

# HORIZONS

## Central Blue Mountains Rotary

*Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered*

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, May 08, 2019

*Autumn at Mt Wilson*

*Photo: Bev Woodman Photographer*



# up front

## Rotary doing good in Vietnam

*A Rotary Foundation global grant helped to provide a water supply system and environmental sanitation benefitting 1,252 people in 316 households.*

Story by Shahul Hameed  
Rotary Club of Singapore (District 3310)

For some of us, it might be hard to imagine life without clean water. We may have suffered the inconveniences of temporary water cuts due to breakdowns or repairs in the water supply.

But those are just minor inconveniences compared to what people in the Huong Nguyen commune live with until recently.

It takes a drive over many miles through tortuous and bumpy roads to reach Huong Nguyen commune. It is located in a very mountainous region, close to the Laos border, in the A Luoi District, Thua Thien Hue Province, one of the most affected areas during the Vietnam War.



*A young girl washes her hands in the new facilities.*



*Visiting Rotarians teach the children safe hygiene habits.*

Through the assistance of a Rotary Foundation global grant, a project provided a water supply system and environmental sanitation benefitting 1,252 people in 316 households.

The project also enabled construction of 50 hygienic latrines. These play an essential role in keeping waste away from living spaces, which means less disease and better health for all the affected people.

It is expected that all these measures will have an important impact in the health of the inhabitants of the commune. But they are also expected to have other impacts.

It will no longer be necessary to travel long distances to bring clean water home, saving time for the inhabitants of the commune, time that might be spent in other profitable tasks, increasing the economic prospects of the whole area.

It is difficult to describe the atmosphere in the training sessions where those living in the commune learn about the new facilities and are taught hygiene.

The smiles on the faces of the attendees and the laughter of the boys and girls says much about the joy and happiness that Rotary has brought to this poor commune almost lost in the mountains of Vietnam.

# WhatsOn....

## May

- Wednesday 08:** Guest speaker, Richard Mills:  
"A Dignified Departure"
- Friday 10:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Saturday 11:** Presidents' Meeting and District Awards  
Hornsby RSL 8.00am-11.00am
- Wednesday 15:** FoodBank collection/distribution
- Wednesday 15:** NO MEETING... transfer to 16/05
- Thursday 16:** Upper BM Rotary Clubs  
Pride of Workmanship Award Night  
Blackheath Golf Club
- Friday 17:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Sunday 19:** RSPCA Million Paws Walk - Katoomba
- Wednesday 22:** Guest speaker, Chris Cleary:  
"Street Med"
- Friday 24:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Saturday 25:** Catering van Woolworths, Katoomba
- Wednesday 29:** Guest speaker, Dr Raymond Yung:  
"Developing new cancer drugs - a long and winding road"
- Friday 31:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

## June

- Wednesday 05:** Guest speaker, John Robertson:  
"The story of FoodBank"
- Friday 07:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Wednesday 12:** Guest speaker, Peter Brooks:  
"My Paralympic journey culminating in Athens Gold"
- Thursday 13:** Board meeting
- Friday 14:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Friday 14:** BM Grammar School sports day catering
- Wednesday 19:** Guest speaker, Tara Cameron:  
"Conserving now for the future"
- Wednesday 19:** FoodBank collection/distribution
- Friday 21:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club
- Saturday 22:** Catering van Woolworths, Katoomba
- Wednesday 26:** CBM Rotary changeover
- Friday 28:** Lawson Public School Breakfast Club

## July

- Saturday 06:** District Changeover - Hornsby RSL Club

## Guest speaker May 08



This week's guest speaker, Richard Mills, had a long and distinguished career in the Australian Public Service's Senior Executive Service.

Over twenty years, his roles included Chief of Staff to the Defence Minister, head of the Cabinet Office in the Prime Minister's Department, and Deputy Commonwealth Ombudsman.

He later taught at university, his last position being an Adjunct Associate Professor at Sydney University's Graduate School of Government.

Richard was President of "Dying with Dignity" NSW from 2012-2014 and his presentation this Wednesday night will focus on end of life choices, under the title "A Dignified Departure".

Richard will pose questions of interest and concern to each of us, including the ethical and legal issues that we – and our relatives – must deal with.



**11 Years in a Row**





*Yung Kim, Leone Hurley, Steve Cookson and Elaine Manners helping a visitor from the USA to vote for her favourite sculpture.*

*Thousands of visitors have already voted in the People's Choice Award category. Our volunteer CBM Rotarians report seeing visitors vote for a wide variety of the 25 installations.*

*With Sculptures at Scenic World continuing until Sunday, 12 May, it seems any one of the exhibits could take out the People's award.*

The annual Pride of Workmanship awards night is being hosted by Blackheath Rotary at the Blackheath Golf and Community Club, Brightlands Ave, Blackheath on Thursday, 16 May, 6.30pm for 7pm.

This is a transfer meeting for Central Blue members. There will not be a normal club meeting on Wednesday May 15.

Pride of Workmanship is a shared event of Blackheath, Katoomba, Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise, and Central Blue Mountains Rotary clubs.

