

The Networker



May is Australian Rotary Health Month

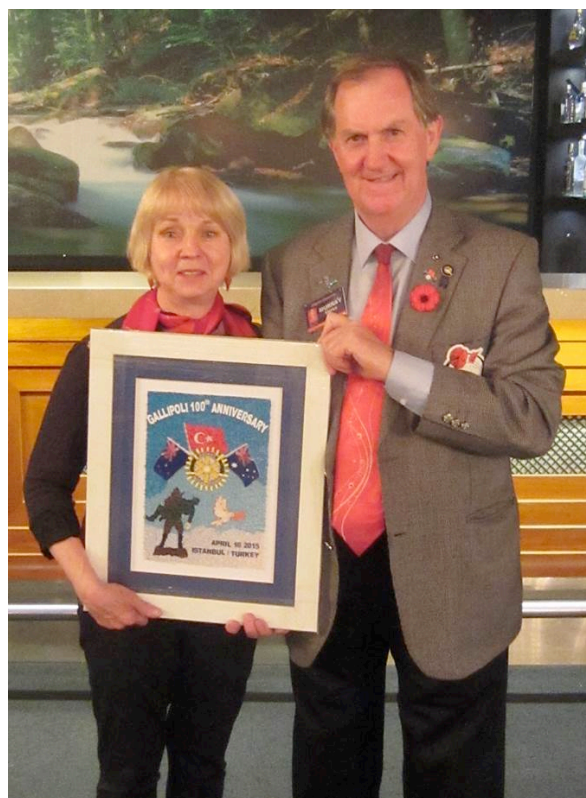
Rotary Friends and Friends of Rotary,

"What these men did nothing can alter now. The good and the bad, the greatness and the smallness of their story will stand. Whatever of glory it contains nothing now can lessen. It rises, as it will always rise, above the mists of the ages, a monument to great-hearted men; and, for their nation, a possession for ever."

Charles Bean, Official Historian of Australia in the War of 1914-1918

Over the past month, Australians and New Zealanders have commemorated the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli in many imaginative ways: historical displays, lectures, school projects, genealogical searches and the restoration of WW1 monuments. Larger crowds than usual attended the traditional dawn services and ANZAC Day marches in cities, towns and hamlets around the country. Many of our Rotary Clubs have embraced one or more of these commemorative activities.

Irene and I were privileged to be part of an 80 strong group of Rotarians, their partners and friends from around Australia and New Zealand, in the Rotary Club of Balwyn's tenth annual Rotary Anzac Peace Tour to Turkey. It was a very special experience. We attended a meeting of Balwyn's sister club, the Rotary Club of Goksu-Istanbul and a few days later joined them at a Rotary Peace Conference in Istanbul. In the town of Gelibolu, on the Gallipoli peninsula, the Rotarians from Goksu arranged for us to have a reception with the mayor, Mustafa Ozacar followed by a visit to the local school for the vision



DG Murray and Irene with a gift from DG Mufit Ulke (D2420).

impaired where we were able to provide funds for much needed equipment. The Turkish Rotarians were exceedingly generous with their time with us, with their gifts and their understanding of our pilgrimage. We look forward to seeing them again when they come to Melbourne next November.

After six days in Istanbul, we travelled on a cruise ship to the Gallipoli Peninsula. In the ship's lounge on Anzac Day, we watched the Dawn Service on television as a beautiful dawn broke over nearby Cape Helles. Afterwards we held our own service in which several members of our group shared their moving reflections on Anzac

Day. One of our new Kiwi friends completed our service by playing the Last Post on his bugle. Two days later, we were able to explore Anzac Cove, Lone Pine, the Nek and other legendary Gallipoli sites.

Our once in a lifetime journey gave us a deeper appreciation of what the soldiers of both sides endured 100 years ago. It also made us reflect on the qualities that collectively make up what is now known as the Anzac spirit. These qualities include endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humour, and mateship. They can still be seen today in times of crisis or hardship. During cyclones, floods, and bushfires, Australians come together to rescue one another, to ease suffering, to provide food and shelter, and to let the victims of these disasters know they are not alone. It is a noble tradition and Rotarians are often first in line when help is needed.

The trip was an outstanding example of Rotary friendship between the nations of Turkey, Australia and New Zealand. I would like to record my thanks to past president Bob Batrouney of the RC Balwyn and the tour operator ATP for making it possible.

In the current Rotary calendar, May is designated as Australian Rotary Health (ARH) month. ARH is one of the great success stories of Rotary in Australia. Since its establishment in 1981 it has funded over \$33 million of research including ground breaking work which resulted in a reduction in the incidence of deaths from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. ARH is one of the largest independent funders of mental health research within Australia and also provides funding in a broad range of general health areas. Australian Rotary Health has a broad vision to improve the health and wellbeing of all Australians. You can read more about this great organization elsewhere in this edition of Networker, but remember, ARH can only exist with the generous support of individual Rotarians and Rotary clubs. I hope that that you and your club will consider allocating some funds to confirm your support of ARH.

Murray Verso
District Governor 2014-2015



Photos: The Mayor of Gallipoli presenting a statue of a Turkish soldier carrying a wounded ANZAC

DG Murray, Peter Hollingworth (former GG of Aust), Sir Anand Satyanand (former GG of New Zealand), DG Mufit Ulke (D.2420) and DG Ian Scott (D.9685)

Tour group outside the office of the Mayor of Gallipoli, Mustafa Ozacar

Idyllic Trip to the Peninsula for Seniors.

By Warren Johnson, RC Melbourne

On Monday 2nd March a coach full of happy senior citizens from Kensington and North Melbourne made its way down to Max's Restaurant at Red Hill Estate on a beautiful day, for a very special outing including a delicious meal. This annual excursion has been provided by The Rotary Club of Melbourne which is partnered by the award winning Max's Restaurant.



Social isolation is becoming an increasingly growing issue for the ageing population of Melbourne. In 2002, the RC Melbourne identified this growing trend and took steps to address it.

In partnership with Max's Restaurant, located on the Red Hill Estate, the RC Melbourne organised an event for socially isolated elderly people living in supported accommodation within the Melbourne municipality. These people were identified as benefiting from a day out at the seaside and a delicious meal in a superb setting.

The meals, subsidised by Max's Restaurant, were paid through funds raised by the club's Footy Tipping Competition.

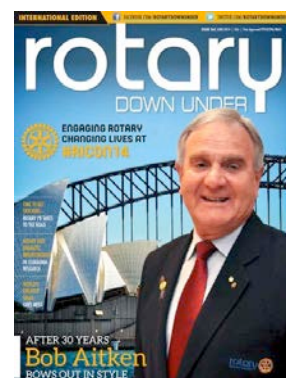
In March 2003, the very first outing occurred and the day was such a roaring success that 13 years later it is now an annual event. RC Melbourne's Third Age Committee is still running the luncheon with the continuing generous support of Max's Restaurant. The response is always pure delight from these older people – an outing they would not have the opportunity to attend otherwise.



