

the

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Happy Feet!



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Rotary
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APRIL IS ROTARY'S MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

DG Julie Mason's Message



April Area of Focus: Maternal and Child Health



"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa

It is disturbing to know that over six million children under the age of five die each year from diseases, malnutrition, inadequate sanitation and poor health care. Measles, malaria, pneumonia, AIDS, and diarrhoeal diseases are the leading causes of death in children under five. I guess once you have children of your own or indeed grandchildren it is almost impossible to ignore these statistics. So what to do is the challenge! To know that the reduction of diarrhoeal diseases caused by contaminated water can be achieved through the provision of fresh water by simple water catchment systems initiated by Brighton Rotary in Cambodia gives a sense of hope and optimism. To see the benefit that water filtration systems and small dams that provide water for rice crops, fresh vegetables and a daily wash for children reminds me of the wonderful work done through the provision of Rotary Foundation grants.

I am constantly reminded though of the "accident of geography" when it comes to the lottery of a safe environment for mothers and babies. I am looking forward to the safe arrival of yet another grandson. We have scans to note his growth and development in the womb, the hospital bed awaits, as does the doctor, nurses and any necessary after birth care.



Post-op fistula patients.

Now if however this situation occurred in a remote village in Timor Leste the outcome might not be so positive. Unless of course the birth was to occur in a hospital where a Vocational Training Team, led by Professor Jeremy Oats, of the Rotary Club of Melbourne and Professor Susan McDonald, of the Rotary Club of North Balwyn had provided training to midwives. The first District 9800 VTT team concentrated on the circumstances most likely to cause death or severe morbidity in women and infants. At that time 1 in 35 mothers were dying in, or as a result of, childbirth.

Ongoing visits have ensured midwives and doctors are up skilled, many of whom come long distances for this highly valued important training. Team members gave lectures, worked through case studies and conducted simulated model exercises covering the basic emergency skill areas with the assistance of translators. The teaching technique program notes remain at the Baucau Hospital, to be used for future training by the staff. The team report they are constantly amazed at the way the maternity care providers cope with such limited resources, and their strong commitment to the mothers and babies. Senior Hospital staff have reported that the skills of the midwives have undergone a marked improvement since the training started, and will contribute to save lives. We should feel very proud of this, now long term, initiative that gives hope of a better world for mothers in the safe delivery of healthy babies.

So what can we do to improve the lives of mothers and children both at home and abroad? The information provided by the Royal Commission into Family Violence notes that children are indeed greatly affected by this matter. Children in remote indigenous communities in Australia live in poverty and have low literacy skills. Refugees arrive in this “lucky Country” with little money, and no connection to community. I wonder what sort of projects our Cluster Clubs can initiate to use their gifts and talents to provide that service to humanity that we can do so well.

An opportunity to do something now to help in developing countries close to home could be to provide support on Rotarians Against Malaria Day on the 30th of April.

I am proud of all that we do in District 9800 and I am confident that the energy, initiative, and compassion will ensure that we continue to care for the most vulnerable in our community.

An opportunity to show case a club project is available to you.....I hope I see you at the Victoria Market on Sunday the 17th of April as we show what we do to make a difference in District 9800.

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

Ubuntu: I am, because you are.

Julie Mason

District Governor



A mother and her child at a mosquito net distribution station

Maternal and Child Health

A Rotary Area of Focus

The Rotarian Action Group for Population and Sustainable Development has the methodology to reduce maternal and newborn mortality.



Nigeria has one of the highest maternal and fetal mortality ratios in the world. Hospitals are lacking necessary equipment and well-trained health personnel as well as a steady supply of water and energy; poor hygienic conditions also negatively affect the chances of survival of mother and child. Yet: in the states of Kano and Kaduna, Nigeria, we reduced in 10 rural hospitals maternal mortality by 60% within three years (2008 - 2010); fetal mortality was also reduced by more than 15%.

In a comprehensive approach, initiated and supported by the Rotarian Action Group for Population & Sustainable Development (RFPD) and many Rotary Clubs from Austria, Germany and Nigeria, we implemented a system of quality assurance in obstetrics. Stakeholders regard this approach as a model, suitable for scaling up in other regions and countries. You can find the methodology, published in the International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics (July 2011), [here](#).

