



K O O N G G A

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

Volume 56 No. 36 14 April 2014

Rotary monthly theme: April: Magazine month

This week



Steve Wyatt

Climbing Mount Everest

Steve Wyatt retired young after a successful career

in manufacturing and a period as owner of a state-wide cleaning company. Nowadays, he's an adventurer, with a passion for the great outdoors and activities that seriously challenge himself.

In May last year, Steve joined a small multinational expedition to climb Mount Everest, becoming the oldest Australian man to reach the summit.

In a talk illustrated by a stunning array of photographs, Steve will cover topics such as the personalities of the people he climbed with, the physical adjustments required for climbing at high altitude, the critical impact of weather on reaching and returning from the summit, negotiating narrow ledges and ice bridges, dealing with crevasses and camping in sub zero temperatures.

This will be a talk not to be missed by any armchair adventurer!

Last week: guests & announcements

President Tony welcomed guest speaker Roger Cherry, his partner Eva Balint and Joyce Enos.

Greg Newling announced that 20,000 Rotarians and guests are expected to attend the Rotary International Convention in Sydney in June. Speakers of the highest calibre will include:



- Professor Martin Silink, an Australian world leader in diabetes research.
- Tommy Spaulding, an expert on leadership and president of Spaulding Companies Corporation.
- Brett Lee, founder of Mewsic centres for disadvantaged children in India (and sometime cricketer)

For details of more Convention speakers, click on this link:

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/2014/Program/Speakers/Pages/ridefault.aspx>



For the astonishing array of 85 breakout sessions, click on this link and download the preliminary schedule:

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/2014/Program/BreakoutSessions/Pages/ridefault.aspx>



Lao water project



Greg Newling also reported on the progress of the project to build water supplies for 7 Lao villages. This is a joint project between 3 Rotary clubs in Sydney, 6 in Western Australia and Rotary clubs in Vientiane and Thailand. The clubs have raised \$35,000 between them and the Rotary Foundation has approved a contribution of \$47,000 to complete the funding.

The organisers are seeking a person to spend up to 6 months managing the project in Laos. The person, who does not need to be an engineer or even a Rotarian, needs to be able to make sensible decisions, possess common sense and have a generally "professional" demeanour. (The current volunteer who is finishing soon is a senior Civil Aviation Safety Authority officer who wanted to "give back".)

More detail from Hugh Hamlyn-Harris (RC Lindfield) who has visited the site several times and for extended period:

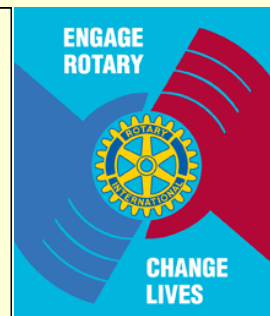
hamlynh@bigpond.com; (02) 9880-8570; 0409 340 269

Tables for eight

Bob Elsworth circulated a list for participants in 'Tables for Eight' on the weekend of 16 - 18 May. Get your bid in early if you want to be a host or a guest. Events can be held in a home or at a restaurant or other venue.

In this issue

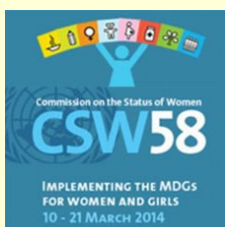
- This week: Steve Wyatt - Climbing Mount Everest
- Last week's guests and announcements
- Lao water project; Tables for eight
- UN Commission on the Status of Women - session 58
- Youth Committee announcements
- Last week: Roger Cherry - Who are those people? The plaques of Circular Quay
- Novus Foundation Dinner; RI Convention Down Under Breakfast
- Calendar of events; Club officers; Club committees



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

Rotary International Theme 2013-2014

Commission on the Status of Women



Caroline Jones writes:

This year the fifty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58) took place in March. In 2000, 193 States of the United Nations had agreed to the following millennium goals:

- the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger
- the attainment of universal primary education
- gender equality and the empowerment of women
- the reduction of child mortality
- improvements in maternal health
- combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- environmental sustainability
- creation of a Global Partnership for Development

Although improvements have been made since 2000, understandably these ideals have not been reached and civil society and non-government organisations (CSOs/NGOs) came together to present problems which their organisations encountered and the solutions they had reached to better empower women and girls. These sessions took place in a physical and emotional divide, being housed across the road from the United Nations. In the UN itself, national delegates worked hard on the wording of resolutions so that a set of Conclusions could be agreed upon.

