

The Networker



February is World Understanding Month

Rotary Friends and Friends of Rotary,

"Rotary believes that the citizen who best serves his country is the one who wishes to know the truth about his neighbours, and who desires to replace hatred between nations with friendship."

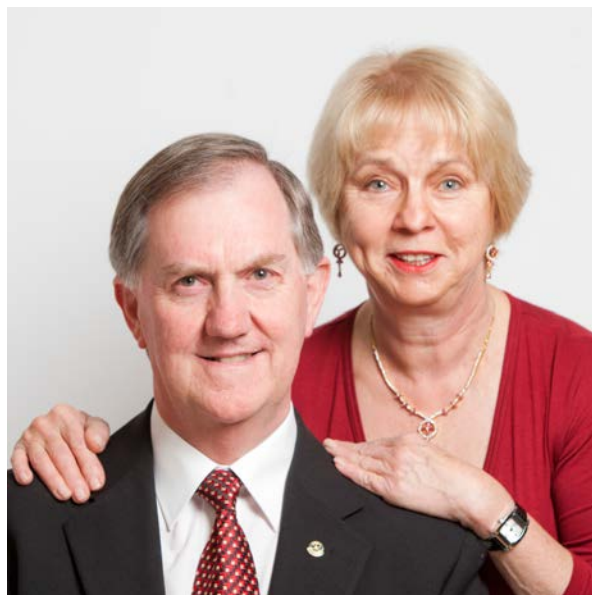
—George C. Hager, RI President 1938-39

Happy New Year to you all. The Christmas – New Year period is now a fading memory but I hope you and your family were able to have some time then to relax and unwind.

In the build up to Christmas, Irene and I were impressed by the way so many of our District clubs thought of others less fortunate than themselves. Rotarians delivered food hampers, provided toys for needy children, meals for the elderly and helped to run community carol singing events. Thank you for bringing joy to others and lighting up their lives.



Visiting an obstetric hospital in India



At the recent International Assembly held in San Diego, RI President-Elect K.R. Ravindran called on Rotarians in the world to 'Be a Gift to the World'. This is a very thoughtful and motivating theme for the next Rotary year, and will follow on well from RI President Gary Huang's current theme, "Light Up Rotary". Did you know that 2015 has been designated by the United Nations as the **International Year of Light**? What a fitting synergy with our Rotary theme.

Many of you will be aware that the Rotary theme months will change from 1 July 2015. The new designations are listed elsewhere in this edition of The Networker, but for now, February is still our World Understanding Month. The month includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905 which is now designated World Understanding and Peace Day. World Understanding Month is a chance for every club to pause, plan and promote Rotary's

Fourth Avenue of Service and our quest for goodwill, peace and understanding among people of the world.

How will your club *Light Up Rotary* in February by promoting World Understanding?

- Why not invite one of the 15 youth exchange students currently in the District to speak at a club meeting, attend a social function or join you on an excursion?
- Why not attend the welcome dinner for the Group Study Exchange Team from District 6840, USA being hosted by the Brighton Clubs at Milanos on 24th February?
- Alternatively, say hello to them at one of their many club presentations or at the District Conference.
- Has your club thought about nominating a Peace Scholar to undertake a master's degree at one of the Rotary Peace Centres around the world?
- Will you help raise money for the End Polio campaign by attending one of the Rotary premier nights to see the film "*The Second Best Marigold Hotel*"?
- Does your club seek out and support international projects through our District's matching grant program?
- Have you thought of holding a community day to highlight your international service work as was done successfully in Bendigo on Australia Day?
- Have you thought of a way to celebrate Rotary's 110th birthday on 23rd February? You could join other Rotarians and Rotary alumni at the Rotary Club of Footscray's celebrations on 21st February
- And have you registered to attend the District Conference in Hobart where you will be exposed to the wider world of Rotary and be inspired by what it achieves around the globe? Registrations close on 12th February.

Most of our clubs promote world understanding through a variety of service projects. February is a

good month to promote them to other Rotarians and to the community at large. It is also a good time to learn how other clubs and individuals are enhancing international peace and goodwill through Rotary's many humanitarian and education programs.



Now that Irene and I have completed our official DG visits, when time permits, we would like to support your club's social and community events. Please let us know if you have a special function coming up so we can add it to our diary and try to attend.

We wish you well in the second half of this Rotary year as you strive to complete your annual goals. Please don't hesitate to call me, your assistant governor, or others in the District Leadership Team if you need advice or assistance. We are here to help you *Light Up Rotary*!

Murray Verso
District Governor 2014-2015



Rotary bikers raise \$200,000+ for RoCan

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

Rotary bike-riders have raised more than \$200,000 for ovarian cancer research as they pedal 1000km to annual District 9800 conferences.

So far 22 riders, including six women, have signed on for a six-day ride around Tasmania preceding the 2015 conference on March 12-14. They will launch their ride from the Hobart Town Hall, with a municipal send-off. Back at conference, they will be congratulated on-stage by District Governor Murray Verso.

This year 12 riders to the 2014 conference at the Gold Coast raised \$40,000 and last year riders to Albury raised \$50,000.

Riders pay \$1000 each for ride support and beds, and sponsors bulk up the ride's profits. Main sponsors are Western Trucks Williamstown, SEW Euro Drive Australia, Marshalls & Dent Lawyers, and Accountable Accountants, Bacchus Marsh.

Yvonne Moon, of Williamstown RC, who is District spokeswoman for RoCan, says funds have gone to Ovarian Cancer Australia and to a Queensland University Ph.D candidate who has now finished her thesis.

Some new funding will go to Cancer-Probe Pty Ltd, a new cancer diagnostic group at Monash University, partnering with Ovarian Cancer Australia at Melbourne.

Clubs backing the 2015 ride are Bacchus Marsh, Altona, Fitzroy, Pakenham and Williamstown.

"RoCan is my passion," Yvonne says. "Ovarian cancer is the 'silent killer'; it kills a woman every 10 hours. and it killed a dear friend of mine I'd known for 38 years. We are all desperately hoping that researchers can come up with a reliable screening test for all women."