Rotary Down Under Subscriptions

DG Murray Verso informs us:

"The matter of RDU subscriptions being paid in US dollars was discussed at the February District Leadership Team meeting. Understandably, this had created some angst amongst our members. Today I received a letter from John Kevan, The Chairman of Rotary Down Under. In short, the subscription will revert to being paid in Australian dollars. \$AUD 20 per six months (includes GST)."



Western Emergency Relief Network

By PDG Ross Butterworth, Founder, Western Emergency Relief Network

As Rotarians we are often asked why people join Rotary. I have found the most common reason is because they want to give back to their community. Sure, there are lots of good reasons to join Rotary Clubs but number one is for service to help others whether in the short term or for longer periods to help re-establish lives.

Serving as a District Governor for Rotary is a special privilege for a range of reasons. None more important than it provides you an opportunity to witness the great work of fellow Rotarians and Clubs around the world. Close to home, out at Box Hill I was introduced to Eastern Emergency Relief Network (EERN), a program currently assisting 3,000 families a year.



Western Emergency Relief Network is modelled on the existing and very successful EERN established in 1995, which provides the collection and distribution of emergency relief, in particular furniture through their 130+ member welfare agencies.

WERN is about to make a difference in the west and near north of Melbourne to those of our Community in urgent need by providing emergency relief and assistance through our Member Welfare Agencies. WERN's warehouse is located at 3 Cross St. West Footscray.

WERN is a non-profit Incorporated Association comprising of interested Rotary Clubs in the designated area of operations and designed to supply good quality second hand furniture, electronics and white-goods, to people in need.

The people assisted are those who have been identified to have an urgent need as a result of experiencing trauma or loss, where they have a need to move

or perhaps cannot afford basic living requirements, where they are struggling to buy essentials such as furniture and other household goods. Such traumas include long-term illness, unemployment, loss of home and belongings through fire, flood, domestic violence, lack of family support, homelessness, or refugee status.

WERN is run and staffed by volunteers and is totally dependent upon the support and generosity of individuals, organizations, businesses and local government to fund its operations and meet its goals through member welfare agencies' referral of clients in the northern and western regions of Melbourne.

WERN manages a group of volunteers responsible for the collection, assessment, the repair and cleaning of donated goods. WERN facilitates the supply of all appropriate items to be available to individuals and families in need through our network of Member Welfare Agencies. WERN currently holds in excess of 1,000 donated items available for distribution now.

Rotary Clubs from Bacchus Marsh, Melton Valley, Wyndham, and Sunshine have taken a lead role in establishing WERN to provide this service for the northern and western regions of Melbourne and with Yarraville joining as a Program Member Club, sponsoring a local charity and supplying and installing some desperately needed shelving for the warehouse.



Area of Operations: The Municipal Councils in the WERN region are: Brimbank; Hobson's Bay; Hume; Maribyrnong; Melton; Moonee Valley; Moorabool; Moreland and Wyndham.

WERN is currently seeking Expressions of Interest from like-minded Welfare Agencies interested in joining WERN in a Member Agency partnership with a view to providing their Clients with free access to the services offered by WERN. The service currently provides free donations of available household furniture, whitegoods and electronics to Agencies or Clients within the program's area of operation.

As a Member Agency the access to WERN's services is unlimited at no additional costs and membership is a small token fee of \$100.00 per annum to help with the operating costs of the program. Due to capacity of the operations WERN must limit the access per client to one allocation of goods per year.



Rotary Clubs can assist by becoming a member Club of WERN, financing part of the operations annually or as desired, provide volunteers and working parties or sponsor a Welfare Agency in your area. Every contribution, no matter how small assists the work we do and changes lives.

Program Chair: Keith Currie, President, Rotary Club of Bacchus Marsh

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AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH - DID YOU KNOW?

By Australian Rotary Health Director, Colin Thorniley

Since 1981 more than \$33 million has been provided by Australian Rotary Health for funding of research, scholarships and Postdoctoral fellowships.

In regard to research the Board made decisions over the years to focus research in specific areas.

1986-1994	Cot Death	1989-1995	Environmental Health Problems of the Aged
1993-1996	Adolescent Health	1996-1999	Family health
1998-2000	Ross River Virus	1999-2001	First Aid, Pre Hospital Treatment
2000-2011	Mental Health	2012 -	Mental Health of Young Australians



In addition to this research, Rotary Clubs wanted to support some specific areas of health research. As a result ARH engages with funding partners to provide Research PhD Scholarships.





PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY



By Roger Thornton, Deputy PHS Chairman

PDG Gordon McKern, PHS Chairman, welcomed 36 Paul Harris Society members, partners and guests to a delicious meal at Graduate House on Friday, April 10. The luncheon provided a couple of hours of fellowship and the opportunity to hear a fascinating story of how the Rotary Foundation's funds can be spent effectively to improve the lot of those so much less fortunate than ourselves.

The luncheon was also a chance to celebrate a major milestone for the District 9800 PHS – growth of its membership to 100. DG Murray Verso, in proposing a toast to Rotary International emphasised the significance of this achievement. The D9800 PHS now has significantly more members than any other PHS in the Oceania region. DG Murray commented the D9800 PHS contributed a very significant percentage of funds raised for the Rotary Foundation in 2014.



The rate of growth of the society is impressive, particularly over the last 12 months, and DG Murray congratulated PDG Gordon for his efforts. John Rafter provided a short history of the society, noting that he first came across the concept of the Paul Harris Society in 2005. Then, in 2006 he and his wife Barbara attended an international Convention in Copenhagen. He was sufficiently enthused by the concept to persuade that year's D9800 DG Bernie Walsh and Foundation Chairman Chris Don to charter the first PHS in Australia, with 19 members at a function at the Windsor Hotel. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Our speaker for the day, PHS member, past President of RC Melbourne South and Assistant Gover-

nor for Stonnington Cluster, Bronwyn Stephens, was introduced by PDG John Wigley. The title of Bronwyn's talk *"World of Difference" in Cambodia* encapsulates what can be achieved when committed people combine with the Rotary Foundation to deliver outstanding results.



Kathleen Kelly and Trevor Harris with Bronwyn Stephens at the recent Paul Harris Society lunch.

Bronwyn started by showing a short video presentation on *World of Difference*, now run by a committee of 6 Rotary clubs, which conducts trips to Cambodia for Rotarians, non-Rotarians and schoolie groups in order to showcase what Rotary is doing in developing countries. She then talked about Bosalla and Kroa Boa villages, a couple of hours' drive from Phnom Penh, where villagers had no access to health or education facilities, no clean water and no capacity to irrigate their crops during the dry season. Bronwyn was so struck by the appalling plight of the villagers that she was determined to provide assistance. With a combination of private donations, various Rotary clubs' involvement and a series of Global Grants, Bronwyn has been able to provide sustainability to the villagers. With clean water from the roofs of their huts, dams for irrigation and aquaculture, two watering cans per household and now a five classroom school the villages have been transformed. Next to come is a bridge across the river that divides the villages.

Bronwyn was thanked for her inspiring talk, and for the *World of Difference* she is making in Cambodia.

