

# HORIZONS

## Central Blue Mountains Rotary

*Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered*

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, January 23, 2019



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# up front



## Community Connection

LUCY HOBGOOD-BROWN  
Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney

Lucy Hobgood-Brown was born in the United States and has lived in Australia for more than 20 years. But her heart will always be in Lotumbe, a remote town in the equatorial forest of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where she spent much of her childhood.

"I'm a daughter of the village," says Hobgood-Brown, whose family's connection to Lotumbe dates back to 1912, when her grandparents arrived there to work as missionaries.

Hobgood-Brown, a 2015 Rotary Global Woman of Action, returned to Lotumbe in 2004 with her sister Anne Zolnor. When they saw the poverty there through adult eyes, they asked each other: "What can we do?"

Their answer was to found the non-profit HandUp Congo in 2005 with a friend, Betsy Brill.

The organization supports sustainable community-driven business, educational, social, and health initiatives in Kinshasa and Lotumbe – buying sewing machines so that women can earn income to help pay for their children's tuition; supplying feminine hygiene kits so that girls don't have to miss school; training local doctors and nurses in CPR.

HandUp Congo has received Rotary district grants, and the E-Club of Greater Sydney recently worked with Congo Rotarians to raise funds to plant 50 trees in Lotumbe.

Says Hobgood-Brown: "Even small things make such a difference in Congo."

—ANNE FORD

The Rotarian April, 2018

# WhatsOn....

## Central Blue Mountains Rotary



### January 2019

**Wednesday 23:** Community service with competitive edge

**Saturday 26:** Australia Day extravaganza - W. Falls Lake

**Wednesday 30:** Guest Speaker: Meet Tobias Elliot-Orr  
a young man going places.

### February

**Wednesday 06:** Guest speaker: Joanna Sim  
"Caught in the Antarctic Ice"

**Thursday 07:** Board meeting

**Friday 08:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

**Wednesday 13:** Membership night - "You can make a  
difference in our local community."

**Friday 15:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

**Wednesday 20:** "The Power of One" - a long term plan  
for Rotary Districts

**Friday 22:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

**Saturday 23:** Sausage Sizzle - Woolworths Katoomba

**Wednesday 27:** Social night - Barefoot bowls and dinner  
Wentworth Falls Bowling Club

## IMPORTANT 2019 DATES TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR


**March 16** - President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) -  
COMPULSORY Training for 2019/20 Presidents

**March 29-31** - District Conference, Newcastle.  
Register at [conference.rotarydistrict9685.org.au](http://conference.rotarydistrict9685.org.au)

**April 14** - District Assembly  
Training for 2019/20 Club Board members and executives

**June 29** - District Changeover



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[www.centralbluemountainsrotary/facebook](http://www.centralbluemountainsrotary/facebook)

2019-20

Presidential Theme:



A member of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, USA, Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney unveiled the 2019-20 presidential theme, Rotary Connects the World, to incoming district governors at Rotary's annual training event, the International Assembly, in San Diego, California, USA.

Explaining his vision for building a stronger Rotary, the president-elect called on leaders to expand connections to their communities and to embrace innovative membership models.



## Guest speaker - Lucy Hobgood-Brown Rotary Global Woman of Action



*Two youth exchange students – Signe Lauritsen and Maria Diethold who are accompanying Jennifer and Ian Scott to Cambodia, seen here with guest speaker Lucy Hobgood-Brown and Co-President Ava Emdin.*

Lucy Hobgood-Brown (right) painted evocative word pictures of her life and work in the Democratic Republic of Congo from her first visits as a child to her father's village.

We heard the beating drums announcing their arrival, saw her today accompanied by her volunteers in the canoes travelling down the Congo River delivering life sustaining supplies to the small villages along the banks of this mighty river and smelled the tropical surrounds.

What Lucy has achieved and continues to do in Congo is breathtaking. Little wonder she was named a Rotary Global Woman of Action, Adding to the international flavour of our meeting - Signe and Maria, two Youth Exchange students were our guests before joining a group of Rotarians on a trip to Cambodia to see the work of the RAWCS Sustainable Cambodia project, a program in which Central Blue has been actively involved for many years.

# Comedy for a Cause

Featuring comedians from  
Sydney & Melbourne  
International Comedy Festival

In Support of:  
**Rotary**  
e-Club of Greater Sydney



**Saturday  
16 February 2019**  
Bankstown Sports Club  
8 Greenfield Parade  
Bankstown

**BOOK  
NOW!**

Tickets: \$35 / Students: \$20  
/ Children under 15: \$15 at  
[comedyforacause.net/ECLUB](http://comedyforacause.net/ECLUB)  
Doors: 7pm / Show: 7.30pm  
(ALL AGES)



# Mountain Ghost

So what is the Mountain Ghost doing for Australia Day? He thought he might go and see the celebration at Wentworth Falls Lake. He might try to catch a fish. He definitely will be having a barbeque involving lamb and if he is lucky a lamington. He will have a beer or three and he will toast Australia for all it's worth. It is the only country we have.



The Mountain Ghost always looks forward to Australia Day for many reasons. Apart from the celebration side of it, it is when the Mountains start to get a little cooler and a little less humid.

The Ghost is even thinking of installing air conditioning. Putting ice in his beer no longer works.

Recently the Mountain Ghost had his children and grandkids staying with him over Christmas and the subject of Australia Day came up. I am sure all the Ghost's readers would be shocked to know the grandkids had different opinions to the Ghost. It is hard to put an old head on a young body - or something like that.

So the Ghost thought he might do a history of Australia Day for his younger readers. Well, all his readers are younger than the Ghost.