Like to ride or sponsor? Contact yvonne.moon@bigpond.com



Photos:

Above: Regis Garnsworthy, Yvonne Moon and Gus Garnsworthy

Left: Bike riders at the Gold Coast Conference in 2014

Small Canberra club runs big MUNA event

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

Bob Nield, past president of Canberra Sunrise Rotary Club, dropped in on a city club meeting on December 2.

His club's flagship project is the mid-August annual Rotary National Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), held in the House of Reps chamber in the old Parliament House. The club has run this for 18 years. This event has attracted up to 34 teams of 2-3 mainly Year 11 students, each team representing a UN country in a debating context. Many teams are sent from interstate Rotary clubs. The students usually get to meet the Governor-General at Government House and the major sponsor, the Australian National University, puts on a dinner for the students with a prestigious academic speaker. Organising the MUNA is a year-round job for the club, which is already working on the 2015 event.

The club, with about 35 members, has set up an InterAct group at Telopea Park High School for Year 9-10s, thanks to a member who's a teacher there:

"The students were interested in fund raising for a school library project we helped them get going at Port Resolution in Vanuatu."

Fund-raising overall is a challenge. Canberra East RC sells terra cotta garden gnomes from China at Canberra's 30-day Floriade floral festival in September-October each year. They are designed to be painted by kids and last year, Canberra's centenary, Canberra East sold close to 8000. Nield's club along with other Rotary and Rotaract Clubs contracts to provide crowd marshalls and helpers to Canberra East in return for a pro rata payment for volunteer hours contributed.

Canberra Sunrise aims to fund-raise about \$10,000 a year. Sausage sizzles have been a steady source of funds, but the club is finding spots at Bunnings much harder to obtain. "We have to book a year in advance for a slot, and conform to tight conditions," he says. "We also like to focus on hands-on service like garden clean-ups for pensioners'



Above: Our District 9800 team actually won the 2014 National MUNA. The team was Peggy Gusah from Point Cook Senior and Jenny Xue and Farah Iyer from Mac.Robertson Girls School. All the girls had previously competed at our District's own MUNA event at Camp Getaway held this year at the end of May and hosted by the Rotary Club of North Melbourne. Peggy has parents from Nigeria, Jenny's are from China and Farah's from India and in the debate they all represented Iran.

Desks and Chairs Galore!

By Derarca O'Mahony, Friends of Baguia

The Rotary Club of Hawthorn generously organised a 40ft Container to be shipped to Baguia, in eastern Timor Leste. In September, at the Rotary DIK (Donations In Kind) Footscray warehouse Rotarians and Friends of Baguia members packed 240 school desks, 820 chairs, 122 rolls of material, 10 blackboards, 2 sewing machines, 154 boxes of donated goods – clothes, bedding, toys, school and kindergarten supplies.

Musical instruments and two sound systems were also donated by members of the Glen Waverley Uniting Church.



At the Timor End:

I flew to Timor at the end of October to organise the Container unloading and the logistical issues of getting so much gear safely up to Baguia. In true Timor-style all well-laid plans kept constantly changing. However, in a two-day operation involving 5 large trucks and my 4WD packed to the hilt with valuable musical instruments and sound systems it all finally arrived in Baguia! The largest truck with all the palletised desks took 5 hours to travel the last 79kms of dreadful road from Baucau.

Then came the exhausting job of unloading it all – but there were Timorese smiles all round as each truck arrived over a six hour period – “Obrigada” – Thanks to Australia - was constantly being said to me!

The next week, local trucks were hired to take the desks and chairs from Baguia town to those schools that needed desks and had road access. I supervised loading and tried to restrict load sizes. It was a relief that despite an obvious lack of OH&S and schoolboys riding Timor-style on top of trucks – no one was hurt.



As always the strong Rufagua villagers had to carry their 25 desks and 50 chairs up their steep mountain goat track for two hours.



Christmas has come early to Baguia – as the Rotary boxes had loads of brand NEW clothing: suits, skirts, jackets and fleeces! The Timorese wanted to know the Australian prices of items and their eyes were wide at the prices I quoted. Everyone was beaming smiles – that heavy fleece jacket on the right was so treasured by its new owner he wore it every day fully zipped up despite 33C humid temperatures!

Friends of Baguia is a community group that was formed to foster friendship, support and cross-cultural exchange

Photos: left: Container loading team at DIK Footscray
Above: A load of desks and chairs heading up to a School
Leopoldina and teachers in new jackets and skirts

Free sausage sizzles net \$35,000

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

The Flemington Rotary Club has an unusual deal with sausage sizzles – it gives out free food but can still raise about \$1000 each time.

Over the past two years, it has earned more than \$35,000 from the BBQs. The secret: it contracts to Victoria's Regional Rail Service to run VicRail's BBQs, and hands out the VicRail breakfasts to travellers inconvenienced by rail re-organisations.

Flemington RC past-president Peter Cribb says regional line interruptions through upgrades and servicing, mean passengers from places like St Albans, Sunbury and Geelong may have to be taken by bus to the Showgrounds Station at Flemington. There they re-connect with their rail service. While they wait on the platform, they can enjoy a hot sausage with onions, sauce and a drink or fruit.



The club has sometimes been asked to provide the service every morning for a week. Eight of the club's 30 members may be rostered on to run the BBQ. Flemington RC President Jon Temby says "The program is enjoyed by both commuters and Rotarians and the finances make a very important contribution to the clubs community support programs."



Kensington mental health worker awarded top Australia Day honour

BETTY Kitchener has poured years of work into de-mystifying myths and misconceptions about mental health issues.

Ms Kitchener's creation of the world-first [mental health first aid course](#) has earned the Kensington resident an Australia Day honour by being named a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

"It really gets people to understand what is a mental illness because there are so many myths out there about it," she said. "It's also learning the skills on how to help at a first aid level just like you would learn at a first aid course."

The 12-hour course has been taught to more than 300,000 people across Australia and has expanded to 23 other countries, including the US, England and Pakistan. It has also been taught to a participant in Antarctica via video.

