

Rotary Club of Epping



**28 February
2022**

Co-Presidents' Corner

In a week of terrible news about major floods in Queensland and Northern NSW and the commencement of a senseless war in Ukraine, Rotarians came together on Monday to find ways to make the world a better place.



In a first such initiative in a few years, we held a **joint meeting with West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Rotary Club** on Monday. Twenty two members and partners of the visiting club joined a similar number of the Rotary Club of Epping at the Epping Hotel. We shared information about each other's clubs and discovered we have a lot in common, such as the size of the clubs and the focus on youth programs. We shared experiences and got to know each other better. The evening was deemed a great success and the Epping Rotary Club was invited to reciprocate the visit at a future date.

To complete a great evening, we heard from our guest speaker **Rob Edwards** about his foundation and the sustainability projects he initiated in Fiji.



Toula Serna, Rob Edwards & Narelle

Through his *It's Time Foundation*, and over the last decade, Rob has been installing solar energy systems in remote schools in Fiji. He replaces the costly and intermittent power produced by generators with 24-hour clean electricity for free. By saving resource-poor schools the cost of power, schools can better fund essentials such as books, libraries, and technology. Through solar power, an average school saves the equivalent of AUD \$8000 a year.

The installation of solar power systems is complex and requires coordination with local authorities, miles of cabling and a lot of manpower. Rotary has funded part of his projects since 2013. His Foundation however, is always seeking grants and donations to fund projects in more schools.

Another way Rob funds projects is through a cleverly designed **lottery scheme** which is available to all Rotary Clubs. All funds raised through the sale of the lottery tickets are split equally between the It's Time Foundation and the participating Rotary Club. The ticket sales are done online, and the management of the lottery is done through his Foundation, which means that the only responsibility of the club is to promote the lottery. The prizes are substantial and lucrative and the computerised system provides the participating club with real-time reporting. It's a win-win!

Another environmental sustainability project that Rob initiated is **Plastic-free Oceans**. He encourages school students in Fiji to commit to picking up plastics on beaches each week for 30 minutes. Plastics in oceans are an environmental catastrophe. Plastics in our oceans kill 200,000 dolphins a year. There are estimates that by 2050, there will be more plastic than fish by weight in the oceans. He has extended this project by inviting Rotary Clubs to be leaders in this field. He proposes that Rotary Club members commit to 1 hour monthly on their walks, inviting members of the community in the area to join in.

Rob Edwards is truly inspiring and a man with an amazing talent of translating innovative ideas into practical reality. We wish him the best and will certainly be participating in some of his initiatives.

Toula

Next Monday – Youth Night



Youth has traditionally been this Club's major area of focus. As we dust the cobwebs on this portfolio following the pandemic, we are ready to celebrate the RYPEN participants and re-establish our close connections with local schools and institutions. Be sure to join us next Monday at the Epping Club for **Youth Night**.

Date: Monday 8 March 2022

Time: 6:00pm for 6:30pm

Venue: Epping Club, ground floor

Cost: \$35 for a two-course meal

Our main guests are 3 of the 4 RYPEN students who recently experienced this special opportunity. The 4th has National Swimming titles and is an apology. These 3 students will discuss their experiences.

Other special guests are Chair of the BB, Rob Phillips, EBHS Principal Jessica Schadel, RYPEN Chair, Greg Keighran, Year Advisors Stephen Kayes and Matthew Lam and parents of the 3 students. Some of the above will give a brief report.

If you wish to attend and haven't let us know, please email Bruce Jacob at brucejacob52@yahoo.com.au

Events Update

2022 Club Program			
Date	Speaker	Topic	Location
Monday, March 07, 2022	Youth Night	Celebration of Youth	Epping Club
Monday, March 14, 2022	Dr. Mayada Kayali	President, Women's International Club, Canberra	Epping Hotel
Saturday, March 19, 2022	District Conference	District 9685	Rooty Hill RSL
Monday, March 21, 2022	3 on me	Personal journeys of club members	Epping Hotel

Note to members – The raffle jackpot is **\$739.50**

URGENT - RAWCS National Flood Appeal

Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) has initiated an urgent appeal to provide financial assistance to the flood victims in Queensland and Northern NSW. They aim to raise \$1,000,000. To donate, please link to the following page <https://directory.rawcs.com.au/47-2021-22>



