



Welcome to this weeks edition of the SignPost

Dear Fellow Bendigo South Rotarians and Friends,

'WOW' and 'amazing', are the only two words that can describe David Nyuol Vincent. His talk was at times both heart wrenching and suspense filled, but mostly thought provoking. To hear how he and his father escaped their village when he was only eight; the last sight of his mother was of her crying. It would be many years before he found her again. The long journey, and crossing the Sahara Desert to finally arrive at a refugee camp in Ethiopia. No child should ever have to suffer the sights and trauma that David endured. He told of how he was always a stubborn child, and that after so much turmoil and fighting to get just one meal a day in the camp, not knowing, or even remembering his mother, or where his father had gone after they had taken him to become a 'freedom fighter', he became an angry boy, filled with hate and the need to avenge his lost childhood. He told how he longed to become a child soldier, and how he eventually became one, with his best friend and provider - his AK47!! He recounted his years spent with this friend and how he felt lost, naked and vulnerable when he finally had to give it up. When war broke out in Ethiopia, they were again turned out to fend for themselves and make their way to Kenya and another refugee camp. Thirteen years spent in refugee camps!! Then, as he says, he was blessed to be able to come to Australia. Where for the first time in his life he had a bed, and a bed with a mattress... a fridge, and not just any fridge, but a fridge that had food in it, after all those years of struggling just to get just one meal a day. For the first time since his childhood he was able to go to bed knowing he wasn't going to be dragged away. It was then that he started to remember EVERYTHING, and for months he wasn't able to sleep..... and this is where his story gets even more amazing..... he decided that he needed to forgive and move on. And he did! He went to university and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, he has had his book published - 'The boy who wouldn't die' - and he has started Peace Palette, an organisation to work with the people of Turalei in South Sudan to develop necessary tools and skills to create a stronger, resilient and self sufficient community.

As a Non-Government Organisation, Peace Palette endeavors to provide services to and advocate for a community free of conflict. And to top it all off, he has been instrumental in organising reconciliation talks between North and South Sudan. I am sure there will be much more to come in the future from David, and his dedication to a future free of conflict.

WOW and Amazing, as I said.....

Peace through Service,

WENDY LEARMOUNT

PRESIDENT of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South

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** Remember;
ATTENDANCE,
ATTENDANCE,
ATTENDANCE before Each
Wednesday afternoon!!*



ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO SOUTH -

Calendar of Events

WHEN?	WHAT?	WHERE? (Details & Contact Info)
February	World Understanding	
Wednesday 13	Joint Cluster Dinner – TASMANIAN fire fundraiser	Bendigo Stadium (Schweppes Centre) 134 Marong Rd
Thursday 14	No Meeting due to Cluster Dinner	
Sunday 17	Picnic in the Park	Rosalind Park 12 Noon
Thursday 21	Guest Speaker – INNER WHEEL	Foundry Complex
Thursday 28	Guest Speaker – Bronwyn Stephens – World of Difference	Foundry Complex
March	Literacy Month	
Sunday 3	Mystery Winery Tour	– CANCELLED –
Thursday 7	Club Committee Forum Board Meeting	Foundry Complex
Thursday 14	* Normal Meeting for those not attending D9800 Conference. * DISTRICT 9800 Conference begins in Albury.	ALBURY, NSW Or, the Foundry for those not attending the conference.
Saturday 16	District 9500 Conference Begins, D9800 Conference Concludes	All Seasons Bendigo Li Cunxin (Mao's Last Dancer)
Thursday 21	Vocational Visit to Bendigo Tramways Depot	1 TRAMWAYS AVENUE.
Thursday 28	Guest Speaker– AM Easter Meeting	Venue to be confirmed
Friday 29	Good Friday BBQ– Lake Weeroona	Volunteers required
Saturday 30	Relay for Life Plant Sale	Elaine Harrington's– MANDURANG
April	Magazine Month	
Thursday 4	Board Meeting	Foundry Complex
Thursday 11	Guest Speaker – Dr Daniel Lavery from Interplast	Foundry Complex
Thursday 18	White Ribbon – Margaret Singe (Sergeant) Family Violence Advisor	Foundry Complex (PARTNER NIGHT)
Sunday 21	Rotary at Work – National Program	Event to be confirmed by Cluster
Thursday 25	6am Dawn Service in lieu of dinner meeting	Breakfast with family, Venue to be confirmed