Ms Kitchener started the course with her husband and Melbourne University Professor Tony Jorm in 2000.

It has been taught out of community halls as well as in workplaces for those who may be in occupations dealing with mental health but haven't had intense training such as pharmacists and lawyers.

"It's not for mental health nurses and clinical psychologists where you expect people to have a higher level to training," she said.

Ms Kitchener said it was an absolute thrill to receive the award and that it recognised the dedication of her staff, who helped rebuild the program after an auspice arrangement did not work out in 2011.

The course is also offered online and there are plans to develop a blended e-learning and face-to-face course in the future.



From Leader Community Newspapers:

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/leader/west/kensington-mental-health-worker-awarded-top-australia-day-honour/story-fngnvmj7-1227195021889>

Photo: Adam Elwood

Betty Kitchener is a member of the Rotary Club of Carlton.

Welcome New Members



The Rotary Club of Hawthorn was pleased to induct Stephen Bowtell to the Club. Stephen has a classification of I.T. Technical Services, and is seen here (right) with President Chris Hanson and his proposer Noel Halford.

From Seven to Seven Hundred Women; Winner of the 2014 Ethical Enterprise

Seven Women, an aid organisation that empowers marginalised Nepalese women, was named Australia's most Ethical Enterprise by Moral Fairground, winning the 2014 Ethical Enterprise Award last November.



Since starting in 2006 with just seven women in the program, Seven Women has provided literacy, skills training and employment to over 750 marginalised women in Nepal, providing them an opportunity to take control of their lives and gain independence. The organisation operates three training and employment centres in Nepal, two of which are now self-sustaining with local income and no longer need operational funding from Australia – this means the money generated in Australia can go towards expanding the project with additional centres. The prize money will be used to purchase land in Nepal to provide security for the organisation's projects.

Seven Women was judged on what makes it an ethical enterprise, the social or economic impact it delivers, and its innovation in ethical trade practices. Their philosophy of “a hand up not a hand out” underpins all its business decisions.

The Ethical Enterprise Award saw 60 award entries by businesses all

over Australia that operate in the social enterprise sector, supporting fair trade, environmental sustainability, and social and economic empowerment causes, among others.

The award celebrates the achievements of ethical businesses, and promotes the idea that you don't have to compromise your values to make a profit nor do you have to compromise profit to stick to your values.

The Seven Women program began in 2009 as a grass roots development project to create change for seven women who were found operating out of a tin shed and enduring harsh discrimination as a result of being disabled. Seven Women founder Stephanie Woollard first met these women and invested in training in the hope that gaining literacy and skills would give them a means to earn an income.

More information: Meike Suggars - volunteer Marketing Manager

meike@suggarsassociates.com (+61) 413136121

www.sevenwomen.org

www.facebook.com/SevenWomenStore

Visit <http://moralfairground.com.au/ethical-enterprise-award-2014/> for details about Moral Fairground and the award.



Seven Women founder Stephanie Woollard is currently a Rotary Peace Fellow, completing her Masters degree in Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University in Sweden. Last year she sent a Post Card of thanks via Bob Fels. This is what she said – her enthusiasm speaks for itself:

I am writing from my beautiful new home in Sweden where I am living with a Swedish family (mother, father, daughter, son and another boy who rents the other room). I love Uppsala.

Tomorrow I begin my course in Peace and Conflict Research and I am so excited. This is an unbelievable opportunity enabling me to meet like-minded class mates sharing experiences in the field with the other nine Rotary Peace Fellows.

I can't wait to learn all the course has to teach. It has been fantastic meeting Suzanne Brenning and the current and incoming District Governors. I am humbled, grateful and excited and will give it my 100%.

Thanks so much to both Rotary Club of Melbourne and The Rotary Foundation for investing in me. I believe this is a fantastic way to bring peace to the world.

P.S. Tomorrow we have a lecture by Kofi Annan.

Stephanie Woollard.



Hands On Development Tour to Nepal



Applications are now open for the Seven Women Hands On Development Tour to Nepal.

Come join social entrepreneur Stephanie Woollard in the country that has inspired her to make a difference and develop a grass roots sustainable enterprise called Seven Women (sevenwomen.org), which has in six short years skilled and employed over 750 marginalised women in Nepal.

You will spend 15 days exploring the country, people and culture of Nepal and get real hands on experience as you join local people, share in their work and add your own experience and skills to help them develop effective enterprises.

This tour is all inclusive:

- 4- star accommodation in Kathamandu at Hotel Moonlight
- Meals, activities, flights, transport, transfers, entry fees.
- 24 hour wi fi access
- Visits to many social enterprises including Seven Women
- Village homestay
- Cultural activities including cooking class, elephant ride, canoe ride, jungle walk, temple tours, markets.



All inclusive price \$4870-

(Students may be eligible for a *tour special \$3500 depending on what university they attend.)

Get a snapshot of our tours:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnsWwzJM1_M



