



HORIZONS



Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, September 06 2017

Wentworth Falls
WATERWAYS
FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER
10-2PM • FREE EVENT

- Get up close to a crayfish
- Sausage sizzle
- Family walks and talks
- Meet a turtle
- Go on a swamp safari
- BYO picnic

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Get up close and friendly with a turtle.... Meet a crayfish.

Take your family to
Wentworth Falls Lake on
September 17 to discover
more about our local
waterways and the creatures
that live there.



Our creeks, rivers and lakes are part of what makes the Blue Mountains so special. They are home to unique animals such as: giant dragonflies, turtles, water-skinks and more....

Learn about who lives in and around the water, and what we can do to look after them. Meet a crayfish, listen to stories, explore a swamp, create some art, make a difference!

Throughout the day you can visit displays by Blue Mountains Grammar School, Wentworth Falls Primary School, Kindiehill Steiner School, the Jamison Creek Catchment Community Group, and Blue Mountains City Council.

Meet a turtle. Get your face painted while you learn about local iconic species from these passionate students, join in the campaign to 'Ban the Bag'. Learn about council's works program to improve waterway health, and much more.

In addition to the stalls and displays, we have a great group of expert scientists, artists and storytellers putting on a walks, talks and workshops program.

This event will go ahead in wet weather- bring your raincoat and gumboots!

There will be a sausage sizzle run by Central Blue Mountains Rotary to keep your bellies happy. Alternatively, bring your own (waste-free) picnic to enjoy by the lake.

Zensational Coffee will also be there providing delicious hot beverages. Bring your own cup and get a 50 cent discount.

Accessibility: The main festival displays and activities are easily accessed by level footpaths and grass areas. Unless otherwise noted, the walks, talks and workshops are accessible for wheelchair and pram.

This event is made possible by a grant from the NSW Environment Trust.



What's On....

September

Wednesday 06 - Guest speaker: Lynton Phillips
Adventure

Saturday 09 - Greystanes Foundation dinner

Sunday 10 - Catering van - Grand View Market

Wednesday 13 - Guest speaker: Louise Statz
Creating Links, Blue Mountains

Sunday 17 - Waterways event - W. Falls Lake

Wednesday 20 - District Governor official visit

Wednesday 27 - Guest speaker: Julie Ankers
Fiesty, Fabulous and Fifty

Are there gaps in your Rotary knowledge?

Then this RLI course is for you!

RLI 43; Sundays; 10 September, 24 September, 8 October.

Register at rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au

The cost for the full course is \$75*.

The benefits of doing RLI are many; so boost your knowledge and share your experience by joining in.

The three part course is held at our District Office, Thornleigh. Morning tea and lunch are provided. Each day starts at 8:30 for 9:00am and finishes around 3:45pm.

* The fee covers direct participant costs. Rotarians who have partially completed RLIs and wish to do individual parts should contact PDG Ian Scott for registration.

Catch up sessions - \$20.

Our featured guest speaker this week is Lynton Phillips

'Lynton (widely known as 'Blue') Phillips - originally from Adelaide, joined the Australian army in Melbourne in 1966 as a recruit/private soldier (at the tender age of 17 and five days) - just ten days before the famous battle of Long Tan.

He retired as a commissioned officer (major) after three age extensions on 31 December, 2016, deciding that his 50 year work-experience experiment had run its course!

Served in the Vietnam War 1970 -1971 at Nui Dat, Phouc Tuy province, with a light aircraft reconnaissance unit.

Detached to the British army of the Rhine (BAOR), 1978, he then embarked on an adventurous military sub-career, running numerous adventure training expeditions throughout Australia, Papua New Guinea, Norway, New Zealand, and the United States.

Lynton has had a crack at virtually any pursuit. He commanded the army's adventurous training school at Bonegilla, Victoria in its formative years.

His main adventurous interests have been white water raft and cross-country ski touring, climbing, caving, bushwalking, abseiling, marathon running, and canyoning. He is still actively involved in bushwalking, running, badminton, and the roping pursuits.

