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October 2015 - Issue 7

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Give the

Finger to

Rotary

Polio! District 9800

ROTARI O I

OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

DG Julie Mason's Message



October Area of Focus: Economic and Community Development





'Literacy is at the heart of sustainable development' - Kofi Annan

I guess there is no disputing the obvious link between literacy and economic and community development. This is often seen in a most profound and life changing way in developing countries, and I must say that my experience in Cambodia changed my life. I found it interesting though, to hear about a project initiated by the Rotary Club of Footscray in February 2013 in partnership with The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation. The receipt of a Foundation District Grant facilitated this project and the good work continues.

So each calendar year 1500 backpacks containing a total of 9,000 books and educational resources are distributed to 5 different remote aboriginal communities. The provision of these material has enabled greatly improved literacy levels and encouraged long term participation in education, employment and civic life in the local communities. There has been a reduction in anti-social and criminal behaviour over time in the community by the increased engagement of children in education.

Encouraging a love of reading and learning amongst children by providing them with books of their own has also increased the literacy levels of other family members.

Well done RC West Footscray for providing a positive future for families here at home in Australia.





Give Polio the Finger

This is a very succinct explanation of a colourful project for our District in the Year of Being a Gift to the World. It is amazing the ideas that flow when you do lunch with creative people!

I don't think there is any philosophy that suggests having polio is a good thing. - Bill Gates

Polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease. There is no cure, but there are safe and effective vaccines. The strategy to eradicate polio is therefore based on preventing infection by immunizing every child until transmission stops and the world is polio-free. In 1985, Rotary launched its Polio Plus program, the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication through the mass vaccination of children. Rotary has contributed more than \$1.3 billion and countless volunteer hours to immunize more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. In addition, Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than \$9 billion to the effort Today, there are only two countries that still have cases of the wild polio virus. Afghanistan and Pakistan and actually there are very few cases reported.

Every dollar that we commit as clubs and individual Rotarians, to polio eradication will be matched two-to-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation up to \$35 million a year through until 2018. More than one million Rotary members have donated their time and personal resources to end polio.

I am so proud of all that we have done as a District since 1985 and ask that over the next **two weeks** we have some **fun**, bring attention to the role that **Rotary** has played in this incredible initiative, and give a few dollars in our Fine Sessions in Club Meetings as you **paint your nails Purple for Polio!** Why purple......well that is the colour of the oral vaccination once it hits the tongue.

Thank you for all the amazing work that you do in the name of Rotary.

Julie Mason

District Governor 2015-2016

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

Ubuntu: I am, because you are.



Rotary Caroline Springs - into action!

By PDG Ross Butterworth

The time was right so the Rotary gong sounded to celebrate the newest club in the world, Rotary Caroline Springs.

Officially Chartered on the 21st of August 2015, the 28th of August was a proud moment for DG Julie Mason inducting new Rotarian and President Kathy Hall. Chartering with 23 members with a mix of new, past and transferring members the Club's future is very promising.

When asked what this charter means to him personally, District Governor's Special Representative and founding club member PDG Ross Butterworth, responded saying "The Gift of Rotary Membership is the best present you can give any individual but starting a new Rotary Club is a gift to the world."

In the words of Wendy, a new member to Rotary: "I like the idea of making a difference. I've heard many stories from passionate Rotarian's on projects they've been involved in, and seen how rewarding it's been for them. That's what I'm looking for as I know the satisfaction that comes with helping others, and knowing you're doing something worthwhile."

For our experienced Rotarians they are enjoying a mentoring role while being re-energized by the enthusiasm of our new Rotarians. It's an exciting time at new Rotary Caroline Springs.

The history behind establishing a club in Caroline Springs dates back to 2008 when the young community was first identified as a potential area to support a new Club. Fast forward to 2012 when there was a National summit on Rotary membership leading to a National Membership Plan, which in part, focused on Innovative and Flexible Clubs.

In District 9800, as in many other Districts around the world, Rotary has only ever grown with the establishment of new Clubs. One offshoot from the 2011-2014 District 9800 Strategic Plan was to start new, dynamic Clubs - this goal continues today.

Rotary Caroline Springs sits within a diverse demographic area with just below 60% of people born in Australia, with Asia and the Indian sub-continent, Britain, Europe, Africa and America all represented in the balance of the diverse community that is Caroline Springs.

There are now over 100,000 people between Caroline Springs and the nearest established Rotary Club. Such population growth will guarantee Rotary's future in the outer west of Melbourne going forward.

In the words of Margaret Mead, American author, speaker and cultural anthropologist: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has".



"World of Difference" in Cambodia

By Bronwyn Stephens, Committee Chair, World of Difference

Da was only 9 years old when he fell from a palm tree and broke his arm. Infection set in. Without proper medical attention, and with no access to antibiotics there was no alternative. The village adults had to make a decision. To save Da's life, his arm was amputated.

