

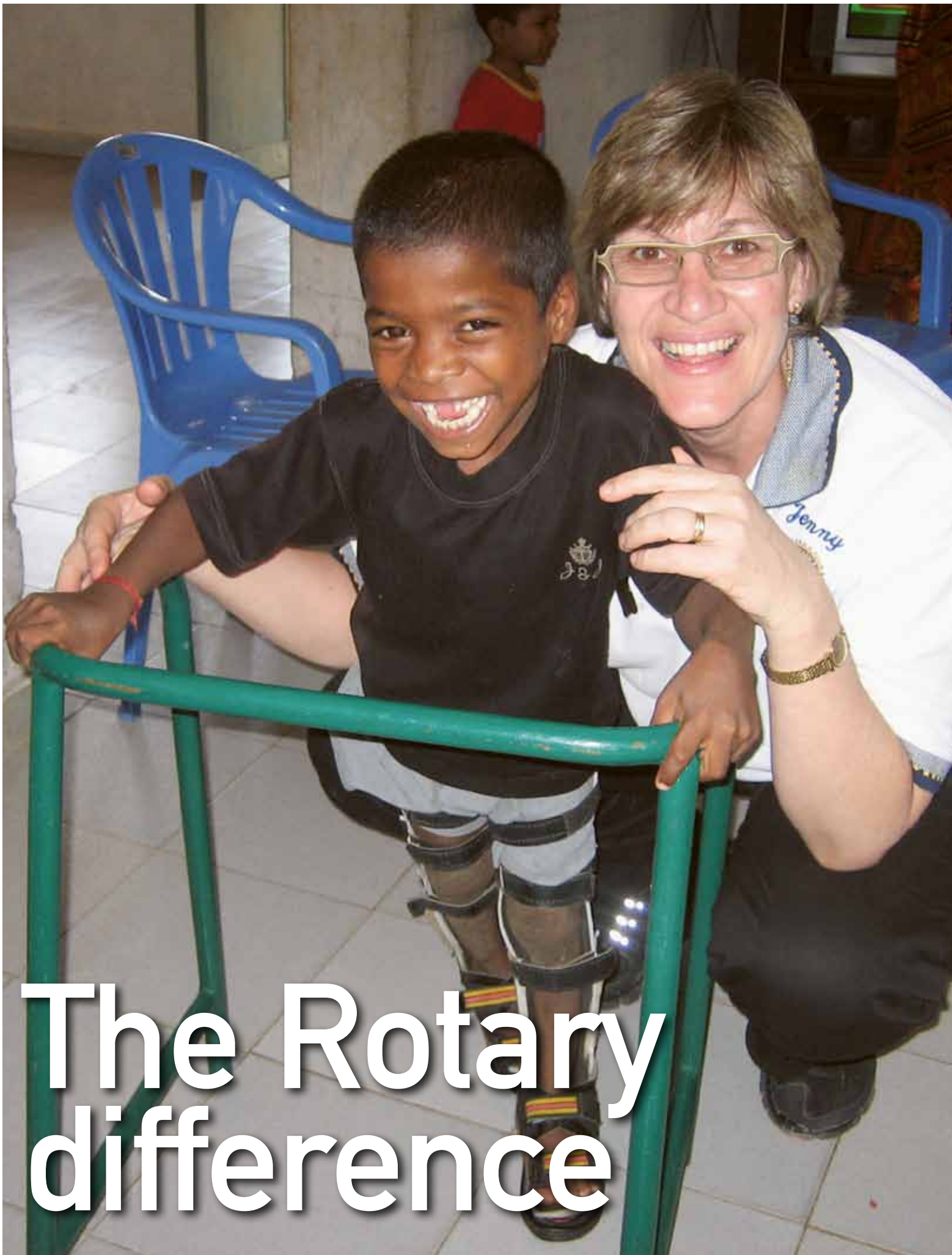


2012

MELBOURNE

**80th Rotary
International
District 9800
Conference**
March 9–12,
2012, Melbourne
Convention and
Exhibition Centre

www.2012melbourne.com.au



The Rotary difference

For more than 100 years, business and professional leaders have been coming together in Rotary clubs around the world to help people in need. Rotary's aim is to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health and education and the fight against poverty. The first Rotary club in Australia was formed in Melbourne in 1921 and next month Melbourne will host the local Rotary's 80th annual conference from March 9-12. Bringing together Rotarians, community partners, socially responsible corporates and the public, the conference will highlight the vision and inspiring work of modern Rotary clubs in sessions featuring many of Australia's most sought-after speakers.

The conference will provide a platform for the sharing of ideas to solve social issues in a vibrant atmosphere of fellowship and fun.

A small step for a boy, a giant leap for mankind ... Rotarian Jenny Horton is on the front line of the Rotary Foundation's 'End Polio Now' campaign. "I just could not believe the suffering of children that could be so easily prevented," nurse Jenny says of her reaction to seeing the work being done to fight the disease around the world. A Rotarian making a difference: page 7.

2012 MELBOURNE



KEITH RYALL
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL D9800
DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2011-2012

It's been said before that the magic of Rotary is that it enables ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Since Rotary decided to commit to eradicating polio in 1985, Rotarians have contributed more than US\$850 million to inoculate more than two billion children worldwide. This effort, which has seen us spend tens of thousands of volunteer-hours to stand together with our global partners on the verge of polio's eradication, is indicative of what being a Rotarian is all about.

