



# HORIZONS



## Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

*Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered*

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, July 12, 2017



Central  
Blue  
Mountains  
Rotary  
Polio Eradication Project



## Guest Speaker Wednesday, July 12

Jerry Schwartz graduated from University of Sydney in Medicine, and has since specialized into Cosmetic Surgery: he also has his own multi-faceted general practice in Matraville. His family was always in hotels, and Jerry himself first invested in pubs.

He is now CEO for the family business that is the largest private company owner of hotel rooms in Australia, having over 3,000 rooms in Sydney, Newcastle and the Hunter Region, Canberra and Melbourne, which are managed by three different management companies.

He is actively involved in a continual upgrade of these twelve hotels.

His largest project to date is as investor for the 590 room Sofitel at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

Further details of his hotels are found at [www.schwartz.com.au/hotels](http://www.schwartz.com.au/hotels)



ROTARIANS ARE

## PEOPLE OF ACTION

TOGETHER, WE  
**CONNECT**

Rotary unites dedicated professionals from our community with one common goal: to do good. Like organizing Medical Mission project to the rural village of Sarawak to provide Disease Prevention and Treatment one community at a time – that's what people of action do.



**TAKE ACTION:** Join Rotary, Get Involved



Rotary International is excited about its new public image campaign, "People of Action", revealed at the Rotary International Convention a few weeks ago.

As Rotarians from all over the world came to Atlanta, they experienced this global campaign for the first time.

Convention attendees were greeted by new People of Action advertisements on billboards at the airport and

around the city of Atlanta. At the venue, the ads were prominently displayed in convention halls—on the windows and banners throughout the conference centre.

Rotary's social media team will publish the People of Action campaign on their Rotary channels in all Rotary languages.

Clubs can use the People of Action campaign advertisements to promote Rotary in their community.

# New award celebrates success of women in Rotary

By Tory Paxson, Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor, Maine, USA



Tory Paxson, right, with Dr. Sylvia Whitlock

On Tuesday, 13 June, we sat down in a cool auditorium in the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia, for the first annual Women in Rotary Event. The four of us sitting together were all women, all members of my Rotary club, and all at our very first Rotary International Convention. We were unaware of the impact this event was about to have on us. But then, the lights began to dim.

It has only been a short 30 years since the landmark decision to allow women to join Rotary. Being only 27 years of age myself, this reality seems a bit absurd. All of these incredible, passionate and driven women I have met since joining Rotary have only had the space of my lifetime to catch up in leadership roles, in Rotary pride and projects? Really? And yet as lights shone down on our presenters, we felt that 30 years, while short, has been plenty of time for these women to shine

The event was organized and hosted by district governors Julie Craig and Sieglinde Warren. Among the presenters was Nicholas Krayacich, a distinguished Rotarian from Ontario and spouse of 2016-17 Rotary vice president Jennifer Jones. He spoke from the perspective of what it is like having two Rotarians in the family and how he and Jennifer support each other.

Charlotte Ahlberg, the charter president of the the E-club of 2410se in Sweden, has been perfecting the art of balance in life between family, work, personal time and Rotary. She opened new doors for those of us in the audience with the concept of Rotary online. Director (and 2017-18 RI Vice President) Hendreen Dean Rohrs inspired us with stories of bucking the system and finding her Rotary family. She told us how she founded a new club when she found out the one she initially approached didn't feel like including a woman.

***Jennifer Scott of the Blue Mountains west of Sydney had us in fits of laughter with her tale of how she responded to a group of men unsure of what a woman's role could be in Rotary. Her response was hysterically funny and wickedly apropos while still being somehow kind and welcoming.***

Last, but certainly not least, was Dr. Sylvia Whitlock. I won't deny that before the convention, I knew little about the leadership of Rotary. I probably could not have told you the Rotary International President's name! However, Sylvia I had heard about, and knew her incredible story. Dr. Whitlock came from the history-making "Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte," and was the first woman in the world to become a Rotary club president. We felt like we were at a moment in history when the award named after her was announced, an award recognizing individuals who have contributed to the success of women in Rotary. The first recipient of the award after Sylvia herself is Carolyn Jones, the first woman Trustee of Rotary, who hails from District 5010. I look forward to seeing this award grow in both distinction and prominence over the years.

After the program itself, I was lucky enough to bump into Dr. Whitlock during the dinner reception. She was warm, genuine and more than a bit of a firecracker, and she posed with me for a photo that I will cherish.

