

the

# networker

March 2016 - Issue 15

[rotarydistrict9800.com.au](http://rotarydistrict9800.com.au)

## Clean Water Makes Better Lives



### INSIDE

Spelling Out  
Ethics in Rotary

Group Vocational  
Exchange Team arrives!

The Right To Go

Rotary

District 9800



MARCH IS ROTARY'S WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

## DG Julie Mason's Message



### *March Area of Focus: Water and Sanitation*



**Water is the driving force of all nature. - Leonardo da Vinci**

You know I remember vividly one morning when I woke up, turned on the tap in the shower and ...no water. Down stairs to see what might be happening outside only to find many neighbours already there discussing the impact of the situation! We couldn't fill the kettle to make a cup of tea, no shower today, no washing of clothes or the car! Disaster had struck in this part of our world, and then of course the water began to flow freely again. Once you stop and reflect we are so very lucky compared to others in other parts of our world.

So what is happening in District 9800 to assist others in need in relation to improved conditions for water and sanitation? At the moment our District Group Vocational Exchange Team is in the Philippines and should they get to **Barra** they would see a wonderful initiative of the Rotary Club of Melbourne. GHD, a corporate member of Melbourne Rotary, undertook an extensive scoping study, probono, and designed and costed a facility which would extract water from an aquifer via a borehole and pipe it one kilometre to tap stands in Barra. Work is now commencing on design and construction, which will supply safe and potable water in 2016. In the village of **Bosalla** in Cambodia the Rotary Club of Brighton through the work of Gerhard Sommer, Barry Hickman and members, wells have been dug to collect rainwater, guttering was installed on the school and some homes together with collection tanks. The Rotary Club of Werribee have overcome many challenges to develop plans for a ground bore water system. This system will supply a safe and sustainable water supply for students and staff at the Sir Tito Winyi Secondary School as well as 1600 people in the surrounding villages near **Masindi** in Western Uganda. This is really only the tip of the iceberg,

pardon the pun, and we cannot imagine a world without water, so it fortunate that we have so many of our wonderful clubs working together to secure Foundation funds to bring potable water to those in need.



### **Celebration of 111 years of Rotary**

As part of the planning for Major Events in this year, where we are asked to Be a Gift to the World, I invited every club to celebrate the anniversary of our amazing organisation. I asked that, for this period of time, we "take Rotary from the Inside Out" and I wonder how many of you took the opportunity be Loud and Proud and tell all those who will listen about our achievements as Rotarians. Have you told them that we will eliminate Polio later this year? Do they know the impact that you have in your community through your work? Do you share your successful projects with the local media and potential partners? Do you keep your Facebook page up to date and do you share that page with others.



I want to congratulate the Rotary Club of Glen Eira for their initiative in starting an annual Award for Women in leadership in Glen Eira. The women nominated were successful in their professions, humble in accepting the nomination and inspiring in their respective speeches. They, along with sponsors for the evening, family, work colleagues and friends now understand the power of Rotary in their community.



***Glen Eira ladies celebrate!***

Then we have the Rotary Club of Central Melbourne Sunrise on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February provide me and others in attendance with an opportunity to listen to Simon Longstaff from the Ethics Centre provide a thought provoking talk about right versus right, choice and trust. Such a wonderful segue for all we aspire to be and do in the name of Rotary. The annual Silk Miller Scholarship was presented to Senior Constable Zac Bull from Swan Hill who is not only a respected member of Victoria Police but a teacher as well!



***DG Julie with Senior Constable Zac Bull***

Please send me photos of the way in which you celebrated Rotary and I will put each on the District Governor Facebook page that has attracted readers from around the world.



#### **District Governor for 2018/19**

I am so pleased to let you know that your District Governor, subject to an appeal time of one more week, will be Bronwyn Stephens. Bronwyn will join the DGEN as the District Governor Nominee from the first of July, and up until then will be lovingly called The Designate! I feel really privileged to have had our Immediate Past Governor Murray as someone to shadow and then to have Neville, Peter and now Bronwyn as supporters, guides and friends during this special year as your District Governor. We are a team, your Support Team, so continue to make use of our time, talents and commitment to your Club and our members, partners and friends.

#### **Assistant Governors**

I want to give a big **shout out** to the most amazing team of Assistant Governors that I have the privilege of working with and I will always appreciate their good will, hard work and personal support. Your Assistant Governor can be your greatest asset.....they sure are mine at the moment.

***Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. - Dr Seuss***

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

**Ubuntu: I am, because you are.**

*Julie Mason*

**District Governor**

# Support Fijians affected by Cyclone Winston

*By the DIK Team*

**Many people have the desire to assist people in Fiji affected by Cyclone Winston.**

At some point Donations In Kind will have a role but the timing will be determined by Fiji. Until the goods required can be identified and the priorities established nothing should be shipped.

**In the past Donations In Kind has helped in three ways:**

- 1) Governments have asked for our support.** It could be to help ship their goods or an appeal to Rotary to supply specific items. If this happens there is usually a specific process that has to be followed.
- 2) Clubs in the affected country have identified what is needed** and have obtained Government approval to import the goods.
- 3) We support local Clubs with their projects.** Rebuilding the communities will take years and the problems to be solved are basically the same as our current projects. If a school of hospital needs equipment the cause of the problem is not significant.

