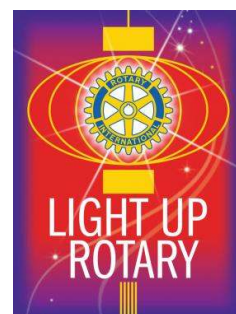




# Rotary Gold Coast



11 Sept 2014 #139

We meet 5:45 for 6:15pm the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, currently at Public House One50, 150 Bundall Road. You're welcome to join us. If possible please advise Club Service Director Chawki that you're coming. Call 0410 002 403, email [mango@winshop.com.au](mailto:mango@winshop.com.au)

## Sept meeting roster

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

## Welcome guests

- Dean Castell

## Front desk

- John Goldstein

## Meeting chair

- Kate Kimmorley

## International toast

- Mark Urquhart

## Sergeant

- Andy Csabi

[goldcoastrotary.org.au](http://goldcoastrotary.org.au)

District 9640

RI #17910



## Presidents meeting report

On the 28th we held the first of our 2nd format style meetings for the fourth Thursday of the month (sounds complicated, doesn't it? - it's not really, and I know I am writing for a very intelligent audience). We had a record attendance of just on 50 people, with a number of prospective members amongst our guests and a strong RYLA contingent supporting our guest speakers, Julian Buttigieg and Andrew Nolan. The event had been well publicised and the boys did not disappoint. Andrew, Julian and Glen Gorton (who unfortunately could not be there) are first-rate examples of what Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is all about. Throughout a programmed week in a camp, led largely by previous awardees, young people are challenged to learn more about themselves and their place in the world, about leadership and the spirit of community. It aims to...

> **Give** participants a better understanding of their own strengths and the unique qualities and abilities of others > Provide an opportunity to develop a network of resources to help in their development > **Learn** teamwork, communication, motivation and leadership skills through experiential workshops > **Create** a greater awareness of social issues

Many of its graduates attest to a life-changing experience. RYLA is just one of many youth programs that are run by Rotary, and, if helping our young people reach their full potential 'floats your boat', you should be talking to our Youth Director, Sue Foscett.

Our meal, an alternate drop of chicken and salmon, was of restaurant quality and a number commented on how good it was. There were a few who didn't like what and how the meal was served, their points have been passed on to the event and kitchen staff. Please know that if you don't like what's in front of you, just swap it with some-one else at your table or in the room. David, Chawki and I will always swap with you - that's our commitment to ensuring you have a pleasant meal. If the buzz in the room was anything to go by, it was an exciting and successful meeting. But David has gone one step further and surveyed our guests. The result of the survey points to the resounding success of the work the Services Director and other members of the Board have put in.

People were very pleased with what they had experienced and we should expect applications for new membership of GCR in the coming weeks. On that note, I would just like to inform you all that at our recent Board meeting it was voted that we would extend the trial period of both venue and format till the end of next month.

So, see you next Thursday evening at 5:45pm at One50 when Gemma from St Jude's will have a short word with us, you will hear details from the Directors and we will have some good fellowship over a meal which will be served upstairs in relative peace and quiet. *Eddie.*



## Club President

Eddie Klimowicz PHF

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**Now 24, Pryor has launched a foldable crisis relief shelter for disaster victims that can be assembled in under two minutes.**

He has bounced back from an initial failed pitch for investment, finally securing investors at the tender age of 22 and formally launching his organisation earlier this year. The upstart continues to man Compact Shelters singlehandedly, enduring what he says is the "lonely" life of a solo entrepreneur as he approaches his first major pilot project overseas.

Despite his age, Pryor is in fact a seasoned professional working within aid and relief programs overseas. The passion he has pursued since young age has spawned his shelter prototype. "I spent a lot of time in Alice Springs, and time in Africa volunteering in a shanty town," he says. "That really sparked my interest in helping the poorest of the poor. I also travelled over to Cambodia - It really helped me to understand their problems."

**He has also spent time with Oxfam to develop collapsible and portable latrine units; with the UN on an antibacterial mobile surgery unit; with a social enterprise in Mexico supporting refugees; along with stints in Kuwait and Mozambique. Pryor says the shelter concept was also partly borne of an experience closer to home. While working on building sites he encountered the homeless and saw first hand the difficulties they faced.**

**"We're developing products to help those in need by innovating. It's more satisfying than making a buck really."**

The flatpacked polypropylene shelter expands to four square metres and sleeps four people. "The main countries it's aimed at are those that don't have the natural resources to build structures post-disaster, especially Africa and the Middle East."

