



Networker

Rotary District 9800

A publication for Rotarians and all community minded people

Family of Rotary The BIGGER PICTURE

Often in Rotary we refer to our immediate relationships locally in the term 'Family of Rotary' and this reference is certainly true. Many Clubs often invite our partners and family members to Club Meetings, projects and events. My own Club holds an open invitation to all partners to attend and be involved in any Club activities they choose, this is an active way of strengthening Clubs.

But this is not where OUR Rotary Family starts or ends. The bigger picture for our Family of Rotary connection with these programs and Alumni. All provide potential for new membership and support for projects. Many Clubs simply overlook it. If we maintain our healthy relationships with each of these programs they will be only too willing to support us into the future.

The same is true for our Foundations programs of Group Study Exchange and Scholarship Programs and possibly our biggest Community Service Program in Australia - Probus.

In and I encourage you all to view the resources available by looking within the Family of Rotary rather than looking outside what we as already have in terms of relationships. Together, we can build a stronger Rotary and provide

LAOS STUDENTS LOVE THEIR SCHOOL AID

Our Central Melbourne Sunrise RC members traveling in Laos could hardly believe the caring before them. It was a sensational turn-out of 100-plus students, teachers, and community and education officials for the official opening of our three classroom renovation in a new high school outside Vientiane.

Beautiful children here, like this well-mannered school building. The district governor said, "A better building means better education and a better life for children from poor families. We are going to protect and maintain these new classrooms so they will have a long life for the teachers and students."

The 125,800 project, which included a \$7000 District 9800 Grant, was conducted by International Director for the official opening of our three classroom renovation in a new high school outside Vientiane.

Bendigo Clubs Feed Another Swap Meet

Over the three days of the Swap Meet there is in excess of 2000 man hours put in maintaining all our sites, we have also drawn on some of the community organizations we support to assist with staffing since 2004.

This Commemorative Rotary Club of Bendigo (in all) were asked to assist with the catering for the Vintage & Modern Classic Car Club - Swap Meet at Bendigo in 1998, this year is our 16th year of catering and we have moved from a small hall at the Bendigo Agricultural Showground to a new Exhibition Centre with a commercial kitchen and large area catering to approximately 120 for meals. There's also a second year approximately 120 for meals.

ANZAC ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE TURKEY

The world of Rotary Youth Exchange is about to enter another great phase in its continuing development. A proposal has been put to all Youth Exchange Clubs in Australia and New Zealand to consider a 12 month exchange with Turkey (2014) to acknowledge the 100 year anniversary of the ANZAC's Australian/New Zealand and Turkish 15th 2015.

It is most likely that only one student from each District will be successful in selection to Turkey but it would not rule out participation for unsuccessful students in other

- December/January/February 2014 promote and seek suitable applicants.
- February 2014 applications close and to be forwarded to myself.
- February/March 2014 District interview to select successful student.
- March 2014 2014 successful applicant and sponsor club advised.
- July/August 2014 successful applicant club to receive inbound student from Turkey.
- January 2015 Australian/New Zealand students depart for Turkey.

Rotary Blazers for 2014 Outbounds!!

Twenty very excited and well prepared students, along with their families, friends, sponsor club

at tomorrow: the Rotary Clubs of North Bays, Glen Eira, Kolor East, Levee Point Cook, Sturtville.

"START ASKING PEOPLE TO YOUR ROTARY CLUB TODAY"

Two articles by PDL, Rotary Coordinator Noel Trevisani

Over the last twelve months we have had a concerted effort with increasing membership. A lot of clubs have become more focused on membership as they realize the challenges ahead for their clubs if they don't start to do something now for the future. Membership has to be an ongoing plan and strategy for us as an organization. It has to become a part of our DNA, we need Rotarians across the District taking out membership at every opportunity, they need to be constantly identifying potential Rotarians in their locations. They need to then add them to the Rotary Club.

Everyone can have access to a myriad of resources on membership. We can share great stories on how we have been bringing in new members. We can hold membership seminars and workshops, do presentations at the President's Banquet, the District Assembly, promote ourselves in the local media, make all really worthwhile things that we can do to bring in new members. membership teams can be enthused and motivated about membership. However at the end of the day it is Rotarians who have to invite people to Rotary. Every Rotarian needs to be involved in membership. Even if people don't think they can invite people they can be involved in membership by

"ARE YOU OKAY?"

As we come to the festive season it is a time when a lot of people in our communities are becoming depressed. The festive season can be a hard reminder to many people of a missing husband, wife or partner particularly if it is the first Christmas without them. There are those families who have separated or divorced where a partner won't be with their children or grandchildren. Children will also be sad that they won't be able to have time with one of their parents or grandparents. It is a time we need to be aware

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN AND WORSE THAN

BUSHFIRES IN NSW HAVE BURNED FIERCELY BUT DISTRICT 9800 FUND RAISING FOR RECOVERY STILL JUST SMALL DROPS!

The need is great, and no one doubts the moral support of Rotarians for assisting the unfortunate victims of natural disasters. Our emergency relief fund is still in need of more contributions. We know that times are tough and that conditions are being reflected in our wallets. However, because we Rotarians have an unenviable record of exposure to such events, we know that times are tough and that conditions are being reflected in our wallets. However, because we Rotarians have an unenviable record of exposure to such events, we know that times are tough and that conditions are being reflected in our wallets.

Burst of activity in D9800 Probus launches

District 9800 is getting great results on a much overlooked aspect of Rotary - the formation of Probus clubs for active retirees. Rotary's District Probus chairman, Peter Williams, says Kolor East RC launched the Kolor East Combined Probus Club last May, now with 189 members, and Brimbank Central RC in November launched Taylor's Lakes Probus, now with 55 members.

The Rotary Club's of Levee Point Cook, Albert Park, Bendigo Sandhurst and the new club have all shown interest in forming new Probus clubs.

Earlier Probus club creations were Melbourne Sunrise Probus (set up by RC Central Melbourne Sunrise in late 2010, now with about 80 members), and Carbone Parkville Probus (set up in late 2010, now with about 80 members).

NOTICES AND EVENTS

Dec 10
The Surgery Ship
PREMIERE SCREENING ON SBS
TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER, 8.30 PM

The Surgery Ship is a new SBS documentary screening narrated by Australian actor Tim Roth. It follows the life saving journey of a medical ship, the Africa Mercy, a Rotary Foundation Strategic Partner.

Dec 15
Calendars for Climate Justice
\$11k CROWD-FUNDING CAMPAIGN

Brimbank Rotary is supporting the local volunteer group Friends of Bangladesh in their fundraising campaign for

The Sydney 2014 CORROBOREE

Official recruitment of the most Organising Committee, Rotary International Convention Sydney, Australia - June 1-4, 2014
www.rotary2014.com.au

Rotary to bring the world to Sydney

In this issue:



It's that time of the year again and we're all on the run, trying to tidy up the end of the year, get ready for the festive season and attempt to get in a break with some time with family or friends - soon.

Make the time.

There are all kinds of distractions to your time and your priorities but as Rotarians it pays to stop and take stock of just what is possible when we all band together.

Talk about it, tell the story to anyone that will listen, be proud of our achievements and acknowledge yourself and your colleagues.

Take a big breath, then get off the couch and get back to work, there's more to do and you're part of the team. Well done.

www.rotarydistrict9800

Contact the Editor



Clarice Caricare

Do you have a letter for Clarice? Is something on your mind?

