

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

*Beautiful Blackheath
Govetts Leap:*

Image: Amanda Judd

up front

What's all the buzz about bees?



German Rotaractors build hotels for wild bees as part of the BeeAlive project.

By Henrik Thiele

Member of the Rotaract Club of Paderborn, Germany, and president of the Rotaract Germany Committee

Recently, Rotaract clubs throughout Germany were looking for a signature project and decided to concentrate on the environment.

After watching a Swiss documentary on bees, “More than honey,” one Rotaractor became passionate about focusing attention on protecting these little superheroes.

Did you know, for instance, that wild bees are responsible for pollinating more than 80 percent of our crops and wild plants? We can’t survive without them.

Most of the dangers to bees are man-made. Climate change, monotonous agricultural landscapes, and pesticides are just a few of the many reasons why our little yellow friends are dying in ever-increasing numbers.

With the project “BeeAlive”, German Rotaractors began to support wild

bees by building bee hotels, educating people about the threat to the bee population, and sowing wildflower meadows.

All German Rotaract clubs participated, starting with the most northern club of Flensburg, which visited a beekeeper with their sponsor Rotary club.

The southern-most Rotaract club in Germany, Kempten Allgäu, planted a meadow of more than 32,000 square feet for bees to pollinate.

The Bundessozialaktion (BuSo) project, as it is called in German, is divided into three parts:

Inform

All the Rotaract clubs in Germany worked together to educate the population about bee mortality and the associated consequences for our environment, organizing theme days and informational events.

Efforts ranged from the Rotaract Club of Berlin organizing an online presentation that was promoted across the country, to the Rotaract Club of Rheda Wiedenbrück holding a local fair.

Fundraising

Many of the projects are costly. Therefore, fundraising is an integral part of our efforts. The Rotaract Club of Duisburg-Niederrhein organized a Bee-Pong tournament, raising over \$1,000 and the Rotaract Club of Paderborn hosted a Pub Quiz on the topic of bees. Clubs also got creative by selling homemade products, from beeswax chapsticks to bee-hotels

Hands-on

By building bee hotels and diversifying local beds, we make room for wildflowers and create a better environment for insects.

Over 100,000 square feet of meadows were planted by clubs in District 1841 with Rotaractors, Rotarians, family and friends joining together.

Building a Bee Hotel

All you need is a wooden frame for the outside, hardwood with holes drilled into it, and hollowed out bamboo for the inside. The best part is that you can put up a plaque reading “Made by Rotary/Rotaract” and you have the perfect ambassador for Rotary in your local community.

WhatsOn....

July

Wednesday 31 - Karen West - Organ donation awareness

August

Friday 02 - Lawson school breakfast club

Wednesday 07 - Dr James Hunter - Maritime Archaeology

Wednesday 14 - Steve Price - restoring old vinyl records

Sat 17 -Sun 18 - RAWCS (Eastern Region) meeting
Katoomba Christian Convention Centre

Wednesday 21 - Foodbank pick up and delivery

Wednesday 21 - Phillip Isaacs - RAWCS

Thursday 22 - BM Grammar School Athletics Day - catering van

Saturday 24 - Catering van at Woolworths, Katoomba

Sunday 25 - Waterways Festival catering van - W. Falls Lake

Guest Speaker 31 July



Our guest speaker this week is Karen West, of Leura, the author of a young adult fiction novel, "Living Voice" which led to the creation of a website livingvoice.com.au raising awareness of organ donation among teenagers.

Karen's book won a Varuna Publishing Introduction Program (PIP) award.

Karen West says: "Since 2008, the Australian Government has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on organ donation reform and millions on encouraging parents about the importance of discussing organ donation with teenagers.

Today only 8 per cent of young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 are registered donors."



How do we add 6,000,000 people to the Australian Organ Donor Register?

Rotarian Maurie Stack, Rotary Club of Taree on Manning, Rotary District 9650, is doing something about it.

He is helping lead the charge to increase the number of potential donors on the Australian Organ Donor Register.

According to Mr Stack, the Australia-wide National Donate Life committee has written to 1100 Rotary clubs around Australia urging them to take the lead in improving the numbers.

"If every registered organ and tissue donor found one person who wasn't, and encouraged them to register, we would double the number of potential donors on the Australian Organ Donor Register," Mr Stack said.

DonateLife Week is a key event that highlights the benefits that organ and tissue donation has for transplant recipients and their families in Australia.

"Everyone needs to talk about organ and tissue donation, Maurie Stack says.

"Your family needs to know your wishes to be a donor and we also encourage you to chat to 'a plus one' - a colleague, neighbour, teammate or other relatives and encourage them to register too.

