



KOONGGA

Bulletin of the Rotary Club Of Ku-ring-gai Inc - Chartered 6th February 1959



Volume 58 No. 29 15 February 2016

Rotary monthly theme: Peace and conflict prevention/resolution

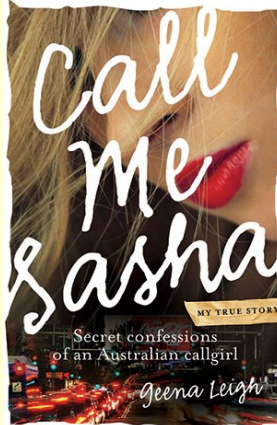
This week: Geena Leigh: Coming back from the brink

Geena's story is raw, powerful, provoking ... even disturbing. Most importantly it's real, courageous, honest, and inspirational, for Geena's story is that of a 'working girl' who stepped back from the precipice.

Today, Geena is the best-selling author of "Call me Sasha" which debuted as the #1 bestselling non-fiction book in Australia in 2014. Geena chronicles her life from the

abuse of her father, being thrown out of home and her slide into prostitution and drugs.

When asked why she wrote her memoir Call Me Sasha, Geena's response was: "I thought someone will read the book and say to themselves. 'If she got through all that - then I can get through this!' At the very least, I knew I had a story that would entertain."



Last week's guests & notices

President Murray of the Rotary Club of St Ives:

- Welcomed guest speaker Tim Wilson, the Member for Ku-ring-gai, Alister Henskens, 2 Rotarians visiting from England and the Presidents and members of the Rotary Clubs of Ku-ring-gai, Wahroonga (amongst others); and
- Invited attendance at the club's visit to the State Emergency Services headquarters on Wednesday, 24 February.

Past Assistant Governor Greg Rappo proposed the toast to Rotary International.

Rotarian Harold Morgan promoted the St Ives Food and Wine Festival at the St Ives Village Green from 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday, 6 March. It's the Rotary Club of St Ives' major fundraiser for the year, supporting 'Room to Read' and other charities. (See advertisement later in this edition - Ed).

Rotarian Di Barnes spoke about the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic and referred to the Rotary Club of St Ives' nominated charity, the Cromehurst Foundation, which provides residential living skills courses for people with disabilities.

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)

In late January this year our club sponsored two students, Nick Layson and Vincent Tai, to RYPEN, a weekend camp at the Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen. Nick and Vincent have just started year 10 at Killara High school. They enjoyed their RYPEN experience and are coming to speak briefly to our club at the start of the meeting on Monday night. Both

boys and their parents have appreciated our support. Please make them feel welcome.

Joy Newling

Dinners for 8

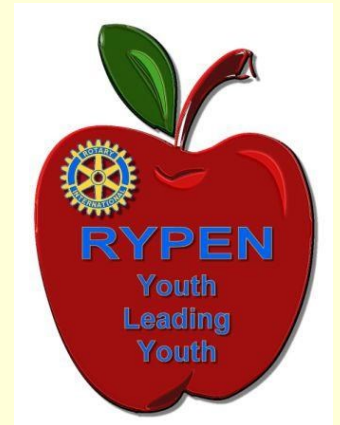
As outlined at our meeting on 1 February and detailed in the Koongga last week, I am organising the Dinners for 8 on the weekend of Friday 8, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 April.

This is a great opportunity for all members and partners to participate over dinner/lunch in the home of a member. With a number of new members in recent years we will mix the groups for the dinners so there are new and not so new member/partners joining together.

At our next meeting I will circulate a list for members to indicate if they can be a host or an attendee. Please check your availability on any of the dates so you can complete the sheet this week.

If you nominate as a host you will decide the menu and then ask the other attendees to bring a contribution dish/dessert, etc.

Any question? Please ask me. Malcolm Braid



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The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara. Visitors welcome (Tel: 9498 2700). www.kuringgairotary.org.au 'Be a gift to the world' is the Rotary International President's theme for 2015-16

Congo emergency medicine education project

Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney is holding a floating fundraiser benefiting the first emergency medicine education program in the Democratic Republic of Congo. E-Club member Dr Vera Sistench, an emergency medicine physician, is leading this project. She will introduce the initiative at the April 3 event and leaves April 16 for Congo, where she will conduct emergency medicine training at 6 rural hospitals in the Congo. (See advertisement later in this edition – Ed.)