The implications of being disabled in a village community is devastating. Agriculture using the most rudimentary and ancient tools provides the only income. Drinking water and water for crops has to be carried. Having only 1 arm is catastrophic.

So when we built the school it was hoped that Da could be trained to be a teacher's assistant. Rithy thought this would involve study in Phnom Penh over 12 months. Da is married with 2 sons, and another baby on the way. For him to leave his family, and to leave his wife with all of the domestic responsibilities would be tough. Various options for training were explored but the solution has come from within the school. School Principal Dara has been encouraged by Rithy to mentor Da.

Gradually Da's chores have evolved from security man and cleaner, to librarian and teacher's assistant. In June 2015 solar electricity was provided at the school. The laptop computers donated by Baden-Powell College and Upper Yarra Secondary College were plugged in and Da was taught to operate them. He is now teaching the school teachers and the children how to use the computer software.

If you are a facebook friend of WOD (http://www.facebook.com/WODHT) you will have seen that Future Light Orphanage students have been volunteering in Bosala School. They have been giving Da the next step of his journey in education. Remember this all started only 8 months ago. Amazing.

This school was built as a direct outcome of WOD tours and 500 children now have the opportunity of education. Having opened only last November it is amazing the progress under the watchful eye of Rithy. If you can help sponsor a child to attend school in Bosala Village - \$21 per month is all it takes. For more information Click here.

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/0e76261135a097c7e9ba458ca/files/World_of_Difference_Cambodia_student_sponsorship_Form.pdf



Rotary District 9800 are so in support of this endeavour that the project is now "district managed" and not a single club project. In fact over 30 Rotary clubs are represented in supporting WOD Australia wide. Six clubs are represented on the administration committee, including a district 9810 club.



Da when we first met him in 2010, and Da the teacher in 2015

Tours for this upcoming dry season are now full. New itineraries will be loaded to the website shortly. If you are interested in facilitating a school student tour, or a tour for a group please contact us directly and we would be pleased to customize a humanitarian tour to Cambodia or other developing country. So far WOD tours have achieved over \$300,000 in sustainable, meaningful donations since 2011.

District Governor Julie Mason has continued her innovation by instigating a vocational training team to Cambodia. The scope for education, breadth of coverage and drawing together of several expert groups makes this very exciting.

Visit the World of Difference website: http://wod.org.au

Rotaracts blossom in Brisbane

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

Rotarians don't realise how much potential there is to get Rotaract clubs started. So says Riley Louise Thornton, 23, president of Brisbane Rivercity Rotaract Club. Rivercity chartered in July with 20 members and now has 25.

Rotary District 9600, including Brisbane, had no Rotaract clubs early this year. It now has two – Rivercity and Brisbane CBD (11 members at chartering last March, now 12 with three more expected). Two more Rotaracts, North Lakes and Sunshine Coast, charter in October, with about 20 and 15 members respectively.

Part of this success story is Rotary's youth exchange and youth leadership programs, that introduced youngsters to Rotary and inspired them to get Rotaracts started. A small mystery is why these Rotaracts tend to have 50% or more females while Rotary in Australia has about 75% males.



Riley Thornton

District 9640 (Gold Coast) sponsored Riley Thornton to the Enrichment Program during high school and then to a year's Youth Exchange to Denmark in 2010. She also became involved with Rotary Youth Leadership and grew "a passion for Rotary".



"I met Melanie Packer last year while looking for recruits to Rivercity," she says. "Mel was also starting a Rotaract. We decided to launch two clubs rather than combine."

Mel 27, is a town planner who was first involved with Redlands Rotaract, south-east of Brisbane. Travelling through Queensland on State government business, she's used Rotaract as a short cut to friendships in towns and cities she visited.

At Sydney's Rotary Convention last year, she met Brisbane High-Rise RC past-president Bill Phillips and worked with him to sponsor a Brisbane Rotaract club.

The upshot was that the five inner-city Rotary clubs did the sponsoring jointly, partly because of nervousness about whether the project would succeed. (The five are Brisbane RC, Brisbane High-Rise RC, Brisbane Mid-City RC, Fortitude Valley RC and New Farm RC). An earlier Rotaract club in Brisbane had folded through lack of younger recruits.

Mel says, "Our members range from 21 to 29 years. A batch of us will turn 30 soon and leave Rotaract – maybe to start a young Rotary club or rejuvenate an older club.

"We've now got a roster of helpers for the Salvation Army drop-in centre at Spring Hill, and we're organising school book shipments and a \$500 literacy testing kit to a Fiji school where kids are desperate for reading matter."