How to take your club's membership to the next level

By Amanda Wendt, Rotary Club of Melbourne Park

Can you remember back to when you attended your first club meeting? What made you turn up in the first place? Were you personally invited or did you find the club online? What were you thinking? What were you feeling? What did you notice or what stuck in your mind the most? Did you enjoy the speaker? Was the food and drink offering what you expected and reasonable? Were you actively invited to return for another meeting and how was this done? How long did it take to be offered membership? Why are you still a Rotarian today?



The reason for this reflection is simple. Each and every one of us, from when we first heard about Rotary to becoming members, has been on a customer journey. Similarly, potential members are also on their own journey in respect to your club. Our membership challenge is to identify all the various opportunities our clubs have to actively move potential members through the customer journey, resulting not just in membership but engaged members.

The customer journey starts when a potential member first researches Rotary (the product) online, or by talking too others; to when they turn up to the store to physically check out the product via a meeting or community project/ event; to when they purchase the product via

membership; to then needing after sales support as an active and engaged member.

We need to be able to identify all the ways customers engage with our club and the wider Rotary networks, not just at one single point in time, but throughout the entire lifecycle of being a member. We need to start looking at everything we do - our language, traditions, processes, systems, communication styles and channels, speaker, volunteer and personal development opportunities – that collectively forms the experience of being a Rotarian.

Every single rotary club offers the same membership benefits:

1. to be a part of a group or club, experience a sense of community
2. to live a holistic life and volunteering or 'giving back' is a key component of achieving this
3. to build connections both personal and professional
4. to learn new knowledge and develop life skills

The customer journey helps us to define **how** these benefits are delivered and this is different for each club. For example, both McDonalds and Heston's Fat Duck offer the same product, food. How they go about delivering their product is completely different.

So what does a customer map for Rotary look like? [Click here.](#)

Some clubs are really good at attracting members whilst others are great at retaining them. It's not uncommon after all to hear of people being members for 35 years or more. However, clubs need to pay equal attention to each of the six stages of the Rotary customer journey, they can't excel at one or a few to the detriment of the others. By attributing equal importance to all six stages, your club can take their membership to the next level.

Given we are all offering the same membership benefits, what then makes one club more successful than another when it comes to membership?

There are three keys to success:

- being clear about what makes your club unique (i.e. project, cause, demographic, location)
- knowing who is likely to be attracted to this point of difference (target market)
- a considered and deliberate engagement with your target market throughout the entire customer journey



Again, the reason why McDonald's and Fat Duck are both successful despite delivering completely different customer experiences, is because they are very clear about who they are marketing too and this drives their entire customer journeys.

Similarly, to be successful, clubs need to embrace their point of difference and offer a membership experience that aligns with their target market.



What works for one club won't necessarily work for another and that's ok. It's not about trying to appeal to everyone.



For example, at the Rotary Club of Melbourne Park, we are the youngest Rotary club in Melbourne with our target market being the under 40s. Therefore to appeal to this market we are avid social media users and leverage off existing platforms such as meet-up and facebook to promote speaker and volunteering opportunities. We refer to 'service' as volunteering and 'fellowship' as friendship, as these alternative terms are easily understood and valued by our target market. We encourage active involvement on District committees and leadership training to continue to develop our members. We keep meeting costs to a minimum and select speakers of interest to our target market. We've embraced the Sergeant's session – who doesn't love a good roast – but we don't say grace or toast the queen. These are just some of the deliberate actions and communication strategies we use to transition guests to engaged members and therefore advocates of Rotary.

Key take-away: Know what differentiates your club, know who your potential customers are and be deliberate about engaging with them through *each* customer stage. The outcome is a cohesive, effective customer journey and increased membership.

To learn more about the Rotary Club of Melbourne Park's customer journey please contact us at info@rcmelpark.com. Members are available to speak at clubs.

Presented 14 March 2015, District 9800 Conference, Hobart.

Clubs pull together on Cambodia Aid

By Tony Thomas, Rotary Club of Central Melbourne-Sunrise

A multi-club effort is cutting overheads as it ploughs funds into revitalizing a central Cambodian village. The group raised and spent \$250,000 last year alone in bringing farm, health and school facilities to Bosala, a village of 800 people.

Former emergency and tropical medicine nurse Bronwyn Stephens of Melbourne South RC chairs the aid committee. Other clubs involved include Melbourne RC, Chelsea, Wyndham, Malvern, Echuca, Carlton, Rochester, Holroyd (NSW) Woodend, Brighton, Kyneton and St Kilda. "We pool know-how and fundraising and do things at lowest cost," she says.

The money came in from sources like taking Rotarians, friends and students on guided tours to Cambodia (\$50,000-plus); craft markets (\$10,000); Xmas card sales (\$8000), and private donors (\$100,000). District (\$20,000) and Global (\$65,000) Grants made up the balance. One couple even fund-raised \$1000 via their wedding-present register.

Bronwyn says she's been able to do the paperwork for a Rotary Foundation District International Grant in half an hour and get it approved same-day. "Some people don't realize how streamlined it can be," she says.

The group's Rotary program "World of Difference" has on tap Rithy Ann, a multi-lingual Cambodian guide. Rithy was orphaned at age 4 by Pol Pot thugs, but with monks' help became a university graduate (teaching, agriculture and management) and now a member of Phnom Penh Rotary. He runs the group tours, scouts for projects, and monitors them to completion.

Three years ago, Rithy led Bronwyn to Bosala after it was devastated by outbreaks of cholera, typhoid, dengue and pneumonia.

"It was diabolical," says Bronwyn, who previously managed with her husband Mark, their Melbourne private hospital. She's been to Cambodia 14 times.

"They also couldn't grow anything because of drought, so for the first year our priority was emergency food aid.

"We worked out a \$US130,000 package of improvements to make the village sustainable. Eight clubs here got our total to \$US60,000, including

donations of \$1000 each from smaller clubs like Kyneton and Woodend, and a Global Grant.

"We organized three fish-farm dams for \$US20,000. We gave two steel watering cans to every family so they could grow veges and rice all year. From RC Brighton's member Gerhard Sommer (now deceased) came an innovative design for a 4000 litre water harvesting system from tin roofs. The system has been provided for each family in the community.

"All 200 kids there worked in the fields with no school and no education. Last November we put in a 5-room school for 250 kids, paid for by \$US65,000 from a private donor. But word got out and on the first day 800 kids arrived from miles around. We whittled the roll back to 500.



"The kids have to be supported with uniforms, breakfasts, books, medication, dentists, mosquito nets, everything. We can get the uniform for \$6 and stationery for \$10. All up it costs \$250 a year to sponsor a kid. Even if they just learn a bit of reading, they can warn their families about signing rip-off contracts.

"Our latest challenge is to put a bridge over the river, which is 4m deep in the wet season. A French Phnom Penh Rotarian-engineer is designing it and we've got Foundation funding."

