



This Week: PIETA THORNTON

From the Sunday Telegraph

11 Aug
2009

Rape victims told to avoid court

VICTIMS of rape and child abuse are being advised not to report the matter to police or pursue the crime in court because it will cause them further pain.

Counselling services and support networks say seeking justice for sexual assault in NSW courts rarely results in a successful prosecution.

Support group Advocates For Survivors Of Child Abuse told a recent parliamentary inquiry that victims would experience further trauma if they took the case to court.

"When people are making contact with healthcare workers, domestic violence centres or rape crisis centres, they are generally being advised not to go to the police because the likelihood is that if they do they will actually be exposed to further harm in the court system and they are unlikely to get a good result," director Michael Salter said.

"We feel it is important that sexual assault victims are provided with realistic advice regarding the conduct of rape trials and the likelihood of conviction."

NSW Rape Crisis Centre Karen Willis said it is important to empower victims by allowing them to make their own decision about reporting rapes and sexual offences to police.

She said counsellors did paint a realistic picture, warning victims that the court process could be "soul-destroying" and could take years.

Figures show only 10 per cent of sexual offences are reported to police, with only one per cent of these resulting in a successful prosecution.

Volunteers and Witnesses of Crime Court Support coordinator, Pieta Thornton prepares victims to face court, arming them with the knowledge that defence lawyers will tell them they are liars.

Ms Thornton said this experience can be extremely difficult for victims, with one girl too traumatised to give evidence in court.

Please check out the website for this support group.

www.vwccs.org.au

ROTARY MATTERS

YOUTH SERVICES



The Youth Services Committee held their first meeting of the new Rotary year last week with a very enthusiastic group of stalwarts who are looking forward to continuing the many excellent youth programs.

The August – November period is going to be a very busy one for the Youth Committee, with the

Fiducian Your City & Your Country programs taking place in October and November. Work will also commence on looking for candidates for next year's RYLA.

It is clear to me that we need some additional support for the Committee members who have run these programs for many years. If you are not already on a Committee or would just like to be involved with youth, why not consider joining this dynamic group of people? New members of the Club are particularly encouraged to get involved with a Committee to enhance their Rotary experience.

We meet on the last Friday of each month at noon – even if you are not able to regularly attend our meetings you may be able to offer your support in other ways.

Please call me on 0412 448 837 if you would like to learn more about our programs.

Yours in Rotary

Jean Elborn
Youth Services Director

Sadly, we report the sudden death of Rotarian, Michael Grace AM, last Thursday.

Beloved husband of Megan and father of little Brighton.

Father of Andrew, Nicholas and Theodore and sister of Julie.

A funeral service will take place at St Michael's Anglican church, Vaucluse, on a date to be advised.

He was widely known as a successful retailer, predominantly with the Grace Bros retailing conglomerate.

While Executive Chairman, Grace Bros. purchased Myer's NSW operation, then the Myer Emporium made a successful takeover of Grace Bros. As Deputy Managing Director of Myer he was responsible for the combined property portfolio of Myer Grace, after integrating Grace Bros in to Myers.

Michael was an experienced company director in Retail, Banking and Property having served on five Public Company Boards. He was Director of BAG Holdings Pty Ltd, family investment company, and Grace Consulting Pty Ltd, his operating business.



Last week's mystery guest, English Backpacker Jamie Neale with Julian Ledger.

ROTARY – People like you and me

ROTARY

Rotary is a volunteer organisation with 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas.

It initiates humanitarian projects that address today's challenges affecting the world today, such as hunger, poverty and illiteracy.

Rotary club members represent a cross-section of business and professional leaders around the world.

These 1.2 million men and women donate their expertise, time, and funds to support local and international projects that help people in need and promote understanding among cultures.

Rotary International is the worldwide association of Rotary clubs united under a motto of Service Above Self.

Rotary's flagship program is its effort to protect children against polio. It aims to eradicate the disease from the world.

BBQ REMINDER

Please remember the BBQ to be held Sunday 16th August 2009 from 6pm at Killara Golf Club.

To all those members who have booked, send a cheque a Cheque for \$45 per head to John Craig, 17 Fitzroy Ave Pymble 2073 in favour of The Rotary Club of Sydney. With your Cheque please confirm your choice - Steak or Chicken?

