



HORIZONS



Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Changing Lanes Changing Leaders

Navigating Change
Creates Opportunities

Photo: Section of the M5

Rotary

Central Blue Mountains



WhatsOn....

June

Wednesday 23: Club assembly

Monday 25: Springwood Rotary changeover

Wednesday 27: Catering van BMGS Senior Sports Day

Wednesday 27: CBM Rotary changeover

Thursday 28: Blackheath Rotary changeover

July

Monday 02: Katoomba Rotary changeover

Saturday 07: Rotary District 9685 changeover

Wednesday 04: Welcome to the new Rotary year

Thursday 05: Board meeting at Grand View Hotel 7pm

Wednesday 11: David Parsons from the SES will ask the questions "Are you prepared?..What would you do?" Through audience participation let's see how we would cope in an emergency.

Wednesday 18: Planning and business meeting

Saturday 21: BBQ at Mitre 10

Wednesday 25: Rick's Musical Trivia Night. Come along for fun and laughs. Partners, fellow Rotarians and friends are most welcome to join us. No fundraising, just music, fun and maybe a few prizes to be won.

Friday 27: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

August

Wednesday 01: Guest Speaker TBC

Friday 03: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Wednesday 08: Social meeting.

Thursday 09: Board meeting at Grand View Hotel 7pm

Friday 10: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Wednesday 15: Planning and Business meeting

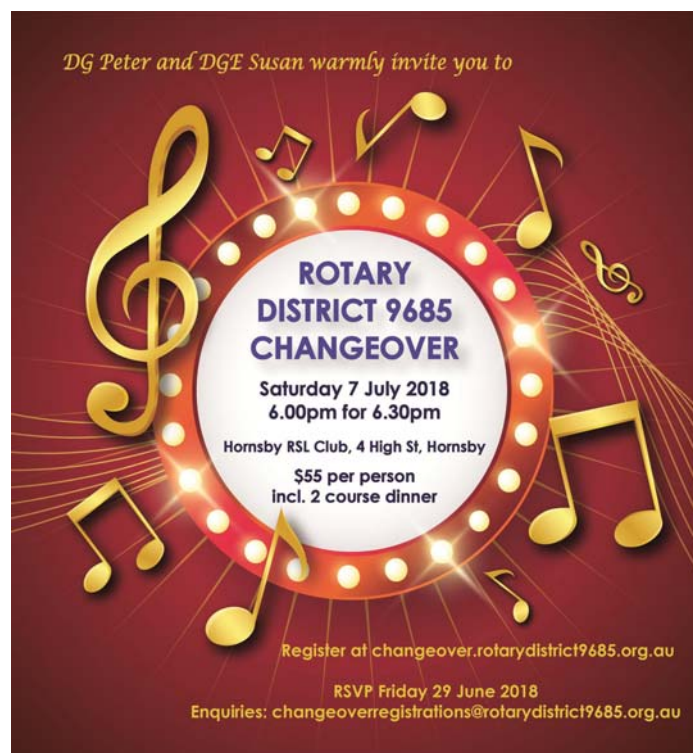
Friday 17: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Saturday 18: BBQ at Mitre 10

Wednesday 22: Lisa Gorman managing director of Life Learning will present a light-hearted, lively approach to adult learning.

Friday 24: Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

Wednesday 29: Take a breather!



Western Sydney MUNA 2018 will be held at the Nepean Creative & Performing Arts High School June 23-24.

MUNA is an annual, two-day weekend event that is part of an International Rotary project to educate senior high school students (years 10 - 12) on the United Nations organisation and its vital commitment to world peace, in addition to health, education and living standards around the world.

The event provides an excellent forum for students to develop and practice their public speaking skills whilst debating on topical world issues.

MUNA is held in many Rotary Districts around Australia. The team that places first in MUNA in our contest will be invited to compete at the Australian National MUNA at the Old Parliament House, Canberra.

