

**October 5 2017 #201** 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 please advise Chawki [m0410.002.403@chawki@akgaz.net](mailto:m0410.002.403@chawki@akgaz.net). Monthly meeting roster inside.



**President's Report** Thursday September 21, 2017 our meeting took place at the Southport Golf Club as a partners evening and it was encouraging to see so many Rotary guests attend.

Dinner was slow cooked braised pork and vegetables and warmed bread rolls.

As mentioned on the evening several members that always man the desk, thank you girls and Jill that takes our photographs along with Phil that also agreed to step in as sergeant at the last moment.

Kevin Stapleton is doing well in his recovery and Linda Hynes attended with her fabulous fiancé Peter. John Goldstein attended at the end of our meeting to encourage us all to book for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Inspirational

Our guest speaker this week was Tracy Cooper-Lavery, Director Gold Coast City Gallery. Tracy has worked in the regional gallery sector in Queensland and Victoria for over 20 years. She was appointed as Director of Gold Coast City Gallery in April 2016. An important aspect of this role is the design, development and realisation of a stand-alone, purpose-built public Gallery for the Gold Coast by 2020.

Tracy's role includes management and supervision of full and part-time staff and advisory role on several Gallery and new projects. Tracy spoke about building our cultural future, the amphitheatre, gallery functions and art exhibitions.

Suzanne Foskett brought National Youth Science Forum winner, Kimberly Stratford together with her mom Soonae Kim and she had prepared a presentation of thanks. Very impressive intelligent young lady who also is looking for part time work as she lives in the Helensvale area and would benefit any business that she worked with.



**Club President  
Andy Csabi**

[sales@paradisesecurity.com.au](mailto:sales@paradisesecurity.com.au)

# Board Members

**President** Andy Csabi. **Past President** Kate Kimmorley. **Secretary** Chawki Ghazal. **Treasurer** David Baguley. **Club Service/Administration** John D'Anna. **Youth** Sue Foscett. **Vocation** Lynda Hynes. **Community** Rowan Johnstone. **International** Brian Pearson. **Rotary Foundation** Kate Kimmorley. **Membership** Joe Kertesz. **Public Relations** Jennifer Bailey.

## 2017 - 2018 Meeting Roster

Please make a notation of your roster dates in your diaries now. If you can't attend the meeting please ASAP swap with someone else then inform Club Service Director Chawki on 0410 002 403 or [chawki@akgaz.net](mailto:chawki@akgaz.net).

Please don't ask Chawki to do it for you. Thank you.

Month	Welcome Guests	Front Desk	Meeting Chairperson	International Toast	Sergeant
September	Lynda Hynes	Lyn McArthur	Rob Ffrench	Brian Pearson	Kevin Stapleton
October	Greg Bowler	Kathy Hogan	Viv Mallinson	Rowan Johnstone	Kevin Stapleton
November	Robin Gowland	Ras Manickan	Kathy Hogan	Jenny Bao	Kevin Stapleton
December	Kathy Hogan	Robin Gowland	John Lander	Sue Foscett	Kevin Stapleton
January	Viv Mallinson	Lyn McArthur	Greg Bowler	Rob Ffrench	Kevin Stapleton
February	Brian Pearson	Joe Kertesz	Sue Foscett	Phil Rosenberg	Kevin Stapleton
March	Sue Foscett	Yidan Xi	Robin Gowland	David Baguley	Kevin Stapleton
April	Robin Gowland	Jenny Bao	Rowan Johnstone	John Lander	Kevin Stapleton
May	Yidan Xi	Phil Rosenberg	Brian Pearson	Jill Ellis	Kevin Stapleton
June	Jenny Bao	Jennifer Bailey	Kate Kimmorley	Mark Urquhart	Kevin Stapleton

**This month's Club 'Birthdays'** Brian Pearson 1 year 1, Caroline Mercer 7 years 9, Andrew Chan 16 years 11, Greg Bowler 23 years 12, John Goldstein 39 years 20, Genik Saraswati 2 years 23

**Wedding Anniversaries** Geoff & Margaret Prentice 6, Richard & Narelle Flanagan 24 Joe & Joyce Kertesz 31



## St John's Crisis Centre dinner and presentation.

22 Members and partners enjoyed a three-course meal, birthday cake for Yidan and Lindy, and a presentation from Reverend Jon Brook about the work that St John's do and what they are hoping to do in the future.

\$550 donation was presented to Reverend John. - Rohan





## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

**Do you have what it takes to become a dynamic leader and change not only yourself but the world?**

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership experience organized by Rotary clubs and districts where you develop your skills as a leader while having fun and making connections.