Looking forward to your company at a evening of Good Food and Fellowship

Joe Botta . Bill Locke . John Craig.

The Rotary Club of Sydney thanks its Major Sponsors



What does Rotaract do?

Rotaract is more than a place to have fun. Rotaract is a global organisation of young people that is making a positive difference all over the world.

At our next meeting you will discover some of the amazing things that Rotaract does, and that you can be involved with while having some fun!!

We meet every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at The Castlereagh Boutique Hotel 171 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (Near Park Street). All welcome. 6.15pm for 6.30pm start.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Information Night on 12th August.

Kind regards,
Elaine Lim
President 2009/2010
Rotaract Club of Sydney City
0416 030 688

OUR 2009/2010 BOARD

John Given President	jqiven@zions.com.au
Roslyn McLeod President Elect	rmcleod@tourhosts.com.au
Chris McDiven Vice President	chris.mcdiven@bigpond.com
Alex Shaw Honorary Secretary	alex@royfree.org.au
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Tina Stanton Club Projects Coordinator	tstanton@eternityone.com
Mark Dyer Website/Administration	mark.dyer@updatetime.com.au

Rotary's 4-Way Test

It asks the following four questions:

"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 & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"



Eco Break

Volunteers for tree planting in the Regency of Takalar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

During the month of October, volunteers are invited to join teams as part of a RAWCS approved project in the 'Orchid Isle' of Sulawesi (formerly known as the 'Celebes'). The objective of this project is to develop models of tree farming for local farmers to duplicate, thereby contributing to reforestation, improved income in the farming community, and the future security of the penisi boat building industry in South Sulawesi.



The teams (max. 6) will spend two weeks in South Sulawesi, arriving in Makassar (Ujung Pandang) before being driven to Puntondo where they will be housed in a 'transmigration' housing facility. During their stay, the itinerary/activities will include :

- City tour and overnight stay in Tanjung Bayang Beach Cottage after arriving in Makassar
- Meet local villagers and visit to villager's house en route to Puntondo
- Briefing on the Bitti tree planting project and local culture and language
- Tree planting every morning
- Teaching local children English and other life skills in the afternoon
- Visit boat building village at Bulukumba with overnight stay at Bira Beach Resort
- Return to Makassar and final night at TB Beach Cottage in Makassar



This project is jointly sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Sydney, Darling Harbour, and Makassar. A tax deductible donation can be made to RAWCS; RAWCS undertakes to support volunteers by contributing to their traveling and accommodation costs for approved projects such as Eco Break.

For more information, please contact: Nick Durrant, The Rotary Club of Sydney, Darling Harbour Tel: 02 9997 3817 Mob: 0414 928 004 Email: nickdurrant@hotmail.com

Well, it's **40 Hour Famine** time again!!! Any of you who think I need the weight loss should pay more for such ugly thoughts!!!

Those who think I don't need it are kind hearted and will naturally pay more because you are generous souls!!

Soon I have to put my "mouth where my money is" and stop eating for 40 hours.

No solids for me from Wednesday 19 August at 8 pm until Friday 21st at 12 noon. Black tea, watery juice, water and a few barley sugars.

You'll find me "distracting" myself by phoning all of you and moaning.

So to avoid such a dreadful fate, follow the instructions and give generously!

1. Log onto www.worldvision.com.au

2. Go to the 40 Hour Famine page

3. Click on "donate now"

4. Enter my famine number which is **670759737**

5. Fill in your credit card details and

Bingo, I'm sponsored!! You'll get an emailed, tax deductible receipt from World Vision and I get an email to tell me that you've sponsored me!! So I can take you off my black list there and then!! Take care, be kind and bless all your cotton socks,

