



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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Meeting Apology

Please use the club web-site **before 3 pm** on meeting day to apologise or add a guest, or you will be required to reimburse the club for your meal cost.

<http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au>

This week

Jacqui Fogarty, President of Lower North Shore Rotaract Club

Mental Health

Our Club raised \$41 for mental health during the Hat Day last Monday

Clarke Road School

Clarke Road School are taking part in the Woolworths "Earn & Learn" program. For every \$10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of tobacco, liquor and gift cards) until 1 July 2012 you can receive a sticker to collect. It will show on your docket but you may have to ask for the stickers. If you are not collecting them for another school, could you bring them to Rotary and give them to me please? I can then pass them on to Clarke Road School. They have a very small number of students and the more points they earn, the more they can redeem from a choice of over 7,000 educational resources. It is an easy way to help them.

Joy Newling

Club Changeover

Monday 25 June at Avondale Golf Club & for 6.30 for 7pm

Trivia Night

Malcom Braid
Trivia night, an important night for our club

June 16 Warrawee Bowling Club

Please bring Partners and friends

Up-coming Functions

Trivia Night 16 June

Last Week

Rob Byrne Polio Plus



Undoubtedly one of the best speakers I have heard about the current situation with Polio Plus.

Polio Plus is in danger of imploding, and the wonderful success could be reversed if the impetus is not maintained in the coming years. I wish every Rotarian in the world could attend this presentation Report over.

Lou Coenen

Lou presented Ross with a bottle of wine and a certificate for giving his time to explain Social Media to students at UWS. Lou said Ross kept the students spellbound.



Dinners for 8

The evening was a success but sadly I only have photos from one dinner.

Dinners for 8 with the Timms'

- Linda
Bob & Gwen Ivey
Ross & Penny Lambert
Malcolm & Margaret Braid



Rob Byrne Polio Plus

Rob is either a Superman or an idiot! Maybe both. Who do you know that could ride a bike weighing 50 kilos from Brisbane to Cairns and then to Melbourne.

A Road bicycle weighs 7 kilos, so that is the equivalent of strapping 12 house bricks to the back of a road bike before setting off for a very long ride.

This is the Bike! It is called a Recumbent or in jargon a flying bedstead



The ride in numbers

- 4,386km pedalled in about six months
- 50 – 100km per day
- 1.2 million revolutions of the pedals!!
- 27,630m climbed
- 207,144 calories
- Over 4,000km travelled in about six months
- between 50 & 100km per day
- about 1.2 million revolutions of the pedals!!
- 91 meetings with Rotary Clubs
- in four states and territories
- meeting thousands of Rotarians
- and lots of community groups.
- turned 60 while passing through Townsville

Some great PR for Rotary & EPN

- Ten TV interviews
- Scores of Radio interviews
- Scores of Newspaper articles
- Dozens of Politicians
- Scores of Meetings, thousands of Rotarians
- Hundreds of Individual discussions along the way
- Thousands have seen End Polio Now signage on bike
- [facebook.com/RobsBikeRideToEndPolioNow](https://www.facebook.com/RobsBikeRideToEndPolioNow)

Rob Byrne Polio Plus

A Rotarian in Bowral who has been administering vaccine in India



Some current victims



Rob Byrne Polio Plus

Reasons to eradicate polio

Sir Clem Renouf, 1985

1. Save hundreds of thousands of children.
2. Impact on the economies of developing countries
3. It can be done!

John Hewko, Jan 2012

1. Save hundreds of thousands of children.
2. Savings of \$40 – \$50 billion, mainly developing countries
3. Set the stage for the world's *next big global health initiative*.

Plenty of very good news

- 2011 cases — down 30% on 2010.
- India — polio declared eradicated!!
- Polio Virus Type 3 — very close to eradication.
- Just had our best four months EVER — just 60 cases YTD.
- Rotary fundraising — exceeds Gates' \$200 million challenge.
- Bill Gates:
 - says polio remains The Gates Foundation's top priority
 - pledges additional \$50 million
 - describes Rotary as the "heart and soul" of polio eradication.
- Australia — pledges \$50 million (+UK, Canada & Uganda).
- Pakistan — defines a National Emergency Action Plan.
- RI/TRF Gen Sec/CEO John Hewko — "polio our #1 priority".
- RI President, Kalyan Banerjee — "My friends, the day that polio will be eradicated is close at hand".