### **What are the benefits?**

Connect with leaders in your community and

around the world to:

- > Build communication and problem-solving skills
- > Discover strategies for becoming a dynamic leader in your school or community
- > Learn from community leaders, inspirational speakers, and peer mentors
- > Unlock your potential to turn motivation into action
- > Have fun and form lasting friendships

### **What's involved?**

RYLA events are organized locally by Rotary clubs and districts for participants ages 14-30. Depending on community needs, RYLA may take the form of a one-day seminar, a three-day retreat, or a weeklong camp. Typically, events last 3-10 days and include presentations, activities, and workshops covering a variety of topics.

Your community might host a RYLA event for secondary school students to hone their leadership potential, for university students to develop creative problem-solving strategies, or for young professionals to learn ethical business practices.

### **How can I get involved?**

RYLA participants are nominated by local Rotary clubs. [Contact your local Rotary club](#) to find out more about RYLA events in your area, how to apply, and any costs of getting involved.

Are you a member or alumnus of Interact, Rotaract, or Rotary Youth Exchange? RYLA can reconnect you with Rotary. Attend a local, regional, or international RYLA event to continue building your leadership skills or volunteer as a peer mentor.

### **Want to organize a RYLA event?**

Energize the next generation of community leaders through Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. Not only will RYLA help young people develop their potential as service-minded leaders, it will energize and inspire your Rotary club and challenge you to discover your own power to be an influential community leader.

Click here to [Find out how to organize an event](#)



When you have something you want everyone to know ...  
... put it in your club bulletin.

- > Have an idea for the club?  
*Let everyone know.*
- > Enjoyed a club event?  
*Let everyone know.*
- > Enjoyed/didn't like a speaker's talk?  
*Let everyone know.*
- > Have a Directors' update/report?  
*Let everyone know.*
- > Visited a Rotary club?  
*Let everyone know.*
- > Participated in a fund raiser?  
*Let everyone know.*

If you have photos please submit or Phil will most likely be able to find one for you.  
It's really that easy.



Above photo is a 'stock' photo and has nothing directly to do with the accompanying story.

## Moves to stop volunteering at overseas orphanages

The push to stop Australians supporting and volunteering at overseas orphanages is gathering momentum, after a major volunteer travel company agreed to end its association with orphanages. World Challenge, the largest school-based volunteer travel company worldwide, has decided to stop offering trips to orphanages, after a disturbing link between orphanages and child trafficking was uncovered.

**Advocacy agency ReThink Orphanages has warned short-term Australian volunteers were doing "more harm than good".**

ReThink Orphanages' coordinator Leigh Mathews, told Pro Bono News that these volunteers were only intensifying the issues which children in institutional care faced. "We know that demand for orphanage voluntourism experiences actually drives the institutionalisation of children in these destination countries. We also know that institutional care itself is harmful for children, and orphanage volunteer tourism exacerbates those harms experienced by children," Mathews said. "Institutional care itself is documented not to be the best form of care for children. A constant stream of unskilled, short-term volunteers engaging with these children who often have very complex and traumatic histories, is more harmful than helpful."

**Mathews said that voluntourism was not the only problem, with the overarching issue actually the operation of overseas orphanages, which are not run to benefit the wellbeing of children.**

"There are very strong links between children being in orphanages and modern slavery. When children are in orphanages they are effectively fully owned by that orphanage. In some cases, they are forced to participate in activities such as cultural performances, forced interaction, invasion of privacy and forced begging...which are done for the purpose of economic gain for the orphanage," she said.

One person who knows this all too well is Andrea Nave, the CEO of not-for-profit organisation Forget Me Not, which used to run and support overseas orphanages but has since shifted its model. Forget Me Not was established in 2005 and through fundraising was quickly able to open an orphanage in Nepal. After successfully running the orphanage, the organisation was asked to support an orphanage in Uganda, which housed 39 children with no funding. Forget Me Not agreed to help, and started finding sponsorships to support the children. But Nave told Pro Bono News they soon realised the money wasn't being put to good use.

"We went there after three months of funding, to do our due diligence and check on the children directly and found that the children weren't in a better state than the original reports and photos we received," Nave said. Through some forensic probing, Forget Me Not said it realised there was "something rotten going on" and alerted authorities. **"It turned out those 39 children in Uganda were in fact trafficked from their families for the purpose of profit, getting international agencies like Forget Me Not to fund them," Nave said.** "So we had [those involved] arrested and rescued the 39 children,

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## Moves to stop volunteering at overseas orphanages *continued*

with 27 of them returning home to waiting families.” This experience made Forget Me Not re-evaluate its entire operation, and soon found many children at its own orphanage in Nepal were not in fact orphans. “[The girls at the orphanage] slowly, one by one, began revealing their truths: ‘I want to go home, I want to see my mother, I want to see my father’. [We realised] these children weren’t orphans, they had families and they had been keeping the lie alive, under threat.” After an 18 month legal battle with the organisation it was funding in Nepal, it won custody of the children and had them transferred to their new country partner, The Himalayan Innovative Society, who are experts in

reintegration and family tracing for children.