It's people like you and me, people who make a simple choice to volunteer our time and efforts to fix the problems that have slipped through the cracks, so that we can make the world a better place in a tangible way. While providing a forum for networking and fellowship, Rotary runs programs to develop youth and our leaders of tomorrow, to promote global peace and cultural understanding, to bring aid and shelter to those stricken by natural disasters, to bring clean water to developing communities internationally and to bring opportunities to those facing disadvantage at home. When floods hit, we were there with a hand to help. When an opportunity arose to assist conjoined twins Krishna and Trishna with lifesaving surgery to separate the pair, we provided the driving force. Most recently we sent a team of midwifery experts to our nation's newest neighbour, Timor Leste, to help reduce their tragic maternal and neonatal mortality rates. These are the stories that you will hear about when it comes time for us to tell our tale at our Rotary District's largest annual gathering.

This year we celebrate our 80th Annual District 9800 Conference in Melbourne and invite Rotarians and the public alike to come and hear our extraordinary stories as we celebrate the past and commit to the future. Our guest speakers include some of Australia's most prominent public figures, including heads of public office, leading surgeons, politicians, indigenous campaigners, Generation Y experts, community strategic planners, leaders of business and academia, all of whom have inspirational tales to tell in regard to how we can each make a difference in the lives of others. I invite you to come along and see the magic of what Rotary is really about and learn how you too can be part of making extraordinary things happen.



ANDREW MacLEOD
CEO, COMMITTEE FOR
MELBOURNE

Over my term as the CEO of the Committee for Melbourne, I have learnt that I represent an organisation that shares much in common with Rotary District 9800. We are both not-for-profit bodies without religious or political affiliations striving to improve the community in which we live.

Given our mutual aim to reach out and engage the support of businesses and the wider community in creating a brighter future for tomorrow's generations, I'm proud that the Committee for Melbourne has been able to work cooperatively with Rotary in addressing social needs.

I am delighted that Rotary District 9800 has this year chosen the City of Melbourne to host their 80th Annual Conference, a landmark event to be held in the city that spawned Australia's first Rotary Club, The Rotary Club of Melbourne.

As Rotarians and people from Melbourne and beyond gather in our magnificent city for this celebration of Rotary's achievements, I encourage them to take in the wonderful cultural attractions of the "The World's Most Liveable City" while continuing their quest to make our city and the world a better place.

It is through the actions of those like Rotarians, who have been compelled not only to *dream*, but to also *do*, that Melbourne has become the great city that it is today.



LINDSAY FOX AC
FOUNDER AND
CHAIRMAN, LINFOX

Linfox as a company relies on the communities in which we live to sustain us. We recognise that the health, wellbeing and prosperity of our communities is paramount to our own viability and success. Just as we seek to provide the safest and best possible working conditions internally to ensure our employees can reach their potential, we also believe we have a responsibility to contribute back to the communities in which we operate to ensure they can be the best they can be.

Rotary acts as a conduit for businesses such as Linfox as well as for individuals to give back to the communities that have given us the foundations on which our success is built. As a businessman, I have been proud to provide tens of thousands of employees in Australia and around the world with opportunities for employment and the fulfilment of their potential. As the volunteer hands that provide corporate Australia with the most effective, efficient and trusted way to give back to those less fortunate at home or abroad, Rotary has helped provide millions around the world with opportunities for a better life and a better future. For this accomplishment, Rotarians should also feel very proud.



KEN LAY
CHIEF COMMISSIONER,
VICTORIA POLICE

As Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police, it is my pleasure to be joining Rotary District 9800 as a keynote speaker at their 80th Annual Conference.

Like any organisation whose primary role is to serve, Rotary holds a valuable place in our community.

Not only have Rotary's programs changed the lives of so many of our most vulnerable, impressionable, disadvantaged and at-risk citizens, every day Rotary lends support to others out there intent on helping our community.

In the past five years, more than 100 senior Victoria Police leaders have participated in a mentoring partnership program through Rotary. This program has enabled our officers to connect with senior business and community leaders to develop better leadership and communication skills, broaden officers' community awareness and draw upon the experiences, strategies and wisdom of leaders outside of our own organisation.

The skills, knowledge and senior leadership retention dividends acquired through the mentoring program doubtlessly benefit not just the individuals participating, but also our entire community.

While their contribution is often unsung, Rotarians are one of the driving forces serving and improving our communities.



ROBERT DOYLE
LORD MAYOR,
MELBOURNE

On behalf of the City of Melbourne, I welcome the community-minded members of Rotary District 9800 as they celebrate their 80th District Conference in our city.

For decades, Rotary has taken up the challenge of supporting our city and many others, to make them better, safer, healthier and more prosperous for us all. As quiet achievers, Rotary members provide substantial assistance to disadvantaged people in Melbourne, running programs to help those who are homeless, recovering from addiction, unemployed or

escaping domestic violence.

Rotary has raised significant funding for medical research and contributed to Melbourne's reputation for medical advances, particularly in cancer research. In addition, Rotary develops future leaders, provides positive role models and networking opportunities for the business community and helps communities in Australia and overseas following natural disasters.

I commend the Rotarians of District 9800 and encourage the public to find out more about their inspiring work within our community.

