

## Is "Service Above Self" your motto?

### Last chance for tickets.....



#### Family of Rotary Pantomime **THIS SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> December**

This pantomime is organised by the District 9690 Family of Rotary Committee and held at Club Marconi. Starting at 2pm it finishes at 5pm. **Wetherill Park Rotary** is sponsoring 20 families from the **Western Sydney School for Children with Autism and a local pre-school**. Family tickets are still available for \$20 each. *See Chris.*

### **Bill Gates does it again!**

The Rotary Foundation has this week received a grant of **US\$100 million** from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which Rotary will match, dollar-for-dollar, over three years. Rotary will spend the initial \$100 million within one year in direct support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), a partnership spearheaded by the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF.

"The extraordinary dedication of Rotary members has played a critical role in bringing polio to the brink of eradication," says Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. "Eradicating polio will be one of the most significant public health accomplishments in history, and we are committed to helping reach that goal."

**Rotary has already contributed \$633 million to the eradication effort.**

Rotary and its partners have succeeded in slashing the number of polio cases by 99 percent over the past two decades, however the wild polio virus still persists in four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

By supporting the Centurion Program of the Rotary Foundation, we individuals can help Rotary find this extra \$100million. Our club helps by buying Paul Harris Fellowships and awarding them to members.

**I went to a store to buy some insecticide.  
"Is this good for cockroaches?" I asked.  
"No", said the clerk, "It'll kill 'em".**

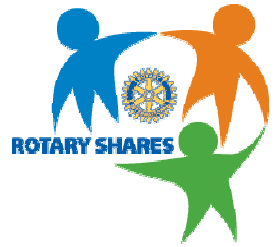
### Things to do – Places to go...

**District 9690 Conference...Mudgee - April 4-6, 2008  
99th Rotary International Convention...Los Angeles - June 15-18, 2008**



# **INTERLINK**

**The newsletter of Rotary Club of Wetherill Park**



## **Last Breakfast Meeting:**

It was unfortunate that, at breakfast this week, we had so few members in attendance. Our guest speaker, Colin Macfarlane gave a wonderful presentation on **Operation Cleft** – a project of his Rotary Club (Box Hill Central – Victoria).

This program provides life-changing operations to victims of lip and palette clefts in developing countries such as Bangladesh. Through a series of moving “before” and “after” photographs, Colin showed the amazing difference a \$150AUD (average) operation can make in a person’s (usually but not always, a child’s) life. Since the Operation Cleft program was started in 2006, over 2,000 operations have been completed on patients that would otherwise not have been considered for treatment. This is truly the power of Rotary!

### **Amazing Facts:**

- 1 in 450 babies in Bangladesh are born with clefts (3-4,000 every year)
- In western countries the figure is still high at 1 in 1250, but these are operated on as a matter of course and the problem does not become apparent
- Cleft defects are genetic (hereditary)
- Some operations last only 45 minutes – less than an hour to change a life!

100% of donations are used for the operations (surgeons, medications and hospital charges). In many developing countries the problems of cleft lips and palettes is not considered a medical priority. There is little support or assistance for these children. Because the problem remains untreated, as the child grows older and the cleft gets larger, the child will have a problem eating, leading to further complications.

Obviously our club has been asked to help, and the request will be discussed at our next board meeting, BUT, we have also been asked to help individually. Donations are tax deductible.

## **Why not buy an operation instead of giving useless Christmas presents to people who don’t need anything?**

**Here is a link to a secure site where you can make your donation NOW.....**

**[www.operationcleft.org.au/donate.htm](http://www.operationcleft.org.au/donate.htm) (press control and click) or see attachment for form.**



*“We have four children. Three of them have cleft lip and palette.*

*Thanh and his sister Mai are here today.*

*Now they will have a chance to go to school as normal kids.*

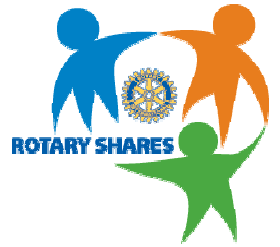
*Thank you so much.”*

Trinh Thi Le.



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## **IN OTHER MEETING NEWS....**

- June informed us that the Shoeboxes For Timor won't be going to Timor! Due to a funding shortfall all the shoeboxes (close to 1000 for district 9690) will be distributed to needy families in Western NSW.
- Don't forget our **CHRISTMAS BBQ THIS SUNDAY** at Marconi Tennis Centre (Stewart & Michelle will be on hand to display their new addition – Ryan Ronald Whicker born 16<sup>th</sup> Nov).
- Ex-pat ex-member Robert Guthleben and wife mairy will be in the country from early December and will try to drop in for brekkie on December 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Apologies were received from Peter, Helen, Brian, Ashley, Chris and Vicki.

Then there was the Eskimo girl who spent the night with her boyfriend...  
Next morning she found she was six months pregnant.

