



K O O N G G A

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

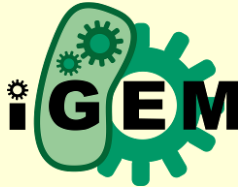


Volume 58 No. 1 6 July 2015

Rotary monthly theme: (none designated)

This week: Mahiar Mahjoub: The International Genetically Engineered Machine ('iGEM')

International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) is an annual international competition for undergraduate research in synthetic biology, established in 2004 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



iGEM teams design and carry out their own research projects, and are given the opportunity to present their work at an international conference (the iGEM jamboree). Each project is aimed at solving real-world problems using novel genetic technologies.

iGEM provides students with a complete scientific experience, from designing and troubleshooting experiments to presenting work to an international audience, and it teaches undergraduates key skills for careers in scientific and industrial research, that will enable them to advance the frontiers of scientific understanding.

Mahiar Mahjoub is a member of this year's team from the University of Sydney, which will be studying the use of bacteria for synthesis of chemicals that are vital for our health and industries, and also degrade industrial pollutants detrimental to the environment. Mahiar will describe how he and his fellow undergraduate team members, whose studies range from molecular biology, biochemistry, mathematics and computer science to engineering, are tackling the challenge.

RI President's theme for 2015-16

Rotary International President K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran chose "Be a Gift to the World" as his theme for 2015-16. In presenting the theme, Ravi says:



"Every one of us has something to give — whoever we are, whatever our place in life. We can give our talent, our knowledge, our abilities, and our effort; we can give our dedication and our devotion. Through Rotary, we can take these gifts and make a genuine difference in the lives of others and in our world.

It is said that we are born with our fists clenched, but we die with our hands open, and that our talents are the gift that God gave us. What we make of our talents is our gift back to God.

Equally we come into this world grasping at everything, but when we leave it, we leave all material things behind as well. Through Rotary, we can leave behind something real and lasting.

Our time is now. It will never come again."

Read the full text at <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/document/ri-theme-2015-16-brochure-kr-ravindran-2015-16-ri-president> or watch the RI President's speech at <http://vimeo.com/117317680>

Operation Cleft



Operation Cleft provides free cleft lip and palate repair surgery for underprivileged children in Bangladesh. It only works in Bangladesh and focuses specifically on surgery, training and parent and healthcare

sector education related to the cause, effect and treatment of cleft lips and palates.

With the generous support of its team of plastic surgeons and the hospitals at which they operate, Operation Cleft is able to keep the cost of surgery to a minimum. \$300 is all that it costs to give an underprivileged child a "smile for life

The project was initiated by the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central in September 2005 with a pilot programme of 60 operations at Lamb Hospital Parbatipur, Bangladesh. In 2008 the Operation Cleft Australia Foundation was established to assume full responsibility for all aspects of the project.

Why Bangladesh? Bangladesh is a developing nation with widespread poverty. Almost half of all Bangladeshis live on less than \$1 a day, so the cost of surgery is far beyond their means. Cleft repair surgery is not covered under the public healthcare system of Bangladesh because the condition is not considered life threatening.

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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

Thank you for Model United Nations Assembly sponsorship

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a member of the Killara High School teams who participated at the Model United Nations Assembly 2015, I would like to thank you for your sponsoring our teams' involvement.



MUNA has been a wonderful opportunity for all of us to build up our public speaking skills whilst debating on some topical issues in the world. MUNA acted as a mini United Nations Assembly which allowed us to research different issues in the world. The chosen issues contained different aspects of world events, such as access to fresh water, sporting events and nuclear weapons. By studying these issues we will have broadened our global understanding and perspective.

Among all the issues I have researched the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the potential of sport to promote global peace and understanding. During my research I learned that there are many "hidden" facts/truths in these issues. MUNA has definitely broadened my global understanding and perspective. I would also recommend to my friends that they do it next year.

Throughout the event, we have met new friends from different schools all around Sydney. We can also form a support group in order to support each other in our future studies.

Finally, Killara High School and I would like to thank you for your support and sponsoring of us in this wonderful event.