“Girl Rising” - an inspiring feature film

“Girl Rising” is a powerful and innovative feature film by Academy Award nominated director Richard E Robbins. It spotlights the stories of nine unforgettable girls born into unforgiving circumstances. Girls like Sokla, an orphan who rises from a life in the garbage dump in Phnom Penh to become a star student and an accomplished dancer. Suma who writes songs that help her endure forced servitude in Nepal and today crusades to free others. And Ruksana, an Indian “pavement dweller” whose father sacrifices his own basic needs for his daughter’s dreams.



Each girl is paired with a renowned writer from her native country and these stories are narrated by celebrity actresses.

Girl Rising is the centrepiece of a global campaign to educate and empower girls. Rotarians are invited to a special viewing of this 90 minute movie to raise funds for Room to Read which promotes education and gender equality in 10 countries in Asia and Africa by building and resourcing schools and libraries. Please see their website www.roomtoread.com for details of their achievements.

The movie will be shown on Friday 22 April 2016 at the Barker College theatre at 7.30 pm. The cost of admission is \$ 15 per person.

District needs your help!

District 9685 and the incoming District Governor are in need of some help in 2016-17. Two positions are available for any willing volunteers. All interested volunteers should email District Governor Elect [Bruce Lakin](mailto:Bruce.Lakin@rotary.org) or call 0419 876 073.

2017 Conference Chair - The date is set, the venue is booked, but there is still work to be done. If you enjoy

arranging a good party and you have some good ideas to make a District Conference really interesting and enjoyable, this job is for you.....

2017 District Directory Director - This is a short term assignment to coordinate production of the best selling book in D9685. The tools are in place but some data management is required. If you would like to be the best friend of every Club President and Club Secretary this job is for you.....

Rotary International Travel & Hosting Fellowship tour to Japan & Korea

The Rotary International Travel & Hosting Fellowship is a low cost way to meet and develop friendships with Rotarians in other countries. It also organises low cost group tours overseas for Rotarians, including an annual tour to coincide with the Rotary International Convention. Here’s an invitation to this year’s tour:

NOT JUST A TOUR, a unique experience with ITHF members exploring Japanese culture.

We love Japan because of:

1. THE FOOD

Maybe you know of sushi and ramen, but Japanese cuisine is much more. It’s the essence of 2000 years life. Each city that we visit has its own unique taste and we will sample them all.

2. THE CULTURE

Japanese culture from its years of isolation, transformation after the war, and merging of east and west makes for a unique experience. You will learn to appreciate the differences.

3. SHOPPING

Japan is the shopping paradise of unique home appliances & electronic gadgets. They come from the refined sensitivities, ingenuity, team spirit, and work ethic of the Japanese people.

4. LONGEVITY

Japan has more people over 100 years old than any country in the world. Tour to Japan, you may catch some senses to improve your quality of life.

5. ROTARY

Japan is one of the largest Rotary countries and some of the biggest donors to the Rotary Foundation. You will meet Japanese Rotarians who will share their projects and unique programs. You will learn about the real Japan through the eyes of Japanese Rotarians.

6. HOTEL IN SEOUL

We expect big crowds and heavy traffic in Seoul, so we blocked rooms at the hotel in Seoul, near the train station, where our members can stay together. We have our Korean Past District Governor friend to greet us and tell us about Rotary in Korea.

7. OPEN TO ALL

In order to reach our goal, we are opening this trip to your friends, family members and non-ITHF members. We hope that this will create an atmosphere of good fellowship and family fun.

8. JAPAN ONLY

If this tour is beyond your budget, consider a Japan only option at reduced cost. Let us know if this interests you.

Now you know why our Tour Organizers Past District Governor Steve & Noko Yoshida are so sad. They were looking forward to sharing our love of Japan with our friends. Few have answered our call, but it's not too late.

Please find the application for the tour and hotel in Korea on the ITHF.ORG website.

Yours in Rotary,
Uen Hua (Aircon) Chao

趙文華

ITHF Administrator

Last week: Tim Wilson: Advancing human rights in Australia

Australian Human Rights Commissioner Tim Wilson gave us an overview of what his role entails.

Opening his talk, he said that he speaks to many community groups each year and particularly enjoys visiting Rotary clubs because they represent what's good about the Australian community: making a contribution to the community without regard to race, religion and other forms of discrimination.