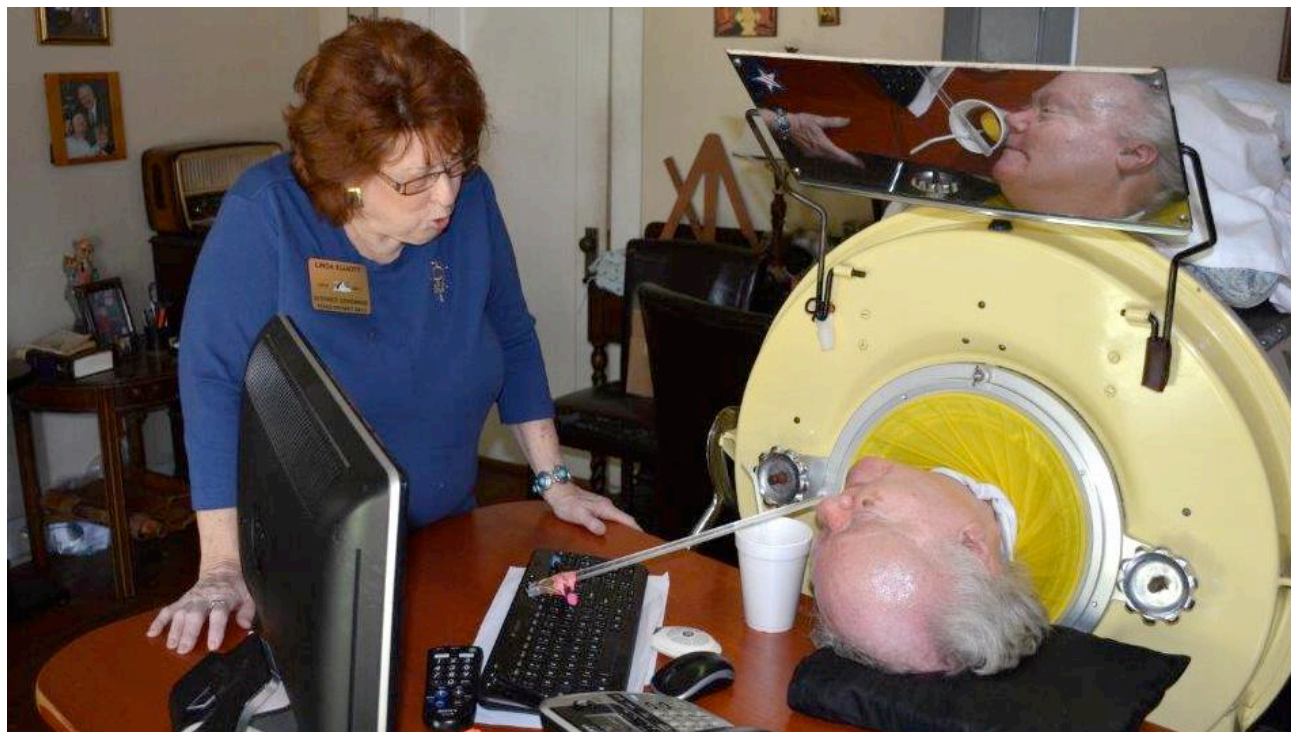
To ensure a cohesive and dynamic group acceptance we interview participants before acceptance onto the tour. For an application form please email handsondevelopmenttours@gmail.com

More info on the Website: <http://handsondevelopment.com.au>

MAN IN IRON LUNG DISCOVERS ROTARY

One might think a man living with polio in an iron lung would know about Rotary. But it wasn't until Paul Alexander had a business meeting with a member in Duncanville, Texas, earlier this year that he learned Rotary fights to eradicate the very disease that left him almost completely paralyzed.

"I was completely blown away by the idea. For all these years, I didn't know the work they were doing," says Alexander, a practicing attorney in Dallas. "It's such a perfect fit for me."



Rotary e-club member Linda Elliott visits fellow member Paul Alexander in his home. Alexander is among a small number of people in the world today who rely on an iron lung to breathe.

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Linda Elliott, a member of the Rotary e-club of D5810

Alexander contracted polio during a major U.S. outbreak of the disease in the late 1950s when he was six years old, and almost died in the hospital before a doctor noticed he wasn't breathing and rushed him into an iron lung. Alexander is among a small number of people in the world today still using an iron lung to assist his paralytic polio. The need for the 800-pound machines declined dramatically after the polio vaccine became widely available in the early 1960s.

In October, Alexander became a member of the Rotary E-Club of District 5810 during an induction ceremony held in his home, attended by Rotary's President Gary C.K. Huang through an online connection. Alexander is writing a book about his experience and wants to be an ambassador for Rotary promoting the benefits of eradicating polio.

Read this amazing story at

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/member-news/news-features/man-iron-lung-discovers-rotary>





Aged care donates to those in need

A significant donation of goods from Victorian not for profit aged care provider, Benetas, is expected to improve the lives of many people in need.

Benetas, together with Rotary Club of Melbourne volunteers, spent a day at Benetas Hurlingham Day Respite in Brighton East loading the large amount of goods into multiple trucks.

Surplus items from various Benetas residential aged care facilities, including clinical equipment (such as care beds and wheelchairs), whitegoods, lounge furniture and office furniture, was donated.

Rotary Donations In Kind is a major recycling operation run by volunteers that donates suitable goods to people in need, through the Western Emergency Relief Network (WERN).

Benetas chief executive, Sandra Hills, says the donation is part of Benetas' commitment to supporting disadvantaged people in the community.

"As a not for profit, we saw this as a wonderful opportunity for Benetas to make a difference and not be wasteful," Ms Hills says.

"Benetas is constantly working with the community and prides itself as a leader and advocate for older Victorians and those in need."

The Benetas Property Team, assisting with the furniture relocation, says they are thrilled to see the items continue to be put to good use as they were still in excellent condition.

Bob Glindemann, from Rotary Donations In Kind, thanked Benetas for coordinating the large WERN, a part of Rotary, supports refugees and people who are experiencing trauma or loss, long term illness, unemployment, domestic violence, lack of family support, homelessness, or loss of home and belongings through fire.

Benetas is a not for profit organisation that provides a range of aged care, respite and home care assistance services. Benetas Hurlingham Respite Centre offers day and overnight respite services in a friendly, safe and secure environment



PHOTO: Edgar Korenyovszky, Benetas facilities maintenance team leader, helps Bob Glindemann, from Rotary Donations In Kind, load items into the truck.



The Rotary Foundation

A gift of \$100 helps provide a sewing machine that can teach entrepreneurs the skills they need to launch a business. Every year, hundreds of thousands of people — children, families, and entire communities — benefit from projects funded by The Rotary Foundation. Have you made your gift to the Foundation this year?

- ¥ [See what your gift supports](#)
- ¥ [Learn about our areas of focus](#)
- ¥ [Find more ways to give](#)



Rotary Blazers for 2015 Outbound Youth Exchange Students

On Sunday 14th December D9800 Youth Exchange Committee held its Final Briefing and Blazer Presentation Dinner for the Outbound Youth Exchange Students for 2015. The venue was International House in Parkville. It was the final preparation event for 12 young leaders, our D9800 Outbound students and their families prior to the students' mid January departure for 12 months of Exchange as Rotary Ambassadors.