(continued)

The guided tours include sight-seeing, visits to projects, and visits to places desperate to get a project going. The cost is only \$3599 for 13 days, and profits are used for donations in remote villages and schools. Students from Rochester and Upper Yarra Secondary Colleges took tours last year instead of Schoolies Week. "They start as nervous by-standers but in two days throw themselves into village life," Bronwyn says.

The program has moved away from shipping goods from Melbourne (except high-value medical gear) and now buys and makes in Cambodia. This also avoids the risks for goods trying to clear the docks.

Bronwyn Stephens presented on "World of Difference" at the recent Paul Harris Society lunch.

One biosand water filter kit costs \$60-80 from a non-government organization (NGO) but a Rotarian from Wyndham club has given villagers three \$450 moulds for the filters. The locals, with help specially from Brighton RC, have now made 150 filters of their own at about half the NGO cost.



Bronwyn says, "When our private hospital was sold, I was a bit at a loss. But World of Difference has given me new purpose." Contact Bronwyn: 0410 324 537 info@wod.org.au

World of Difference Humanitarian Travel



AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH - DID YOU KNOW?

By Australian Rotary Health Director, Colin Thorniley

In addition to funding partners, there are two Scholarships which a club can support financially but also get involved with, and assist, the students.

The first is the **Indigenous Health Scholarship Program**. In summary this scholarship is designed to assist students from a range of health areas including medicine, nursing, social work, physiotherapy and dentistry who have successfully completed their first year of study. The scholarship can make all the difference to a struggling student especially since Indigenous Australian students are often mature age and maybe with a family to support.

The second is the **Australian Rotary Health Rural Medical Scholarship**. This has many benefits for country clubs and their community. The aim of the scholarship is to encourage medical students to complete one year working in a rural area with the club involving the student in their community. The club provides the Scholarship and ARH finds a suitable candidate.

Rotary is proud of Australian Rotary Health. It is not only an excellent public relations vehicle for Rotary in Australia but is the largest independent funder of mental health research in Australia.

How can you help? Has your club made a contribution this year? Please make a contribution before 15th June.

Would your club like to fund an Indigenous Scholar? A Scholarship is \$5000 – club cost is \$2500.

Please host a Hat Day on Friday 9th October 2015. See www.hatday.com.au.

To make a personal tax deductible donation, see <http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au/Support.aspx>

Your contact for ARH is Ron Adams 0408 136 100 r.g.adams@bigpond.com



Rotarians plant perfect patio

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

Twenty-six Rotarians and friends made a big difference to the grounds at Royal Talbot Acquired Brain Injury Unit on Saturday 18th April.

Steven Wells, the unit's garden guru, was thrilled at the progress. "I seem calm but I'm jumping up and down on the inside," he said. It's the 11th annual working bee since Lyn McBain, then a nurse at the unit with Steven, suggested Steven address RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise about the garden needs. It all started from that. (Lyn worked there from 2000-08).

The difference is shown in pics of the unit grounds eight years ago – it was then a jumble of low-grade turf and concrete paths – and today, a riot of flowers, cacti, shrubs, pergolas and winding flagstones. Every shade of green and many timber textures blends into gentle harmony.

The latest party spruced up the beds, mulched, and trimmed, then turned their attention to nearby outdoor spaces that are as forlorn as the ones shown in 2007. Worker bees dug over large areas of semi-lawn ready for new gardens to come.

Steven, thanking the group at morning tea, said the gardens give hope and freshness in what would otherwise be a clinical setting where patients have the stress of adjusting to a different life after spinal and brain damage. Some can't talk, other can't use a limb, few can foresee a career. But he sees often how patients have benefitted from 'horticultural therapy' where they feel they can do small stress-free tasks or just sit in a pretty spot.

One former serviceman, very fit, had fallen down stairs and is permanently in a wheelchair. He has taken up bonsai horticulture, and though he lacks fine-motor skills, is engrossed in planning bonsais into different growth paths, and sharing his successes on Instagram and youtube. "His dad told me, 'You've triggered something in him' and that makes it so worthwhile for me," Steven says.

Staff and visitors also benefit from the lovely vistas, and management is enthusiastic.



Photos: The garden today, and below as it was before.



Lyn said, "Most of us don't see the patients and people who use the gardens, but I do, I see and sigh. There's been a wedding under the golden tree of a patient from another ward, very unwell, with a partner and kids, and 35 guests arrived for the Big Day Out. Another time a patient decided on a surprise wedding re-commitment, and just told his partner, 'Come in and wear something nice'. He had organised it all with parents and in-laws, and a chaplain was there. The Austin has a chapel but they chose the garden instead."

Steven said another instance was a visitor and patient enjoying a lace-tablecloth afternoon tea of jam and scones outdoors, as they would if they were dropping in at each other's houses. "I love people to feel more at home than at a hospital," he says.

(Continued)

Rotarians plant perfect patio:

The gardens have inspired other hospitals and institutions. Steven gives many talks to Rotary and other clubs. He has applied for a Churchill Scholarship to see how overseas hospitals tackle their garden designs.

The working bee party comprised 13 from RCCMS (including two partners), ten from Melbourne Park, Richard Bowen and Wendy from Casterton RC, and Kevin Simkiss from Melbourne RC. Those from Melbourne Park – who worked tirelessly – included Tiang Chen, Ricky Booth, Michelle Maglitto, Jason Reynolds, Jess Clarke, Hayley Monson, Jacinta Walker, Chester Kang, and Ayelen Garcia from Patagonia (potential member).



The working bee at lunch. Our peripatetic correspondent, Tony Thomas, is nearest the snags.

Young club gets kids to talk the talk

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

Melbourne Park Rotary looks like the youngest-profile club in D9800, and maybe in Victoria.

President-elect Jason Reynolds says that the average age of the 35 members is about 30. "Only a few are elderly, i.e. over 30," he says (he's 31).

The club started five years ago with 25 members, including some from Rotaract and former beneficiaries of Rotary youth and study exchanges.

They meet Tuesdays at 6.45pm at the Olsen Pub, South Yarra, but for wine and canapés, not dinner.

President Nicole Lake and Jason say the club has been a keen supporter for three years of the Ainger Public Speaking Award for secondary students. It helps inspire schools to put contestants forward, provides a judge, and helps with the three evenings of the contest, with at least ten speakers a night during the week in May. "The kids come up with their own topic," Jason says. "Last

year the winner talked on "The definition of 'Cool'". A lot of kids tackle heavy sociology like 'Impact of feminism on female students' futures'. "We back the program because kids learn to think critically and talk logically."

Another club project is micro-finance for mothers in the Philippines, Cambodia, Tajikistan and Kenya, using the 'Kiva' lending platform. The women use the funds to create business earnings and then afford schooling for their kids. The club initially raised USD800 as a pilot stash. So far they've been paid back about USD200 and they don't expect any bad debts – overall the default ratio for the program is only 3%.

The club fund-raised \$10,000 last year, largely from a quiz/auction night (\$6000) with 100 people and three corporate sponsorships at \$500 each. They also raised about \$4500 for the Peter MacCallum Foundation.