Australia differs from other countries (notably the USA) in that it does not have a bill of rights which defines people's human rights. Victoria has a Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, but federally the debate continues about what are human rights.

Tim's job is to recognise international treaties but not, for example, the International Declaration of Human Rights or property rights. It's about preserving people's freedom and rights (e.g., freedom of speech and of association) and maintaining social cohesion. This can pose challenges, such as "what are the rights of bkie gangs – should they be prohibited?" or "what are the rights of the United Patriots Front (an extreme nationalist organisation) to oppose Islam and the development of mosques?"

Property rights are central to a discussion of human rights. What balance is to be struck between an individual's right to own land and the government's right to compulsorily acquire it? Tim is concerned with ensuring that native title is respected, but he expressed the view that it has very little use in practice. The problem is indigenous people's ability to use it to achieve economic development, health and welfare.

The Human Rights Commission strongly protects religious freedom. Tim said that many challenges in relation to religious freedom are not being properly discussed in Australia. One is the issue of children or teachers being excluded from schools on religious grounds. Similarly, there is conflict between different groups about the exclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

Tim tries to bring people together to discuss issues, develop policies and promote human rights. Current topics include debates over race discrimination and the claim that the Catholic Church's booklet explaining its opposition to same sex marriage contravenes Tasmania's anti-discrimination law.

The Human Rights Commission promotes a culture of mutual respect for other people's views, which Tim believes is more effective than relying on the courts to enforce laws. It is better for community groups to discuss and resolve their differences and develop agreements. People have responsibilities as well as rights.

Responding to a question about the rights of criminals, Tim said every person has the same rights until convicted, when the key right of freedom may be lost. Aboriginal communities have different concepts of law, but for many indigenous people time in prison represents the most stable period of their lives and their best opportunity to learn modern living skills.

Asked to compare human rights and common sense solutions to challenges, Tim said that he constantly has to navigate minefields, evaluating the specific factors applying in each case. Common sense answers often emerge from the context.

The President of the Human Rights Commission, Professor Gillian Triggs, handles issues relating to asylum seekers, but Tim was able to comment. The problem is how to deal with the number of people who want to come to Australia. There are very serious human consequences of the policies adopted by the government, particularly the many negative effects of lengthy incarceration. Australians are overwhelmingly in favour of accepting refugees. Any detention should be short-term and only for identity and health checks. It is acceptable for children to be returned to Nauru or Manus Island, so long as they get proper services and oversight. Otherwise other arrangements need to be made.

Tim said he doesn't get political interference in his job; he simply gets anger from politicians. And yet Tim himself has to make political decisions.



Next week: The mystery of the missing speaker

There's sure to be a guest speaker or some other activity to entertain or challenge us, but for now it's in the surprise category, so watch this space!



**LANE COVE WEST
BOWLING CLUB**

Rotary

Club of Lane Cove Inc.



Invite you to a **FAMILY FUN DAY**

**Sunday 21st February 2016, from 10 am to 4 pm,
at 151 Burns Bay Road Lane Cove.**

- **BAREFOOT BOWLS**
- **JACK ATTACK**
- **BACKYARD CRICKET**
- **MINI PUTT PUTT GOLF**
- **MUSICIANS**
- **SILENT AUCTION**
- **BBQ LUNCH INCLUDED**

\$20 adult. Children \$10. Children U/12 free. Family ticket \$50



Proceeds will assist the
Rotary Club of Lane Cove Inc projects;
Kathmandu Secondary School Nepal and
Nusa Tenggara Timur Small Grants for
farmers and schools in East Indonesia.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE INFORMATION NIGHT



THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS
CURRENTLY IN YEAR 9, 10 or 11

Come along to meet current and former exchange students, host families and participating Rotary Clubs, and find out more about Rotary Youth Exchange.

**WEDNESDAY 2nd MARCH
7:00PM**

**MOSMAN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
769 MILITARY ROAD
MOSMAN**

For more information contact:
secretary@ryep.org
www.rotaryyouthexchange.net.au



**EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS WITH
A YEAR ON ROTARY EXCHANGE**

www.rotaryyouthexchange.net.au

Rotary



Club of Norwest Sunrise
(Bella Vista) Inc



International Women's Day

Thursday 3 March 2016

Novotel Norwest, 1 Columbia Court,
Baulkham Hills 2153

7:00am for 7:15 start: finish 9:00am

Tickets: \$60.00 (inc hot breakfast)

<http://www.trybooking.com/177556>

Panel

Deborah Sanasi:

Counsellor/Psychotherapist at Norwest
Counselling and Deputy Chair on the Lisa
Harnum Foundation Board.