CSW58 began for me on Sunday 9 March with the NGO CSW58 Forum. This was a full day of panels, one of which was presented by H.E. Carlos Enrique Garcia Gonzalez, Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the UN, Eleanor Blomstrom and Yamina Djacta. They spoke on the topic of 'Cities for Sustainable Development and Women's Human Rights', a significant theme which played out over the fortnight and favoured the incorporation of women's rights within an economic agenda. Significantly, these speakers anticipated the notion of mainstreaming gender equality, arguing that unless poverty and violence are solved and economic power given to women then their condition cannot be improved.

Consultation Day was held on East 7th Street across the road from the Ukrainian district. Both the forum's location and date in early March heightened the poignancy of a Ukrainian American's statement at question time that we must increase the number of women in positions of authority, for down that pathway worldwide violence and aggression might decrease. Not all speakers during the fortnight were so idealistic, however. Helen Rodriguez gave practical advice on running a co-operative based on the Union of Cooperatives of Women Farmers in Nicaragua, Charles Vandi and Sadhuram Sapkota offered perspectives on Women, Peace and Security Financing from Sierra Leone and Nepal, whilst the session on political participation in African nations was both inspiring and depressing at the same time.

Women across the world from Nigeria to the United Kingdom complained in different sessions of sexual harassment in parliament and outlined ways of overcoming or ignoring prejudice. On one occasion, the high percentage of women in the Rwandan parliament was

praised. When questions were called for, one attendee's heartfelt response was to ask if it were possible for her country to achieve the same level of political equality without suffering Rwanda's violent history.

I was fortunate to receive a special UN pass to attend the International Planned Parenthood Federation event 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: a crucial agenda for the post-2015 framework'. This was co-hosted by the Government of France and the Government of Liberia in the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium and featured Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, Minister of Women's Rights in France. Each presentation was excellent and the IPPF Vision 2020 Data Tracker discussed will provide valuable statistics helpful for successful NGO advocacy. After successfully applying for a second UN pass, this time to hear Elizabeth Broderick, the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission, speak at a panel organised by the Australian Human Rights Commission and the World Bank, I had to decline as well as forego my pre-paid invitation to the NGO CSW Forum reception. I was saddened to miss these events and two days of sessions, spending them instead in my hotel room with bronchitis.

One of the highlights for me was listening to women officers from the Royal Thai Police and Royal Thai Armed Forces speak about their role as peacekeepers in a session on 'Increasing Women's Contribution to Peace and Security'. They explained that village women were more willing to engage with women than male peacekeepers. Having spent time in East Timor, I was looking forward to hearing more about peace keeping in this young country but, although publicity had mentioned speaker involvement in East Timor, disappointingly this did not turn out to be the case.



Here is a small selection of some of the other topics covered at the Parallel Events:

- obstacles and opportunities for migrant women in the European community
- revolutionizing gender education: lessons from Egypt
- violence against pregnant women
- stopping the horrific practice of female genital mutilation
- peace promotion for better development of Congolese women
- universal primary education by 2020: in peril for Afghan girls?
- the essentials: food, water, women and justice
- blue is the new pink: gender equality through men and boys

- prioritising justice for women and girls in the post-2015 agenda

For me the most horrifying problem discussed during CSW58 is the enormous number of girls worldwide who are married before the age of ten. I was given a poster of a pregnant young Nigerian produced by the Girls' Power Initiative and have seen the well-known picture of the Afghan child brides but there was one chilling anecdote I heard which remains with me still. When a girl child is born in poverty in an Indian village, an older male neighbour arrives with presents. Every year thereafter for the next seven years he brings gifts for the family on the child's birthday. When she reaches her eighth birthday he arrives to claim his rights in marriage. She is powerless to refuse.

