

# POSSUM POST

The weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Capalaba Inc. District 9630

Volume: 39 No: 34 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Interested: Phone Annette 0413 714 621



## Netty's Notes

Tonight, we are looking forward to our Vocational visit to the Cage in Redland Bay. Sincere thanks to John Shelley for his organisation of this event.

Please like and Share our event posted on Facebook advertising our Tree Planting at 10 am 25<sup>th</sup> February at the Rocks. The planting will be followed by a light Brunch and fellowship. Not knowing what our numbers would be like, we decided to ask for *old* Coin donation towards light brunch. Bring your picnic blanket or chairs for some fellowship.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> February, we have Napur Hackwood speaking to us about an Indian Dental. It will be great to hear more about this project introduced to us by Robin when he first joined our club.

Our meeting for the following week will be a visit to the Rotary Club of Wellington Point on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Past District Lyndsey Ford will be updating us on progress of various projects in Vanuatu. My apologies to our tennis players; we have not supported Wellington Point for a function for a long time; it is unfortunate that the club meets on Tennis night.

District Conference is not very far away. Go to the District 9630 Website and check out the link to conference. There are some great speakers and other events to enjoy.

Please register, it is nerve racking for a conference committee in the few weeks close to the event. Not leaving your registration to the last minute is a great way to reduce the stress for the team.

International President visiting our District on the 19<sup>th</sup> March. The chance to hear from an International President is a very valuable and rare occasion made all the more special on this occasion as the International President is an Australian Rotarian, Ian Risley. Links for details for these events are in the weekly updates that Secretary Peter sends out each week

*Being a Rotarian ... more than a hobby... a way of Life.*

*Annette*

## WELCOME TO THE YEAR OF THE DOG

新 Xīn 年 nián 快 kuài 乐 lè!

Or Happy New Year on the Lunar Calendar

*'The Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, has more than 4,000 years of history and is the longest holiday of the year. In the 21st century, the national holiday begins on the first of the Lunar Calendar and lasts until the 15th of the first month. In 2018, Chinese New Year begins on February 16th and ends March 2nd.*

*Recent years of the Dog are: 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006 & 2018*

*The Dog is the eleventh of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. Monkey, Rooster and Dog were in another country, helping a god defeat evil spirits. After, they set off to the party together. Because they arrived at the same time, the Jade Emperor went by the order they met the god in the other country. Thus, Dog became eleventh.'*

## LAST WEEK @ CAPALABA ROTARY



The Guest Speaker last week was Past District Governor Margaret Hayes who gave a presentation on Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children – ROMAC.

*'ROMAC is a Rotary project enabling severely injured or deformed children from countries in the Oceania region to receive medical treatment for their problem by bringing them to Australia or New Zealand.*

*Prior to acceptance for ROMAC the patient is assessed whether the condition is treatable and the likelihood of a successful outcome.' Example of success below.....WOW.*



Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Vocational Visit to The Cage  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Dinner with RI President at Fitzzy's

DIARY  
DATES

## 'Mission Statement

To provide specialist treatment for children, from developing countries, in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country.

## Objectives

- Provide hope and restore dignity to transform a child's life
- Provide the best possible surgical and medical expertise
- Engage Rotary and the community at all levels to fund and support the ROMAC cause
- To maintain and improve the quality of the management process and ensure high quality governance of the ROMAC program.

Rotarians volunteer their time and expertise to run this Rotary program that encompasses all the Districts of Australia and New Zealand.

Assisted by many eminent Australian and New Zealand surgeons who generously donate their time for the treatment of our patients, this humanitarian program has provided Life Giving surgery to over 400 children from more than 20 developing countries, with urgent medical treatment that was not available to them in their own country.

First and foremost, ROMAC is quite a rare not-for-profit humanitarian organisation being run entirely with volunteers – no paid staff, no leased offices and so minimal fixed costs. We can proudly state that every dollar donated goes to Giving Life and our small expenses are recovered from our investments.

ROMAC comprises a five member Board plus an Operations committee of eight, which includes the six Regional Chairs across Australia and New Zealand. The Regional committee then coordinates through District Chairs and their committees, which align and work closely with local Rotary Clubs.

Our patients, for the most part, come from Pacific Rim countries such as PNG, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Timor Leste, Vanuatu and Vietnam. The communities resident in Australia's larger cities of people who have migrated to Australia from these countries have become invaluable supporters of ROMAC.

