

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, September 11, 2019



WORLD POLIO DAY October 24 2019

World Polio Day was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus, developed by Albert Sabin, led to the establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988.

up front

Miracle of Rotarians



*Carol Toomey is:
Zone 32 End Polio Now Coordinator*

Nigeria reaches crucial polio milestone

It's been three years since health officials last reported a case of polio caused by the wild poliovirus in Nigeria. The milestone, reached on 21 August, means that it's possible for the entire World Health Organization (WHO) African region to be certified wild poliovirus-free next year.

We have all heard of miracles. The first one that comes to mind (besides the biblical ones) is the landing of an airplane on the Hudson river with no casualties. It was even made into a movie. I saw it in the theater and watched it in amazement.

There are all kinds of miracles. We talk about them all the time.

You've heard them all.

"What really was not a miracle is raising the amount of money we needed for the match from Bill Gates by June 30th.

"In May, the amount raised by Rotarians along with the DDF (District Designated Funds) was wanting. We had a little more than \$30 million in polio giving. That's 10 months for \$30 million or an average of \$3 million per month.

"If you add \$6 million for the last two months of the year, we would be at \$36 million. Not good. That's \$14 million short of our goal.

"If we didn't make the \$50 million goal, the \$100 million dollar match would be effected. In other words, we would be leaving about \$28 million on the table, a loss to our eradication efforts that could not be recouped.

"But never fear. When the word got out to Rotarians with phone calls and emails, they came through. "I have a check on my desk that I haven't mailed", said one email. "We can give a little more DDF. I can give a little more than I planned to. President Barry Rassin's birthday is at the end of the month. I will make a donation instead of sending a card to him." And so on.

"We made the goal. In the end, we raised \$50.8 million for polio allowing us to accept the full match from the Bill Gates foundation. Rotarians made the effort to keep the promise to the children of the world. Some might say it was a miracle that we raised so much in such a little time.

"I wouldn't call it a miracle. When we have a challenge, Rotarians come through. You just have to ask.

"Thank you to all that gave during the calendar year of 2018-2019 to polio."

WhatsOn....

September

Wednesday 11 - Katoomba RSL Club transferred meeting

Friday 13 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Wednesday 18 - Foodbank pick up and delivery

Wednesday 18 - Guest speaker - Moira McGhee - UFOs

Friday 20 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Monday 23 - dinner with Rotary International President
Mark Daniel Maloney

Wednesday 25 - Guest speaker from Grace's Place

Saturday 28 - Catering van at Woolworths, Katoomba

October

Wednesday 02 - Guest Speaker -

Wednesday 16 - Guest Speaker - Eugene Ma - Lion dancing

Monday 21 - BM clubs combined meeting

Friday 25 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

ShelterBox in the Bahamas

Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Northern Bahamas as a category 5 storm.

The destruction caused by the storm's slow pace is immense, with buildings exposed to devastating winds, rain, and storm surges over 24 hours.

Early reports suggest over 13,000 homes have been damaged so far.

ShelterBox has responsible decision to deploy criteria to determine if and when aid should be sent to families.

ShelterBox has a team on the way to the Bahamas, and aid in Panama should a response be appropriate.

Currently ShelterBox is in the assessment phase. Having done as much research from afar, the team on the ground in the Bahamas will be working with the local Government, Rotary and communities.

Given the fact that local organizations, the local Government and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) have all committed to providing aid, the ShelterBox team will be assessing damage to determine if there are any gaps in the need for emergency shelter.

It is important for ShelterBox to take time in this phase to better understand the situation on the ground to see if aid is required and, if so, to ensure families receive the support they need most.

Passport clubs really work

Posted on September 6, 2019

By Jayde Purnell, Gold Coast Passport Rotary Club, District 9640 (Australia)

A passport Rotary club is designed to attract a diverse demographic, and with Gold Coast Passport Rotary Club of District 9640, we're reaching younger professionals in our area with the message of how Rotary allows members to use their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action. Our club is modelled after similar ones in the United States.

Like any other Rotary club, we pay full dues to Rotary International and our district. We all live or work on the Gold Coast.

Our club predominantly acts as a feeder club, supporting other local Rotary clubs in terms of service projects making possible high levels of community engagement across a variety of projects.

Recently we assisted a 73-year-old club, the oldest in our area, to establish a social growth and business development series to attract new members.