"With 1400 Australians currently on a waiting list for a life-saving transplant and a further 11,000 on dialysis, we're asking people in our community to make their decision count and join the Australian Organ Donor Register.

*This story originally appeared July 27, 2019
in the Wingham Chronicle*

Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died

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Conclusion of the Family and Community Conflict Resolution Conference in Mongolia



In partnership with the Rotary Club of Ulaanbaatar, Jennifer Scott has been leading a brilliant team of mediators from Australia over the past three weeks. Training involved social workers, family analysts, lawyers, and psychologists. Two groups were the Mongolian Authority for Family Child and Youth development for four days and judges and mediators of the Judicial Council for five days. An amazing team of three men from Mongolia and Australia also ran an interactive seminar for single fathers.

Above: The complete training team including Dave Vasen the ambassador, the heads of the Judicial Council, the minister for justice, the heads of the Authority of Family Child and Youth.

Right: The training team of mediators: Professor Laurence Boulle Dr Katherine Johnson Mary Walker Helen Miedzinski Jennifer Scott



With Jennifer is Enktuya Sukhbaatar from the Rotary Club of Ulaanbaatar. She has been the Mongolian co-ordinator. She translated the 75 page work book that I wrote and was the main interpreter for all the training. A most amazing Rotarian.

Poem written at the end of the conference

There was movement in Mongolia for the word had got around, that mediators from the Judicial Council had joined the Aussie way. They joined the move to ADR, and mediators gathered from afar. There were lawyers, judges and psychologists too, some old and wise, and some brand new. From provinces, districts and soms as well, all understood; families needed a helping hand, so their children could freely talk and play. So Aussies came from overseas to share the gurs and to share the peace. They talked and laughed and role played too, so all could build their skills anew. Aussies and Mongolians are so much alike, we love our horses, deserts and plains. We build our nations with passion and peace, to have a future where everyone gains.

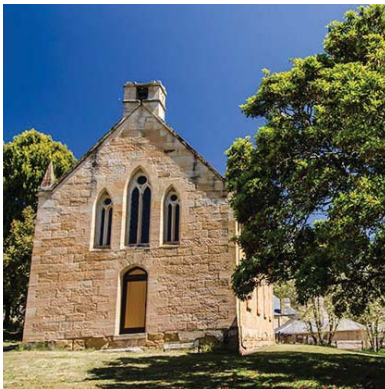
...Jennifer Scott

Mountain Ghost

The most important building is the sandstone Courthouse built in 1837. The Ghost had a self-guided tour of the Courthouse including the convict cells. On the same self-guided tour you can see St. Bernard's Presbytery and Church. There is accommodation in the Presbytery all beautifully restored.



Main Street



St. Bernard's Presbytery and Church



For years and years and years the Mountain Ghost has been driving past the sign for Hartley Historic Village between Mt Victoria and Lithgow.

He had noticed Little Hartley, Hartley Vale, and he had even stopped at the Lolly Shop with the old VW Beetles but had never visited the Village until last week.

So, on Mrs Ghost's suggestion Mr & Mrs Ghost decided to make a detour on the way home from Mudgee to take a better look.

Hartley Village is actually in Little Hartley (confusing!!) From the Highway it looks small but it opens up once you go through it.

The most important building is the sandstone Courthouse built in 1837. The Ghost had a self-guided tour of the Courthouse including the convict cells. On the same self-guided tour you can see St. Bernard's Presbytery and Church. There is accommodation in the Presbytery all beautifully restored.

One of the oldest buildings is Old Trahlee cottage built in 1846. It also offers

accommodation for up to six people. In all, there are 17 historic buildings in the village including the Post Office which is now a café.

Just a little way further up the hill is the Talisman Gallery. While the "art" produced is not the Ghost's style being made from wrought iron and glass it is certainly unique. The owner also runs courses on blacksmithing (if there is such a word!). A little bit of history on Little Hartley. It is the same elevation as Wentworth Falls and the population is about 300. The most prominent property is Rosedale right on the Highway.

Built in 1839, it was originally an inn known as Coach and Horses and later changed to Victoria Inn. It was acquired by W.J. Berghofer, the builder of Berghofer's Pass. He called the property Rosenthal but because of the anti-German feeling at the time of WW1 it was renamed Rosedale. It is now listed with the National Trust.

Mead's Farm, about 2km north-west of Rosedale dates back to 1856. It operated between 1867 to 1880 as the Kerosene Inn. The nearby area of Hartley Vale had a shale mine and the Kerosene Inn serviced the miners there. Mead's Farm is also listed on the National Trust.



