

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Australia Day 2019



Wentworth Falls Lake

Australia Day

- We put up our banner
- Had an “Aussie” breakfast
- The band played
- The choir sang
- Kids fished in the lake

How good is that!



The Fishing Competition



WhatsOn....

Central Blue Mountains Rotary



January 2019

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: "Friendraiser - 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

March

Sunday 03: Clean Up Australia Day

Saturday 16: President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS)

Friday-Sunday 29-31: District Conference, Newcastle.

Other important dates

Sunday April 14: District Assembly

Saturday June 29: District Changeover

Guest speaker January 30



Tobias Elliot-Orr

Tobias is a high achiever and packs a lot into each day.

Over the past three years he completed an Arts/Law degree at UNSW where he earned an Academic Achievement award.

He plays futsal and soccer and has been selected to play in the Australian Indigenous Football League team and the Futsal All Stars.

Tobias has been providing pro bono legal advice at Legal Aid in Sydney.

And according to numerous Facebook posts and blogs, Tobias is very popular with visitors to Scenic World, where he works.

CBM Rotary

- Any Where
- Any Time
- Any Device



ROTARY raise an eye-watering amount for drought relief

As the drought took hold last year, Wauchope Rotary president, Reg Pierce registered a project with RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) which went on to raise an eye-watering \$250,000.

They were then given another \$250,000 from the Channel 9 Telethon.

“That half a million dollars has all been distributed to farmers in great need through Rotary clubs in the drought-affected area,” explained Mr Pierce.

Before Christmas, the Federal government released \$6.6m for drought relief. As chair of RAWCS D9650, Reg was invited to apply for funding and was successful in getting \$1m.

The government decided that funding would be in two tranches of \$600,000 and \$400,000 respectively. The funds had to be allocated by gift cards. This week, Reg has been posting out cards which will bring the district’s total contribution to \$1.5m.

“As I’m the talking head of this enterprise, it’s understandable that I’m patted on the back and praised, but the real praise and congratulations should go to all Rotarians in areas not affected by drought, and others who have worked very

hard to go out and identify those in need, then collate that information on to databases etc,” he said.

“Those clubs not affected by drought rose to the occasion and raised very large sums of money in many and varied ways. This is what Rotary is all about. Through this great organisation, we are given the chance to do things for others that we couldn’t do by ourselves.

“Alone, I’m a panel beater from Commerce Street. In Rotary, I’m the chair of RAWCS, and I was given the opportunity to hand out \$1.5m to our farming community. I’ll take that,” he said.

He says the farmers are very glad of the help.



*A story by Letitia Fitzpatrick
published in the Wauchope Gazette
January 23 2019*

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PHOTO STORY



The Sustainable Cambodia youth club (interact) visited and taught the children how to brush their teeth. The youth club needs funds for tooth brushes and tooth paste. They have also asked for funds to help feed the elderly who have been abandoned.



Signe reading to preschool child

Central Blue Mountains Rotarians Ian and Jennifer Scott and two exchange students, Signe Lauritsen and Maria Diethold, 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



Sustainable Cambodia and Rotarians have built the preschool. We pay for teachers and the nutritional breakfast of rice fish and vegetables. The village grandmothers volunteer to cook and help.



Above:
John Rankins, (wearing a cap) Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise Rotary, assists in making a biosand water filter.

Left:
Maria helps with painting.

Mountain Ghost

Some of the most common species in the Blue Mountains are the Black Prince, Double Drummer, Flourey Baker and the Green Grocer (also known as Yellow Monday). The Ghost remembers when he was a kid, other kids would swap cicadas in jars for what purpose he can't remember. The Ghost would rather have root canal surgery than pick up insects.



CICADAS

The Mountain Ghost was mentioning to the lady wife how he used to be kept awake by the sound of cicadas in the Mountains. Now he is kept awake by the heat. Which got him thinking where have all the cicadas gone or for that matter what about Christmas Beetles and butterflies?

Seeing he can't sleep he may as well do some research on his steam-powered computer. Well, Australia is the cicada capital of the world with between 700 – 1000 species. North America has 170 species, South Africa 150 species and UK has only one.

A cicada begins its life as a nymph living underground for 6 – 10 years depending on the species. The cicada nymph emerges in the warmer months especially as overnight temperatures increase. Well the Ghost thinks we should be inundated with cicadas in the Mountains going by our temperatures of late.

