



# K O O N G G A

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

Rotary serving humanity

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## Belinda Howell—Education as an export

Belinda Howell has worked as a recruiter of foreign students for University of Technology Sydney for 5 years and loves her job. She explained why students want to come to Australia, and why Australian universities want foreign students. Last year, 115,327 foreign students studied in Australia making up 24% of all students. A foreign student pays four times as much as a resident. The annual income from foreign students is 20 billion dollars, making it Australia’s number one service industry. Most students come from China. The money raised by the foreign students covers many university costs, and is especially helpful in funding research. Having foreign students in the country also assists tourism as many family and friends visit the students while they are studying. There is another advantage of having foreign students in Australia called “Soft Power”. Allowing foreigners to experience the Australian way of life and Australian values can be a subtle favourable influence on how they feel about Australia. It can also be a good experience



for Australian students working foreign students and understanding their values. Globalization is a reality, and gaining the ability to work with people from other countries is an asset. Worldwide there are over five million students studying in foreign countries.

The majority of foreign students in Australia come from China, Indonesia and India. Australia is pretty well tied with Canada as their

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## Belinda Howell—Education as an export

their third choice behind the USA and the UK. Australia is popular because all universities here are of a very similar standard. While the US has some of the finest universities in the world, it also has many very mediocre ones, and foreign students need to be careful which one they choose. One of the main reasons for students coming to Australia is to improve their English. This is very important in a globalised world. Many European universities are now understanding this and are offering classes in English, telling prospective students that at the end of their studies, they will not only be proficient in English, but in the European country's language as well. In some countries Australian tourism advertising often works against attracting foreign students. The families want to send their child to a country to study, not to be distracted by beautiful beaches, and tourist attractions. Students are here to study hard, not have fun. However, one of the big attractions to study in Australia is the Post Study Work Rights. This gives a student to work in Australia up to four years after completing their course, earning more money than they would make at home, and help pay back some of the cost of their study. UK has recently dropped its Post Study Work Rights, and number of foreign students has also dropped.

Most Chinese students come from one child families with costs being covered by parents and both sets of grandparents, most of whom have minimal education. It is a big financial strain on families, and they expect results. Most schooling in China consists of a 12 hour school day with homework. Wealthier Chinese families often start their children studying in Australia at high school level, often buying a property here where one of the parents lives while the child studies.

Indian students are mostly from wealthier families. Majority of their parents are well educated. Most children are expected to return to India and build their lives there on completion of their studies. Many Indian universities are as good as or better than the ones in Australia, but there are not enough to cope with the demand.

In Myanmar, grandparents of students are the ones with an education, due to the almost complete dismantling of the education system there over the past five decades. Only foreign students are the children of either wealthy business people of high ranked army officers. It will take years to rebuild the schools, hopefully with assistance from countries like Australia.

## White Ribbon Day

Our club has been appointed as an official collector for White Ribbon Day on Friday 25 November. If you are able to assist please contact Michael Midlam.

### **What is White Ribbon? (source WEB)**

White Ribbon is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end men's violence against women and girls, promote gender equality, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity.

#### **Vision**

A nation that respects women, in which every woman lives in safety, free from all forms of men's abuse

#### **Mission**

White Ribbon is a unique, national primary prevention social change organisation that works through a primary prevention approach based on the understanding that men are central to achieving the social change necessary to stop violence against women. We engage men to stand up, speak out and act to influence the attitudes and behaviours of some men who commit violence against women, based on the understanding that most men are not violent.

Through education, awareness raising, creative campaigns, preventative programs and partnerships, White Ribbon provides the tools for men to stop

## Citizenship Ceremony

President Michael was a guest speaker at the Citizenship Ceremony for 79 new Australians at Ku ring gai on Friday 25 November.

Emyr, Linda and Anil assisted with distributing leaflets about Rotary and our Club.

## Epicentre Theatre Company



epicentre theatre company

Dear Subscriber,

Thursday, 20 October 2016

### **WE URGENTLY NEED VOLUNTEERS SO WE CAN CONTINUE IN SEASON 2017**

I am appealing to you as you have previously seen a performance or been involved with the Epicentre Theatre Company.

Epicentre Theatre Company has been in continuous existence for over 45 years. We are a Not-For-Profit Community Theatre Company and also a Registered Charity. This year, we relocated back to Sydney's Upper North Shore to a new home at the Ku-ring-gai Town Hall on the Pacific Highway at Pymble. In 2016, we put on 3 shows at our new home, with 13 performances of Neil Simon's RUMORS, 9 performances of Ray Lawler's SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL and 13 performances of the Sydney Premiere of THE GREAT GATSBY adapted by Simon Levy.

These high quality shows not only entertained our audiences with cabaret format dinner theatre, but also raised nearly \$4,000 (> 9% revenue) for selected local charities: Studio Artes, Monika's Doggie Recue and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter.

A Community Theatre Company is staffed entirely by volunteers. **We can only survive and produce such entertaining theatre with the support of volunteers.** If we are to continue in 2017, we need to bolster our ranks and sign up new volunteers, NOW! Running a theatre company is not just about actors and directors, it is also about the many people behind the scenes:

- Front of House, (including hall set up and put away)
- Administrators,
- Treasurer/Accounts
- Ticketing,
- Booking,
- Marketing,

## Epicentre Theatre Company

- Media
- Banners
- Poster distribution
- Charities liaison
- Set designers and builders
- Lighting & Sound Designers and Operators
- and more ...

If you have some spare time and are willing to commit to helping Epicentre a few hours each week, we can go ahead and prepare for our Season 2017, otherwise sadly, after some 45 years, Epicentre will be forced to close.

Please email me at the address below to **register** to come to a **Volunteer Information Evening at Meeting Room 2, Gordon Public Library, Gordon at 8pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November.**

Thank you David Goodman **President** [president@epicentretheatre.org.au](mailto:president@epicentretheatre.org.au)  
m: 0407 589281 [www.epicentretheatre.org.au](http://www.epicentretheatre.org.au)

## This Koongga comes to you from Boston

Boston is a very pretty but cold city at this time of the year. With the rowing on The Head of The Charles river beside Harvard University it has a beautiful vista of red brick architecture. Boston has a population of 4.6 million and navigating the roads can be fun. There are many opportunities to learn about their early history and view art from the world at the Museum of Fine Arts.



The trees are turning before the fall

## Sydney and Dubbo Zoo present and future

On 31 Oct Cameron Kerr is speaker at a joint meeting with Lindfield to present the past and future 100 years

### Calendar of events

31-Oct	Cameron Kerr	100 years of Taronga
07-Nov	Ted Price	What the doctor prescribed.. or thought they did.
21-Nov	International evening	

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### Door Team

October	Nov	Dec	Jan
Don Riddell	Dawson	Aitken	
17 Lam Rolfs	Mahjoub	Kipps	
24 Keating			
31 Coenen			

<b>President</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Vice President</b>	John Aitken
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Graham Timms
<b>President Elect</b>	Malcolm Braid
<b>Secretary</b>	Lindsay Forrest
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chris Lewis
<b>Director</b>	Greg Newling
<b>Director</b>	Linda Lam Rolfs
<b>Service committee chairpersons and committees</b>	
<b>Administration (Club Service)</b>	Gary Keating
<b>Vocational Service</b>	Lou Coenen
<b>Community Service</b>	Roger Desmarchelier
<b>International Service</b>	Georgina Manning
<b>Youth Service</b>	Linda Lam-Rohlfs
<b>Social events</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Graham Timms
<b>Club committees</b>	
<p><b>Administration:</b> Gary Keating, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall (Program), Bob Ivey (Web and social media), Graham Maslen, Tony McClelland (Koongga)</p> <p><b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic:</b> Tony McClelland, John Aitken, Ross Egan, Bob Elsworth, Peter Kipps, Michael Midlam, Gary Keating</p> <p><b>Club History:</b> Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson</p> <p><b>Community:</b> Roger Desmarchelier, Gary Dawson Rob Hall Geoff Hungerford (Gordon Markets) Gary Keating Ross Egan (Daffodil Day) Chris Hoch (Red Shield) Anil Fulwaria Nick Kenyon Ted Price Cathy Jackson</p> <p><b>International:</b> Georgina Manning, Rob Hall, Graham Timms, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling, Anil Fulwaria, Emyr Evans</p> <p><b>Membership:</b> Tony McClelland,</p> <p><b>Public Relations:</b> Emyr Evans, Georgina Manning,</p> <p><b>Rotary Foundation:</b> Chris Hoch, Peter Tang, Lindsay Forrest, , Greg Newling</p> <p><b>Social Events:</b> Joy Newling, Ross Egan, Georgina Manning,</p> <p><b>Vocational:</b> LOU Coenen, David Forsythe, Peter Kipps, M Tyler</p> <p><b>Youth:</b> Linda Lam-Rohlfs, , Cathy Jackson, Gary Keating, Chris Lewis, Matt Mahjoub, Andrew Marselos, Joy Newling, Don Riddell</p>	