Four pillars of success

- Awareness and advocacy campaign, informing the public about the necessity of pre- and ante-natal care as well as child spacing, risks of home deliveries and obstructed labor;
- Introduction of quality assurance in obstetrics in three selected hospitals, including training of health personnel and provision of needed obstetric equipment for these hospitals;
- Integration of health authorities (state and local) in order to guarantee the sustainability of the project;
- Collaboration with traditional rulers and other stakeholders.

The cooperation with traditional rulers and health authorities is crucial and a prerequisite of success. A project of this kind will only be successful when cultural and religious values of the beneficiaries are being respected. Collaboration with other stakeholders is also important. Many single interventions are available, but none alone can reduce maternal and newborn mortality.

Let us show the world that Rotary has the network and the right approach to make an impact in maternal and child health.

<http://www.rifpd.org>

Photo: Visit of Rotaractors at Rotary Fistula Centre , Wudil



BusyFeet - Expanding Horizons with Dance

By Lin Hughes, RC Chadstone East Malvern

BusyFeet is an activity designed to create a special place for children with disabilities through dance and music. Everyone is respected for their individual ability, with 'one on one' support offered with entrance by Voluntary Gold Coin.

BusyFeet Stonnington began in February 2012 and has proven a great success.

BusyFeet is now a District Endorsed project of the Rotary Club of Chadstone East Malvern and has a Multi Club District Committee.

The City of Stonnington have been staunch supporters, and this year assisted RC's Prahran, Toorak and Malvern to begin BusyFeet Stonnington West.

BusyFeet Melton (RC Caroline Springs), sprang into life in October 2014 and has exceeded all expectations, as has BusyFeet Bayside (RC Brighton North) from January 2015, with BusyFeet Boroondara (RC Canterbury and Camberwell) planning to Commence 3rd Term 2016.

The City of Monash have also offered assistance to create a BusyFeet program in their area and the BusyFeet project will be presented to the RC Oakleigh in District 9810 in April.



We will continue to expand this wonderful program and the more clubs/Clusters that contribute means more happy children and families.



The children have developed a confidence and skill far above our original expectations. We have seen their responses to rhythm and their abilities to remember dance sequences, learning to be performers on stage and to be aware of each other in the group. Most importantly the children are having fun while they are dancing and the Parents/Carers are having time out.

Invitations to perform at various events has also shown that they enjoy the Applause from the audience.

And of course none of this could happen without our wonderful volunteer dance teachers and Volunteer Assistants.

Just the ticket: Zac wins Rotary Prize

By Tony Thomas, Networker Correspondent

Senior Constable Zac Bull 39, winner of the 2016 Silk Miller Scholarship of the Rotary Club of Central Melbourne-Sunrise, never finds highway patrolling tedious.

When drivers do something wrong, Zac enjoys engaging them in conversation and educating them about safety. "It's not about the ticket," he says (though the ticketee may disagree).

"Best excuse for speeding I heard was a bloke who said, 'My wife's in the car in front and I am just making sure she leaves town.'"

Zac's got three teenage boys of his own, 16, 13 and 11, so safety is up close and personal in the family.

The \$8000 scholarship is in honor of murdered policemen Rod Miller and Gary Silk. It is granted in conjunction with VicPol and the Melbourne University Centre for Adolescent Health. It covers half tuition costs for a Graduate Diploma of Adolescent Health and Wellbeing. Zac will fund the balance.

Zac intends to use the scholarship course partly to help probationary drivers with country backgrounds to adjust to city driving when they head for the big smoke: "It's not technical driving, it's about attitudes. We recently lost two kids in a horrific accident involving drag racing."



Zac's most memorable patrol was in 2010, he says, involving a 40 minute pursuit on the Sunraysia Highway through the Ouyen Police Service area.

"The driver was trying to shake us off but had come from Queensland and didn't know where he was.

"Finally he ran out of options, unsuccessfully tried to ram us and ran off from the car. So we moved from car pursuit to foot pursuit and we won that too.