Pic: Melbourne Park Rotary Club President-Elect Jason Reynolds, at a garden working bee at Royal Talbot hospital on April 18.

A rainbow of glowsticks breaks the record

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

At the wail of a klaxon, 1298 kids and adults at Sandringham Beach, Melbourne, smashed the Guinness world record for glowstick snapping at 6.45pm on Saturday (April 18). The previous record was 836 at Los Angeles in 2013.



The twilight super-carnival, in aid of childhood brain cancer research, was run by Hampton Rotary Club (D9810) with help from 170 volunteers from dozens of community groups. Hampton RC was backed by our Brighton North club (D9800). Other Rotary Clubs involved were Beaumaris, Bentleigh Moorabbin Central, Brighton North, Chelsea, Noble Park, and Aspendale, with individual members coming in from all over Victoria.

The event was inspired by Rotary International's 110th birthday theme to "LIGHT UP the world".

The crowd of several thousand included kids from nearly 20 kindergartens and schools – primary, secondary, government and private. Sports groups, lifesavers, coast guards and scouts were there in force.



Organiser Jo Kwok says the record will now go to Guinness for verification. Everyone had to snap their stick within 5 seconds and get it glowing within 30 seconds. Profits (yet to be determined)

are for the Robert Connor Dawes Brain Cancer Fund.

An Airbus 330 captain, Matt Wullemin, did aerobatics for the crowd in a Combat Flights' Nanchang fighter.

Hampton RC's success in mobilizing schools was a pace-setter for all of Rotary, including D9800. Schools sending excited contingents were Brighton Beach Primary, Hampton Primary, St Mary's, Gardenvale, Blackrock, Bentleigh, Beaumaris, Beaumaris North, St Joan of Arc, Brighton, Brighton Grammar, St Leonard's College, Firbank, Haileybury, Wilson Street Kinder, Helen Paul Kinder, and Hurlingham Pre-School.

Kwok says a storm nearly wrecked the day. "Our afternoon was sunny. Then as dusk fell, winds roared up the beach, buckling the DJ's marquee and squelching the loudspeakers for organising the crowd. We got them going and minutes after the glowsticks fired up, rain dumped down.



"I've never seen a community get so strongly behind a cause. We got free bread from Brumby's Bakery Southland, for example, and we raised \$1000 from raffling a flight in the fighter. We had 15 sponsors including Bayside Council.

"Our 'Glow For Good' was a fabulous symbol of the community spirit and Rotary as an enabler of an awesome projects! We got there because of great work from Dick Garner, PDG District 9810, and a team coping with everything from Portalooos to Event Controlling, trouble-shooting, Guinness liaison, and ticketing and bar-code commandos."

Photos: Paul West Photography

Aerial panorama of the fairground event

"Glow" kids warm up at the fairground

In the twilight, 1298 glowsticks light up Sandringham Beach.

Bendigo South Rotary ANZAC Centenary Dinner

By Matthew Scott, Director of Club Communications, Bendigo South RC

On the evening of Thursday April 23rd, members, friends and family of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South joined together in the Platinum Room of the Foundry Hotel to commemorate the centenary of Anzac Day.

Far from the shores of Gallipoli however, the night's events took the form of a dining-in dinner, which was and still is typical of the dinning format used by our armed services.

Order and regiment was of course part of the evening, however members greatly appreciated being able to experience part of what the original Anzac diggers would have experienced, albeit within a contemporary community setting.



The evening consisted of several elements including a terrific photo montage recognising all of the theatres of war Australian soldiers have taken part in since WWI into our most recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Following on from this, the evening added a personal nature to our commemorations, where Major Tom Glazebrook, AM (retd), President Rod Spitty and Brigadier Steven Lee, AM (retd) spoke about their own military involvements or those of their family members. This was quite a touching and emotive occasion for not only those giving the talks but also for those present, as it became evident just what sort of impact war and conflict can have on those involved. However, this who spoke can certainly be proud of the fact that they and there family members have done a meritorious job in defending our nation and the values it holds dear.

Our keynote speaker for the evening was Major Dean Simmons, who recounted to those present details of his deployments not only overseas but closer to home. One of the points which Major Simmons

touched on was that the spirit of the Anzacs is still alive and well within the Australian armed forces. Mateship and respect for one's colleagues is never far away.

Keeping with tradition, there were toasts to the sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as well as to the President of the Republic of Brazil, represented by the club's inbound Brazilian exchange student (it is customary in the mess to recognise the head of state when a foreign officer is visiting the ranks).



Photo: Members and military guests of our dining - in night dressed up in 'mess dress.' Representing the armed forces and the community services of the Victoria Police force, CFA

To compliment the evening, a donation of \$500 was made on behalf of the club to the Bendigo and District RSL President, Mr Cliff Richard. Of course the night wouldn't have been complete without a cup of tea or coffee over an Anzac biscuit.

The dining-in evening was the final instalment in Bendigo South's Anzac centenary commemoration program. In the lead up to the centenary Bendigo South Rotary Club has hosted the Federal Minister for Veteran's Affairs, Senator the Honourable Michael Ronaldson, visited the local war memorial institute museum in Pall Mall along with several other Anzac themed events throughout the year.

LEST WE FORGET.

There is a moving tribute to the unknown soldier at <https://www.youtube.com/embed/NfFFzFiiVYM?rel=0>

Increase in shipments from Donations In Kind

By David Dippie, RC Keilor

This year, there has been a 40% increase in shipments from Donations In Kind, West Footscray.

We continue to create records, and in the first three quarters we shipped 66 x 20' container units compared with 47 for the same period last year and we now have exceeded last year's total shipments. Thousands more are being helped by the Clubs who use this facility and it continues to be an extremely cost effective way to help people overseas. Laurie Fisher and his team of volunteers at the Store continue to do a great job and it is pleasing to see that more Clubs are helping to gather goods in their area.



RC Essendon project in Cambodia.

Support for hospitals continues to grow and we use hospital bed as a way to measure support as it is impractical to report on the vast range of goods shipped. This year we will ship 600+ beds an increase of 50% which will greatly improve patient care in many parts of the world. We should also reflect on the fact that many of the beds would have been scrapped without our intervention.

The Store is full of great equipment that can be shipped immediately to people who desperately need it. At this time many Clubs balance their books and some find that they have uncommitted funds. Supplying goods is a great way to help people and a project can be found to suit every Club. For more information contact Laurie Fisher. 0428 550 574 dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com Website www.rotarydik.org

Protecting children through lifesaving vaccines

The extensive polio-eradication infrastructure created by Rotary, its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and governments and health ministries provides a model for saving millions of people from vaccine-preventable deaths. During World Immunization Week, 24-30 April, the partners are calling for renewed efforts to reach children with lifesaving vaccines and get on track to finish off polio for good.

- [Read about the lasting legacy being created by our polio eradication efforts](#)
- [Learn more about World Immunization Week](#)
- [Give to End Polio Now](#)
- [Read stories from polio survivors on Rotary Voices](#)



Photo Credit: Rotary International/Alyce Henson

National Rotary Success Conference

By RI Director Noel Trevaskis OAM

Over the last two years Rotarians have been asking when we were we going to have another National Rotary Success Conference. It is going to happen this September! I would urge you to register now for what I am sure will be a great conference.