Lynton is an active member of local Blue Mts SES, Wentworth Falls Garden Club, and volunteer driver with Smartlink/Great Community Transport.

He moved to Katoomba in late 2002. Not moving again.

www.centralbluerotary.org

Rotary Clubs of the Central Coast Dinner The Future of Rotary: Unlimited or On Borrowed Time?



Thursday 5th October 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Breakers Country Club, 64 Dover Rd Wamberal

Tickets \$30 at: <https://www.trybooking.com/293153>

RSVP: 2nd October 2017

Guest Speaker: Rotary International Director Noel Trevaskis

Mountain Ghost

"The Highland Street shops were alight. They all burnt except for one. The Chateau Napier, which was three stories high, went up like a bomb."
Tom Colless



LEURA BUSHFIRES – 60 YEARS ON

The Mountain Ghost had heard about the Leura Bush Fires of 1957 and remembers seeing newspaper clips at the time and being shocked by it. With a new bushfire season upon us it is an appropriate time to reflect on the events of December 1957.

It is interesting how the 1957 fires unfolded. September 1957 was the driest on record for Katoomba (1mm compared to 72.2 average) October was 20.6mm compared to 92.0mm average and November was 20.5mm compared to 107.9mm average. November 1957 temperatures were 5 degrees higher than average and on the day of the fire Katoomba had a maximum temperature of 34.4C.

Prior to the fires on 30th November 1957, nine boys set out on a hike in the Blue Gum Forest near Perry's lookout. They were overrun by a bushfire and four of the boys lost their lives.

On the 2nd December 1957, fires started near the tip in North East Katoomba and spread to Queens Road, Katoomba, fanned by strong north east winds. A half hour later the fire had reached Acacia Avenue in North Leura just to the east of Leura Public School. The school was destroyed. Flash fires moved through Highland Street.

The Highland Street shops were destroyed and Chateau Napier was burnt to the ground. Fires spread to Wentworth Falls but these were attributed to ember attacks from the Leura fires rather than a fire front.

In all, 170 properties were lost (burnt to the ground) in Leura and Wentworth Falls. Amazingly no loss of lives.

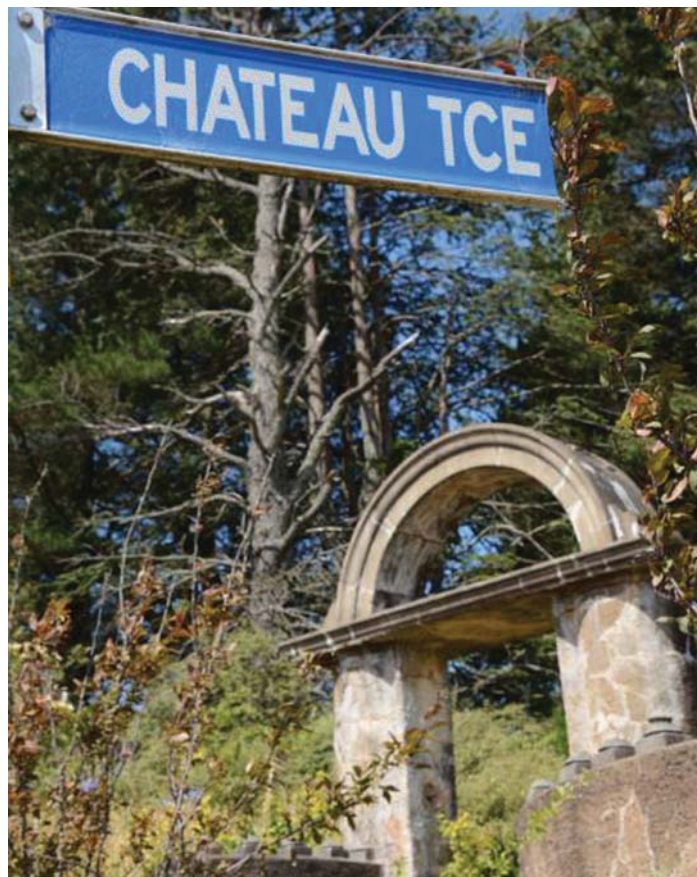
The Ghost has seen some actual footage of the fires and they are truly shocking. Properties were lost in Megalong Street, Jersey Avenue and Leura Mall. See "[Flickr.com/photos/blue_mountains_library/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/blue_mountains_library/)"

