

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, May 01, 2019



ANZAC Day Dawn Service - 2019
Wentworth Falls

Photo: Karen Sullivan

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up front

Ping-Pong in the Park



Ping-Pong in public parks has caught on from Canada to France to Pakistan.

It's a great public awareness idea for Rotary clubs to discuss with their local councils.

When Dianne Moore, a member of the Rotary Club of Toronto Bay-Bloor, Canada, read an article about how expensive hockey and swimming lessons were for kids in Toronto, she knew exactly what to do.

She took her idea to Toronto Parks and Recreation, and said: 'What about having outdoor ping-pong tables in parks?' They said: 'That's a great idea. Go for it.'

Story from The Rotarian, April 2019

The concrete tabletops are set on four large, ball-shaped legs, a clear invitation to play. Each two-ton table is equipped with a permanent steel net, so players need to bring only paddles and balls.

The first table was installed in 2013 in the Toronto, Canada, Mel Lastman Square. Now they number more than 100 throughout Toronto, funded partly through donations and partly by the city. Each costs US\$3,700 to \$4,500.

The tables have caught on elsewhere too. For instance, in 2015, the Rotary Club of Toronto-Forest Hill donated two of them to the First Nations community in Cross Lake, Manitoba, a remote area that has been plagued by youth suicide and drug use.

And in 2016, Toronto-Forest Hill Rotary sent a table to France, where it was installed near a memorial to Canadian soldiers who fought in World War I.

In Pakistan, a member of the Rotary Club of Lahore Crescent, learned about the project and brought the idea to her club. She hoped to encourage children to engage in physical activity.

The tables, designed to endure the extreme cold of Canadian winters, would also withstand Pakistan's heat, where summer temperatures can be excessive.

The first of four tables manufactured in Lahore was installed in February 2017 at Friends Public School. The Rotary club planned to identify more sites in the future.

Table Tennis provides enjoyment at very little cost. Now that vision has expanded around the world.

It's for people of all ages — children, adults, it doesn't matter..... It's just to have fun and to provide entertainment and exercise - and of course Rotary clubs can place a logo and an inscription on the table to generate public awareness.....see the Mountain Ghost's table tennis story, page 5.

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ANZAC Day 2019



The Dawn Service, Wentworth Falls, attended by several hundred people



Rotarian Paul Twigg and Miriam Ransom represented Central Blue Mountains Rotary at the Dawn Service.



Blue Mountains City Councillor and Central Blue Mountains Rotarian Kevin Schreiber, attending the ANZAC Day service at Katoomba.



Katoomba RSL Club President and Central Blue Mountains Rotarian Brian Turner assisting a veteran at the Katoomba ANZAC Day service.



Katoomba RSL Sub-Branch President and Central Blue Mountains Rotarian Rick Tasker at the Katoomba ANZAC Day service.

Images: Karen Sullivan and Lucian Keegel

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WhatsOn....

May

Wed 01 - Sun 12: Sculpture at Scenic World

Wednesday 01: Guest speakers, Jennifer and Ian Scott:
"Sustainable Cambodia now—
Better Gardens, Bigger Grins".

Thursday 02: Board meeting

Friday 03: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Saturday 04: Rotary Blue Ball - Carrington Hotel

Wednesday 08: Guest speaker, Richard Mills:
"A Dignified Departure"

Friday 10: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Saturday 11: Presidents' Meeting and District Awards
Hornsby RSL 8.00am-11.00am

Wednesday 15: FoodBank collection/distribution

Wednesday 15: NO MEETING... transfer to 16/05

Thursday 16: Upper BM Rotary Clubs
Pride of Workmanship Award Night
Blackheath Golf Club

Friday 17: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Sunday 19: RSPCA Million Paws Walk - Katoomba

Wednesday 22: Guest speaker, Chris Cleary:
"Street Med"

Friday 24: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Saturday 25: Catering van Woolworths, Katoomba

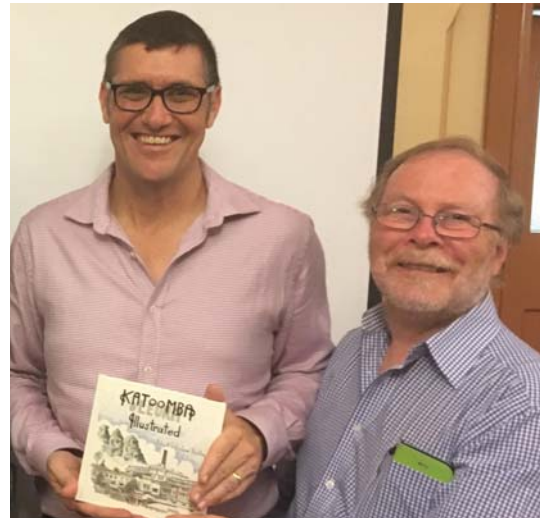
Wednesday 29: Guest speaker, Dr Raymond Yung:
"Developing new cancer drugs - a long and
winding road"

Friday 31: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Other important dates

Wednesday June 26: CBM Rotary changeover

Saturday July 6: District Changeover - Hornsby RSL Club



*Guest speaker Lieutenant Colonel Shaun
Whitehouse thanked by
Co-President Steve Cookson for his
presentation, April 24.*



Rotary districts 9675 and 9685 are combining district conferences next year from Friday 20 to Sunday 22, March.