But they also need a rainfall event to trigger an emergence. When they emerge they are in a shell and they can be seen squeezing out of this shell but stuck by their rear and it looks as if they are riding a pony bouncing around before they actually disengage themselves from their shell altogether.

The life of the cicada can be summarised as 'Sing' 'Fly' 'Mate' 'Die'

An adult cicada only lives for 1 to 4 weeks. Their sole purpose is to find a mate hence the "noise" and each cicada has its own distinct 'song' to attract the right partner to mate with. The cicadas' main enemy are birds. The Ghost's theory is that the birds eat them not necessarily as food but so they can get a good night's sleep as well.

Cicada season in Sydney starts in September and continues until April with the noisiest months being November to end of January. The Ghost should have mentioned that cicadas are the loudest insects in the world. The Ghost had heard that cicadas only emerge every seven years which he knows is not true but there are some species where the adults all emerge together after seven years so then it is a good time to have a holiday in the Northern hemisphere.

Some of the most common species in the Blue Mountains are the Black Prince, Double Drummer, Flourey Baker and the Green Grocer (also known as Yellow Monday). The Ghost remembers when he was a kid, other kids would swap cicadas in jars for what purpose he can't remember. The Ghost would rather have root canal surgery than pick up insects.

Another thing the Ghost remembers is his mates would collect the shells of the cicadas and throw them at each other as they were sticky and would stick to your body.

But are cicada numbers decreasing in Sydney and the Blue Mountains? It is true that insect numbers are decreasing at an alarming rate across the globe. The Ghost remembers his dad stopping the car many times on a trip just to clear the bugs off of the windscreen. When was the last time that happened?

There does not appear to be any evidence that cicada numbers have dropped in Australia. What is probably an explanation is that as a youth the Ghost's hearing was a lot better than it is today hence he thinks the cicada numbers have dropped, it's just an illusion.

The Ghost had better make that hearing appointment with the audiologist.

Central Blue Rotary KNICKER CHALLENGE



The Blue Mountains chapter of Days for Girls is expecting to acquire accreditation within four weeks.

The coordinator, Nadja Lawrence, says working bees will be held at Boddington Residential Aged Care Village, Wentworth Falls, one Saturday each month.

Once in full production, kits will be sent wherever they are needed in the developing world - be it Asia, Africa or the Pacific.

Kits are taken by supporters travelling to countries where they are needed.

If you would like information or wish to volunteer contact Nadja on 0439 453 430.

Central Blue Mountains Rotary arranged a "Knicker Packing Night" to assist the new Days For Girls chapter build up a stock of products. Rotarians Tom Hickey, Nadja Lawrence, Ava Emdin, Rick Tasker, Eric Cantor were shown how to select, roll and pack the delicate undergarments.



Coordinator, Nadja Lawrence and co-president Ava Emdin were quite excited at the outcome, and how Rotarians managed to get the task done in record time.

This group (left) were a little slower than the rest, but their work was precise. It seems there is more to rolling and packing knickers than meets the eye...it's a very serious business and takes a lot of time and patience....note the concentration.

Please turn to the next page

Grocery SHOPPING CAN BE FUN

Our recent venture into bulk shopping every month at FOOD BANK , WERRINGTON, is an overwhelming success. Charities we service are getting what they need on time and we provide more, and a greater selection of food items, for fewer dollars.

It's a win win!

So...now we need volunteers to expand the workforce and become part of the action, just in case our two super shoppers Eric Cantor and Tom Hickey are not available.

...here's the buzz.

We are allocated a certain time on a certain day - the third Wednesday of each month at 1100hrs.

We buy enough packaged food to fill the back of a four-wheel drive or the back section of a sedan and then we deliver to the relevant organisations we serve....easy peezy.

Requirements:

- 1. We must arrive on the day allocated and on time.**
- 2. We must wear boots or shoes (sandals not permitted)**
- 3. We must wear a hi-viz vest...ours are Rotary branded.**

Eric says:... "It is not an onerous task, as we only go to Werrington 12 times a year. I would estimate that the round trip (go there, have coffee from the cafe 2U van, pick stock from the shelves, pack the car, and deliver to the three charities) takes about five hours.

What about it?

Become an expert FOOD BANK shopper...have a great day out, and enjoy a feeling of achievement because you have contributed to a worthwhile community program.

Contact Tom Hickey 4757 1473 - thehickey@bigpond.com or Eric 4757 1790 - cantors@bigpond.com.



FOOD BANK

A Supermarket on Steroids

*Volunteering is
a contributing factor to
personal wellbeing.*