



# K O O N G G A

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

Volume 57 No. 40 18 May 2015

Rotary monthly theme: youth services

**This week: Monday, 18 May: no meeting**

**Tuesday, 19 May: Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation to charities:** 6.30 pm for 7 pm at Pymble Golf Club, Cowan Road, St Ives. (Attendees should have booked and paid by Wednesday, 13 May.)

This week the members of the four organising clubs (and, hopefully, many of the non-Rotarian volunteers) get together to celebrate the success of the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic ('BHCC') and to present donations of the money raised to our charity beneficiaries.



It will be a night to mix with the members of the other clubs, swap experiences of the event, hear the final results and perhaps be told what the money will be used for. Relax and enjoy it. Planning for next year's event is underway already!

## Last week's guests & announcements

### President Tony:

- Welcomed our guest speaker, Robert Mulas, and Gary Keating;
- Repeated his call for a volunteer to manage prizes for the next BHCC ; and
- Reported that members of the organising committee of the BHCC are developing an improved volunteer management system.

**Chris Hoch** requested one more volunteer to assist with the Red Shield Appeal on 30/31 May.

### Black Coffee



What a melodramatic theatre night based on an Agatha Christie story. After the death of Sir Claude Amory in his stately home at Abbot's Cleve, about 25 minutes from London, we were left to wonder who murdered him, who stole the secret formula and why and what would Hercule Poirot come up with during his investigation.

Well it all turned out topsy turvy through the play, with

"red herrings" to divert our speculation. In the end it wasn't the butler who did it, nor was it the mysterious Dr Carelli or Lucia Amory or her husband Richard Amory. No, I wont tell you who dun it. Those who attended know. Needless to say, I chose the wrong one.

Thank you to all who attended. It was a fun night and we will count up the takings and see where we can distribute funds raised for both Vanuatu and Nepal. Thank you to the Pymble Players who put on such a professional performance.

Roger Desmarchelier

## Youth Service



Youth Service (previously known as New Generations) embraces a wide range of Rotary programs for young people of various age groups. The aims of these programs include personal development, education, community service, competitions, international understanding and goodwill and travel through student exchange.

Well known programs include:

- Tales from a dilly bag
- National Youth Science Forum
- Rotary Youth Leadership Award
- Interact Clubs
- Model United Nations Assembly
- Youth Exchange

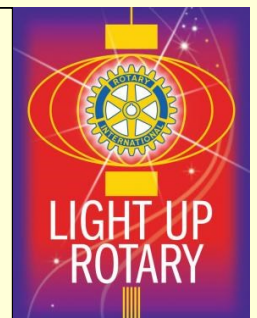
However, there are many more programs including, for example:

- Primary school speech contest
- Rotary Adventure in Citizenship
- School art contests
- Swimming lessons for the disadvantaged
- Try a trade, try a profession
- Vision Australia's Felix Library

A comprehensive list of youth programs conducted by Rotary clubs and districts across Australia can be downloaded at: <http://operations.9810rotary.org.au/files/2014/04/ROTARY-PROGRAMS-FOR-YOUTH-ACROSS-THE-NATION-APRIL-2014.pdf>

### In this issue

- This week: **Tuesday, 19 May:** Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation to charities
- Last meeting's guests and announcements
- Black Coffee • Youth Service
- Workshop seminar on District and MyRotary websites
- National Rotary Success Conference • Ku-ring-gai Business Forum
- Last week: The Parents Café - creating community amid diversity
- Next week: Chris Russell: Behind the scenes at 'New Inventors'
- Letter to the editor
- Calendar of events • Club officers • Club committees



The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara. Visitors welcome (Tel: 9498 2700). [www.kuringgairotary.org.au](http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au)

Rotary International  
Theme 2014-2015

## Workshop seminar on District and MyRotary websites

**Saturday 23 May 2015** at 8 for 8.30am until 2pm

### The Kings' School Auditorium

87-129 Pennant Hills Rd  
North Parramatta NSW 2151

Register now at [register.rotarydistrict9685.org.au](http://register.rotarydistrict9685.org.au)

The Workshop Seminar is for the 2015-16 & 2014-15 District Teams, Presidents, & Club Officers. Other Rotarians are welcome to attend. (This will be a good learning opportunity for both new Rotarians and others who want to get up to date.)

### Why you should attend

- Are you familiar with ClubRunner and My Rotary?
- Do you know your way around the ClubRunner Administration system – either on your club's website or on the District website?
- Do you know how to use ClubRunner to better manage your club and promote your club in the community?

### A Workshop Seminar

The seminar will take the form of a hands-on workshop in the Auditorium of The King's School. It will commence at 8.30am and run until 2pm with just one break for morning tea.