Ada Gain 26, has organised the chartering of Sunshine Coast Rotaract in mid-October. She got interested when District 9640 (straddling the NSW/Qld border) sponsored her for youth leadership training (RYLA) this year and she's now on the Rotary D9640 RYLA committee as well.

Continued -

Rotaract - continued:

Back at the Sunshine Coast, where she's doing a Master's in social work, she's starting the club to enhance youth leadership work.

Ada says, "New people show up at every meeting. I recruited two members at an orientation week stall. Another two came from RYLA in Districts 9600 and 9630. But most recruitment's been through networking."

Chris Poole 19, has passed through Interact, Youth Enrichment (RYPEN) and Leadership (RYLA) courses and became secretary of Rivercity Rotaract this year. To reduce travel, he started North Lakes Rotaract, 40 minutes north of Brisbane, where he studies psychology and works in medical administration. It has about 60% female members.

He says, "We've recruited through social media and word of mouth. Some Rotaract clubs are narrowly based on the founders' networks; we're tapping the networks of all our members. We also ask local Rotarians to tell the young employees and young adults they meet about us. It's surprising how Rotarians don't do this spontaneously.

"Rotaract's brilliant because we can help diverse charities, not just one. Rotaractors want to change the world and for this, we get access to an amazing Rotary support network."

Rivercity's Riley Thornton says, "So many young people want to get involved in the community but don't know where to start. Rotary and Rotaract tick all the boxes – service, friendships and personal development. We have it tough finding jobs after uni and networking with managers and specialists is also attractive."

"Learning from older people at our sponsor club Brisbane Rotary is great. For a start they know how to organise charity projects, which we can find complicated. We also get inspiring speakers like Wendy Protheroe, D9600 assistant governor and a general manager at Boys' Town, who talked about high-level organisation management."

Rivercity and CBD projects include helping a learning-centre for refugees in Cisarua, Indonesia, and despatching hospital beds and equipment for DIK to ship to Vanuatu. Sunshine Coast projects include Red Cross blood donations, a local food bank, and shoeboxes of stationary for a PNG school.



Chris Poole and Melanie Packer



Ada Gain

New members pour into Balwyn RC

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

On recruitment success, Balwyn Rotary Club is showing the District how it's done. At July 2014 it had 46 members after eight retired during the year; at end September 2015, 72 members.

By July 2016, it's targeting 100 members. And this target is not vapour-ware --- the club has a pipeline already of a dozen or more potential members.

President Anthea Rutter says the success is due to Membership Development Director Stan Gawel, but Stan says he's got plenty of great helpers.

Stan has been with Balwyn RC for only 18 months: "One of my friends in a mutual organisation invited me," he says.

His business is the tough game of wine wholesaling, and before that, retail banking around the State. "Getting members is a sales exercise and the Rotary Club is your product," he says. "Get off your chair, target suitable people and make the sale face-to-face. Everyone says it's difficult but I just say, 'Have you ever asked anyone?""

To illustrate the importance of face-to-face, he tells how the club in August divided the suburb into four zones and letter-boxed them with 3000 flyers. The number of inquiries: zero. They also put up a recruiting booth at the Camberwell Sunday Market on three occasions to see what response we could achieve. No recruits resulted but he believes it promoted Rotary generally and could have gained recruits to other clubs.



Stan Gawel, RC Balwyn recruiter and Balwyn RC member George Skandalellis chat to "back to sleep" company specialist Natalie Curovic, at the Balwyn storefront about Rotary.

"Most Rotarians are uncomfortable about sales, but they should be brave and sell the benefits, like giving back to the community, friendships, and a lively social program," he says. "Be upfront about the expense; Rotary isn't cheap. And when prospects say they're too busy raising kids, it's a cop-out. Our best recruits are the busiest people.

"Club member George Skandalellis and I cold-called heaps of small businesses around Balwyn last month and that's getting us four likely members, additional to five business owners recruited earlier. We also asked all the businesses to be gift sponsors for our Christmas raffle, and that got us \$2500 worth of raffle prizes-- all for just two hours work."

Most of the club's 18 recruits last year are female, improving the female ratio to 30%. "But our pipeline is 10 prospective guys so we got our ladies together last week and asked them to keep the female ratio going by bringing a girlfriend to our special membership night on October 27. "Our cold calls were largely to male-owned businesses but this month we're going with a lady member and targeting female places like dress shops."

The club has upgraded its website, Facebook and social media and Stan says 3-4 members came in last year that way. "I'm targeting right now an insurance chap who's on the committee of a key sports club. If I can win him over, he's likely to bring others in from his club." Even the club's guest speakers can become recruits. "We've converted one and potentially two more," he says.

Stan's on the Fathers' Association of Genazzano College, Kew, and he reckons there are 5-6 prospects there. One may join when the school year ends in November.

