



HORIZONS



Rotary - Central Blue Mountains

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Blue Mountains Kaleidoscope of Autumn Colour

Photo: Courtesy Leura Gardens Festival

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Rotary

Central Blue Mountains



WhatsOn....

March

Monday 19: Board meeting

Wednesday 21: Club visioning night

Wednesday 28: Barefoot Bowling, W. Falls Bowling Club

April

Wednesday 04: Guest speaker to be advised

Thursday 05: Seniors Barbecue - Wentworth Falls Lake

Saturday 07: Presidents Elect Training

Wednesday 11: Guest speaker from ROMAC

Friday 13: Greystanes Golf Day

Sat 14/04 - Sun 13/05: Scenic World Sculptures

Monday 16: Board meeting

Wednesday 18: Club Assembly

Saturday 21: Catering van Home Hardware, Katoomba

Sat-Sun 21 & 22: Rotary Leadership - Springwood

Wednesday 25: ANZAC DAY - no meeting

Friday 27: Presidents cluster meeting
Blue Mountains ACRC Family Fun Day

Sunday 29: District Assembly
The Kings School
Pennant Hills Road, Parramatta

Registrations 8.30am - formal start at 9.00am
finishing at 4.30pm.

The training content will be informative and entertaining.

It is a Rotary International requirement that each club is
represented at PETS and District Assembly.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 20 APRIL

Yes
**Rotary
Can**



Rotary Leadership Institute Course 46

There will be a trial regional RLI held at the Oriental Hotel, Springwood on 21-22 April, 2018.

The course consists of two parts on consecutive days from 9.00am to 4.30 pm; lunch and morning tea are provided.

Two simple self-paced training sessions are a pre-requisite for the course and course materials will be sent to you beforehand.

Central Blue Mountains Members registration will be paid by the Club.

Register at <http://rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au/>



Rotary BowelCare Program 1 April 2018 - 31 May 2018

BowelCare kits will be on sale at participating pharmacies for two months commencing 1st April, 2018.

This year's BowelCare kit will cost only \$15.00. This price includes pathology testing, with notification of your result to both yourself and your nominated doctor.

Check with your local pharmacy or go to our website www.bowelcare.org.au for a listing of participating pharmacies in your area.

CANCER OF THE LARGE BOWEL IS THE MOST COMMON INTERNAL CANCER IN AUSTRALIA.

One in 21 Australians will develop bowel cancer, equal for men and women. Age is a very important factor. The risk begins at age 40, doubling every 5 years until age 60 and even more rapidly as the person gets older.

Australia has the world highest incidence of bowel cancer.

This year in Australia over 11,000 people will be detected with bowel cancer and over 4,600 deaths will result from bowel cancer. Indeed double our National road toll.

If you have any difficulty obtaining our BowelCare test kit, please phone the BowelCare office on (02) 4349 5555.

10...9...8...7...6...

Come along to our Blackheath Village Family Picnic Day and help us

LAUNCH THE BLACKHEATH Rocket

Sunday 25 March at 10.30am

(official opening 11.30am)

Blackheath Soldiers Memorial Park

Bring a picnic lunch (hot food and cold drinks will be available to purchase). Be one of the first to ride the Blackheath Rocket.

KIDS! Come dressed as an astronaut or your favourite space character. There's a prize for best dressed!

One small step for a man...
one giant leap for mankind.
Blackheath



5...4...3...2...1

Opera in the Arboretum



The 2017 Opera event drew a large crowd

Proceeds from the annual open-air charity event, Opera in the Arboretum, to be held at Pearl Beach on March 24, will go this year to Rotarians Against Malaria, Australian Rotary Health and the Zimbabwe Pensioner Support Fund.

Presented by the Rotary Club of Woy Woy, Opera in the Arboretum is one of the most prominent cultural events on the Pearl Beach calendar. Artists set to perform among the gum trees at Crommelin Native Arboretum this year include Greta Bradman, Deborah Humble, Vigilio Marino and Alex Sefton. The event is being sponsored for the fourth year by RetireAustralia. Entry to Opera at the Arboretum is via pre-purchased ticket only.

SOURCE: Coast Community News - media release, 26 Feb 2018 Paul McBride, RetireAustralia



