



Issue Number 20

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Rotary International Service Above Self Award.

Rotary's highest honour recognises Rotarians who demonstrate Rotary's motto, Service Above Self, by volunteering their time and talents to help others. The award is internationally competitive and is granted to no more than 150 Rotarians worldwide, and no more than one from each district, each year. This year the RI Board of Directors had to make choices from over 370 nominees!

The above introduction is to exemplify the prestigious level of the award which goes to **Joe Meuris** from the Rotary Club of Flagstaff Hill.

Joe's working background is installing lifts and escalators in high rise buildings, and later in management in this industry.

Joe and wife Rita recognised an opportunity in the Rotahomes Project to make a difference to the lives of others in Fiji, PNG and Timor Leste. They have spent about 3 months each year since 2005 working at community level building homes for families in need.

Rotahomes is a Rotary World Community Service (RAWCS) supported project with a vision statement: "To give impoverished families an opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty and provide an improved quality of life for them and their children, by designing and developing fully serviced subdivisions, with affordable and durable housing, supporting their education and providing long term development programmes for self-sustainable communities."

Congratulations and well done to Joe Meuris, ably supported by his wife Rita in this important venture.





Maddie Ziegler at the Australian Vocational Students Awards Ceremony in Hobart.

Maddie Ziegler participated in the Rotary Australia/New Zealand Student Exchange program in 2012 and was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Waikerie. She completed Year 12 at Waikerie High School last year (2014).

Maddie studied a Certificate 3 in Aged Care and Disability in Year 12. She received Vocational Education Student of the Year for her Registered Training

Organisation, Waikerie High and Rotary Riverland and Mallee, then won South Australian Vocational Student of the Year (2015) and on Thursday 19 November was named 2015 Runner Up for the Australian Vocational Student at an Awards Ceremony held in Hobart.

Maddie has just completed her 1st year Bachelor of Nursing pre-registration. She is also in demand for guest speaker spots and was advised last week, that Flinders University have invited her to be a mentor at their Riverland campus. In her spare time Maddie works as a direct care assistant at an Aged Care facility.

Congratulations Maddie Ziegler on a wonderful achievement!



PUNTERS IN ACTION !

The Rotary Club of Blakiston is a small club of 10 members located in Mt Barker.

Recently the RC of Blakiston held a Melbourne Cup lunch in aid of Rotary Mental Health.

This event raised an amazing \$1800 through a combination of sweeps and raffles held on the day, all of which will be donated to Rotary Mental Health Research.

It was a fantastic effort especially from Jenny Lyon, Val Giffen, MC for the day John Hackett and the rest of the Blakiston team in providing the lunch for the 80 people in attendance.

Be sure to register by 15th December 2015 for early registration savings.

www.riconvention.org



COMEDY HYPNOSIS!

RAISING

FUNDS

★★★★★
"Very few of Isaac's tricks don't leave the audience with their jaw at the floor, while simultaneously laughing in hysterics!"
Andy Rugger - SAA

★★★★★
"A great laugh with a group of friends, but wear your sneakers as it's nice to get up on stage!"
Amanda Bennett - Rip It Up



SEE THE SHOW OR BE THE SHOW!

Saturday Feb 6, 2016 | Doors 6:30PM - Show: 7:30PM

The Goodwood Institute Theatre

GET TICKETS!
www.TryBooking.com/JMMM
\$35 Adults/\$30 Early Bird



ISAAC LOMMAN
HYPNOTIST



ShelterBox and their vital disaster relief work is a cause close to the heart of many Rotarians. Whether they're providing displaced Syrian families with shelter and dignity or providing victims of the Nepalese earthquake with warmth and a source of clean drinking water, ShelterBox and their response teams are providing urgent care where it's needed most. Our fundraiser show promises to be an entertaining night of laughs and comedy that needs to be seen to be believed. Purchase tickets for your friends, colleagues and family before December 25 and receive our **EARLY BIRD** discount rate of \$30 per ticket. Come along, laugh your head off and feel fantastic about helping a great cause.

Tickets available now: <http://www.trybooking.com/JMMM>

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD.

RYLA Coordinator Rosie Erasmus recently addressed a Club Meeting at Glenelg.

RYLA is a leadership program for young people aged 18-25 and runs for 7 days. This year Rosie was appointed Coordinator and was heavily involved in working with the Directors and secretaries to prepare this year's program in September at Nunyara Conference Centre.

Thirty six young people from a wide range of background and experiences attended. They were placed in teams that would work together throughout the event. Each day consisted of a guest speaker in the morning, an activity or workshop after lunch and an evening team building session. All participants had to surrender all electronic devices including mobiles for the seven days, a daunting expectation to start with but one that enabled them to focus fully on all that was being offered. Speakers addressed issues such as durability, leadership, public speaking and presentation, first impressions, psychology and mental health and teamwork.

Rosie reflected on the journey participants undertook, the growth and development they made and the friendships and bonds that grew over the week.

Rosie concluded by saying what an outstanding program RYLA is for young people, and members should encourage family members, friends or anyone in the age group who would benefit from the program to apply to a Rotary Club to assist with their application. Story and photo by Wayne Sachs.



Join the Provisional Rotary Club of Seaford for its first major event!

The club is partnering with the Seaford Ecumenical Mission and are providing all catering for the Seaford Community Carols on Sunday, December 6 at Seaford Town Square, Grand Boulevard, Seaford (in front of the Seaford Library) from 6.00pm – 8.30pm. The club will be providing a BBQ, donuts, popcorn, ice creams and drinks. We hope to see you there!

VOLUNTEER GRANTS

Applications for the Australian Government's 2015 Volunteer Grants are now open

Community organisations across Australia are now able to apply to the Department of Social Services for a share of \$20 million in grants to support and encourage the work of their volunteers.

The grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000, will enable community organisations to support their volunteers through the purchase of small equipment items, meeting the cost of training courses and background screening checks as well as assist with reimbursement of fuel costs incurred by volunteers.

The Volunteer Grants 2015 Application Pack is available from the Department of Social Services' website at <https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/grants/funding-open-for-application/volunteer-grants-2015>, or by emailing vg2015@dss.gov.au.

Alternatively, Application Packs may be requested through the Volunteer Grants 2015 Hotline on 1800 183 374. Applications close at **2:00pm AEDT on 9 December 2015**.



Will there be a place for me ?

The intense competition for scarce education resources is a factor of life for the majority of young Tanzanians. Each year some 10,000 potential students hopefully attempt the selection process for 150 places available at The School of St Jude. Those who succeed to gain entry will have a very good opportunity to break the cycle of poverty for themselves and their family.

Each of the students who enrol in The School of St Jude needs to be supported by a Sponsor.

You or your Rotary Club can become a Sponsor by visiting: <http://www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html>



The School of St Jude
FIGHTING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