ROTARY

The FUTURE



Noel J. Trevaskis
R.I. Director 2016-18
Rotary Club of Bega

Noel Trevaskis is stepping down at the end of June as a director of Rotary International, and in this short article published in the June edition of *Rotary on the Move*, he presents his thoughts on how he sees this organisation developing in the next 15 years.

A Rotarian since 1996, Noel has served as Rotary coordinator, regional Rotary membership coordinator committee chair and member, and district governor.

He also served as chair and member of the board of Australian Rotary Health.

He is a recipient of the Service Above Self Award, a Rotary Foundation Major Donor and Paul Harris Fellow.

***“Globally in fifteen years half of the membership of Rotary will come from Asia and India, Africa will be growing quickly as well.*”**

In the western world membership will start to flatten out and become reasonably stable after losing members for fifteen years. Rotary in Asia, India and Africa will be based on a more traditional style of Rotary.

In the western world and in Australia and New Zealand it will have to be different. There will be some traditional style clubs but there will be a lot more different style Rotary Clubs based on service and projects.

They may not meet weekly or even fortnightly, they will meet on a “needs basis”. They may have “cell groups” within the club structure. These cells will be interest groups with a particular interest in some form of service. The club may come together monthly or quarterly to share their ideas and their service projects.

In rural areas and remote areas “clubs” could be over wide areas where there are only four or five members in each location, meeting separately but part of one overarching “Club”.

I don’t think there will be districts as we know them today, perhaps one or two districts for Australia and one for New Zealand.

I think that globally Rotary will be regionalised into probably eleven or twelve different regions across the world.

The Rotary magazine will have disappeared in favour of digital magazines.

However Rotary changes in the future there are things that won’t change, that is our virtues and our ability to get things done, our commitment to service.

It will be a stronger Rotary, a Rotary that will continue to make a difference in this world of ours.

Global membership will be well and truly established within fifteen years and I think will be really strong in the western world with the potential to bring in hundreds of thousands of people into the organisation. Global Membership may not even contain the word “Rotary” but it will be Rotary based.

CBM Rotary members made welcome overseas



With Ava Emdin is President Elect John Lewis Smith (left) and President Alan Davis, Rotary Club of Lewisham and Penge, London

The Rotary Club of Lewisham and Penge, in London, is in District 1130.

Ava says: "President's don't normally have slogans but if he did it would be 'Participate to enrich all our lives'.

The club meets at Bromley Court Hotel where a delicious dinner was served prior to the meeting.

The club supports many causes including: Water Aid - providing clean water and sanitation, provision of wheelchairs in the third world and Great Ormond Street Hospital Care Stroke Rehabilitation Centre, a particularly important cause as President Elect John is recovering from a recent stroke.

A small club, the members work together to make significant improvements in the lives of so many people.

I thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent with the members and look forward to catching up with the club on future visits to London."



*Rick Tasker with Dublin Rotary President Bernadette Mulvey.
"I had a great meal and conversation with many members,"
Rick said.*

The Rotary Club of Dublin, Ireland was founded in 1911 and was the first Rotary Club outside North America.

They meet for lunch every Monday in the Grand Canal Hotel, Grand Canal Street Dublin and once a month hold an evening fellowship meeting to accommodate members unable attend lunch meetings.

Rick says they have a bunch of enthusiastic walkers in the club, which they call "Rotary Rangers".

This group meets every Tuesday and walks for about four hours in the Dublin or Wicklow mountains.

They also walk the famous Wicklow way, a 150km walk from Dublin to Carlow approximately every third year, climaxing in a celebration dinner at a local pub.

The Rotary Club of Dublin, Ireland is passionate about Corporate Membership, offering it as a great way to put an organisation's corporate social responsibility ideas into action.



Smoking ceremony wards off evil spirits

Representatives of the local Aboriginal community held a smoking ceremony Tuesday at the Katoomba RSL site, corner Lurline and Merriwa Streets, to ward off evil spirits before construction of new premises commences.

The RSL club burnt down 12 months ago and according to president Brian Turner it has taken all this time to negotiate with the club's insurer, get new plans drawn up, have them approved by Blue Mountains City Council, and engage a building contractor.

