# ROTARY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

**Volume 103** | **Issue 25** | **February 5, 2016** 

## **Today's Program**

Ian Riseley

### Host

Michele Guy Michele was our first female president in 2001-02.

## **Topic**

R.I. President Nominee 2017-18

## Location

The National Club, 303 Bay St



IAN RISELEY, Sandringham, Vic., Australia Trustee, The Rotary Foundation, 2011-15 Treasurer, Rotary International, 2007-08 Director, Rotary International, 2006-07

Ian Riseley is a chartered accountant and principal of Ian Riseley and Co., a firm he established in 1976. Prior to starting his own firm, he worked in the audit and management consulting divisions of large accounting firms and corporations.

A Rotarian since 1978, Ian is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia. He has served RI as treasurer, director, and as member and chair of numerous RI and Foundation committees. Most recently, he served as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation and is currently co-chair of the 2016 (Seoul) Convention Committee.

Ian has been a member of the board for both a private and a public school, member of the Community Advisory Group for the City of Sandringham, and President of Beaumaris Sea Scouts Group. He has been President of Langi-Taan Ski Club as well as honorary auditor or advisor for a number of charitable organizations.

Ian's honors include the AusAID Peacebuilder Award from the Australian government in recognition of his work in East Timor, the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to the Australian community, and the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World from The Rotary Foundation.

Ian is married to Juliet, a past district governor. They are Major Donors and Bequest Society members of The Rotary Foundation. They have two children, and four grandchildren. Ian and Juliet live on seven hectares at Moorooduc where they practice their personal philosophy of sustainable and organic living.

## **Rotary International Conventions - Events Not to be Missed**

The first gathering was in Chicago in 1910 with 60 registrants. The first outside the USA was in Edinborough in 1921 with 2,523 present. The first of four in Toronto was in 1924 with 9,173 guests.

But three of the four largest have been in the far east: 1978 in Tokyo with 39,834, 1989 in Seoul with 38,873 and 2004 in Osaka with 43,381. These many Rotarians can't be wrong. Mark your calendars now.

2016 – May 28 to June 1 in Seoul, Korea

2017 – June 10 to June 14 in Atlanta, Georgia 2018 – June 24 to June 27 right here in Toronto!



The first of two conventions held in Salt Lake City, this one in 1919



The Toronto Contingent in Atlantic City 1920

Are you one of the 35,000 who has registered for the convention already? If not, don't miss the opportunity to connect with new friends from around the world at the **2016 Korea Convention**, May 28 to June 1.

At Convention, tour the House of Friendship and the more than 100 booths to exchange project ideas, partner with other clubs and explore new hobbies. Convention provides an opportunity to network, hear about new initiatives and make a difference, while forming relationships that can last a lifetime.

The convention is open to all Rotarians and offers something for everyone. Register today for the Rotary Convention in Korea. Early Registration savings end March 31.

## Register @ www.riconvention.org/en/seoul/register





## **Meet Our New Member Kevin Craft**



Kevin is originally from Ottawa Ontario where he grew up with his mother, father, brother Robert and sister Ethel. He has degrees in Political Science and International Marketing concentrating in Asia Pacific. Kevin has a knack for languages and is fluent in French and Spanish along with knowledge of Italian, Mandarin and German. He has been living in the GTA for over 20 years and enjoys all that Toronto has to offer.

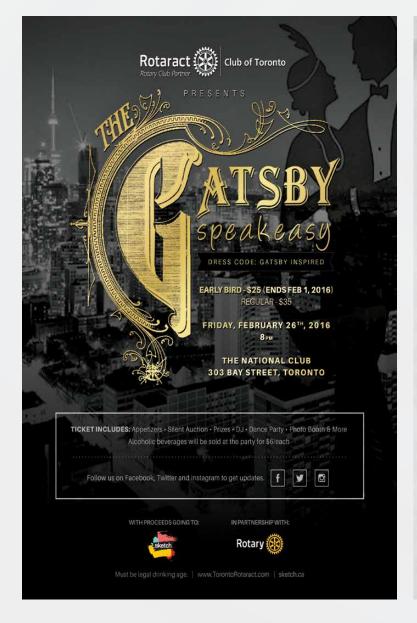
Kevin has worked in a variety of IT and Management consulting organizations and has travelled extensively across North America and Europe on business and personally. He is the VP of Sales for General Dynamics, which is an Aerospace and Defence company that serves commercial and government customers around the world. As a member of the executive team, he is active in strategic planning, team development and general management.