The club helps many charities and it's no crime to suggest the executives join up, Stan says. Another tactic is to try to convert some of the club's Friends of Rotary pool into members. "Whatever works, go for it," he says.

My Rotary Story By Sam Pennisi, RC Essendon

From the age of nineteen I became involved in Community service, initially as a member of the Essendon Junior Chamber of Commerce (better known as the Essendon Jaycees). Jaycee membership expired once you attained the age of 40 and many past Jaycees were then invited to join Rotary. As a result I knew a number of members of the Rotary Club of Essendon and I was invited to consider joining them. As I had just started my Real Estate business and had a very young family I declined.

Some two years later I was again approached to join Rotary. Essendon had decided to form a new Club in North Essendon and I accepted the invitation to attend an information evening. From there the Club was formed and I was elected the inaugural President Elect. Barry Baxter was our Charter President. We were chartered on the 24th February 1975, a date I am never allowed to forget, as it is my wedding anniversary. I was Club President in 1977-78.

Highlights of my years in Rotary are:

- 1. Being elected Club President
- Being awarded a Paul Harris Fellow.



Sam with two of his grandsons on holiday in Antarctica.

Some interesting changes over the years:

- Rotary was probably more formal forty years ago. In the early years most members were working and therefore the mode of dress was Suit and Tie, or at least a Jacket.
- In addition to reciting "Grace" at the start of Dinner we also toasted "The Queen and Rotary"
- Attendance was much more stringent with, if I remember correctly, a 60% attendance requirement.
- Classifications were also much stricter.

At the time we were formed Clubs were allocated territories from which they were allowed to recruit. Potential members had to either work or live in the allocated territory. In the beginning our Club was allocated the area north of Buckley Street whereas our Mother Club (Essendon) could recruit from anywhere within the then City of Essendon, including our territory.

Some of the many memorable projects that were conducted in our early years were:

- Hosting Youth Exchange Safaris as they passed through Melbourne.
- Our spinning wheel at the old Moonee Ponds Market which was our main fund raiser in our early years
- Raising money to purchase and donate a mini bus to the then City of Essendon for the transportation of elderly citizens.
- Blood Pressure checks at North Essendon shopping centre.
- As most members had young families the Club organized a Family Christmas party each year, attended by Santa (of Course).
- Melbourne Cup Calcutta's were popular fund raising events for many years.
- Plus many more too numerous to mention here.

It's hard to believe that I have been privileged to have been a Rotarian for forty years. As the saying goes, "time flies when you are having fun".

District 9800: Creating opportunities throughout the world

By David Dippie, RC Keilor

In October we focus on the Foundation Six Areas of Focus Economic and Community Development and we should be proud of the brilliant work that our Clubs are doing. They exemplify our creativity and ability to find opportunities to help people find ways to earn a living.



How do you create jobs for unskilled women in Timor Leste? One way is to create a soap factory. From simple beginnings it now produces high quality boutique soaps, in beautiful paper packaging with Tais trimmings. One project became three. Kew Rotary: Jill Forsyth jill.forsyth@formax.com.au http://www.kortimor.tl/

What about the Blokes? You create East Timor Roofing and develop the skills to allow the local people run the business www.easttimorroofing.com. They make the airtight sealed silos for the Seed Silo Project that allows local farmers to store



their seed safely. Melbourne Rotary: Bob Glindemann bob.glindemann@bigpond.com

You can also ask him about the **Seven Women Project in Kathmandu Nepal** which empowers marginalised and socially isolated women through skills training, education and employment. <u>Seven Women charity empowers women in Nepal with ...</u>



In neighbouring Tibet the winters are long and food can't be grown in the open, so the Rotary North Brighton Tibetan Village Project developed a greenhouse system that allows vegetables to be grown for extended periods. Don Cullen: donjcullen@gmail.com
http://www.tvpaustralia.org.au

If you want see what Rotary is doing, go on a World of Difference Humanitarian Travel trip to Cambodia where the work that Rotary Melbourne South is transforming lives.

Bronwyn Stephens: info@wod.org.au
http://www.wod.org.au/

This is only a sample of our wonderful work and all of these projects would welcome your interest.

To find out more check www.rawcs.org,au and get ideas on your Club can create opportunities.

Bendigo South Sings the Tune of Success By Matthew Scott (Regional Networker Correspondent)

What an amazing sight it was to see, when over 900 members of the Bendigo community and beyond filled every seat in the house of Bendigo's new Ulumbarra theatre. They were all there to see the Rotary Club of Bendigo South's first foray into musical theatre, presenting Marina Prior and the Victoria Welsh Choir.

Accompanying the two larger musical acts was Kaitlin White of Bendigo Senior Secondary College, who last year was awarded the Rotary Club's inaugural musical bursary award. Kaitlin played a well known tune on the piano to the packed out house.

