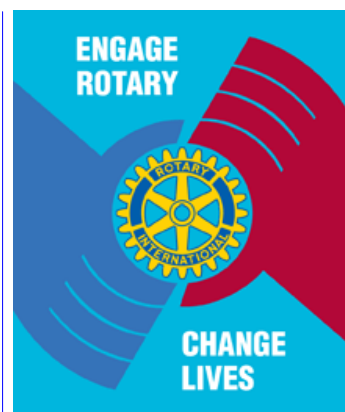


# Rotary Club Gold Coast

11 October 2013 Issue #101  
 Meet us for lunch most  
 Fridays 12:00 for 12:30 at  
 the Arts Centre Gold Coast.  
[www.goldcoastrotary.org.au](http://www.goldcoastrotary.org.au)  
 RI #17910 District 9640



## President Kathy's report

I am sure all who were present at last week's meeting would agree that our current DG Tony Heading and his wife Dianne are simply delightful. Tony's talk was upbeat, interesting and motivating. My humble opinion is that Tony and his team have injected some life back into our District.

It was also great to meet our NYSF attendee, Jackson and to hear about his International Brain Bee award.

At the board meeting last week we decided that a couple of the proposed ideas for club projects were going to be unworkable at the present time however we must undertake some fund raising this year for two purposes: one is to obviously raise money for our projects and the other just as important is to have fun and enable all members to get involved. To that end the Board is preparing ideas to put forward. If you have a great idea please let me or any member of the board know and it doesn't need to be huge production. Sometime simple is good.

**Rotary Radio Commercial.** As part of the National Public Image Campaign, a radio advertisement for Rotary was distributed to Club PR Directors by District PR Director Harold Busch in early August. DG Tony Heading thanked Bruce Rogers (Mermaid Beach RC) for airing this ad on 4CRB and to Ron Hailes (Robina RC) for airing the ad on Breeze FM and Sun FM from mid-October. Let me know if you have any contacts re free community radio advertising.

We have a full program for this week's meeting with our Bromley Family from Hobart and our speaker is Professor Michael Powell whose talk will be: "The New Griffith: Transforming Business Education on the Gold Coast"

Engage Rotary Change Lives

## Upcoming speakers October

18 Kristian Bauruer, New Beginning's Triple L project

25 David Felix, School of St Jude

## November

1 Justin Shaffer, My Rotary experience

8 Tbc

15 Margarita Rickards, Membership Matters

## October Roster

If you're unable to attend please *directly* arrange a replacement before the meeting. Thank you.

Welcome

Greg Bowler  
 Front Desk

Andrew Chan  
 Meeting Chair

Kathy Hogan  
 International Toast  
 David Baguley

Sergeant  
 Andy Csabi



## Club President

Kathy Hogan PHF PP  
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**This week: Professor Mike Power The New Griffith: Transforming Business Education on the Gold Coast + 'Ken Bromley' soldier & family + Wear a hat for ARH**





## At 85, polio survivor joins Rotary to help fight disease

Polly Hincks was 85 years old when she decided to join the Rotary Club of West Hartford, Connecticut.

Now 86, the polio survivor was eating dinner at The McAuley retirement community last fall when she met a few members of Rotary International. She learned that the organization's major charity is the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and was invited to speak about her experience.

"I told them, I just wanted to thank you for all you've done for polio," she said. Now, Hincks is a full Rotary member, helping to get rid of the last remnants of the disease. Polio is still endemic in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan, according to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative website.

In 1951, Hincks was 24 and pregnant with her daughter, Birch. She and her husband, Bob, and young son, Bobby, were visiting Bob's parents in the Pine Orchard borough of Branford. She had spent a day on the small beach with Bobby, almost 2, talking to a man and his son. Later that night, the man's wife came banging on the Hincks' door, begging to use the phone because her husband was very sick, Hincks said.

Days later, Hincks came down with what felt like the flu, she said, and couldn't move her neck. The doctor said she had polio. "It was the strangest thing, because everybody backed away," Hincks said. "If I could've backed away from myself, I would've." Hincks spent months bed-ridden at the Grace-New Haven Hospital. The man from the beach was in the next room.

At first, she could walk. "Then, one thing after another stopped working," she said.

She battled polio encephalitis, which caused her to suffer delusions. She fell after trying to get out of bed, thinking she had to get to her baby in the nursery above her room. She was very sick, unable to eat for much of the time. After the baby was born - a healthy 9-pound girl - Hincks embarked on six months of tough physical therapy. "It was fascinating. It was a life-changing experience," she said.

Having been raised in an upper-middle class family, Hincks met many different people in the hospital. "All of us had real problems, and we got to be the best friends," she said. "We had such fun, which doesn't seem to make sense.

