

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, April 17, 2019



Lanterns on the Lake Wentworth Falls April 13

Inspired by stunning floating lantern festivals in the Vietnamese town of Hoi An, Lanterns on the Lake is a simple and peaceful celebration of gratitude for the community.

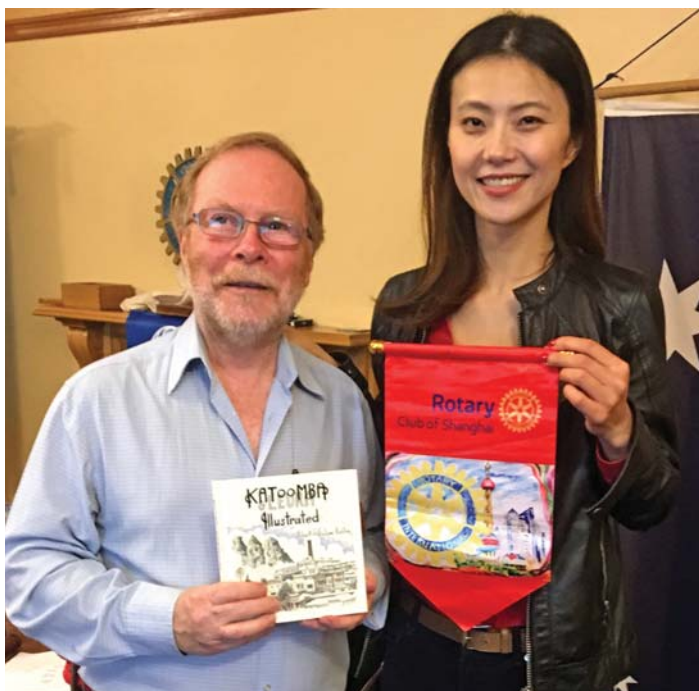
After an afternoon of entertainment and as dusk falls participants were invited to launch locally handmade and environmentally-friendly lanterns with soy tealights.



The scene at the left shows visitors to Wentworth Falls Lake Saturday lining up for food at the Central Blue Mountains Rotary catering van.

Organisers said Lanterns on the Lake was a "leave no trace" event. Attendees were asked to take their rubbish with them at the end of the festivities, leaving the park area as clean as it was when they arrived.

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Rotarian guest - Audrey Wang - Shanghai Rotary, presented with a book about Katoomba by co-president Steve Cookson, as a reminder of her recent visit to Central Blue Mountains Rotary.

Blue Mountains Grammar School Compassion Project



The Blue Mountains Grammar School Child Survival Project "Compassion" is a partnership between the school and Compassion Australia to support a Child Survival Program in Indonesia.

This is a holistic program that supports mothers and their young children who are living in poverty.

The program provides health checks, immunisations, nutritious food, social and emotional support.

Three groups of students and teachers have already visited the project in 2012, 2014 and 2016 with another group booked to visit in June/July 2019.



*Guest speaker, April 3
Justin Morrissey - Scenic World*

Sculpture at Scenic World is Australia's premier outdoor sculpture exhibition which transforms the ancient rainforest into an outdoor gallery in the heart of the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains.

Each year, exhibiting artists continue to inspire with their creations which capture the imaginations of young and old.



On Wednesday April 10, CBM co-president Steve Cookson presented a cheque for \$1,180 to Emily Peters, BMGS teacher and leader of the "Service Trip" to Indonesia.

Emily and three students outlined the history and role of the students in the Compassion project.

Nick Mayrhofer presented a video documentary. Abbie Clyne spoke of her personal experience of the trip and Sarah Fallon played her guitar and sang her own composition about the emotional impact of the trip.

April

Wednesday 17: FoodBank collection/distribution

Wednesday 17: Vocational Visit to "Roasters with Altitude", Blackheath - 4.00pm-6.00pm

Wednesday 24: Guest speaker, Lt.Col. Shaun Whitehouse: "Today's ANZACS – Duntroon to Daesh"

Thursday 25: ANZAC Day

Saturday 27: Woolworths, Katoomba - catering van

Other important dates

Saturday May 4: Blue Ball - Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

Saturday July 6: District Changeover - Hornsby RSL Club

Visiting Roasters With Altitude Wed, April 17



A vocational visit for Central Blue Mountains Rotarians to Roasters With Altitude, at Blackheath, to support Libby Bleakley's Centre for Youth and Community in Timor-Leste.

The story behind the Timor-Leste Learning Centre for Youth and Community

During her three-year deployment to Timor-Leste with the Australian Federal Police, Libby Bleakley established strong and lasting friendships with communities, local Police and government officials.

In consultation with communities she developed a crime prevention initiative and a Learning Centre for Youth and Community.