Yours sincerely,

Justin Lam (Killara High School Student)

NSW Volunteer of the Year Award



We all know what a wonderful contribution volunteers make to all aspects of our community life. The NSW Volunteer of the Year Award is an annual awards program organised by The Centre for Volunteering to recognise the outstanding efforts of the 2 million plus volunteers in NSW, and to promote the importance of volunteering to the community. We would love to see our Ku-ring-gai volunteers honoured in the regional Awards Ceremony to be held on **Wednesday 9 September**, 2.30 to 3.30pm at Castle Hill RSL Club.

Nominations for the 2015 Awards close on 17 July 2015.

The major categories of award are:

- Student – Full-time students in Primary, Secondary, Vocational or Tertiary study
- Youth- 24 years and under
- Adult – 25 to 64 years
- Senior – 65 years +

•Volunteer Team

The winners of Student, Youth, Adult and Senior categories will be eligible for the award of Volunteer of the Year in their region and will go on to the State finals in their category.

All you have to do is nominate your **most dedicated** volunteer or volunteer team.

Use links below for:

Guidelines - <http://www.volunteering.com.au/guidelines-for-completing-your-nomination/>

Entry criteria - <http://www.volunteering.com.au/entry-criteria/>

Nomination form - <http://www.volunteering.com.au/nominations/>

Good luck to your organisation and to your volunteers.

Kind regards

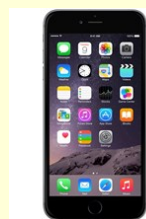
Robin Hall | Volunteer Coordinator and Administration Officer | Ku-ring-gai Council

P: 9424 0970 | F: 9424 0207

E: rhall@kmc.nsw.gov.au | www.kmc.nsw.gov.au

District directory in your pocket

The District Directory is an invaluable resource with lots of information about Rotary, projects, International and District officers, all the clubs in District 9685 and a comprehensive contact database. It's the first thing to turn to if you need help outside our club.



The Directory is available as a booklet, on the District 9685 website and now as an app for your mobile devices. Go to www.manageable.com.au/D9685, then (for an iPhone or iPad) use the up arrow to "add to Home Screen" for easy access (just like a real App).

To obtain your login credentials, login with your email address and any text for a password, then follow the instructions to 'Remind me'; your password will be emailed to you.

You may then search the District database by last name, first name, or club. There are also links to key areas of the District & RI websites.

District 9685 Conference March 2016

Conference Chair Angelo Raveane is pleased to announce that registrations for the 2016 District Conference have opened with attractive 'Early Bird' pricing. "Full registration at \$270 makes the Conference on 11-12 March 2016 very attractive and with the chance to win the 'Early Bird Prize'", he said.



District Governor 2015-16 Gina Growden said "The Conference will officially open on the Friday evening and will conclude following a celebratory dinner on the Saturday. This, coupled with Canberra's wide range of accommodation to suit every budget, will ensure that the Conference will be very affordable. It will also mean that you can enjoy some of the many attractions that

Canberra offers on Sunday prior to returning to Sydney!" Early Bird pricing applies until 30 November. Take advantage of this offer and register now at <https://conference2016d9685.wordpress.com/packages/>

Last week: Club changeover



Master of Ceremonies Past President Greg Newling opened our club changeover proceedings by welcoming the Member for Ku-ring-gai Alister Henskens, Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury Chief Executive Officer Wendy Carver, Past Rotarian David Kitchen, Gary Keating, Past President Paulus Briels and the assembled Rotarians and their partners.

He recorded apologies by the Member for Bradfield Paul Fletcher, the Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Jennifer Anderson, District Governor Gina Growden, Paul Rickard, Malcolm Carver, Pat Fisher, Gary Dawson, Loïc Lacombe, John Aitken & Sue, Georgina Manning, Rob Hall & Adrienne and travelling Rotarians and partners Emyr Evans, Bob Ivey & Gwen, Don Riddell & Laura, Ross Lambert & Penny, Roger Desmarchelier & Kerrie, Lindsay Forrest & Frances, David Forsythe & Patricia, Lou Coenen & Rita, Stan Glaser & Lyn.