I would like to invite all Rotarians to the 2015 Rotary Success Conference and Youth Summit which will be held at the Hellenic Club, Canberra on 5 – 6 September 2015. This conference is an affordable conference as the price of \$120 per person covers, morning teas, lunch, afternoon tea and the Saturday night dinner. It will commence at 8.30am on the Saturday morning and conclude at 12.30pm on the Sunday.

All attendees will be able to have input into the conference breakout sessions over the weekend. It will be a conference that everyone will get something out of.



Who should be attending? All Rotary Leaders, Presidents and Presidents Elect, PR Chairs, Membership Chairs and Future Rotary Leaders and Rotarians who want to be involved in the continuing success of Rotary in Australia. At this conference you will be able to participate in breakout sessions on various topics such as Membership Retention, Membership Recruitment and Extension, Diversity in Rotary, Flexibility and Innovative Clubs in the Future, Leadership, Public Image and Media, and more. As well, people will find out what has been successful for some clubs in growing and getting stronger. Social media will also be explored with Rotary Public Image Coordinator Wendy Gaborit leading the discussion. Wendy has a great grasp on social media and how it can work for clubs and getting engaged with the local community.



There will be presentations about a number of new innovative ideas on a wide range of topics, all practical ideas that you can use in your club.

The program will consist of mainly breakout groups enabling everyone to be able to participate and interact over the weekend in a practical, worthwhile and meaningful way.

Coupled with the Rotary Success Conference this year will be a Youth Summit for people under 40 years of age. The Youth Summit will be an opportunity for people to put forward ideas and practical thoughts on how Rotary clubs can interact with younger people ... how and why Rotary clubs need to become more involved with Rotaract and Interact.

This Conference will be focussing on the future. We are positive that every Rotarian will gain practical knowledge and new ideas to take back to their Clubs and Districts from this Conference. You will meet Rotarians from across Australia and be able to share with them your ideas and hear their ideas; it will be a great experience for everyone.

Register now at:

<http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/success-conference.html>

EMPOWERING MOTHERS BY PREVENTING INJURIES

By Vanessa N. Glavinskas

Robert Zinser understands numbers. The economist and retired president for Asia at chemical giant BASF has spent his life analyzing and predicting future trends. So when he initiated a five-year, \$3 million pilot project to reduce infant and maternal mortality in Nigeria – a country with the second highest mortality rate in the world – he was doing more than just betting it would make a difference. He knew it would.

"In Nigeria, 70 percent of births are home deliveries. If the labor goes on too long, a woman can suffer a fistula," an injury that often results in a stillborn baby, causes chronic incontinence, and can lead to social isolation as well as infection, nerve damage, or death. "With fistulas, prevention is key," says Zinser, who co-founded what became the Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth and Sustainable Development and serves as its CEO.



Using a comprehensive approach of better antenatal care and quality assurance techniques, the project has helped reduce maternal mortality rates in hospitals by 60 percent. Since 2005 they've also repaired 1,500 fistulas – 500 more than their initial goal – and added microcredit and vocational training to the pilot project.

Robert Zinser is surrounded by women whose lives were forever changed after receiving surgery to repair obstetric fistulas, a preventable childbirth injury that can lead to social isolation, nerve damage, and death.

"Many women with this condition had been thrown out of their homes and needed a way to make a living," says Zinser, who is a past district governor and member of the Rotary Club of Ludwigshafen-Rheinschanze, Germany. "They didn't even know the injury could be repaired until we started running radio programs showcasing true-to-life stories and community dialogues."

A Rotary Foundation grant for \$478,000, sponsored by Rotary District 9125 in Nigeria and the Rotary Club of Weissenburg, Germany, helped launch the project. It also attracted an additional \$826,000 from the German government and the Aventis Foundation. Activities such as solar power and water projects, donations of materials including mosquito nets, and cash contributions complemented the effort.



"If you travel in the developing world, walk through slums, and talk to people, you know that the women are often dominated by the men," says Zinser. "They are suffering. They lack support. Women cannot be empowered if they can't make their own choices in antenatal care and child spacing. But if mothers are empowered and healthy, so are their families, leading to an alleviation of poverty and hunger."

So what does the 85-year-old Zinser plan to tackle next? "Scaling up," he says. "The time is ripe. Maternal health is in the spotlight because of the UN Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health. We should replicate and publicize this pilot project."

"My friends ask me, 'Why don't you go golfing with us?' They don't know how my Rotary work benefits me," Zinser says. "More and more, scientists are advising that if you do good for other people, it will keep you young. When I'm in Africa, I feel I am the right man, at the right time, in the right place."

Learn more about the [Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth and Sustainable Development](#).

This story originally appeared in "The Rotarian".

Fighting Mental Illness in a Digital Age

In a quest to help young people experiencing mental ill-health, Australian Rotary Health is funding a growing number of research projects to test web and phone based mental health interventions. Of the \$3 million they invested in research this year, 60% was directed towards improving the mental health of young Australians.

At the Black Dog Institute, NSW, Dr Janine Clarke and Professor Judy Proudfoot are providing the first Australian data on a web and mobile phone-based intervention for young people living with diabetes. *myCompass* aims to improve the mental well-being and reduce psychological and diabetes-related distress for 16 to 25 year olds with Type 1 diabetes.

"The Internet and mobile phones are popular tools in the everyday lives of young people," Dr Clarke said.

"We think that a self-help program combining these technologies provides an attractive alternative for young people who may not feel comfortable talking to doctors about their mental health."

Funding Partner PhD Scholar, Emma Gliddon, from Deakin University, Victoria, tests the success of an online self-help forum for people living with Bipolar Disorder. *MoodSwings* provides online tools to assist in the day-to-day management of Bipolar.

"Something as simple as having someone to talk to can make a substantial impact on a person's well-being," Emma said.

At Monash University, Victoria, Dr Marie Yap is leading a study which developed Parenting Guidelines based on evidence that parental factors can increase or decrease an adolescents' risk for depression and anxiety.

This tailored online intervention *Parenting Strategies* provides an immediate feedback report highlighting the parent's individual parenting strengths and weaknesses; and recommends specific modules of the web-based intervention which support parents in making changes to the identified areas of weakness in their parenting.

"The greatest innovation of this project is the sophisticated programming that automatically tailors the parenting program," Dr Yap said.

Australian Rotary Health is one of the largest independent health research funds in Australia. Visit their website for more information and donations www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au.



A self-help app for adolescents used in one of the studies funded by Australian Rotary Health.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH - DID YOU KNOW?