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DELIVERING THE PAINT STORE TO YOUR DOOR





Every year dedicated Rotarians ride to the annual conference to raise money for research into Ovarian Cancer through Rotary's RoCan program. Next month 35 riders will undertake a challenging seven-day/900-kilometre ride through Victoria's High Country. Their goal is to raise more than \$100,000 for ovarian cancer research to help find a screening test for ovarian cancer and to purchase chemotherapy treatment chairs for the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness Centre. Donations can be made at www.mycause.com.au/mycause/raise_money/event.php?id=582

The Rotary mission

Rotary International is a worldwide network of inspired individuals who translate their passions into relevant social causes to change lives in communities.

Why the 21st century needs Rotary

With the pace and tumult of the 21st century already proving to exert an influence over our lives, a number of social issues have been at the forefront of the public's consciousness in recent times.

Giving back

Whether it be the responsibility to "give back", the ethics and integrity of our leaders in business and government, the fate of tomorrow's generations, the health and wellbeing of Indigenous communities or the plight of those stricken by natural disasters, there has been an inherent feeling within the community that we should "do something" to change the world for the better and bring the community back together.

This aim is shared by Rotary at both international and local levels. Rotary's very mission is to provide service to others, to promote integrity and to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders. Where Rotary makes a difference is in not just thinking about or talking about issues, but in actually pitching in to do something that makes a difference to all involved.

Ideals into action

The 80th Rotary District 9800 Conference is aimed at furthering these ideals and fostering idealism into practical benefit. And Rotary is inviting the public to be part of it.

Join the discussion

Get together with Rotarians from District 9800.

Rotary welcomes anyone who has had anything to do with Rotary in the past, anyone who is curious about what Rotary does and anybody who has a passion for the community to come and hear what can be done to make a real difference. Join Rotary in celebrating the past and committing to the future.

Please visit the website at www.2012melbourne.com.au. Tickets can be bought through the website. Further information from Victor Sullivan at info@2012melbourne.com.au.

A solid past, a bright future

THE HISTORY

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, was started on February 23, 1905 by a successful young attorney named Paul P. Harris. He invited three business acquaintances, a coal dealer, a tailor and a mining engineer, to his office to show them how he envisaged a new kind of club that would bring together business and professional leaders. The name Rotary was chosen because weekly meetings were rotated to member's offices.

That first meeting set the fundamental principle retained by Rotary today: to provide humanitarian service and to promote goodwill and peace in the world.

Rotary now has more than 34,145 branches and 1.2 million members worldwide.

Rotary International is committed to advancing mutual understanding, promoting peace and goodwill as well as providing humanitarian and education projects that benefit people in Australia and overseas.

This year's conference – to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from March 9-12 – has the theme: "Celebrate the past and commit to the future." The program is designed to inform, educate and entertain.

Organised by Rotary District 9800, the conference will cover a range of contemporary issues and opportunities, including:

- How ethics should govern Australia's future;
- Health and wellbeing: where we can make a difference;
- Building stronger communities;
- Encouraging our future leaders: Rotary's youth programs.

District Governor Keith Ryall will welcome delegates and the Victoria Police Showband will provide a touch of pomp and ceremony.

The speakers and presenters are drawn from the academic, entrepreneurial, medical and corporate sectors and include the Chief Executive of the Committee for Melbourne, Andrew MacLeod, who will present his keynote address, "Leadership today".

Also on day one is a special Q&A segment, hosted by ABC TV's Tony Jones. A panel of notable industry, government and community

For more information on Rotary visit www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au

leaders will debate how ethics should govern the country's future.

We are also fortunate to have some inspirational people from the medical profession on hand for a full day of informative presentations for day two's health theme. They include Professor Tony Costello focusing on men's and women's health, as well as internationally renowned neurosurgeon Jeffrey Rosenfeld, one of Australia's most senior and experienced military surgeons. "My life as a neurosurgeon" will profile Major General Rosenfeld's career and his interest in building up specialist medical services, particularly neurosurgery, for developing nations.

Later in the day neurosurgeon Wirginia Maixner and Moira Kelly from the Royal Children's Hospital will detail their remarkable work on the separation of conjoined twins Krishna and Trishna with a video.

The third session offers a full day of presentations following the theme, "The family of Rotary: celebrating our new generations." Best-selling author and social researcher Michael McQueen will discuss how to connect with Generation Y.

The conference will close with music featuring the Choir of Hope and Inspiration, together with soprano Elizabeth Barrow and conductor Jonathon Welch, and the Young Voices of Melbourne.

ROTARY IN AUSTRALIA

Today there are 32,385 Rotarians in 1143 clubs in Australia. The country's first Rotary club, formed in Melbourne in April 1921, had just 37 members and the second, formed in Sydney in May 1921, started with 35 members. Brisbane and Adelaide followed in 1923, Hobart in 1924, Perth in 1926 and Canberra in 1928.

Today Rotary International continues to improve the lives of the less fortunate in keeping with the mottoes, "Service above self" and, "They profit most who serve best".

Rotary Community Service Awards

24 May 2012



A Rotary Club of Southbank Inc. Initiative



Celebrating and developing partnership excellence between commercial and community organisations.

The Rotary Community Service Awards brings together community organisations and the business partners who support them to acknowledge their amazing contributions and showcase some of the wonderful work being done in our community. If you are a community organisation, a business partner with a community organisation, or want this type of partnership, then this event is for you.

Get involved today and help promote the cause of social responsibility, bettering the community around us!

