



HORIZONS



Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

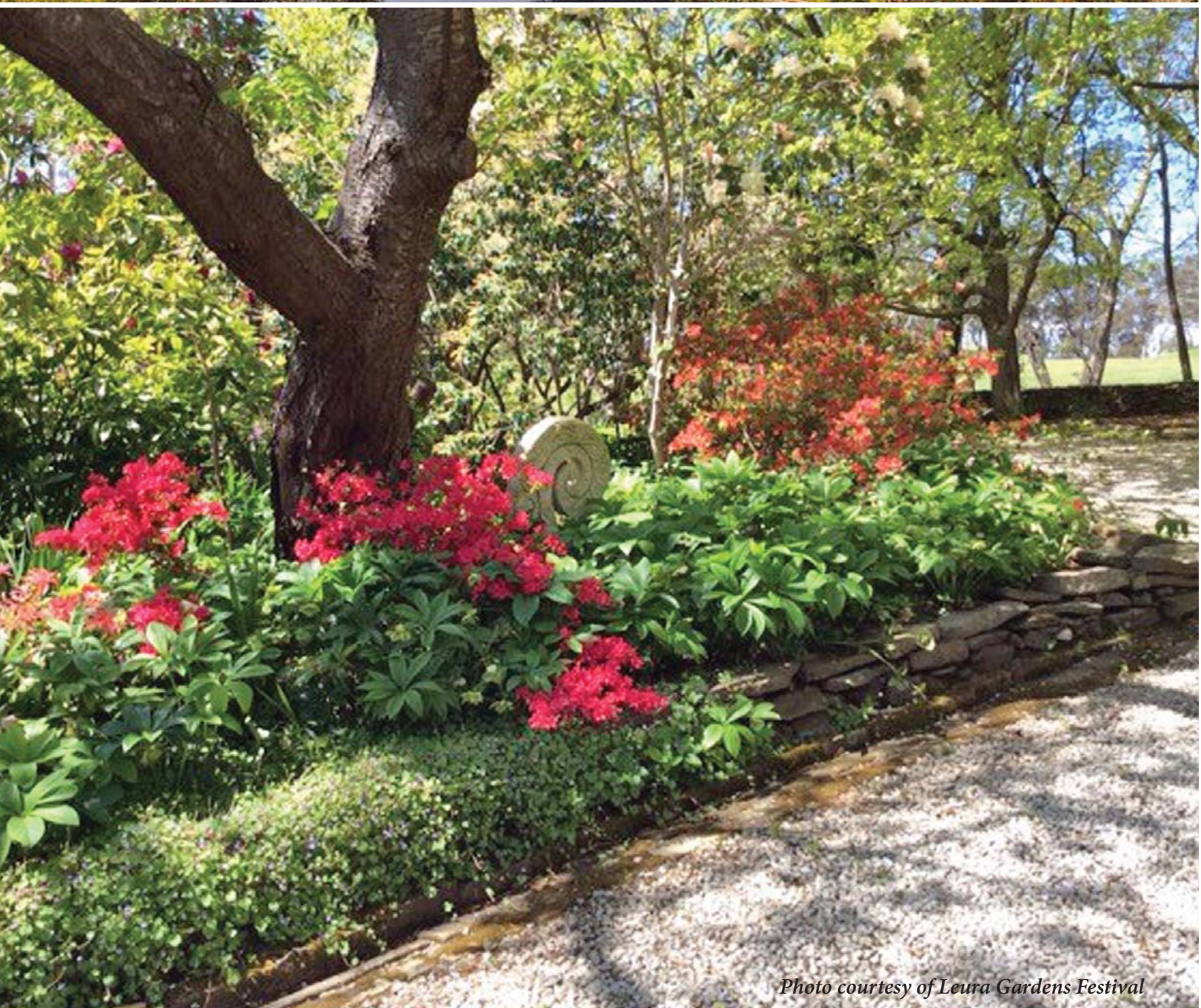


Photo courtesy of Leura Gardens Festival

Help end polio worldwide.

Rotary. Humanity in motion.

rotary.org/endpolio



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WhatsOn....

February

Wednesday 14: Guest Speaker - Bruce Manefield

Friday 16: Chinese New Year

Monday 19: Board Meeting

Wednesday 21: Club Assembly - Pre-visioning

Friday 23: Presidents Cluster Meeting

Saturday 24: Rotary's 113th Birthday celebration
Carrington Gardens, Katoomba
10am-3.00pm

Sunday 25: Summer Wine Tasting-W.F. Country Club

Wednesday 28: Youth Night Speakers

Guest Speaker February 14



Our guest speaker this week is Bruce Manefield, from Gunawirra which is an Aboriginal not-for-profit organisation. Gunawirra in Aboriginal mythology means the invisible seed of all creation

The organisation is made up of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal professionals working side-by-side for fundamental improvements in the life of Aboriginal families, their infants and children.

