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Sally, Sara, Sue & Sweeney slip away to Sri Lanka for some Serious Service



4 Rotarians from our District 9520 have joined a RAWCS team to Sri Lanka to fit prosthetic hands to amputees, many who lost their limbs in the recent conflict in Sri Lanka. A number of clubs within our district have been involved in making these hands and it is a wonderful thing to be able to take the final journey with these hands and fit them to these deserving Sri Lankan people.

The stories we hear as we fit the hands and train the amputees are both heart wrenching and inspiring and the smiles on the recipients faces as they start to imagine what they will now be able to do with their hands is awesome.

The double amputees are especially amazing - they have already learned how to do so much with their 2 stumps, but once they have these hands fitted, they are immediately testing them out and managing to work the fingers on each hand.

The volunteer team are rotating around the various tasks of registration, fitting, training and photography and getting skilled up so we can fit in wherever needed. At each town that we are fitting hands, a team of locals are also skilled up and trained in making and repairing the hands so that there is ongoing support for the recipients - this is an important part of the ongoing success of the program.

An added bonus of this trip is the fellowship and camaraderie we are enjoyed with other Rotarians from Queensland and with the local crew helping us at each location.

I'm sure we have all returned with even more passion for this wonderful project that is truly changing people's

lives for the better. Sally and Linda will be keen to facilitate a hand-building workshop with any Rotary Club or corporate group interested in getting involved.

Late breaking news is that Rotarian Sally Charlton, from the Rotary Club of Tailm Bend will take over the RAWCS national management of the Helping Hands Project 1st July 2016.

The present manager, PDG Terry Daley, has developed this humanitarian project over many years, and over the last 3 years 800 hands have been fitted to the many victims of landmine explosions and other traumatic events in SE Asia, and 1400 hands will have been manufactured by the end of June 2016.

Congratulations Sally, and we wish you well in your new management role, as you continue the work of Terry Daley.





“Operation Cleft” Story.

by PP Phil Westover.

As a Past President of the Rotary Club of Murray Bridge I had the opportunity to allocate a discretionary fund amount of \$1200 to a project of my choice. My choice was the Rotary Project “Operation Cleft”.

I attended a District Conference a couple of years ago and heard a most impressive presentation by an advocate for Operation Cleft, Judy Shipp, widow of past DG Peter Shipp. After the District Conference our club was fortunate to have Judy as a guest speaker.

I was greatly moved by both of these presentations, so much so that I even donated some of my own money and that’s not something that happens easily.

The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central started “Operation Cleft” back in 2005 and after a pilot program, launched “Operation Cleft” as an International Rotary Project. The project funds a plastic surgery team to repair cleft palates of underprivileged children in Bangladesh.

A cleft palate in an underprivileged child in Bangladesh can mean that the child faces an extremely difficult life. As well as having difficulty with breathing and eating and talking and other ordinary functions, a child with a cleft palate may well be shunned by the community which has disastrous consequences in an under-developed country such as Bangladesh.

For the cost of A\$300 a cleft palate can be repaired and so enable a child to thrive and proceed to an education and, hopefully, to a full and rewarding life. This means the discretionary fund will allow 4 children in Bangladesh to enjoy life. This is a small price to make such a big change to a young person whose circumstances would never have anticipated such a wonderful gift.



Rotary District 9520 Youth Exchange

Lets have a Ball

Inaugural formal graduation for our returning Long Term Youth Exchange students, families, friends and Rotarians.

Youth Opportunity Grant Fundraiser.

& Raffle draw

Rydges South Tce. Adelaide

6.30 pm, June 11th. 2016.

Buffet dinner, welcome drink, cash bar.

Entertainment and dancing. \$60/head

Bookings through trybookings <http://www.trybooking.com/JVFU>



Reminder that The Future of Rotary is in our hands.

PP of Rotary International Bill Boyd will join with Rotary International President Nominee Ian Riseley at a special inspirational presentation at the

Convention Centre, on Saturday 14th May 2016.