Pryor's experience overseas leads him to believe that in a post disaster sense, his shelter, stronger than a tent, is the smartest choice logistically.

**"Working with charities in South Asia, I saw that many had always lived in a structure, and that living in a tent or tarp is uncomfortable. A microeconomic trade has started to develop and people offload tent poles or pegs in exchange for other materials or food."**

Pryor says he seeks to innovate around existing models of charity and get them to change their mindset around aid. "Dealing with charities can be quite a slow process", he says. "They want to pile each new innovation



### Global Aid Mission for 'Lone Wolf'

*A "lone wolf" social entrepreneur is hoping to revolutionise disaster relief in developing nations and prove that great ideas can come at any age. Innovation is the key for Alastair Pryor, who has singlehandedly driven the development of his new organisation, Compact Shelters, since his days studying entrepreneurship at university.*

**Pryor says he has attempted to keep costs low, intending to sell the unit at US\$150 to charities and government.**

they come across." Pryor says he has attempted to keep costs low, intending to sell the unit at US\$150 to charities and government.

He says has opted for a for-profit model to ensure he can achieve faster impact. "I just found that in terms of accelerating to have rapid growth, it would be too slow with a Not for Profit structure. Crowdfunding is useful now but back when I started crowdfunding wasn't really a useful model. The margin for charities and governments is enough for them to play. We're not really profiteering, we're just making enough to create some return for investors. I would eventually love to have enough income for a full design team."

Despite the apparent success of his design, Pryor is no expert. He has instead relied on his ability to procure the talent he needs. "I get consultants to work for me. Architects, industrial designers. I get an initial concept ready and they

take over for testing and development. I'm working on developing a smaller one for the homeless. This prototype is not really suitable for the homeless because it sleeps four so is not really suitable to carry around."

In the coming months, Pryor will pilot his existing design in Africa. He has begun to bring interns into the fold, but believes finding himself a mentor is critical. "I'm a lone wolf in the sense that I work by myself. It's quite a lonely environment. A lot of mentors that advise young social entrepreneurs do charge," he says. "I've got friends who've spent over \$50,000. I'm still very young - an aspiring social entrepreneur. Any knowledge I can gain is highly resourceful. I will be highly fortunate if I can have contacts where I can go for help and maintain contacts within networks. It's like my baby - the first idea I've pursued and developed. It's been a great experience so far but it's been challenging. Some days are better than others."

Compact Shelters continues to go from strength to strength, having received considerable media attention. Pryor has already had a stint on Nova Radio in Melbourne and says he will soon make an appearance on national television program The Project.

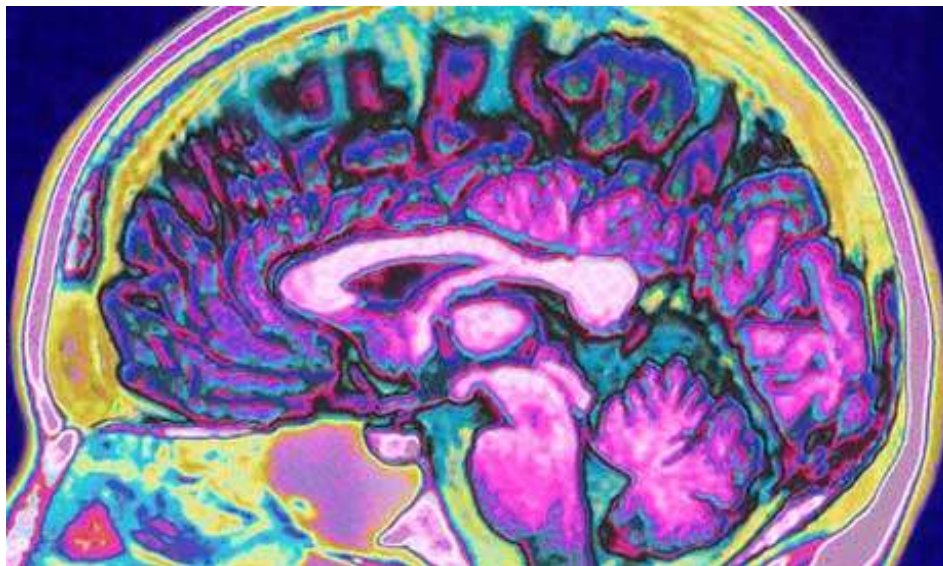
"It's been interesting. I'm fortunate in the sense I've got a lot of PR friends around me. It's really riding on the press train. Everyone's contacted me!"

