



# K O O N G G A

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

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Rotary monthly theme: **March: Literacy**

## This week



### Bobbin Head Cycle Classic review

After the immense year long effort by the planning committee and their helpers, the success of the marketeers and sponsorship gatherers, the testing time waiting to see how many cyclists would register for the event, the hard work of setting up all the facilities for the day, the pre-dawn start for so many people, the effort of the riders on some very challenging routes, their generous donations, the participation of so many volunteers at registration, at the start/finish oval, along the ride routes, selling food, drink and raffle tickets, the long day ending with the clean up, fine weather or foul . . . The Bobbo 2014 is over! So come and celebrate, hear how it went and congratulate all those who made it happen.



## Last week: guests & announcements

Vice President John Aitken presided at last week's meeting and:

- Opened the meeting with a toast to Rotary International (Shh! Don't tell President Tony!);
- Incurred the Sergeant's wrath for suggesting that the opening was not as organised as usual;
- Welcomed David Lewis as a visitor; and
- Congratulated a member for turning up to stuff envelopes after the job was complete.

No wonder he sat down quickly after that. Don't worry, John, you just need more practice. Someone nominate him for President in 2017, please!

Greg Newling, John Aitken and Peter Kipps made final announcements about The Bobbo . . . no need to record them now. Thanks to Gary Dawson and Bob Ivey for volunteering erect the ShelterBox tent at Karuah Oval.

## International Women's Day

I went along to an International Women's Day event in The Secret Garden at Gordon Library on Friday 7 March. It was a fantastic morning. If they have a similar event next year I will encourage more of our members to attend. The theme of the day was "Inspiring Change" and the three speakers covered it movingly.

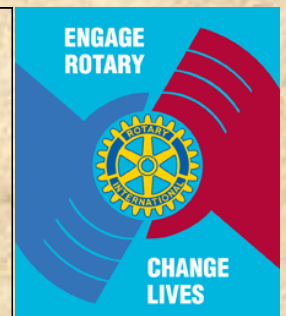


The first, Sheila Matete-Owiti, came here from Kenya some years ago and now has her own business as a life/career coach at West Ryde. Amongst other things Sheila encouraged us to grow our own networks and "be part of the ripple effect." Sheila also mentioned that she studied in the USA as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and credited that with helping her to be where she is today. I thanked her for mentioning Rotary and told her about our club and invited her to come along.

The second speaker, Amer Akech Achiek, had come from Sudan as a refugee and had a harrowing story,

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The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at West Pymble Bicentennial Club, 2 Prince of Wales Drive, West Pymble. Visitors welcome. [www.kuringgairotary.org.au](http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au)

Rotary International  
Theme 2013-2014



including family members being killed in Sudan, four years in a hot and dusty refugee camp in Kenya and finally being accepted to come to Australia, for which she is very grateful. Amer said that without her strong mother she would not be here today.

The last speaker was Annabelle Daniel, CEO of Women's Community Shelters, who talked about homelessness and the need for a women's refuge in our community. She is trying to inspire change in our attitude to homelessness. Annabelle said that when most of us think of homelessness, we think of homeless men. Did you know that the new face of homeless people is women over 50 who have suffered through illness, marriage breakdown or migration to Australia? There is also no crisis accommodation for women without dependent children between Lane Cove and the Central Coast. Annabelle is working to change that and I talked with her and gave her my card as I thought our club may be able to help.

In between the speakers there was some multicultural entertainment, including some Chinese Cha Cha which was very graceful. If you ask me, I will tell you more! All in all, I was very glad I went and came away inspired to do more to make a difference.

Joy Newling

## Last week's speaker



### Generation Why Rotary?

Last week Rob Hall introduced a video presentation by Michael McQueen, officially titled 'Engaging the next generation in Rotary'. He pointed out that the future of Rotary is the next generation. Currently only 11% of Rotarians are aged below 40 and only 2% less than 30.

In broad terms, 'Generation Y' means the children of the Baby Boomers. Michael sees them as a huge opportunity from a membership perspective. There are 3 reasons why they are good prospects:

1. They are globally minded. Through social media, they have friends everywhere. They believe the world can be changed and that they can make the change. They are looking for a vehicle through which to achieve it.
2. They are socially engaged. 76% of them are involved in their communities on a weekly basis.
3. They're ambitious and they're in a hurry. They exhibit impatience and urgency. They're looking for opportunities for networking and mentoring. They see Rotarians as people who can mentor them and help them get ahead in their careers.

So why aren't they joining Rotary? There are 3 reasons:

1. They don't know who you (Rotary) are. They have only a hazy idea of what Rotary is and does.
2. They don't know if they're welcome. Outdated practices and a failure to connect with their interests puts them off.
3. They don't know if they have time for Rotary. They're put off by rules and structures. Rotary needs to explain why they should make it a priority in their lives.

Generation Y can be unreliable. They tend to leave decisions to the last minute, in case they get a better offer. They think 'mosaically' - options and contingencies rule their lives - unlike their parents' lineal planning (i.e., in extended time frames). A 6 month roster or planning a conference way ahead is foreign to them.

The next challenge is that Gen Y as a group lacks resilience. Whereas Baby Boomers grew up believing that life is meant to be hard, Gen Y has been conditioned by marketers and others to expect life to be easy, fair, convenient and exciting. They think 'if it's not easy, it must be wrong'.