Noting his experience as a Rotary Foundation Scholar, Alister Henskens proposed the toast to Australia and her people.

In proposing the toast to Rotary International, Past President Ivan Cribb emphasised the importance of Rotary clubs as the foundation of the organisation.



Past President Tom Jackson spoke of the many achievements of the club, modernisation of its administration and the conduct of club meetings and, under President Tony McClelland, the reversal of the decline in membership numbers.

Expressing confidence in its changed culture and level of activity, he proposed the toast to the club.



In recognition of Wendy Carver's tireless and inspiring work as Chief Executive Officer of Lifeline, President Tony conferred on her honorary membership of the club. In response, Wendy referred to the similarity of the aims of and close working relationship between Lifeline and the club.



President Tony inducted Gary Keating as a member of the club. Retired from a career in marketing, mostly in the grain industry but later in forestry, Gary's classification will be 'Commodity Marketing'. He has expressed an interest in joining the International Service Committee. Gary is married to Glenda and

they have 2 sons, a daughter and 5 grandchildren (whom Glenda was minding). *(Welcome to the club, Gary. We look forward to getting to know you, Glenda and perhaps your children and their families as well. Ed.)*

President Tony awarded Paul Harris Fellow recognition to:



- Past President Michael Tyler for his work as editor of Koongga;

- President-Elect Michael Midlam - 'the quiet achiever' - for his contribution in the area of Vocational Service and many other activities; and

- Bob Elsworth for hundreds of hours of work marketing the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic in the past two years.

In his typically efficient style, President Tony presented an oral annual report on the club's activities and its current status (*see separate item*) before inducting Graham Timms as his successor.



President Graham conducted the rest of the proceedings as follows:

Fellow Rotarians and guests,

You have heard from Tom Jackson how our Rotary club has been revived under (now) Past President Tony.

Tony is unique, a man of great passions and great enthusiasms. I count us lucky that the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai is amongst his passions. (I was almost going to add "and Rotary" but I think we all know how he feels about some of Rotary International's quaint bureaucracies.)



It's not always easy being the partner of someone unique. So Jannet, would you come forward? I'd like to present you with this bouquet as a modest token of having survived the two years of Tony's presidency.

Only you could have done it.

But how do we recognise Tony's achievements?

We can give him a Past President's pin of course, but as many of you know, there's nothing more past than a Past President. So the club decided to give him another gift, one that recognises another passion that he came to somewhat later in life – a set of wine glasses.

But one other thing. Would all Paul Harris fellows please stand?

Tony, you yourself have described the importance of Paul Harris Fellow recognition and, although you already hold this honour, I can think of no person more worthy of receiving an additional recognition.

Fellow Paul Harris fellows, let me present Tony McClelland – Paul Harris Fellow and bar!

But wait, there's more, and for the 'more' I'd like to call on Past President Michael Tyler. *[At club meetings, Tony had frequently claimed that Michael still had a black towel that Tony had left behind after the Christmas party. Michael presented Tony with a black towel embroidered with the Tony's name.]*

Fellow Rotarians, the next twelve months will, I hope, see an evolution of our club.

Tony has taken us from the threshold of failure to what we are today, a dynamic and flourishing club at the forefront of our Rotary District.

But as we all know and as Tony himself warned us at the start of the process, it was not done without cost.

Of necessity the administrative structure of the club, its bones if you like, were left less attended than our board would have liked. It was a choice Tony and the board felt we had to make and who can say now that we were wrong?

But now, with a vibrant and active membership we should feel no fear of paying attention to our structural underpinnings, the core avenues of community, youth, vocation and international service that are our club's ultimate purpose. This is how we fulfil Rotary's global charter: To do good in the world. My twelve months will be devoted to strengthening these areas of service.

We have already started to put those underpinnings in place and over the next couple of months our mission for the year will become clearer. But now is the time to introduce the club members who will be joining me in this. Please come forward as I name you.

(I should mention that some have already started by taking our mission to the world – at least that's how I interpret their absence overseas. I'm sure it's not just

holidays away from Sydney's winter or trying to avoid Changeover.)