Find out how you can be part of a spectacular evening of celebration and entertainment at Melbourne's Crown Palladium, or become a sponsor, by contacting Co-Chairman Steven McInnes via email at Steven.McInnes@thinkhci.com.au or visit

www.CommunityServiceAwards.org.au

Go to 2012melbourne.com.au for information and for tickets. More details: email Victor Sullivan at info@2012melbourne.com.au

Saturday, March 10, 2012

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Welcome and Q&A with Tony Jones: How ethics should govern Australia's future

Highlights:

Rotary Foundation breakfast: Jenny Horton, polio fighter, and Past District Governor John Davis, Rotary Foundation chair. Opening address by District Governor Keith Ryall and keynote address by Andrew MacLeod, CEO, Committee for Melbourne & corporate social responsibility campaigner. Q&A with Tony Jones and panel: Ken Lay, Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police; Dr Simon Longstaff, Director of St James Ethics Centre and former senator Amanda Vanstone. Leadership Today: speakers Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, City of Melbourne and Annette Kimmitt, Melbourne Managing Partner of Ernst & Young.



Andrew MacLeod
CEO, Committee for Melbourne & corporate social responsibility campaigner

A visionary leader tasked with taking Melbourne into a vibrant future, Andrew has not only worked for the betterment of Melbourne, but also for the betterment of humanity, having served in the United Nations as an international humanitarian official.



Jenny Horton
Polio fighter.

An experienced nurse from the Rotary Club of Kenmore in Queensland, Jenny has volunteered her nursing skills throughout the developing world to

put an end to polio.



Diane James AM
2012 Rotary District 9800 conference, aster of ceremonies

Diane James is an experienced master of ceremonies, chairman and presenter with more than 20 years experience in hosting

state and national events. Diane is an engaging MC, with a natural ability to professionally steer events from beginning to end.



Tony Jones
Host, Q & A and Lateline

A mainstay of the ABC and one of Australia's most acclaimed journalists, Tony Jones is host of the ever popular Q&A

program and premier news and current affairs show *Lateline*. For the first time, Tony hosts a panel of prominent Australians as he brings Q&A to our Rotary District Conference.



Ken Lay APM
Chief Commissioner, Victoria Police

The highly experienced Ken Lay has served Victoria Police and the State's public for 37 years, having risen to our top police role

following a distinguished career of service punctuated by a commitment to road safety and personal community involvement.



Dr Simon Longstaff
Applied ethicist & philosopher

Dr Simon Longstaff is an ethicist and philosopher whose focus is in the field of applied ethics. He has been Executive

Director of St James Ethics Centre since 1991 and serves on advisory boards, panels and committees of some of Australia's largest companies as well as serving on the board of the UN Global Compact's Principles in Social Investment.



Amanda Vanstone
Former federal minister & former Ambassador to Italy

A prominent minister during her 23-year term in the Senate, Amanda Vanstone was noted

for her resolve and straight-talking. On her resignation from politics, she was appointed ambassador to Italy in 2007.



Annette Kimmitt
Managing partner, Ernst & Young Melbourne

Leading a team of more than 1500 staff at Ernst & Young while acting as a board member of the Committee for

Melbourne and the United Nations Principles for Social Investment, Annette provides an informed perspective on how businesses can succeed by investing in the community and society within which they operate.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Health and wellbeing: Where we can make a difference

Highlights:

Professor Tony Costello: 'The big issues in women's and men's health today'
Armchair chat: facilitated by Betty Kitchener: Focus on mental health; representatives from Australian Rotary Health, Orygen Youth Health and BUPA Health; with Professor Pat McGorry, Professor Tony Jorm, Dr Claire Kelly and others
Defence Force Major General Jeffrey Rosenfeld: 'My life as a neurosurgeon'
Miss Wirginia Maixner and Moira Kelly: The Royal Children's Hospital extraordinary team achievements; video story of the separation of the conjoined twins Krishna and Trishna



Professor Tony Costello
Prostate specialist surgeon

Professor Tony Costello is one of the leading prostate specialists in Australia. A professorial fellow

and head of the Department of Urology at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Tony pioneered robotic surgery in Australia. He has been responsible for leading the way in life saving prostate surgery techniques, having performed more than 1000 robotic radical prostatectomy surgeries.

Sunday, March 11, 2012

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

The family of Rotary: celebrating our new generations

Highlights:

Michael McQueen: 'The new rules of engagement – understanding and connecting with Generation Y'

Ilyasi Siraji: 'My life as a refugee from Congo'
Dr Heather Schnagl: Ivanhoe Girls Grammar School

Rotary Foundation presentation: The Vocational Training Team (VTT) Project to Timor Leste: Professor Susan McDonald and District Foundation chair Past District Governor John Davis



Michael McQueen
Social researcher & Generation Y expert

Michael McQueen, is a social researcher, best-selling author and expert on Generation Y. With

his finger on the pulse of emerging trends shaping business and culture, Michael will explain the new rules of engagement in understanding and connecting with Generation Y.



Roland Dillon
2010 ambassadorial scholar

Roland was the 2010 ambassadorial scholar for District 9800, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Southbank. With Rotary's support,

Roland studied at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He completed a master of public administration in environmental science and policy.



Dr Heather Schnagl
Ivanhoe Girls Grammar School

As principal of one of Melbourne's most respected independent schools, Heather shares with

us her insight into the challenges of equipping a new generation with the knowledge, social skills and values to succeed in a rapidly changing world.



Ilyasi Siraji
RYLA team leader

As a refugee from the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo, Ilyasi was granted a humanitarian Visa in Australia in 2007 and has since then overcome an

initial cultural shock to progress through to a tertiary education and a role at the forefront of youth leadership in the community. Now a Rotaractor, in June 2010 Ilyasi attended the International RYLA and 101st Annual Convention of Rotary International in Montreal, Canada.