In 2015, Libby leased land and used her own funds and money raised to build a centre consisting of a "Plus Fitness" gym, English language school, women's sewing centre, office, vegetable gardens, Timorese manager's house, and a private residence.

The project now encourages Timorese youth and the community to develop skills, character and leadership through educational and crime prevention workshops, language courses and fitness training.

The Centre focuses on building strong social foundations by bringing the community together, to build relationships and respect with the aim of reducing crime, especially violence within families and communities. A large focus is on gender equality and promoting respect for women.

The Centre supports and empowers members to take ownership in progressing the development of their country.

The Centre has a full-time live-in manager and assistant, English language teacher, five women in the sewing centre and three volunteer teachers. There are 120 English students, and 530 gym members. All memberships are free and in return each member is responsible for undertaking volunteer work at the Centre. This has allowed for sustainability, as all members have taken ownership and pride in their facility.

The Centre was officially opened in October 2016 and is the first of its kind in Timor-Leste.

....Steve Cookson



Rotary BowelCare Program April 1 - May 31 2019

BowelCare kits are on sale at participating pharmacies for two months. This year's BowelCare kit will cost only \$15.00. The price includes pathology testing, with notification of your result to both yourself and your doctor.

Check with your local pharmacy or go to our website www.bowelcare.org.au for a listing of all participating pharmacies in your area.

Your result will be issued within 30 days of your test kit being received by pathology.

Please use the pre-paid envelope provided within the kit.

BowelCare Australia is a division of CancerCare Australia.

Assisting visitors to enjoy Sculpture at Scenic World



Sculpture at Scenic World is supported daily from April 12 to May 12 by volunteers from Central Blue Mountains Rotary, local Probus clubs, and Leura Gardens Festival.

The role of volunteers to assist visitors to enjoy their experience by explaining the sculptures and acting as guides.

They also encourage visitors to vote for their favorite exhibit and conduct an entry survey.

Central Blue Rotarians and volunteers from Leura Gardens Festival in the Jamison Valley Saturday at the start of Sculpture at Scenic World.

left to right: Yung Kim, Paul Pixton, Gwenda Sim, John McGilvray, Mike Honey, Nick de Brett and Sue de Brett.

Six Great Reasons to do RLI



The success of Rotary Leadership Institute is because it delivers skills and knowledge that Rotarians can apply straight away in their clubs.

1. It hones leadership skills
2. Builds Rotary knowledge
3. Gives a perspective about where Rotary has been and where it is now
4. Shares a vision of what Rotary can be
5. Networking with Rotarians from other clubs
6. Provides opportunities for partnering in service

The two part course is held on a weekend or separately on Saturdays or Sundays to meet demand.

Morning tea and lunch are provided.

Each day starts at 8:00am and finishes around 4.00pm.

Courses 51 and 52 are open for registration:

- RLI 51 runs Saturday 4th and 18th of May at the District Office, Thornleigh.
- RLI 52 runs over the weekend of 1-2 June at a location to be decided in the Penrith/Lower Mountains area.

Register at rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au



Jennifer Scott visiting New York before heading off to Chicago for Rotary International's Council on Legislation - 14 to 18 April, 2019.

Every three years, Rotarians meet at the Council on Legislation to review and vote on proposed changes to the legislation that governs Rotary.

They consider enactments, which change Rotary's governing documents, and position statements by the RI Board.

Each Rotary district chooses a representative for a three-year term. These members represent their districts at all three meetings of the Council on Resolutions and at the Council on Legislation during their term.



ShelterBox aid arrives in Malawi from the UNHRD warehouse in Dubai

This month, ShelterBox is focusing on Africa, a continent of extremes. Cyclone Idai, which swept through Southern Africa, caused catastrophic damage in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Malawi, affecting more than 2.5 million people and left more than 1,000 dead and thousands more missing. The first cases of cholera have been reported in Mozambique, accentuating the need for clean water.

As the major agencies concentrate on Mozambique and Zimbabwe, ShelterBox is focussing on Malawi where we have good experience, having responded to floods in the country in 2015. Once again, Rotary contacts on the ground are proving invaluable.

Further north, changing climate conditions are forcing tens of thousands to seek greener pastures (if such a thing exists) or flee violence by extremist groups such as Boko Haram.

ShelterBox has succeeded in helping thousands of families in Africa affected by events beyond their control. All of this is only possible because of Rotary supporters, whether you donate money or your time, on behalf of those we help, thank you!

Mike Greenslade
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Mountain Ghost

Charles Kingsford Smith is the best known of the trio. Smithy as he was affectionately known made the first trans-Pacific flight from USA to Australia in 1928 with co-pilots Charles Ulm, Harry Lyon and James Warner. When they arrived in Sydney they were met by a crowd of 300,000.