We know that DIK Projects are often the most cost effective way to help people. All of the money donated goes directly to people in need. We know that there will be projects in the future where goods that DIK can supply will be of great value. **The people need emergency aid today, but they will also need support in the future and this is where Rotary can be most effective.**

**If you want to support Fiji through RAWCS** an appeal has been set-up specifically for this purpose the **RAWCS Fiji Cyclone Winston Appeal** The

District Governors of Australia have agreed to support a National Fund Raising Appeal for Fiji Cyclone Relief.

**“FIJI DISASTER RELIEF” , RAWCS Project Number 46 2015–16, has been established as a National project.**

The intention is to fund raise immediately and then identify appropriate projects. Identifying appropriate projects and assessing the need will not happen immediately as they will be concerned with the recovery phase. As this is a Disaster Relief Project, RAWCS will not charge the usual 3% for donations from individuals and corporations.

**If you want to support Fiji through DIK** you can donate funds to ([click on the number](#))

[31-2014-15](#) **Southern Region DIK (Footscray) – Donations for Container freight and costs**

This project is used to fund container freight and costs for containers sent from Footscray warehouse for D9790, D9800, D9810 and D9820. Mark it **“To be used to help the people of Fiji”**. The funds will be held for future projects and DIK will give you the opportunity to select the project you wish to help.



**We look forward to helping you help the Fijian people**



Postal Address: PO Box 4139 West Footscray  
VIC 3012

Telephone: 0428 550 574

Email: [dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com)

Website [www.rotarydik.org](http://www.rotarydik.org)

## Group Vocational Exchange

*By Anthony Langley, RC Brighton Beach*

The District 9800 Group Vocational Exchange Dinner was held on Tuesday 16 February 2016 at Milano's Hotel, Brighton. The dinner, hosted by the Rotary Club of Brighton Beach, attracted over 80 guests and provided an opportunity for those in attendance to welcome the GVE Team from District 3800, Philippines and to farewell the GVE Team from District 9800.

The Group Vocational Exchange is a vocational and cultural exchange program for professional business men and women, aged between 25 and 40 years, and in the early years of their professional lives. Each exchange team is comprised of a Rotarian acting as the team leader and four specially selected team members.

District Governor for 9800, Julie Mason, welcomed the Philippines team and told guests that the transition from the previous Group Study Exchange program to the new Group Vocational Exchange program will see a greater focus on vocations. DG Julie stated that 'our district is proud of the program and the provision of more time for the vocational aspects of the program'.

District 9800 GVE Chairman, John McCaskill said that 'GVE is a life changing experience for participants'.

During the evening the visiting D3800 and outgoing D9800 team members told those present about their family background, home cities and towns, studies, professional lives, experiences with Rotary, and aspirations for their GVE experiences.



D3800 Philippines GVE Team members include, Jeremy C. Raquel (Speech Pathologist), Glazia Lee L. Diao (Civil Engineer), Karen E. Reside (Supervising Legislative Staff Officer), John Lou S. Lucenario (Science Teacher) and Marie Jane I. Liban (Executive Director for Monark Foundation and GVE Team Leader).

The D9800 GVE Team members who will shortly head to the Philippines include, Kelly Sydenham, Christina Canters, Alec Gillies, Lauren Amadei and Ruth Carlos Martinez (Team Leader).

It was a very special evening that was fun and informative. District 9800 Rotarians look forward to hosting the visiting Philippines team over the next few weeks which will culminate with the

teams' attendance at the D9800 Conference in Bendigo.

The D9800 GVE team will shortly head to the Philippines where they are certain to be given a warm welcome and the opportunity to explore their vocations, as well as Filipino culture and Rotary projects in D3800.

***Photos: Top - District Foundation Director PDG John Wigley and DG Julie Mason with the incoming team from the Philippines.***

***Lower - Team Leader Ruth Carlos-Martinez and the outgoing team.***

***More photos of the dinner are available at***

[https://picasaweb.google.com/106224275621582639712/GVEWelcome2016?authkey=Gv1sRgClijp52i3I\\_COW](https://picasaweb.google.com/106224275621582639712/GVEWelcome2016?authkey=Gv1sRgClijp52i3I_COW)



## 1000 Candles but no Searchlight

*By David Dippie, RC Keilor*

We have over one thousand Rotary Clubs in Australia doing fantastic projects, in isolation. On their own it is very difficult to get meaningful media coverage. Because of our structure there is no “Rotary Victoria” or “Rotary Australia” and there is a general feeling that Clubs are responsible for promotion and Membership - not Districts. The media can’t talk to a Rotary spokesman on a subject because they don’t exist. To compound the problem often we have no idea of that we do collectively so we lack the ability to promote the big picture.

RAWCS informs people of the hundreds of ways we are helping people overseas. DIK can summaries the collective activities of our Clubs in this area, but what about the rest of the things we do. Think of all of the ways that we help young people, but does anyone know how many benefit in one year in Australia or in one District?