Send Clarice an e-mail at clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au



Family of Rotary The BIGGER PICTURE

Often in Rotary we refer to our immediate relationships loosely in the term 'Family of Rotary' and this reference is certainly true. Many Clubs often invite our partners and family members to Club Meetings, projects and events. My own Club holds an open invitation to all partners to attend and be involved in any Club activities they choose, this is an active way of strengthening Clubs.

But this is not where OUR Rotary Family starts or ends. The bigger picture for our Family of Rotary includes everyone we invite into the Family of Rotary. The activities of Rotary continually build new relationships and partnerships through our programs in Youth and Community Service.

These Avenues of Service along with several of the Foundation Programs provide many opportunities to grow relationships with children, young adults and others to become part of the Family of Rotary. EarlyAct, InterAct, RotarAct, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program, the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment and our Youth Exchange programs under New Generations or Youth service as it is now known all provide Clubs and Rotarians the opportunity to grow our Family of Rotary.

Too often, in the past, Rotary Clubs have overseen the launch of, or involvement in, these programs only to disappear from sight or drop their

connection with these programs and Alumni. All provide potential for new membership and support for project work many Clubs simply overlook. If we maintain our healthy relationships with each of these programs they will be only too willing to support us into the future.

The same is true for our Foundations programs of Group Study Exchange and Scholarship Programs and possibly our biggest Community Service Program in Australia - our Probus



in and I encourage you all to view the resources available by looking within the Family of Rotary rather than looking outside what we already have in terms of relationships. Together, we can build a stronger

Rotary and provide even more service to others.

I had the pleasure recently to attend the launch of another Interact Club through the Rotary Club of Albert Park and Clubs are finding new opportunities to become engaged with their Communities through these efforts.

Remember Rotary

gives each of us an opportunity to turn Conversations into Actions.

Best wishes to you all and very LARGE THANK YOU as you go forward and 'Engage Rotary - Change Lives'.

DG Ross



EXPERIENCE WITHIN ROTARY

Sponsor Club A

- 40 members (and rising)
- 35-45 average age
- 35% former Rotaractors
- Regular joint meetings
- Representative at every club meeting
- Clear Rotaryact strategy - joined up Rotary (sharing)
- Membership demographics?

Sponsor Club B

- 40 members (and falling)
- 65-75 average age
- 5% former Rotaractors
- One annual joint event
- Didn't even know they were the sponsor club!
- No strategy with youth or young professionals
- Membership demographics?



Program. Not only is Probus the best kept secret in Rotary Probians are also 'in the dark' about the relationship between Rotary and Probus. Potentially Probus has the opportunity to be a source of support for our Projects and our Membership.

If strong ties are maintained and our Clubs support their local Probus Groups there is a labour resource when Rotary Clubs need additional help but also a recruitment potential exists with the family of Probians who in the main are at the perfect age demographic Rotary is searching for. It's 'Reward for Effort' put

LAOS STUDENTS LOVE THEIR SCHOOL AID

Our Central Melbourne-Sunrise RC members travelling in Laos could hardly believe the scene before them. It was a sensational turn-out of 500-plus students, teachers, and Communist and education officials for the official opening of our three-classroom renovation at Heu-Khang High School outside Luang Prabang.



The \$25,800 project, which included a \$7200 District 9800 Grant, was concluded by International Director Roy Garrett snipping ribbons with a flower-decorated pair of gold-painted scissors, and his symbolic



opening of a classroom door with a half-metre white-painted plywood key.

In the leadup to the opening our party was saluted by a squad of nine-year-olds wearing 'Junior-Communist' red scarves, who heaped wreaths on our women members. We were treated to ethnic dancing by 14 black-clad and tartan-sashed teenagers, and serenaded by local musicians and speeches from officials extolling the project.

Roy's speech explained our club's joint efforts with Melbourne's Your Own Two Hands Foundation, run by Rod Fraser. Roy said, "Annie and I love anything that helps the



beautiful children here, like this well-renovated school building." The district governor said, "A better building means better education and a better life for children from poor families. We are going to protect and maintain these new classrooms so they will have a long life for the teachers and students."

We then gathered kneeling on carpets in one of the classrooms, bare of furniture but with a centrepiece of flowers and fruits, plus a whole chook which soon morphed into tough grey chook slices. The centrepiece was topped by elegant bunches of string. In long-standing tradition blending Bhuddism and animism, we circled the room on our knees and each teacher and official plucked a string from the centrepiece and tied it around our wrist. This is a tie of thanks and good luck for members of an extended family. By the end of the ceremony, each of us had wristfuls of strings.

We were then guests of honour at a big lunch, seated with the District Governor and directors. Local musicians were followed by our own party's guitarist, Guyon Wilson from Geelong (a friend of Roy's) who got the kids' bopping with Waltzing Matilda and Click Go the Shears.

Our 13-member group, through the initiative of Roy, had kicked in \$1000 each earlier this year to privately finance a kitchen and six toilets for the school's boarders. There had clearly been a stampede to finish these projects as the concrete was barely dry.

The kitchen used to be a trio of unhygienic grass and reed huts.



The dormitory still has no beds, just a raised platform where students sleep en masse with a partition between girls and boys.

The opening of the three classrooms was the climax of the two days where our party visited, checked and planned projects within the 2012-14 Rotary years, involving club, third party and personal funding.

Each of our members had carried into Laos a renovated laptop supplied in Melbourne by Rod Fraser, of Your Own Two Hands. Laptops are so



prized in the Laung Prabang district that officials allocated one per school principal, mainly for computerising the administration - which would be enormous for schools of 600-plus children.

Again, the laptops' handover involved a solemn ceremony. Each of the principals had ridden their scooters to a central admin building, joining local directors. The laptops were set out in a row on the table and each principal, glowing with appreciation, received one in turn.

Pics Crowd for the opening; Song and Dance act at Ban Houe Thoa School; Book presentation at Heu Khang High School; New kitchen hut; Books for village schools.

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise

Bendigo Clubs Feed Another Swap Meet



The Combined Rotary Clubs of Bendigo (Six in all) were asked to assist with the catering for the Vintage & Veteran Classic Car Club - Swap Meet at short notice in 1998, this year is our 16th year of catering and we have moved from a small hall at the Bendigo Agricultural Showground's to a new Exhibition Centre with a commercial kitchen and large area catering to seat approximately 120 for meals. There's also a second eating hall, called F J's, situated diagonally across the grounds from the main eating area again catering for meals and seating places.



This year we were joined by 'NextGen' a new Rotary Club in Bending that was established to meet the demands of a younger generation. There are 4 BBQ sites, 4 ice cream vans and a Milk Van as well. Come the weekend the Swap meet has approx 1700 site holders and in most years there is in excess of 20,000 payed up and cashed up visitors through the gate on Saturday and Sunday. Friday is set up day for site holders and we open two eating areas for them and provide in excess of 250 evening meals. Saturday is the biggest day of the event, when choas can sometimes reign, as in this year when we sold not only Saturday's allotted food but most of Sunday's as well, true to the Rotarian ethic we always come through and a few phone calls later the fridges were restocked for the next day's customers.

Over the three days of the Swap Meet there is in excess of 2000 man hours put in maintaining all our sites, we have also drawn on some of the community organisations we support to assist with staffing since 2004.



A typical 'Swap' weekend will see food consumed over the three days of around: 2750 Hamburgers; 350 Kilos of Bacon; 40 Dozen Eggs; 900 loaves of bread; 5000 Bread rolls; 290 kilos of onions; 280 kilos of sausages; 600 steak sandwiches.