BLUE MOUNTAINS AND THE AVIATORS

The Mountain Ghost has always wondered why so many parks in the Blue Mountains and Katoomba in particular are named after famous aviators or have a connection to aeroplanes.

In Katoomba there is Kingsford Smith Memorial Park, Bert Hinkler Park and Melrose Park is named after Charles "Jimmy" Melrose. Why did this happen?

In the age of pioneer aviation between the two wars, flyers were the superstars of their time and among them a number of Australian and British flyers who became international as well as local heroes.

So who were these three famous aviators?

Charles Kingsford Smith is the best known of the trio. Smithy as he was affectionately known made the first trans-Pacific flight from USA to Australia in 1928 with co-pilots Charles Ulm, Harry Lyon and James Warner. When they arrived in Sydney they were met by a crowd of 300,000.

This is not a typo, that's more people than the Mountain Ghost has as readers. Kingsford Smith also made the first non-stop crossing of the Australian mainland, the first flight between Australia and New Zealand and the first eastward Pacific crossing from Australia to the USA. He also made a flight from Sydney to London and set a new record of 10.1/2 days. The Ghost was wondering if he left from Kingsford Smith Airport.

Smithy died in 1938 when his plane crashed in the Bay of Bengal while attempting the England-Australia speed record. His body was never recovered. Smithy was only 38 when he died.

Bert Hinkler apart from his inventions and exploits in WW1 is best known for his solo flight from England to Australia in 1928. This reduced the England Australia record from 28 days to 15.1/2 days. He was also the first person to fly solo across the Southern Atlantic Ocean. Hinkler died in 1933 aged 40. In 2008 the Hinkler Hall of Aviation was opened in his home town of Bundaberg. Lurline Street Park in Katoomba was renamed Hinkler Park in 1935.

Charles James (Jimmy) Melrose flew solo around Australia setting a new record of 5½ days in 1934. In 1934 he also flew from Adelaide to London in a record 8½ days arriving on his 21st birthday. He entered the first London to Melbourne Centenary Air Race. He was the youngest competitor and finished second, the only solo pilot to finish the race. In July 1936 on a charter flight from Melbourne to Darwin in bad conditions his plane crashed and he died. He was only 22. Melrose Park was named after Jimmy Melrose in 1936.

Ross McPherson Smith was another famous pilot and together with his brother Keith Smith became the first pilots to fly from England to Australia in 1919. They landed in Darwin in November 1919 taking less than 28 days. The four pilots shared a 10,000 pound Australian prize money put forward by the Australian Government. Ross died in 1922 aged 29. In 1920 he visited Katoomba and was given a civic reception in front of a large crowd at the top of Katoomba Street.



Still on the connection with aviation and the Blue Mountains the Ghost notes that in January 1941 an RAAF plane crashed at Glenbrook. All six people died instantly. There is a memorial plaque in Clifton Avenue, Glenbrook.

There is also the connection of Catalina Park. The Ghost is sure his readers know the story of the now disused motor racing venue at Katoomba (The Gully). In 1946 the area was developed as a tourist park. The Kedumba Creek was dammed forming an ornamental lake. The shell of a Catalina Flying Boat was installed in the middle of the lake giving the area its informal name. People could pay to visit and play with the airplane controls. The plane was removed in 1952.

And finally the Ghost was told there was a Katoomba Airport but he didn't believe it. But it is true. It is located at Medlow Bath and while it won't accommodate 747s it will take small planes. The rumour is that it will be used for helicopter joy rides.

The Mountain Ghost hopes you enjoyed the Mountain's connection with flying. Why don't you visit the three parks in the next few weeks? The Ghost will be.

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Join us at the Rotary Blue Ball



Artist: Tanya Loviz



Carrington Hotel, Katoomba
May 4, 2019- 7.00pm for 7.30pm
\$145 per person
Three-course dinner and wine
Dress: Formal with a hint of blue

Supporting
local Rotary mental health projects

Central Blue Mountains
Rotary



RSVP- April 24, 2019
Booking essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/BBHEK>
Contact: Ray Wiles- 0409 845 415- raymar40@bigpond.com

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RSPCA
Million Paws Walk
Sunday 19 May, 2019



SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for dinner with Rotary
International President for
2019-2020, Mark Daniel
Malone



**Monday
23rd September 2019**

*Rotary International President 2019-2020
Mark Daniel Malone will be in Sydney to
address a special dinner to be held at Epping
Club on Monday, September 23, 2019.*

*This is an opportunity for Rotarians and guests
to meet and hear from our international leader.
Further details and how to register will be
advised shortly.*

*For more information contact
PDG Gina Growden 0412 128 106 or
gina.growden@bigpond.com*



...that's all folks