Compare this with what Rosie Batty achieved in raising the profile of one issue and changing community attitudes in one year. Many Rotary Clubs were already aware of the problem and making a difference but they lacked a focus to tell their story.

We have the people and the passion, but Rotary is yet to develop a platform. Our focus should be on developing a national voice. If every Australian

Rotary Club did the one thing on the one day it would be national news. If every Rotary Club did this world wide it would be world news.

The starting point is to take action in our District and encourage the other Victorian District to join us. We need to underline that this has nothing to do with the way that Clubs operate it is only a change in the way we tell our Story.



We need to have a focus. People don’t know about the causes we support, so they can’t help us and as a result we struggle to get new Members. Let’s highlight one area each year for our marketing focus. Let’s tell them about all of the ways that Rotary is involved and give people and organization the chance to get involved.

We could have a Rotary Project of the Year and a

Rotary Youth Project of the Year (Rotaract, Interact and Earlyact). We define the goal then tell the story about the projects Rotary is doing throughout the year, that support the objective.

Each Avenue of Service could highlight some of the main areas where we are making a difference. We have the ability to gather information and publish it. We need to stand for something and highlight our values. “Rotarians in Victoria want to live in a State where all of the reusable material that schools no longer required is gathered and donated to assist schools in developing countries”. This highlights my DIK bias, but it is the sort of position that I think all Clubs would support, without them having to be obligated to do anything specific.

## 1000 Candles but no Searchlight (continued)

How difficult would it be to get information from Clubs on all of the Community Projects they are doing? It's not a secret and it is something that every AG should know. The Projects could be grouped and shown on our website. The Club report prepared for the DG is an excellent place to start.

During the appropriate Rotary Month each Avenue of Service could release a Newsletter aimed at the public telling them what we are doing and how they can help. During the month we could hold some forums and inform our local community. If we provide the Clubs with the tools we will get support. If we took the Cluster video material we produce for Conference and cut it a different way we could have Avenue of Service Videos and it would not matter if we combined some years or Districts. We make a lot of effort preaching to the converted and telling each other what we do, why not tell the public?

### Suggestions

- Let's have a D9800 Rotary Focus Project for the year
- Modify our website and start each Avenue of Service with an overview aimed at the public followed by 2-3 goals for the area.
- Identify the projects Clubs are involved in under various topics. Where possible make it easy for people to get involved. They could be presented in a Crowdsourcing format
- Issue a Newsletter for each area during the appropriate Rotary Month.
- Produce posters for each of our major goals aimed at the public and inviting them to help.
- PETS is a good time to discuss this and get the PE's to make the recommendations and select the projects.
- Use the goals as part of the theme at Assembly.



***I belong to an organization that does wonderful things that the public are unaware of. If we let people know and give them the opportunity to help, they will and after becoming involved some will become Members. While it is important to inform members of what we are doing, we can do it in a way that is easy for the public to understand and support.***

***I am a Rotarian - I want to change the world – which one of our causes would you like to help me with? It's a simple concept that is easy to implement.***



In Sacala Las Lomas, Guatemala, children carry water from the contaminated community well to their homes. Women and children spend as much as five hours per day getting water. With the help of Behrhorst Partners for Development and funding from a Rotary Foundation global grant, community members plan to dig a five-and-a-half-mile (9 km) trench to install a gravity-fed water system that will deliver clean water to residents' homes.

**IPTC - Creator:** Monika Lozinska  
**IPTC - Credit:** © Rotary International





# WASRAG



The Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG) was formed in 2007 by a group of Rotarians, recognized by Rotary International, and focused on water and sanitation projects. Since then it has facilitated many hundreds of projects – helping clubs find partners, ensuring sustainability, stressing the importance of a needs-driven approach, and developing best practices. They encourage a holistic, integrated approach in which water is not the end in itself, but is rather the means to a better life and livelihood in the community.

Most importantly WASRAG links water and sanitation to improved hygiene, better health, and empowerment of the community – especially women, irrigation and agriculture, education and literacy and, ultimately, child mortality.

WASRAG has several brochures suitable for promoting the goals of ensuring water, sanitation and hygiene for all. They can be found in the Resources section of the site. <http://www.wasrag.org>



**Canadian Ron Denbam of WASRAG  
was an outstanding speaker at the  
D9800 Conference in Hobart, 2010**



## Rotary/UNESCO-IHE scholarships available

The Rotary Foundation and UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education are offering up to 10 scholarships for graduate study at UNESCO-IHE's Delft campus in the Netherlands. The application deadline is 15 June. Scholars will receive a Master of Science degree in urban water and sanitation, water management, or water science and engineering. Graduates work with their Rotary club sponsors on a related project to benefit their local community. For more information, review the [application toolkit](#) and [scholarship terms and conditions](#).





## Providing women the Right to Go in rural India

*By Atul Bhide, Rotary Club of Thane Hills, India*

Less than 80 kilometers (49.6 miles) from the urban centers of Mumbai and Thane, India, lies the village of Sogav in Shahapur Taluka. Here, like in many villages in India, women and girls face the daily indignity of having to walk miles in the early hours to find a safe and discreet place to relieve themselves.