Not counting the many other items used, which are to numerous to mention. Our typical Saturday starts at 4.30 am in the luncheon hall and finishes at 9.00 pm. The fellowship between Rotarians from all clubs in providing this support to the Car Club and the community of Bendigo is greatly appreciated.

Over the 16 years that Rotary has been involved in the catering over \$580,000.00 has been distributed throughout the community of Bendigo and to Rotary projects locally and worldwide.

You'll meet people that have travelled to Bendigo for the Swap from Broome, Adelaide, England and many from the USA.



ANZAC ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE TURKEY

The world of Rotary Youth Exchange in our District is about to enter another great phase in its continuing development. A proposal has been put to all Youth Exchange Chairs in Australia and New Zealand to consider a 12 month exchange with Turkey (D2430) to acknowledge the 100 year anniversary of the ANZAC's in 2015. This would see both the Australian/New Zealand and Turkish students being on exchange on April 25th 2015.

It is most likely that only one student from each District will be successful in selection to Turkey but it would not rule out participation for unsuccessful students into other countries we exchange with. We see this as being a most sought after position, as students will be involved in the centenary celebrations that will take place in both countries.

Participating sponsor clubs could liaise with the RSL or Legacy in the local area and as many clubs may already be involved in ANZAC Day ceremonies with local schools, this proposal could be an extension to that. When looking for potential applicants it has been suggested that selecting a descendant of an ANZAC would be nice but not necessary and I suggest this will generate considerable local media interest.

A club needs to consider that in selecting an outgoing applicant they are also required to commit to the hosting of an inbound student from Turkey, arriving July 2014 so some work on providing host families for that student will also need to be undertaken. A timeline for your information as follows:

- **December 20th 2013** notify myself of your clubs initial interest in participating in the ANZAC exchange.

- **December/January/February 2014** promote and seek suitable applicant(s).
- **February 28th 2014** applications close and to be forwarded to myself.
- **February/March 2014** District interviews to select successful student.
- **March 28th 2014** successful applicant and sponsor club advised.
- **July/August 2014** successful sponsor club to receive inbound student from Turkey.
- **January 2015** Australian/New Zealand students depart for Turkey.
- **April 25th 2015** all students participate in ANZAC activities.

One of the objectives of Rotary Youth Exchange is to Promote World Peace and Goodwill. I am sure that you will have heard many times from exchange students of any nationality wherever they are in the World expressing those sentiments and how they now appreciate those objectives. This is a very unique opportunity for your club to be involved in youth exchange so I strongly encourage your clubs consideration and support for what will be a fantastic journey.

Potential applicants should be directed to our website and download the initial application form which is required by 28th February 2014. I would also suggest they include some background information on themselves and why they wish to be considered for exchange to Turkey. www.rotaryyouthexchangeaustralia.com.au

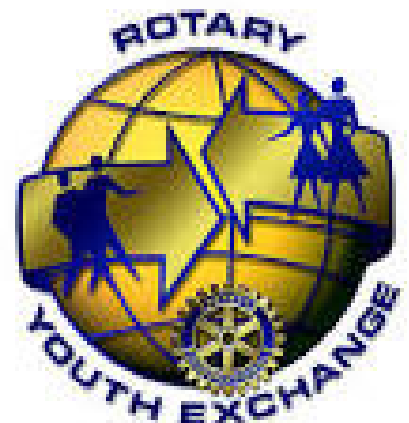
While on the site they should have a good look around the information

and learn more about Rotary Youth Exchange. Go to the publications section, in particular, 'Letters From Abroad' and see firsthand experiences from past and current exchange students. Applicants should not have turned 18 years before departure and must be returning to complete secondary school after the 12 month exchange.

Please let me know of your clubs initial interest by 20th December and I can be contacted on 5439 3544 or 0448 405 709 or gunnell1@bigpond.com for any further assistance.

Yours in Rotary,

Garry Gunnell - District 9800 ANZAC Youth Exchange Project Co-Ordinator.



Rotary Blazers for 2014 Outbounds!!



Twenty very excited and well prepared students, along with their families, friends, Sponsor Club representatives and the D9800 Youth Exchange Committee recently gathered at International House in Parkville. It was the occasion of the final briefing and Blazer Presentation Dinner for our 2014 outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students, prior to their departure for 12 months.

The students depart in mid January 2014 and they have been studying some basic words and phrases to assist them upon arrival in their host country. DG Ross, as the keynote speaker during the evening, spoke of the importance and great value of Rotary Youth Exchange, as a significant and much esteemed Rotary Service Program. He went on to say that there are numerous benefits to clubs and to host families when hosting an inbound student.

Accredited Rotary Districts in Japan, Norway, Brazil, Spain, Germany, Taiwan, Denmark, Hungary, Poland, USA, Finland and Sweden will host our D9800 outbound students for 12 months duration. Thank you to the following 2014 Sponsor Clubs for supporting our young leaders

of tomorrow: the Rotary Clubs of North Balwyn, Glen Eira, Keilor East, Laverton Point Cook, Wyndham, Woodend, Bendigo Strathdale, Bendigo, Brighton, Bacchus Marsh, Eaglehawk, Bendigo South, Richmond, Castlemaine, Malvern, West Footscray, Footscray and Flemington.

If your club would like to receive further information about hosting an Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange

student in July 2014 or selecting and sponsoring an Outbound student in 2015, or perhaps a guest speaker presentation at your club about Rotary Youth Exchange, please contact Chairman Vanda Mullen vmullen@netspace.net.au or phone 0408 109 368.



“START ASKING PEOPLE TO YOUR ROTARY CLUB TODAY”

Two articles by PDG, Rotary Coordinator Noel Trevaskis

Over the last twelve months we have had a concerted effort with increasing membership. A lot of clubs have become more focussed on membership as they realise the challenges ahead for their clubs if they don't start to do something now for the future. Membership has to be an ongoing plan and strategy for us as an organisation; it has to become a part of our DNA. We need Rotarians across the Zones taking about membership at every opportunity; they need to be constantly identifying potential Rotarians in their localities. They need to then ask them to the Rotary Club.

Everyone can have access to a myriad of resources on membership. We can share great stories on what has worked in bringing in new members. We can hold membership seminars and workshops, do presentations at the President Elect Training Seminar and the District Assembly, promote ourselves in the media all really worthwhile things that we can do to bring in new members. Our District Governors, Governors Elect, Governors Nominee and District membership teams can all be enthused and motivated about membership.

However at the end of the day it is Rotarians who have to invite people to Rotary. Every Rotarian has to become inspired and motivated to do this. Every Rotarian needs to be involved in membership. Even if people don't think they can invite people they can be involved in membership by identifying potential Rotarians in their community and giving those names to the membership chair in the Club.

When there is a disaster somewhere in the world Rotary is one of the first organisations to get involved we do help where and when needed. We do that because we are engaged with Rotary and we want to change lives, we want to give people dignity. How many more people and communities we would be able to help if we had more members? Our task would be easier with more members. If Rotarians would use the same enthusiasm when they fundraise for disasters in gaining new members we wouldn't have a problem with membership.

Let's be enthusiastic about getting new members, start asking people to your Rotary Club today. Let them get engaged with Rotary so that they can also experience people's lives changing because of Rotary.

“ARE YOU OKAY?”

As we come to the festive season it is a time when a lot of people in our communities can become depressed. The festive season can be a hard reminder to many people of a missing husband, wife or partner particularly if it is the first Christmas without them. Then there are those families who have separated or divorced where a partner won't be with their children or grandparents won't be able to have time with their grandchildren. Children will also be sad that they won't be able to have time with one of their parents or grandparents.