Kevin has served on the Board of Directors of several charities that focus on helping children with disabilities and the senior's community. He is an avid traveller and enjoys meeting new people and experiencing the diversity of cultures....not to mention, great food and music!

Kevin's goals in becoming a Rotarian are fellowship, and finding ways to give back to the community which he feels so fortunate being a part of.

Kevin looks forward to meeting each of you over the coming months!









PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Cocktail Party

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016** 

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Location: National Club, 303 Bay Street

Cost: \$25, Members and Guests

CASH BAR, BUFFET MEAL!

TERRIFIC OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS Rsvp Required: ROTARIANS, ROTARACTORS AND GUESTS

RSVP and Payment by emailing Belli at: accounts@rotarytoronto.on.ca or by

calling 416-363-0604

## **Refugee Sponsorship Update**

- by By Maureen Bird, Team LeaderAndras



There have been several meetings with CIC staff and other MPs who have clarified a few things for us. They say that the promise of 25,000 refugees was to be 25,000 fully paid for by the government (GAR). They were not counting in these numbers the privately sponsored refugees

(PSR), many of whom had their applications in months ago. As of January 29th, this number was 5,240 who have already arrived since November 4th. In addition there have been 977 refugees under the Blended Visa Office Referral (BVOR), which is our type of case where we will receive partial government funding.

Currently there are 8,567 GARs here already. There are another 20,935 refugees who have been approved or whose applications are being processed. That means that the government is well on the way to reach its goal of 25,000 GARs with 4,502 more who could be our BVORs or PSRs.

Our team is trying to be patient. My son Dan and his wife Nikki will take the family into their home where they will be welcomed by our four grandchildren, who are 12 to 18. They will stay there while together we determine where they will be most comfortable living and having the children in school.

The response of our government and the thousands of citizens who are involved sets a wonderful example to the world. We are Canadian!



As we wait for our family some of the toys from our Christmas Club Raffle are being enjoyed by children already here.

RI President Ravi Ravindran

District Governor
Michael Bell, Etobicoke

Club 55 - 1912

## Michael Bell, Etobicoke The Rotary Club of Toronto

Officers:

President: David Hetherington President-Elect: Susan Hunter Vice President: Pat Neuman Treasurer: James McAuley

**Executive Director:** Carol Hutchinson

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation: Peter Love, President

**Editor of the Week:** 

Karen Scott

**Editor February 19th, Voice:** Brian Porter

What You Missed Reporter for February 5th: Karen Scott

## The Four-way test of the things we think, say, or do

- 1. Is it the Truth?
- 2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

## Upcoming Speakers & Events

## February

- 9 Tuesday President's Cocktails at the National Club
- 12 No Meeting-Family Day
- 19 Shelley Martin, CEO Nestlé Canada
- 26 Bill Bishop, Bishop Communications

#### March

- Andy Byford, TTC
- 11 The Hon. Jean Augustine

## April

3 Chief Mark Saunders, Toronto Police Services

#### **Fvente**

February 26 – Rotaract Gatsby Speakeasy March 31 – Annual Fundraiser, Steam Whistle Brewery April 19 – Macaron vs Macaroon at Aphrodite Cooks