Gunawirra's primary role is to create models of excellence by designing unique, innovative and transformational programs that are fully evaluated.

These unique models of excellence allows Gunawirra's work to be replicated in widening community circles of effectiveness.



*Celebrate Rotary's
113 years of
Community Service
Saturday, February 24, 2018
10.00am - 3.00pm
Carrington Gardens,
Katoomba
(Front of the Carrington Hotel)*

Official Opening - 11.00am
Cake Cutting - Community Awards
Food Stalls - Sausage Sizzle - Pancakes
Games for the kids - Face Painting
Katoomba RSL Blue Mountains City Band
Gilberto Nova - will entertain
Our Town Crier will keep us moving
A chance to reminisce and celebrate
the great work of Rotary

This is a FREE community event



For more details contact: Lucian Keegel
0415 232 901 or lskeegel@bigpond.com

*Promoted by
Rotary clubs of the Blue Mountains
hosted by Rotary e-Club of Greater Sydney*



Story and photo: Central Coast Community News

Gosford Rotary Club has supplied 17 new computers to Chertsey Primary School to aid the school's children with additional needs.

"It's good to build parks and shelters and to support bushfire appeals and things like that, but after nearly 20 years in rotary, I can't recall anything more satisfying as donating 17 computers to help these kids get a good start."

Central Coast Community News reported recently that an initial approach to Gosford Rotary (District 9685) by a local parent was for just one computer, but the need and the opportunity to help was just too much for the blokes at Gosford Rotary.

Past President, Mr Barry Henwood said: "I took the opportunity to the board and current President, Mr Jim Katrikilis, gave it his enthusiastic support."

"Then someone just said why don't we give them all a computer and we all put our hands up. It was the easiest decision we've made in years."

Mr Katrikilis said: "It's good to build parks and shelters and to support bushfire appeals and things like that, but after nearly 20 years in rotary, I can't recall anything more satisfying as donating 17 computers to help these kids get a good start."

While Gosford Rotary had to dig deep for the money, their load was made much lighter with the wholehearted support of Harvey Norman's Erina store, and its immediate wish to help such a community project.



Rotary Club of Oberon president Brenda Lyon, Oberon mayor Kathy Sajowitz, Member for Bathurst Paul Toole and president elect Glen Stewart.

This good news story comes from the Oberon Review

THE Rotary Club of Oberon (District 9700) is busy measuring and planning for a new viewing platform thanks to funding through the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership (CBP) program.

A grant of \$14,800 will be used to construct a viewing platform with disabled access at the current Rotary Lookout on the Abercrombie Road, at Oberon.

"Rotary clubs are a vital part of our local communities and a great example of business, professional and community leaders working together to make their communities a better place to live."

ANNIVERSARY

THE Rotary Club of Oberon will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Saturday, February 17.

If you are a past member or know of any past members and would like to celebrate with the club, please contact Brenda Lyon on 0418 629 073.

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole visited club members on location to deliver the news.

"Rotary clubs are a vital part of our local communities and a great example of business, professional and community leaders working together to make their communities a better place to live," he said.

"This funding will see a plan come to fruition with the construction of a viewing platform with disabled access and landscaping at the current Rotary lookout.

"This is a place the whole of the community can enjoy as well as visitors to the area."

The CBP forms a partnership between the NSW Government and community organisations to develop projects that need funding support.

The 2017 program has provided \$300,000 to support community-based initiatives across the Bathurst electorate, Mr Toole said.

"If you are a community-based organisation with a project that will benefit your group and the wider community, I encourage you to visit the website at www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au to learn more," he said.

Applications for the 2018 program will be called for in mid-2018.

AUTUMN DINNER

THE Rotary Club of Oberon will hold an autumn dinner at the RSL club on Tuesday, March 13 at 6.30pm.

The guest speaker will be federal Member for Calare Andrew Gee. Community members are invited to attend. RSVP to Kay Jones on 0431 395 359.

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Mountain Ghost

The Chinese New Year Festival this year runs from 16th February to 4th March throughout Sydney and the suburbs. This is the 22nd Sydney Chinese New Year Festival and is one of the largest Lunar New Year Festivals outside of Asia.



CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL

Last February the Ghost was visiting Sydney (\$2.50 for Seniors – why wouldn't you take the train). Anyway he noticed that both the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge were all painted red. He noticed that Martin Place was covered in red lanterns. He is very observant. Then the penny dropped, it was the Chinese New Year and Sydney had really embraced it.

It was then a little late to tell his readers that they should come and visit. This year you have some notice. The Festival runs from 16th February 2018 to 4th March 2018 throughout Sydney and the suburbs. This is the 22nd Sydney Chinese New Year Festival and is one of the largest Lunar New Year Festivals outside of Asia.

The original festival started in Chinatown and now extends to Sydney Harbour/Darling Harbour and to the suburbs such as Cabramatta, Bankstown and Parramatta. Last year there were 1.4 million visitors making it the third largest yearly event in Sydney. It has developed into an internationally renowned celebration of Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese and Korean culture.

A quick summary of what's on.

Famous landmarks such as the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, Circular Quay station and the Town Hall all lit up in red. Twelve spectacular zodiac animal lanterns lining the harbour foreshores. Some of these are 10m high. Martin Place is the Westpac Lunar Lantern display.

On February 24 and 25 there are Dragon Boat Races at Darling Harbour. It is the largest dragon boat festival in the Southern Hemisphere with 5,000 paddlers. Food Festivals everywhere.

The Ghost is reporting all this good stuff in Sydney but what is happening in his Mountains. Not a lot it seems. All he could find were some events at Scenic World, including the traditional Lion Dance on the 20th February. A few of the local Chinese restaurants were putting on special menus. Oh well, we still have a week to go.



As usual the Ghost likes to give you some history and education to bring the readers up to his level. The Lunar New Year has been celebrated in China since approximately 1200 BC. It was a time to honour ancestors and a time to bring families together for feasting. In China it is now celebrated as the Chinese New Year or Spring Festival.

The original Chinese Calendar was a complex timepiece. It had the Chinese Zodiac, the cycle of 12 stations or signs along the apparent path of the sun through the cosmos. These were represented by 12 animals – the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. This year is the year of the Dog.

The Ghost is a South Sydney supporter so if any of the Ghost's readers are South Sydney fans they will have to wait five years for the year of the Rabbit.

'till next time.....



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Ride a bike across Egypt



An invitation from the Rotary Club of Alexandria Cosmopolitan

“Cross Egypt Challenge” is an international cross-country motorcycle and scooter adventure tour conducted throughout the majestic and fascinating Egypt.

Participation is not only open to Rotarians but also open to any interested rider, their accompanying spouses and friends from around the globe who wish to visit and explore this marvellous country in a unique way.

This amazing Rotary project started in 2011 and for the past seven years, Rotarians and riders from over 40 countries took part in the adventurous challenge.

This year the challenge will start on October 11 and will last for 10 days and will include some of Egypt’s top attractions and off the beaten track destinations.

A normal practice we conduct during Cross Egypt Challenge is an annual “Sahara Rotary Meeting” where visiting riding Rotarians along with Rotaracts from our organizing team conduct an official Rotary meeting in the Egyptian Desert – a practice that we happily repeat at each new season.

The 2018 season of Cross Egypt Challenge will include one of the best routes in the history of the challenge and will pass through many of Egypt’s finest spots including modern cities, coastal resorts, historical sites, Egyptian western and eastern deserts and Egypt’s Nile Valley.

For more information or to register, please visit our website: www.CrossEgyptChallenge.com and LIKE our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CrossEgyptChallenge

*Ahmad Elzoghby, PHF,
Rotary Club of Alexandria Cosmopolitan
Rotary International – District 2451
Alexandria, Egypt*

Rotary Leadership in 2018

The Rotary Leadership Institute course is now run over two days, powerpacked with information, learning and skills you can use in your Rotary life straight away.

Networking with other Rotarians and led by experienced facilitators, you are sure to enjoy what others are describing as the best Rotary training they have had. Register online now at rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au and supercharge your Rotary.

There are two courses available for registration:

RLI 45 - Sunday 18 February and Sunday 18 March 2018

RLI 47 - Saturday 5 and 19 May 2018

Contact PDG Ian Scott 0402 217 915 - ian@scottadr.com for information and booking.



The Rotary International Presidential Peacebuilding Conference 2018 (RIPPC 2018), will be taking place on the 17 March 2018 at Sydney Town Hall.

This is one of six world-wide Rotary Peace Conferences.