Singing beautiful melodies from many of her past stage musical appearances, Marina Prior also regaled those in attendance with her experiences playing Christine in the Phantom of the Opera.



On this occasion however, it was not so much a case of the Music of the Night, moreover Music of a wonderful Day, with members of the Victoria Welsh Choir also singing several songs in accompaniment with Ms Prior.

Adding to the experience of bringing such great musical acts to the people of Bendigo was the fact that several of the Victoria Welsh Choir members were local Bendigonians.

Traditional Welsh, Celtic and Scottish tunes were sung by the choir, in addition to a medley of World War I and II tunes to commemorate the ANZAC centenary. The concert was rounded out musically with Ms Prior singing a spine tingling rendition of 'It's time to say Goodbye,' with several audience members greatly in awe as accompanist David Cameron began to play those well known notes on the piano.

The final musical piece of the day appropriately went to the Welsh, as the entire theatre stood to attention for a rousing rendition of the Welsh national anthem, 'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau.'



It was great to see so many people from all walks of Bendigo turn out for the community concert, as well as fellow District 9800 Rotarians and their partners, who had come from around the Goldfields cluster and beyond to support the concert.

By enjoying a great afternoon of music, Past President Rod Spitty summed it up well when he spoke on stage of the Rotary Club being in partnership with the community. By attending the concert, the community was also helping to bring the new theatre to the people, as well as contributing towards future secondary school musical scholarships.

When the performers took their final bow at the end of the concert, members of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South looked around in amazement at the number of people in attendance, knowing that now the concert had been successfully staged, all of the hard work along the way had been worth it.

It is envisaged that a similar concert featuring the Victoria Welsh Choir will be held at the Ulumbarra theatre every two years, so if you didn't get a ticket this time, be sure to get in early for 2017.

Purple Pinkie for World Polio Day

By Adrian Nelson, D9800 Director of Public Image & Communications

Following a major global health milestone last month, District Governor Julie Mason urges all District Clubs to join her in the global fight to eradicate polio by participating in Purple Pinkie Day in recognition of World Polio Day on 24 October.



Purple Pinkie Day is a simple way to engage with your local community to help them support Rotary's fight against polio. Contact your local schools, businesses and community organisations to paint their fingers purple – with purple nail polish, purple paint, or anything else purple. It is a representation of the purple dye used in developing countries.

We aim to "Give Polio the Finger!". Make sure you take photos and videos, and post on your club's Facebook Page. This year World Polio Day is a Saturday, so your club may wish to do get involved on Friday 23rd October as well, particularly with schools and businesses.

This **Purple Pinkie Day** comes at an important time in the fight to eradicate polio, which would be only the second human disease to be eradicated, after smallpox. In September, the World Health Organization declared Africa's last polio-endemic country, Nigeria, polio-free, leaving only two countries which have never stopped the virus: Pakistan and Afghanistan. In 1988, when Rotary and its partners committed to eradicating the disease, polio paralysed more than 350,000 children per year in 125 countries – or, more than 1,000 per day. Since that time, the number of polio cases has been reduced by 99.9%, with less than 50 cases in two countries to date in 2015.

On 23 October, Rotary and UNICEF will host an event in New York City which will stream live <u>online</u>, providing an update on the world's progress against polio, with notable speakers including journalists, health experts, celebrities, polio survivors and more. Viewers can tune in live at 6:30 PM EDT, or watch a recording of the event any time after it streams.

Rotary has contributed more than US\$1.4 billion to ending polio. Funds contributed to Rotary are tripled thanks to a 2:1 match by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Rotary is joined in the fight to end polio by its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, a public-private partnership that also includes the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Cystic Fibrosis Education Campaign

By Grantham Beeston, RC Balwyn

The Rotary Club of Balwyn is a proud sponsor of the Cystic Fibrosis Victoria (CFV) Community Education Campaign with a grant of \$120,000 over two years.

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is Australia's most common inherited, life-shortening condition but there is very limited awareness in the community about what CF and being a CF carrier means. CF primarily affects the lungs, digestive and reproductive systems. Lung failure is the major cause of death for someone with CF. From birth, a person with CF undergoes constant medical treatments and physiotherapy. Reduced life expectancy is a reality for the majority of people with CF.

For a child to be born with CF they must inherit a CF gene from both parents, ie, when both parents are carriers. There are about 1 million Australians and over 200,000 Victorians who carry a form of the CF gene change. A baby is born with CF every four days in Australia, and on average one in 25 people are a carrier of the CF gene..Most of these individualsare unaware they are CF carriers because they are healthy.

Approximately 95% of newly diagnosed children with CF in Victoria have parents who did not know they were carriers, and were not aware of any family history of CF.

The purpose of this campaign is to build greater awareness of CF in the general and CF community and to highlight the options people have to better understand their chances of having a child with CF.