In a giant convention filled with incredible moments, this one moment will always stand out for me: sitting with Sylvia, and hearing her advice to this new Rotarian, one who aims to be just as much of a firecracker.



Rotary  
DOWN UNDER



## NEW YEAR ROTARY RESOLUTIONS

1. GROW MY CLUB MEMBERSHIP
2. SUPPORT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
3. BRING A FRIEND ALONG TO A MEETING
4. TELL MORE PEOPLE ABOUT THE GOOD WORK ROTARY DOES
5. ENGAGE MORE WITH THE COMMUNITY
6. HAVE FUN!
7. ERADICATE POLIO!!!

EVAN B



# Mountain Ghost

WHAT A STORY. At 4.00am in the morning of 29th January 1931 a cliff collapsed at Narrow Neck near Katoomba Falls sending millions of tons of rock cascading down into the Jamison Valley.

## THE KATOOMBA LANDSLIDE

The Mountain Ghost was recently visiting an “old” friend in a nursing home. If the Ghost thinks he is “old” then he must be very old indeed. This friend remembers the famous Katoomba Landslide as a child. Well the Ghost was aware of the Landslide from his visits to Scenic World but did not know a lot about it. There’s a first (for my readers) the Ghost admitting he did not know a lot about something.

What a story. At 4.00am in the morning of 29th January 1931 a cliff collapsed at Narrow Neck near Katoomba Falls sending millions of tons of rock cascading down into the Jamison Valley. A report in the SMH of Tuesday 27th January (2 days before) reported as follows:

Headline was “landslide Expected at Katoomba – Fissures formed in cliff – Katoomba is waiting with some trepidation for the tremendous crash that will announce the collapse of one of its neighbouring rocky crags.

Literally millions of tons of solid rock are trembling in the balance at Narrow Neck near Katoomba Falls, several hundred feet above the beautiful Jamison Valley. At the top of the cliff a large fissure has appeared, and extends for several hundreds of yards across the surface. In places the fissure is from six to nine feet in width and steadily widening.

The rocky cliff showed signs of weakness fully a month ago and the Katoomba police have watched the locality ever since. During the last week or two small falls of rocks have taken place, the fragments hurtling down the cliff accompanied by clouds of dust. Holiday crowds watched in the hope that they would witness the final spectacle”.

The SMH article did mention that the imminent collapse could be as a result of nearby Katoomba coal mines weakening the rocks plus heavy recent rains. The rumblings have been going on for months.

What the Ghost finds amusing is that hundreds of spectators, many from Sydney, made the trek to Katoomba. There was no Cliff Drive then so they would have had to walk in most cases. Refreshment stalls were set up; car parks carved out of bushland to accommodate vehicles; marshalls put in place to control the crowds and spotlights rigged up for night time viewing. Yet it appears there were no spectators to the final event.



So..... where can you see the site of the landslide today?

The Ghost plans to take the walk from the bottom of the Scenic Railway towards the Ruined Castle and you will cross the debris field of the landslide. Landslide Lookout is perched at the highest point of the actual break in the sandstone cliff but you cannot see the landslide from here. You can get a good view from Narrow Neck Lookout. The cliff face is known as Dogface Rock.

The Ghost acknowledges the work of Barbara Cameron-Smith for her article on the subject.

The Ghost plans to write about The Three Sisters falling into the Jamison Valley sometime in the next 1,000 years but will leave that to his successor.....

*Please turn to the next page*



*Souvenir stamp sheets commemorating  
The Rotary Foundation's Centenary  
are still available. Stamps can be used for  
general postage or presented as a gift.*



Established in 1917 with a donation of \$26.50, The Rotary Foundation is dedicated to advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace. Through grants and other resources, Rotary members develop sustainable projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, save mothers and children and grow local economies.



Fighting disease



Funding medical and dental programs



Providing clean water

000/500

## **BUY NOW!**

*You can direct deposit to CBM's charity account: BSB: 802-084 - A/c 731641 - but please tell us who you are when making a deposit, then send an email to Ian Scott at [stampsheet@scottadr.com](mailto:stampsheet@scottadr.com) telling us what you have done.*

*The sheets are A4-sized and individually numbered with eight \$1 stamps embedded. Each has a Foundation Centennial tab set in a Foundation themed design. Money raised after expenses from the sale of 500 stamp sheets will go directly to The Rotary Foundation.*

*....that's all folks*