“We completely turned our organisation upside down. We changed our model completely to family based care,” Nave said. “The research tells us that upwards of 80 per cent of children in institutional care, across the developing world and beyond, are not orphans but have one or more parents alive who could care for them, if they were supported. From our experience, it’s closer to 98 per cent of those children. “So our organisation now, with the help of the Nepalese government, assesses the orphanages and children’s homes, looking for children within those organisations that are not orphans and could go home.”

**The Australian government is aware of this issue, and a parliamentary committee has recommended banning Australia’s involvement in orphanage tourism, which it said is unwittingly aiding the trafficking and exploitation of children overseas.**

Mathews noted there were “no good orphanages”, but said overseas orphanages could be divided between those which purposely set out to exploit children, and those with good intentions which operate with an antiquated model harmful to children. “There’s no such thing as a good orphanage. But there’s certainly very bad ones. These are the ones that are purposely exploiting children for economic gain and trafficking children in to meet this demand for these experiences,” she said. “And on the other side you’ve got organisations that genuinely care and want to support vulnerable children in communities, but are potentially not operating from a best practice stand-point. “In some cases this is because they do not have the systems and support around them to be able to transition their model. But what we’ve been saying is that we know that it’s not the best way to care for children and NGOs have a responsibility to ensure their programs are in the best interests of children.”

**Volunteering Australia has supported this push to end orphanage tourism, and is not worried this will dissuade Australians from volunteering in the future.**

In a statement provided to Pro Bono News, CEO Adrienne Picone said: “It is essential that Australian volunteers thoroughly research the organisations they will be partnered with, prior to considering international volunteering opportunities. “Volunteering Australia urges all volunteers and Australian organisations that engage volunteers, to conduct volunteer programs in line with our National Standards for Volunteer Involvement, and not engage in harmful practices.

**Volunteering Australia will continue to work with the sector, the government and stakeholders to inform on best-practice volunteering.” Forget Me Not has so far helped to return 88 children to their families, and Nave encouraged**

Australians to shift their thinking on how they could best support overseas children in need. “Many families we find are grieving. They gave away their child with some money and the hope of a golden opportunity for education, off to a child trafficker who takes them to orphanages in the cities which are funded by organisations like schools,” she said. “No matter how well an orphanage is run, children within them end up in a situation where they have attachment disorders, they have dysfunctions, and they have all sorts of traumas associated with their institutionalised care. And that’s on the back of [the support of] well-meaning Australians.”

“Now we help other organisations change their model, and we speak to the Australian public at large, about why they support this continuing myth of orphanages doing good service. There’s a body of 60 years of research, when we’re ready to listen to it, that tells us otherwise. Children do better in a family based unit.”

- Luke Michael, Pro Bono News



SURFERS PARADISE ROTARY'S

# 15<sup>TH</sup> Charity Race Day

Come & join us on the first day of Spring Racing Carnival in The Dome!



## DATE

11.30am Saturday 7th October 2017

## LOCATION

The Dome, Gold Coast Turf Club Racecourse Drive, Bundall.

## COST

\$75 p/p in advance includes a new fantastic hot and cold buffet lunch. Cash Bar. Tables of 10 available. Lucky Door Prize.

## RSVP

11th September 2017. Call Adrian 0417 634 485 or email [rotaryraceday@yahoo.com](mailto:rotaryraceday@yahoo.com)

Prizes for Best Dressed Male & Female & Best Hat. Multi raffle draw.

Saturday  
7th October  
2017.

## PROCEEDS SUPPORTING:



First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Table Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People ☐ @ \$75 p/p total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Transfer BSB 084-462 A/C: 606424086 (Use your name or name of organisation as reference)

Address for Ticket Delivery \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to: Surfers Paradise Rotary, PO Box 5267, GCMC, Qld 9726



# Share the Dream

As a member of  
**Gold Coast Rotary**  
use the code  
**1ROTARY2018**  
when applying



## Volunteer now to perform in the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies!

This is an opportunity for everyone. If you are a skilled dancer, seasoned performer or even if you have no previous experience at all, please apply.

- Applications close 3 September 2017
- You must be 16 years or older when applications close



**For more info:**

**[gc2018.com/take-part/ceremonies](http://gc2018.com/take-part/ceremonies)**