Registration is now open for Conference 2020 which will be held in Wollongong at the WIN Entertainment Centre. The Early Bird registration is \$200 for the whole conference and will be available only until 30th June 2019.

Information about hotels with a special conference rate will be available shortly.

There will also be a home hosting program. What a great opportunity for you to meet and get to know a friendly Illawarra Rotarian.

*Empowering
families and
children to effect
lasting change....
community by
community*



www.sustainablecambodia.org



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Mountain Ghost

The Ghost could have said the game was invented in ancient China by Mr Pong (first name Ping) but he would have been wrong. The original game called table tennis started in London in 1885.

DID YOU KNOW?

Blue Mountains City Council in partnership with the Blue Mountains Youth Council trialled an outdoor table tennis table at Lawson in 2017.



BMCC Ward 2 councillors, Brent Hoare (left), Romola Hollywood (striped top) and Chris Van der Kley (right) get ready to enjoy a game of outdoor ping pong in the sunshine with Blue Mountains Youth Councillors Brodie Wyld, Delilah Scott, Caitlin Marlor and Ben McGrory, and Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre Community Development Worker Danielle Wilding-Forbes (red top)...image Blue Mountains Gazette September 29, 2017.

PING PONG

"Why do they call table tennis ping pong, Ghost?" The Mountain Ghost's grandchild was asking a reasonable question which the Ghost who knows everything should have known.

The Ghost's answer of course was "ask Mr Google". Well the Ghost could have said the game was invented in ancient China by Mr Pong (first name Ping) but he would have been wrong for once. The original game was called table tennis and started in London in 1885.

The manufacturer was Jaques & Co. and they called the game Gossima. They tried both cork balls and rubber balls but the game was not popular until they introduced the cellular ball that we know today. That happened in 1900.

The racquets they used were long handled and had sheepskin surface a bit like a drum and the sound was a ping or a pong depending on how taut the skin was. Well there you go. No Chinese influence at all. Table Tennis has been the official name for the game since 1926.

The Ghost wondered why Ping Pong is so popular in China. The first "Ping Pong Parlour" opened in Shanghai in 1916. The game became popular with the Chinese Army in the 1930s. Rong Guotuan became world tennis champion in 1959.

He was in fact China's first world champion in any sport. He became a hero in China and in Chinese communities throughout the world.

Table Tennis became immensely popular in China. In fact Chinese players have dominated world competitions since 1990. In the Olympics at Beijing, China won Gold, Silver and Bronze in every single competition.

The Ghost had also heard the term Ping Pong Diplomacy but did not know what it was all about. Well evidently in 1971 when relations between China and the US were at a low, the Chinese invited a team of 15 US table tennis players to visit and play in China. The trip marked a thaw in the relations between the two countries.

The Ghost was actually a good table tennis player in his youth and wondered if there was a table tennis facility in the Mountains. He did note that Blue Mountains City Council in partnership with the Blue Mountains Youth Council had trialled an outdoor table at Lawson in 2017.

The Katoomba Table Tennis Club play each second Saturday at St. Hilda's Anglican Church Hall, but apart from going to Penrith this seems to be it. Perhaps finding a flat area for a table in the Mountains could be the problem. All this activity researching Ping Pong has made the Mountain Ghost hungry. He may go and have a Chinese meal somewhere.

Rotary assists at a Family Day function at Katoomba

Central Blue Mountains Rotary members were busy Friday April 26 at an annual family day function conducted by the Aboriginal Culture Resource Centre, Katoomba.

Held at Melrose Park in brilliant sunshine, the event is a fun day out for many local families who can also access information about child care, welfare and social issues.



Pride of Workmanship

Blackheath, Central Blue Mountains
Katoomba, Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise

Blackheath RSL Club
Thursday, May 16, 2019



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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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
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



TOP 5 REASONS TO ERADICATE POLIO

1 THE HUMAN COST: If we choose to control polio rather than eradicate it, the virus could rebound and cause 200,000 cases annually in the next 10 years.

2 IT'S ACHIEVABLE: We have effective vaccines to end polio and the means to reach all children.

3 IT'S A GOOD INVESTMENT: An independent study published in the medical journal Vaccine estimates that the return on the global investment in a polio-free world will reach \$40 to \$50 billion within the next 20 years.

4 IT STRENGTHENS THE SYSTEM: Our polio eradication efforts have established an active global disease surveillance network that is being used for other health interventions, such as measles vaccinations, deworming tablets, and mosquito bed nets.

5 IT SETS THE STAGE: The ability to reach all children with the polio vaccine is proof that we can succeed in our next major global health initiative.



WWW.ENDPOLIO.ORG

RSPCA Million Paws Walk

Sunday 19 May 2019

Central Blue Mountains Rotary will be at Melrose Park, Katoomba, from 0700 on May 19 for the annual RSPCA Million Paws Walk. We'll have delicious sausage and onions on a roll along with our famous BIG sausage, onion, bacon and egg burger



...that's all folks