

Keynote Speakers

2019 District 9700 Conference - Griffith





PRIVP Dr. Anne L. Matthews South Carolina, USA Past Rotary International Vice-President and

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RI President Barry Rassin's Personal Representative

Dr. Anne L. Matthews is an educator by profession, a published author, an education accreditation commissioner, and public speaker. She earned degrees from Coker College, Appalachian State University, and the University of South Carolina. She served in several management roles with the SC State Department of Education and taught business subjects at the high school, technical college, and university levels.

A member of the Rotary Club of Columbia East, she served as Governor of D7770 in 1999-2000.

Anne has served in numerous capacities in Rotary. To list a few: RI Vice President ('13-'14); RI Director; Rotary Foundation Trustee; member of Future Vision Committee. Anne received several Honours from Rotary International. These include the Citation for Meritorious Service Award, the Service Above Self Award and the Distinguished Service Award. She has been honored as Rotarian of the Year in D7770. Anne was also honored with the Betsy Demaray Award by the Rotary Global History Fellowship. In 2017, she received the International Service Award for a Polio-Free World from The Rotary Foundation.



Rtn. Stephanie Woollard Melbourne, Australia

Founder Seven Women Nepal

Rotary Peace Scholar & Member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne

Nominee for Australian of the Year 2016

- Rotary International Peace Fellow, Recipient of the Rotary International Responsible Business Award presented at the United Nations in NY in 2016
- Moral Fairground's National 'Most Ethical Enterprise Award 2014', La Trobe Uni.
- Young Achiever Alumni of the Year Award 2016
- Masters in Peace & Conflict Research from Uppsala University, Sweden

Stephanie Woollard began Seven Women at 22 after meeting seven disabled women working

in a tin shed in Kathmandu. These seven women were struggling to make a living in the face of harsh discrimination. With her last \$200, Steph paid for a trainer to teach the women how to produce products for sale locally and abroad - and Seven Women was born.

Since 2006 Steph has built up the Seven Women team and launched an Australian arm for fundraising and a sales channel for our ever growing operation in Nepal. 12 years after her meeting in a tin shed that started it all, over 5,000 women have been educated, trained and employed by Seven Women. Seven Women is empowering Nepali women, transforming their lives and their communities.



Rtn. Evan Burrell Sydney, Australia

Our MC and Motivational Speaker Member of the Rotary Club of Turramurra

There is more to Rotary than just great sausages! Evan is a member of the Rotary Club of Turramurra. Evan's message is "Let's have fun in Rotary" and it's with this message that has him passionately promoting Rotary's digital story through social media. He presents Rotary in a lighter more engaging way, showing a fun and humorous side to our organization, making the idea of Rotary more relatable, especially to new generations and potential members.

He showcases that Rotarians are not only making a positive difference in the world, but they are having fun doing it! Evan has been appointed to the Rotary International Communications

Committee and recently Past RI President Ian Riesley asked Evan to serve as the Zone 7b and 8 Australian/ NZ representative on the 2018 Rotary International Toronto Convention promotions committee.



DRLIC Jane Wangeci Chepkemboi Mberia, Nairobi, Kenya



District 9212 Chair Rotary Leadership Institute and Past Country Chair Kenya and Assistant Governor. Member of the Rotary Club of Milimani

Jane holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Finance from Kenyatta University and a Masters in Strategic Planning from the University of Nairobi. She is a Certified Public Accountant of Kenya CPA (K); and a member of the Institute of Credit Management Kenya (ICM) and Chartered Insurance Institute, London. Jane works for Continental Reinsurance Ltd, which is a subsidiary of African multinational Continental Reinsurance Plc based in Lagos, Nigeria. She is the Head of Finance and also doubles the role of Strategic Planning for the group.

She likes travelling, adventure, hiking, dancing, reading, watching movies and making friends. She has climbed many mountains notably Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Kenya and has visited 12% of the world in five continents - 12 countries in Africa, 9 in Europe (includes the Vatican City), 1 in North America, 2 in South America and 1 in Asia.

She is a mother of two adorable sons- 9 and 5 y



DG Sue Hayward O.A.M. Sydney, Australia District Governor 9675 {2018-2019} Member of the Rotary Club of Sydney Darling Harbour

Sue joined Rotary 23 years ago in 1995 in Adelaide, South Australia and was the first female Charter President in the southern hemisphere when appointed as the President of the Rotary Club of Prospect Sunrise.