The students will participate in an educational and cultural exchange in their Host Countries. They have been studying some basic words and phrases to assist them upon arrival in their Host Country. All students confidently introduced themselves and spoke competently in their new language to 90 or so attendees, consisting of their families, friends, Sponsor

Club representatives and the D9800 Youth Exchange Committee at this memorable Rotary annual event.



Outbound students with DG Murray Verso and Youth Exchange Chairman Vanda Mullen.



Their Host country destinations will be Finland, Germany, Norway, Japan, Denmark, Turkey, Sweden, Brazil, Spain and France. Much appreciation is extended to the following Sponsor Clubs for supporting and mentoring the 2015 Outbound students: the Rotary Clubs of Kyneton, Yarra Bend, Bendigo Next Generation, Footscray, Bendigo, Keilor East, Bendigo South, Glen Eira, Laverton-Point Cook, Flemington and Eaglehawk.

District Governor Murray Verso, an outstanding supporter of Rotary Youth Exchange, was the keynote speaker at the Blazer Presentation Dinner. He 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.

If your club would like to receive further information about:

- hosting an Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student in July 2015 or January 2016 (from Brazil)
- selecting and sponsoring an Outbound student for travel in 2016
- or perhaps having a guest speaker presentation at your club about the Rotary Youth Exchange program,

contact Chairman Vanda Mullen vmullen@netspace.net.au or 0408 109 368 or view the D9800 Youth Exchange website for further information:

www.rotaryyouthexchangeaustralia.com.au

Somalis help with Somali shipment

By Tony Thomas, RC Central Melbourne Sunrise

A 40ft container crammed with valuable hospital equipment will soon be leaving Melbourne for Somalia.

The container includes 50 mechanically raiseable beds each worth \$8000 when new, a bath-bed for triage, two blood dialysis machines and chairs (\$50,000 each when new), two oxygen machines, 20 brand new walking frames, and scores of boxes of gauze, syringes, and catheters.

medical equipment was made to Flemington RC. DIK regularly receives quality used medical equipment. Graeme Thompson, President of Footscray Rotary and a recently retired senior medical officer with Western Health, helped locate the superseded medical equipment.

The beds being shipped to Somalia came from NSW. Cribb says they are particularly suitable because they are manually rather than electrically operated. Laurie



“We estimate the container-load would have a replacement value in excess of \$500,000,” says Peter Cribb, past-president of Flemington Rotary.

The western-suburbs Somali community threw its weight behind the project. They raised \$8000 to help cover the container and freight costs. Nine Somalis helped load the container at Rotary’s ‘Donations In Kind’ (DIK) depot in West Footscray, and others painted the container with Rotary inspired branding.

Allan Bruno of Flemington RC says the Somali input will also help get the contents delivered safely to hospitals in Puntland Province. The province has a population of 5m, half the total Somali population.

The initiative came from Dr Mahomed Omar, who represents Puntland in Melbourne. His request for

Fisher, the DIK store manager is assisted on the medical aspects by Rotarian/DIK volunteer Bronwyn Stephens, a retired nurse, who helps to provide expert advice.

The Footscray and Flemington Rotary Clubs are among the nine clubs helping fund DIK.

“The Footscray/Flemington districts have a large population now from Somalia and Eritrea,” Peter Cribb says. “This project shows how willing the Somalis’ are to help others.”



'Be a Gift to the World'

Using their talents, expertise, and leadership, Rotary members worldwide are asked to be gifts to the world this upcoming 2015-16 Rotary year.

Rotary International President-elect **K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran** called Sunday's address to incoming district governors the "most significant moment of my life."

"All of you have been given so many gifts. And you have now been given this great gift: one year to take all your talents, all your gifts, everything that you are and can become -- and Be a Gift to the World," said Ravindran, revealing his presidential theme at the annual five-day training meeting in San Diego, California, USA. "You have one year to take that potential and turn it into reality. One year to lead the clubs in your district and transform the lives of others. The time is so short, yet there is so much to be done."

Highlighting Rotary's biggest challenge, the eradication of polio, Ravindran said, "A future without polio is a gift that we have promised to the children of the world. And indeed it is a gift that we will give."

Read more about the theme:

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/member-news/news-features/president-elect-urges-rotary-members-be-gift-world>



RI Club Invoicing

This information has been received from the RI South Pacific Office:

We are aware that there have been, and will continue to be, many changes for clubs to adapt to. One of the largest is the change in the Club Invoicing that comes into effect with the January 2015 invoice.

To assist your clubs through the requirements, our office has prepared a presentation on the New Club Invoice and the changes that will be occurring, together with the inclusion of Rotary Down Under magazine subscription costs on the RI invoice.

The presentation is in the form of Powerpoint with an audio commentary, and can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsfCAitGXfQ&feature=youtu.be>

It would be appreciated if you could forward this information and the link to your clubs, so that they are able to receive the most up to date information that is available. If they have any questions regarding this process they should contact our office on +61 2 8894 9800 or email to risppo@rotary.org

Joy Walker, Acting International Office Manager
Manager, Club & District Support, South Pacific & Philippines Office



Camp Getaway Update

By Wayne Smith, Chair Camp Getaway

Work on the new kitchen has finally commenced, with Leon Scott coordinating another working bee at Camp Getaway over January 19th to 22nd. The preparatory working bee in early January saw lot of work done in connection with the hall, which will not be impeded upon again until the last of the connection works for the two buildings.

Efforts were then concentrated on laying out the kitchen foundation piles and digging and pouring twelve of the footings. In total there are 28 foundations. An excavator and borer was used on site, with willing volunteers undertaking many tasks in the heat, including forming up the boxing to take the hold down bolts.

The preparation of the site to locate two containers donated by RC Camberwell, was also finalised.



