



Rotary Gold Coast



January 21 2016 #167 We meet 5:45pm for 6:15pm the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at The Southport Golf Club. You're welcome to join us - if possible advise Chawki on m 0410 002 403 e mango@winshop.com.au **JANUARY ROSTER**. If you're unable to attend please arrange a replacement before the meeting. Welcome guests: **Viv Mallinson**. Meeting chair: **Greg Bowler**. Front desk: **Lyn McArthur**. International toast: **Sue Foskett**. Sergeant: **Brian Kidd**.



goldcoastrotary.org.au District 9640 RI #17910



President's report A big welcome back to 2016! It's a new year and I can feel the energy within the club and look forward to our friendship, fundraising and fellowship. It was a great roll up and so nice to see everyone again. Welcome to our visitors, Anna, Leon, Alessandra and Mr and Mrs Hayward. A Special welcome to our Margaret Grummitt who was awarded the position of honorary Consulate General to the Philippines. I hope I have that correct. We are so extremely proud of you Margaret. Well Done!

I hope that you all had a beautiful Christmas season with your families and I wish you health and happiness in 2016. After quite a few changes in direction we enjoyed our Christmas breakup at John Lander's terrific home. Thank you John for your hospitality. A big Thank you to Bruno for sharing his extremely yummy cooking skills with us. Aren't we so lucky!

Our Christmas Breakfast on the balcony at the Botanical Gardens was extremely enjoyable as always. Thanks to David, Rana, Harry and co. See photo on page 3. It is exciting watching the progress of the Rotary pavilion and we look forward to the opening celebration.

Brian Pearson and John D'Anna gave us great insight into getting to know the "person behind the badge." I always enjoy getting to know everyone. Thank you to both.

Alessandria gave us a fabulous slide show, sharing her adventures of her Youth Rotary Exchange in Linz, Austria. Alessandra has really attended the school of life, visiting Germany, Prague, Belgium, Monte Carlo, Italy, Paris, Greece and Spain. She experienced outdoor ice skating, snow skiing, scuba diving and even waltzing at a traditional Austrian Ball. All in all, a life-changing experience she will never forget. Now it is back to University and we look forward to hearing her progress. These are the programs that make you feel proud to be a Rotarian. Great work Sue, you're doing a great job as our Youth Director. Leon is enjoying his time and it is lovely to see him so often at our meetings.

I wanted to extend a warm thank you to all of you for your comfort and support during my recent sadness at the passing of John Tan. He was an amazing man *Continued on page 4...*



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Australian duo to connect celebrities with fans for charity

Would you pay up to \$100,000 for a five minute conversation with your favourite celebrity or business idol?

Two Australian friends are hoping to cash in on the chance that you are, and they claim charities will be the big winners. Adelaide duo Brandon Reynolds and Jarred Hrotek are the brains behind **Sociabl**, an online platform and application that will connect some of the biggest stars in Australia and around the world directly with their fans. For a fee, ranging from \$500 for a rising Australian star to \$100,000 for billionaire businessman Richard Branson, a fan can receive a video call from their favourite

celebrity lasting up to five minutes.

Reynolds and Hrotek are so confident their idea will be a hit they have enlisted the help of celebrity agent Max Markson to help them sell it. The kicker is that 50 per cent of the fee will go to charity, with 20-year-old Reynolds telling Pro Bono Australia News that he believed his app could change the world.

"Very early on we agreed, 50 per cent straight down the line [going to charity] was going to be a huge number," Reynolds said. "When you look at some of the numbers that we've got on paper here, 50 cents to every dollar is going to charity. And I mean every dollar, I don't mean after expenses or any expenses or any sort of crap like that. If someone pays \$10,000 dollars to speak to someone, \$5,000 is going straight to the charity. "It is exciting and we're glad [charities] can be a part of it. I'm going to sleep like a baby when this takes off, knowing that we're going to be changing the world enormously."

Reynolds admitted that initially the charitable aspect was included as a way to sell Sociabl. "Clearly of course there was never going to be a way of selling it without a charitable aspect," he said. "As you can imagine it's a very sort of degrading thing to do for a celebrity say, 'look, I'm worth \$5,000 a minute and if you fans can afford to speak to me, that's the fee and I'll pocket it and thank you very much'. "So obviously from an early stage we knew it was going to be an element but we didn't know exactly how."

Celebrities that have signed on to the idea include AFL star Gary Ablett Jr, Virgin Group founder Richard Branson, and music legend Will.I.Am. — *Xavier Smerdon, Pro Bono*