It is a time we need to be aware of those close to us and show them that we do care for them we need to spend time with them. Just to call people and ask them “are they okay?”, drop in on them or have a cup of coffee, invite them to your house. Just let people know that you do care for them and that you are thinking of them, particularly at this time of the year.

***From Rotary on the Move -
Rotary Zones 8 & 7B Newsletter***



IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN AND WORSE THAN EVER

BUSHFIRES IN NSW HAVE BURNT FIERCELY BUT DISTRICT 9800 FUND RAISING FOR RECOVERY STILL JUST SMOULDERS!

The need is great, and no one doubts the moral support of Rotarians for assisting the unfortunate victims of natural disasters. Our empathy with bushfire survivors in NSW is great because we Victorians have an unenviable record of exposure to such events. Such sad events as "Black Saturday" attracted great support from all over Australia.

We know that times are tough and that condition is being reflected in our wallets. However, the call to meet a target donation of \$15 per Rotarian in District 9800 does not seem to be such a great imposition. Why has the response been weak so far? Are we really that poor or are we just lacking in motivation?

So far donations have been received from only thirteen D9800 Clubs or individual Rotarians identifiable to Clubs! It is also notable that the most generous and ready contributions have come from Clubs that have either experienced recent direct natural disaster impacts in their local communities or have been closely involved in recovery efforts. While it would not be appropriate to name non-contributors, it does seem fair to acknowledge "super-performance": the Rotary Club of Rochester which has suffered from the drastic effects of drought for years and floods more recently has donated \$125 per member. Surely Clubs that have not so far responded can raise a mere \$15 per head! \$15 is the target but any donation would be welcome, every Club is encouraged to get its name on the score board.

To those who have donated, "Thank you". To those who haven't, "Please do so soon".

Mev Connell, Chairman – D9800 Disaster Relief Committee.

Our Distr

28 November 2013.

DONATION DEDUCTIBILITY

Donations by cheque should be sent to the District Treasurer at the following address:

Treasurer
Rotary District 9800
208 Elgin Street, CARLTON
Victoria 3053.

Cheques should be made payable to Rotary District 9800 Australian Disaster Appeal. Donations by electronic funds transfer can be made using the following details:

Account name: **Rotary District 9800
Australian Disaster
Appeal**
BSB: **033 181**
Account number: **377982**

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

The Rotary International District 9800 Australian Bushfire Recovery Fund 2013 is operated by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR).

All donations over \$2 to that Fund will be tax deductible.

FRRR has provided D9800 with an online gateway and also a printable donation form via which tax deductible donations can be made.

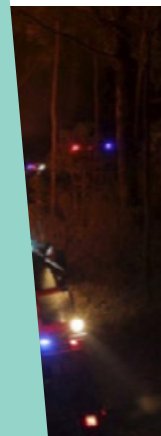
The online gateway can be accessed via the https://www.frrr.org.au/online_donations.php. Please note the drop down box titled "FRRR hosted donation accounts (for community groups)" on the right hand side of the page. Select the RI District 9800 Australian Bushfire Recovery Fund option.

Donations by cheque or credit card can be made by downloading a printable form from http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/donate.php. Complete the form for donation to the RI District 9800 Australian Bushfire Recovery Fund. The page contains all the necessary instructions. The completed form and cheque (if appropriate) should be sent to the FRRR postal address provided on the form.

Please help!

Clubs and all Rotarians are asked to do as much as they can to make the Appeal a success. Clubs can arrange "collective action" for their members or if individuals wish to proceed independently they are encouraged to do so.

Please note that all donations to the FRRR administered Account must be made by individuals or any other parties seeking tax deductibility as they will have to receive tax invoices from FRRR.



and Rotarians
areas.

It does not
of coffee!
help ensure
affected

Burst of activity in D9800 Probus launches

District 9800 is getting great results on a much-overlooked aspect of Rotary – the formation of Probus clubs for active retirees. Rotary's District Probus chairman Peter Milburn, says Keilor East RC launched the Keilor East Combined Probus Club last May, now with 169 members, and Brimbank Central RC in November launched Taylor's Lakes Probus, now with 95 members.

The Rotary club's of Laverton/Port Cook, Albert Park, Bendigo Sandhurst and the new e- club have all shown interest in forming new Probus clubs.

Earlier Probus club creations were Melbourne Sunrise Probus (set up by RC Central Melbourne Sunrise in late 2010, now with about 80 members), and Carlton Parkville Probus (set up by RC of Carlton in 2009).

On the down-side, the long-standing Canterbury Mens' Probus Club closed recently. The average age of the two dozen members was about 85. Milburn says, "Unless Probus clubs actively pursue recruitment of younger members, they get into a downward spiral".

Bruce Cameron AOM, aged 80, has been with East Keilor Rotary (42 members) for 29 years, and is an ex-president of the club and of its offshoot Keilor Probus Club. He retired at 57 as a divisional chief after 38 years with Ford.

He said the Probus club had a cap of 100 on members and a waiting list of 34. He sought unsuccessfully to have the cap lifted two years ago, and decided to start a second Probus club instead. He got his Rotary club behind the project last May, and the new Keilor East Probus Club has no cap in place despite its 170 members. "It's great, they're younger women and men, all enthusiastic," he says.

"I got hold of a Melways, ripped out the Keilor East pages, carved the



streets into zones and told my Rotary members, 'Hi guys! I need your help this weekend. Take your spouse or a pet for a walk and unload these 6000 fliers.'" It only took two weekends. Cameron personally boxed 1000. They also got mentions in the local press 'what's on'.

Because the club was a bit over-large, he decided last May to help set up a second club, Taylor's Lakes Probus, via Brimbank Central RC (about 45 members). The letterbox drive lasted a fortnight, first with 6000 fliers and then a further 5000.

The Keilor East and Taylor's Lakes Probus clubs had turnouts of more than 100 and 55 respectively to the 'interest - meetings' to form the club. Sub-group leaders from the Keilor Probus club told the prospective members about activities like walking groups (slow, medium and fast), crafts, movies, lunches, theatre, bridge etc. The new Keilor East members were so quick to get the idea that at least 45 have booked for a group Pacific cruise next June.

Cameron now wants to help set up a third Probus club at St Albans, with members including a dozen shifting from the two new clubs. Ideally, each of the three clubs would have about 130 members.

Cost to sponsoring Rotary clubs is only \$500 to a maximum \$2000 for Probus seed funding.

The new Probus clubs were invited by the local hotels to use function spaces free early in the week. The owners get extra lunch business

District chairman Milburn says about half of its 98 Probus clubs and he suspects have lost contact with their sponsoring Rotary club. A sponsor club executive should at least try to attend the Probus club's annual meeting, he says.

"There are plenty of synergies," he says. "For example, grandchildren of Probus members are prospects for Rotary youth activities, camps and exchanges. The Malvern Probus Club had problems with its public address system and the Rotary club paid half the \$1600 cost of a new sound system."

The Malvern Probus club this year ran a membership drive with letterboxing and fliers posted in local libraries. This got an excellent result of a dozen new members, nearly all younger than existing members.

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise.



COMMENTS AND LETTERS

Hi Clarice

Cecy Perez was a Rotary Youth Exchange Student hosted by the Rotary Club of North Balwyn in 2010.

Since returning to Brazil she has been going to University and I believe this will be her last year.

Cecy has just turned 21 and she posted this in her Facebook today (in Portuguese but I translated it)

Just confirms what a wonderful program our Youth Exchange program is!!

Please feel free to publish it if you believe appropriate.