"The two offenders in the car had been systematically stealing all they could get from unlocked cars – laptops, mobiles, handbags, purses, wallets. Amazing how careless owners can be.

"In 2014, we were fortunate enough to intercept a vehicle that had three Molotov cocktails prepared, ready to use and just sitting in the front passenger foot well! Further to that was a stash of knives and other controlled weapons. We arrested one male who had outstanding warrants as well."

Zac has completed seven years with the force. He was previously a chef and then ran operations for a fresh food and cakes distribution business around the Geelong area.

"I joined because I wanted to help people. It took me a good two years, 2009-11, to find my feet in the force. I then took an opportunity to work part-time while I did a double degree in education – Grad Dip in Vocational Education Training for Adults, and B.Ed in secondary teaching. I taught cooking weekdays and spent weekends with the police."

Why take on such intensive study? "I want to help build resilience in kids, so they have the strategies and tools to stand up for themselves and be counted."

Do the kids in class play up when they've got a copper for a teacher? "They certainly respect what I do, they're always wanting to know about how far they can push the boundaries with us. A senior kid may ask me, 'If I was driving a V8 or a Harley tomorrow, would you fine me? Why did you book my brother last week? He told me you were just in a bad mood.' I don't mind elaborating on stories they may have heard, because it's really just building up on what they only half-understand."

Has he prosecuted any of his own students? "Unfortunately some have strayed from the straight and narrow, but I tend to look into all the options, including parent involvement to find the best course of action."

Now he's on highway patrol full-time, doing four ten hour shifts and when required, working as a casual relief teacher at Swan Hill primary, secondary and special schools. Somehow he also fits in footy trainer roles with the Tyntynder footy club, plus he coaches kids basketball.

Rotarian Action Group Against Child Slavery

By Malcolm Baird, RC Brighton North

In 2009 my wife Elizabeth and I attended the 100th RI Convention in Birmingham UK. During our stroll through the Rotary Showcase / House of Friendship hall we came across a booth named Rotarians Against Child Slavery. The Group had been started in 2007 by several UK Rotarians. At the time we listened and joined by putting an email address down and since I have read further on the subject of Child Slavery, via the internet, books and RACS newsletter. The Group has grown and developed subsequently and was given Rotary International Board of Directors, Rotary Action Group Status in Jan 2013. The RAGACS had a booth and breakout presentation session at the RI Convention in Sydney June 2014, and will again this year in Seoul, South Korea. The Groups Board now has international representatives.

The Groups Mission is

To create awareness in Rotarian circles and within the wider public, of the plight of millions of children who are physically and mentally held in servitude as slaves for commercial gain.

Let me provide an Overview of the subject and then my view on how Rotarians, Australian and Global Rotarians can assist.

Modern Slavery is a hidden crime. It takes many forms and is known by many names, slavery, forced labour, debt bondage, human trafficking and child exploitation. There are a number of International organizations focusing on exposing Modern Slavery and promoting initiatives to alleviate human suffering and misery that it brings upon fellow human beings. [The Walk Free Foundation](#) – (an Australian initiative by Andrew and Nicola Forrest) has researched and created The Global Slavery Index. The 2nd release in 2014 was put together through external consultations and surveys with an international and independent expert advisory group. The 2014 edition estimates 35.8 million people, across 167 countries, are living in some form of modern slavery. The report goes into great detail including analysis of each Governments response and efforts into tackling modern slavery. (On website)



Child Slavery comes in many forms.

A major US non Govt organization working in this area is called [Free The Slaves](#) and they have also completed an analysis on this subject. They view slavery as the result of vulnerability. It flourishes where people cannot meet their own basic needs and lack economic opportunity, they lack education, health care and may not have an honest government or community officials. Slaves usually come from the poor, the desperate, the uneducated, the marginalised and the unprotected. People are forced to work without pay, under the threat of violence. Children are far easier to manage than adults.

