

the

networker

January 2016 - Issue 12

rotarydistrict9800.com.au

Happy New Year!

INSIDE

**Clubs across our District
celebrate the holidays**

**Meningoencephalocele in
Cambodia**

Friendship Exchange

Rotary

District 9800



JANUARY IS ROTARY'S VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

DG Julie Mason's Message



January is Vocational Service Month



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." -- Mahatma Gandhi

In recent times where so many members of the Country Fire Authority and the State Emergency Services have been called upon to provide service at the front line of natural disasters it is useful to take time to reflect on and appreciate the work done by them to save and support others in need. I am sure that we all know many volunteers who give time to the emergency services and one such person is my nephew, who at a very young age joined the branch of Country Fire Authority in Koroit and for the past fifteen years has maintained his commitment to service when called upon. Whilst celebrating Christmas day in Bacchus Marsh he received a call out and immediately left to do his duty. Here is just one example of a fine young person doing "good in the world" and I am sure that you too will have similar stories to share! Not so long ago I was pleased to attend an awards ceremony where the Rotary Club of Yarra Bend recognised people who are members of the organisations that provide emergency services, members of the police force, ambulance members, members of the Country Fire Authority and Metropolitan Fire Brigade and of course the State Emergency Services and I do think that we could be celebrating the work of these wonderful people who "lose themselves in the service of others" by organising more such evenings throughout our District.

Rotary as an organisation is as such not a first responder to emergencies but our District does have a District Disaster Relief Fund and has a proud history over time of providing necessary funds to assist communities in the recovery phase after disaster has struck. I have been in contact with my fellow Victorian District Governors to offer support if necessary and as is my responsibility, I have asked District Governor Elect Neville John to Chair a small



Committee to keep a watching brief on the circumstances and if needed we will progress this matter. I have sent a letter out to all our Rotary Club Presidents and will keep you informed as we see how this summer weather impacts on future and existing fire risk areas. This matter will also be discussed at the next District Board Meeting.



New Interact Club

Sir Angus Mitchell, former President of Rotary International, from the Rotary Club of Melbourne, in an address to 1948 Rotary Convention, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, spoke about this Rotary vision, "To work with the youth of today to build a strong and peaceful world of tomorrow." I have no doubt that he would be well pleased with the addition of another Interact Club to District 9800. The Brighton Secondary College Interact Club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Brighton North, has twenty members and currently has a Community and International project as part of their service as an Interact Club. As an example of best practice in Rotary, the Youth Service Teams from Brighton North, Brighton Beach and Brighton work together to ensure that all local schools have the opportunity to benefit from Rotary and to aim is to encourage more schools to form Interact Clubs. On behalf of the students who are going to grow in leadership through this initiative, I thank you!!

Group Vocational Exchange

I am delighted to announce that we will be welcoming an impressive group of people from the Philippines who will be the first District Vocational Exchange Team to spend time in District 9800. During my visits to Clubs I spoke about the change in focus for what was previously a Group study Exchange, to now accommodate an ever increasing demand for more time spent on vocational visits during the time that the GVE Team is in Australia and the Philippines. Visiting 9800 we have Marie Jane Liban, Team Leader and amongst other things, Chair of the District Basic education and literacy Committee, and the Disaster Preparedness Committee in District 3800. Marie brings with her John Lou Lucenario, who has a Master in Arts education, teaches science, is a research presenter at National Conferences and conducts charity work for disadvantaged children. Glazia Lee Diao is a Civil engineer who specialises in the design of water reticulation, wastewater and drainage systems. Karen Reside is a Supervising Legislative Staff Officer who works in the House of Representatives in the Philippines and advocates for equal access for men and women in her field of employment. Jeremy Raquel is a speech pathologist who consults widely throughout the Philippines with a particular focus on working with adults and children with a disability. Notably conditions such as cerebral palsy, stroke recovery provide Jeremy with the opportunity to work in interdisciplinary teams of medical professionals. The GVE Team from the Philippines will spend significant time learning more about their vocation and of course learning about Australia and our great Rotary District. They will be telling us about their experiences at the District conference in Bendigo.