As a passport club we aren't required to engage in projects of our own, but that's hardly the case. We're running technology drives for school children, with our first donation of laptops delivered to the Bali School Project in July. And soon we will be assisting 'Baby Give Back', putting together beautiful hampers for newborn babies of families in crisis. Our future is alight with many collaborations and we're spreading as far and wide as we can.

A passport club is:

A Rotary club that encourages members to attend other Rotary club meetings as long as they attend a specified number of meetings in their own club each year.

Members are also encouraged to participate in service projects organized by other Rotary clubs. It appeals to people who travel frequently, or those who enjoy trying a variety of club experiences and meeting new people.

District 9640 governor elect Andy Rajapakse knows all about Passport clubs, so get in touch with him if you would like more information.



Rotary Solar Lights

Rotary Solar Lights is a project of the Rotary Club of Sutherland (District 9675, NSW).

It is registered with RAWCS – Rotary Australia World Community Service.

RAWCS PROJECT 36/2011-12.

The innovator behind the project was the late Graeme Boler, a Rotarian with a Paul Harris Fellow + Sapphire recognition.

Graeme was passionate and he was determined to provide an environmentally friendly product at low cost to help disadvantaged people around the world.

The vision is to distribute solar lights to people without electricity around the world, to help improve their lives, reduce risk of burns and help kids have a way to do home work at night, and to work with Rotarians, Rotary clubs, Friends of Rotary and the Community to share the light.

Rotary Solar Lights sells the lights to other Rotary clubs, and they work with their own projects

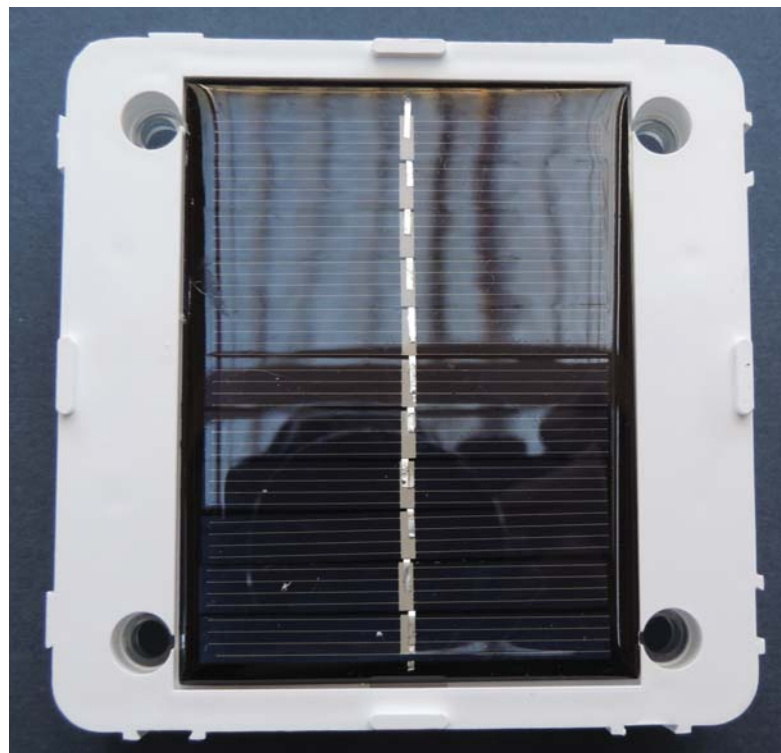
Rotary clubs take the lights and supply them to areas and countries of need.

It is a wonderful and rewarding to see the success of the lights around the world, as we work together.

The lights are low cost – \$15 each (plus freight).

Contact the Rotary Club of Sutherland.

Story and images from website: www.rotarysolarlights.com



*Actual size
90mm x 90mm*

Editor's note:

We had a four-hour power outage at Wentworth Falls on Saturday evening. It was an opportunity to use the two Rotary Solar Lights I purchased at the RAWCS Eastern Region meeting a couple of weekends ago. They were excellent. Their use prompted this story.

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District 9675 & 9685 Conference 2020

20-22 MARCH

Reasons
CONFERENCE 2020
Wollongong

**Why are we Rotarians?
What keeps us serving in our communities?**

Wollongong Entertainment Centre

**Speakers incl. Turia Pitt, Kaye Green, Rebecca Tolstoy
& Rob Edwards**

Roaring 20s ~ Saturday Night Theme

**Registration ~ \$240 before 31 Dec 2019, \$280 before
29 Feb 2020 + a variety of other packages incl. for New Rotarians,
Rotaractors & those who can't attend all weekend**

Register at bit.ly/reasonsconference2020