Karen Loblay

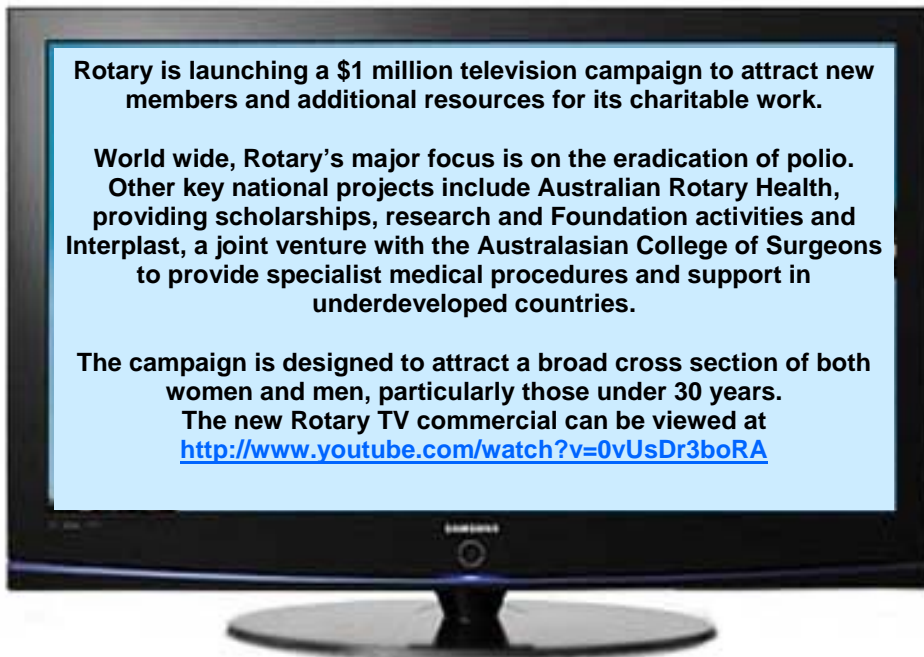


Coming Up!

www.sydneyrotary.com
www.clubrunner.ca/sydney

- 11 Aug Pieta Thornton, President & Co-ordinator Victims and Witnesses of Crime Support
- 16 Aug **Barbecue at Killara Golf Club, 6pm. Booking details on ClubRunner.**
- 18 Aug Speaker from Northcott Society.
- 25 Aug His Excellency Ernesto de Leon Ambassador of the Philippines
- 1 Sept Dr YKK, Founder President & CEO of Mindbloom
- 8 Sept Rob Edwards from It's Time Foundation Conservation
- 15 Sept Marie-Louise Carroll National Relationship Manager Surf Life Saving Foundation
- 29 Sept **Rotary Means Business, 6pm, 2nd Floor, Castlereagh Hotel.**
- 17 Nov Consular Day - Mr Trevor Garland, S.I. Consul and Head of Mission

Please transfer these dates to your Diary.



Rotary is launching a \$1 million television campaign to attract new members and additional resources for its charitable work.

World wide, Rotary's major focus is on the eradication of polio. Other key national projects include Australian Rotary Health, providing scholarships, research and Foundation activities and Interplast, a joint venture with the Australasian College of Surgeons to provide specialist medical procedures and support in underdeveloped countries.

The campaign is designed to attract a broad cross section of both women and men, particularly those under 30 years.

The new Rotary TV commercial can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vUsDr3boRA>



President John Given with Jamie Neale - watch out for our next mystery guest!



If you would like to spend a couple of hours selling fresh daffodils in the City on 28th August, please drop an email to [Belinda Seeto](mailto:Belinda.Seeto@gmail.com) bel.seeto@gmail.com

Please send your news to the Bulletin Editor,
Tony Benner at Tel. 9279 0261.
rotarymatters@people.net.au

The Rotary Club of Sydney meets every Tuesday at 12:30pm, Cello Room, 4th Floor, Castlereagh Hotel, 169 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Rotary District 9750, Club # 18206, chartered 1st May 1921

The Rotary Club of Sydney, GPO Box 1523, Sydney, NSW 2001, Tel. +612 8014 8073

From the Sergeant

David Hunt's very articulate and informative commentary on "Pericles" at last week's meeting has given me an idea. - why don't we have a "David and Margaret" session from time to time (perhaps monthly, depending on material).

I will need your support. If you have seen an excellent show or movie and you just can't wait to tell your fellow Rotarians, then send me an email - 30 second limit.

I will read your comments or better still you can do it. You can also warn of disasters. Your fellow Rotarians will gladly pay a fee for the information!

Email: colpam.westman@bigpond.com or use Club Runner"

Happy Birthday to these members:

- Wolfgang Grimm
- Ann Burleigh