Australian Rotary Health (formerly Australian Rotary Health Research Fund) was established by Rotary in Victoria in 1981 after a Rotary member, Ian Scott, heard a plea on the radio for help to research Cot Death. It quickly became a project supported by all Rotary Districts throughout Australia with 90% of clubs throughout Australia making a contribution. By 1985 funds were made available for a number of research projects into Cot Death (also known as SIDS) and as a result of this research it was found that one of the contributing factors was sleeping babies in the prone position. After a great deal of publicity of the findings of this research mothers changed the sleeping position of their babies and the number of Cot Deaths in Australia had reduced from 500 per year prior to the research to just over 100 in the late 90's. - *Written by Australian Rotary Health Director, Colin Thorniley*



Finishing what he started

April marks the 60th anniversary of the announcement that Jonas Salk's inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) was safe and effective; his work is playing a more important role than ever in securing a polio-free future

Some moments in history carry a greater significance than others. Sixty years ago on the 12th of April, a vaccine developed by Jonas Salk proved to be safe and effective in protecting children against polio. This gave the world one of the critical tools needed to begin the fight against the crippling disease. Since then, the polio programme has been one of the most successful public health programmes in history, reducing polio cases reduced by 99%. Now, the final 1% is tantalizingly within reach. As we commemorate Jonas Salk's remarkable achievement, the vaccine that began this journey – the inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) – is playing an important role in the final steps towards eradication, and ensuring that the virus will never be able to return.



For thousands of years, polio was a leading cause of disability, arriving without warning and causing lifelong paralysis. Against the backdrop of increasingly devastating outbreaks in the United States, Jonas Salk was born in 1914. In **1916** alone, over 27 000 people were paralyzed and 6 000 killed in America.

In **1928**, with ever-higher numbers of cases, iron lungs were introduced to help patients breathe, keeping many alive who would have died only years before. Yet, in many cases, this restricted otherwise healthy people to a life of reliance on these machines.



With the declaration of the WHO's South-East Asia Region as polio-free in **2014**, 80% of the world's populations now live in polio-free regions – a public health milestone that was unimaginable when Salk first began his work on vaccines.

On **12 April 2015**, as we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the introduction of Salk's IPV we were reminded of more than 10 million people walking today who would otherwise have been paralyzed by polio.

In the past six months, just two countries have reported cases of wild poliovirus: Afghanistan and Pakistan. As a polio-free world comes into sharper focus, Salk's vaccine is once again demonstrating its importance. In 2015, 120 countries are introducing his IPV into their routine immunization systems.

Photos: Left: Dr Jonas Salk with one of the first children to receive the vaccine.

Above: Patients whose respiratory muscles were affected were placed in an "iron lung" machine to enable them to breathe - Courtesy of World Health Organization

Full story:

<http://www.polioeradication.org/mediaroom/newsstories/Finishing-What-He-Started/tabid/526/news/1218/Default.aspx>

Notices and Events

Views, Vistas and Visions of Glen Eira

Glen Eira Artists Society Second Major Exhibition, Glen Eira Council Gallery, cnr Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads. Sponsored by Caulfield Rotary Club

Opening **Wed 29th April 6-8 pm. Runs to May 17th.**

Free entry, 10am-5pm (Sat Sun 1-5 pm)



Brimbank Central Rotary Club's 40th Charter Anniversary

Saturday May 9th 6.00pm for 6.30pm Starlight Reception Centre, Taylors Lakes Hotel, 7 Melton Highway Taylors Lakes.

3 course Meal, Tea & Coffee, Drinks at Bar Prices. Be Entertained and Dance to Viva Entertainment

Cost \$45.00 Per Person, (\$40.00 if prepaid by 23/4/15)

Contact John Rafter, for further information or to request Tickets

Mobile: 0419 135 185, Email: jsvrafter@gmail.com



Café International 2015 - Festivals of the World

Join us as we explore the cultural wealth and diversity of human festivities from all around the world. Let your spirit run wild as we adventure across cultures to experience some of the most intriguing traditions. Embrace the night to inspire and rekindle a love for culture, dance, and celebrations.

As with previous years, our resident students provide an evening of high quality dining and performance! In accordance with tradition, a percentage of the profits (50%) will be donated to The World Wildlife Fund for Nature WWF. The remaining goes into running International House Student Club.

Café International is on **Saturday, 9th May** at International House, 241 Royal Parade, Parkville.

Dress Code: Formal, cultural clothing encouraged! Doors will open at 6:30pm for pre-dinner drinks and refreshments. Dinner and the show begin at 7:15 sharp.

Ticket cost is **\$85 AUD per person** and includes all beverages for the night, a three-course meal and spectacular entertainment. Kindly RSVP by **27th April** to Mark Gordon at gordon.m@unimelb.edu.au or (613)93457576 or for other questions pertaining to this event.



Saturday Night Heart Fever

Saturday **16th May** - 6.00pm for a 6.40pm start

FEATURING COVER BAND VIBE, LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS, RAFFLES. 4-COURSE MEAL WITH BEER, WINE, SOFT DRINKS ULTIMA RECEPTION CENTRE: CNR KEILOR PARK DRIVE & ELY COURT, KEILOR.

TICKETS \$100 EACH OR TABLE OF 10 \$1000 ALL FUNDS RAISED GO DIRECT TO HEART KIDS VICTORIA

RSVP to Anthony Flapper, RC Tullamarine at ALAPPER@MATSTEER.COM.AU



Australian of the Year ROSIE BATTY

Rotary's Violence Free Families program needs your support to help reduce the impact of family violence in our community. Come to this dinner and hear from Australia's best known campaigner against domestic violence.

Our other special guest will be the popular Colleen Hewett. Colleen is a survivor of domestic violence and has joined Violence Free Families as an Ambassador. Her new CD "Black and White" featuring the song "Shut Up and Let me Breathe" will be available for purchase on the night. \$5 from every sale will be donated to Violence Free Families.

6.30pm for 7.00pm on **Friday 15th May**

Yarraville Club, 135 Stephen Street, Yarraville \$50 p.p. with drinks @ bar prices

Trybookings by 11th May 2015 www.trybooking.com/132048



JOHN MONASH - From Melbourne to Gallipoli

A Libretto for choir, children's choir, soloists and orchestra

Sunday May 17, 2015, 3pm Ian Roach Hall, Scotch College,

Admission Full \$30/ Concession \$25 Bookings www.trybooking.com/GUOI

Libretto by Kevin O'Flaherty and David I Kram, Music by David I Kram

Scotch College Symphony Orchestra (Director of Music – John Ferguson) Conductor – Dr David Kram. Soloists: Lisa-Anne Robinson (soprano) Selena Pettifer (contralto) James Penn (tenor) and Tiriki Onus (bass-baritone)

This work is based on Kevin O'Flaherty's poem 1918, commemorating the life of General Sir John Monash GCMG, KCB, VD (1865-1931), exploring his leadership qualities and community-mindedness.