The best aspect of the sessions was talking with such a wide diversity of women, all of whom were hard working in their organisations and committed to improving the lot of women and girls less fortunate than themselves. Many of these women had been members of their NGOs for over thirty years and the New Yorkers especially provided insights into the history of CSW. CSOs successfully engaged with their governments were equally interesting to talk to, particularly as I belong to the Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security. At first I was concerned that NGO zeal displayed daily at the Church Centre would not make a difference to national delegates working on Agreed Conclusions at the United Nations, but I was heartened listening to the UN appointee in charge of the CSO relationship. Her commitment and words of encouragement gave me hope that perhaps a marriage between civil society and the United Nations might be possible in practice as well as in theory.



CSW58 was a fascinating experience for me as was New York with its vibrant diversity and glorious cultural institutions. Ones I particularly enjoyed visiting were the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim, the Tenement Museum, the New York Public Library and the bookish Grolier Club. I also met with fellow Rotarians at the over -100 years old Rotary Club of New York and listened to a talk on 3-D printers and their capability to produce a homemade gun, a topic which sat chillingly alongside the session I had attended earlier in the fortnight on gun control in northern India. I accomplished much during my stay, but left feeling I had barely scratched the surface of what the Commission on the Status of Women 58 had to offer.

Dr Caroline Jones

National Peace, Human Rights and Human Security Convenor for the Australian Federation of Graduate Women

'German Evening' cancelled

The 'German Evening' that was scheduled for 26 April has been cancelled.



Youth Committee

Entertainment Book



Are you thinking of buying a new Entertainment Book? This year the new Sydney edition covers Sydney and Sydney North. Great value @ \$70 each with hundreds of coupons to save \$\$\$!

Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service (KYDS) are selling the books. Order direct at: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/21148z6>

Any queries, contact Joy Newling on 9487 2338.

Crosslands Rotaract 10th Anniversary and Rotaract District 9685 Changeover



Invitation from Sam Lambert, PR & Recruitment Director, Crosslands Rotaract Club.

I would like to extend an invitation to you and your club members to attend the Crosslands Rotaract 10th Anniversary and Rotaract District 9685 Changeover event. It will be a buffet style dinner with guest speakers and fun entertainment. This will be a great opportunity for your club to engage and develop relationships with District 9685 Rotaract clubs and their members.

For the past 10 years Crosslands Rotaract has endeavoured to develop talented young leaders and provide meaningful support to worthwhile causes. We would love your help to make our night a success and raise funds to construct a school in Timor Leste. We are very keen to assist in education growth of one of the poorest areas of the country.

*The event will be held at Hornsby RSL Club on the evening of **Saturday 14th June 2014 from 7pm.** Tickets are on sale now and act quickly as there is a limited early bird price.*

(Sam is the son of our member, Ross Lambert)

As we are trying to improve our connection with Rotaractors, it would be great if our club could fill at least one table on Saturday 14 June. Tickets are \$60 each or \$50 for early birds. Please talk to your partner/friends and let Joy know if you can join in the fun.



National Youth Science Forum 2015 (NYSF)

The NYSF will be held again in January 2015. Applications opened on 1 April and close on 31 May. We have already received one inquiry.

Applicants must be:

- Currently in Year 11 and interested in a career in science, engineering or technology
- Planning to do a science, engineering or technology related course at an Australian university
- An Australian citizen or a permanent resident

- Achieving good marks in science and related subjects, but also demonstrating overall excellent
- Showing potential for future achievement in science or engineering for themselves, the community and the nation.

Do you know any young people who fill these criteria and may be interested in applying? Two years ago we were able to partly fund two impressive participants and one was Sean Dawson, son of our member Gary. More details are on the NYSF website: www.nysf.edu.au



Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

Did you know a local representative from was selected to attend the International MUNA in The Hague in January? Along with the Rotary

Clubs of Turramurra and Wahroonga, we assisted Quentin Remot Smith with a donation towards his travel expenses. Quentin will be making a short presentation at Turramurra Club's meeting on Tuesday night 22 April. Our members are invited to attend and if you are interested, please let Joy Newling know by Thursday 17 April.

Last week's speaker



Who are those people? The plaques of Circular Quay

I bring greetings from Jeremy Wright, the President of the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, to your club.

Thank you Rob for inviting me to talk to your club about one of my passions, The Writers Walk plaques. But before I do, a few questions to see how much you already know about these plaques that are sited around Sydney Cove.