Book a place at this event <http://e.mybookingmanager.com/TRFDinner2016>

Meal and drinks \$75 per person with profits going to our Rotary Foundation.

This is a great opportunity to hear from the leaders of RI in Australia.



District 9520 Assembly

Be informed, be connected, be inspired and be prepared for the 2016-2017 Rotary year!

Join us at the District Assembly on Sunday 15 May at Unity College, Murray Bridge. There is something for all Rotarians at this year's Assembly, including a presentation from our guest speaker Past Rotary International President Bill Boyd, and updates on the exciting changes to membership and Club meeting requirements resulting from the recent Council on Legislation. In addition to Club office holders, Directors and Chairs, Assembly is a great opportunity for all Club members, and especially newly inducted Rotarians, to learn about the programs of Rotary International and our District. We are offering a suite of learning and development opportunities to be covered in the following streams:

- Governance and Club Administration
- The Rotary Foundation and International Projects
- Membership and Public Image
- Service Projects, Vocational and Global Networking
- Youth Programs
- Rotary 101

There will also be a sharing of best practice in our 'Showcase' stream highlighting Global Partnerships, Signature Projects, and Community Collaboration.

A full program has been sent to Presidents Elect and Secretaries along with information on how to register Club members for Assembly.

DGE Sam Camporeale and the training team look forward to seeing you at District Assembly!

Kim Harvey. Chair, D9520 Training Committee



Re-union reviews history of Short Term Student Exchange.

Several years ago during their term of managing the Short Term exchange with students from New Zealand, the above happy group regularly looked after 20 plus students from across the ditch each year. Combined with the corresponding number of matched students and host families, this Rotary Project touched the lives of many people.

Tall stories and true of incidents during the exchange visits, and the ongoing lives of individual students were part of the lively recall by this group of friends last weekend in Balhannah.

Rotary Projects beneficially shape the lives of the recipients of the service offered as well as the managers engaged in the service, and many friendships endure.

Sculpture for Interiors and the Garden, featuring Works by 13 Sculptors.

Stangate House

3 Edgeware Road • Aldgate • Adelaide Hills

Thursday 12 May to Sunday 22 May 2016

Open Daily from 11am to 5pm • Fridays to 8pm

Creative workshop for children, led by Irene Pearce of Tickle Tank, on Sunday 15 May.

Materials provided. \$5 per child/\$10 per family.

Proudly supported by the Mt Lofty Branch of the National Trust (SA)

Also showing Rotary Club of Stirling Photographic Exhibition



Silvio Apponyi GEKKO Flinders Ranges Marble 900x400x380mm



A Month of Sundays.

My name is Kirsty Stark and I'm a film producer and a member of the Rotary Club of Magill Sunrise. Rotary has played a huge part in developing my career as a filmmaker, starting with a high school Rotary Youth Exchange to Colorado where I took a film class and volunteered at the Aspen Film Festival. In 2011, I was a member of District 9520's Group Study Exchange team to Sweden, where I met and discussed filmmaking with some of the country's most prominent filmmakers, which led to me starting my own production company, Epic Films.

I am now a proud Rotarian, and recently produced my first feature film.

A Month of Sundays was filmed entirely in Adelaide and will be released in

Australian cinemas on April 28th.

It's a Drama / Comedy starring Anthony LaPaglia, John Clarke, Julia Blake and Justine Clarke. Post the trailer link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oA1YkaH80Xk>)

I am also happy to come and speak to your club about *A Month of Sundays*, and my career as a filmmaker, if that is of interest to you. I can be contacted on 0422 433 543. Kirsty Stark.



Peter Carey visits Rotary Club of Holdfast Bay.

Chief Executive of Youth Opportunities, Peter Carey spoke to the club last Monday night. Peter had just come from a graduation ceremony for 16 children that had been attending their program. As Peter said "the change in these children over the course of the 10 weeks they are in the program, is incredible."

There are terrible issues in our community with children who are struggling to fit into society and function normally. "These kids come from dysfunctional families (with dual incomes of as little as \$40,000 per year), often have disabilities and learning difficulties. A lot of them are bullied at school, Peter explained, and find themselves in a never ending downward spiral, unless the cycle is broken.