The following topics will be covered:

#### The District 9685 website

- Logging on to the District website, or my club's site
- Updating my member profile
- Updating club Executives or Club information
- Why I should log on?
- Updating changes in member data
- Designing my club's eNewsletter
- Using ClubRunner as an administration tool for my club
- District website overview

#### MyRotary

- Establishing an account with MyRotary
- Logging on to MyRotary
- General overview
- Exploring some of the areas on the site
- My Club
- My Profile
- Rotary Club Central
- Recording my club's goals
- Club Administration

### What you will need to bring with you

The venue meets the on-line requirements for the workshop and you will be able to logon to the school's Wi-Fi, however some may prefer to use their own mobile Wi-Fi device.

Please bring with you:

- A fully charged laptop or smart device
- Wi-Fi if required (see above)
- A snack, if needed; morning tea will be provided for

the planned break

### Do you know your logon credentials?

You will need to logon to the District website (ClubRunner) and the MyRotary site to get the most out of the session. If you do not know your credentials, please visit the District website and follow the relevant links.

## National Rotary Success Conference

The National Rotary Success Conference is to be held over the weekend of **5–6 September 2015** at the Hellenic Club, Woden in Canberra.

Jonathon Welch from the Choir of Hard Knocks and Andrew McLeod will both be actively involved in the conference. Rotary International Director Mary Beth Growney Selene will be the keynote speaker on the Saturday morning. Mary Beth is a dynamic speaker on membership. She was heavily involved in the Young Professionals Conference in the US.

**Who should attend?** All Rotary Leaders, Presidents and Presidents Elect, Public Relations Chairs, Membership Chairs and Future Rotary Leaders and Rotarians who want to be involved in the continuing success of Rotary in Australia. There will be presentations about a number of innovative ideas on a wide range of topics, all practical ideas that can be used in all Rotary Clubs. The program will consist mainly of breakout groups, enabling everyone to participate and interact over the weekend in a practical, worthwhile and meaningful way. The breakout groups will cover a wide range of topics.

Coupled with the Rotary Success Conference this year will be a **Youth Summit** for people under 40 years of age.

This Conference will focus on the future. We are positive that every Rotarian will gain practical knowledge and new ideas to take back to their clubs and Districts from this Conference. You will meet Rotarians from across Australia and New Zealand and be able to share with them your ideas and hear their ideas; it will be a great experience for everyone.

Register now by following this link <http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/success-conference.html>

## Ku-ring-gai Business Forum

Ku-ring-gai Business Forum, sponsored by Bendigo Bank, invites you to an evening with Holly Kramer, CEO of Best & Less. Holly Kramer has been the CEO of Best & Less since 2012, where she is responsible for approximately 200 retail apparel stores and 4300 employees across Australia. Holly also serves on the Boards of Southern Phone and the Alannah and Madeleine Foundation. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Macquarie University Faculty of Business and Economics and an Ambassador for the Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

Holly will cover a range of topics including successful business transformation, current trends and successes in retail, diversity and corporate social responsibility in interview format with Dina Coppel, Chairman of Ku-ring-gai Financial Services Limited.



Date: Thursday, 4 June 2015  
Time: 7.00 for 7.30 pm  
Venue: Roseville Golf Club, 4 Links Rd, Roseville  
Cost: \$70 per person, incl. 2 course dinner  
RSVP: Monday, 25 May  
Book online at <http://kfsf.com.au/kbf>

## **Last week: Robert Mulas** **The Parents Café: creating community amid diversity**



Robert was formerly Principal of Fairfield High School. He spoke about the purpose and effect of the foundation of The Parents Café.

Fairfield is in a very low socio-economic area. Forty percent of the families whose children attend the school are immigrants, many from middle eastern countries. In many cases it took them seven or more years to arrive in Australia, after fleeing their native countries. They have horrific stories of their times as refugees.

The parents are aspirational - they want themselves and their children to succeed in Australia. Many of the parents are well qualified and experienced, but are unable to work in their previous occupations here due to language and/or qualification difficulties.

Robert described how he developed and encouraged his teaching staff to go beyond classroom teaching and create programs to help the children's parents. The starting point was an Intensive English Centre for newly arrived refugees. The program is so successful that it has enabled children who arrive not speaking English to pass the Higher School Certificate in as little as 2½ years.

Under Robert's guidance, the school introduced TAFE type programs, such as plumbing, small engine maintenance and beauty treatment. To the children and their parents, the courses provided were better than what they experienced in their original countries' universities. Robert told the stories of 2 children who used the programs as stepping stones to university places in as little as 2 years.

Robert identified the need for students' parents to get together to socialise and, by doing so, to get to know, understand and become integrated in the Australian community. He started taking the parents on trips - for example, to the city and other tourist sites, Flemington Markets, courts and hospitals and to Canberra.