1. Does anyone know how many there are?
2. Does anyone know the birth names of: Mark Twain, P.L.Travers and Oongeroo Noonuccal?
3. Who only wrote one book and it was a best-seller?
4. What has Mr Norway to do with Phillip Island?
5. Who visited Australia in 1875 and wrote about the Melbourne Cup?
6. What was Xavier Herbert's claim to fame?

If you are interested in learning the answers to those questions, they are all in the guide to the plaques that I have written and I will reveal them later.

Why did I write about the plaques in the fist place? Curiosity, a desire to know more about the authors upon whose data I was walking.

I remembered Rudyard Kipling's little verse:

I keep six honest serving men
(They taught me all I knew)
Their names are What and Why and When
And How and Where and Who.

Thus, I began my research into all the authors to find more detail and that resulted in my writing a few

hundred words about each of them using some of the interesting facts I uncovered.

The answer to question 1 is sixty plaques.

49 plaques were dedicated by the Hon Peter Collins on 19th February 1991 and an additional 11 were dedicated by the Hon George Souris on 24th October 2011. The original idea was from Peter Collins as a bicentennial project and it was only his persistence that won the day with an international selection of authors, all of whom have some connection with Australia.

The numbering of the plaques in the guide is mine and I have written out in bold after each plaque picture what is on each plaque. There are three indices: the numerical, chronological and alphabetical.

The spread of the authors is interesting: 40 Australian (23 NSW, 10 Vic); 11 English; 2 Scottish; 3 Americans; 2 New Zealanders; 1 Italian and 1 Ukrainian.

The earliest author was P2 Watkin Tench. On longevity, the oldest were P52 Mary Gilmore and P11 P.L.Travers, both 97. Peter Carey is the youngest at 70, and the oldest living is Faith Bandler at 96.

I discovered that two of the authors had been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature: - P39 Rudyard Kipling in 1907 and P13 Patrick White in 1973.

Many others had awards named after them: P45 Miles Franklin, P13 Patrick White, P22 Christine Stead, P20 Douglas Stewart and P58 Ethel Turner. All the winners of all of these awards are in Appendices 1 to 5 of the guide.

All of the authors are fascinating, but I only have time to touch on a few. Some are familiar but others may be less so. To learn about them all you will have to buy the guide, and it is a good read. Incidentally all proceeds from its sale will be donated to charity.

Some interesting writers and their achievements:



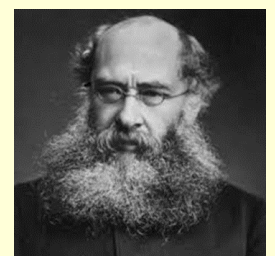
P2 Watkin Tench wrote A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay (1789) and a Complete Account of the Settlement of Port Jackson (1793). The State Library of NSW has the original books and copies are on Google to read – very interesting about the early life of our settlement.

P11 P.L.Travers or Helen Lyndon Goff was the creator of Mary Poppins.

P16 Thomas Keneally wrote Schindler's Ark (1982), which was made into the film Schindler's List in 1993.

P17 Peter Corris was the creator of Cliff Hardy, private investigator. The Dunbar Case is his 39th in the series.

P19 Anthony Trollope is best known for the Bassetshire novels and the Palliser novels/TV series about the Duke of Omnium's fortunes. Less known is that he was the inventor of the red cylindrical pillar box (1852). Introduced into Jersey (1852) and Guernsey (1853), it was an instant success. The first recorded mainland box was at Bochengate in Carlisle in 1853.



P21 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

P29 Clive James, unfortunately now very ill, but still managed to translate Dante's Divine Comedy into quatrains.

P30 Barry Humphries, the man of many parts - Dame Edna and Sir Les, but also Sandy Stone, Lance Boyle, Debbie Thwaite and Neil Singleton.

P37 Henry Lawson, the great bush poet and writer was granted a state funeral in 1922.

P38 Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens), widely travelled and the creator of Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer. He wrote about the Melbourne Cup of 1895 during his visit to Australia on a round the world speaking tour.



the Miles Franklin Award in 1976 (850,000 words or 1463 pages).

For more of the very interesting writers featured, take the exciting walk around Circular Quay.

The answers to 2 of my earlier questions that have not been covered are:

- A.B.Facey; and
- Nevil Shute used to race a jaguar XK140 around Phillip Island under his surname of Norway.