Pryor ultimately attributes the media attention to his youth. "I'm young but I've developed something with a social purpose. To be able to do that at quite a young age shows that anyone can do it at any age."

- Nadia Boyce Probono Australia.

- > Did you hear the one about the fire-eater? She hiccupped and cremated herself.
- > I went into the bank today. I said, 'Could you check my balance?' So they pushed me over.
- > A man goes into a pet shop - He says, 'I'd like to buy a wasp please.' The shopkeeper says, 'Sorry Sir, but we don't sell wasps.' Man says, 'But you've got one in the window!!'





## Stroke patients show promising signs of recovery

Stroke patients who took part in a small pilot study of a stem cell therapy have shown tentative signs of recovery six months after receiving the treatment.

Doctors said the condition of all five patients had improved after the therapy, but that larger trials were needed to confirm whether the stem cells played any part in their progress. Scans of the patients' brains found that damage caused by the stroke had reduced over time, but similar improvements are often seen in stroke patients as part of the normal recovery process. At a six-month check-up, all of the patients fared better on standard measures of disability and impairment caused by stroke, but again their improvement may have happened with standard hospital care. The pilot study was designed to assess only the safety of the experimental therapy and with so few patients and no control group to compare them with, it is impossible to draw conclusions about the effectiveness of the treatment.

Paul Bentley, a consultant neurologist at Imperial College London, said his group was applying for funding to run a more powerful randomised controlled trial on the therapy, which could see around 50 patients treated next year. "The improvements we saw in these patients are very encouraging, but it's too early to draw definitive conclusions about the effectiveness of the therapy," said Soma Banerjee, a lead author and consultant in stroke medicine at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. "We need to do more tests to work out the best

dose and timescale for treatment before starting larger trials." The five patients in the pilot study were treated within seven days of suffering a severe stroke. Each had a bone marrow sample taken, from which the scientists extracted stem cells that give rise to blood cells and blood vessel lining cells. These stem cells were infused into an artery that supplied blood to the brain. The stem cells, called CD34+ cells, do not grow into fresh brain tissue, but might work by releasing chemicals that may dampen down inflammation and help other cells to grow where brain tissue is damaged. Some of the cells might also grow into new blood vessels, Bentley said.

Four out of five of the patients had the most serious type of stroke. Normally only 4% of these patients survive and are able to live independently after six months. In the pilot study, published in *Stem Cells Translational Medicine*, all four were alive and three were independent six months later.

"Although they mention some improvement of some of the patients, this could be just chance, or wishful thinking, or due to the special care these patients may have received simply because they were in a trial," said Robin Lovell-Badge, head of developmental genetics at the MRC's National Institute for Medical Research in London. - *Ian Sample, science editor, The Guardian*

## SEPTEMBER

2 Visiting Indian Rotarian Sachin Wadhwa dinner @ Omeros  
 3 Margaret & Noel Grummitt (26 years)  
 5 Vocation lunch @ Seaduction  
 7 Kate Kimmorley  
 9 Dean Castell. Lindy Campbell  
 10 Tony Nesci (10 years)  
 11 Rotary meeting @ One50  
 15 Jann Davies (14 years)  
 16 Eddie Klimowicz (9 years). Nancy Smith (10 years)  
 17 Birthday dinner @ Romana's  
 19 Lynda Haynes  
 25 Keith Abraham *Motivation* @ One50  
 25 Chawki & Ann Gazal (38 years)  
 26 Coralie Roddick  
 29 Carol Allan, Justin Shaffer

## OCTOBER

### MEETING ROSTER

*Welcome guests* - Greg Bowler  
*Front desk* - Andrew Chan  
*Meeting chair* - Lynda Hynes  
*International toast* - David Baguley  
*Sergeant* - Brian Kidd

6 Margaret Prentice  
 8 Lyn MacArthur  
 9 Caroline Mercer (5 years)  
 9 Rotary meeting @ One50  
 11 Andrew Chan (14 years)  
 12 Greg Bowler & Naomi Taylor (31 years)  
 16 Nancy Smith Peter Laurens  
 20 John Goldstein (37 years)  
 21 Naomi Taylor  
 23 Rotary meeting @ One50  
 24 John Lander, Nareelle Flanagan  
 30 Nicoletta Zuecker (7 years)

