



HORIZONS



Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, March 14, 2018



IAN AND JENNIFER SCOTT are in Ulaanbaatar, capital city of Mongolia, undertaking a needs assessment on family and community conflict.

Jennifer says: "Once this is completed we will apply for a Rotary Foundation global grant to provide family and community mediation training with three other mediators from Australia.

"We have met with the Judicial Council, the judges, the Bar Council and NGOs.

"We have met Rotarians from three Rotary clubs and will be visiting two clubs and a district meeting.

"Most Rotarians in these clubs are women under the age of 45 from various professions - Law, social work, psychology, banking and academia."

.....More pics on page 3

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WhatsOn....

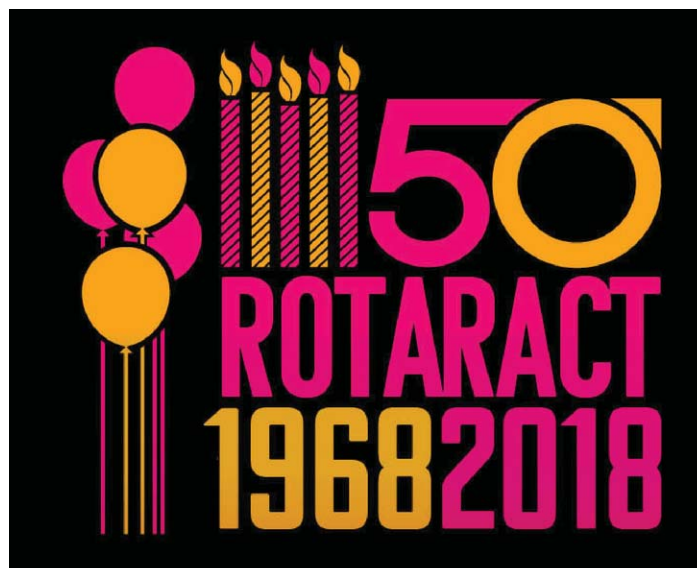
March

- Wednesday 14:** Jodie Van der Velden - Josophan's Chocolates, Leura
- Saturday 17:** Catering van Home Hardware, Katoomba
- Saturday 17:** Presidential Peace Building Conference
- Sat 17-Sun 18:** Rotaract 50th birthday celebrations
- Wednesday 21:** Club visioning night
- Wednesday 28:** Barefoot Bowling, W. Falls Bowling Club

April

- Wednesday 04:** Guest speaker to be advised
- Wednesday 11:** Guest speaker to be advised
- Wednesday 18:** Guest speaker to be advised
- Saturday 21:** Catering van Home Hardware, Katoomba
- Sat-Sun 21 & 22:** Rotary Leadership - Springwood
- Sunday 29:** District Assembly

Rotaract: 50 years of community service



A half-century has passed since the first Rotaract clubs began inspiring young leaders to take action to improve their communities.

The world has changed, as has the way Rotaract members connect with one another. But the underlying values of the program, and what attracts people to it, remain remarkably the same.

Rotaract's 50th Birthday celebration will be held on 17th-18th March 2018.



Cleaning up the visitors area at Wentworth Falls Lake Sunday March 04 was a crew from Central Blue. Left to right: Eric Cantor, John Manners, Steve Cookson, Rick Tasker and Ray Wiles.

They appear to be having a good time. Lots of rubbish was binned and later lots of coffee was consumed.

Visiting Mongolia



Above: Ian and Jennifer Scott visiting the Rotary Club of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, last week.

The young women in yellow, next to Ian, is the president. Ulaanbaatar Rotary, 20 years old, has parented several other clubs in Mongolia.

Left: Ian and Jennifer presented a Central Blue Rotary banner to Zolzaya T., president Rotary Club of Narlag, Ulaanbaatar. The average age of this club is 35-years.



Blackheath Growers Market



A very busy market last Sunday, where Central Blue Mountains Rotary was selling popular Easter Bilbies and Koalas for the club's community service projects.



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Conference Capers

Just a couple of Central Blue Rotary happy snaps from the District 9685 conference Saturday March 10, at Fairmont Resort, Leura.