Regards

Jim



"I am now in college and was now just staring out the window when I saw a car with a sticker on the door from the Rotary Club of Lagoa Santa and Rotary Club of Chur.

It doesn't matter exactly where the Club is, but around the world it is formed by people who have never heard about our lives, our parents, our brothers and neighbours, but are willing to help us with a few simple things that need to be made (generally should be made) with the payment of our taxes.-†

Rotary is again changing my day, changing the day of many other people who sometimes don't even realise. And so, with calm and simple actions, changes the future of many people.

"Proud to have gotten involved with

Rotary and have had the opportunity to live it, out of my comfort zone, and around people who make the difference. These guys have thrilled me".

Bendigo South begins Foundation tradition

On Thursday 28th November, the Rotary Club of Bendigo South began what they hope will become a successful addition to the Rotary D9800 calendar of events.

The Inaugural Rotary Foundation Dinner was held at the Foundry Hotel complex in Bendigo, where a crowd of over 60 Rotarians and friends gathered to celebrate and learn more about the 'engine room' of Rotary International.

Guest speakers on the night included our very own D9800 Rotarian John Wigley, as well as Rotary Foundation trustee Ian Riseley OAM and recent Rotary Peace Scholar, Jessica Butcher.

Ian gave those in attendance an overview of how the Rotary Foundation worked, as well as sharing some interesting stories about his time and involvement with the Foundation.

Jessica on the other hand was able to speak first hand on how the Rotary Foundation was able to assist her to complete her peace studies course in America. Jessica also shared with those present the stories of some of her classmates who had gone to

America to study, and how they had to overcome adversity and conflicts back in their homelands just to take part in the peace fellow program.

Jessica had classmates who had endured conflict in Ireland/ Northern Ireland, as well as in the Israeli/ Palestinian wars.

A lovely night was had by all who attended, with fun and fellowship being the order of the evening.

Let's hope that the Bendigo South Rotary Foundation dinner continues to be a successful event, that grows from strength to strength each and every year into the future.

Cheers, Matthew Scott

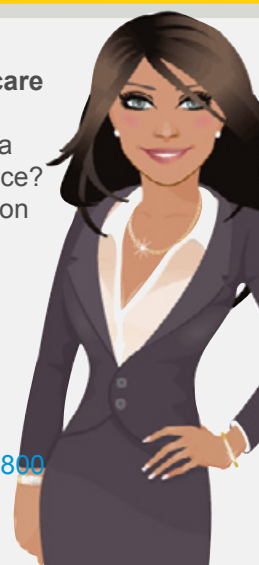
Contact the Editor



Clarice Caricare

Do you have a letter for Clarice?
Is something on your mind?

Send Clarice an e-mail at
clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au





Aussie Icon shares his Heart and Soul with Rotary and the world



Kamahl with NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell at Parliament House.

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Australian entertainment legend Kamahl joined General Peter Cosgrove at Parliament House to recite his rendition of the historic speech on November 19.

Lincoln's address was given at the Gettysburg Pennsylvania battlefield on November 19, 1863 and paid tribute to the fallen, four-and-a-half months after the Union armies defeated those of the Confederacy at the Civil War battle. The speech has become one of the world's most memorable, evoking sentiments of nationhood, sacrifice, liberty and "the proposition that all men are created equal".

Kamahl has recorded his rendition of the address as part of his *Heart and Soul* CD compilation. As a Paul Harris Fellow he is hoping sales of the triple CD will raise at least \$100,000 for Rotary International's End Polio Now! Campaign.

"Having recently met R.I.'s Sydney Convention Chairman Mark Maloney from the USA,

my other wish would be for *Heart and Soul* to do the same in America, but on a relative scale that should raise at least \$1 million," Kamahl said.

Kamahl's recording of the address has already been warmly praised.

"*Heart and Soul* is one of the best CDs I have ever purchased," said Aussie entrepreneur and philanthropist Dick Smith. "Kamahl's rendition of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is extremely moving. I recommend every Australian obtain this wonderful CD."

Malaysian-born Kamahl says he passionately agrees with the sentiments in Lincoln's oration.

"It expresses what being Australian is all about, even though it was written 150 years ago in another country." •

KAMAHL JOINS FIGHT AGAINST POLIO

One of Australia's most loved and enduring vocal artists, Kamahl, is the latest music icon to join Rotary International's fight against polio.

For many decades, Kamahl has prospered among Australia's leading musical talent and has supported many Rotary projects. In a generous gesture, he is making his *Heart and Soul* album available for sale to Rotarians at \$19.99, including GST, packaging and post. Each album will carry the now famous END POLIO NOW! sticker and is the perfect gift or prize for end of year Rotary competitions. There is a guaranteed \$5 donation to PolioPlus from every album sold.



KAMAHL'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO FIGHT POLIO

\$5 donation to PolioPlus from every album sold



PLEASE SEND ME *HEART & SOUL* FOR \$19.99

FULL NAME PH

EMAIL

DELIVERY ADDRESS

STATE POSTCODE

CREDIT CARD No

EXPIRY CVC No VISA ☐ MCARD ☐ AMEX ☐

OR SEND *HEART & SOUL* AS A GIFT ON MY BEHALF TO THE ABOVE PERSON/ADDRESS ☐

POST THIS FORM TO: Rotary Down Under – Kamahl's Christmas: PO Box 779, Parramatta, NSW, 2124, Australia
OR EMAIL ORDER DETAILS TO: advertising@rotarydownunder.com.au



NOTICES AND EVENTS

**Dec
10**

MERCY SHIPS AUSTRALIA

The Surgery Ship

**PREMIERE SCREENING ON SBS
TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER, 8.30 PM**

The Surgery Ship, a new SBS documentary screening narrated by Australian actress Toni Collette, follows the life transforming work of medical volunteers from Mercy Ships Australia, a Rotary Foundation Strategic Partner.

Mercy Ships is a unique medical charity that operates the world's largest independent hospital ship, the Africa Mercy, and has transformed the lives of more than 2.42 million people in the least developed countries for over 35 years. Donations help provide FREE, state-of-the-art surgical operations and medical care to the poorest of the poor.

For more information please visit www.mercyships.org.au

Enquiries Anne Wood 0419 992 851, anne.wood@mercyships.org

**Dec
13**

Rotary Club of Brunswick

Calendars for Climate Justice

\$11k CROWD-FUNDING CAMPAIGN

Brunswick Rotary is supporting the local volunteer group Friends of Bangladesh in their fundraising campaign for climate-vulnerable landless farmers in Bangladesh.

We'll be offering gorgeous 2014 calendars and reprints of the sell-out photography book that raised \$10k+ last year, as well as opportunities to visit Bangladesh. All profits go to supporting advocacy and organising skills training for the rural farmers.

For more info, or to check out the calendar or photography book, or donate online: <http://startsomegood.com/fob>.

Campaign ends Dec 13th.



**Feb
28**

Rotary Club of Brimbank Central and St Albans Sports Club

15th Annual Charity Golf Day

Friday, 28 Februar, 2014

MEDWAY GOLF CLUB

OMAR ST MAIDSTONE - TEE OFF 12.30 pm

Ambrose Format; Teams of 4 Players; \$10,000 Hole In One; 2 x Nearest the Pin; Longest Drive - Ladies & Men; Betting Hole

Auction at Dinner, Great Items Available, Sponsorship Packages Available, Sponsors will be acknowledged both On-Course and at the Dinner

Enquiries: Jack Watson: Ph 9337 4710

Richard Carthew: Mob 0422 375 493

Entries close on Friday 21st Feb 2014



NOTICES AND EVENTS

Mar.
4

Women in Rotary

2014 International Women's Day Breakfast

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

CROWN PALLADIUM

7 PM FOR 7.15 PM-9.00 PM

TOPIC 2014: BABY BIAS - is having a baby only a woman's affair

Real Estate Boards needed on main roads needed.