Floods

- Summary:** National Flood Appeal - To raise funding to provide financial assistance to flood victims in Queensland and Northern New South Wales - February 2022
- Challenge:** Around 15000 homes have been flooded and some owners will be needing assistance to clean and refurbish their residences.
- Solution:** Individuals who are adversely affected and require assistance will be identified and be given funds to help with their recovery. It is our priority to get funds quickly to those who are in need to help them with the clean-up and damage caused by the floods.
- Long term impact:** The aim is to assist those affected to get their lives and businesses back to normal as soon as possible.
- Sponsored by:** RAWCS National

Local Rotary Initiative for Flood Relief

Epping Rotary Supporting Carla Supporting Flood Relief Victims.

Thanks to those Rotarians who donated food, blankets etc to the flood relief. Carla had the initiative and has been doing the bulk of the work. Carla was our RYLA student 4-5 years ago. Congratulations and thanks Carla.

The truck(s) leave tomorrow morning.
Bruce



Some items from Carlingford's Newsletter

Tragic News from Afghanistan



Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan
Ministry of Public Health
Public Relations Department



MoPH condemns the senseless killing of the polio workers in Kunduz and Takhar provinces

Friday, February 25, 2022:

Yesterday, eight polio workers, four of them women, were killed by unknown gunmen in separate attacks in Kunduz and Takhar provinces.

Three male and one female vaccinator were gunned down in the outskirts of Kunduz city, while two vaccinators and a social mobilizer were killed in Imam Sahib district of the same province, and one male vaccinator was killed in Taloqan city of Takhar province.

The cause and intention of the attack remain unknown, and security officials have launched an investigation.

Following these unfortunate incidents, the polio vaccination campaign in Takhar and Kunduz provinces were stopped to prevent further attacks and to protect the safety of other vaccinators.

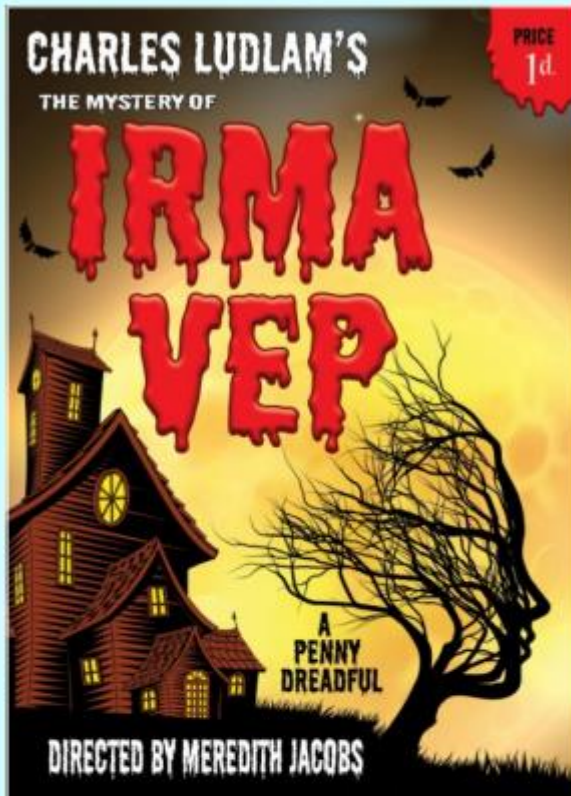
The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan strongly condemns the attack of polio workers and calls for the perpetrators to be prosecuted, arrested, and punished. The ministry also expresses its sympathy and condolences to the bereaved families, relatives, colleagues, and friends.

May Allah, Almighty rest their departed souls in eternal peace and give strength to their families to bear these irreparable losses.

The Polio programme express deepest condolences to the families and friends of the fallen polio workers and appreciates their courageous efforts to save children's lives and protect them from polio disease.

The government of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan remains committed to ending polio and will provide security assurances to all frontline workers everywhere in the country.