## Propose a Speaker - Contact

Alex Brown, Chair jandabrown@rogers.com 416.799.5827

**Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter:** voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca



# Be a gift to the world

## **Sleeping Children Around the World: Greetings from Kolkata, India** – by Don Bell

I have been here with the Sleeping Children Around the World team (seven of us) for a week now, and for me, the experience has been

a combination of educational, fulfilling, appreciative, enjoyable, appalling and, all told, unique. You know it's a country of contradictions, but it's not until you see the poverty up close, that you realize just how much a thing like a bedkit means to a family. We have given out approximately 2500 out of 5000 thus far, with a lot of travelling time by minibus to get to the sites, which are partly in the Kolkata area and partly in rural locations. By the time I return to Toronto I shall be ready for a vacation! Weather is in the mid 20s each day, and you need a second layer in the mornings. I thought that Toronto traffic was bad until I experienced this chaos. Blow your horn when you pass someone, and squeeze past with 2" to spare. Try not to hit the 1000s of people on the roadsides, or the tuk tuks, or the odd cow, wild dog or goat. I haven't seen any elephants yet. All the organizational support at the local level is done by the Rotary Clubs, and without them we could not do the distributions. They arrange for the children to be at each site, the bedkits to be delivered, help set up the site, get the children dressed for the photo and feed the kids (and us). It confirms what I have known for years, and that is that Rotarians live up to their motto, "Service above Self." So we are getting the job done and being well looked after as we go. It's a situation where you see the results first hand ...no middleman here! I shall be pleased to have had the experience and more appreciative, and thankful for being a Canadian.



Don Bell is partnering with Rotary for the SCAW Kolkata 2016 distribution.

## What You Missed January 29, 2016

- by Jeff Dobson



Sunlight streamed into the Upper Canada room on an otherwise chilly January afternoon. Members will recall the acoustics of this room make the conversations of 80 people

sound like 180, so there was quite a buzz. No doubt many people were commenting on the lovely pre-meeting music provided by Glen Davis and Brigitte Bogar, joined today by Michael Morgan and Harold Hetherington.

President David called the meeting to order and, after introducing the head table, asked Brian Westlake to announce the visiting Rotarians and guests. Today there were two Rotarians, three Rotaractors and five guests welcomed to our meeting.

The first President's Cocktail party of 2016 will be held before the February long weekend on Tuesday February 5 at the National Club. The cost is \$25 for members and guests with a separate cash bar. All members are asked to advise Belli in the Rotary office of your plans to attend along with any guests so the club can be properly prepared. Members of the Program Committee take note, your next meeting date has been changed from February 9 to February 16 to accommodate the cocktail

New member (and former Rotaractor) Andrea Tirone made an announcement on behalf of the Rotaract Club of Toronto. They are having a fundraiser called The Gatsby Speakeasy on February 26 at The National Club. Tickets are \$35. (See ad in this issue). Proceeds will go to the group Sketch which supports street kids and is well known to our club.

Our latest new member was introduced today by his mentor Shannon Lundquist. Kevin Craft is VP of sales for General Dynamics here in Toronto. He loves to travel and experience different cultures and looks forward to being a member of our great club. A more complete biography appears elsewhere in this issue.

Our guest speaker was Alex McKee and warmly introduced by his host and longtime friend John Lloyd. Alex shared his story of how he came to found a new notfor-profit enterprise when he was supposed to be retired and playing golf in Arizona. It started at a university fitness facility where he was under doctor's orders to shed a few pounds. His gregarious nature resulted in numerous conversations with students and the realization that these highly educated young people had grim prospects for securing employment in their field. This realization was further supported by numerous studies that suggest that millennials (people aged 18-30) are facing an especially difficult time finding meaningful employment enough to gain independence from the support of parents

and family.

After nearly two years of enlightening effort, the not-for-profit called Millennial Exchange (MX) will be launched in February. The purpose will be to provide a platform to match enterprising students with people that have an interest in helping these young people but would like to do so in a business-like manner where a return on investment is expected. Alex encouraged all members to sign up as a Mentor/Investor and forms were provided at each table. To help seal the deal, he invited one of the students to present his idea in a 60-second elevator pitch. Johnathan Holland has created a company called Curex to allow for easy currency conversions for a 1% fee regardless of size, which can be done on your mobile device. An interesting idea, and well-presented pitch.

Shannon Lundquist took home the wine at the 50/50 draw. David left us with a laugh telling some stories from the Wild West; you had to be there.



*Upper Canada Room alive with the sound of music.* 

## The Rotary Club of Toronto

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