Malarndirri McCarthy: Journalist, presenter
NITV/SBS and leader in social change.

Miriam Silva: A winner in the 100 Women
of Influence, and President of Adelaide
Light Rotary Club.

Karla Castellanos: Rotary World Peace
Fellow and participated in rural poverty
alleviation programs in India.

Domestic abuse happens - how *do* people get through it?

The Rotary Club of Norwest Sunrise is hosting a fund raising breakfast to celebrate **International Women's Day**. The event will be opened by Councillor Dr Michelle Byrne, Hills Shire Council Mayor. A panel of experts renowned for supporting women and driving social change will lead an interactive and dynamic discussion.

We know abuse happens behind closed doors and today's dialogue touches on the reasons for domestic violence. However, the real focus is on how people can leave the fear behind; how they can recover, and get up in the morning and have the self belief that they can get through this day and many more.



For event information call Lorraine Clifford 0488 025 533
or Cheryln Suzuki 0407 701 988.

Beneficiaries are the Hills Women's Shelter, the
Lisa Harnum Foundation and other Rotary projects.

SUNDAY 6 MARCH 2016
10AM – 4PM

ST IVES FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

St Ives Village Green

Food - Wine - Lifestyle

Over 20 International Food Stalls
20 Australian Boutique Cellar Door Wineries
and Beer Garden
Over 20 Lifestyle Stalls

**MARKET STALLS, FACE PAINTING
KIDS ACTIVITIES, ANIMAL FARM**

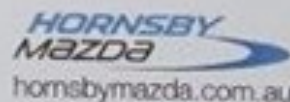
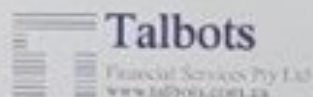
Entertainment and fun for the whole family

follow us

website:
www.stivesfoodandwine.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stivesfoodandwinefestival

SILVER SPONSORS



All proceeds from this event will be donated to Rotary Projects and Room to Read
Entry \$2.00 Donation



All Aboard for Congo!

A floating fundraiser to introduce the first Emergency Medicine education program in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Join us for a dazzling experience on Sydney Harbour aboard *Radiance of the Seas*, a Royal Caribbean International vessel that will remain docked at Circular Quay.



When: Sunday, 3 April 2016

Time: Boarding and security clearance from 10-10:30 am at the Passenger Terminal, Circular Quay; ship tours from 10:30-11:30 am; luncheon from 11 for 11:30 to 2 pm; cocktails (cash bar) poolside until 3:30 pm.

Cost: 3 courses for \$60. Cash bar. \$20 for VIP ship tours. Options for tours and menus provided upon registration.

Bookings are essential by March 11.

<http://allaboardforcongo.eventbrite.com.au>

For security purposes, your passport number/expiry, date of birth, nationality is required in advance.

Attire: Tropical casual

Entertainment: Miriam Lieberman singing and playing on Africa-inspired instruments; poet Dorothy Makasa

Silent auction prizes include:
a Wyndham resort accommodation for 4

Questions: Lucy Hobgood-Brown 0417 272 101
lucy@claypartners.com; Fleur Hourihan 0400 852 656
fleurhour@gmail.com



Design by Sarah Gardiner and Divya Poojary

Printing courtesy of Officeworks North Ryde

Calendar of events

February	22	
	29	Edwina Throsby: Creating TEDx
March	7	Bobbin Head Cycle Classic briefing
	11	(Saturday & Sunday) District Conference, Canberra
	14	Graham Wilcox: The struggle for unity - a story of the federation of Australia
	20	(Sunday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic
	21	Bobbin Head Cycle Classic report
	28	No meeting (Easter Monday)
April	4	
	8	9 & 10 (Friday - Sunday): Dinners for 8
	11	
	18	
	25	No meeting (Anzac Day)
May	2	
	9	
	16	
	23	
	30	

Club officers and committee chairmen 2015-16

Board of directors

President	Graham Timms
Vice President	John Aitken
Immediate Past President	Tony McClelland
President Elect	Michael Midlam
Secretary	Geoff Hungerford
Treasurer	Graham Maslen
Director - Membership	Tony McClelland
Director - Public Relations	Roger Desmarchelier
Director - Club Administration	Michael Midlam
Director - Service Projects	John Aitken
Director - Rotary Foundation	Peter Tang