A simple bodily need that many of us take for granted exposes these women and children to hygiene and safety risks every day. It is a difficult situation under normal circumstances, but when these women experience any kind of sickness or health concern, their experience becomes appalling.

My Rotary club decided to do something to help, perhaps a baby step, but a step nevertheless. On 8 June, we dedicated our "Right to Go" project, which included the construction of 210 toilet blocks, at a cost of 18,000 Indian Rupees per toilet block (about US\$300) for an equal number of homes. We selected homes based on income level (those with the lowest income) and number of female members in the household. We were blessed to be supported on our project by the Rotary Club of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, USA, and a grant from The Rotary Foundation.

Dr. Renuka Desai, who was born in Mumbai and is now a member of the Cherry Hill club, visited Sogav village and volunteered her support to our project, and we are extremely grateful for her help.

We are remaining involved in the welfare of the village through the following programs. A Rotary Community Corps is serving as a catalyst between the villagers and Rotary. Members of our club will take part in ongoing hygiene awareness presentations to instruct villagers on the dangers of waterborne diseases and the importance of preventative health care. Local officials will conduct a hygiene audit and check sanitation levels periodically. And we are entering classrooms with our Win the Kids Over program to make sure they understand the importance of good hygiene.



**Photo: A woman stands in front of her toilet block in Sogav, India.**



The toilet blocks are environmental friendly Green Toilets. Each toilet is equipped with two soak-pits with special honey comb designed brick work inside. They are odor-free and do not require any drainage. The village has a water supply thanks to the Shai river next to their village. Households maintain their toilet block.

It touched all of our hearts when at the dedication, Kiran Khandagale, one of the villagers, said "the greatest ornament for a woman is her dignity, I thank Rotary for helping us to protect it."

As icing on the cake, the honorable Postmaster General for the Mumbai region, Department of Post, released a special postal cancellation paying tribute to our "Right to Go" project. We are thankful to the Rotary Foundation for the global grant that made this possible.

## Ethicist spells it out for Rotary

*By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise*

**Dr Simon Longstaff, executive director of The Ethics Centre, made some telling points at the Business Breakfast of the Rotary Club of Central-Melbourne Sunrise at the RACV on February 23. The event drew 100 and raised about \$3000 for the Silk Miller Vicpol program to combat youth suicide.**

His centre for example advises troops pre-deployment to the Iraq and Afghanistan zones. “Those who oppose our forces there know they can’t prevail through arms but they hope to batter us into undermining our own moral authority. The atrocities they commit are not acts of mad people but are calculated to provoke us to respond disproportionately or indiscriminately. They know that would create a scandal at home with loss of public support for the war.”

Other points by Simon:

# Surveys have shown that people do not trust business’s professed concern for customers, seeing that as spin. They demand instead that businesses provide a statement of principles and conform to it. But that is not enough – businesses should also provide a supportive environment internally for their staff.

# Businesses are now judged on far more than their outputs. In the Third World a big company like Shell sell products but may also be the most powerful actor in that environment, with the community responsibilities involved.

# Huge organisations like the US military and giant corporations are now hostage to wrong-doings by their most junior members. Whereas once key decisions came from the top – eg Wellington and Napoleon – now a whole military campaign could be undermined when it became public knowledge that a corporal had burnt a copy of the Koran. This required responses and apologies as high as from the President. Likewise, the Abu Ghraib prison scandal was perpetrated by low-rankers but with massive strategic blowback.

# Artificial Intelligence systems are evolving to improve on and replace work of accountants, lawyers and medicos, but he doubted such ‘expert systems’ could ever handle ethical subtleties such as rival rights and benefits – situations where there is no “right answer”

He amused us with a tale about an overseas taxi driver to the airport who was all for higher business ethics, and who cited a case where a union boss had been getting free home renovations and pool from a construction company. The driver however considered a far worse offence was when someone stole \$20 from his workplace locker.

On arrival at the airport, Simon asked him for a receipt. “How much do you want it for?” the driver asked.

Simon: “What? You want me to rip off my Ethics Centre?”

Driver: “Mate, everyone does it.”

More about the Ethics Centre at <http://www.ethics.org.au>



***Dr Simon Longstaff, AO.***



## Glen Eira Woman of the Year

*By Adrian Nelson, District Director Public Image and Communications*

When Rotary Club of Glen Eira President Larry Blode declared at the club's changeover last June that "I want more women!", his wife Sheryl was right behind him. He intuitively knew that in his area, the biggest opportunity was to entice more women into Rotary, for the Rotary Club of Glen Eira to be an accurate reflection of the City of Glen Eira.

Inspired by the Rotary Club of Chicago's "Chicago Woman of the Year" Award, the Rotary Club of Glen Eira set itself to recognize and acknowledge the amazing work of women done locally by holding its own "Glen Eira Woman of the Year" Night. Rotary's birthday was identified as a perfect time to hold it, as if Paul Harris was only just starting Rotary today, there is no doubt that at least half the membership would be female.

The club engaged some of its newest members, including Lili Teichmann and Joan Luscak, to drive the evening, to give them an opportunity to showcase the type of Rotary they want to see. Nominations were sought across a range of categories: Community Service, Sports & Recreation, Business, and Volunteers.