CAN YOUR CLUB HELP.

EMAIL: kerry@rotarywomen.org.auMar.
2014

2014 District 9800

Gold Coast Conference

Weekend 7-9 March, 2014

John Blackman has again been secured as MC.

There is an outstanding list of key note speakers being engaged, including Lieutenant General David Morrison, head of the Australian Army and Nigel Chamier, Chairman of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Committee.

Rotary marketplace, will be located in the conference centre

Hotel accommodation has been pre-booked at Jupiter's as well as several apartment complexes within walking distance.

Kick off on Friday with the "Hawaiian Nights" cocktail party

The gala dinner will be held on Sunday evening in the Pavilion Ballroom. Saturday evening has been reserved for club dinners.

Early bird registrations will open on 1 September, 2013 - Remember: Gold Coast, Famous for Fun.

of

ANY
TIME**Do you have a letter for Clarice?****Contact the Editor**

Do you have a letter for Clarice?

Is something on your mind?

Send your thoughts to her email address at

clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au**ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 - Events Calendar**

For a full Notices & Events calendar, visit the following link:

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/notices_and_events_future

To submit Notices & Events, please send Clarice all the details at:

clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au



Official newsletter of the Host Organising Committee,
 Rotary International Convention Sydney, Australia – June 1-4, 2014
www.rotary2014.com.au

The Sydney 2014



INTERNATIONAL EDITION # 3



HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE
www.rotary2014.com.au



Enquiries/contributions to Public Relations Sub Committee
 Chairman Bob Aitken – bobaitken@rotarydownunder.com.au

ROTARY TO BRING THE WORLD TO SYDNEY

Sydney (10 October 2013) – Sydney to host Rotary International's 105th annual convention 1-4 June 2014, which is expected to attract more than 18,000 Rotary club members from over 150 countries while injecting an estimated AUD 60.5 million into the local economy.

Often described as a “mini-United Nations” because of its global scope and cultural diversity, the always-colourful Rotary convention will transform the Sydney Olympic Park into a kaleidoscope of energy, colour and excitement as Rotary brings together its global network of volunteer leaders – men and women from all walks of life dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges – to engage in a full agenda of plenary sessions, workshops and a lineup of world class keynote speakers.

“Sydney is a vibrant international hub as well as a gateway between East and West,” said 2013-14 Rotary International President Ron D. Burton. “It is the perfect venue for our convention as we celebrate and share the many ways our members have found to use the resources of Rotary to improve the lives of



NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell (left) is pictured with RI President Ron Burton and his wife Jetta – with magnificent Sydney Harbour in the background – following the successful Sydney Convention Media launch on October 10.

families worldwide.”

Organized by Rotary International in conjunction with the Sydney Host Organizing Committee of local Rotary leaders, with significant support from the New South Wales Government, the convention also will provide registrants with ample opportunities to savor

Sydney's myriad of attractions, including an Australian Rules football match, a restaurant night and fireworks display, an authentic Aussie BBQ, and a performance of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Continued overpage

FOR THE FULL CORROBOREE NEWSLETTER IN PDF CLICK HERE



GREAT EVENTS - DON'T MISS OUT!

Since bookings opened just two and a half weeks ago almost half of the seats for the Sydney Opera House Concert on Monday 2 June 2014 have been sold.

There are still good seats available, but please book now to avoid missing what will be a most memorable concert by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at this world-famous venue. You can book your tickets online at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/concert-at-the-sydney-opera-house/>

867 people have booked in for their free sausage at the Great Aussie BBQ from 12 noon until 3pm on Sunday 1 June. You too can join them by booking at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/great-aussie-bbq/>

There are still plenty of places available at the various Host Hospitality Night events. Dine with local Rotarians in small groups. Make new friends and see what life is like for Sydneysiders. Don't miss out by booking early at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/home-hospitality/>

New and exciting events are continually being

added to the Host Organising Committee website.

What about a Party Cruise, or a unique "Corroboree" event on the magnificent Sydney Harbour. See the What's On page at

<http://rotary2014.com.au/whats-on/>

We look forward to welcoming you to Sydney in June 2014!

• **PDG GREG MULDOON**
Chairman, Events Sub
Committee



Continued from page 1

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell said Rotary clubs and volunteers around the world provide outstanding service to the community and Sydney is proud to host the 2014 Rotary International Convention.

"Sydney is the major events capital of the Asia Pacific and this event provides us with another fantastic opportunity to showcase our harbour city to the thousands of Rotary delegates travelling here from around the world.

"This event will inject an estimated \$60.5 million into the NSW economy, which is great news for local businesses and workers in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

"I encourage all of the Rotary delegates attending next year's conference to take the opportunity to explore Sydney and regional NSW during their visit."

While the convention is not open to the general public, Sydneysiders are encouraged to join Rotary members in a major book drive in support of Australian literacy programs and to visit a special photographic exhibit in the city's centre highlighting Rotary's many humanitarian efforts worldwide.

A major portion of the convention will be devoted to Rotary's top priority, the global eradication of the crippling disease polio,

and many area residents will remember seeing the exterior of the iconic Sydney Opera House illuminated with Rotary's End Polio Now message in February 2009. The convention will include an update on Rotary's funding campaign with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in which the latter will match 2 for 1 every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication up to AUD 38 million (USD 35 million) per year through 2018.

Rotary launched its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary members have since contributed more than AUD 1.3 billion (USD 1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours to protect more than two billion children in 122 countries from polio. Australia's 32,243 Rotary members have donated AUD 21.2 million (USD 19.5 million) toward ending polio. The Government of Australia has committed AUD 73.3 million (USD 67.35 million) through 2014, and in late May this year announced a new commitment of AUD 80 million (USD 73.4 million) from 2015-2018. Great progress has been made, as the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from 350,000 new cases a year to only 223 for all of 2012.

QUILTS SHOWCASE AUSTRALIA

Experienced quilters throughout Australia are invited to create an original pictorial wall hanging panel depicting something Australian or the Australian landscape for a special display in the Billabong House of Friendship at the Sydney Convention next June.



Some suggestions for the panel could be a portrayal of some aspect of the area where you live, or a single theme such as flora or fauna. Depicting an Australian poem or a song is another option. The subject can be serious or amusing.

Any technique or embellishment may be used providing it is stitched. Panels (finished size 15"x 50") must be made of two layers of fabric sandwiched with thin batting and finished with a black homespun binding.

Panels will be showcased in the Billabong House of Friendship to welcome overseas visitors and add to the Australian atmosphere.

To obtain details and an entry form, please contact Vere Gray on (02) 4471 3468 or by email at garryandvere@bigpond.com Deadline for completion is 30 April 2014.



P2 / THE SYDNEY 2014 CORROBOREE

www.rotary2014.com.au

FOR THE FULL CORROBOREE NEWSLETTER IN PDF CLICK HERE



Networker

Rotary District 9800

A publication for
Rotarians and
all community
minded people



In this issue:



So, this is Christmas
And what have you done?
Another year over
And a new one just begun

And so this is Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear one
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

.....and so on, just makes you
think doesn't it.