Membership

“Rotary must be renewed constantly at the club level to avoid stagnation and at the international level to avoid retrogression. But Rotary at all levels depends on the individual Rotarian.” The

Challenge: Review and Renew, THE ROTARIAN, July 1969

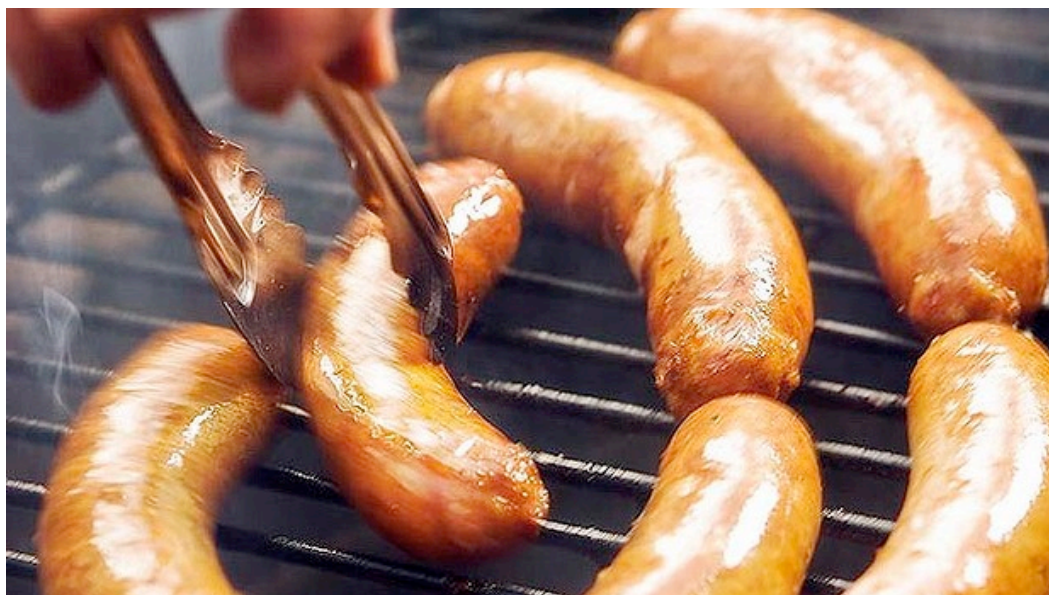
Surely the month of January, Vocational Service Month, and a time when we all look to have a break from the daily routine is a perfect time to reset future goals. You know the annual.....I will eat, drink and spend less, exercise more andask more people to join me in my Rotary time of making a difference and having fun!! If you want to spend less time cooking sausages let's all get more people to help! I am told that in every Rotary club there are 90% who know people who would enjoy Rotary service and 10% who would happily ask people to come and join in the fun. Your mission is to establish who is in each category in your club and put them to work doing what they do best.

Enjoy Rotary as you are..... a Gift to the World.

Ubuntu: I am, because you are.

Julie Mason

District Governor



A Work-Free Day at DIK !

December 17th was declared a “work-free” day at the Donations-in-Kind store in West Footscray. But as Rabbie Burns said, “The best-made plans o’ mice an’ men, gang aft a-gey”. Trucks with new deliveries vied for space with volunteers, busy setting up the tables for the Xmas breakup feast, and the background music of Christmas Carols was challenged by some colourful comments from Laurie Fisher.

Business as usual, at DIK: Was Laurie’s tee-shirt a reasonable substitute for Rotary’s Four-way Test? A lively discussion arose, but no solution was derived.

DG Santa Claus and her Elfin helper Bronwyn Stephens appeared to thank and hand out gifts to volunteers: we’re happy to report that Santa looked much better and slimmer than he did in previous years.

It’s wonderful the things you can find at DIK: Santa even had a dog’s waterbed for Sooty! It was a bonus to have DIK evergreen Bill Dagg and Sooty at the party.

Ever-helpful Mr Long did some marvellous dissection on the salmon, and everyone enjoyed the roast chicken: even DG Julie, who must have lost count of chicken dinners this year.

Although the temperature kept rising in the shed, the only complaints were the groans when the jokes inside the Xmas crackers were read out: some things never change!