"What we do is quite simple, Peter said" "We give these kids a chance to succeed." They go through a 10 week program in which they are given positive reinforcement of their self worth and capabilities. They are taught to respect others and see things in a more positive light than before.

Story from President Kate Davies, Photo by Kenneth Heard.



PDG Bob Aitken

Australian Rotary Health Ambassador

"Australian Rotary Health – addressing vital health issues within Australia"

Bob is visiting Adelaide in early June to make a presentation on behalf of Australian Rotary Health.

**A dinner will be held at Kooyonga Golf Club,
May Terrace, Lockleys, on Tuesday 7th June, commencing at 6.30pm.**

Please invite your family and friends to hear Bob's presentation.

We encourage all clubs to make this their meeting night for the week.

Bookings please follow the link –[http://e.mybookingmanager.com/http://e.mybookingmanager.comARH combined dinner](http://e.mybookingmanager.com/http://e.mybookingmanager.comARH%20combined%20dinner)

Dinner will be a 2 course meal \$50 pp and drinks at own cost.

Included on the program will be **Kristin Graham.**

Kristin's research is titled: "PTSD in service personnel and their families 2015"

and she is based at the Centre for Traumatic Stress Studies, University of Adelaide, SA

For further information contact PDG Barbara Wheatcroft (M) 0413 511 243,

Or PDG Roy Armstrong (M) 0407 610 904





DISTRICT CONFERENCE, RENMARK, 28/4 – 1/5/16

Just a few days to go and we'll be immersed in the glorious Riverland, taking in fascinating plenary sessions, embarking on exciting excursions and catching up with old friends.

Registration: when you reach Renmark, immediately after the first roundabout follow the Rotary signs, turn left into Seventeenth Street and proceed to the Chaffey Theatre/Renmark High School complex. Registration is in the High School gymnasium adjacent to the Chaffey Theatre. Collect your Conference bag and enjoy a cuppa!

Welcome Reception: this will be held on Thursday evening, at 5:00pm in the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) of the High School, adjacent to the gymnasium.

Bringing fruit and vegetables into the Riverland: this is an important issue; please refer to the Government website www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity and click on the section "Taking Fruit and Vegetables into the Riverland" See you in Renmark! Robert Koehne. Chair, Conference Organising Committee. Rotary Club of Stirling.

Conference Statistics: Full Registrations 424, and 16 Social registrations.

There is still 1 seat on Paddle Steamer Cruise 2 on Friday 29th April, and 4 seats Saturday 30th April.

The Calperum Station Walk Tour has 25 vacancies on Friday 29th April, and 16 vacancies on Saturday 30th April.



Refugees arrive in Greece after crossing the Aegean Sea from Turkey in a raft.

Photo Credit: Muhammad Mallah Hamza

A vital role being undertaken by the Rotary Club of Felsbach in Austria extends beyond providing material goods and services to trying to inform the general population, according to Rotarian Manfred Krasnitzer. "Rotary members are the town's opinion-makers," he says. "When people here have a more realistic idea of what is happening, they can correct their impressions."

In sketching out a role for the Feldbach club, Krasnitzer says members need to start thinking further ahead. "This means, first of all, helping the refugees to learn German," he says. "Then we need to identify skills within the refugee population and to help them to make contacts so that they can find meaningful work."

A leading high school in Feldbach is providing classes in German and other subjects to students who are waiting for legal status in Austria.

Photo Credit: Mark Baker

Story source "The Rotarian" 1st May 2016.



NEW CHALLENGES FOR ROTARIANS.

More than a million refugees from Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan streamed into the European Union last year.

Most entered via Greece after a harrowing raft trip across the Aegean Sea from Turkey. Once there, they made their way north, often on foot, travelling more than 1,000 miles through the rugged mountains of the Balkan countries toward Germany.

Please note an Issue of "The Herald" will not be published on the weekend of the District 9520 Conference.