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
MEETING ROSTER See <i>front page</i>	MEETING ROSTER <i>Welcome guests</i> - Dean Castell <i>Front desk</i> - Joe Kertesz <i>Meeting chair</i> - Chawki Gazal <i>International toast</i> - Phil Rosenberg <i>Sergeant</i> - Andrew Csabi	MEETING ROSTER <i>Welcome guests</i> - Sue Foscett <i>Front desk</i> - Kevin Stapleton <i>Meeting chair</i> - Peter Laurens <i>International toast</i> - Mark Urquhart <i>Sergeant</i> - Peter Laurens
1 Joe Kertesz (14yrs) 7 Club meeting 14 Board meeting 19 Brian Kidd 11 Ian & Beverly Daw 21 Club meeting 22 Anne Maria von Zeppelin 23 David and Kerry Wood (14yrs) 26 Geoff Prentice & Kerrie Urquhart 28&30 Phil & Tini Rosenberg (42 yrs) Helen & John Watter (47 yrs)	1 Nan Baldwin (15yrs) , Bryan Dower (35 yrs), Don Stalker (20 yrs) 7 Tony Ward 7 Club meeting, 10 Bryan Dower 11Richard Flanagan 12 Eric Lughart (Kate) 14 Board meeting 16 Anni Fong 17 Viv Mallinson 21 Club meeting 27 Lexie Kidd 28 Brian & Caroline Dower (50 yrs)	1 Ted Fong (16 yrs) , Bruce Roddick (22 yrs) 3 Club meeting, 4 Tony Nesci 10 Andrew Chan, Caroline Mercer 10 Board meeting 14 Kathy Hogan 16 Eddie Klimowicz 17 Club meeting 17 Nan Baldwin, Greg Bowler and Jennifer Rakauskas 28 John Stalker 29 Kevin & Lindy Campbell (19 yrs), Tony & Agn Nesci (26 yrs), Don & helen Stalker (45 yrs)

Meetings/events Birthdays Wedding Anniversaries Member's Club Anniversaries

Send us your best shot

THE ROTARIAN'S 2016 PHOTO CONTEST



the
rotarian

2015 annual photo contest third-place winner / ELISSA EBERSOLD

Show us your best shot!

Do you have a great shot from a club project or fundraiser?

Did you capture a memorable moment at the convention or during an international trip?

Enter your images in The Rotarian's 2015 photo contest and you might see them in the pages of the magazine. You may enter up to three photos taken since 1 January 2015. This year, our contest has three categories: people, places, and projects. While some photos might have elements of all three, select one category to enter your photo.

Our previous guest judges have included Pulitzer Prize-winning photographers and director of photography for the New York Times Magazine.

Deadline February 29 2016. Click here to download an entry form.....

<https://www.facebook.com/therotarianmagazine/app/234658916574732>



Where do those in the know go for their AGM?

Where else but the delightful Botanical Gardens for a delicious buffet breakfast!

Lots of internally 'secret' discussions took place, many even listened, most (probably all actually) voted but everyone enjoyed socialising in such a pleasant atmosphere where those who had Christmas-related accessories proudly wore them!



Steve Waugh and Liam Titterton
**Steve Waugh bowled
 over by charity task**

Sporting legend Steve Waugh has warned other high-profile Australians that setting up a foundation or charity is harder than it looks and not to enter the process lightly.

The former Australian cricket captain is gearing up to ride his bike more than 900 kilometres to raise money and awareness for his charity, the Steve Waugh Foundation. The Foundation has helped more than 600 children and young adults with rare diseases and their families by providing grants for essential medical treatment and equipment.

Waugh told Pro Bono Australia News that starting his own charity following his retirement in 2004 had been more difficult than he ever imagined. "It's been way harder. I give advice to people who say they want to start up a foundation and I say 'look, if there's something that's already in a similar space, help the organisation that's already set up because it is a massive undertaking'." Waugh said. "Particularly this one where we're setting it up from scratch, we're not following anyone else's blueprint, we're working it out as we go along and we're raising a lot of awareness, so we don't just raise money and distribute it, we raise awareness, which is another big, big task.

"It's satisfying but it's also extremely difficult. I guess that's part of what makes me do it." Waugh said running his own charity was as difficult to playing cricket for Australia. "Cricket was relatively easy because that was natural and I knew what I was doing. Going into charity we were pretty naive about

it and thought we can help people who need help and

that's how we started," he said.

"We didn't realise how much work was involved and to get it to where it is today I think we're in a pretty good place but it's taken an enormous effort from a lot of people, particularly my wife who dedicates 30 or 40 hours a week to the foundation, and she's done that for 10 years.

"It's difficult but rewarding and at the end of the day it certainly gives you meaning in life to do this sort of thing so I'm very glad I'm doing it."

Waugh and around 60 other leaders from a range of sectors in Australia recently rode 920 kilometres over six days from Sydney to Byron Bay.

The inaugural Captain's Ride aims to raise more than \$750,000 for children and young adults with rare diseases. One of the children that the Steve Waugh Foundation has helped is 12-year-old Liam Titterton. His mother, Karen Titterton, told Pro Bono Australia News that the Foundation had supported her son, who has a rare autoimmune disease called acute disseminating encephalomyelitis, by providing him with a high-tech standing wheelchair and a speech device.

"Effectively the Steve Waugh Foundation has made Liam walk and talk," Titterton said.

"On Christmas eve the wheelchair arrived and it was the best Christmas present ever. I got my first hug from my son when he was eight-years-old and it was all due to that stand up wheelchair."

- Pro Bono Australia

President's Report from page 1 ... and this sentiment was shared by many at his "Celebration of Life" at the Southport Yacht club. I will always remember how proud he was of his "Paul Harris Award". He loved helping and sharing his extraordinary gift as a surgeon. He will remain forever in my heart.

I will be away for the next meeting, so stay safe, be happy and I'll see you'll soon. *Lynda*