Lolly Shop

The Hartley district really boomed from 1832 when the Victoria Pass Road was opened. For the next 50 years the area grew with many substantial buildings being completed. Then the area was by-passed by the newly opened railway and over a period of time fell into disuse. However there seems to be a bit of a revival happening.

Two other buildings the Ghost should have mentioned is the Comet Inn (now a guest house and restaurant) and Collit's Inn at Hartley Vale.

The Ghost was interested where the name Hartley came from. Governor Macquarie named the area "The Vale of Clywdd" after a Vale in Wales but shortly afterwards the valley became known as Hartley Valley. No one seems to know why?

The Ghost hopes you find this little bit of history on Hartley interesting especially if like him you have driven past many times but not stopped to take a proper look.

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What happens when an emergency occurs at Sydney Airport? Emergency service vehicles and personnel are always ready.

Our guest speaker last week Robyn Thomson told us exactly what the procedure would be.

Left – right: Paul Sutton – opera singer, Stuttgart Germany, Isabella Thomson – head of music department in International School in Turin, Central Blue’s Lora Stopic and Ian Scott, and guest speaker Robyn Thomson.

More than 500 personnel from 20 agencies can be involved in a major air traffic incident at Sydney Airport.

According to Robyn Thomson it is absolutely critical that flight disaster emergency management arrangements and personnel are prepared and ready to act should that incident occur.

Robyn Thomson is a Resilience Coordinator working at Sydney Airport within a security and resilience team. Her key role is to look after emergency management facilities and equipment as well as help build our incident management system.

Having received her Bachelor in Aviation (Management) in 2017, Robyn is currently in the process of completing a Masters in Aviation. She says business continuity and resilience frameworks present the new era in risk management.

“Where once organisations were concerned solely about how to minimise the potential for risk events occurring, resilience management explores the ‘what if’: what needs to be done if a worse case scenario takes place.”

WHAT IF:.... An emergency is declared when an aircraft is experiencing problems and there is a reasonable certainty of a threat to the safety of the aircraft or its passengers.

Aviation rescue fire fighters are alerted but their presence may be a precautionary measure.

In the event of an in-flight emergency, pilots call ‘mayday’ or ‘pan’ to alert air traffic control to the severity of the incident.

As with normal operations, the pilot remains in command of his aircraft at all times and is responsible for determining the safest course of action, such as where and when to land.

A ‘mayday’ call indicates an aircraft is in

grave and imminent danger and requires immediate assistance. Controllers alert aviation rescue fire fighters and local emergency services, with information enabling them to respond appropriately and provide assistance to pilots.

A ‘pan’ call is used to describe a less urgent situation but one that still requires attention from air traffic control. In this case, controllers provide information and assistance to pilots as well as aviation rescue fire fighters and local emergency services, as necessary.

Examples of ‘pan’ situations include a passenger medical emergency or instrument malfunction.

A priority landing occurs when controllers reschedule aircraft departures and arrivals to allow an aircraft that might have a problem to land as soon as possible.

Medical emergencies may lead to priority landings but priority landings are not ‘emergency landings’ or evidence of any actual problem with an aircraft.

Rotary Australia World Community Service to meet at Katoomba



The next Eastern Region meeting and AGM of RAWCS will be held over the weekend of 17 and 18 August 2019 in Katoomba.

The meeting is being hosted by District 9685, Rotary Club of Upper Blue Mountains, at Katoomba Christian Convention Centre, 119 Cliff Drive, Katoomba NSW 2780, from 1400 Saturday to 1300 Sunday.

Eastern Region of RAWCS covers districts 9550 9810 9650 9670 9685 9700 9675. In other words a good representation and a good networking opportunity

The speakers are PDG Keith Roffey who will speak on the new RAWCS. RAWCS has undergone many changes and Keith will give an update. For anybody who does not know RAWCS this is a good opportunity to learn all the benefits of this Rotary Company.

Penny Vos is the Communications person. Again, many changes and Penny will provide details of all the communications options and the ability to move towards other methods of fundraising.

The third speaker will be a TAFE student talking about a RAWCS project – hopefully a good way of approaching younger members for Rotary.

The evening speaker will be on a project in Africa and what great things can be achieved by Rotary and RAWCS

Sunday is a business meeting where there are reports from all Rotary districts plus the executive. Every attendee has two minutes to promote a project or raise any relative item.



A great program

Location overlooking The Three Sisters

Don't pay \$400 per night

Special pricing just for Rotary

En suite accommodation sleeping five \$85 D/B/B

Standard accommodation sleeping five \$75 D/B/B

Bring your own bedding

Linen supply \$12

Dinner only \$40

BYO for dinner

Open fire

Entertainment at dinner

Great guest speaker at dinner

Church Missionary Society Conference Centre