The first on the list is John Aitken, the Vice-President and Director of Projects who is unfortunately very ill at the moment and cannot be here.

Second is Michael Midlam, our President-Elect and Director of Club Administration.

Third is our Treasurer Graham Maslen. This is Graham's third year, so we have taken the unusual step of providing him with an assistant, Chris Lewis.

Our Secretary is Geoff Hungerford for, I think, the fourth time and, as with Graham, we have appointed an assistant, Lindsay Forrest, who is unfortunately currently in New Zealand.

Next is our Membership Director and Immediate Past President, Tony McClelland. Tony has also accepted a role new IN the club that we have called, for want of a better word, Club Ombudsman. We've very conscious that as our club grows, and it will grow, there is a real danger of cliques forming and members slipping between the club cracks. It will be Tony's job to make sure that this does not happen.

The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's charity and an important part of our interface with our District and the wider Rotary community. Peter Tang has agreed to undertake the role of Director but has warned me that for various reasons his time is limited. So in a somewhat unusual move I have asked Chris Hoch to accept the role of joint Foundation Director, to step in when Peter is absent. Please, both of you come forward.

Our Sergeant-at-Arms, the person who does the "grunt work" of the club and levies the fines that make up our meal cost differences will be Malcolm Braid.

Both our head of Community Service, Ross Lambert, and head of Vocational Service, Lindsay Forrest, are absent overseas at the moment but both have already had active input into the plans for the coming year and will hit the ground running.

Our head of International Service is another relatively new club member, Georgina Manning whose level of commitment to the club since she chose to join us has been astonishing. Unfortunately Georgina is also our newest flu victim and cannot be here.

Our new youth head is Linda Lam-Rohlf, and when I say new I mean really new. It was only a week ago that Linda agreed to accept the role following Joyce Enos receiving an offer for her house that she could not refuse and choosing to leave us for the delights of the Hunter.



Welcome Linda. Joyce, we'll miss you.

Finally, the committee for the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic will be chaired by Tony together with our other Executive Committee representative, Bob Elsworth.

So there you have it folks, the people who are going to take us forward into the coming year.

All that now remains for me to do is to thank Greg Newling as MC and Joy Newling, for all her tireless work to make all this (changeover) happen.

Annual report by President Tony



Firstly, Jannet and I are celebrating our 11th anniversary today. Some say I am high maintenance, but I keep trying to hang in in there.

Jannet said she would be a good President's partner and she doubled her attendance at meetings this year to 2.

And thank you, Joy Newling, for organising all aspects of tonight.

We have been fortunate to attract new members to our club and we now have a critical mass where it is easy to attract new members to our community.

Firstly, thanks to the contributors:

- John Aitken - Vice President Service Projects
- Malcolm Braid - Sergeant-at-Arms
- Gary Dawson - Bobbo teams
- Roger Desmarchelier - International Service
- Lindsay Forrest - Bobbo volunteers
- David Forsythe - Club auditor
- Dilys Geddes - Bobbo control centre
- Rob Hall - Guest Speakers
- Chris Hoch - Red Shield Appeal & the greatest leaflet distributor at cycle rides
- Geoff Hungerford - Secretary (what a man)
- Caroline Jones - Play evening, Book club
- Linda Lam-Rohlfis - Initiative on extra member activity
- Ross Lambert - Club Service
- Graham Maslen - Treasurer
- Joy Newling - Club Service
- Greg Newling - Membership
- Peter Tang
- Christina Tilston - Facebook
- Graham Timms - Rotary Foundation
- Michael Tyler - Koongga

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic



Bobbo has been good for our club, attracting new members, providing a good focus and

an excellent revenue earner.

We introduced Lifeline as a 50% beneficiary, so it seems to me that we can claim ownership of 60% of the profit allocation.

Bobbo attracted 2,700 riders, made a profit of \$220,000 and distributed \$110k to Lifeline, \$27,500 Eagles RAPS and the remainder to Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service, Bo Hospital and Hornsby Women's Shelter.