CFV in collaboration with Victorian Clinical Genetics Services (VCGS) and with the assistance of the Rotary Club of Balwyn have developed a suite of promotional material including –

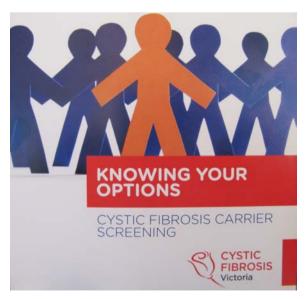


Ross Fraser, Chairman of Cystic Fibrosis Victoria (Left) being congratulated by Grantham Beeston, Rotary Club of Balwyn

- "Knowing Your Options CF Carrier Screening" brochure
- A mail out of 360 information packs to GP's and Obstetricians including brochures & posters
- 10,000 Avant postcards promoting carrier screening
- Local newspaper advertising
- Production of CF information videos

CFV would welcome the chance to speak with Rotary clubs about the Carrier Screening Community Education Campaign. Rotary Clubs or members who would like to avail themselves of further information please visit the CFV website www.cysticfibrosis.org.au/vic//info-resources-kit

Other contacts - Sarah Burns, Project Coordinator - programs@cfv.org.au +61 3 9686 1811
Grantham Beeston, Community Services Committee - grantham@beeston.com.au 0419 382 626



Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA)

By David Shave, D9800 RYLA Committee

The 2015 Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) camp will be held from Sunday, 29 November through to Saturday, 5 December. The district committee is now actively seeking delegates from as many clubs as possible.

Rather than tell you about RYLA ourselves, here's a story from Daniel Paproth, one of our past participants:

"I was a RYLA 9800 participant in 2011. A reluctant one, I must admit. I went because I was working for a mate's father who was in the Rotary Club of Werribee. He was paying me good money to do very easy work, so when he suggested RYLA I said yes without even thinking about it as I wanted to keep that cash money rolling in.



Eventually it got to a point where it was too late to pull out. I got on the bus on Sunday morning, very apprehensive. I had no idea what I had got myself into, but at some point I thought to myself, 'well, you're here now, there's no turning back, you might as well try and embrace it'. Within about 10 minutes I knew I was going to have a good week.

Getting off the bus we were all given a number and filed into a hall. RYLA, apparently, stood for 'Recording Young Live Acts', and we were all to audition live on stage in front of nearly 90 people. I was panicked; this wasn't in the email! Three acts got up and performed and I was beside myself as I had number five, so I was racking my brain trying to think of what I could possibly do. Just when I'd decided on Hey Ya! by Outkast, Bill, the then-co-director led us all into the main hall singing You're The Voice and I caught on that it was a ruse. Breathing a gigantic sigh of relief and laughing with people I'd literally just met, I felt at once comfortable and challenged.

And that's been a theme for me in the four years since. This year is my fifth RYLA year, my fourth on the team, and I can't - don't want to - imagine a life without it. When I'm on RYLA, whether that's as a participant, or facilitating or cooking up a storm on the management team, I simultaneously feel comfortable - happy, content, surrounded by love - and challenged - driven out of my comfort zone, given the opportunity to learn and grow as a person.

RYLA has changed my life. It taught me that the aspects of my personality that I've always loved but kept hidden in the past need not be tucked away; they can be brought out into the light. It has made me a happier, more selfaware, more conscious, more community-focused person, and continues to give me so much joy. I can only hope that my continued involvement brings to others the same life-affirming beauty that it continues to give me.

And without Rotary, none of this would have been remotely possible. I would very likely still be a sheltered young man living with his parents in Werribee, trying to convince himself that he was happy and this was the way life should be lived. I shudder to think of my life had I not blindingly agreed to Robert and Lyn Fava's suggestion I do RYLA, or if I hadn't gotten in the car with Roland Wade that Sunday morning.

There are maybe one or two things in my whole life that I share a passion for like I do for RYLA. I urge Rotary to continue to support this wonderful program, because your support and commitment is literally changing lives. And for that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Continued -

RYLA - continued:

The frequency one hears the remark, from participants, "this experience is life changing", the District 9800 RYLA program, which is unique in the world, deserves strong support.

Applications must be registered through the website at www.ryla9800.org.au and at \$790 per delegate, this is fantastic value for a week long residential seminar.

An ideal way to support the enthusiastic team of young people who coordinate the whole program and your sponsored candidate or to find out more about the program, is to join us for the RYLA Rotary Dinner on

Thursday, 3 December, at Camp Oasis in Mt Evelyn, Melway Ref: Map 120 D3. Cost \$30 pp.



If you have any queries about RYLA, send them through to the team at admin@ryla9800.org.au, or if you would like to register for the dinner, please contact David Shave of the RYLA committee, by email at davidshave@bigpond.com.