The US Free The Slaves analysis reveals a similar number of people in Slavery at approx 36M with stats coming from the International labour organization, the ILO. The stats breakdown is 78% in industries where manual labour is needed, such as farming, ranching, logging, mining, fishing, brick making and in service industries, dish washers, janitors, gardeners and house maids and then 22% trapped in forced prostitution or Sex slavery. ***Continued next page:***

Rotarian Action Group Against Child Slavery - continued:

The estimate is that 26% of people in slavery are under the age of 18yrs. In most jurisdictions under the age of 18 are considered children or adolescents. That is *approx 9.0M children across the globe*. This number is slightly higher than the number of children under 18 in Australia and New Zealand combined. The Rotarian Action Group Against Child Slavery is focussed on this issue of Child Slavery.

That's the background – So what is or can be done about it.

1/ The [Free The Slaves](#) conducts on the ground projects in vulnerable communities. There are Rotary Australia World Community Service projects in Nepal, Cambodia and Thailand, providing refuge and education facilities for children exploited or rescued from slavery or vulnerable to trafficking.

2/ From the 1960's we have had the [Fair Trade approach](#) with the aim of ethical labelling of goods so that consumers could take social responsibility of their purchases. Valuable, while limited commercial success with less than 1% market share.

3/ In more recent years there has been a push for Corporate Responsibility in Corporate Supply Chain Management. For Corporations to drill down to suppliers and sub contractors, to know all the steps and players in the chain and not purchase materials or product where slavery is part of that chain. (Easier said than done.) [Know The Chain](#) a US organization has a detailed data base of commodities production, with maps and regions, countries where commodities are produced / sourced / tainted via slave labour. They can also advise Corporations of where they can source commodities / goods with ethical purchasing. The Walk Free Foundation has produced A Guide for Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains – available on the website.

Rotary is active on the subject with the RAGACS slowly growing with support and in May 2015 in Atlanta USA it helped sponsor - World Summit on Ending Human Trafficking, attended by Jimmy Carter and the now RI President Ravi Ravindram, and he advised awareness of Human Trafficking victims in the fishing industry in Indonesia, on construction sites in Dubai and in forced sex trade in his own country of Sri Lanka.

He questioned “ Why is it rarely on the front pages of newspapers? “ He said “ The sense that trafficking is too shameful to discuss must end. Human Trafficking must end. “



President Ravi Ravindram (Rotary International) and Former President Jimmy Carter (United States of America) at the World Summit to end human trafficking, 2015

The United Nations has spent many years debating, developing and defining Sustainable Development Goals and in Sept 2015 ratified the 2030 Agenda. It is a very long list, (90 plus paragraphs) and within para 27 of the UN Declaration we find. “We will eradicate forced labour and human trafficking and end child labour in all its forms ...”

We can hope, but I also think Rotary International can be a major leader in this endeavour.

Malcolm Baird led the Breakout Session on Child Slavery at the recent D9800 Conference in Bendigo. He continues his theme in our next edition with “What More Can Rotarians Do ?”

He can be contacted for Club Presentations at 03 95910807 or brembaird@bigpond.com

The Rotary Action Group Against Child Slavery is at <http://racsrag.org>

Champions of Change

By Tony Thomas Networker Correspondent

New awards titled “Royce Abbey Rotary Champions of Change” were presented by District Governor Julie Mason to Stella Avramopolous of RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise and Antonio Pajovic, RC Melbourne, at the recent Women in Rotary Breakfast. The Rotary Champions of Change recognizes young Rotarians who are ambassadors for change in their Clubs.



About Stella Avramopoulos:

In 2015 Stella Avramopolous was voted in the top 25 most influential people in Australia’s Not For-Profit sector. She is the President of the Victorian Council of Social Services, a board member of Centre for Social Impact, and sits on National Customer Councils for the Australian Communications and Media Authority, Origin Energy National Customer Consultative Council, the Australian Bankers’ Association Industry Strategy Working Group, and the Uniting Church Social Policy Network.

For eight years she has been CEO of Kildonan UnitingCare within Australia’s largest welfare network UnitingCare Australia. Kildonan has 200 staff and aims to create greater service alignment amongst government, corporate and welfare sectors.

Stella helped develop a program where her workers visited disadvantaged homes to improve energy cost-effectiveness. The Federal Government liked the idea so much it used it as the basis for the national Home Energy Saver Scheme and the Victorian Koori Energy Efficiency Program

She had led a number of mergers and growth strategies that tripled Kildonan’s size.