John Lennon\Yoko Ono
Happy Christmas
Thanks to Metrolyrics

www.rotarydistrict9800

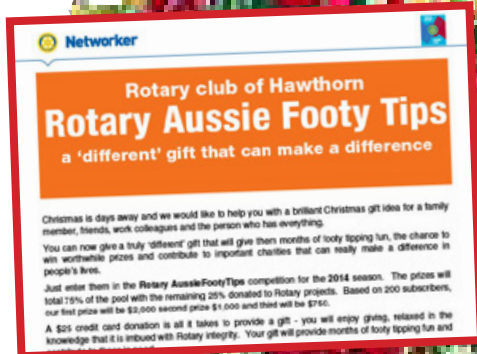
Contact the Editor



Clarice Caricare

Do you have a
letter for Clarice?
Is something on
your mind?

Send
Clarice an
e-mail at
[clarice@
rotarydistrict9800
.org.au](mailto:clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au)



DG's Christmas Message



In many parts of the world December is a month of celebration and traditions, of family and of friends. We celebrate our achievements and our gains in many ways; our health, our friendships and our relationships. For some it is also a time for reflection, a time to stop and consider our lost loved ones or friendships and their contributions while they themselves were part our lives. We also at this time like to look forward to catch a glimpse of what our futures might hold.

But December is not the same for all around our world; it can be a daily battle for many internationally and even within our own communities with serious issues of conflict on national and personal levels, of violence in the home and on the streets, of poverty and illiteracy, economic circumstances and poor health.

As Rotarians we know there are many thousands of people worse off than we are and that those people need our support day in, day out, week in and week out. That's why we do what we do, in every Club all around the world we know as

Rotarians, people count on us to help change lives.

Every time we take on any simple task, whether it be the humble sausage sizzle, planting a tree, helping a neighbour or providing a fresh water supply in some far away village you each make a huge difference to many, many lives. Earlier this year RI President Ron Burton said: "In Rotary, just like in most other things in life, you only get back whatever you put in". It's about Engagement; If you are truly engaged with your Rotary you really will know the meaning of Service and you will be practicing Service above Self daily.

You see, those problems above don't fix themselves and Rotary gives each one of us the vehicle to do just that. In every corner of the globe Rotary provides us with the opportunity to make a difference, to Engage Rotary and Change lives. Please accept Ron's challenge with his theme this year and become engaged.

On behalf of Annette and myself can I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year, to each and every one of our Rotarians and our Family of Rotary, you are special for what you do in the name of Rotary.



Remember Rotary gives each of us an opportunity to turn Conversations into actions.

Best wishes to you all and very **LARGE THANK YOU** as you go forward and Engage Rotary Change Lives.

DG Ross



District 9800 Governor
Ross Butterworth and Annette

Community Service Programs Today and Tomorrow

Awareness

Free Families Bowel Scan Suicide RAGMSA Disaster Getaway Camp Youth Rocan
 Australian Stroke Literacy Rotary Violence Health Probus Relief PACE

We can all look with pride of achievement at our District and individual Clubs success in providing relevant community service programs, both past and present.

All Rotarians know and understand that individual Clubs undertake Community Service programmes and activities to improve their respective Communities.

However our Communities are changing, as is the economic landscape in which they sit.

Our Communities are in the process of changing from a physical to a virtual community via technology. One outcome of this change is that there is an increasing level of social isolation and loneliness of the individual within their physical community, particularly among the older generation.

There is also:

- a growing gap between top and bottom social elements
- an increasing cultural diversity
- growing insecurity and disconnection/disengagement between people and their community.

Forces impacting on change within our communities include the fact that in 1980 there were 7.5 workers funding each retiree, but by 2050

this ratio will fall to 2.7 workers per retiree.

Our ageing population is beginning to dominate the demographic landscape and consume a greater share of the economic resource base.

These and other factors, changing the economic landscape of Australia, will contribute to a declining Government revenue base and will see us drop out of the top 20 economies of the world by 2050.

Traditional support structures for community based programmes

and develop a position that Rotary can adopt within its programs to meet these needs?

At what point should we as Rotarians become involved in the debate about the nature of our future community?

Should Rotary consider proposing a community program, similar to the Rotary Vision program currently offered to Clubs, to initiate community debate on the form and nature of the future community we desire and identify solutions and strategies to manage the consequences?

Rotary alone will not be able to meet the growth of emergent need and therefore will need to;



- identify the areas it will support and strategies to achieve agreed outcomes to improve the quality of community life.



- at a program level become involved in social wellbeing as well as health well being
- create sustaining relationships/ partnerships with others to support Rotary's mission
- strengthen Rotary's position as the best service organisation
- attract new members and retain existing members in order to be able to be meaningfully involved.

What ever we as Rotarians decide, improving the quality of life and the vibrancy and relevance of our Communities needs to be the objective of future Rotary Community Programs.

cannot be taken for granted.

In the future we will have to do more with less.

In view of this, is it time that Rotary began to review the changing nature of our communities, identifying emerging trends and future needs

H.G.Wheeler

Chair D9800 Community Service.

LAOS TRIP CONTINUED BY ROY GARRETT'S PARTY

Part Two

Our party to Laos distributed a ute-load of books, pencils and student supplies, bought in Luang Prabang from a kitty of \$850, to schools. This was created by a whip-round among members plus a \$200 donation from friends of the previous 2012 Laos expedition. The books included highly-prized Laos-English dictionaries.

The previous day we checked on two new classrooms at the particularly hard-to-get-to Ban Houe Yen primary school. These classrooms were financed by \$1000 each from our 15-member Laos group members in 2012, and funnelled through our informal partner, Melbourne's Your Own Two Hands Foundation.

To get to this school, we were offloaded on one side of a shallow 70m wide river, and poled across on rural long-boats. On the other side was a muddy hill, on which sat the school.

The classrooms were chock-a-block with kids and as usual, we were accompanied by senior Communist officials who introduced us to teachers and principals. Four of our members had, last year, spent two days in blazing heat giving the completed classes a paint job.

Our group's Guyon Wilson of Geelong broke the ice crooning to his guitar and he had the kids, the teachers and all of us literally dancing in the aisles. We were presented with baskets of potatoes, pumpkin and legumes as a thank you for the two classes.

This school is still without electricity and has a dire need for ceiling fans in the low and crowded classrooms.

We were also struck by the hard life of the villagers, as we watched middle-aged women lugging sacks of rice down to the river boats and men hefting 40kg bags of cement across from the other side. Every component of the two classrooms' construction had to be handled across the river in the same way.

Walking out of the village last year, Roy noticed a small boy sitting moping while his peers were off on a festival trip. The boy had a disfiguring large growth across his nose. Through Roy's local facilitator Somnuek, and a visit by an Australian medico, there is now a chance for the boy to get to Adelaide Children's Hospital for surgery, perhaps with ROMAC input.

We journeyed on to a special high school for disadvantaged teens from hill tribes, who got some of our stock of library books. The boys' dormitories are incredibly cramped double-tier bunk sets, under a low ceiling. The heat and insects during the night must be appalling.

After more off-road travel, we came to a typically-poor rural village, Ban Hue Thoa, where our club funds of

\$18,000 (including a \$5000 District Grant) will re-align and re-construct a two-room primary school. The status quo is bizarre -- the village, with electricity and road access, is at the foot of a sharp hill, while the primary school is on the hilltop 200m away, without power or road. Imagine 6-year-olds in torrential rain scrambling up the goat track with school bags...

Some years ago the government planned to shift the whole village to the hilltop. The school went first, but then the rest of the move was scrapped, leaving the school isolated.

The local people are delighted with our club project for 2014, and laid on a feast of exotic chicken and fish pieces. Each table was covered with a single giant banana leaf in lieu of tablecloth. Our Luang Prabang go-between Somnuek is now liaising with authorities on plans and contractors.