"Much more deeply, I really got a whole new aspect of what life was all about," Hincks said. When she left the hospital, she had a corset, a long leg brace and crutches. She had a hard time adjusting to life outside of the hospital and had daily help. And "I was a nervous wreck," she said.

- *The Hartford Courant*



room in an attempt to ward off burglars while the house sat ....empty.

James Ledgerwood from McGrath Estate Agents said the buyer wanted to remain anonymous. LM Investment Management collapsed in March, owing \$750 million to 12,000 investors in Australia and overseas. Sale proceeds will go to a trust account and cannot be used unless by order of the court or the regulator. *Courier Mail*

## Oops, you're too late, it's sold!

Embattled Gold Coast entrepreneur Peter Drake has sold his luxury mansion for \$7.35 million, *less than half the asking price*.

The six-bedroom, eight-bathroom house Oceanview is a monument to Mr. Drake's life as a high-flying finance executive before his company was placed in administration in March.

The house was listed at \$20 million earlier this year. More than 100 people took the opportunity to take a peek at the house, which features basement parking for five cars, a temperature-controlled wine cellar, private skateboard park and cubby house. Before the sale, a mannequin would be moved from room to



## OMG!

*Eartha was taken out for lunch and slipped away to gate crash a wedding of total strangers. A certain very embarrassed president had to drag her away.*

**Fair drinkum: good-quality Aussie wine**  
**Flatypus: a cat that has been run over by a vehicle**





## From kamikaze pilot to pacifist

**ABC's Tokyo correspondent Mark Willacy met a man who volunteered to join the ranks of the kamikaze, Japan's much-feared suicide attackers who sank dozens of allied ships during the Second World War.**

**In the nearly seven decades since the war's end, 93-year-old Tadamasa Iwai has devoted himself to peace.**

Mark Willacy: I knew Tadamasa Iwai's apartment block had to be around here somewhere. I was in the Tokyo suburb of Kodaira, about an hour's drive from the ABC office, and I was coming to meet a man who had once volunteered to become a kamikaze.

But right now, maybe I was lost among the maze of identical apartment blocks. Then, out of my window, I spotted a spindly grey-haired man running next to the car. He was waving at me, trying to get my attention. I couldn't believe it. This was the man I'd come to meet - Tadamasa Iwai. My first response was one of amazement - for a 93-year old he was incredibly fit and nimble, not to mention somewhat foolhardy running about in this 30 degree summer heat.

Mr Iwai guided me into his apartment's carpark and greeted me with a big smile and a hearty handshake. Inside his cramped apartment, his wife bustled around making tea while this lovely old man attempted to explain to me just why he had volunteered to be a suicide attacker for imperial Japan.

(Tadamasa Iwai speaking) "Of course I wasn't happy to volunteer as a kamikaze", Mr Iwai told me. "But I definitely thought Japan would lose the war and that I'd be killed in the process. So I thought if I was going to die anyway, I might as well die instantly and painlessly. So I volunteered for the special suicide attack unit", he said.

The young lieutenant Iwai had good reason to worry about dying horribly on the battlefield. More than 2 million Japanese soldiers fell in World War II, and even some who survived the conflict never returned home.

One of them was Tadamasa Iwai's elder brother,

who was taken prisoner by Soviet soldiers and sent to Siberia. He was never seen or heard of again.

Of course many young Japanese were more than happy to sacrifice themselves for emperor and country, something I assumed had also inspired Mr Iwai to volunteer to become a kamikaze. I assumed wrong.

(Tadamasa Iwai speaking) "There was no way I would die for the Emperor", he told me shaking his head. "People did believe Japan was a divine nation and that Japan would win because of its superior spirit. But I knew spirit alone would not defeat the sheer might of the United States", he said.

In the end, the young Tadamasa Iwai never had to sacrifice himself as a kamikaze - a bout of tuberculosis towards the end of the war saw to that. And it's a good thing too, because it seems his family is blessed with top-quality genes. One of Mr Iwai's older brothers recently turned 100, while two of his sisters also lived to ripe old ages - 102 and 104.

But the post-war period hasn't been easy for Tadamasa Iwai. His only son died of leukaemia at just 16 years of age. The old soldier believes his son's death could be attributed to the fact that at the end of the war he was stationed on the outskirts of Hiroshima, witnessing the flash and feeling the force of the atomic bomb that levelled the city.

Despite the terrible loss of his son, Tadamasa Iwai is a man who smiles and laughs a lot. He's also a man who is a staunch supporter of Japan's post-war pacifist constitution. To him, war is folly - a crime against humanity.

We chatted for a couple of hours, and when I got up to leave I was ushered into the kitchen and steered into a chair. Eighty-three-year-old Mrs Iwai had brewed some tea and there was cake and watermelon. While I was working my way through that she popped some homemade pizza into the oven.

Eventually I left, quite full of both food and respect for an amazing man.

*Mark Willacy for ABC's Correspondents Report*