Kildonan delivers child, youth and family services, financial counselling, energy advice, settlement services and family violence services to more than 20,000 Victorians each year. Its corporate arm consults nationally to the utility, telecommunications, banking and government sectors about vulnerable consumers.

About Antonio Pajovic:

Antonio has helped the Melbourne RC institute its extra meetings at the Old Treasury Building on Wednesday evenings, additional to the club’s regular weekly lunch at the Windsor. The evening meetings highlight young people to broaden members’ outlooks and potentially join the club. Recent topics are Monash University students talking on energy efficiency, and other young people talking on the little-recognised problems of adolescent arthritis.



Stella Avramopoulos and Antonio Pajovic with their “Royce Abbey Rotary Champions of Change” Awards.

Women in Rotary Breakfast

By Tony Thomas, Networker Correspondent

A capacity crowd of 1200 made Albert Park RC's 5th annual Women in Rotary breakfast at Southbank Palladium on March 10 a huge success. Organiser Kerry Kornhauser said that with sponsor help, the breakfast raised more than \$50,000.

The breakfast, at \$70 per ticket, involved a 15-person organising committee from five clubs. They are Albert Park, Melbourne, Brighton North, Chadstone/East Malvern and Malvern.

Beneficiaries include Violence Free Families with its men's Online Change behavioural program, Women in Science fellowships, Interplast, the Butterfly Foundation (eating disorders), Early Learning for Autism, and Albert Park RC community projects.

To mark International Women's Day and its 2016 theme "Pledge for Parity", the breakfasts were held widely in countries including Australia, Sweden, France, Germany, UK & USA.

New awards titled Royce Abbey Rotary Champions of Change were presented by District Governor Julie Mason to Stella Avramopolous of RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise and Antonio Pajovic, RC of Melbourne.

Messages of support came from Victorian State Governor Linda Dessau and Chief Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission, Lucy Turnbull.

Governor Linda Dessau said, "In 2014, the World Economic Forum predicted global gender parity could be achieved by 2095. Only a year later, the prediction changed by over 30 years, to 2133. And in Australia, women overall are paid 17.9% less than men. These statistics reflect an alarming contraction in the progress towards gender parity."

Lucy Turnbull said that Women in Rotary is a perfect example of the ways in which all organisations benefit from the inclusion of women.

Women in Rotary's 2016 goals are 30% female membership in Australasia (current Australia ratio, about 24%; District 9800 is on 25.3%); gender balance in 20% of clubs; and 40% of District Board positions to be held by women.

The honorary panelists at the breakfast were Tom Gleisner (Master of Ceremonies), Maxine McKew (Moderator), Ahmed Fahour, Marie Turner, Mark Woods, and Sally Warhaft.

Presenting partner was Clarke & Co chartered accountants, and other sponsors were Gordon & Jackson, Barristers & Clerks; NAB, and Allianz.



Melbourne RC adds evening meetings

By Tony Thomas Networker Correspondent



The 250-member Rotary Club of Melbourne has become a multi meeting club. President Peter Rogers says, "We hold monthly evening meetings at the Old Treasury Building, in addition to regular weekly meetings at the Windsor Hotel. This is to provide convenience for those who cannot get away for an hour and a half at lunchtime, who travel a lot, or who want an opportunity for a less formal meeting style. It is about providing options."

Melbourne RC's innovation, which began a year ago, runs counter to the trial at Glenferrie RC to hold fortnightly rather than weekly formal meetings.

The Melbourne RC evening meetings are youth-oriented and involve drinks and canapés rather than a meal. The club has been inducting a member a week during 2016, lowering its age profile and increasing women membership - women now total 50 members.

Monash University is a corporate member of the club and Monash students are active on Melbourne projects. The latest evening meeting featured Monash student speakers on adolescent arthritis. Key students are Charul Manglani and Joash Yong. The arthritis and skeleton issues for adolescents are an insidious problem if they fall through the cracks when transitioning from paediatric to adult care. They can also become socially isolated. The students, Arthritis Victoria, and the club are collaborating on IT networks and peer support to help these youngsters.