Camp Getaway caters for those of all abilities and mobility, provides a meeting place for support groups, and offers those who need it most a sanctuary away from their daily struggles. Whilst disability and related support groups have priority for booking dates, Camp Getaway welcomes bookings from family groups, church groups, clubs, special functions, business meetings, and recreational groups. All enquiries are welcome. Contact Manager Dowell Mitchell on 03 5439 7228 <http://www.campgetaway.com.au>



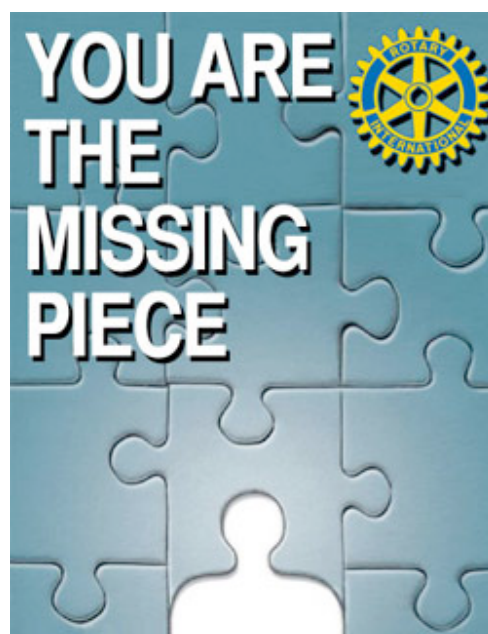
Reversing the Recruitment Chill

By RI President Gary C.K. Huang

At the 2014 Rotary International Assembly in Sydney, Australia, President **Gary C.K. Huang** outlined some of the recruitment and retention methods used by Rotary Clubs in those nations experiencing the most growth. Their practices serve as examples to clubs struggling to stop the loss of members.



- 1 Be Family Friendly: Club events in Germany and India are designed to be family friendly. Children and significant others are invited to get involved. When your sons and daughters get interested and involved with Rotary, they are more likely to become members themselves. This practice also makes it easier for parents to choose between family life and club service. And, the intergenerational aspect means that older members are better able to understand the needs and viewpoints of the next generation of Rotarians.
- 2 Use the Media: In Lithuania, clubs work hard to get their message out to the local media. By maintaining a good relationship with reporters, they ensure positive media coverage of Rotary efforts. Journalists who know about their local Rotary Clubs are also more likely to reach out to them in search of a story.
- 3 Support Youth outside Rotary: Clubs in Japan sponsor the annual 'Yoneyama Scholarship', which rewards academic performance, intercultural understanding and communication ability. They have a great deal of success recruiting the winners of this scholarship, thus gaining the talents of young people with a proven track record of dedication and success.



Going beyond these general points, RI has provided local clubs with specific strategies to help them attract new members and hold on to them in the long-term. Each region has been provided with a plan specific to their culture and needs, and targets to aim toward. Clubs can access these [regional plans online](#). The plans outline the membership goals for each region, and provide basic advice for achieving those goals.

- See more at:
<http://site.clubrunner.ca/Page/reversing-the-recruitment-chill>
[l#sthash.yFt56apQ.dpuf](#)



Notices and Events

Rotary Club of Prahran Community Forum “Beginner’s Guide to Confronting Homelessness”

Thursday 5th February, 8am – 9.30am breakfast.

RSL Memorial Hall, 301 High Street, Prahran 3181

The Q & A panel comprises:

CEO of Kids Under Cover, Jo Swift

Salvation Army : Sally Coutts, Manager Research and Program Development

Sacred Heart Mission: Linda Bradley, Homefront Coordinator

Prahran Mission: Tracey Swadling

Victoria Police (Prahran): Sen. Sgt. Dagmar Andersen

Contact: Susie Cole 0414 907 263 Bookings www.rotaryprahran.org.au or bookings@rotaryprahran.org.au



ROMAC Information Seminar

Saturday February 7th 10:00 am until Noon

Lifesaving Victoria, Cnr The Boulevard & Todd Road, Port Melbourne

ROMAC provides specialist treatment for children from developing countries, in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country

This is your opportunity to learn more about a wonderful humanitarian program and the opportunities that exist for you to make a contribution to the lives of children in our region.

Please RSVP to Gerry Phillips (Chairman, Rotary District 9800 ROMAC Committee) on 0418 349 024 or gerryp@iinet.net.au. Morning tea will be provided.



Taste of Kyneton

Sunday February 15th Taste of Kyneton will showcase the best of Kyneton’s restaurant, café and produce scene. It will be held on the lawns at NMIT Kyneton Park. The food will be complemented with local wines and ciders, live music and kids’ entertainment. Tickets for the event are \$12 pre-sale or \$15 at the gate. Gates open at 11am and close at 4pm. Tickets are available from www.trybooking.com/GOVD.

Event Organiser, Alan Potter 0400 266 641

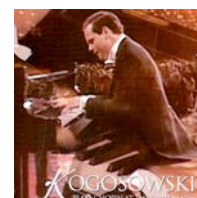


Alan Kogosowski and Three Sopranos

The most popular composer of all time for the piano, with a wealth of melodies that have transcended the classical music world, will be celebrated on his birthday. The concert will be hosted and presented by world-renowned Chopin performer and authority Alan Kogosowski, with the assistance of three outstanding sopranos. One might call it ‘Chopin and Melody’ or ‘Alan and the Sopranos’.

Sunday 22 February, at - 7pm Glen Eira Auditorium (cnr Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield)

Tickets and Bookings- 9570-1954 or 9571-4389 - \$30 and \$20 concession



Group Study Exchange Welcome Dinner

DINNER celebrating the arrival of the GSE Team from District 6840, Louisiana, U.S.A.