The nominations received were overwhelming and had to be narrowed down to the seven finalists. These finalists included incredible women who made a difference to the lives of many, whether fighting the scourge of domestic violence, creating opportunities to source then pack thousands of hampers to families in need, setting up business tools to enable over \$30 million to be raised for charities and other philanthropic causes, and volunteering for untold hours to enable local sporting clubs to operate.

District Governor Julie Mason as keynote speaker engaged the audience with her personal story of what being a women in leadership means to her. The audience could not have had a better example of an inspirational leader.

The winner of the inaugural Glen Eira Woman of the Year could have been any of the finalist. Julie Armstrong, was a very worthy winner, with over 50 years of dedication in Girl Guides Victoria, having played a major part over decades to build the leaders of the future.

This event will no doubt be a stepping stone for President Larry's objective, even for a small club. And if some of these "Wonder Woman" are now more engaged with Rotary, we all can only become stronger.



***DG Julie Mason with Glen Eira Woman of the Year  
Julie Armstrong***

## Walk for Children's Palliative Care

*By PP Geoff Smith, Rotary Club of Werribee*

The Rotary Club of Werribee conducted a special meeting last week to present to their members and guests an overview of their remarkable feats in raising funds and awareness for terminally ill children and their families who require all types of assistance, through the Royal Children's Hospital Paediatric Palliative Care Program.

This resulted in some of the Rotary Members and friends challenging themselves to walk 200Km over nine days whilst not only raising funds but awareness as well. The Walk has been a feature of this Werribee group for the past 7 years, over 5 walks, with the aim of raising \$200,000 by walking 200 km's each walk and had achieved more than raising money. In the process, they raised awareness by spreading the word as they trekked through the country side. The journey took them through Launceston (Tasmania), Western District west of Apollo Bay, Harrietville, Mansfield through Yea, with the last walk doing the Kelly Country around Wangaratta, Melbourne and Werribee surrounds.

Through hill and dale, the walkers walked, the cyclists fell off their bikes, blisters were bandaged, breakfast and dinners cooked, with most of the crew being in bed exhausted, asleep, by 8:30pm.

Dr Jenny Hynson, CEO of the Children's Paediatric Palliative Care Unit explained what the money has bought over the years – from pressure care items to wheelchairs to gel chairs to technology aids. Items which made life a bit more bearable to kids who were suffering.

Rotarian Mary Macaulay spoke of the organisation that went on behind the scene, the training walks and meeting for 5 months prior to each walk, choosing the route carefully to ensure establishments such as Milawa and Brown Brothers were along the route.

It is amazing this huge effort to help came out of a tragic end of a young life of Mitchell Harrower in 2008. The words of the mother, Liat still resonate with all, when she reminded us that when a woman loses her husband, she is called a widow, likewise a husband losing a wife is a widower and when a child loses parents they become orphans, but there is no word that describes a parent who loses their child. It was Liat who decided to do something to help and rallied other mums and Rotarians to the task.

That was seven years ago and the original goals have been reached, with \$191,000 raised to the cause. As the finale to the meeting, a cheque from the Rotary Club of Werribee for \$35,000 was handed to Dr Jenny Hynson from the Royal Children's Hospital.



***Cheque presentation by President Joe Cumbo of the Rotary Club of Werribee to representatives of the Royal Children's Hospital Paediatric Palliative Care Unit: Simone Kiefel, Dr Jenny Hynson, Melissa Heywood and Julie Anania.***



## If Paul Harris Started Rotary Today . . . .

*By Evan Burrell, RC Turramurra, NSW*

I wonder, as we approach yet another Rotary anniversary, what Paul Harris would think of the Rotary of today? Would he smile, or grimace? He probably didn't imagine how far his little idea would go when he sat down for that first meeting on 23 February a full 111 years ago.

As a fun exercise, I tried to imagine what it might be like if Paul Harris started Rotary today. To do this, I first imagined what a Gen Y Paul might be like.

I decided he'd be a social entrepreneur and blogger. His personal style is a touch metro, add some emo, and just a squeeze of hipster. He lives a healthy lifestyle, eats organic and gluten free. He is warm and welcoming, with a hearty laugh, and certainly doesn't need a copy of "How to Win Friends & Influence People." He has 500 plus connections on LinkedIn.

### What does his Rotary club look like?

The club is very inclusive with its membership. They work hard to attract individuals of all genders, races, beliefs, and backgrounds. They are very particular about not incorporating any practices that would be offensive to any particular group. They don't take political stands, but they are eager, collectively, to dive into action to better their community.

The club uses Facebook, LinkedIn, and social media a lot to connect, not only socially but for service projects. They use Kickstarter and GoFundMe to finance projects, and have developed some Rotary-specific tools (like our Rotary Ideas) to also achieve this goal.



*Evan Burrell, left, with other members of the Joint Committee on Alumni Relations during a visit to Room 711, a recreation of the room where Rotary began.*

### Club meetings

The club meets in person and online on a semi rotational basis, usually once or twice a month depending on the needs to be addressed. The club is more about how members can contribute their talents and take part in projects getting their "hands dirty," than how many times they show up for a meeting.