By all accounts, the conference was voted as an overwhelming success. Good speakers, good company and an excellent venue.

Our happy snappers were Rick Tasker and Tom Colless.


The logo for 'Rotary Rocks' features a large, stylized golden treble clef on the left. The word 'ROTARY' is written in bold, golden, sans-serif capital letters across the top of the clef. The word 'ROCKS' is written in a similar style, slanted upwards, across the bottom right. Musical notes and lines are scattered around the text and clef.

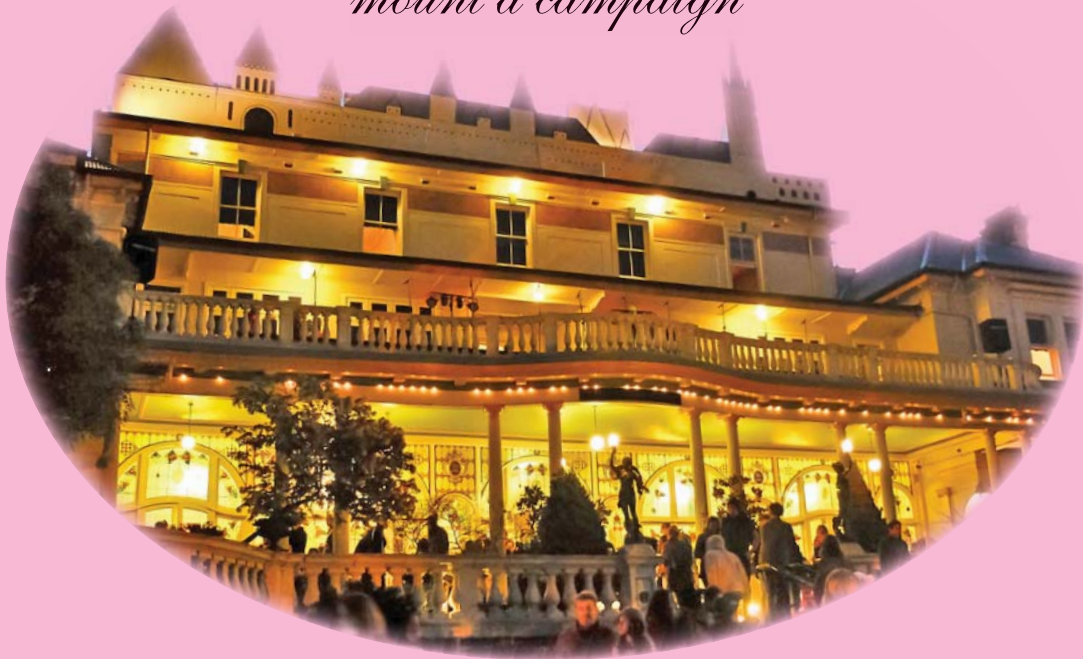
**District 9685 Conference
Newcastle 2019**

**NEX, Newcastle Exhibition & Convention Centre
King Street, Newcastle
March 29, 30 and 31, 2019**

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Join us at our Pink Ball for a Night of Fun

*Once upon a time on top of a beautiful
Blue Mountain the kingdom was summoned
to help rescue girls in the far off lands of
Nepal and Cambodia
We must rally our resources to
mount a campaign*



Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

May 4, 2018 - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

\$150 per person — Dress: Formal with a hint of pink



Supporting Astha Home for Girls in Nepal and Sustainable Cambodia

Please RSVP by April 20, 2018 to: Jennifer Scott - jennifer@scottadr.com
or call John Sim 4784 3151 - 0409 665 437 - email: johnsim@bigpond.net.au



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Mountain Ghost

How big is the Mardi Gras? Well, it is recognised as the biggest “costume party” in the world and annually attracts thousands of interstate and overseas visitors.

SYDNEY MARDI GRAS

The Mountain Ghost is mellowing in his old age. Ten years ago he would not have dreamed of writing about the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras which was on, March 3. He would have attended the Mardi Gras but was not sure if it was wheel-chair friendly. Plenty of his friends have watched the Parade and some have even marched. It is part of Sydney culture.