Service committee chairmen

Administration (Club Service)	Michael Midlam
Vocational Service	Lindsay Forrest
Community Service	Roger Desmarchelier
International Service	Georgina Manning
Youth Service	Linda Lam-Rohlfs
Social events	Joy Newling
Bobbin Head Cycle Classic	Tony McClelland
Sergeant-at-Arms	Malcolm Braid
Assistant Secretary	Lindsay Forrest
Assistant Treasurer	Chris Lewis

Club committees 2015-16

Administration: Michael Midlam, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall (Program), Bob Ivey (Web and social media), Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga)

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic: Tony McClelland, John Aitken, Ross Egan, Bob Elsworth, Peter Kipps, Graham Timms

Club History: Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

Community: Roger Desmarchelier, Gary Dawson, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Chris Hoch (Red Shield), Nick Kenyon, Ted Price

International: Georgina Manning, Roger Desmarchelier, Emyr Evans, Dilys Geddes, Rob Hall, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling

Membership: Tony McClelland, Ken Sackville

Public Relations: Roger Desmarchelier, Linda Lam-Rohlfs, Georgina Manning,

Rotary Foundation: Peter Tang, Lindsay Forrest, Chris Hoch, Greg Newling

Social Events: Joy Newling, Ross Egan, Dilys Geddes, Georgina Manning,

Vocational: Lindsay Forrest, Lou Coenen, David Forsythe, Peter Kipps, Michael Tyler

Youth: Linda Lam-Rohlfs, Stan Glaser, Gary Keating, Chris Lewis, Matt Mahjoub, Joy Newling, Don Riddell

Sick parade

Peter Kipps is back home with a repaired heart valve, on the road to recovery and looking forward to returning to our meetings soon. *(Readers of the Sydney Morning Herald letters page will want to know where Recovery is (and why Peter is on the road when he should be resting) - Ed.)*

Anniversaries - February

Birthdays					Anniversaries	
5	Pam Forbes	19	Eunice Price		27	Don and Laura Riddell
10	Tony McClelland	19	Nicky Dawson			
18	Bob Elsworth	27	Louise Tyler			

Booking guests & apologies for meetings

Members are booked in to attend every regular meeting of the club. If you cannot attend a meeting or wish to book in a guest / partner please record your apology or guest on the website at <http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au> **before 9.25 am** on the day of the meeting. An apology for future meetings may also be entered. **If you do not apologise for non-attendance the club must pay for your meal and you will be asked to reimburse the club.**

Door team

February	March	April	May
Roger Desmarchelier	Wally Forbes	David Forsythe	Greg Newling
Nick Kenyon	Bob Ivey	Ross Egan	Cathy Jackson

The door team is responsible for welcoming visitors and guests, recording payments and issuing copies of the record to the President and the Secretary. **Please arrange your own replacement if you are unavailable.**

Gordon Market roster

MARKET ROSTER	13 March	10 April	8 May
BANNERS	Frank White	Gary Keating	Frank White
SIGNS	Graham Timms Geoff Hungerford	Graham Timms Geoff Hungerford	Graham Timms Geoff Hungerford
MORNING SET UP	Frank White	Geoff Hungerford	Frank White
PUBLIC RELATIONS			
1ST SHIFT 8.00 to 10.30	Wally Forbes	Bob Ivey	John Aitken
2ND SHIFT 10.30 to 1.00	Chris Hoch Nick Kenyon	Chris Hoch Lou Coenen	Don Riddell TBA
3RD SHIFT 1.00 to 3.30	Roger Desmarchelier Peter Tang	Malcolm Braid Jack McCartney	Ross Egan Gary Dawson

Second shift collects payment from stallholders. Third shift returns signs and bins to St George Bank storage. **Please arrange your own swap and notify Geoff Hungerford if you will be unavailable.**

Rotary fashion

Looking for the most up to date Rotary club shirt or cap? Contact menswear and ladies wear boutique, Ross Egan.

Club bank details

Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai **General** account
BSB: 032 089 Account no.: 253 341

Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai **Project** account
BSB: 032 089 Account no.: 253 333

Please include your name in the details of all deposits to the club accounts

Expense reimbursement claims must be presented with a completed remittance advice which you can download from the club website. Please include your BSB and account number.