Brian says construction should start very soon and take about nine months to complete.

The smoking ceremony was attended by children from the nearby Katoomba Primary School. The school's Koori Club choir sang a song about the King Parrot, their totem.

Pictured: Brian Turner (left) Jo Clancy, Aunty Carol Cooper (centre) Paul Edmunds RSL club treasurer (back), Nick Darias RSL club CEO, and Aunty Jacinta Tobin.

A smoking ceremony is an ancient custom among Indigenous Australians that involves burning various native plants to produce smoke, which is believed to have cleansing properties and the ability to ward off bad spirits.



Steve Gillett volunteered to be the "live model". Rolled on his side, then on his back, and thumped on his chest, Steve was ideal for the task, never complaining about the treatment he received.

Frances Davidson, obviously tired after her presentation, is seen here with Steve and Vivian Gillett and president Roza Sage.

Frances has a wealth of on-the-job practical experience and knowledge and 25 years of nursing experience.

It was a presentation not to be missed.



Learning CPR

Enthralling, entertaining, and educational was the way our members described last Wednesday's CPR session at the Grand View Hotel.

Frances Davidson, the presenter, was animated but thoroughly professional in her approach to the very serious issue of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in the two-hour session.

Using a "live model" and plastic dummies, Frances guided us through the do's and don'ts and how to's of each procedure, involving her captivated audience along the way.

Latest news from our project in Nepal

In a bulletin just received about the Astha Home for Girls in Kathmandu, Nepal, courtesy of our contacts Brian and Lynne Hedley, the girls/young women continue to excel showing the impressive impact of this endeavour in breaking the cycle of poverty and exploitation.

Brian Hedley writes: "In the second week of May, Lynne, Lynne's sister Merel and myself visited Kathmandu and met with the girls, along with Kirti, Lily Neeve, Rupa Lama the accountant, and others associated with the girls - such as members of the Patan Rotary Club.

Helen Sherpa came to the home and gave the girls some good advice based on her 30 years in Nepal in the field of education and training."



L to R at back: Merel, House mother Indira, Kirti and Helen Sherpa



Sadiksha (15) and Anjana (9)

Brian Hedley continues: "As the girls come from districts in Nepal considered to be disadvantaged all have obtained a government scholarship - except for Sandeepa who is required to pay full fees (around NZ\$ 6,500).

The scholarships have saved us considerable money and we were able to get a good grip on future training costs. It is estimated that we will need about NZ\$ 26,500 to get them all through university - (Books, uniforms, study materials, bus fares etc).

The girls will continue to live at the home while they study, so food and lodging costs are additional to the \$26,500.

Because they have never handled money we started all of the girls off with two bank accounts each. An everyday account into which their bus, tiffin and personal allowance (\$6.60 each/month) is paid, and they manage their daily expenditure.

With a second savings account into which Rs 2000 (NZ\$ 28) in gifts from various people was deposited, the plan is that, at the end of four years study they will have developed a savings habit and have a small nest egg."

The two youngest Sadiksha and Anjana are in classes 10 and 6 respectively and attend Madan Samrik government school - the same school the others have attended.

Sadiksha is supported by Central Blue Mountains Rotary Club and Anjana by Kirti's sister. Sadiksha's father has diabetes, is in poor health and her mother is in India while Anjana has no father, her mother is deaf and dumb and subsists on casual farm work.



Sharmila



Sushila



Sita and Hira Devi

Mountain Ghost

While doing his “research” late at night with a bottle of red, he came across references to gold mining at Katoomba. The Ghost had to laugh – ‘There’s no gold in Katoomba!’ This was news to him...

MINING IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

The Mountain Ghost was recently at the Museum at Mt. Victoria Station. Despite its appearance, the Museum was very interesting, a reflection on life in the Mountains 100 years ago.

The Ghost was greatly impressed by old photos of mining in the Blue Mountains and thought he might do some research on his steam powered computer.