Major fundraisers bringing in amounts up to \$25,000 have been organised by these communities. In addition ROMAC has had the benefit of members of these communities volunteering to transport patients to appointments, act as home hosts, translator etc.

ROMAC could not function without the humanitarian support of host families, volunteer Rotarians and of course the wonderful work of the surgeons and surgical teams in the many major paediatric and specialist hospitals across Australia and New Zealand.'

Margaret also promoted the ROMAC fundraising program.....

**'Wear red for ROMAC on April 30 to May 5 2017 to change and save children's lives.'**



President Annette thanked Margaret for her enlightening presentation on ROMAC.

## GUEST SPEAKER #2

Prior to PDG Margaret's ROMAC presentation, **Eliza Landles** spoke about her experiences at the December 2017 Regional Youth Transitional Seminar – RTYS.



Eliza graduated from year 12 at Mary McKillop College on Brisbane's north side in December 2017 and during year 12 she was the school captain. This year she is studying secondary teaching at the Catholic University.

Eliza attended the week long RYTS camp with 28 young people where they learn how to get along in the 'big wide world'. The workshops revolved around the *life wheel* and included; career, finance, health, social, family, love, recreation, contribution, spirituality and self-image. Their motto was 'Be the Change' and this was reflected in all activities during the week.

Eliza said the week was truly life-changing and she felt less overwhelmed with the idea of being an adult. She thanked the Club for providing the opportunity for her to attend the camp. 'I have been immensely impacted by this experience and am so thankful that I was able to attend. I hope to return as a RYTS leader in the future.'

## SOME OTHER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

President Annette welcomed all to the meeting with special mention of PDG Margaret Hayes and the RYTS student, Eliza Landles.

Treasurer Dave advised that the semi-annual dues are being paid slowly and it good to have most members pay by EFT on-line. Most accounts for membership have been paid, taking a significant amount from our account however both accounts are in good order.

Peter Mathews updated details of the forthcoming Conference with an invitation to attend the official opening of the Cleveland Museum Library at 10:30am on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Peter also sought numbers for attendance at the Friday dinner.

Mark Hanrahan advised that the Club is now buying sausages from Woolworths for the Bunnings BBQ as they are much cheaper and are good sausages.



John Shelley said he was delighted with the response for the Vocational Visit to The Cage Youth Foundation on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. John will send details of directions to the facility for inclusion in the next issue of the Possum Post; the address being 882 German Church Road Redland Bay.



David Field updated the Club program for the next few weeks, advising that the scheduled International Night on 24<sup>th</sup> February has been put back to 30<sup>th</sup> April when the Peace Fellow is available. The Global Tree Planting day is scheduled for 10am on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February when the

Club gets to plant TWO (2) trees at the Rocks Crossing park; two is the number determined by Council.

President Annette spoke about the International Night on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April being a big night when the guest speaker is a Peace Fellow and there will also be presentations of Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

### The Sergeant's Session with Acting Sgt Wills

Obviously Tony was caught out with this duty and had little to fine, but using an old belief referring to 'Old School' when it came to a Rotary meeting, fined all those without a jacket and a tie; everyone in attendance had to pay.

Annette was Happy that Eddie had been doing some painting at home; *was it the boat?*

In a Cross fine, Barry Wilson fined Dave Lang for a strange call some weeks ago. Barry's phone rang and he could hear Dave talking but not responding to Barry. Apparently, Dave was 'Finger Fiddling' in his pocket and managed to dial Barry's number.

**Heads or Tails** was won by Dave Lang



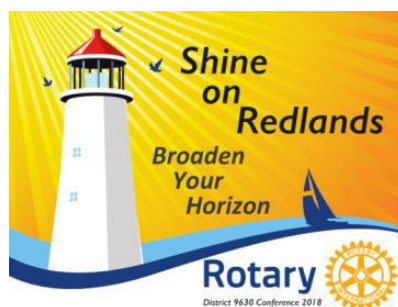
*You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.*

## BUSHCARE @ THE ROCKS CROSSING

It was a hot and steamy morning for our first Bushcare meeting of the year on Saturday. We'd like to welcome back our regular volunteers – John, Col, David and Linda and thank them for their attendance. Our Coordinator, Boyd also joined us this morning to discuss our future plans for the site. These plans include getting rid of the grass that is growing up through the viewing platform and its surrounds and clearing the path down to the creek which has fallen trees across it. The access is completely blocked with the old crossing site not accessible or visible at all. We have some great signage there, but you can't see anything. This is very sad as this is an important part of the Redlands history. Boyd is doing his best to get this rectified, however he has limited resources at his disposal and these have to be shared amongst many Bushcare groups. We are a small group and those involved do a great job for which we are very grateful. Anyway, we will keep chipping away a bit at a time. Boyd will be getting us some mattocks to use to start to tackle the long grass along the fence near the picnic shelter to try to get it looking a bit tidier. That's the plan for next month.

