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



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



Mechai Viravaidya runs innovative family planning and poverty reduction programs in Thailand.



Del King is a former GSE Team member, and is now the President of the Rotary Club of Flemington.



Murray Chessell is a long-standing and eloquent scribe at Kew Rotary Club



Dr Murray Verso of Williamstown RC was District Governor of D9800 in 2014-15



Faye Kirkwood of Caulfield RC is an enthusiastic fan of saving the world's bees.