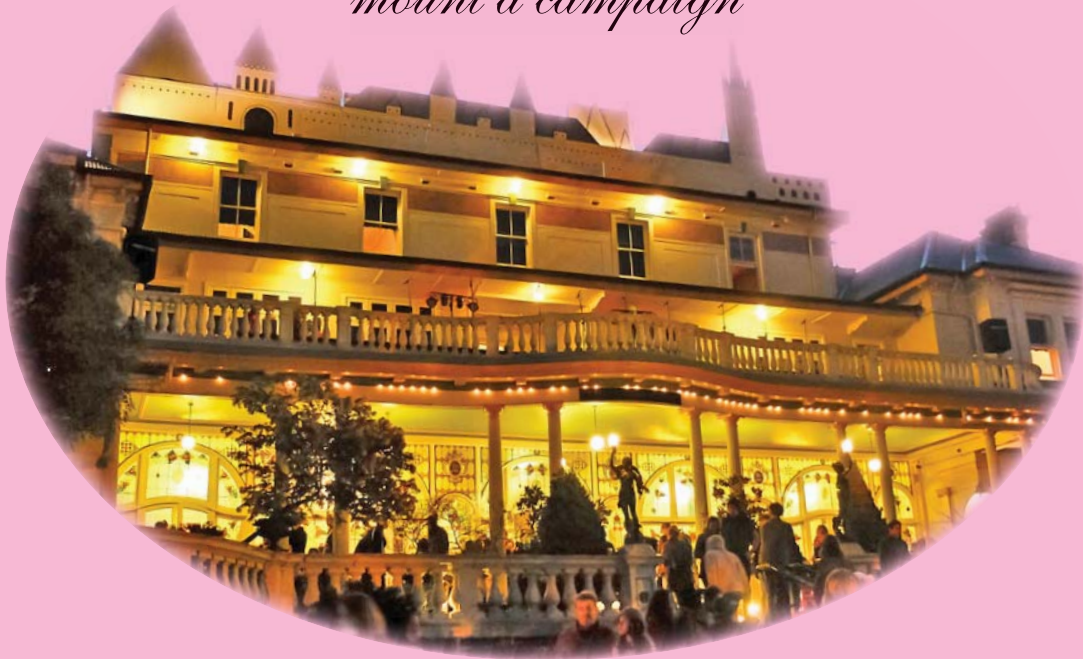
Katoomba Home Hardware Barbecue

The photograph taken early in the morning at Katoomba Home Hardware, March 18 shows our Central Blue Rotary crew ready and eager for customers later in the day.

L to R: Rick Tasker, Steve Cookson and Ray Wiles.

Join us at our Pink Ball for a Night of Fun

*Once upon a time on top of a beautiful
Blue Mountain the kingdom was summoned
to help rescue girls in the far off lands of
Nepal and Cambodia
We must rally our resources to
mount a campaign*



Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

May 4, 2018 - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

\$150 per person — Dress: Formal with a hint of pink



Supporting Astha Home for Girls in Nepal and Sustainable Cambodia

Please RSVP by April 20, 2018 to: Jennifer Scott - jennifer@scottadr.com
or call John Sim 4784 3151 - 0409 665 437 - email: johnsim@bigpond.net.au



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Rotary Nowra hosts exchange students from across the globe

Story Mick Ludlow
South Coast Register



*Rotary exchange students from Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, Finland, Hungary, the Netherlands, Italy, Canada, and Brazil, with some thrill seeking Nowra Rotarians, prepare for their tree top rope adventure on the cliffs of the Shoalhaven River.
Photo: contributed.*

In what was the biggest weekend of activity for Rotary Nowra in 2018, Rotarians and Friends of Rotary conducted two major events simultaneously, in February.

They coordinated the barbecue at the big Huskisson Triathlon barbecue where they prepared and served more than 1700 bacon and egg rolls and sausage sandwiches for the thousands of contestants and spectators at the event.

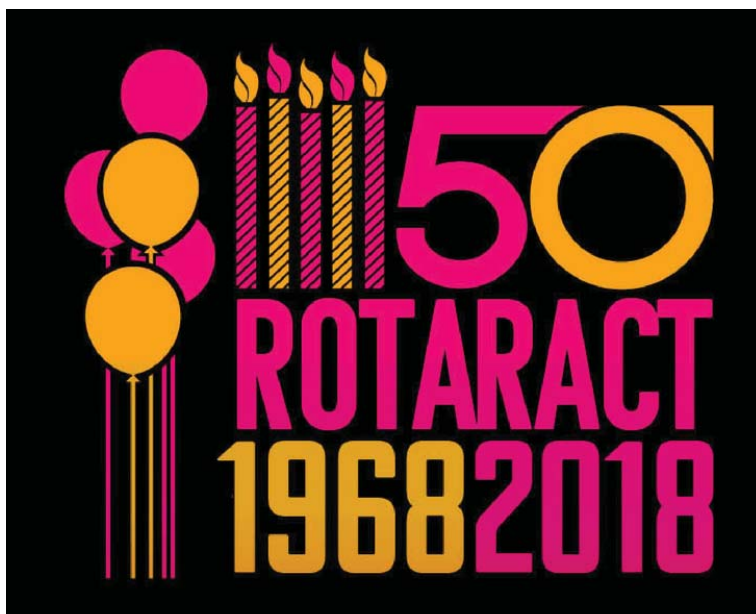
All monies raised from the barbecue will be allocated to local humanitarian and youth projects and some Rotary International humanitarian programs.

Running parallel with this event Rotary Nowra hosted Rotary International Exchange Students for a memorable weekend of activity in Shoalhaven.

Inbound students hosted by District 9710 Rotary Clubs and local exchange students who have just returned from 12 months exchanges overseas had a great time of fun and fellowship at the activities organised for them.