INVITATION Theatre Night - Wed 16th March



*By Arrangement with ORiGiNTM Theatrical On
Behalf of Samuel French, a Concord Theatricals
Company*

Lord Edgar Hillcrest, having lost his beloved wife, Irma Vep, has recently remarried Lady Enid, a stage actress. Still uneasy in her new role as Lady of the Manor, Enid must navigate vampire attacks, phantasmal apparitions and werewolf sightings – not to mention the manor staff who are doubtful she'll ever measure up to the esteemed Lady Irma.

Meanwhile, Lord Edgar, disturbed by the strange goings on at the seemingly haunted Mandacrest Estate, travels to Egypt to uncover what truly lies behind the Mystery of Irma Vep.

Laugh out loud at this mystical, gothic farce where two actors undertake a quick-change marathon to play Lord and Lady of the manor, mummies, werewolves, maids and more

As you can appreciate, wine and cheese before the play is no longer an option. The doors will be open from 7:30pm, with the play starting at 8:00pm. As those who have attended previously will know, parking is extremely easy. For those who are uncertain about directions, the theatre is in the Castle Hill Showground precinct, off Showground Road at Castle Hill.

Can you please let us know how many of you and your friends are coming by Thursday 10 March 2022?

Kind regards

Fay Kitto

Rotary Club of North Rocks

For those of you who like to plan ahead, the other theatre nights scheduled for 2022 are:

Wed 11 May

Wed 27 May

Wed 27 September

Wed 16 November

An Invitation from Pennant Hills



Please send your reply to the phone or email address below.

Kaye Carter

Club President 2021-2022

Rotary Club of Pennant Hills

0407 261456 Email: Kayecarter2021@gmail.com

Extract from the recent District Governor's Newsletter

Water Sanitation

March is **Water and Sanitation month**, and the irony is not lost as we consider all of those right now severely impacted by significant flooding.

Tonga Tsunami Appeal: D9685 has made a direct contribution of AUD \$10,000 to purchase 5 SkyHydrant water filters being shipped free of charge. Each unit can produce 500 litres per hour, are gravity fed and require no chemicals. Requested by Her Majesty the Queen of Tonga via the Hon Consul in NSW they will be delivered to Rotary District 9920 that includes Tonga. District 9685 urgently needs an additional \$4,500

to cover the full purchase cost. If your club held a Tonga Tsunami Appeal, please consider contributing to this project by contacting DG Lindsay.

Rotary International Statement on Ukraine

It is a tragic and sad time for the people of Ukraine and the world.

At Rotary, we are deeply concerned by the deteriorating situation in Ukraine and the escalating loss of life and humanitarian hardship there. Continued military action against Ukraine will not only devastate the region, but also risk spreading tragic consequences across Europe and the world.

As one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, we have made peace the cornerstone of our global mission. We join the international community in calling for an immediate cease fire, withdrawal of Russian forces, and a restoration of diplomatic efforts to resolve this conflict through dialogue.

In the past decade, Rotary clubs in Ukraine, Russia and nearby countries have transcended national differences and have actively engaged in peace-building projects to promote goodwill and to marshal assistance for the victims of war and violence. Today, our thoughts are with our fellow Rotary members and others in Ukraine coping with these tragic events. Rotary International will do everything in its power to bring aid, support and peace to the region.

Rotary International
25-Feb-2022

District 9685 Conference 2022

All members are strongly encouraged to attend the District Conference, which is planned in West HQ, Rooty Hill on 18/19 March 2022. An optional extra is the Friday night dinner and stay in an adjacent hotel. A group of us are already committed and it should be an informative and fun weekend for all. A registration package has been organised and includes discounted rates for Early Bird registration until 31 December 2022. I have summarised the options in the table below. For more information, please navigate to the [Registration Website](#)

Registration Options for District Conference 2022

		Rates
Friday 18 March	Friday Night Dinner	\$99
Saturday 19 March	Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened by NSW Police Band • High action, fast paced presentations • Leading speakers in their field • Long breaks to visit your Project Showcase 	\$199

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closed with Sundowners	
Accommodation at Novotel Sydney West HQ	Please call 9832 3888 and quote booking code ROTA2022	

RIM ARTICLES

Please send RIM articles to Alan at alan.baker.om@gmail.com or rob@tosswill.com

Articles should be submitted by Thursday afternoon

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