However... growing chorus of alarm

- CDC — new warning to travellers: get polio booster.
- WHO Director General — **polio could easily "come roaring back...."**
- IMB and SAGE — **"alarm bells should be ringing. The Initiative is being severely jeopardized."**
- WHA — on 25th May, declared polio an "emergency for global public health."
- **Immunisation programs cancelled (or about to be) in 36 critical countries, outbreaks likely in West Africa**
-

Rob Byrne Polio Plus

Bruce Aylward, Deputy Director General, World Health Organization

The brutal truth is...

...pretty soon, more than 200,000 children are again going to be paralysed by this disease every single year, there's absolutely no question

The Funding Gap

- We've been spending ~\$800 million pa just to control polio.
- Surge last year to \$1.1 billion (much in India).
- To eradicate polio, GPEI plan calls for a surge to ~\$1.2 billion
- then start scaling back
- **The reality? Funding plummeting**

How do we respond to this?

1. we gave it our best shot but it just isn't possible.
2. steady as she goes – continue to limit the disease to about 1,000 cases per year ... and keep spending about \$800 mil/yr ... ongoing and growing.
3. finish the job – eradicate this shocking virus Implement GPEI plan – \$1.2 billion then start scaling back Economic benefits of at least \$40-50 billion by 2035 (journal Vaccine, Nov 2010).

What can WE do?

- raise awareness!
- get your local member on board.
- wear the EndPolioNow badge (buy a few and give them away!)
- tell the polio story (your own 'elevator pitch')
- raise funds!
- stage an event.
- influence philanthropists.
- make a contribution, big or small.
- take direct action!
- participate in immunisation days.

tough question...

Are we going to quit on polio? **NO!**

- "The eradication of polio will ultimately be a monument to the Rotarians of the world who lived and gave life to the motto of Service Above Self " – Bill Gates
- "We are at a crossroads right now. We have a new vaccine, we have new resolve, we have new tactics. We have the chance to write an entirely new polio-free chapter in human history. But if we blink now, we will lose forever the chance to eradicate an ancient disease."

Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General, WHO

Rob Byrne Polio Plus

Resources

- polioeradication.org/ (GPEI site)
- rotary.org/endpolio (RI polio page)
- unicef.org/immunization/polio/index.html (UNICEF polio page)
- gatesfoundation.org/polio/Pages/default.aspx (Gates Foundation)
- rotarnet.com.au/users/9/96452/polioplus210106.htm (links to polio sites)
- <http://bit.ly/jyuyzU> (April 2011 report of the Independent Monitoring Board of the GPEI)
- bit.ly/hMlxgB (shortcut to Rotary.org shop, EndPolioNow pins)
- bit.ly/ea7dGM (shortcut to WHO's polio statistics page)
- who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs114/en/ (WHO's info page on GPEI)
- <http://bit.ly/iOqbcl> (shortcut to The Australian Immunisation Handbook)
- eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2010-11/kriebo111910.php (Ec. benefits of eradication)
- bit.ly/foZIdC (shortcut to great story on RI site about RC Bribie Island polio initiatives)
- en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polio (good background info on polio)
- Regina Rodriguez-Martin, PolioPlus Coordinator, The Rotary Foundation (Regina.Rodriguez-Martin@rotary.org)
- Jenny Horton, Rotary Club of Kenmore, Qld (regular email updates from the field)
- Bruce Allen, Rotary South Pacific, Rotary Foundation (Bruce.Allen@rotary.org)
- Rob Byrne, Rotary Club of Grafton (rob@tourvelo.com)

Remainder of 2011-2012 Calendar

DATE	Speaker (BM = Board meeting)
Monday 4 June	June Lower North Shore Rotoractors BM
Monday 11 June	Queen's birthday – no meeting
Saturday 16 June	Trivia night
Monday 18 June	3 x 10-on-me
Monday 25 June	Changeover