A local resident Tom Colless was quoted as saying: "The Highland Street shops were alight. They all burnt except for one. The Chateau Napier, which was three storeys high, went up like a bomb."

Another local, Tricia Hogan, recalled the fire "Then WHOOSH it all rained down on us. It came out of the blue. It came down the Mall like a fireball. The sun glowed like it was throbbing. It was so intense, so terribly hot you couldn't breathe and then all those cinders still alight. We thought we were going to die"

When the Ghost writes his articles he usually goes to many sources for his information plus personal knowledge. In this case all the information was on one site – Fire Stories (www.fire.bmwhi.org.au)

And he recommends everyone read the full article. It is extremely well done.



All that remains of the Chateau Napier

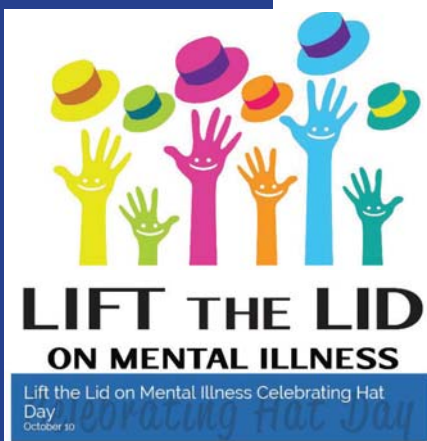


Burnt out shops in Leura Mall

By the way, mention was made of the Chateau Napier. It was considered the grandest guesthouse in Leura and was linked to tourism in the Blue Mountains during the early 20th Century. The rough cast archway at the top of Leura Mall (Chateau Terrace) and the large sandstone retaining wall along the highway are the only remains left. Proposals to develop the site are ongoing.

The Ghost hopes you liked the article and hates to mention how dry everything is at the moment.....Take Care.

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Central Blue Mountains Rotary
invite you to an

AUSSIE HAT NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER

GRAND VIEW HOTEL

6.30PM for 7.00PM

BBQ BUFFET

TEA & COFFEE

DRINKS AT BAR PRICES

GREAT ENTERTAINMENT-DANCING-THE ODD RAFFLE
PRIZES FOR BEST HATS WITH AUSSIE THEME

COST \$30PP

RSVP BY 4TH OCTOBER TO
VANESSA on 0402004968 or RAY on 0409845415



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World Polio Day October 24, 2017

World Polio Day was established by Rotary International over a decade ago to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.

Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus, developed by Albert Sabin, led to the establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988.

As of 2013, GPEI had reduced polio worldwide by 99%.

Help end polio worldwide.

Rotary. Humanity in motion.

rotary.org/endpolio



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Grand View Market Wentworth Falls Sunday, September 10



33rd
Hazelbrook
WOODFORD
Linden

*Mid Mountains
Garden Festival*

16-17 Sept & 23-24 Sept

CBM Rotary

- on your PC
- on your Tablet
- on your Phone

www.centralbluerotary.org

**LOWER BLUE MOUNTAINS ROTARY
CHARITY MOVIE PREMIERE**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, GLENBROOK CINEMA

6:30pm finger food and drinks; 7:30pm cinema seating; 7:45pm movie
Special movie theme: **Indian/British royalty. Prizes for best dressed individuals & couples**
Total cost: \$25pp Bookings: Rotarian Gaye Van Der Meer - 0430 433 717
Proceeds to benefit Rotary's local youth programs and The Rotary Foundation Rotary

....that's all folks