Members communicate almost daily through Facebook or Snapchat. Word about what they are doing seeps out through their social media network of friends, co-workers, and colleagues, spreading the excitement and attracting interest.

Their physical meeting locations vary, sometimes at a tavern, sometimes a coffee house. They are kept affordable so members can focus their resources and time on service. Meetings tend to be relaxed, and some people connect remotely via web technologies.

### Social hour

The club hosts regular social events to build stronger relationships between members. Members frequently invite friends with little pressure on the individual to join. Even service projects involve a good number of people who are not members, but share a common interest.

Although I've just been imagining, there are certainly clubs that do some of these things. Do you like my vision of what Paul Harris' club would look like today? What is yours?

*Evan Burrell is a member of the Rotary Club of Turramurra, New South Wales, Australia, and a former member of Rotaract. He has been involved with Rotary since he was 18. He currently manages social media for Rotary Down Under, the Rotary regional magazine of Australia. Follow Evan on Facebook.*

## Clean Water and Sanitation on Renewable Energy

From [www.wasrag.org](http://www.wasrag.org)

The Rotary Club of Brighton Beach's Renewable Energy Clean Water Sanitation project addressed the water and sanitation requirements for over 1,000 people from sitios in the islands of Cabra and Lubang, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines. The islands are situated in the South China Sea, 110 km southwest of Manila. Occidental Mindoro is ranked as the 14th poorest province in the Philippines with a per capita income of P7,611 (USD250).

Traditionally, the residents of Sitios in Cabra Island, draw water in buckets from a 30-meter deep well and carry large containers to their homes, sometimes over a kilometre over the hilly rough terrain from the site of the well. The economic activity is hampered with small roads and without any manufacturing industry, income is generated from vegetable and livestock farming. However, very few vegetables are grown on Cabra Island due to insufficient



access to water mainly from the deep well shared for drinking. As a result, the communities do not have a well balanced diet as they cannot afford to import vegetables from mainland Philippines.

This project provided a renewable energy technology solution for :

- Water pumped up from wells using electrical energy.
- Electrical energy provided by wind turbines, supplemented, when required by solar panels.
- Water is stored in an elevated water tank.
- Water is piped from the tank, using a gravity fed water distribution system to cluster locations in the island.

This is a Rotary Foundation Global Grant (25275) project with District 9800, 3810, Rotary Clubs of Brighton Beach, Melbourne, Lubang Island. Also sought was participation from PPP – Private Public Partnership which included the Philippine government Department of Science and Technology, local government of Lubang, SIBAT contractors and Engineers without Borders and land donation from the people of Lubang and Pulili.



***Photos: Top - The Community appreciates the support of Rotary and The Rotary Foundation.***

***Right - Training of operators on pipe maintenance work.***



## Busy Feet

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise



Three Stonnington-cluster clubs (Prahran, Malvern, Toorak) launched a Busy Feet dance class for special kids in February – but are having trouble finding youngsters to help.



The classes are open for action each Wednesday 4-5pm after school, but for the first two weeks the enrolments were stuck at a mere one child. Finding supervisors and helpers is not the problem – despite vigorous efforts to recruit from schools, kids remain scarce.

The kids, in the age range 6 to 16, are supervised one-on-one by Rotary volunteers, while coached by dance therapy expert Kumari Middleton. The kids have fun with the music and quickly learn to make friends and socialise. The venue is the RSL Hall, 301 High St., Prahran.

Do you know of kids who would enjoy the experience? If so, contact Peter Schneider, President of Prahran RC, at [Busyfeetsw@gmail.com](mailto:Busyfeetsw@gmail.com).

## Welcome New Members

Sujay Capoor was inducted into Rotary Hawthorn with the Classification “Public Service - Industrial Relations”. He is seen here (below, left) with President Lawrence Reddaway and his sponsor, Ngaire Cannon.



We hear on the grapevine that Lyn Leonard was inducted into the Rotary Club of Melton.

The only photo available is this one from the DIK Xmas Party, (above, right) which reinforces the saying: “Whatever happens at the office party, stays at the office party!” Lyn is on the left, trying to inject some sense into the conversation.

Come on, Club Secretaries: send us some photos of your gorgeous new members!

# Succession Planning

*By Bronwen Scarffe District 9800 Learning and Development Chair*

**Succession Planning is an effective and caring planning and management strategy that is developed in a collaborative and open way and is enthusiastically embraced by all forward thinking leaders and their Rotary Boards.**

They are committed to it because they understand that their group needs aspirational Rotarians to lead them, as they work to fulfil their mission and achieve their shared goals. It is their way of preparing for the future and what lies ahead. It provides time for nominated prospective leaders to “educate” themselves and for the current leadership team to nurture and mentor the next generation of leaders.

Succession Planning guarantees a degree of continuity within their club and contributes to a smooth transition from one year to the next. It also sends a message to members that their contributions and qualities are valued and signals that their club sees merit in developing career paths within Rotary. They believe that without Succession Planning their organization’s effectiveness and sustainability is at risk and that their club may need fresher approaches, more innovative ideas and new ways of doing “Rotary”, to attract a diverse membership and thrive in a “changing” environment.