But what a happy break-up function this was: an opportunity to thank those hard-working volunteers at DIK, who give so much of themselves week-in, week-out.

And after the feast, the volunteers cleared up and washed up. Do they never stop? Well, we hope they do, and have a lovely Xmas break. We know the team will be back on deck and ready for action when the DIK store re-opens on 28th January.

TTFN: - Clarice

Lots of photos at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106224275621582639712/DIKXmas2015?authkey=Gv1sRgCKCb8q2C9sniVA>



What our Clubs get up to in the Holidays!

By Adrian Nelson, District Director Public Image and Communications



Rotary Club of Bendigo's Carols by Candlelight and delivery to Salvation Army; the Rotary Club of Bendigo Strathdale's monster Charity Christmas Raffle; and Santa Claus & her helper make a special visit to the Donations In Kind store.





Rotary Caroline Springs make children at Busy Feet Melton even happier; the Rotary Club of Essendon North spruce up their trees; in Castlemaine, a great Carols by Candlelight; Docklands held their Festival of Giving; Melbourne Park celebrate the season; and Chadstone East Malvern hold their annual raffle.



Rotarians from Malvern, Rochester and elsewhere celebrated their season by making a difference in Cambodia with World of Difference; Williamstown & Point Gellibrand enjoyed their joint Christmas party; Glen Eira partnered with Santa's Magical Kingdom for a sausage sizzle for 25,000 at Caulfield Racecourse; and Wyndham helped the Salvation Army distribute gifts to those in need.





Rotary Clubs of Prahran and Chadstone East Malvern kept festive at the Stonnington Carols; Rotary Club of West Footscray did likewise at Yarraville Gardens; a big man in red made a special visit in Werribee; Melbourne South Rotarians visited nursing homes to sing some carols for the residents; and the Rotary Club of Keilor held their own Hawaiian Christmas.



Rotary Friendship Exchanges: terrific travels!

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

District 9800 has a total 12 vacancies for outbound Rotary Friendship Exchange visits to Alberta, Canada and New Mexico, USA in mid-2017.

In June-July 2017 our District team will be hosted by D5360 - Alberta, Canada, and there are still two vacancies. The region, including Western Saskatchewan, is known as the "Big Sky" country, from the western plains to the Rockies. Attractions include the Tyrell Dinosaur Museum, Fort Calgary and the July Calgary Stampede. An Alberta group came to D9800 in 2010.

District RFE Coordinator Jeanette Lynch has ten vacancies for D5520 – New Mexico/Western Texas USA. The dates in mid-2017 are still under review but will probably be "patched" with the Alberta dates to let some members get to both venues including the Stampede.

D5520 features Albuquerque and El Paso, and the renowned art-market communities of historic Santa Fe and Taos. The culture is strongly Spanish/Mexican, and there are 21 Native American tribes.



A Camberwell RC team, led by Marcus Falay (centre rear, with stetson hat, pose against the famous Fairy Chimneys at Cappadocia during their Friendship Exchange visit to Turkey.

Here's how Friendship Exchanges work: a group of Rotarians from one District is hosted by a group from another District anywhere in the world. It's pure pleasure – the group stays with host families, typically for three days at a time, and are passed around to other families.

District 9800 normally has one exchange per year, sometimes two. The nitty-gritty has been organized for many years by Jeanette, with tireless help from Camberwell RC's John and Audrey Steven.

A reciprocal return visit to the guests' District can be offered. Because of logistics issues, this return visit may not eventuate. If it does, the local hosts have the job of ensuring that homes and guides are available.

Here's the schedule:

The latest inbound visit was last April, when a UK Lakes District (D1190) party led by Roland Hailwood enjoyed our hospitality. They were looked after by the Bacchus Marsh, Bendigo Sandhurst, Camberwell and Echuca-Moama RCs.

In October 2013 a group arrived from Turkey (D2420) led by Nilgun Ulug. They were hosted by Camberwell, Echuca-Moama (ditto) and Bendigo South.



John Steven, centre, of Camberwell RC and Audrey (far right, blue jacket) farewell D9800's recent friendship exchange visitors from Turkey as they depart for home.