*Hope to see you in March. Pamie & Tracy (Conveners)*

## THE 2018 DISTRICT CONFERENCE – 9 to 11 March



**Conference Registrations – still not too late**

Go to [www.9630conference2018.com.au](http://www.9630conference2018.com.au)

and complete your registration on line.

**If you have any Conference raffle tickets, sold butts, unsold tickets and the dollars, please send them to David Field at PO Box 9 Cleveland QLD 4163 by 26<sup>th</sup> February – PLEASE. For expediency, a Club cheque is fine.**



# THE BACK PAGE - CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

*Members, please swap with another Rotarian and advise David Field if you are unable to commit to the date of rostered duty and if providing speaker details. Apologies to David Field by am hours Mondays please. Members, please help; we need good speakers for our Monday night meetings. **BM - Board Meeting***

Day/Date	Guest Speaker/Event	Chair	Greetings/Regalia	Door
<b>February</b>	<b>Peace &amp; Conflict Prevention/Resolution</b>			
<b>Mon 19</b>	Vocational Visit to The Cage Youth Foundation – 882 German Church Road Redland Bay – 6pm			
<b>Fri 23</b>	Steak Sandwich Friday at The Wello – 12:30pm ( <i>Seems early, but it's true</i> )			
Sat 24	International Night – Cancelled - <i>Moved to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April</i>			
<b>Sun 25</b>	<b>Global Tree Planting Day at The Rocks Crossing – 10am – tree planting &amp; brunch</b>			
<b>Mon 26</b>	Napur Hackwood – India Dental	Mark Hanrahan	John Douglas	Robin Davies
<b>March</b>	<b>Water &amp; Sanitation</b>			
<b>Mon 5</b>	No meeting – Meeting in lieu on Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> with RC Wellington Point			
Wed 7	Meeting at Redlands Sporting Club with RC Wellington Point			
9-11 March	District Conference – Redlands Performing Arts Centre – Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> – Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> March			
<b>Mon 12</b>	No meeting – night off after the weekend Conference			
Wed 14	Bunnings BBQ – 7am to 4pm			
Sat 17	Bushcare at The Rocks Crossing – 6am to 8am			
<b>Mon 19</b>	Dinner with RI President at Fitzzy's Loganholme – No meeting at The Wello			

## EDITORS NOTES:

Margaret's ROMAC presentation clearly demonstrates just how important that Rotary program really is. To see photos of patients before and after surgery makes you proud to think that a Rotary program did that.

Eliza's story also proved how effective Rotary Youth programs are. I have never heard a bad story from any youth returning from any one of the Youth training programs. Some may depart feeling reluctant, but soon realise the program is a benefit while making lots of new friends.

Eliza was already a success story having successfully completed Year 12 and being the school captain. The latter is a great honour as there is only space for one school captain per year, per school (*in most cases – some may have a boy & a girl*).

## INTERNATIONAL TOAST: *with Shannon McCarthy*

**No toast as the Club is on a Vocational Visit to The Cage Youth Foundation at Redland Bay.**



## THE ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build Goodwill and better Friendships?
4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

### Invocation (*By Shawn Bird 2011*)

Today we are thankful for all we've received  
 However we live, we firmly believe  
 All is a blessing that we must pass on  
 No matter our status or where we have gone.  
 Kindness and generosity are what we impart  
 Showing the world what's in Rotary's heart

## POSSUM POST

This is the weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Capalaba Inc. of District 9630 Chartered 14 April, 1979.

RI President: **Ian Riseley**

District Governor: **Elwyn Hodges**

Assistant Governor: **Barry Rosnick**

President Capalaba: **PDG Annette Richards**

**Club Meetings:** Monday nights, 6pm for 6.30pm;  
 No meeting on first Monday of the month.  
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