Professor Susan McDonald
Maternal health expert

Member of the vocational training team sent by Rotary to help reduce the tragic maternal

mortality rate in Timor Leste, Susan is an expert on midwifery who works both in academic and hospital settings to improve vocational training in maternal health care.



John Davis
Past District Governor of Rotary District 9800

John is also Rotary District 9800's chair of the Rotary Foundation. The Rotary Foundation is the body that

Rotarians contribute to in order to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty.

OF THE PLENARY SESSIONS

MELBOURNE 2012



Betty Kitchener
Mental health first aid expert
Betty Kitchener is a senior lecturer at the Centre for Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne. She is the program director

and co-developer of the Mental Health First Aid Training and Research Program, which she began in 2001 with Professor Tony Jorm in Canberra.



Professor Patrick McGorry AO
International mental health expert
Former Australian of the Year Patrick McGorry works with both the University of Melbourne and

Orygen Youth Health at the forefront of treatment innovation. His pioneering approach to early intervention youth mental health services is at the international leading edge of mental health treatment.



Professor Tony Jorm
Public mental health expert & research chair of Australian Rotary Health
An expert in public mental health, Professor Tony Jorm is a professorial

fellow at Orygen Youth Health Research Centre at the University of Melbourne and an NHMRC Australia Fellow. Tony is also the research chair of Australian Rotary Health and an active member of the Rotary Club of Carlton.



Claire Kelly
Mental health expert
Claire is the coordinator of the Youth Mental Health First Aid Program, based at the Centre for Youth Mental Health at the University of

Melbourne. Claire completed her doctoral studies on the mental health literacy of Australian adolescents in 2005.



Defence Force Major General Jeffrey Rosenfeld AM
Pioneering neurosurgeon
Major General Jeffrey Rosenfeld is one of Australia's finest and most renowned

neurosurgeons, having pioneered a surgical technique to remove rare hypothalamic haematomas from the brains of children, freeing them of severe seizures. Active in the Australian Defence Force, Jeffrey still finds time for community service through St John's Ambulance.



Miss Virginia Maixner
Leading neurosurgeon
As one of Australia's leading neurosurgeons, Virginia is the director of neurosurgery at the Royal Children's

Hospital in Melbourne and is well known for having separated the conjoined twins, Trishna and Krishna, as well as performing the first auditory brainstem implants on a child in Australasia in 2007.



Moira Kelly AO
Humanitarian & Executive Director of the Children First Foundation
Moira Kelly is one of Australia's most dedicated humanitarian workers and is

well known for having brought conjoined twins Krishna and Trishna to Australia from Bangladesh for groundbreaking surgery to separate the two.

Members of the public are invited to come to the conference by visiting www.2012melbourne.com.au – individual plenary tickets are just \$75

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION **Building communities**

Highlights:

Professor Marcia Langton and Karen Hill: 'It all begins at home; the Rotary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tertiary Scholarship'
Daniel Grollo: 'The Melbourne experience; homes for the homeless'
Andrew "Twiggy" Forrest of Fortescue Minerals: 'Lessons from the West – what has Generation One achieved?'
Special feature: celebrate the past – commit to the future
Rotary International President's Representative, John Germ: Conference summary



Andrew Forrest
Mining entrepreneur and indigenous employment campaigner
"Twiggy" Forrest is a mining entrepreneur from WA, presently the non-executive chairman and major

shareholder (and formerly CEO) of Fortescue Metals Group. Previously named the richest man in Australia, Twiggy has been a dedicated campaigner for indigenous employment.



Professor Marcia Langton AM
Leading indigenous scholar
One of Australia's leading authorities on contemporary social issues in Aboriginal affairs, Marcia Langton was

appointed inaugural professor of Australian indigenous studies at the University of Melbourne in 2000. Marcia has been a strong campaigner for reducing indigenous disadvantage in the community.



Karen Hill
Former Rotary indigenous scholar
A former Rotary indigenous scholar, PhD candidate and studying a masters in nutrition and dietetics, Karen is also a superb athlete

having won cycling and triathlon events. A proud example of achievement, Karen is a role model for a new generation of indigenous youth.



Daniel Grollo
CEO of Grocon
Australia's largest privately owned construction company, Grocon, is headed by Daniel Grollo. He is a non-executive director on the Bluescope Steel

Board and Daniel is currently on the board of the Green Building Council of Australia.



John Germ
Rotary International President's Personal Representative & Rotary Foundation Trustee
John Germ is the Rotary International President's Personal Representative at

the 2012 Melbourne Conference. A Rotary Foundation Trustee and member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, US, John is also the chief executive of Campbell and Associates Inc., consulting engineers.

Entertainers

Choir of Hope & Inspiration

Led by conductor Jonathon Welch, the ARIA award-winning choir (formerly known as the Choir of Hard Knocks) truly brings a message of hope and inspiration in their voices. Created specifically for people experiencing homelessness and disadvantage, the choir has changed lives and will be sure to touch your heart.



Dr Jonathon Welch AM

Dr Jonathon Welch is one of Australia's most noted choral conductors and singers. Jonathon has combined a love for chorals and a passion for social inclusion and is perhaps best known to many as the conductor and founder of the Choir of Hard Knocks. Jonathon is also an active member of the Rotary Club of Southbank.