The Ghost has used SBS as a source of information. Firstly everyone knows that the 26th January 1788 is when the First Fleet bringing convicts from Britain landed in Australia. Not true, the Fleet landed at Botany Bay a week before and not finding that suitable they moved to Sydney Cove.



The 26th marks the date the Union Jack was raised in Sydney Cove and the official declaration of British Sovereignty. But what of the locals? We will get back to that. Interestingly if the Fleet was two days late in getting to Botany Bay, La Perouse the French Explorer could have claimed the country for France.

Have we been celebrating this day since 1788? Well not really. In early colonial Sydney, it was referred to as First Landing Day or Foundation Day. But for 200 years the other states commemorated their "Australian-ness" on Regatta Day (Tasmania) Proclamation Day (South Australia) Empire Day and several other days. It was not until 1935 that all the states celebrated Australia Day as we know it.

The Ghost was greatly surprised to learn that the 26th January Public Holiday was only declared in 1994. Before that, when the Ghost took that day off he should not have been paid for it. Seriously though, 1994 should have been the time to get consensus.

The Grandkids mentioned Invasion Day, that indigenous people have occupied Australia for 50,000 years including Grandad's Blue Mountains. Even the Ghost's children supported the grandkids. No argument from the Ghost.

In 1938 (150 years later) there was a large indigenous protest known as the Day of Mourning. In 1988 (200 years later) tens of thousands of indigenous and non-indigenous Australians marched in protest.

Well, if not the 26th what other day could it be?

Here are some suggestions from the "experts":

- Anzac Day (25th April)
- Anniversary of Federation (1st January 1901)

I know what you are thinking. We would lose a holiday?

Other suggestions are:

- Eureka Stockade (3rd December)
- When Queen Victoria gave consent to the Australian Constitution (9th July)
- Sorry Day (26th May)

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If they change the name and change the date providing everyone agrees then he is happy. Australia will be the winner.





# Photo story from Cambodia



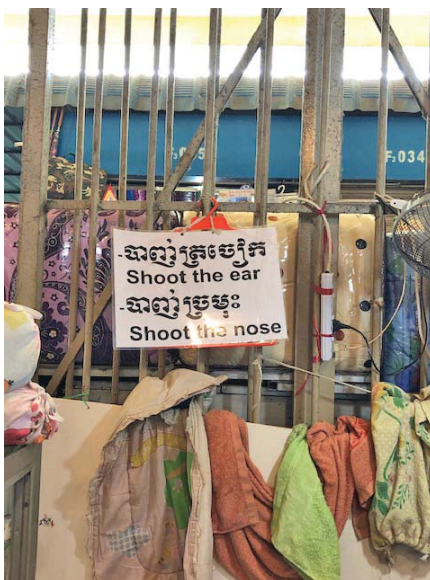
*In Phnom Penh - a killing tree against which executioners beat children.*



*Maria and Signe playing an instrument*

Central Blue Mountains Rotarians Ian and Jennifer Scott and two exchange students, Maria and Signe, are joining together with Sustainable Cambodia and Rotarians from various clubs around the world on a two-week journey into the heart of Cambodia.

Photographs: Jennifer Scott



*Ear piercing salon*



*Free beer with your snacks*



*A prison which was once a high school*



Empowering families and children to effect lasting change..... community by community [www.sustainablecambodia.org](http://www.sustainablecambodia.org)

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# Celebrate Australia Day at Wentworth Falls Lake



**JANUARY 26, 2019**



**Family Fun Day**

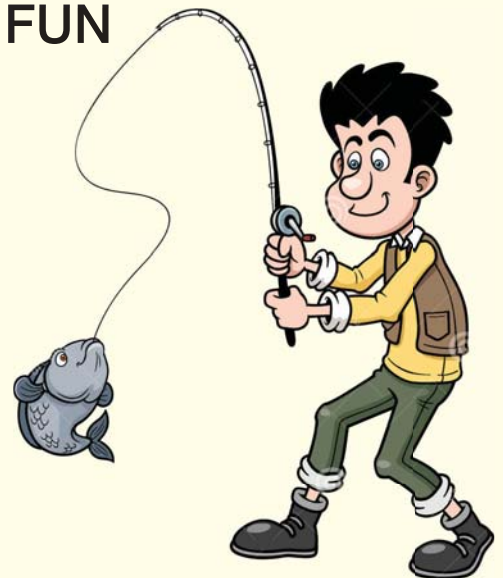
**Presented by Upper Mountains Rotary Clubs**

**BREAKFAST from 8.00am to 11.00am**

Freshly cooked eggs, bacon, sausages, Aussie damper,  
cereal, fruit juice, tea and coffee - \$10 adults - \$5 children

Family Pass - \$25 for two adults and two children

**Stay after breakfast for  
ENTERTAINMENT and FUN**



**FISHING COMPETITION WITH GREAT PRIZES**  
Register from 9.00am - Child 12 and under \$10  
13 to 17 years \$15 - Adult \$20 Buy a Family Pass  
One adult and three children - just \$40

Fishing licence NOT REQUIRED  
for this event

**FAMOUS ROTARY BARBECUE LUNCH - Noon to 3.00pm**



**Bands - Entertainers - Vintage cars - Face Painting  
Balloon Twister - Picnic Games - Walks around the lake  
Meet the Rural Fire Service and the SES ....lots more**

Promoted by Rotary Clubs in the Upper Blue Mountains

Katoomba/  
Upper Blue Mountains  
Community Bank® Branch  
**Bendigo Bank**



Blue Mountains City Councillors  
Chris Van der Kley  
Romola Hollywood

*...that's all folks*