Apart from travel costs to the destination, costs while being hosted are small and largely involve ensuring that hosts are not out of pocket on specific expenses, tickets, petrol and whatever. A typical gift would be a coffee table book or piece of craftwork.

While Jeanette's patience is legendary, try not to give her nervous breakdowns by booking on an exchange and then cancelling at whim, losing your passport, proposing that a given exchange be switched from Massachusetts to Kazakhstan, and failing to show proper respect and appreciation for the great efforts of your hosts, team leaders and organisers.

Interested? Contact
jeanette.michael@bigpond.com

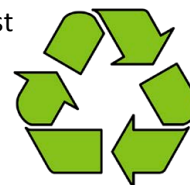
What is Vocational Service and what is our largest project?

By David Dippie, RC Keilor

Should our concept of Vocational Service be limited to a specific range of projects or should we include all of the projects where Rotarians use their vocation and vocational skill to help others?



Is encouraging organizations to reduce waste and recycle reusable material a traditional Vocational objective? Most of the goods worth \$10 million that **Donations In Kind** shipped nationally last year were donated by organizations that trust Rotary and respect what we do. DIK volunteers also contributed 30,000 hours. **Is this our largest Vocational Project?** [Rotary Donations In Kind](#)



Could it be the fantastic work that **RAWCS Volunteers** do when they use their vocational skills to help others overseas, as great example of Vocational Service? Last year over 800 volunteers in 151 teams worked in 28 different countries. **Is this our largest project?** See where our Member's vocational skills are being used to help others. [RAWCS | Current Projects](#)



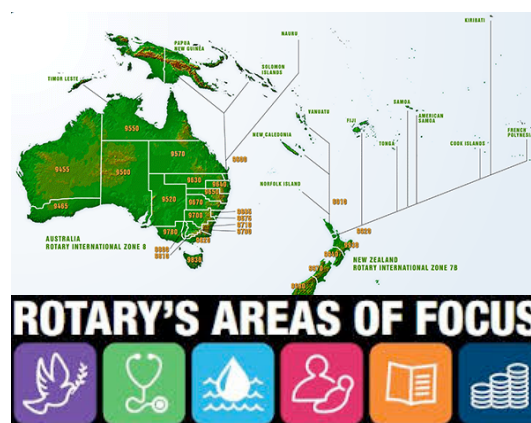
The service that **Safe Water and Sanitation** provides is a wonderful example of Vocational Service in action. We should also acknowledge the marvellous work that the **Interplast** Medical Teams contribute. www.interplast.org.au



Rotary is not a completion and "Biggest" and "Best" are not relevant. This month we should celebrate every activity where we use our vocational skills and contacts to help people. **At the beginning of the New Year let's all think about how we can use our own vocation to help others.**

But what could we achieve if we harnessed all of Rotary Australia's vocational potential?

While individual Clubs do a great job we are yet to use the full power of Rotary in Australia. Collectively we have one million years of vocational experience and contacts. More experience than some of the nations that are part of Rotary Districts on the map in RDU. If we were to offer our combined vocational resources to any of these countries to help solve some of the problems highlighted in the Foundation Six Areas of Focus we could make a remarkable difference. As we have proven in the past if we make a commitment to tackle an issue others will support us.



Woodend's Do-It-Yourself Newspaper

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

Woodend Rotary Club is a club full of surprises. It's put on six new members this fiscal year, bouncing its total to 25. How? Because it co-publishes the 40-page monthly district newspaper The New Woodend Star (circulation 3500) and puts Rotary promotions into it.

Three recruits were new to the district, and came to meetings via the newspaper or the club's walking group. They were quickly signed up. The fourth recruit was a transfer from another club, fifth was a returning member and the sixth hadn't been aware that Rotary operated in the town until he read the paper.

The newspaper not only recruits members but makes an annual profit of \$10-15,000, a healthy increase on levels a decade ago. Some profit goes to reserves but most goes to support club projects. The paper started in 1997 and is a successor to the Woodend Star (1888 to 1970).

The club won a \$1000 District Membership Grant for recruiting four members by last October 31. The members will use the funds to set up community projects of their own choice.