Victoria Police Showband

Performing jazz, swing, contemporary pop as well as music from musicals and light opera, the Victoria Police Showband is composed of serving police officers who use the power of music to connect with and engage the community with a positive message.



Elizabeth Barrow

Just 20 and completing the second year of her bachelor of music degree, Elizabeth is a coloratura soprano of immense talent. Having performed for District 9800 at the 2009 Launceston District Conference, Elizabeth is most definitely a returning favourite.



Young Voices of Melbourne

Led by director Mark O'Leary, the Young Voices of Melbourne are one of Australia's finest and most active children's choir organisations. They will amaze you with heavenly renditions of a wide range of world music, contemporary hits and classical favourites.



Mark O'Leary

Mark O'Leary is the celebrated Director of Young Voices of Melbourne, the choir behind the theme music for the popular *We Can Be Heroes* and *Summer Heights High* TV series. He is also the principal guest conductor of Gondwana Voices, Australia's national children's choir.



V. U. Brimbank Stage Band

A returning conference favourite, the Victoria University Secondary College Brimbank Campus Stage Band have a repertoire of big band hits that will really get you in the mood for a great conference.



Princes Hill S. C. Jazz Singers

Led by musical director Miriam Crellin, the Princes Hill Secondary College Jazz Singers perform soulful renditions of jazz classics with a maturity beyond their years.



Women in Rotary make their mark

Women's causes profit from those who 'serve best'

Today women are well represented in Rotary clubs in Australia and around the world. But this wasn't always the case.

In 1987, the United States Supreme Court affirmed that women be allowed to be members of Rotary. And in 1989, Rotary International voted to amend its constitution and permit club membership to women worldwide.

Until then, Rotary was a male-only concern.

But there is little doubt that women have always played a most influential role in club activities since Rotary was formed in 1905.

Founder Paul Harris's wife and some Rotarian spouses and daughters led the way when they formed their own spin-off club, Inner Wheel, with its charter run along similar lines to that of Rotary International.

And with ever-increasing numbers of women becoming members, in 2004, 99 years after Rotary started in Chicago, its second motto was changed from "He profits most who serves best" to "They profit most who serve best".

Today women account for 15 per cent of international membership and there are now many female District Governors and Club Presidents throughout the world. For the record, Australia has 5700 female members, about 17 per cent of the national membership.

Women in Rotary are involved in all club projects but also pay particular attention to identify and

support women's causes in Australia and overseas.

The Rotary Club of Kew's Village Women and Children Project involves a soap-makers' training program in Timor Leste (East Timor).

The unique project is designed to provide village women with the ability to feed and clothe their children and simultaneously strengthen their self-esteem and dignity.

And in Baucau, Timor Leste's second-largest village, soap-makers now train other village women who can, in turn, set up soap-making co-operatives in other regions of the country.

The soaps made from 100 per cent natural vegetable oils are packaged in Timorese handmade recycled paper and are now available at shops in Timor Leste. They are sold at a premium in Australia.

Money raised is re-invested in Timor Leste to buy ingredients for the next batch of soap and to support the livelihoods of oil-pressers, soap-makers, paper-makers and weavers.

Several clubs throughout District 9800 provide funds and aid to support the Maternal Health in Nigeria project. More than 36,000 women die each year in this African country through pregnancy and childbirth complications. Combining with Rotary clubs in Austria and Germany, there has been co-operation with local governments and tribal leaders to provide and update maternity wards and install a solid health advisory system.

To Fiji with love

The people of Fiji are benefiting from work in Melbourne.

For Docklands Rotarian Marg Hamilton, providing a helping hand to the people of Fiji has become a way of life.

For the past 20 years, Ms Hamilton and her husband Bill have dedicated a great deal of their time to providing much-needed goods and necessities for people living in the Nadarivatu region in the Western Fijian Highlands.

"We just fell in love with the place and its people," Ms Hamilton says. "That was in 1991 and it was clearly evident that the villagers were in need of basic provisions and supplies."

For the next 18 years, the Hamiltons continued to work collecting medical supplies, computers, school and library books and clothes for schoolchildren. "We joined Rotary Docklands a few years back and now store the goods at Rotary's Donations in Kind (DIK) warehouse in Footscray and then pack them into a container."

A consignment was made up of 40 computers, 30 television sets and cartons of schoolbooks, stationery and sports equipment along with medical equipment. And last year more than 60 tonnes of donated items were delivered and distributed to schools and hospitals throughout the Nadarivatu region.

Another shipment contained sewing machines and curtain materials for five primary schools in the mountain region after the Hamiltons found out that the students were working in extreme heat. And recently they brought in a wheelchair for a woman who, they discovered, had carried her physically disabled child on her back for years.



Rotarian Marg Hamilton and Fiji's Minister for Poverty Alleviation, Women and Social Welfare, Dr Jiko Luveni.

Fiji's Minister for Poverty Alleviation, Women and Social Welfare, Dr Jiko Luveni, has come on board after recognising the couple's outstanding contribution to the welfare of over the past two decades.

"We are indebted to your love of Fiji," said Dr Luveni. "The Hamiltons' time and enthusiasm in providing much-needed necessities for our people is greatly appreciated."

"Through their efforts we are now working up a distribution program that will see women's resource centres introduced to information technology that will greatly improve the lives of women and children in all of Fiji and the outlying islands," she says.