**Register, attend and be enlightened, inspired and empowered!**



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT



Seminars, Courses Workshops February – July 2016

Seminars & Courses	Location	Cost	Date 6.00 – 8.30pm	Registration Details
Metropolitan 4 Part RLI Course (which should be studied consecutively)	Montague Continuing Education Centre Montague Street South Melbourne	\$180 for 4 Parts \$45 per Part	Feb 29 <sup>th</sup> , March 21 <sup>st</sup> , April 18 <sup>th</sup> and May 16 <sup>th</sup>	For further information including a registration form or to email completed registration forms please email to the District 9800 RLI Administrator: PP Vicki Teschke vicki@teschke.id.au or call Vicki on B: 9690 2077 or M: 0412 525 055 (a light meal will be provided)
Rural 4 Part RLI Course (which should be studied consecutively)	Old Castlemaine Gaol 36-48 Bowden Street, Castlemaine	\$180 for 4 Parts \$45 per Part	March 17 <sup>th</sup> , April 21 <sup>st</sup> , May 19 <sup>th</sup> and June 16 <sup>th</sup>	
New Members Seminar	Baden College Staffroom Old Castlemaine Gaol	\$20 6.00 – 8.30pm	8 <sup>th</sup> March 30 <sup>th</sup> March	For further information including a registration form or to email completed registration forms please email the District 9800 learning and Development Chair Bronwen Scarffe <a href="mailto:scarffebrownwen@gmail.com">scarffebrownwen@gmail.com</a> 0418 109104 (a light meal will be provided)
Future Club Leaders Seminar	Baden College Staffroom Old Castlemaine Gaol		5 <sup>th</sup> April 28 <sup>th</sup> April	
Involvement Beyond the Club	Baden College Staffroom Old Castlemaine Gaol		10 <sup>th</sup> May 7 <sup>th</sup> April	
Strategic Planning Seminar and Workshop	Montague Continuing Education Centre	\$25 9.00-12	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	

**Register, attend and be enlightened, inspired and empowered!**



## Clarice's Comments

Water, water everywhere: clean water and sanitation being the topic for the month, we have lots of articles for you. Did you know that Nov. 19 is the U.N. declared World Toilet Day, created to raise awareness about people in the world who don't have access to a safe and sanitary place to relieve themselves? Neither did I, but we will have more about it in our next issue.



It's great to see my friend Stephanie Woolard back in Australia, following her Peace Scholaship at Uppsala University in Sweden. Little did Stephanie realise when she met seven disabled women in a tin shed in Nepal, how much it would change their lives. In May she will be launching the amazing documentary "Bringing the light: the Story of Seven Women". Don't miss it! I snapped Stephanie with Peace Fellowship Guru Bob Fels at the D9800 Conference back in 2013.

Our peripatetic correspondent, Tony Thomas continues his recovery. He is still writing about climate, politics and silly stuff at [Quadrant.org.au](http://Quadrant.org.au) and <https://tthomas061.wordpress.com> Can you believe: "Brezhnev: My Part in His Downfall", "Attack of the Gender Warriors" and now "Stalin's Lost Sparrow"? We need you back in the office, Tony!



Meanwhile, we at "The Networker" congratulate Bronwyn Stephens on her selection as District Governor for 2018-2019, and look forward to reporting her activities. Bronwyn has such enthusiasm for everything, from helping children in Cambodia, to being Santa's little helper at the DIK Xmas Party.

Did you know I changed my iPad's name to Titanic? It's syncing now.

Don't forget to send me your news and photos:

[clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au](mailto:clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au)

**Ta-ta for now - Clarice.**



## Notices and Events

### DISTRICT 9800 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

Our District Governor Nominee (Designate), to serve as our District Governor in 2018-2019, is PP Bronwyn Stephens, nominated by the Rotary Club of Melbourne South.

The D9800 District Governor Nominating Committee met at International House on Sunday 21st February 2016 and confirmed the nomination of PP Bronwyn Stephens as District Governor 2018-19.

We congratulate PP Bronwyn on her selection.

If you wish to personally congratulate Bronwyn she can be contacted as shown in the District Directory. Please be advised that challenges from D9800 clubs to this nomination may be received in writing to DG Julie Mason no later than the 7th March 2016.

If no challenges are received by the due date the nomination of PP Bronwyn Stephens will be confirmed and submitted to Rotary International.

On behalf of District 9800, I offer our heartiest congratulations to PP Bronwyn on her nomination for DG in 2018 -2019.