## **Dates At A Glance - Dates At A Glance - Dates At A Glance**

Saturday 1 December	Family of Rotary Pantomime – Club Marconi - 2-5pm - \$20 family
Sunday 2 December	<b>CHRISTMAS FUNCTION – BBQ, Tennis etc at Marconi Tennis centre 11am</b> <b>Bring a present for the Bikers Toy Run Details to follow</b>
Monday 3 December	Fairfield Volunteers dinner at Mounties
Tuesday 4 December	Breakfast as usual
Thursday 6 December	Rotary Health Christmas Function 6.30p for 7pm (\$50pp) any takers?
Friday 7 December	Presidents Meeting. Keiran, Jim K and Roy. Panthers 6.30pm for 7pm \$25.
Sunday 9 December	Bikers TOY RUN – FAIRFIELD PARK (note venue change) - Bikes arrive 11am. Helpers as arranged from 9am
Tuesday 11 December	Breakfast with Guthlebens – also <b>Board Meeting</b> in Marconi Annex – 7.15 pm.
Saturday 15 December	<b>CAROLS IN THE PARK – Horsley Park Showground. Everyone on deck!</b>
Tuesday 18 December	Breakfast for the last time this year
Thursday 20 December	Carols de-briefing (Carols committee and anyone else)
<b><u>2008 2008 2008 2008 2008</u></b>	
Tuesday 15 January	Breakfast – Welcome back to Rotary for 2008!
Fri 16 & Sat 17 February	RAWCS Meeting & Dinner – Pres & International Director & Rotarians
Tuesday 26 February	Our 15 <sup>th</sup> Birthday (and Carols Presentation) Dinner
Saturday 15 March	District celebrates 40 years of ROTARACT.
Saturday 3 May	Rotary Health Race Day – Rosehill Racecourse

## **Bikers Toy Run **VENUE CHANGED** Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

Previously held at Horsley Park Showground, the Bikers Toy Run will now terminate at Fairfield Park Vine St, Fairfield (Near the Swimming Pool). We will set up at 9am. Food preparation from 9.30 and cooking from 10am. We should be packing up by 1pm.

We have had a good response for call for workers: (Roy, Bill, Helen, June, Jim K, Chris & Kim, Alan, Peter & Simon, and a tentative Ashley. We are still not sure what Ashley is tentative about though).

If you think of it, bring along a toy to donate to their cause!

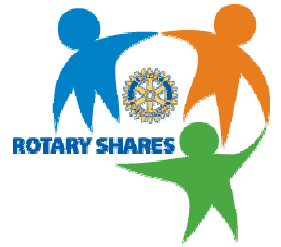
*PS: Bring Your Kids – it's a great sight!*





# **INTERLINK**

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I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.

## **Don't forget your (our) Rotary Poem for the District Conference in Mudgee!**

### **More Stuff to Remember and/or Do**

Volunteers are requested for Home Hosting by Rotarians for the **World Youth Day 2008**. If you are able to help please advise Keiran.

**Who Wants A Job?** WHO will be the Interlink Editor for JANUARY? Are there any volunteers out there ready to step up to the plate???? **NO TAKERS YET!**

**NYSF.** (Huh? National Youth Science Forum) The University of Western Sydney is starting up a mini NYSF program of 3 residential days for 60 students commencing in January 2008. Students who missed out on going to the NYSF in the ACT will be approached. **Rotary Aunts & Uncles** will be required so if you are interested please advise Brian.

To stay up to date with current and future events, join us for breakfast on Tuesdays, and check the website [www.wprotary.com.au](http://www.wprotary.com.au)

## **CAROLS IN THE PARK**

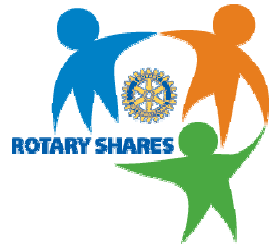
Members, friends and families are asked to lend their hands-on support to our Wizard Home Loans *Carols In The Park* on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Set-up commences at 8am and the event runs from 5pm-10pm. Hopefully all will be packed up by midnight. This is a long day, and the job is made much easier when we have lots of helpers.

In the next week or so, Roy will ask you to indicate your availability.



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## **Carols SPONSORS**

### **Wizard Home Loans (Wetherill Park)**



Smithfield RSL

Bing Lee / LG

Club Marconi

Horsley Park Medical Centre

Stockland (Wetherill Park)

ACM Electrical

Bogong Holiday Apartments

Shaw's Darwin Transport

Horsley Kids

NADA Concrete

Fairfield Advance

**HORSLEY PARK  
MEDICAL  
CENTRE**



Foti's International Fireworks

Premier Hire

Sydney Acres

Sanctuary Signs

Palumbo Automotive Services

Telstra

Montecatini Smallgoods

Lombards Property Developments

Hancocks Excavations

Buildit-Mitre10 (Smithfield)

Mandavilla Function Centre

Casio Keyboards

Merrylands Music

Rode Microphones

Weigh-Tec Scales

Robert Stein Wines

Amazon Outdoors

Felton Homes

Glow-Meats

GC Catering

Capital Hill Motors

Nando's Chicken

Rose Pangallo

Horsley Park Building Services

Radio 2SWR-FM99.9

Horsley Park Flowers

John Thomson Printing