A club sub-committee runs the newspaper and a local business prints and publishes it, and performs the admin tasks around publication day for a fee. The members' big job is hand-inserting flyers for a pharmacy and other businesses, folding the papers and distributing copies to local PO Boxes and businesses (1500), and the post office for distribution via the mail (2000).

Club President and former Assistant Governor (2013-2015) Grant Hocking became heavily involved two years ago as chairperson of the committee.



Woodend RC members buckle down to the job of folding and flyer-insertion for the latest run of The New Woodend Star



The paper is also on-line and filled with local news, sports, events, dining, gardening, arts and community activities. A recent issue ran to 44 pages and featured the Carlsruhe Country Fair and an Aboriginal night market on Page 1.

Ad rates are modest – from \$116 for quarter-page to \$362 for full page. Inserts' handling charge is \$270.

Grant puts much of the club's revival down to a visioning strategy which included simplifying membership applications and appointing a membership director. "We've shortened the membership process to three weeks, and I always carry application forms in my pocket to hand out," he says.

Continued next page:

Woodend's Do-It-Yourself Newspaper: - Continued:

Other ventures by Woodend RC include:

The local Australia Day program with the RSL and shire council: For eight years the club has jointly organized scouts and guides' marches, band music, mini-flag distributions, BBQ and a talk by a youngster on "What Australia Day Means". This all gets the club recognized.

Cooking lessons from an Italian member followed by eating the results for lunch, with wine. The charge is only \$49, way below commercial prices. Bookings are looking good for the first one in February. Capacity is 30.

A rainwater tank for cyclone security on the outskirts of Port Vila, Vanuatu, in conjunction with a Rotary club there. This is Woodend's first international project for some years.

Supporting a project to install an Anzac memorial wall in Woodend. This saw hundreds attend the opening, involving the Hon. Tim Fischer. More great community exposure.

The Woodend Rotary Walking group has been running for nearly two years and has over 60 members. Weekly walks range to Mt Macedon and occasionally at venues such as the Surf coast.



***Photos: A busy day at "the office" as Woodend RC members get out the latest New Woodend Star newspaper
Grant Hocking in his Ambulance Victoria uniform. (He was awarded the Ambulance Service Medal (ASM)
in the 2014 Australia Day Honours.)***

Clarice's Comments

I know many of you are enjoying a well-deserved break, and I hope nobody got silly or sick since the last Rotary meeting. But our reporting stalwarts have been working their keyboards to death to entertain you with the first "Networker" of 2016.

David Dippie, Matthew Scott, and Tony Thomas: you are paragons! Where would we be without your contributions?

Adrian Nelson sent us lots of photos of busy Rotarians doing what they do best. I know other clubs have been active too, so please send in some nice action shots: they may be suitable for the "Rotarian" Photo Contest.

I particularly enjoyed Tony's article on Rotary Friendship Groups, as I have a friend who went hot-air ballooning in Cappadocia, in Turkey. She said it was the best (and scariest) thing she had ever done, and that those Fairy Chimneys were the weirdest things ever! So think about a Rotary Friendship Exchange for your next trip.

Back to work now for everyone: let's set our eyes on Bendigo for the 2016 Conference. Remember, as DG Julie said: "You'll never ever know, if you never ever go . . ."

Ta-ta for now - Clarice.



Why Group Vocational Exchange?

By John McCaskill, D9800 GSE Chair

Group Study Exchange has been a key Rotary program for around thirty years providing life-changing and career development opportunity for numerous District 9800 outgoing teams exchanging with incoming teams from many countries.

This year, our Exchange is with the Philippines and has been renamed **GVE (Group Vocational Exchange)** reflecting the strong emphasis on vocational and workplace experience in both countries. DG Julie wants participants to be particularly representative of the Rotary Foundation Focus Areas including Literacy, Water and Sanitation, Maternal Health, Disease Prevention and Treatment etc.



Our incoming Philippines team from District 3800 arrives in Melbourne on Sunday 14th February and will be hosted by different clusters for each of the four weeks of the Exchange climaxing with the Goldfields Clusters in the week leading up to the Bendigo Conference. The profiles of incoming team and team leader are available at: <http://rotarydistrict9800.com.au/images/GVEvocationphilippinesprofile.pdf>

We are particularly asking all readers and Rotarians to look at these profiles and help us find meaningful job placements for each of them (ideally three days in a relevant workplace where they have an opportunity to really learn rather than short half day placements as has occurred in the past). If you are able to assist and would like to support one of our guests with a professional placement, please advise Peter Shephard (0498 072784) or myself, John McCaskill (0414 477444) and we will gratefully make the arrangements.