Yours in Rotary Service

Julie Mason - Rotary District 9800 District Governor 2015/16

### Violence Free Families Ambassadors

Come along and join Rotary Albert Park and hear from Violence Free Families Ambassadors Matthew Ryan (Victoria Police Family Violence Command) and Mary Claire Landry (Executive Director New Orleans Family Justice Alliance). Both are very keen to share their plans for the first vocational exchange program run by Rotary & Violence Free Families

**Wednesday March 2nd** at 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Life Saving Victoria, 200 The Boulevard Port Melbourne Cost - \$28 per head / Drinks at Bar Prices

Bookings Essential – RSVP – Friday February 26th 2016 by clicking on the link -

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

Contact Details: Bec Heitbaum - [bec@southriver.com.au](mailto:bec@southriver.com.au), 0411 690 341



### International Women's Day Breakfast

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March** 6.45AM for 7.00AM till 9.00AM

SINGLE TICKET: \$70 VCE/TERTIARY: \$50

\$790: CORPORATE TABLE OF 10 \$690: S T A N D A R D TABLE OF 10

THE PALLADIUM SOUTHBANK FREE PARKING IN THE MULTI-DECK CARPARK.

Proceeds to go to different charities:

For inquiries and sponsorships please contact: Kerry Kornhauser on 0411 597

690 or [kerry@rotarywomen.org.au](mailto:kerry@rotarywomen.org.au)



### Eddie the Eagle

The Rotary Foundation and 20th Century Fox will be teaming up again to do a special POLIO PLUS screening programme with Hugh Jackman's EDDIE THE EAGLE to celebrate the film's release in cinemas on April 21.

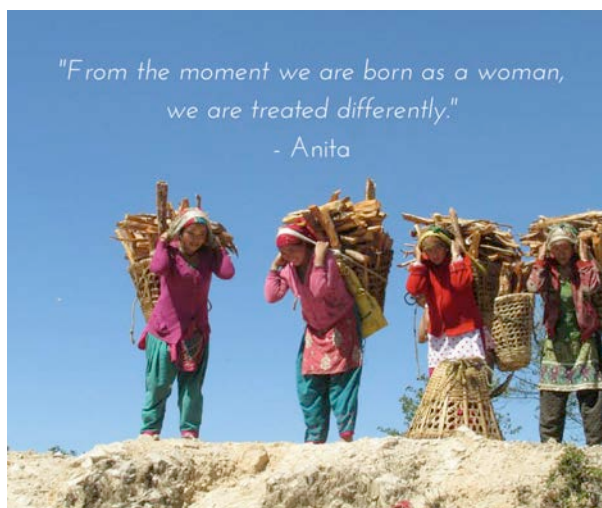
Special pre-release access to the film is available on **Wednesday April 13** for Rotary group bookings in support of the Polio Plus Foundation.

Inspired by true events, EDDIE THE EAGLE is a feel-good movie about Michael "Eddie" Edwards (played by Taron Egerton), an unlikely but courageous British ski-jumper who never stopped believing in himself and his dream to attend the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics.

This is a true underdog story and one not to missed in cinemas







## Bringing the Light: the Movie of “Seven Women”

“Seven Women” began in 2007 as a grass roots development project to create change for seven women who were found operating out of a tin shed and enduring harsh discrimination as a result of being disabled. Seven Women founder Stephanie Woollard first met these women and invested in training in the hope that gaining a skill would give them a means to earn an income.

ACMI Cinema, Federation Square. 6.30pm, **Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> May**

Tickets at <http://www.trybooking.com/KLFK>

If you can't attend the documentary, catch the promotional video at: <http://www.sevenwomen.org>

## 2016 Rotary International Convention, Seoul 28th May to 1st June, 2016

**EARLY REGISTRATION SAVINGS END  
31 MARCH**

The countdown to the Rotary Convention is on! Join the more than 40,000 Rotarians who have already registered and experience the biggest event of the Rotary year, the convention in Korea.

Convention Committee Chair Ian H.S. Riseley has helped secure an outstanding group of [speakers](#), including a world champion of public speaking, a famous spiritual guru from India, and the CEO of an organization that works to keep children out of institutional care and living with families. Watch the [video](#) to learn more about the [convention program](#).

Come to Korea to get inspired to do more good and Be a Gift to the World.

Take advantage of early registration savings until 31 March.

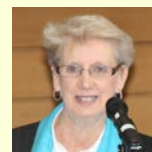
<http://www.riconvention.org/en/seoul/registeroday!>



## Stay informed on Rotary events:

[http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices\\_and\\_events\\_future](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_future)

### Our Contributors



*District Governor Julie Mason of Wyndham RC always writes a lovely column for “The Networker”*



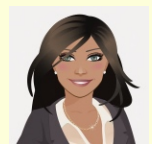
*Despite his recent illness, Tony Thomas is still contributing controversial material to [Quadrant.org.au](http://Quadrant.org.au)*



*David Dippie of Keilor RC is a Rotarian who wants to change the world. He admits he may need your help!*



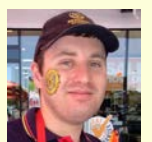
*Anthony Langley, of RC Brighton Beach, knows all you need to know about the Shrine of Remembrance.*



*Our Girl Friday Clarice had a ball chatting to the GVE Teams: she collects news from some unlikely sources.*



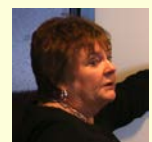
*Dr. Murray Verso of RC Williamstown was our DG in 2014-15, and he is still a busy Rotarian.*



*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.*



*Bronwen Scarffe is District Learning and Development Chair. She loves the country air at Porcupine Ridge.*