The Mountain Ghost knew about coal mining in the mountains but did not know about shale, oil and gold. Gold it seems is still found in very small quantities around Oberon and Lithgow and, of course, Bathurst.

While doing his “research” late at night with a bottle of red, he came across references to gold mining at Katoomba. The Ghost had to laugh – ‘There’s no gold in Katoomba!’

This was news to him... The article he was reading was headed ‘The Gold Mine at the bottom of a Coal Field’. Harry Hammon was filling up his ute with loose coal next to the disused mine when he came up with the idea to turn it into a tourist attraction.

It was a normal Tuesday back in 1945 when he was approached by three US soldiers in a jeep. ‘Can we ride that big steep train back into town? they asked. Harry told them it was only open to people on the weekends, so they turned back coal chips flying in their wake.

This got Harry thinking and as they say the rest is history. Harry initially started Scenic World as a tourist attraction – now open daily and over sixty years on, more than a million people a year visit Scenic World and spend in excess of \$25million. The business is still in family hands which the ghost thinks is the way it should be.

Who would have thought? There really is a gold mine in Katoomba!

So there was coal at Katoomba – where else is it found? Well there is the Blue Mountains Colliery (owned by Blair Athol Coal) on the Lithgow-Hartley Road. It is over 100 years old and still in operation. There is the Canyon Colliery in the Grose Valley 1km south of Bell (Blair Athol Colliery). Most of the pits have shut but one small mine still going.

The Ghost has learnt that approval to re-open the Invincible Coal Mine near “The Gardens of Stone” near Lithgow has been given, but we can expect some environmental fights with this. The same arguments apply to the Springvale Mine near Newnes. The owners of the mine, Centennial Mines has previously been charged with polluting the Cox’s River at its neighbouring Clarence Colliery.

Anyway what the Ghost got really interested in was Shale Mining in the Blue Mountains. Shale was first found by William Lawson in about 1815 near Mt. Victoria.



He thought it was coal. Coal is carbonised plant tissue and Shale is bitumised mud or clay. “Oil Shale” today is a term applied to any rock which produces oil on heating but in the 19th and early 20th century it was known as Kerosene Shale.

The Ghost would like his readers to go back to the early days of the colony in the Blue Mountains. The only available fuels for illumination were whale and seal oil which were burned in smoky glass-chimneyed lamps, and candles made from tallow and other fats. The majority of people relied on light from their cooking fires and went to bed early.

The invention of Kerosene and Paraffin (used for making candles) was a major step forward in technology impacting the lives of the entire population. So where in the Mountains was Kerosene Shale mined? Well John North the owner of Katoomba Coal Mine found Kerosene Shale near the bottom of the now Scenic Railway and at Ruined Castle in 1885.

There was the Glen Shale Mine in the Megalong Valley with a miner’s settlement at Nellies Glen. Katoomba’s shale oil industry was abandoned in 1903. Shale was also mined at Hartley Vale. Hartley Vale Station, now abandoned, was located on the Darling Causeway halfway between Mt. Victoria and Bell. The last working of the mines was 1913. Shale Oil was found extensively in the Wolgan Valley near Newnes. You can still see a lot of the remnants of that industry.

The Ghost still uses kerosene lamps. He has been called an old fossil...





Central Blue Mountains Rotary

invites you to attend



Changeover 2018 Wednesday, June 27

Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls
6.30pm for 7.00pm - \$35 per person

Main-Dessert

Tea and Coffee

Drinks at bar prices

Celebrate the year of President Roza Sage and welcome
Ava Emdin and Steve Cookson as Joint Presidents 2018-2019

RSVP: June 20, 2018 to:
Roza Sage - 0408 329 212 - rozasage@gmail.com
Please indicate any special dietary requirements when booking
Dress: Neat casual



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Rotary Leadership

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There is 1 course available for registration:

RLI 48 - Saturday 4 and 25 August 2018

Contact Ian Scott: ian@scottadr.com

0402 217 915

..that's all folks