Milano’s Hotel, The Esplanade, Brighton Beach **Tuesday 24th February** 6:30pm for 7.00pm

Cost: \$35 per person (2 Courses, Drink on arrival & then drinks at bar prices)

Cheques Payable to: Rotary Club of Brighton Beach Inc PO Box 165, Brighton, Victoria

EFT Payments to: Rotary Club of Brighton Beach Inc

BSB 083-276 Account 94-537-4378 (include your name)

RSVP: Friday 13th February, 2015 Julie Avery: 9591 9591 (Bus) eMail: julie@brightontravel.com.au

Keiran Cromie: 0419 252 814



District 9800 Alumni Association Dinner

Please join us for the District 9800 Alumni Association Dinner and Celebration of Rotary International 110th Anniversary. **Saturday 21 February**, at 7:00pm Tickets: \$70 per person

Croatia House, 72 Whitehall Street, Footscray

Speaker: Belinda Green, PE Rotary E-Club of Melbourne

Foundation Alumni Association: "From GSE to E-Club"

.RSVP: 12 February to Dr Ejanul Haque Email: ejanul.haque@rmit.edu.au Ph: 0422 677 944

<http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=118085&embed=118085>



Moonee Valley Art Show: Keilor East Rotary Club and Essendon Rotary Clubs

Venue: St Columbans Mission "North Park Mansion" 69 Woodlands St., Essendon.

Preview Evening on **Friday 27th February**, then **Saturday and Sunday, 1st of March**.

Tickets the Friday Gala Event or the Saturday & Sunday Open Days are available on line

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

On Saturday 28th February & Sunday 1st March there will be food, drinks and other things happening

For further details: www.mooneevalleyartshow.com.au



International Women's Day Breakfast

March 5, 2015, 7:00 am, at Crown Palladium

Book now to secure your seat or table at early bird prices....save \$10 per seat.

Corporate tables also available with marketing and promotion benefits

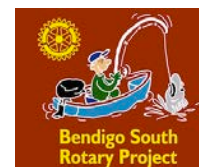
More information and Booking at <http://www.rotarywomen.org.au/iwd-melbourne-breakfast-2015>



THE LAKE EPPALOCK FISHING CLASSIC - April 11 & 12, 2015.

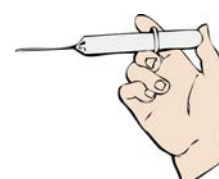
Visit our website to find out more and to register.

www.lakeeppalockfishingclassic.com.au



Concerned about alcohol and drugs?

The Australian Drug Foundation has recently published new resources to help parents discuss drugs and alcohol with their children. **The Other Talk** is about Australian families talking openly about alcohol and other drugs. **Safe Partying Guide** is a pocket-sized leaflet for children aged 10+ covers safe partying tips, facts about alcohol and drugs. For free copies contact the Australian Drug Foundation on 1300 85 85 84 or druginfo@adf.org.au. www.TheOtherTalk.org.au



World of Difference Gift Cards

Cambodia is the 4th poorest country in our world. Choose a gift to help in a meaningful way.

Gift cards available from \$8 (school uniform and shoes) to \$860 (a cow) with lots of options in between.

All money donated is used in Cambodia without administration charges.

<http://wod.org.au>



Anzac 2015 Centennial Tour 15th - 29th April, 2015

The Rotary Club of Balwyn, District 9800, the Rotary Club of Goksu and District 2420, invites you to join the Rotary ANZAC Centennial Tour Gallipoli 2015... **FEW CABINS remaining**

http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/news/1742/anzac-2015-centennial-tour/?type_fr=36



Rotary Leadership Institute - Dates updated to June 2015

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district leadership development program which seeks to have Rotary Clubs identify those Rotarians who seem to have the potential for future club leadership

More: http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/news/1627/rotary-leadership-institute/?type_fr=36





A vibrant poster for the Rotary District 9800 Conference 2015. The background is a gradient of purple and red with a large, glowing yellow and red lantern in the center. The text "LIGHT UP ROTARY" is written in white, bold, capital letters across the lantern. Below the lantern, the text "Rotary District 9800 Conference 2015" is in white, and "Illuminating Rotary" is in a large, yellow, cursive font. The dates "12-14 March 2015 | Hobart" are in white. The website "www.rotary9800conference.org.au" is in yellow, and the Facebook link "www.facebook.com/D9800Conference" is in red. The poster features several circular portraits of keynote speakers, a group photo of a crowd, and a large, glowing yellow and red lantern. The text "keynote speakers" is written in yellow, and "Fantastic entertainment to Light up your Conference" is in white. The text "Hobart Tours" is in yellow, and "See Tasmania" is in white. The poster also includes a small image of a car and a large, glowing yellow and red lantern.

keynote speakers

Light UP ROTARY

Fantastic entertainment to Light up your Conference

Rotary District 9800 Conference 2015

Illuminating Rotary

Hobart Tours

12-14 March 2015 | Hobart

www.rotary9800conference.org.au

Find us on facebook www.facebook.com/D9800Conference

See Tasmania



Are Irene and Murray lost? No, they know they can get away from it all, at Camp Getaway in Axedale. They may even be lucky enough to join a working bee



A poster for the Valentine's Day Gala Charity Ball. The background is a deep red with a large, stylized red heart in the center. The text "The event of the year" is written in a yellow banner at the top. Below it, the title "Valentine's Day Gala Charity Ball" is in a large, white, cursive font. The text "A night of glamour & romance" is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The date and time "Time & date: 7:00pm, Saturday 14th February 2015" are in white. The venue "Venue: Bendigo Town Hall" is in white. The price "Price: \$130.00" is in white. The tickets information "Tickets: Bendigo Advertiser, 1st Floor, 47 Queen St, Bendigo. Ph: 5434 4433" is in white. The meal and drink information "3 Course Meal, Local Wines & Beer. Spirits @ bar prices." is in white. The dietary requirements information "Please specify special dietary requirements" is in white. The text "Raising funds for Bendigo Oncology | Great Raffle Prizes to be won" is in white at the bottom.

The event of the year

Valentine's Day Gala Charity Ball

A night of glamour & romance

Time & date: 7:00pm, Saturday 14th February 2015

Venue: Bendigo Town Hall

Price: \$130.00

Tickets: Bendigo Advertiser, 1st Floor, 47 Queen St, Bendigo. Ph: 5434 4433

3 Course Meal, Local Wines & Beer. Spirits @ bar prices.

Please specify special dietary requirements

Raising funds for Bendigo Oncology | Great Raffle Prizes to be won



Western Emergency Relief Network (WERN)

WERN is a non-profit organization changing lives every day for those marginalized in our society or suffering trauma through emergency circumstances. We help trauma victims recovering from such devastating events as fire and flood.