Whisky and Cocktail Masterclass

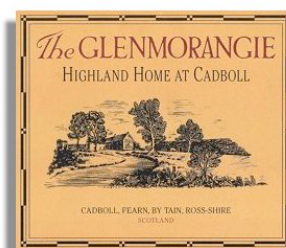
Saturday, 23 May 4.00pm - 6.00pm Maeve Fox, 472 Church St, Richmond

\$110 per person includes a cleansing ale for each participant, a selection of canapés and complimentary juice and soft drink throughout the class. In addition, each participant will receive:

- Whisky flight - taste and compare some of the best extra-matured whiskies in the world
- Mixology - step behind the bar and learn how to whip up your very own Old Fashioned classic using Glenmorangie 10 year old whisky
- Shaken, not stirred: enjoy a step by step guide to making and drinking James Bond's famous Belvedere Vodka Martini

Cocktails will be offered at 50% off for the hour following the class should anyone wish to try a few more.

To register or for any enquiries, please contact Koren Harvey on korenharvey@gmail.com or 0422 139 883 by 9 May.



Rotary Club of Richmond Trivia Night

Saturday 23 May at 7.00 pm. Melbourne Girls' College Richmond

Fun, Games, Prizes, Auctions, Raffles

\$20.00/person. BYO food. Drinks at bar prices.

Best themed table wins a prize.

To book a table contact Jo Cowling secretary@rotaryrichmond.org.au



Welcome Home Dinner

For our Group Study Exchange Team following their exchange in Louisiana/Mississippi USA

Tuesday 26th May, 6.30 for 7pm Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, 120 Nelson Place, Williamstown

\$30 per head (2 Course Meal) Drinks at Bar Prices

For bookings contact PP Peter Shephard peter.shephard@bigpond.com 0498 072 784

R.S.V.P by Tuesday 19th May



Model United Nations Assembly - 29 to 31 May

MUNA, **29th May to Sunday 31st May** will be at the district's own Camp Getaway in Axedale.

The Model United Nations Assembly simulates the workings of the UN Assembly by having teams of two students represent a particular UN country in debates on matters of world political and social concern.. The cost of the program for 2013 was \$285/person and \$150 for an Exchange Student as a 3rd member.

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.com.au/news/1591/model-united-nations-assembly-dates-updated-for-2015/?no_follow=1



Rotary Club of Brighton North Gala Trivia Night

30th May, 2015 We all have clever family and know clever friends - Invite them to our Gala Trivia Night - stack your table with the smartest and brightest Bring some gold coins, there is lots of "intellectual games".

Your smart table just might win the main prize, but then Read More...

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.com.au/news/12266/rotary-club-of-brighton-north-gala-trivia-night/?no_follow=1



Turia Pitt's Major Fundraiser for Interplast

Turia Pitt is an Australian mining engineer, burns survivor, motivationalist and author. Pitt was competing in an ultra-marathon through WA's Kimberley region in 2011 when she was caught in a bushfire. She suffered extensive burns to 80 per cent of her body including the loss of four fingers from her left hand and her right thumb, and for some time was not expected to survive.

Pitt was named the NSW Premier's Woman of the Year and she was a finalist for Young Australian of the Year. She is an Ambassador for Interplast, and she graced the cover of The Australian Women's Weekly, which attracted world wide media attention.

She is also a humanitarian, and raised close to \$200,000 for Interplast by taking on a section of the Great Wall of China in 2014 and , walking Peru's Inca trail in 2015 in sponsored challenges.

Join Turia for a cocktail party to remember at Hilton Melbourne South Wharf on **June**

19th Tickets are \$120 each and include drinks, canapés . All money raised will support Interplast's life-changing work in Laos and PNG.

Tickets at www.trybooking.com/HGFS or contact Leon Lewi 0419 354 313



RYPEN

The Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment is a Rotary sponsored District New Generations program. Year ten and eleven students, from schools across District 9800 attend a weekend long camp designed at developing their potential through a mixture of lecture style sessions and adventure-based learning.

Its aim is to communicate to young people a series of ideas, problems and social experiences which will assist them in forming their own values and moral standards. A program of thought provoking speakers, social situations and personal challenges is offered. District 9800 Rotaractors act as facilitators for the camp, leading groups of students and running the sessions.

A Rotary club acts as the host club for the camp and provides the catering for the weekend while enjoying an excellent fellowship opportunity for its members. Camps are held in October and March each year.

Dates for 2015: **17-19 OCTOBER** 2015 closing date for applicants: 19th September

Location: Weekaway, Kitchenhams Road, Lancefield

Cost per participant: \$385 per participant (incl GST).

If you need to know more about RYPEN, a member of the committee would be pleased to talk to your club or committee about sponsoring a student, or being the host club.

- See more at: <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.com.au/news/1595#sthash.XOTjFFHb.dpuf>

<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.com.au/news/1595>



2016 Rotary Peace Fellowship Applications close on the 15th May 2015

with your club and District selection processes are finalised by early June. Details are found on the flyer. Further information can be obtained from Rob Helme (0402299492) or Bob Fels (03-59892455) See if your club can identify a suitable candidate for this year to keep District 9800 number one in the world for successful recruitment.



Letters to the Editor

Hi Clarice!

Just a quick reply to say that it's been a pleasure to read such a fantastic positive newsletter. It's really made my morning!

Rotary regards,

Tiang Cheng 24th April, 2015

Dear Whoever Is in Charge of This Sort of Thing:

Now I'm only 32, and all I want to do, is read "The Networker" without having to squint at the small type. Would it break the bank if you went up a couple or three points and printed an extra four pages to accomodate the increase? Just wondering

Steve Boehm

(Clarice is on long-service leave. You can follow her on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ClariceCaricare>)

Dates for your Diary

Model United Nations Assembly -

Fri 29th May 2015 to Sunday **31st May 2015**

District Assembly 2015

17th May, 2015, TABCORP Park, Melton

District Governor Changeover

27th June, 2015

The 2015 Rotary Success Conference and Youth

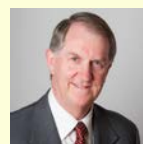
Summit will be held at the Hellenic Club, Canberra on **5 – 6 September 2015**. This conference is an affordable conference as the price of \$120 per person covers, morning teas, lunch, afternoon tea and the Saturday night dinner. It will commence at 8.30am on the Saturday morning and conclude at 12.30pm on the Sunday.

Register now at:

<http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/success-conference.html>



Our Contributors



District Governor Dr Murray Verso is a long-time Rotarian and a retired General Practitioner.



When not keeping an honest eye on the national broadcaster, Tony Thomas blogs at [No B-S Here \(I Hope\)](#)



Mandi Wendt is a proud young Rotarian and a member of the District Vocational Service Committee.



Vanessa Glavinskas is Associate Editor of "The Rotarian", our rival Rotary Magazine.



PDG Noel Trevaskis OAM, is appointed a Rotary International Director 2016 -18



Colin Thorniley has been a Director of Australian Rotary Health since October 2014.



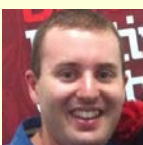
Ross Butterworth was District Governor D9800 in 2013-2014. WERN is his new passion.



Warren Johnson has been retired for 13 years and still loves being busy. A seniors outing suits him just fine.



Roger Thornton is Deputy Chair of the Paul Harris Society, and President of Boroondara Bushwalkers.



Matthew Scott is a Casual Relief Teacher: he enjoys travel and following federal politics.