We again thank all our District 9800 Rotarians for your ongoing support of this wonderful key Rotary Program and part of Rotary Foundation. You are giving young professional people an opportunity which will be one of the most memorable experiences in their lives....and the exchange experience will certainly also be an enriching one for you also.



The Incoming GVE Team:

MARIE JANE I. LIBAN, Executive director Monark Foundation, Inc. Team leader.

John Lou S. Lucenario, Science teacher.

Glaiza Lee L. Diao, Civil engineer.

Karen E. Reside, Supervising Legislative Staff Officer.

Jeremy C. Raquel, Speech Pathologist.

Smooth Sailing Ahead!

By Matthew Scott, Northern Regional Correspondent

Who would have thought that a fishing boat would have been the vessel to contribute towards the building of a family violence refuge in Bendigo?

Quite an unlikely combination, but that's exactly what the Rotary Club of Bendigo South has recently done. Rotary Club members and friends have spent the last half of this year busily selling raffle tickets each weekend at markets and other community events.

Proudly sponsored by Lake Eppalock Marine, Honda Marine, EasyTow boat trailers and Stessl Boats, the Rotary Club of Bendigo South boat raffle raised over \$10,000 for Bendigo's Annie North family violence refuge.

Rotary Club of Bendigo South President, Tony Plant, said that the funds raised from the raffle would most likely go towards fitting out internal rooms and facilities within the yet to be constructed facility.

The proud owners of the raffled boat, Heather Watson and family from Rochester, came to collect their prize from Lake Eppalock Marine on Monday afternoon. Eagerly awaiting the drive home, the lucky winners were hoping to hit the water as soon as possible to catch some fish.

Photos: Rotary Club of Bendigo South Club President, Tony Plant with the lucky boat winners and Kevin Barker from Lake Eppalock Marine.

Lower: The main prize



The Rotarian photo contest

Enter your images in The Rotarian's 2015 photo contest and you might see them in the pages of the magazine. The contest is open to members of Rotary, their families, and anyone who has taken part in a Rotary program. Enter up to three photos taken since 1 January 2015 in one of three categories: people, places, and projects.

[Learn more about the contest](#)
[Read stories from the current issue](#)



Meningoencephalocele

By Matthew Scott, Northern Regional Correspondent

Many of us have heard of chicken pox or influenza, but the condition of Meningoencephalocele remains somewhat of a mystery. A life threatening condition which is endemic throughout South East Asia and Cambodia, Meningoencephalocele (MEC) is the failure of the neural tube to seal in the early stages of embryonic development.

Bone thereby fails to form around the end of the neural tube allowing the brain to herniate into the embryo's sinuses, deforming eye sockets, interfering with tear ducts and allowing cerebral fluid and non-functioning brain material to protrude outward beneath the facial skin.

For those children born with the MEC condition, quality of life isn't always good, as ruptures of the skin and infections can sometimes lead to a rapid death. If that isn't the case, social isolation can often ensue, especially in poor village situations.

What started out as a simple project of getting four rural MEC patients to the Children's Surgical Centre in Phnom Penh to be operated on by a team of visiting French surgeons has now turned into a full scale Rotary project which spans the globe.

Locating the MEC patients, assessing them and preparing them for surgery is all part of the procedure. At a cost of \$800 per MEC operation, \$500 covers the surgery and all hospital related costs, with the remaining \$300 going towards all non-medical related costs such as transporting the patients into Phnom Penh from their isolated homes in rural Cambodia.

Locally in District 9800, the Rotary Club of Bendigo-Strathdale has been spearheading a successful fundraising project to fund further MEC operations in Cambodia. As well as receiving several donations from private individuals to continue the valuable work of the Children's Surgical Centre in Cambodia, the Rotary Club of Bendigo-Strathdale has also been joined by the Rotary Club's of Bendigo South, Eaglehawk and Rochester in allowing further MEC sufferers to once again be able to live a normal life.