He then started a breakfast club for the children and their parents. To this he invited guest speakers from community organisations, all aimed at helping the parents to become familiar with the Australian way of life and its institutions.

The breakfast club became the Parents Café, where the parents were encouraged to cook the foods of their native countries. It began to offer a range of other activities, such as a food handling course and cake decorating, which developed the parents' English as well as giving them work skills.



Next the school established a community garden, which got parents out their houses and working together, producing their own vegetables. From this came a community kitchen and the beginning of a catering service, first for school events and later for the wider community. One of the great successes was an 8 week cooking course for men who, on graduation, catered for their wives.

Another venture was an Iraqi Women's Sewing Circle, which taught sewing skills and how to run a small business.

The overall result of the Parents Café was to help the parents adapt to life in Australia and to build strong community bonds. Currently 6 other schools are trialling their own variations of the same program.

## **Next week: Chris Russell: Behind the scenes at 'New Inventors'**

Trained as an agricultural scientist, Chris has spent the last thirty years working in various technical and commercial roles in over 30 countries, including a UN sponsored mission to Mongolia to help the nomadic herders adapt to a privatised economy after the collapse of the USSR in 1992.

Currently he is Technical Director and Joint CEO of a group of companies focused on innovation ranging from systems for grain processing for cattle to glass-fused-to-steel, low maintenance water storage tanks and sludge digesters.

Chris was a judge on the popular weekly Australian ABC television series "The New Inventors". He was recently appointed Chief Judge - Innovation by the Royal Agricultural Society for The Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Chris is also an Ambassador for the North Shore Heart research Foundation as well as being active in a number of charitable groups and until recently was Patron of International Aid organisation - "Life Through Livestock".

His activity in a number of local community and school organisations saw him receive the 2004 Australia Day Individual Community Service Award from Kur-ing-gai Council.

Chris has stated that he is an "invention tragic" and sees invention and innovation as being critical to Australia's future and very much part of the Australian psyche.

## **Letter to the editor**

Dear Editor,

I read with horror that you proposed discontinuing the Koongga, for which I hope the Sergeant gave you a large fine! As a past member, I enjoy reading the Koongga each week - not only because it keeps me in touch with what you lot are up to, but also because it contains good articles, some of which I have shared with my new club - the Rotary Club of Paterson. Whilst I think the website and Facebook are important, they are no substitute for an interesting newsletter! Keep up the good work!

Regards

Adele Mitchell

*(It's OK, Adele, the response of the meeting indicated that the members want Koongga to continue in its present (.pdf) form, so no doubt someone will be persuaded to take it on at the end of the next Rotary year - Ed.)*



## Calendar of events

May	25	Chris Russell: Behind the scenes at 'New Inventors'
June	1	TBA
	8	Queen's birthday - no meeting
	15	Lindsay Forrest: '10 on me'
	22	TBA
	29	Changeover dinner

## Club officers and committee chairmen 2014-15

### Board of directors

<b>President</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Vice President</b>	John Aitken
<b>President Elect</b>	Graham Timms
<b>Secretary</b>	Geoff Hungerford
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Maslen
<b>Director - Membership</b>	Greg Newling
<b>Director - Public Relations</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Director - Club Administration</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Director - Service Projects</b>	John Aitken
<b>Director - Rotary Foundation</b>	Graham Timms

### Service committee chairmen

<b>Club Service</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Vocational Service</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Community Service</b>	Ross Lambert
<b>International Service</b>	Roger Desmarchelier
<b>Youth Service</b>	[Vacant]
<b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic</b>	Bob Elsworth
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Malcolm Braid

## Club committees 2014-15

**Administration:** Joy Newling, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall, Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga)

**Bobbin Head Cycle Classic:** Bob Elsworth, Graham Timms, Tony McClelland, Ross Egan, John Aitken, Michael Midlam, Emyr Evans, Dilys Geddes, Geoff Hungerford, Jack McCartney, Linda Lam-Rolfs

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

**Community:** Ross Lambert, Michael Midlam (Bowel scan), Lou Coenen, Linda Lam-Rolfs, Gary Dawson, Roger Desmarchelier, Chris Hoch (Red Shield), Caroline Jones, Nick Kenyon, Loïc Lacombe, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day)

**International:** Roger Desmarchelier, Graham Maslen, David Forsythe, Peter Tang, Georgina Manning, Lindsay Forest, Loïc Lacombe, Emyr Evans, John Aitken

**Membership:** Greg Newling

**Public Relations:** Michael Midlam

**Rotary Foundation:** Graham Timms, Peter Tang

**Vocational:** Michael Midlam

**Youth:** Joy Newling (acting), Bob Ivey, Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson, Ted Price, Joyce Enos, Greg Goodman, Linda Lam-Rolfs, Jack McCartney