This year marked the 40th anniversary and it has a very colourful history. It has come a long way since the first march in June 1978 which was marred by Police arrests.

If you look at old videos of the time it was very ugly and confronting. It really was a protest against the treatment of gays and lesbians. As a result of this in April 1979 the NSW Summary Offences Act was repealed.

In 1980 the post march party was introduced which now attracts 6,000 people. In 1981 the event was moved to the first Saturday in March where it has remained.

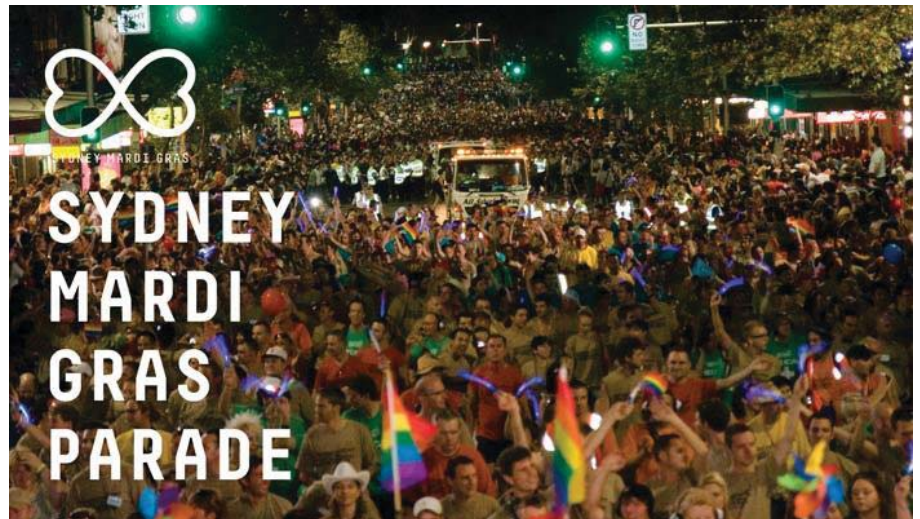
How big is the Mardi Gras now? Well it is recognised as the biggest “costume party” in the world and annually attracts thousands of visitors from interstate and overseas.

The festival is a financial goldmine for the City of Sydney. It is not just the march where upward of 300,000 to 500,000 attend (the Ghost is thinking these figures could be a bit rubbry). The after-party now consists of a whole week of activities and is possibly still continuing.

So what is a “Mardi Gras”. The Ghost remembers it as a cheap white wine similar to ‘Ben Ean’ and ‘Porphyry Pearl’. His younger readers have no idea what he is talking about.

According to Wikipedia, a Mardi Gras is a carnival or fair held at any time but in some countries held on Shrove Tuesday. In medieval Europe festivals were held in Venice, Rome and later moved to France. The “French City” of New Orleans has held the most famous Mardi Gras since the 1740s. In French Mardi Gras literally means ‘Fat Tuesday’ – the day before Ash Wednesday. Of course now with the legalisation of same sex marriage it was interesting to see how the Mardi Gras was celebrated and the inclusion of lots of rainbow colours.

See you next time folks.....



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JOIN US ON A VIVID CRUISE!



Join us for Sydney's multi award-winning Vivid Light festival as it transforms the city into a creative canvas for people of all ages to enjoy.

The Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney has secured an exclusive fundraising cruise for the 2018 Vivid Festival on Sydney Harbour.

All proceeds benefit the club's service projects.



For info: Ross Johnson
rossgo@hotmail.com

When: Friday, 8 June 2018

Time: 7.15 pm for 7.30 till 9.00 pm

Vessel: Magic Cruises

Boarding location: Jetty 6, King Street Wharf, Darling Harbour (Sydney) with disability access.

Cost: \$60 per person which includes 1 complimentary drink (beer/wine/soft drink) on arrival, hot food, tea/coffee. A cash bar is also available.

Please book by 31st May:

<https://www.trybooking.com/UKUK>

Plenty of undercover and open air seating on board!

Photo: Destination NSW