Thanks to:

- All members for volunteering on the day of the Bobbo
- Graham Timms - catering for sponsors
- And our club's major contributors each doing 150+ hours - our club is a 25% partner and generated 65% of the Bobbo work load:
 - Rob Elsworth - Marketing
 - Peter Kipps - General assistance marketing, Go-fund volunteer system
 - John Aitken - Site planning
 - Ross Egan - Logistics
 - Bob Ivey - Web
 - Jack McCartney - Sponsorship \$60,000 (25% of total profit)
 - Ku-ring-gai Rotary members - Stuffing envelopes: 120 hours

Community Service

Gordon Markets - all members

Neringah Hospital Kiosk - all those who volunteered



Youth Service

This year Joyce Enos and Joy Newling shared the role of leading the Youth Committee after Greg Goodman had to withdraw due to health issues. The club sponsored attendees at and/or assisted:

- Eagles RAPS
- National Youth Science Forum
- Interact Club at PLC and Rotaract
- Youth Insearch
- Benefic Award (Grrr - what a terrible name)
- Rotary Youth Leadership Award
- Model United Nations Assembly
- Life Education
- Camp Breakaway
- Nicola Allan, an honours research student who is involved in the development and testing of play-based intervention to help children with ADHD



- Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment.
- Clarke Road School, Hornsby
- And Fairfield High School Parents Canteen

Vocational Service

Michael Midlam who organised arguably one of our best ever vocational evenings with the Police Force



International Service

Donations to:

- School for Life
- ShelterBox
- Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children
- Rotarians against Malaria
- Donations in Kind



Change in Rotary

Today, on my last day as President, I received an email and the writer was hoping we would revert to having toasts at club meetings. So I replied to the email: When I joined Rotary 40 years ago I thought it was a cult, but a good one. But almost any changes caused trench warfare. At that time:

- Women could not join Rotary
- A potential member could not join if his classification was filled
- Members were expelled if they did not meet strict attendance requirements.
- We sang God Save the Queen
- Members were forbidden to discuss an issue in a meeting unless it had board approval

Eliminating God Save the Queen drew 7 member threats of resignation. Allowing women members brought 6 member threats of resignation. But none resigned.

Since then we have stopped:

- Singing advance Australia Fair
- Wearing the chains of office
- Asking The Sergeant of Arms to present new members
- And Toasts:
 - To Australia
 - To our club
 - To Rotary International.
 - To the Queen

The reason I pushed the changes was because many potential members I invited to join then (and as recently as several year ago) asked me "which planet do you think you are on?" And they said "No, I won't join".

Next week: Theo Glockemann: Rotary Australia World Community Service

Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) assists Rotary Clubs in Australia with the development and management of international community service projects.



Whether it's projects to help rebuild in the aftermath of disaster, programs to bring education to countries where illiteracy stifles development or bringing health care and medical aid to those who can least access it, RAWCS so often has a hand in helping the world stand on its feet.

RAWCS supports Rotary Clubs in sending teams of volunteers to developing countries to provide assistance upon the development of much needed facilities, especially within the health and education areas.

Advice, assistance and training in building, construction and commercial operations (for example, assistance in obtaining microfinance) are also provided by RAWCS to support developing communities in establishing themselves.

Theo Glockemann is a member of the Rotary Club of Pennant Hills who is renowned in District 9685 as a human dynamo who is absolutely devoted to making Rotary projects succeed. He is particularly associated with youth projects and was a major driver of the successful introduction of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award program in Timor Leste. If you haven't encountered Theo before, be prepared for an inspiring presentation from a person whose enthusiasm for helping others knows no bounds.



Calendar of events

July	13	Theo Glockemann: Rotary Australia World Community Service
	20	Darcy Sharpe: Living with the aid of a guide dog
	27	
August	3	
	10	
	17	
	24	
	31	
September	7	
	14	
	21	
	28	
October	5	
	12	

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	Ross Lambert
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: Ross Lambert, Gary Dawson, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Greg Goodman (Bowelscan), Chris Hoch (Red Shield), Nick Kenyon, Ted Price

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

Membership: Tony McClelland, Caroline Jones, 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, Joyce Enos, Stan Glaser, Bob Ivey, Joy Newling, Don Riddell, Graham Timms