Rotary Success Conference



District 9800 was well represented at the Australian Rotary Success conference on 5-6th September, hosting an induction on the main stage, and providing the Saturday night's dinner entertainment by way of RC Southbank's very own Jonathon Welch.

Noel Trevaskis, Rotary International Director Elect informs us that the presentations and the summaries of each of the breakout groups are accessible via this link:

http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/home/resources/downloads.html

Stay informed on Rotary events:

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_future

Books for DIK

By Clarice Caricare, Networker Girl Friday

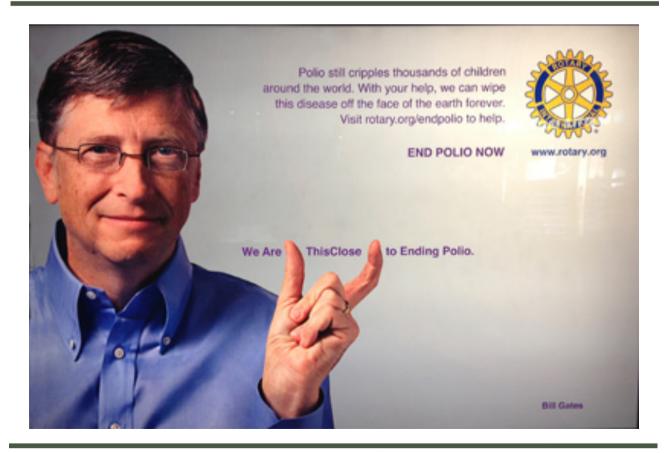
Yes! I'm just back from long-service leave, and was chatting with my Travel Agent (Julie Poumes of Toorak Travel) over a coffee last week: Julie told me about Toorak Rotary Club's fundraiser, where they sell un-required books at the South Yarra Library and split the profits with the Library.

So when my colleague Rita Fellows, the Youth Services Librarian at Glenferrie Library told me she had ten boxes of deleted children's books to clear out, I just knew Lyn Leonard at the Donations-in-Kind Store would be delighted to find a new home for them. I'm sure the books would enjoy their retirement in the South Pacific, after the freezing winter you apparently had in Melbourne;-)



I picked up the boxes of books, crammed them into the Mini, and delivered them to the Donations-in-Kind Store in West Footscray. Easy!

Isn't it amazing what we can think up when we put our heads together? And why don't you have a chat with your own Librarian, and see if you can find a use for the books they no longer require?



Notices and Events

Alan Kogosowski: Piano Concert

The Rotary Club of Caulfield presents an afternoon with internationally acclaimed classical concert pianist Alan Kogosowski

Wednesday 21 October: Time 2-4 pm Glen Eira Town Hall Auditorium: Cost \$5 Booking: Contact Faye on 95701954 or ianfaye@bigpond.net.au



Polio Movie Night 21st October

The Rotary Foundation and 20th Century Fox have negotiated a special opportunity for Rotary Clubs to have their own

fundraising movie night.

The movie is Bridge of Spies starring Tom Hanks and Rotary Clubs have exclusive access for a fundraising night on Wednesday **21st October**, the day before the official film release opens to he public on Thursday **22nd**.

For your club to host this film night at your own local cinema, please contact the Victoria 20th Century Fox State Manager Jacqueline Carty-Salmon on jacs@jacspr.com.au.

For more information, download a presentation **here**.

You can watch the preview of Bridge of Spies here:

- See more at: http://rotarydistrict9800.com.au/news/14549#sthash.poT3yd2G.dpuf

Protect a Life, Charity Night

24th Oct, 7PM. Cabaret and 7 course meal, drinks on arrival

Rios Brazilian Restaurant -Address: 316 Church St, Richmond VIC 3121

Cost: \$100 RSVP Date: 16th Oct. Chris -> 0401650580 www. http://rotarylpc.org.au/charity-fundraising-night/

Open Hand Children's Home provides a place of refuge and nurturing for many abandoned and orphaned children in Nairobi, Kenya.



Sports and the Community: A Match Made in Heaven

Tuesday, October 27, 2015 6.30 for 7.00 at Bendigo Club, Park Street, Strathdale *A fabulous social event for everyone - AFL Fans, Sports men and women, Rotarians* Only \$45.00 Two course meal Drinks at bar prices, auction, raffle prizes Proceeds to Annie North Women's Refuge To purchase corporate tables for the event, please contact Ilona Pearce on pearceip@live.com



Boorondara Emergency Service Awards

Yarra Bend RC's Boroondara Emergency Services Awards are being held again this year at the Amora Hotel in Richmond on Wednesday 28 October at 7pm.