"Right now we are on the look out for bread tins to help women bake bread, for their family and to sell in the market," Ms Hamilton says. "And I am always on the lookout for donations of laptop computers, sewing machines and sewing aids, sewing patterns of all types and sizes and curtain and dress fabrics."

"I am inspired by the work Women in Rotary do and since joining the Docklands club it is so much easier for me to get things done and now I can look forward to continuing our work."

Marg Hamilton can be contacted on 0433 155 233 or email whhooo@bigpond.com.

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Faye Browne - designer

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MOTTO



Venus meets Mars at breakfast

A debate will focus on harmony between men and women in the workplace

How men and women can work effectively and in harmony is the focus of a panel discussion on the 101st anniversary of International Women's Day on March 8. The theme for Women in Rotary's special breakfast that day is: Martians and Venusians in the workplace – colliding planets or equal players?

Author, motivational speaker, singer and comedian Tracy Bartram will host the session. She is a campaigner and activist for animal and children's rights and runs Serious Laughter, a company that intends to change people's lives through laughter.

Guest moderator Neil Cole will lead the discussion on how more women could be found in tomorrow's leadership positions. Cole is a prolific and award-winning playwright. He has written plays focusing on creativity and mental illness.

On the panel, Mary Crooks has been the executive director of the Victorian Women's Trust for the past 15 years; Andrew Demetriou is chief executive of the Australian Football League, the country's largest sports organisation; Harold Mitchell is one of Melbourne's biggest movers and shakers, whose company controls more than \$1 billion in media advertising each year; and Fabian Dattner is one of Australia's best-

known female entrepreneurs, an outstanding public speaker and has written three books on leadership. Her company, Dattner Grant, specialises in business leadership courses.

The Martians and Venusians debate promises to be entertaining and informative and tickets are \$55 per person. The proceeds will be directed to Violence Free Families, a Rotary initiative committed to educating families challenged by aggressive and violent behaviour.

For bookings, contact Kerry Kornhauser on 0411 59790 or kerry@travelinn.net.au

HELPING ROTARY

The 2012 International Women's Day Breakfast has a new gold partner sponsor, CitroLife, producers of a range of organic and natural cleaning products.

CitroLife is proud to support International Women's Day and Women in Rotary and is particularly pleased to be helping the eventual cause of the event: violence free families.

Its sustainable products are effective against bacteria, viruses and moulds.

A Rotarian who makes a difference

Jenny Horton, a nurse and Rotarian, visited India in 2000 to learn about Rotary International's program to eradicate polio. She saw for herself the effects of this tenacious disease. "I had never seen such cruel disfigurement, in fact I had never seen polio before," Ms Horton says. "There were children crawling on three limbs, others with legs that were useless and who were ostracised. Others could not attend school because they had been forced to resort to begging for an income."

"Seeing those children and knowing this was preventable really tore my heart out. A deep desire was unleashed within me to play a more active role in the eradication of this awful disease."

Thanks to the encouragement of an Indian Rotarian, P. D. G. Purushotaman, Ms Horton travelled to India twice in 2001 to work in a calliper camp for polio sufferers. Soon she wanted to work on the front line of polio eradication. "Every time I went to the field on those early trips I came home in tears. I just could not believe the suffering of children that could be so easily prevented."

While in India, she joined a volunteer program to work alongside experienced medical professionals in support of the global eradication of polio. Called STOP (Stop the Transmission of Polio), the program, managed by the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with the United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organisation (WHO), enabled her to be actively involved and to use her skills and experience at an international level.

After working in projects in Ethiopia and Botswana, in 2005 Ms Horton headed to Pakistan to live in Islamabad and work with WHO, UNICEF, the CDC and Rotary to strengthen all aspects of the polio program. "It was a very busy time, working with partners to solve problems and reach those missed children."

Next stop was Karachi where there was a huge movement of people in and out of the city of about 14 million. "This presented a real problem in reaching these people with vaccinations as they lived in very substandard situations with poor (if any) sanitation and water," she says.

In 2008, Ms Horton was back in Ethiopia for a stint before going to Nigeria where she worked specifically on reaching schools with immunisation programs for all diseases preventable by vaccines. In the past two years, Ms Horton has spent time in Maharashtra state in India and was also sent to Punjab and West Bengal, the site of the last cases of polio in India.

Ms Horton says it is a privilege to work with groups determined to eradicate polio. "In all cases I was there to add strength to the existing team, to make suggestions and support implementation of programs. It has been an absolute honour to serve in this capacity and to utilise my skills to do so."

"When I return to Australia for breaks, I always join our Brisbane Post Polio Support Group. These people are a never-ending source of inspiration to me sharing their stories of their time in iron lungs or long stays in isolation wards. They are always so positive and actively support PolioPlus."

Jenny's efforts are funded by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative that covers travel and provides an allowance for accommodation, food and incidentals. Funds in the GPEI come from the global donations to polio, some of them from Rotary.

Jenny is a speaker in the Health & Wellbeing session at the conference: pages 4 & 5.

Stepping in to help out



Polio, violence and the effects of floods have all been the target of Rotary's efforts.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has partnered with Rotary in a bid to eradicate polio – today we stand on the verge of ending polio forever.

On September 29, 1979, Rotarians and delegates of the Philippines Ministry of Health signed a contract with Rotary International to help undertake a poliomyelitis program to immunise about 6 million children. The success of Sabin polio vaccine project set the stage for Rotary's top priority to rid the world of polio.