It promises to be a heart-warming and exciting night, as Central Blue Rotary has two awardees to receive this prestigious recognition of their work ethic, of going beyond the "job description" to excel.

Katie Toohey is familiar to visitors to the Grand View Hotel and Wendy Dollin has helped Rotary and other community organisations in the Mountains over many years in her role at Blue Mountains City Council.

Blackheath Rotary has requested the details of our attending members, family, friends and Horizons readers by this Wednesday, 8 May. The \$45 cost includes a delicious two-course dinner as well as the awards presentations.

If you have received the online booking email from CBM Vocational Director, Paul Pixton, please use it to register NOW. Otherwise, please contact Paul 4758 7146 or paul@duralis.com.au



## *Pride of Workmanship*

Blackheath, Central Blue Mountains  
Katoomba, Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise

Blackheath Golf & Community Club  
Thursday, May 16, 2019





# *at the Rotary Blue Ball*



*CBM Rotary Co-President Steve Cookson, Pauline Cookson, Miriam Ranson, Paul Twigg, Lynne Roberts and Walter Bock, Past President Burwood Rotary.*



*Girls in Blue: Bianca Brown, Miriam Ranson and Jennifer Scott*

*The Rotary Blue Ball, supporting local Rotary mental health projects, was held Saturday at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.*



*Neil Brown and Ian Scott*



*Rotary District 9685 Governor Susan Wakefield, Steve Cookson, Federal Member for Macquarie Susan Templeman, Pauline Cookson and John Wakefield.*



# Mountain Ghost

Last year, Autumn did not arrive until the end of May. The Ghost thinks there may be something to this global warming theory. The Ghost has spent an hour raking up leaves in his backyard so Autumn has arrived.



2. Mount Tomah – (our Blue Mountains Botanic Garden) to give it its full name is magnificent at this time of year. It covers 252 hectares of beautiful Autumn colours.
3. Blackheath – take any of the back streets in Blackheath and you will see rows and rows of spectacular trees. While there you can visit the Rocket at Soldiers Memorial Park. All this is for free.
4. Everglades House and Garden – at Leura is a must. For many years this was the Ghost's favourite Autumn place. This National Trust property set on 12 acres of mature gardens also has spectacular views of the Jamison Valley.
5. Wentworth Falls – one of the most spectacular sights in the Blue Mountains is the tunnel of flaming trees (no, the Ghost is not swearing the trees are flaming good) on route to Wentworth Falls lake.

## AUTUMN IN THE MOUNTAINS

The Mountain Ghost was not always a Mountain Ghost. A long time ago he was a City Ghost but moved to the Mountains because he loved them.

One of the attractions of the Mountains is that you actually get four different seasons, unlike Sydney which has just summer and winter. Hot and not so hot. Humid and not so humid. But the Ghost's favourite time of year is Autumn.

Last year was unusual. Autumn went missing and did not arrive until the end of May. The Ghost thinks there may be something to this global warming theory. The Ghost has spent an hour raking up leaves in his backyard so Autumn has arrived.

This time last year the Ghost was telling his thousands of readers (well hundreds anyway) of the best places to see the beautiful Autumn trees and colours. Well the best places to see Autumn in the Mountains according to Scenic World who do know a little about the Mountains are :-

1. Mount Wilson – go to the village and the streets are lined with elm trees, liquid ambers and pink cherries. Mount Wilson is also home to some of the best private cold climate gardens in Australia. Most charge a small entrance fee which usually goes to charity. Many owners encourage visitors to have a picnic among the trees.



Not mentioned because it is a little way out of the Mountains is Mayfield Gardens at Mayfield near Oberon. The Ghost has written about Mayfield before. It is recognised as one of the best cool climate gardens in the Southern Hemisphere and it is getting better each year. If you have not visited Mayfield in Autumn then you are missing a magnificent sight. Do it soon.

The Ghost is aware that deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves in winter) are all from the Northern Hemisphere and the native eucalyptus are all evergreens. These northern invaders, some people call them feral trees, have made the Mountains a much more attractive place to be.

Just as Australia welcomes people from all parts of the planet so we shall welcome trees from all over the world providing they do not create any environmental problem (anyway that's what the Ghost thinks, but he has been wrong before.)

*Please turn to the next page*



# Rotary

## *Central Blue Mountains Rotary*

*invites*

You, your family and friends

*to*



## *Changeover 2019* Wednesday, June 26



Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls  
6.30pm for 7.00pm - \$40 per person  
Main + Dessert  
Tea and Coffee  
Drinks at bar prices

Celebrate the year of Co-Presidents Ava Emdin and Steve Cookson  
and welcome Justine Murphy as President 2019-2020

RSVP: on receipt or by June 16, 2019 to:  
Justine Murphy - 0434 621 629 - [rotaryconnected@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryconnected@gmail.com)  
or Paul Twigg - 0487 139 381 - [ptwigg@ozemail.com.au](mailto:ptwigg@ozemail.com.au)  
Please indicate any special dietary requirements when booking  
Dress: Neat casual

*...that's all folks*