Following a dinner on Friday night the students spent Saturday rope climbing, going to the beach and ten pin bowling.

On Sunday they went water skiing on the Shoalhaven River, culminating with a great barbecue before they boarded their coach to be transported back to their host Rotary Clubs around southern New South Wales.



Rotaract: 50 years of community service

A half-century has passed since the first Rotaract clubs began inspiring young leaders to take action to improve their communities.

The world has changed, as has the way Rotaract members connect with one another. But the underlying values of the program, and what attracts people to it, remain remarkably the same.

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Mountain Ghost

ZIG ZAG RAILWAY



The Mountain Ghost was reading his local paper (Yes, he still reads the newspaper but is amazed that the print seems to get smaller and smaller each year) Anyway he digresses, he read about the vandalism on the Zig Zag Railway at Clarence on the Bells Line of Road.

This brought back many memories for the Ghost and he was wondering whatever happened to the Zig Zag Railway. The Ghost remembers taking his kids on the Railway and loving it. It was a Railway with lots of steam.

The Zig Zag Railway ran from Clarence to Bottom Points near Lithgow from 1975 to June 2012 when the service was cancelled due to safety reasons.

In October 2013 the Railway was severely damaged by major bushfires that ravaged the Blue Mountains (four carriages were destroyed and the workshop severely damaged). Later on heavy rain badly damaged the track. All in all it was estimated that the damage was in the millions of dollars and it became a matter of money if the tourist railway was to re-open.

Well the Ghost has learnt that in the last five years a lot of repair work has been completed and it was hoped that the Zig Zag Railway would re-open later this year, but with the previously mentioned vandalism who knows, perhaps the Ghost's great grandkids will get to enjoy it.

So much for the Heritage listed tourist railway but what is the original Zig Zag Railway? The Lithgow Zig Zag is one of the major engineering achievements of the railway era, its construction opened up the western area of New South Wales beyond the Blue Mountains for development with access by rail.

It was the major achievement of NSW Railways Chief Engineer, John Whitton. At the time of its construction, it was the greatest civil engineering work in Australia and was considered worldwide as an engineering marvel.

After consideration of several alternate routes for the railway to pass over the Blue Mountains, the Great Western Railway was extended along the high ridge of the Darling Causeway from Mt. Victoria. The descent to the Lithgow Valley was originally proposed by means of a tunnel.

In 1866 the tunnel was estimated to be about two mile in length and a figure of \$800,000 was set down as the cost of its construction. This would have required 10 million bricks to line it, an impossible task at the time as it would have been difficult to get a contractor to undertake such difficult work.

As a result Whitton selected the zig zag method of ascent and descent. The engineering wonder Whitton created, is recognised as one of approximately twenty of the greatest railway civil engineers in the first century of world railway construction.

Interesting fact on the construction. It was proposed to use iron rails constructed at Lithgow at pounds 10 a ton instead of buying steel ones from England at pounds 7 a ton. Steel rails last 6 times longer than iron. The Ghost is reminded of building submarines in Adelaide at inflated prices. Politics never change.

Common sense prevailed and we have steel rails. It took 600 men about 2.1/2 years to build the Zig Zag. They lived in tents in 20 different locations in freezing conditions in winter, including plenty of snow and high temperatures in summer.



The workers were paid 1 shilling and 3 pence a day or 1 shilling and 9 pence a day if they brought their own horse. It was considered very good money at the time especially since there was not a lot to spend your money on.

The Zig Zag is a giant Z carved in the side of a mountain. Trains travel down each point of the "Z" at a gradient of 1 in 42 which can be easily negotiated by a loaded train. The train travels at a distance of 8 km to make the descent. The Lithgow Zig Zag was the earliest ever built. It comprised of 5 viaducts and 3 tunnels.

On 18th October 1869 the first official train ran across the Zig Zag to Bowenfels (near Lithgow). The event was heralded worldwide as an engineering marvel resulting in many organised sightseeing parties from overseas to view it.

Between 1869 and 1910 the railway was a major force in opening up Western New South Wales. In 1908 work began on a deviation involving 10 tunnels and easier grade. On 16th October 1910 the new deviation was opened for traffic and the Great Zig Zag ceased.

The Ghost always likes to give his readers some useless information – overseas zig zags are called Switchbacks.

See you next week.....



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Lower Blue Rotary Charity Movie Night - Sun. April 15

It is the acclaimed Australian movie 'The Barbecue' – starring Magda Szubanski and Shane Jacobson – which should draw a capacity crowd and be a fun night.

Make sure to invite your friends and family and book early to avoid missing out on a seat.

The plan is to have a different catering approach, given the theme of the movie.

The Lower Blue barbecue team will provide a barbecue station outside the Glenbrook Cinema Hall. They will serve guests with a bread roll and sausage/beef patty as they enter – and tea, coffee, cake, champagne, water, juice and beer will be served inside the hall.

Refreshments will be served in the hall adjacent to the theatre from 5.15pm and the movie will commence at 6.00pm.

Tickets are \$20 each.

For bookings call: 0430 433 717

..that's all folks