Novus Foundation dinner 31 May



Dear StreetWork Supporters,

There is now less than three months until the Novus Foundation Gala Dinner on 31 May 2014! StreetWork is delighted to once again be one of the benefactors and we hope you will be able to support us by attending this year's event. There is a great night lined up with some fantastic auction items, exciting raffle prizes and a wonderful night's entertainment - see more below.

You can book your ticket or table using the link (please make sure you specify that you were referred by StreetWork). Alternatively if you are unable to attend the event this year, perhaps you would be able to support us by donating an item for the live or silent auctions (see form attached for details).

StreetWork is a not-for-profit, community based organisation that focuses on prevention and early intervention strategies for 'at risk' youth. It was established and has been operating in Chatswood and surrounding Northern Sydney suburbs since 1980, and has a proven history of positive, tangible results for youth at risk through early intervention programs.

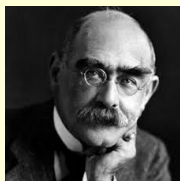
We hope you will be able to help us work towards our vision of seeing a world of youth with self-esteem, positive social interaction and who see a future of possibility.

The StreetWork Team

For more information about tickets or auction item donations, please contact Ms Helen Banu, Executive Officer, StreetWork on eo@streetwork.org.au or call 9419 7559.

Down Under Breakfast Sunday 1 June

The Sydney Rotary International Convention Down Under Breakfast will be the biggest and best ever! Down Under Breakfasts have become a regular highlight of Rotary International Conventions in recent years and Sydney 2014 will be very special. RI Director John Boag and Dianna will be pleased to welcome "Down Under" Convention patrons and their international guests.
When: Sunday 1 June 2014 **Time:** 6.30am for 7.00am
Where: Brand New Hall 6, Southee Complex, Sydney Showground. **Cost:** Just \$40 per head for traditional Aussie farm breakfast and excellent entertainment.
Enquiries: advertising@rotarydownunder.com.au



P39 Rudyard Kipling, a prolific writer, creator of the Jungle Book and the Just So Stories amongst others, a Nobel Prize winner for literature in 1907. He wrote just before he died in 1936 a poem entitled The Appeal:

If I have given you delight
By aught that I have done,
Let me lie quiet in that night
Which shall be yours anon;
And for the little, little span
The dead are borne in mind,
Seek not to question other than
The books I leave behind.

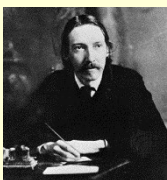
P40 David Williamson, prolific playwright of more than 45 plays, many of which have been made into films.

P41 Banjo Paterson wrote The Man from Snowy River and Clancy of the Overflow.

P43 Oodgeroo Noonucal (Kathleen Walker) was an ardent Aboriginal activist and substantial poet.

P48 Charles Darwin, who really needs no introduction, whose work The Origin of Species in 1859 as the foundation stone of modern biology.

P49 D.H.Lawrence visited Australia in 1922, spent time at Thirroul on the NSW coast and wrote Kangaroo. Probably best known for his novel Lady Chatterley's Lover.



P50 Robert Louis Stevenson, an adventurous Scot, much travelled, wrote Travels with a Donkey, Kidnapped and The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. He died in Samoa at the age of 44 and his tomb bears the following short poem:

Under the wide and starry sky,
Dig the grave and let me lie.
Glad did I live and gladly die,
And I laid me down with a will.

P53 C.E.W Bean, who spent 23 years writing the official History of Australia in the first World War.

P54 Davis Malouf: Possibly one of Australia's finest authors, still writing novels and poetry.

P57 Xavier Herbert: Writer of the longest novel published in Australia 'Poor Fellow My Country' (Winner of

Calendar of events

| | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| April | 21 | (Easter Monday) No meeting |
| | 28 | Alan Edenborough - Saving the James Craig |
| May | 5 | Club forum |
| | 12 | No meeting - postponed to 15 May (Thursday) |
| | 15 | (Thursday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation (at Rotary Club of 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

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

Service committee chairmen

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Club Service | (Vacant) |
| Vocational Service | Michael Midlam |
| Community Service | Ross Lambert |
| International Service | Greg Newling |
| Youth Service | Joy Newling |
| Bobbin Head Cycle Classic | Peter Kipps |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | 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's

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's, Joy Newling, Ted Price