The club received a \$1000 District membership-booster grant for the evening meetings initiative, and a \$2500 grant for adolescent arthritis.

Photos: President Peter Rogers sitting on the granite bench in Rotary Park, and the club's solar project in Vanuatu.



Rotary Peace Fellows poised to change the world

From Rotary Weekly

In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 900 fellows for careers in peace building.

Teree Bergman, an assistant regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, writes about the legacy of the program, and how your support helps equip graduates to be catalysts for peace in the world.

[Read Bergman's blog post](#)
[Make a gift to the Rotary Peace Center](#)
[Learn about Rotary Peace Fellowships](#)



Photo: Peace Fellows at the 2015 Rotary Convention in São Paulo, Brazil.



Dutch visitor drops in

By Tony Thomas, Networker Correspondent

Bart Polder 55, from the Rotary Club of Emmeloord, Holland, was a novel drop-in to Melbourne clubs in mid-March.

His club, with 55 members, is 80km east of Amsterdam, in a region 4.5m below sea level. The land in 1942 was pumped out of Zuiderzee (a sea now turned into IJsselmeer Lake) and became a world export centre for seed potatoes. "Our district was also known during World War II as the perfect escape area for British bomber pilots, because they could bail out and stay hidden," he says.

Bart is an orthodontist and dental implant specialist in a practice with 5 dentists and 25 employees. He also works with complex hospital cases. He's in Australia to address orthodontic conferences in Sydney and Melbourne and train post-grads with a California-based global academic program.

His club, founded in 1952 and with an average age of 55, admitted women from 1994, the first being a batch of four so they would feel less isolated. It now has 12 females. The club has the typical problem of finding younger people with time to spare to join.

Its main charities are Sabatia Eye Hospital in Kenya and horse-riding for the handicapped. An unusual funding was getting all members to grow and sell tulip bulbs, which raised 20,000 Euros in one year. It was a one-off because it depended on goodwill of many participants, firms and farmers to sponsor and 'lend' materials, and servicing.

He is adamant that moving to fortnightly meetings (as now trialed by Glennferrie RC) is a bad idea. "Members lose contact and fellowship. If they miss a single meeting, they lose a month," he says. "I don't know of any Dutch clubs that have tried it."

Bart says, "I really enjoyed the warm hospitality of your clubs. At one breakfast club, in one hour, we had breakfast served, all club affairs properly addressed and two excellent presentations. It was an honor and pleasure to join you."



Many scientific "truths" are, in fact, false

By Olivia Goolhill, "Quartz" (qz.com)

Scientific inevitably takes wrong turns on its search for truth. (Library of Congress)

In 2005, John Ioannidis, a professor of medicine at Stanford University, published a paper, "Why most published research findings are false," mathematically showing that a huge number of published papers must be incorrect. He also looked at a number of well-regarded medical research findings, and found that, of 34 that had been retested, 41% had been contradicted or found to be significantly exaggerated.

Since then, researchers in several scientific areas have consistently struggled to reproduce major results of prominent studies. By some estimates, at least 51%—and as much as 89%—of published papers are based on studies and experiments showing results that cannot be reproduced.

The idea that papers are publishing false results might sound alarming but the recent crisis doesn't mean that the entire scientific method is totally wrong. In fact, science's focus on its own errors is a sign that researchers are on exactly the right path.

For Nosek, who led the re-testing of 100 psychology papers, the current focus on reproducibility is simply part of the scientific process.

"Science isn't about truth and falsity, it's about reducing uncertainty," he says. "Really this whole project is science on science: Researchers doing what science is supposed to do, which is be skeptical of our own process, procedure, methods, and look for ways to improve."



Clarice's Comments

Q - Our photo in the article about Melbourne RC was taken in Rotary Park. Who can tell me where it is?

A - In 1934 the City of Melbourne Council made available a small area in the King's Domain for a Rotary Park of Remembrance, where trees could be planted or 'dedicated' to honour distinguished Rotarians or mark significant Rotary occasions. Rotary Park is located in the south-east corner of the Domain, bounded by Birdwood Ave, Domain Rd, Anderson St and the Royal Botanic Gardens.