Designed to recognise members of our emergency services who exceed the normal demands of their

employment and deliver "Service! Above! Self" to the benefit of the local community, the Awards are judged by a panel comprising senior officers of the emergency services and Yarra Bend Rotary officials.

Ceremony and three course dinner a \$50.00 per person.

Bookings via Try Booking http://www.trybooking.com/151850 Payment by bank transfer to the account of Yarra Bend Rotary

BSB: 633 000 A/C: 129220828

Email yarrabend@rotarydistrict9800.org.au for more info.



Tobin Awards Night

These awards are presented to 3 to 4 people who have contributed their time and expertise over the year in order to make a difference to those less fortunate.

The awards are sponsored by Tobin Brothers and are named after Alphonse Tobin, a past member of North Melbourne Rotary Club, **Thursday 29th October**.

7.00pm for drinks, dinner starts promptly at 7.30pm.

Mercure Hotel, Cnr Flemington Road & Harker Street, N Melbourne Cost is \$55 per person.

Please contact Emily Glenn glenn@ipar.com.au - 0413 958 590



Gateway Rotaract Trivia 2015

November 7th, 7pm at Pascoe Vale RSL \$15 per person or a table of 8 for \$100

Contact Details: http://rotaract9800.org.au/trivia
More information: http://rotaract9800.org.au/trivia



Come and join Rotary International President Elect John Germ and Judy in a spectacular Melbourne setting at Etihad Stadium. A unique opportunity to meet and understand John as the man and as the Rotarian. As RI President Elect John will informally share with us his life and journey to Rotary President and give us an insight into his Rotary vision for 2016-17.

This will be a special opportunity for Club Presidents for 2016-17 but all Rotarians will enjoy the opportunity to join in this occasion.

Wednesday 18th November 6.30 pm reception for dinner at 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Limelight Room, Level D , Gate 4, Etihad Stadium, Docklands. Cost: \$70 per person Two course dinner includes welcome drink on arrival

Cash Bar available for your other drinks RSVP 2nd November 2015 Book early – it is easy to book and with only 250 attendees everyone can be close to the centre of the room.

Parking at Etihad is \$15 flat rate – enter after 5pm.

Dress: Jacket and Tie preferred

Enquiries: Ian Salek 0418 176 493 or Peter Rogers 0412 537 534

Bookings www.trybooking.com/JFYK



Stay informed on Rotary events: http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices

Western Health Research Week Dinner

Thursday 19th November. 6.00pm for 6.30pm, Western Centre for Research and Education, Sunshine Hospital, Furlong Rd, St Albans. Tickets \$125.00 per head or \$1000 for a table of 8. **RSVP November 10 Contact Graeme Thompson** 0414736142

gajethom@iinet.net.au

On line booking

http://www.ticketebo.com.au/western-health/2015-rotary-western-health-research-week-dinner.html

Guest Speaker: Professor Jeremy Oats: "Outcomes of pregnancy for mother and child - can Australia's experience help countries like Timor Leste?"

Professor Oats has been a leader of the Rotary Foundation Vocational Training Team project. providing obstetric emergency training courses for midwives and doctors in Timor Leste. Proceeds from this fundraising dinner will support the purchase of continuous blood glucose monitors for the Young Adult Diabetes Service.



2015 Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Breakfast

Guest Speaker: Professor Kate Leslie "To sleep, perchance to dream – what's really happening during general anaesthesia?"

Professor Kate Leslie is a specialist anaesthetist and head of anaesthesia research at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Kate has done extensive research in awareness and dreaming during anaesthesia and sedation.

Tuesday, 24th November 7.15 for 7.30 till 9.00am

RC Central Melbourne Sunrise
The RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne.
\$ 65.00 per head or \$600 for a table of ten
RSVP 16th November 2015

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Roy Garrett

0438 178 844 Email: roy@mingrit.com.au
BOOKINGS: www.trybooking.com/160173

2016 Rotary International Convention, Seoul

28th May to 1st June, 2016 It's your chance to connect with Rotary members from around the world. You'll build new relationships and exchange ideas across cultures.

http://www.riconvention.org



Our Contributors



District Governor Julie Mason of Wyndham RC is Principal of Baden Powell College.



Our peripatetic philosopher, Tony Thomas certainly gets around. At present, he's in sunny Queensland.



David Dippie of Keilor reminds us of the great work they do at the Donations-in-Kind store.



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



Clarice Caricare prefers the informal job descriptor of "Girl Friday", for reasons known only to herself.



Photographs by Monika Lozinska frequently appear in Rotary publications.



Matthew Scott of RC Bendigo South is our roving reporter in the deep north.



Grantham Beeston of the Rotary Club of Balwyn is a member of the Comunity Services Committee



Philip Archer is involved in the Membership Development Plan for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.



David Shave is a Past-President of Yarra Bend RC: he enjoys working on the RYLA Committee.