On moving to Sydney, about four years later, Sue joined the RC Sydney Darling Harbour, aka The Darlings, and was appointed as a Board member in 2001. She has held an executive position within the club every year since that time, including President in 2004-05. She has been actively involved in all club activities and has nominated many members during her time as a Darling. Sue has held District

Offices since 2005 having chaired the GSE Committee and been an Assistant Governor as well as several other district roles.

Sue is married to Mike, a retired architect, and they have one son, Simon, who is happily married to Kendall. Sue is a Civil Celebrant as well as working for AHPRA.

Sue will be talking about "Smelly Dollars".



Patricia Garcia A.O. Sydney, Australia

National Program Manager UN Sustainable Development Goals Rotary Peace Scholar Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok Thailand.

"Over 20 years experience working in the world's conflicts including Afghanistan, Sudan, South Sudan, Bosnia and Burma she has managed humanitarian aid and development programmes to assist refugees and IDPS. She has been engaged as Programme Manager and Director with international NGOs and UN agencies (Oxfam, Peace Winds Japan, German Agro Action, Norwegian Church Aid UNOPS, and UNHCR) and with Austcare and Act for Peace in Australia. I have recently completed a short term consultancy with Concord is International as their Sudan Country Director.

Pat continues to be actively engaged in humanitarian advocacy and research and training in peacebuilding and human rights with a focus on gender based violence and disarmament issues.

Currently, she is a Casual Academic and Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Sydney. Her languages in addition to English are Spanish and French. In 2011 she received an Australian Federal Government award for services to the overseas humanitarian sector.

In 2014 Pat was selected as one of the subjects for the UNSW Australian Human Rights Centre Faculty of Law photographic exhibition project entitled "Positively Remarkable People Ending Violence Against Women" (www.positivelyremarkable.wordpress.com).

She was awarded the 2016 State Finalist Australian of the Year and has recently joined the group of inspirational speakers at Celebrity Speakers. <u>http://www.celebrityspeakers.com.au/patricia-garcia/</u>

Nyadol Nyuon South Sudan & Melbourne Australia



Commercial litigator with Arnold Bloch Leibler and a community advocate.

Nyadol was born in a refugee camp in Itang, Ethiopia, and raised in Kakuma Refugee camp, Kenya. At eighteen, Nyadol moved to Australia as a refugee. Since then she has completed a Bachelor of Arts from Victoria University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Melbourne.

Outside her work, and through the experiences of her family and community, Nyadol has developed an interest in issues concerning human rights, multiculturalism, the settlement of refugees and those seeking asylum. She has volunteered extensively in relation to these areas has worked with governmental and non-governmental organisations.

In both 2011 and 2014, Nyadol was nominated as one of the hundred most influential African Australians. She is currently a board member of the Melbourne University Social Equity Institute.

In terms of advocacy, Nyadol has presented at various conferences and forums on issues impacting the settlement of African Australians in Victoria and Australia in general. She regularly appears in the media, including recent appearances on the ABC's *The Drum* and as a panellist on *Q&A*.

Nyadol Nyuon first came to Australia over 10 years ago. Only 18 years old, she knew very little of the country and when she arrived in Melbourne the city was like nothing she'd ever seen.

"I remember thinking how big and clean it was," she says. "It was quite surprising to see how all the cars stopped at the red lights because in Kenya that doesn't happen often.

"I actually looked around to see whether there were any police with AK-47s on the side of the road enforcing the law. Funnily, there were none, which was very surprising."



Jack Lanting New Zealand & Thailand Conservationist & the Elephant Whisperer in the Room

Jack Lanting is the 17 year old Kiwi Founder of Kwan Jai Elephant Foundation (KJEF). A project that aims to take positive and practical action in an effort to influence real change and improvement for elephants in Thailand, both captive in the tourist industry and those in the wild, reducing human elephant conflict and protecting and reforesting habitats.

The path that Jack has followed unwaveringly through many adversities over the past nine years, began with an ex methamphetamine drug addicted elephant named Lily in Northern Thailand. A gentle giant, she had a monumental effect on Jack, instilling a passion and drive in him to save and improve the lives of others of her kind.

From his mentor and hero Lek Chailert, (Elephant Nature Park) Jack learnt at the tender age of eight, that education was key to the survival of pachyderms. A shy school boy from Te Awamutu, Jack found his voice for the elephants, speaking to schools, community groups and to the media in the hope he could change the habits of tourists.