PolioPlus was launched in 1985 and since then the number of reported polio cases around the world has plummeted by 99 per cent. Continuing vaccination efforts led by Rotary and the World Health Organisation look set to ensure the global elimination of the disease.

Since 2007, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded \$355 million in grants to Rotary International which has promised to raise another \$200 million. "Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Mr Gates says. "Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

Rotary International's fundraising milestone was reached in mid-January and the Gates Foundation promptly donated another \$50 million. "In recognition of Rotary's great work, and to inspire Rotarians in the future, the foundation is committing an additional \$50 million to extend

our partnership," says Jeff Raikes, chief executive of the Gates Foundation.

"We don't know exactly when the last child will be affected. But we do have the vaccines to wipe it out," he says. "Countries do have the will to deploy all the tools at their disposal. If we all have the fortitude to see this effort through to the end, then we will eradicate polio."

The virus remains endemic in only four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Violence Free Families

The Violence Free Families project is an initiative created as part of a community service outreach by the Rotary Club of Brighton. In 1995, the club noted increasing domestic violence and set about seeking

ways to help reduce and prevent the trend. Since then, Brighton Rotary has raised more than \$500,000 to help sponsor research with Monash University.

The next step resulted in the formation of a non-profit company dedicated to delivering services to help rehabilitate many thousands of violent men.

The project has now been joined by the neighbouring Rotary Clubs of Brighton Beach and Brighton North, strengthening its work and to focus on the prevention of all types of violence: physical, psychological, financial and sexual.

Violence Free Families is concerned for the protection of children and is working on developing new types of prevention programs, improving professional training standards and supporting social welfare groups.

NO RETIREMENT WHEN DUTY CALLS

It's a little more than a year ago that floods devastated communities in Queensland and New South Wales. Victoria was also affected when a flood swept through the state killing two people and causing \$2 billion in damage.

The District Board's Disaster Relief Committee, chaired by past District Governor John Wigley, was set up to raise funds for the District 9800 Australian Floods Disaster.

The retirement plans of Rochester Rotary club president Graeme Nelson were scrapped when he offered assistance to Rochester residents and co-ordinated a clean-up. For his work Mr Nelson was named Rochester Citizen of The Year and Campaspe Shire Citizen of the Year.

CHALLENGING LEADERS TO GO FROM GOOD TO GREAT BUSINESS LEADERS' BOOT CAMP

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- Social responsibility: A 21st Century business time bomb or a business opportunity?

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For more information, or to book your place, please contact Business Leaders' Boot Camp Co-ordinator Sandi Fulcher via email sandi_fulcher@bigpond.com



2012 MELBOURNE

There is no better time than March to enjoy all that marvellous Melbourne has to offer

The city's theatres, sports stadiums, international concerts, festivals and wonderful restaurants make it an ideal destination offering an array of events.

The acclaimed Melbourne Food and Wine Festival (March 2-21) will please the most discerning gourmand. It attracts more than 300,000 people to culinary events that are held in the city's restaurants, bars, cafes and bistros.

Alexandra Avenue's arching line of trees is the backdrop for the World's Longest Lunch on March 2. This is a three-course seasonal feast showcasing regional products matched with Victorian wines.

If fashion's your passion, get along to the L'Oreal Melbourne Fashion Festival (March 8-15) where you can see runway shows exhibiting creations by many of Australia's established and emerging designers.

The Famous Spiegeltent at the Melbourne Arts Centre forecourt presents stunning cabaret, music, burlesque and comedy performances throughout the month. Check out *Fat Swan* (March 6-11) a hilarious musical send-up of the film *Black Swan*, featuring an all-star male cast with tutus to fit.

The fabulous 1920s-style "Tent of Mirrors" also sees American folk and contemporary singer Judy Collins continue her impressive career with performances there on March 13 and 14. And the big and brassy Cairo Club Orchestra do their thing on Saturday, March 10.

Evergreen entertainers Bobby Rydell and Petula Clark are in town and on song as is Lenny Kravitz, Duran Duran and American jazz singer Madeleine Peyroux.

The hit musical *A Chorus Line* is playing at Her Majesty's Theatre and British wit John Cleese is bringing his one-man show, *An Evening with John Cleese*, for a stint at the Comedy Theatre as well as the Princess Theatre (March 12-24). Fire-eating dragons are on the loose at Hisense Arena in *How To Train Your Dragon*, an epic, action spectacular for children of all ages (March 2-11).

For sports lovers, there's plenty on offer including the Formula One Grand Prix at the picturesque Albert Park circuit (March 15-18), the Australian Cup at Flemington racecourse (March 10), one-day international cricket (March 2) with Australia up against Sri Lanka at the MCG and A-League soccer with Melbourne's Heart and Victory teams up against interstate rivals. The Super 15 rugby team Melbourne Rebels will also be in action at AAMI Park.

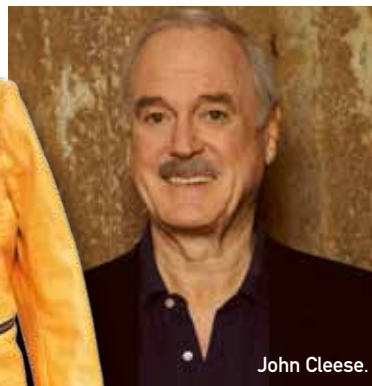


The World's Longest Lunch.

The Famous Spiegeltent.



L'Oreal Melbourne Fashion Festival



John Cleese.



Lenny Kravitz.



How to Train Your Dragon.



Grand Prix.

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