Read more: [Here](#) And we show another picture of the granite bench with RI President 2005/2006 Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammer.



Last edition I missed out posting a link to Bronwyn Fanning's lovely Conference Photos: she is so dedicated to catching us all in unguarded moments. Here's Bronwyn checking that I look **really good** in her photo.

You can see them all (and perhaps yourself) at: [Google](#) I'm so sorry Bronwyn! We were really under the pump last week.

My friends Henry and Jane Drury love the brief letter in "The Age" last Friday from Ian Cunliffe of Moonee Ponds, which said: *"I'm definitely not joining Apex now. Maybe Rotary."*

I don't know what Ian has against Apex, but it would surely be nice to have such a discriminating person in your club ;-)



We always have fun at DIK: David Dippie told Laurie he was working the volunteers too hard, and sent a photo to prove it.

No dummies at DIK? Don't you believe it! I think Jane has fallen in love with one of them.

Have you really never been to the Donations-in-Kind store? It's really worth a visit: 400 Somerville Road, West Footscray, at the rear of Shed 40.

Don't forget to send me your news and photos. I really love when you send me photos of your new members, and I look forward to meeting them ASAP.

Send them to: clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

See you later - Clarice.



Your Letters



Dear Clarice,

The Rotary Club of Caulfield enjoyed our time in Bendigo for the District 9800 Conference recently.

We found the speakers very interesting and inspiring. Cluster projects were interesting too, but the individual breakout sessions describing four emerging projects was more inspiring for us.

The younger Rotarians make social media sound so easy but we don't find it so. So each time we have the chance we pop in to listen to them.

As a whole district, re the Cluster videos, the projects being done are amazing and cover so much area. Well done to each and every club.

While we were there I lost my camera and sunglasses. Thanks to the honest person at the Ulumbarra Theatre complex I now have them both back. Thanks to the Rotarians who were trying to find them for me. The team of Wyndham Rotarians looked fantastic and they did a marvellous job looking after us all.

Faye Kirkwood

Rotary Club of Caulfield

Clarice replies: Thanks for your lovely letter, Faye. Yes, it was a fun Conference, and the organisation was great. And of course I enjoyed our "al fresco" lunch together. Hope to see you at the Glen Eira Artist's Exhibition.

Notices and Events

Glen Eira Artists' Society Exhibition

Glen Eira Gallery, cnr Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield

Wednesday 13th April at 6pm

Light Refreshments- finger foods and drinks

This is a free entry event. Society events are always very friendly and welcoming. Great opportunity to meet some of the artists who have created these beautiful works of art.



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 everywhere.



Moonee Valley Art Exhibition & Sales

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th April

North Park Mansion, 69 Woodland Street, Essendon.

Also taking place in the gardens: craft market, live music, food and beverages, Devonshire Tea and kids' activities.

Gala Opening tickets available from www.mooneevalleyartshow.com.au

Exhibition tickets available at the door Call 0412 165 912 for more information.

Entry; \$5 students and concession, \$10 adults, \$20 families. Free entry for anyone aged



Rotary Club of Rochester Pie & Port Night

Saturday 7th May at 7.30pm
The Court House, 25 Moore St.
Rochester
Cost: \$35.00 RSVP: Friday, 29th April
d9800rochester@gmail.com
Direct deposit: BSB: 633108
Ac No: 132185521
Your name as reference.



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 28th 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.

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

Our Contributors



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



*Tony Thomas writes
lots of amusing and
informative material
for us and for
"Quadrant.org.au"*



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



*Malcolm Baird of RC
Brighton North is
passionate about the
abolition of Child
Slavery.*



*Our Girl Friday Clarice
was asked why she
writes a column in
"Networker". "Well,
why not?" was her reply.*



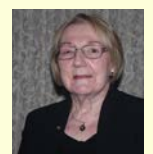
*Dr. Murray Verso of RC
Williamstown was our
DG in 2014-15, and he is
still a busy Rotarian.*



*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.*



*Lin Hughes is a Past
President of RC
Chadstone/East
Malvern: she just loves
dancing.*