Gen Y is 'high maintenance'. It needs to be congratulated, thanked and affirmed. This is the era of self-esteem, which requires constant messages of reaffirmation. This conflicts with the traditional Rotarian culture of 'do your bit for the sake of doing good, rather than for acknowledgement' (as reflected in Rotary's motto 'Service above self' - Ed.) However, Gen Y can be expected to be good at promoting Rotary's successes through public relations.

Michael's next video - to be viewed at a later meeting - looks at strategies to bridge the generation gap and involve Gen Y in Rotary.

Following the video, there was vigorous discussion and exchange of ideas amongst those present. It was agreed that the membership committee should make use of the information in the video to devise a program to attract younger people to the club.

## Polio vaccination in India

My son-in-law Dr Tim Connor (a law lecturer at Newcastle University) is taking some six months study leave in Bangalore India with his wife (my daughter) Kate and their family - the attached photographs were taken by and with them at a Bangalore park where the local Rotarians and nurses were doing a follow up polio vaccination program with the local children - they were particularly interested in Kate's father also being involved with Rotary and some are intending to attend the International Convention in Sydney.  
Geoff Hungerford



## Next week's speaker

### Gareth Hall - Pros and cons of self-managed superannuation funds

The number of self-managed superannuation funds has been growing rapidly in recent years. But how many of the people establishing them understand the rules applying to them and what's required to be a good financial manager? In this presentation, Gareth Hall, a local financial planner, will explain the issues that people should consider before starting a self-managed fund.



# IT'S TIME FOR A FUNDRAISER BBQ & MOVIE NIGHT

Kathryn is in training to run the 29km Great Ocean Road "Ultra Half Marathon" this May to support Cure Cancer Australia, and raise money towards Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign to eradicate polio from the world!

**SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**  
**6:30 FOR 7PM**

**\$25 PER PERSON**

for a BBQ feast followed by a showing of 'Now You See Me' on the tennis court.

BYO drinks, warm clothes & a rug/chair/beanbag to ensure your comfort for the movie.

**PLEASE RSVP BY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**  
[john.dodds@duemail.com](mailto:john.dodds@duemail.com)



If you can't come but would like to support Kathryn, help cure cancer AND eradicate polio, you can donate online at:  
<http://cantoosmh2014.gofundraise.com.au/page/misododdhalfmarathon>

**CURE**  
**CANCER**  
AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION

**END**  
**POLIO**  
**NOW**



## German Evening

Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2014  
At the German-Austrian Club, 73 Curtin Street, Cabramatta



If you like a bit of dancing, this is for you

Full Alpine band

**Just \$75pp** *Try all dishes, full smorgasbord*

Patrolled car-park

Funds to Australian Rotary Health - 9685 project Cararoo & 9675 project GinPRA

## Calendar of events

April	7	Roger Cherry - Who are those people? The plaques of Circular Quay.
	14	TBA
	21	(Easter Monday) No meeting
	28	Alan Edenborough - Saving the James Craig
May	5	Club forum
	12	Annabelle Chauncy, David Everett and Tony Castley - School For Life meets SewAid
	15	(Thursday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation (St Ives)
	19	TBA
	26	Richard Field – Okavango: miracle in the desert
June	1 - 4	Rotary International Convention - venue: Olympic Park, Homebush
	3	Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night
	9	(Queen's birthday) No meeting
	23	Club Changeover

## Club officers and committee chairmen 2013-14

### Board of directors

<b>President</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Vice President</b>	John Aitken
<b>President Elect</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Secretary</b>	Geoff Hungerford
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Maslen
<b>Director - Membership</b>	Roger Desmarchelier
<b>Director - Public Relations</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Director - Club Administration</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Director - Service Projects</b>	John Aitken
<b>Director - Rotary Foundation</b>	Graham Timms

### Service committee chairmen

<b>Club Service</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Vocational Service</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Community Service</b>	Ross Lambert
<b>International Service</b>	Greg Newling
<b>Youth Service</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic</b>	Peter Kipps
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Greg Newling

## Club committees 2013-14

**Bobbin Head Cycle Classic:** John Aitken, Ross Egan, Peter Kipps, Tony McClelland, Michael Midlam, Adele Mitchell, Graham Timms

**Club History:** Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

**Club Service/Club Administration:** Geoff Hungerford, Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga Editor)

**Community Service:** Lou Coenen, Gary Dawson, Roger Desmarchelier, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Bob Elsworth, Rob Hall, Chris Hoch (Red Shield Appeal), Geoff Hungerford (Markets) Caroline Jones, Nick Kenyon, Ross Lambert, Loïc Lacombe, Jack McCartney, Michael Midlam (Bowel Scan), Frank White (Markets)

**International Service:** David Forsythe, Graham Maslen, Adele Mitchell, Greg Newling, Peter Tang

**Membership:** Roger Desmarchelier, Dilys Geddes, Linda Lam-Rohlf

**Public Relations:** Michael Midlam

**Program:** Rob Hall, Ross Egan

**Rotary Foundation:** Graham Timms

**Vocational Service:** Michael Midlam

**Youth Service:** Malcolm Braid, Emyr Evans, Greg Goodman, Bob Ivey, Tom Jackson, Linda Lam-Rohlf, Joy Newling, Ted Price