## NOVEMBER

### MEETING ROSTER

*Welcome guests* - Lynda Hynes  
*Front desk* - Jill Ellis  
*Meeting chair* - Phil Rosenberg  
*International toast* - Kate Kimmorley  
*Sergeant* - Nancy Smith

1 Brian Kidd (14 years), Geoff Prentice (32 years)  
 3 Mark & Kerrie Urquhart (24 years)  
 6 Astra Ciobo  
 11 Ted & Anni Fong (17 years)  
 13 Rotary meeting @ One50  
 14 Jenny Wong  
 16 Nan & Bob Baldwin  
 18 Agnes Nesci  
 23 Margaret Grummitt, Noel Grummitt  
 27 Rotary meeting @ One50  
 28 John Goldstein, Esther Chan  
 29 Helen Watter, Carolyn Dower

Birthdays Wedding Anniversaries Club Anniversaries

Apple co-founder Steve Jobs told his biographer, Walter Isaacson, that creativity is the result of spontaneous meetings and random discussions. "You run into someone, you ask what they're doing, you say 'wow,' and soon you're cooking up all sorts of ideas."

Rotary club meetings tend to be structured for efficiency. A certain amount of casual dialogue happens as members trickle in, but it often ends when the official meeting begins. With a bit of effort, though, we can create opportunities for the sort of interactions that may inspire the next great idea.

**Online.** Though it may seem counterintuitive, communicating by email or social media between meetings can increase interactions among members. "What we gain is a more continuous connection," says Caroline Haythornthwaite, director of the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. "We're more able to stay in constant contact."

The Rotary E-Club One of District 5450, Colorado, USA, has more than 70 members on five continents. Because they interact almost entirely online, club leaders work to make conversations lively. Every Wednesday the club secretary posts a member-suggested topic on the Fellowship Forum, and members have a week to weigh in. They attend the weekly meeting by commenting on the thread.

**In your community.** Misha Garafalo, president of



### Embrace spontaneity to spark ideas for your club

*Every Thursday evening, members of the Rotary Club of San Luis Obispo, California, USA, gather at a local cigar shop owned by a member of the club for an informal get-together, sparking ideas for service projects.*

the Rotary Club of Shorewood, Illinois, USA, surveyed members and learned that they wanted more opportunities to connect with the community. So she took Rotary on the road with field trips to local government agencies. The trips brought members together with service-minded individuals outside their usual circle.

Other clubs have experimented with once-a-month, agenda-free, after-work meetings where members can enjoy an evening of unstructured conversation.

In my own club in California, some of the most involved members

are those who gather each week at a cigar shop. The city has a lively farmers market every Thursday evening that brings locals downtown to enjoy barbecue and live music. Without fail, certain Rotarians wander from the market to the cigar shop, owned by one of our founding members. They chat until closing time, with the informal get-together sparking more service project ideas than I can count.

This humidor-as-incubator phenomenon was not engineered by collaboration experts or corporate thought leaders. It's an organic gathering of civic-minded friends, a lot like the original Rotary meetings that took place in Chicago more than a century ago, when Paul Harris and his friends got together to think up ways to improve their community.

*- Kim Lisagor, Rotary Club of San Luis Obispo*



### Let's put the pensioners in jail and the criminals in a nursing home.

This way the pensioners would have access to showers, hobbies and walks. They'd receive unlimited free prescriptions, dental and medical treatment, wheel chairs etc and they'd receive money instead of paying it out.

They would have constant video monitoring, so they could be helped instantly if they fell or needed assistance.

Bedding would be washed twice a week, and all clothing would be ironed and returned to them.

A guard would check on them every 20 minutes and bring their meals and snacks to their cell.

They would have family visits in a suite built for that purpose.

They would have access to a library, weight room, spiritual counselling, pool and education.

Simple clothing, shoes, slippers, PJ's and legal aid would be free, on request.

Private, secure rooms for all, with an exercise outdoor yard, with gardens. Each senior could have a PC a TV radio and daily phone calls. There would be a board of directors to hear complaints, and the guards would have a code of conduct that would be strictly adhered to.

The criminals would get cold food, be left all alone and unsupervised.

Lights off at 8pm, and showers once a week.

Live in a tiny room and pay \$200 per week and have no hope of ever getting out.