WERN also assists in situations such as family violence, refugees and the homeless. WERN is made up of people and organizations who care and want to make a difference.



Rotary
A Community Service Project
of the Rotary Clubs of
Buckley Marsh, Melton
Valley, Sunshine and
Wyndham



WANTED
Can you
help with
Donations,
Time
or Skills?

- Do you want to make a difference to lives of others?
- Do you want to help people in crisis?
- Can you afford a few hours per month with like-minded people helping others?
- Can you assist our valuable program through financial or physical assistance?

If you want to get involved, know someone who could help or you wish to donate furniture, bedding, electrical or whitegoods please contact below representatives.



With grateful appreciation to Eastern Emergency Relief Network

WERN Manager, Boris Schwartz M. 0427 821 243.
Program Chair: PDG Ross Butterworth P. 03 8742 5610 M. 0411 228311
8 Jamieson Ct. Eynesbury 3338
E. butterworth.8@bigpond.com

2015 **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST** **THURSDAY, 5 MARCH**

EARLY BOOKINGS NOW OPEN
SAVE \$10 A TICKET

DOES GENDER EQUALITY BENEFIT US ALL?

THE DEBATE WE HAVE TO HAVE

THE PALLADIUM CROWN, SOUTHBANK
7:00 FOR 7:15 AM TO 9:00 AM

THIS YEAR OUR PANEL, MODERATED BY GERALDINE DOOGUE, WILL TACKLE THOSE HARD QUESTIONS WE ARE STILL SEEKING TO ANSWER.

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BY JOINING US AND ENJOY OUR PANEL'S CONVERSATION ON **GENDER EQUALITY**

PRESENTING PARTNER: **CLARKE & COMPANY**
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
PRIVATE & BUSINESS SERVICES

MAJOR PARTNERS: **nab**, **GORDON & JACKSON**, **KAY & BURTON**

Rotary Club of Eaglehawk

TWILIGHT MARKETS
Second Thursday of each month
All Proceeds to Rotary Youth Programs

Mechanics Hall - Home of Eaglehawk Rotary

Original Cal Gully School - Circa 1853

Indoor & Outdoor Stalls
Come and find a bargain!

Location: CAL GULLY MECHANICS HALL
8 School Street, California Gully

Dates: 2nd Thursday of each month
First Market: 13th November 2014
Time: 4:00 - 7:00pm (weather permitting)

General Enquiries:
Gordon: 0409 266 836
Ron: 0457 516 752

Stall Holder Enquiries Welcome
Contact June:
Tel: 0434 639 329
E-mail: adalavina@hotmail.com

Proceeds will be directed to different charities. Our major charity is **Violence Free Families**, a Rotary initiative that educates Australian families challenged by aggressive & violent behaviour. Other charities include **Interplast**, repairing bodies and rebuilding lives; the **Kids Foundation**, keeping Aussie kids safe; and the **Albert Park Rotary Club**.

SUSTAINABILITY IN CAMBODIA

Please consider giving gifts this Christmas to friends that will make a World of Difference to children and families in Cambodia.

You will receive a colourful gift card explaining the gift you are giving.

Gifts that keep on giving for Christmas

THANKYOU
You have just made the children and families in Cambodia as Bright as this Card

World of difference

World of difference

World of difference

Dates for your Diary

Rotary's 110th Birthday 23 February, 2015

District Conference 12-14 March, 2015
http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_regular#sthash.Z3b1knU6.dpuf

Multi District PETS Training Saturday 28th – 1st March
http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_regular#sthash.Z3b1knU6.dpuf

Rotary and Friends @ Work Month April 2015

Anzac 2015 Centennial Tour 15th - 29th April
The Rotary Club of Balwyn, District 9800, the Rotary Club of Goksu and District 2420, invites you to join the Rotary ANZAC Centennial Tour Gallipoli 2015... ONLY 10 CABINS remaining
http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org/notices_and_events_future#sthash.nqibTRr.dpuf



Polio Escorted Tours to India
11 nights & 12 days*

1200++ Rotarian visitors, 126 Rotary Districts, Serving since 1991

NID DATES – INDIA
16th November 2014
18th January 2015
22nd February 2015

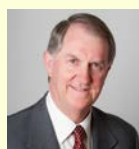
Highlights
First 30 participants globally get US\$100 Polio sustaining membership gift certificate*
Polio Eradication, Rotary Meeting and Rotary Projects
Distribute flyers, Polio drops, take part in the Polio Rally/Road Show
Home Hosting with Rotarian's
Excursion to Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Jama Mosque, Raj Ghat, Amber Fort, City Palace
It's known for amazing Indian food and best shopping experience for Handicrafts
Participation starting from One person (Traveling alone)

Sign up today
Click here to download Tour Itinerary with Cost
FOR ENQUIRY PLEASE CONTACT
MPHF Rtn Rahul Wadhwa | President | E: rahul@calindiatours.com

Alok Kumar | Tour Executive, Rotary Inbound Tours
29, Wadhwa House, Nikhil Garden Phase-1, Near Parasvanath Panchvati Plaza,
Taj Nagar Phase-II Agra- 282001, UP-India, Tel: +91-562-6459375 |
Cell no: - +91-9837061405
Email: calindiatours@gmail.com
*conditions apply *Strictly Private Circulation

CAL INDIA
Travel and Transportation

Our Contributors



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



Tony Thomas writes prolifically for "Quadrant" and "The Networker"



Derarca O'Mahony is the National Convenor of the Australia-Timor Friendship Network



David Dippie is a Past President of Keilor Rotary Club. DIK is his passion.



Vanda Mullen chairs the District 9800 Youth Exchange Committee



Gary C. K. Huang is President of Rotary International. He has been a Rotarian since 1976.