The district itself has also supported the MEC project in a big way by giving a \$5000 International Grant to the project. Combined with an earlier

amount of \$15,000, this has enabled nearly 19 successful surgeries to be completed.

The MEC project is undertaken in partnership with the Rotary Club of Phnom Penh. Attending our own District 9800 conference in Bendigo in 2016 will be current President of the Rotary Club of Phnom Penh, Michael Wright as well as Immediate Past President, Peter Gray.



Photos show a patient with Meningoencephalocele, before, and two months after operation.

The work that goes into finding MEC patients and then getting them operated on can be quite exhausting, as can be the follow up work post operation. However, when you see the smiles on the children's faces when they have all of the bandages on their faces unveiled, you know that all of the hard work has been worth it.

National Geographic Photo Contest

Grand Prize and Nature Winner: 'Dirt'

A stunning photo of a tornado in Colorado was chosen as the grand-prize winner of the 2015 National Geographic Photo Contest. The photo, titled "DIRT," was shot by James Smart of Melbourne, Australia. It was selected from more than 13,000 entries to the prestigious competition.

Last spring, Smart spent 15 days chasing storms with his brother and some friends who are meteorologists. On the last day, Smart ended up outside of Simla, Colorado, where he shot the winning photo.

"The tornado was slowly getting bigger as it picked up the dust and soil from the ground on the farmland," Smart said. "It wasn't moving very fast, so we kept getting closer as it tracked next to the home as you can see in the image. Driving down a Colorado dirt road, we were lucky enough to be on the west of the tornado, so it was front lit. This really helped to get great detail out of the image and the perfect light for the sky and foreground."

(MORE: [National Geographic Best Travel Photos of 2015](#))



Another Nice photo!

Find the right picture to tell Rotary's story.

RI's library contains thousands of colorful images that capture the heart of what we do.

Solar energy. After the 2010 earthquake, Port-au-Prince residents fled to the island, increasing its population by 30 percent.

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EXIF - Date Taken: 2/15/2011 0:00:00

IPTC - Creator: Alyce Henson



Find photos at:

<http://images.rotary.org/netpub/server.np?quickfind=&catalog=catalog&site=Rotary&template=search.np>

Photos can be downloaded free, and used to enhance your club's website, publications, and public relations efforts.

Please use photo credits for any image you use.

For example: *Photo by Alyce Henson. © Rotary International.*

Notices and Events

ALUMNI BBQ LUNCH

D9800 Alumni, their families and friends are invited to an informal BBQ Lunch AT 12 pm-5pm

Sunday 7th February

Yarraville Gardens, Corner Hyde Street & Somerville Road, Yarraville
BBQ to be hosted by Rotary Club of Footscray, where you can purchase foods and drinks or You can bring your own picnic!
RSVP by 1st February, 2016

PDG Iven Mackay ivenm@bigpond.com 0418380989

PP Ejanul Haque ejanul.haque@rmit.edu.au 0422677944

Are you alumni of D9800? If so contact the alumni committee to join the Facebook closed group (Rotary District 9800 Alumni)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/392231940980119/>



Group Vocational Exchange Farewell Dinner

Milanos Hotel, The Esplanade, Brighton Beach. **Tuesday, 16th February**, 6.30pm for 7.00pm Join us for a great send-off for the GVE Team to the Philippines, and to welcome the incoming team.

Cost: \$40/head

Bookings **must** be prepaid via Trybooking by **13th February**

<http://www.trybooking.com/176125>

Further details Julie Avery 9591 9591 or 0418364191

Julie@brightontravel.com.au



Taste of Kyneton

Taste of Kyneton is a food festival with a difference. Each exhibitor on the day will prepare small tasting dishes that showcase their signature style. 'Green Tics' are the currency of Taste of Kyneton. Green Tics can be purchased on the day for \$5.00. \$1 from each Green Tic will support the Rotary Club of Kyneton. Kyneton Racecourse on **Sunday, February 28th**. Gates open at 11am and close at 3pm. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased through

www.tasteofkyneton.com

For more information about Taste of Kyneton 2016, visit

www.tasteofkyneton.com

Media enquiries: Amy Cockcroft, 0425 805 316 Event Enquiries: Alan Potter, 0400 266 641



CONNECT WITH KOREA – TOUCH THE WORLD

[International Convention](#) **28th May to 1st June**

[ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION](#)

<http://www.riconvention.org>



Doing Good Schools Video Competition

You can make your Rotary Club look amazing by simply telling the stories your Club already has. Our aim is for every Rotary Club in our District to produce a short video of less than one minute.

