



## WHAT'S IN THIS BULLETIN

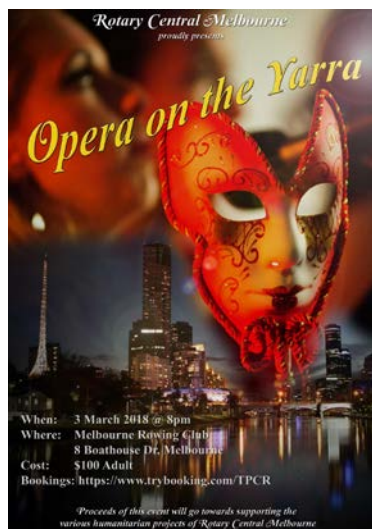
### 9th JANUARY

- **NEXT MEETING**
- **OPERA ON THE YARRA**
- **MEMBER NEWS**
- **RENATA IN MELBOURNE**
- **DIK MOVING**
- **TREE OF JOY**
- **UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **GALLERY**

### NEXT MEETING - 9th JANUARY

AN INFORMAL MEETING WILL  
BE HELD ON  
TUESDAY 9th JANUARY  
RACV CLUB BISTRO  
7.30am.  
  
ALL WELCOME

### OPERA ON THE YARRA



### MEMBER NEWS

Posted by Tony THOMAS

**"Getting There is Half The Fun"** Dr Cecily Neil - member RCM.

Cecily's career has been in aid projects including years on AusAid and the Asian Development Bank projects. Her main health and sanitation jobs included projects in Kiribati, Timor Leste, China, Vietnam and Philippines.

Getting a primary school toilet built in the remote Kalinga Province of northern Luzon is one thing; arriving on the spot is another.

The toilet block consisting of three-cubicle toilets with hand-washing stations is at Pantikian Elementary School in mountainous Kalinga Province. At a total budget of AS 4,600, this sanitation project was funded by the Rotary Club of Hawthorn.

Finished in December, the job was organized by Dr Cecily Neil through RAWCS D9800 and implemented on the ground by Sinangpad Association, a local Kalingan NGO. Cecily is from the Central Melbourne Rotary Club.

The trip, which she did twice last year (2017) involved two bone-shaking trips by bus and car from Manila Airport.

"I'm a short person with a bung knee and couldn't even get up the bus steps for the 11-hour trip. People lugged me on like a sack of potatoes," she says.

"We had the opening ceremony but the toilet was not finished till the next week because of massive rain. My trip back to the airport got us stuck behind rice lorries going over the mountains and masses of tricycles in the towns. I was sure I'd miss my flight."

### Meeting Responsibilities

*Chair*  
O'BRIEN, Frank

*Reporter*  
THOMAS, Tony

*Photographer*  
THORNTON, Roger

*Door*  
GERLINGER, Marjorie

*Bulletin Editor*  
JONES, David

### Upcoming Events

[Peninsula Family BBQ](#)  
Jan 21, 2018  
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

[Camp Getaway Working Bee](#)  
Feb 16, 2018 6:30 PM –  
Feb 18, 2018 1:00 PM

[KPMG Vocational Visit](#)  
KPMG  
Feb 20, 2018  
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

[Board Meeting](#)  
RACV CLUB  
Feb 21, 2018  
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

### Speakers

Jan 09, 2018 7:30 AM  
[INFORMAL MEETING](#)  
RACV Bistro

[View entire list](#)





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**RENATA BRANDAO - PAST EXCHANGE STUDENT**

Renata has written: "We will be around Melbourne during 15th January and leave in the 29! If I have a chance it would be lovely to catch up with some of you that received me in 2005. We are not aware of Renata's plans while in Melbourne, whether she intends to make direct contact with any members or attend a club meeting. If any readers would like to meet up with Renata it is probably best to let Marjorie know and the matter be coordinated owing to the short time Renata is in the city. Renata's letter covers her recent graduation and is copied in full below;

[Read more..](#)

**DONATIONS IN KIND - MOVE PREMISES**

Posted by Frank O'BRIEN

**MOVING 'DIK' - BETTER LATE THAN NEVER**

Following a desperate plea from Donations In Kind ('DIK') chief Bob Glindeman for one final working bee to clear and clean up their former home (Shed 40), twenty plus Rotarians dutifully attended on Saturday 16 December. Our Club supplied six (Alan Seale, Rohan Williams, Peter & Sue Duras, Roger Thornton and Frank O'Brien) and RC Balwyn supplied 7 (including DG Peter and Anne). DIK had to be out of Shed 40 by Christmas (some months overdue) and Bob had planned this day meticulously. Amongst other things, two massive bins were filled with hard rubbish, four bins were filled with cardboard and one of the DIK trucks was completely filled to the roof with non-useable items which had become scrap metal. By the time we departed, Bob was left with completing the move of remaining pallets to Shed 39 or into a container headed for South Sudan and filling one last bin with hard rubbish. Was he happy? To quote him, he was "ecstatic" with the result and thanked us all profusely. Well done to our Club volunteers who gave up much of their 2<sup>nd</sup> last Saturday before Christmas for this key Rotary exercise. Of interest, DIK has now shipped 526 containers overseas in the last 15 years.



We understand Sue and Frank were talking about their recent fishing expeditions.

**'TREE OF JOY' PARTNERS**

Posted by Therese ROBINSON

On Friday 15 December, our intrepid President and myself (standing in for Elias Lebbos, Team Leader, Community Services) meet our partner organisations, Steps Outreach, Lentara and TAL Insurance. This annual event has TAL staff selecting a gift tag with the age and gender of the recipient, purchasing a suitable gift and leaving it for collection under the Tree of Joy. Rotary arranges the gift collection with our distribution partners, ensuring the gifts get to the families most in need.



The photo above shows (left to right), Grace Baulch from Steps Outreach; Dannielle Shokry from TAL Insurance, Frank and myself, Malcolm Shimmins from Lentara and another TAL member. The photo shows a number of the gifts after more than half had already been removed, demonstrating the generosity of the TAL staff. We also attended a second TAL location where even more gifts were collected and distributed.

Malcom and Grace confirmed the importance of these gifts for families who are doing it tough, along with the food hampers donated by Rotary members.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

What	When	Where	RSVP	Contact
Peninsula Family BBQ	12 noon, 21st January	15 Watson Road, Mt Martha.	By 11/1/18	Roger Thornton
Camp Getaway Working Bee	16th - 18th February	Axedale, Vic	Details to come	Peter Duras
Vocational Visit - KPMG	9.30 - 11.30am 20th February 2018	727 Collins Street.	Register online	Sarah Overton
Opera on the Yarra	8pm, 3rd March 2018	Melbourne Rowing Club	Register on line	Michael Lapina/Herb Greenwood
District Conference	16-18 March 2018	Warrnambool	<a href="http://rotaryconference.org.au">rotaryconference.org.au</a>	Sarah Overton

**GALLERY**

A pictorial report of our Christmas meeting:

