



# K O O N G G A

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

Rotary serving humanity

Volume 59 No. 19 07 Nov 2016 — Membership and New Club Development Month

## Cameron Kerr—The New Zoo



On Monday night Cameron Kerr presented the combined meeting of Ku-ring-gai and Lindfield with his perspective on Taronga Park, the “new zoo.”

Taronga Zoo was founded on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in the midst of the Great War, and at a time when zoos were regarded as essentially homes for animal curiosities, what were essentially menageries, to now leading the way in conservation, research, education and tourism; Taronga’s four “key performance indicators.” Taronga has, quite unashamedly, the objective of leading the way in research and education in Asia to assist the new cities that are growing up in our region.

The history of the zoo is fascinating. It is not generally realised that the reason that the zoo obtained its extraordinary site was because the land was originally a fly-ash dump for residue from Sydney’s coal fired electricity generators and then an undesired quarantine station. From the start the zoo was blessed by good fortune.

Over time zoos have evolved from the simple menageries of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century concepts of ecological and habitat parks to the modern concept of a broad focus on the environment and eco-systems and in keeping with that Taronga’s mission statement is “Securing a shared future for wildlife and people.”

**In this issue** <http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au/>

School of St Judes			
Guest speaker	Subscriptions due		
Wall Street Journal	District Conference		

## Belinda Howell—Education as an export

As part of this mission statement the zoo is actively involved in sharing its vision with disadvantaged children through from kindergarten to year 12. By getting children involved in protecting and advocating the survival of endangered species the species benefit and the children benefit – animals are non-judgemental.

### **Taronga seeks to:**

**Inspire:** Through their kids program the zoo has had visits from over 150 schools and has encouraged thousands of children to become involved in the zoo's projects.

**Lead:** Through conservation science such as the rescue of the Bellingen Rover Turtle, a unique species that plunged almost to extinction as a result of an introduced virus in the Bellinger River.

**Act:** The zoo seeks to achieve policy change and its role is so respected that in the negotiations to establish inter-government protocols to halt the trade in endangered species zoo personnel were part of the Australian Government negotiating team, a unique recognition of the zoo's contribution.

The zoo now looks forward with hope and enthusiasm to the next hundred years. All they need is money.

## District Conference

Just a reminder that it is not too soon to register for the District Conference on March 11. I have booked for Kerry and myself, and as there is no fancy dress involved, we have also decided to attend the cocktail party and listen to the entertainment, and stay the night. Although there is accommodation in Penrith, there is not a great deal. Panthers has already been booked out, and so we have a hotel about 200 meters from the club. If any of you plan to stay over, I would not leave it to much longer.

## School of St Jude

Story on School of St Jude on 60 Minutes was very interesting, but unfortunately as usual Rotary didn't get a mention.

## Polio—From Wall Street Journal

When in Boston I read the following article in the Wall Street Journal, Rotary is mentioned at the end—your editor

# Billionaires Pony Up More Funds in Fight to Eradicate Polio

Michael Bloomberg, Ray Dalio lead \$70 million infusion into effort backed by Gates Foundation



By [BETSY MCKAY](#)

Oct. 24, 2016 8:00 a.m. ET

### [6 COMMENTS](#)

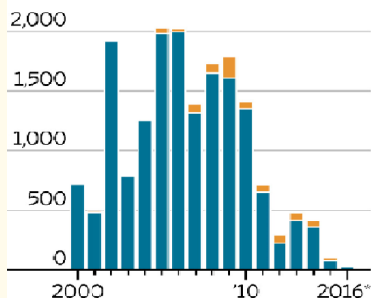
[Bill Gates](#) is getting help from some fellow billionaire philanthropists as he and other health leaders work to overcome setbacks that have delayed the eradication of polio despite a recent sharp decline in the number of cases. Former New York City Mayor [Michael Bloomberg](#), who [donated \\$100 million](#) in 2013 to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, is contributing another \$25 million now to help stamp out the virus, which is highly infectious and can cause paralysis and death. Ray Dalio, chairman and co-chief investment officer of Bridgewater Associates LP, who gave \$50 million in 2013, is

## Polio—From Wall Street Journal

### The Lingerin Killer

The discovery of new polio cases and other problems have pushed back the eradication target date.

■ Wild poliovirus cases  
■ Vaccine-derived cases



\*As of Oct. 21

Source: World Health Organization

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

adding another \$30 million. An anonymous donor is contributing \$15 million.

The \$70 million in new money will help cover costs of the polio-eradication effort that has been extended by about 18 months, Mr. Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, said in an interview. The foundation is a major funder of polio eradication and a partner in the GPEI, a public-private group. Of \$7 billion needed for the eradication effort since 2013, \$1.3 billion still needs to be raised, according to the GPEI.

“This allows us not to have to cut corners but do everything right to give us the best chance of getting it done,” Mr. Gates said.

“We’re really trying to seize the opportunity where we’re so close.”

Mr. Bloomberg has donated hundreds of millions of dollars through the philanthropic arm of his foundation to global health causes such as tobacco control and road safety, and he recently [gave \\$300 million](#) to the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to target opioid addiction, gun violence and other issues shortening lives in the U.S.

Of the need for more funding for polio, Mr. Bloomberg said, “When Bill called I said we’d be happy to add something to help him get it done.”

“I think we can get fixated on a date,” he said. “If you step back and look at what’s been accomplished so far, it’s really amazing and it has just made such a difference for so many people.”

[Gates Foundation Sees Possible End to Polio Soon](#) (Jan. 22)

[How India Put an End to Polio](#) (March 27, 2014)

[Bill Gates and Michael Bloomberg: Our Plan to Eradicate Polio](#) (Feb. 28, 2013)

Through a representative of his foundation, Mr. Dalio said, “Just from an in-

## Polio—From Wall Street Journal

vestment perspective, eradication makes sense. It will eliminate future financial burden, and unlock doors to economic productivity around the world. “

In 2013, the GPEI laid out a plan to wipe out polio in 2018. That would have culminated more than 30 years of eradication efforts by governments and multiple organizations.

But difficulties over the past several years reaching and vaccinating children in conflict zones, violent attacks on health workers carrying out the campaigns, and other problems forced them last year to [push the deadline back](#) to 2019.

Then, earlier this year health officials discovered more cases of polio in Nigeria, which the World Health Organization had declared free of the virus in 2015. They discovered it was still circulating in pockets of Borno state that had been largely inaccessible, under the control of militant group Boko Haram.

Now, Mr. Gates estimates eradication will take until 2020. To achieve that, the last case of polio would have to be recorded in 2017, followed by a three-year period to ensure the virus isn't still circulating, he said.

Bill Gates, left, and Michael Bloomberg, are stepping up the fight to eradicate polio. *PHOTO: BLOOMBERG NEWS*



The discovery in Nigeria has prompted new vaccination campaigns, and the WHO is scouring data in other hard-to-reach zones to see if the virus is circulating stealthily elsewhere, said Michel Zaffran, the WHO's director of polio eradication, who called the finding in Nigeria “a huge setback.”

“It's clearly something that came as a surprise,” he said. “We're now looking at all areas in the world where we have access compromised to look at how good our surveillance system is there.” Those areas include South Sudan, Syria and Iraq, he said.

## Polio—From Wall Street Journal

Despite the setback in Nigeria, the number of cases of polio globally has dwindled to 30 so far this year, compared with 106 in 2015. Those include cases from wild poliovirus as well as a vaccine-derived form. Most cases both years were in Pakistan and Afghanistan, where transmission of polio has never been stopped.

Improvements to the polio programs in those two countries have helped bring cases down, said Carol Pandak, director of the PolioPlus program for Rotary International, another GPEI partner. They include involving more community volunteers in vaccination campaigns, and Rotary is working to get mobile phones in the hands of health workers in high-risk areas so they can report immediately to a central location how many children they reached and where, she said.

**Write to** Betsy McKay at [betsy.mckay@wsj.com](mailto:betsy.mckay@wsj.com)



## Calendar of events

07-Nov	Ted Price	What the doctor prescribed.. or thought they did.
21-Nov	International evening	

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## Door Team

Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Dawson	Aitken		
Mahjoub	Kipps		

<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>	