Lobbying tourist agencies, Jack succeeded where others had failed in getting elephant trekking removed from their advertising. Undercover, Jack bravely learnt firsthand the plight of elephants working in the tourist industry. And he fundraised, **A LOT**, raising the funds to rescue one elephant on his own, one with a friend and three more with a group of many.

With a natural talent that allows Jack to read and understand the elephants he is surrounded by, "Elephant Whisperer" has increasingly become a title he has found himself wearing. With the respect that brings and a strong team supporting him that includes an enviable collection of experts, Jack's long held dream of starting his own elephant project is close to becoming a reality.



Tracy Monica Ochieng Nairobi, Kenya Student United States International University Nairobi.

Tracy Monica Ochieng, one amazing young lady that the Rotary team from the Mountains of the Moon 2011 Climb, had the privilege of meeting. This day will live forever in the memories of those who were present.

We had just finished climbing the Rwenzoris or the Mountains of the Moon in Uganda. In particular Mount Margherita, the third highest peak in Africa, at 5,109 metres.

Our gracious hosts were the Rotary Club of Nairobi, Africa's third oldest Rotary Club, (chartered in 1930). Our first visit was to the slums of Mathare, where life is so tenuous.

We arrived in a bus and were greeted by "how are you? How are you?". Everywhere we went on our journey into one of the worst slums in the world. Over 500,000 people exist here with little or no running water, no electricity unless it is siphoned off the grid illegally and no sewerage to speak of.



PDG Fred Loneregan and I just looked at each other in silence and we knew then we had to put funds towards these children who we had come to visit. The Rotary Community Corps RCC in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Nairobi do a great job in helping these children, all primary school children.

We cannot help them all but we can help one child at a time. This reminds us of the story of the starfish. Well we were ushered into their class room converted to an assembly room and the show started.

It was a fashion show, all the clothes made by the children from recycled garbage off the rubbish tips of Nairobi:

After the show they had their two star pupils, a boy and a girl, give us a speech of welcome and the young girl was Tracy Monica Ochieng. I have attached her notes which Tracy gave me as a souvenir and I have kept them ever since. It was her unbound faith in her future that made us sit up and take note.

Tracy had remembered her speech and put so much energy into it. It had to be Tracy! Fred and I made a pact then that we would support her through high school. Tracy is now studying at the United States International University in Nairobi.

Tracy's dream is to start her foundation that Tracy calls "Tracy's 200".



Grant Fowlds Eastern Cape, South Africa Mobile No: +27 83 2641978 www.grantfowlds.com

"Grant Fowlds is a passionate Conservationist from a dedicated Rhino Family, who pioneered with others a Wildlife project called Amakhala Game Reserve –now a leading Tourism brand based in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. As an Ambassador for Project Rhino and speaker, he has spread the word to an audience in several countries including Consumer Countries of South East Asia.

He relates his first-hand experience of growing up in a natural environment with the

consequences of 21st century greed for animals in the exploding demand in all forms of animal trafficking. His presentation is centered on the vast increase in rhino poachingin the last decade, where animals are in serious threat of extinction. The presentation climaxes on his personal walk in a rhino project and a race against the theory – 'endangered means we still have time but extinction is forever'

As an African linguist, he shares the vision of African Explorer Kingsley Holgate to reach One Million Youth in Community Conservation for Rhino, Elephants and Gorillas as well as other endangered species in a Simple Art Project in Schools. He has been working in rural communities throughout Southern Africa in human Wildlife Conflict, demand Reduction and alternate sources of Income via Tourism and building Range expansion parks.

He has recently concluded a book about his experience titled 'Saving the Last Rhinos- the life of a Frontline Conservationist, to be released in London by Little Brown Publishers in 2019. The book is Co-authored by famed writer Graham Spence.

Presentations have taken place in venues both in South Africa and abroad, including:

- University of Hanoi, Vietnam
- Biodiversity Agency, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Universidad Belgrano, Buenos Aires
- Top Service, Brazil
- Kangaroo, Brazil
- SAACI- South African Conference Industry
- Kashmir World Foundation, Washington DC
- VCU university, Richmond, USA
- Young Presidents Organisation
- Harvard University, Boston Mashachutes
- Madiba's Brooklyn, New York
- WTM Africa 2015
- WTM Africa Thebe Reed Exhibition 2016 and 2017
- Universidad San Sebastian de Chile, Santiago Chile
- Wildlife Conference at Beatrice Hotel Kinshasa, DRC
- Bill Buchanan Home, Durban
- University of DUT, Durban