All video entries will feature on our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages, with each short video shown at our Bendigo Conference in March 2016 for the Cluster Presentations.

We recognise that not every club has the technical expertise to do this, so we have created a competition for local schools - as the students do have this expertise(!) - for our "Doing Good" Schools Video Competition. You just need to contact your local schools to invite them to be part of it.

Entries open August 2015 and close 20th November 2015.

Application Forms will be available on this website. At this stage, please liaise with the schools to start the process.

Tell the Story of your Local Rotary Club

The story could be about an interview with a member, your life-changing international service projects, or a local fundraising effort.

School students will be amazed about what stories Rotary has to tell.

For more information

Visit our District Facebook Page or e-mail publicimage@rotarydistrict9800.org.au.

Where do I start?

[Download flyer](#) to post at schools, sporting clubs and shopping centres.

Print off and fill in your Club's own contact details so that schools contact you directly to find out your great Rotary stories! Share your videos:

Clubs can use the videos for their own use, including at Club Meetings, on their website or Facebook or YouTube sites.

- See more at: <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/news/14229#sthash.zYrVJaF6.dpuf>



DOING GOOD
SCHOOLS VIDEO COMPETITION

Click here to find out more

WIN \$1000 FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Rotary District 9800

2016 Rotary International Convention, Seoul

28th May to 1st June, 2016

It's your chance to connect with Rotary members from around the world. You'll build new relationships and exchange ideas across cultures.

<http://www.riconvention.org>



The Rotary Club of Chadstone-East

Malvern are busy writing the history of their club. They are interested to learn of any clubs who have written a club history.

Please contact Rosemary Johnston 0438 693 597 or

rosemary.johnston82@gmail.com



Rotary Club offers Mentor Training Package

In 2012 Yarra Bend Rotary saw a need to apply some structure and rigor to its Projects that have a mentoring aspect. This led them to develop a training course on the core skills needed for successful mentoring. This involves understanding the mentoring process, setting SMART Goals, active listening skills, questioning techniques and of course appropriate governance arrangements.



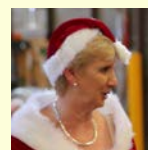
These and many other aspects of mentoring, including "matching" mentors to mentee needs are outlined in a six hour training package usually run over two evenings. Since 2013 a number of Rotary Clubs have taken advantage of the training offered by Yarra Bend including Hawthorn, Canterbury, Carlton and Kew resulting in excess of 150 Rotarians having enhanced their mentoring skills and knowledge.

The training sessions are interactive and are offered free of charge to other Rotary Clubs except for the costs of training rooms and minor printing. If you are interested email Yarra Bend's Vocational Service Director at matt.pollard@yarrabendrotary.com.au

Stay informed on Rotary events:

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_future

Our Contributors



District Governor Julie Mason of Wyndham RC writes a lovely column for each edition of "The Networker"



Tony Thomas' recent "Ocean Acidification" story in "Quadrant" got a run all over the UK/US blogworld.



David Dippie of Keilor RC keeps us informed about the work done at Donations-in-Kind



Bronwyn Stephens loves Cambodia, and is the driving force behind World of Difference Tours.



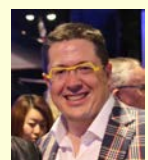
Our Girl Friday Clarice Caricare had a great Xmas and New Year break, and she wishes you all the best for 2016.



You can see photographs by Monika Lozinska, which frequently appear in Rotary publications.



Matthew Scott sends us regular reports from the Deep North, in between episodes of face-painting.



District Image Guru, Adrian Nelson, has a new image. Check out the new set of specs he got for Christmas.



John McCaskill of RC Canterbury is District Chairman of Group Vocational Exchange.