ELEMENTS OF OUR SUCCESSES IN LAOS

Many elements have come together so that children near Luang Prabang can go to better schools and escape the poverty trap. Past-President Kay Stevens says success has come from

- All members' work in fund-raising, with well over \$30,000 in club money available. (The 2012 charity auction gave a particular fillip to the club coffers).
- The Laos grass-roots expertise of our informal partner Rod Fraser's 'Your Own Two Hands Foundation'.
- International Director Roy Garrett's passion and expertise to improve kids' lives in South-East Asia.
- The services of our in-country and trusted contact Somnuek, who has liaised with local officials to design and build the projects.
- Our Rotary partner on the exercise, District 3360 centred at Chiang Mai, Thailand. District Governor Ms Suparie Chatkunyarat is happy to collaborate on the Laos cross-border project.
- Willingness of club members and friends to get on planes and do on-site inspections, ensuring that the jobs are done on time and well.
- Cooperation of the Laos government, which values all the education help it can get.

*By Tony Thomas,
RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise*



Rotary club of Hawthorn

Rotary Aussie Footy Tips

a 'different' gift that can make a difference

Christmas is days away and we would like to help you with a brilliant Christmas gift idea for a family member, friends, work colleagues and the person who has everything.

You can now give a truly 'different' gift that will give them months of footy tipping fun, the chance to win worthwhile prizes and contribute to important charities that can really make a difference in people's lives.

Just enter them in the **Rotary AussieFootyTips** competition for the **2014** season. The prizes will total 75% of the pool with the remaining 25% donated to Rotary projects. Based on 200 subscribers, our first prize will be \$2,000 second prize \$1,000 and third will be \$750.

A \$25 credit card donation is all it takes to provide a gift - you will enjoy giving, relaxed in the knowledge that it is imbued with Rotary integrity. Your gift will provide months of footy tipping fun and contribute to those in need.

Your contribution will be donated to selected charities, by the Rotary Club of Hawthorn.

Thank you for your support. We are sure you'll enjoy giving this 'different' gift as much as the recipient will enjoy playing Rotary AussieFootyTips. And remember to enter and play yourself.

Have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Noel Halford
Rotary AussieFootyTips Convenor
Rotary Club of Hawthorn



[Here is how you participate in Rotary AussieFootyTips.](#)

Simply visit www.aussiefootytips.org in your web browser.

CLICK "DONATION". This takes you to the TryBooking – Rotary 2014 AussieFootyTips information page.

CLICK the green "Continue Booking" at the bottom of the page. It will take you to the Tickets page.

ENTER in the Quantity Box the number of tickets/gifts required.

CLICK the green "Continue Booking" button at the bottom of the page. It will take you to the Additional Information page.

ENTER the details (Given Name, Surname, Email, Are you currently a Footytips.com member, Will you require additional help) of each recipient in the spaces provided.

CLICK the green "Continue Booking" at the bottom of the page. It will take you to the Shopping Cart, showing details of your purchase.

CLICK "Checkout" at the bottom of the page. It will take you to the Booking Details page.

ENTER your details.

Note: Your details are required for payment purposes. Once the card has been processed and confirmed, the card details are automatically deleted from TryBooking's computer system. The booking fee payable has been included in the \$25 amount. Please note that TryBooking have agreed to donate the booking fee back to the Rotary Club of Hawthorn as their support for the project.

First Name	_____
Last Name	_____
Address	_____
City or Suburb	_____
State	_____
Postal Code	_____
Phone	_____
Email	_____

Tick – 'I have read and agreed to the terms and conditions'. Tick or Untick – the other two boxes.

CLICK the green "Continue" at the bottom of the page. This takes you to the Payment Details page. Check the Payment Amount is correct.

SELECT credit card "Payment Type".

CLICK MasterCard or Visa.

ENTER "Credit Card Number".

ENTER "Name on Credit Card".

ENTER credit card "Expiration Date" [mm/yy].

ENTER the 3 digit Credit Security Code ("CSC") number on back of credit card.

CLICK "Buy Now" at the bottom of the page. A transaction successful page comes up on your screen, saying an email with a link to the Rotary AussieFootyTips ticket has been sent to your email address.

If connected to a printer, print the ticket(s) which provides a hard copy to give as a gift together with a Rotary letter signed by you to present to your family member, friend or business associate.

Need more guidance, go to www.aussiefootytips.org and click on **Help**.

Still need assistance then contact Robert Ball (Rotary Club of Hawthorn) on 0418398153.



NOTICES AND EVENTS

**TILL
24th**

Come and celebrate at the

ROTARY CHRISTMAS SHOP

Selling Trade Fair and Ethical Gifts

199 High Street Kew

OPENING TIL CHRISTMAS

Hours 10 am to 5 pm

Parking at rear

We'd love to see you there.

**Feb
28**

Rotary Club of Brimbank Central and St Albans Sports Club

15th Annual Charity Golf Day

Friday, 28 Februar, 2014

MEDWAY GOLF CLUB

OMAR ST MAIDSTONE - TEE OFF 12.30 pm

Ambrose Format; Teams of 4 Players; \$10,000 Hole In One; 2 x Nearest the Pin; Longest Drive - Ladies & Men; Betting Hole

Auction at Dinner, Great Items Available, Sponsorship Packages Available, Sponsors will be acknowledged both On-Course and at the Dinner

Enquiries: Jack Watson: Ph 9337 4710

Richard Carthew: Mob 0422 375 493

Entries close on Friday 21st Feb 2014

**Mar.
1-7**

SEW EURODRIVE

RIDE TO CURE

Rotary District 9800 Ride to Conference

March 1 to 7, 20-14

Fellowship and fitness under the Rotary International banner for raising funds for an annually chose charity.

1,000 kilometres over 7 days to raise \$100,000

**SYDNEY - MORISSET - BULAHDELAH - NORTH HAVEN -
NAMBUCCA HEADS - GRAFTON - KYOGLE - GOLD COAST**

SEE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT:

www.sew-eurodrive.com.au



NOTICES AND EVENTS

Mar.
4

Women in Rotary

2014 International Women's Day Breakfast

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

CROWN PALLADIUM

7 PM FOR 7.15 PM-9.00 PM

TOPIC 2014: BABY BIAS - is having a baby only a woman's affair

Real Estate Boards needed on main roads needed.

CAN YOUR CLUB HELP.

EMAIL: kerry@rotarywomen.org.auMar.
2014

2014 District 9800

Gold Coast Conference

Weekend 7-9 March, 2014

John Blackman has again been secured as MC.

There is an outstanding list of key note speakers being engaged, including Lieutenant General David Morrison, head of the Australian Army and Nigel Chamier, Chairman of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Committee.

Rotary marketplace, will be located in the conference centre

Hotel accommodation has been pre-booked at Jupiter's as well as several apartment complexes within walking distance.

Kick off on Friday with the "Hawaiian Nights" cocktail party

The gala dinner will be held on Sunday evening in the Pavilion Ballroom. Saturday evening has been reserved for club dinners.

Early bird registrations will open on 1 September, 2013 - Remember: Gold Coast, Famous for Fun.

of

ANY
TIME**Do you have a letter for Clarice?****Contact the Editor**

Do you have a letter for Clarice?

Is something on your mind?

Send your thoughts to her email address at

clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au**ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 - Events Calendar**

For a full Notices & Events calendar, visit the following link:

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/notices_and_events_future

To submit Notices & Events, please send Clarice all the details at:

clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au