May	Rotary Health	
Date to be set	Bus Shopping Trip to Melbourne	
Thursday 2	Club Committee Forum Board Meeting	Foundry Hotel Complex
Friday 3 & Saturday 4	Relay for Life	
Thursday 9	Guest Speaker - Jerry Phillips - Romac	Foundry Hotel Complex
Thursday 16	Scholarship Night	Foundry Hotel Complex
Monday 20	Joint with Kangaroo Flat - Birthday Celebrations	Kangaroo Flat Rotary Club
Thursday 30	Guest Speaker - FOUNDATION	Foundry Hotel Complex
June	Rotary Fellowship	
Thursday 6	Joint Board Meeting	Foundry Hotel Complex
Thursday 13	Changeover Dinner	
Thursday 20		
Sun 23 - Wed 26	RI Conference	Lisbon- Portugal http://www.riconvention.org
Thursday 27	Presentation of next years business plan	Foundry Hotel Complex

Please Note:

Some of these dates have now been altered!!

It is the responsibility of individual members to keep an eye each week on above dates and venues. As has been indicated, they are subject to change and confirmation.

CALENDAR KEY:

- Family/ Social Events
- Guest Speakers
- Connect to Community Events
- Other Events



“Well, I’ve got some reading to do now, after last weeks meeting... I’ve got David Nyuol Vincent’s book, ‘The Boy Who Wouldn’t Die’ to read.

It’s an autographed copy!!”

CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

13th Feb- Marta Birrell

23rd Feb- Terry Dalwood

24th Feb- Jacqui Ellis

25th Feb- Ken Briggs

ANNIVERSARIES

15th Feb- Eddie Beer



DONATIONS IN KIND

MARCH IS CONFERENCE MONTH and WORLD LITERACY MONTH so please help us implement our first **District 9800 Basic Education and Literacy Project**

Purchase and or collect new picture story books, easy fiction and non-fiction books for children 0-12 years and bring them along to the Literacy Stall in the Albury Conference Market Place. We will add a sticker to indicate that they have been given by your club and at the conclusion of the Conference they will be donated to the

ABORIGINAL LITERACY FOUNDATION.

It would be a wonderful show of our commitment to **"Literacy for All"** if every club made a contribution; and it would certainly help to address the problems faced by 80% of aboriginal children in regional and remote communities whose National Literacy Testing results placed them in the bottom 5% of all Australian children.

DIK is also in need of Basic Educational materials, especially exercise books and pencils so if you can bring some of these along, it would be fantastic, too! **Bronwen Scarffe** - District 9800 Basic Education and Literacy Chair.

For further details contact bronwenscarffe@harboursat.com.au

* And, if your not going to the D9800 Conference in Albury, please bring your books along to a regular club meeting for distribution to the above foundation.



D9800 ALBURY CONFERENCE NEWS

Dear Conference Delegates,

We are very excited about the forthcoming **Conference Rotary Golf Day**.

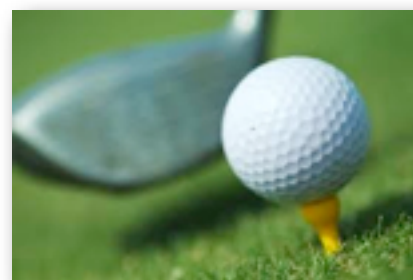
This is a great way to start our Conference, and will be enjoyed by golfers of **all** standards.

At this stage we have plenty of vacancies, and if you or other Club members have not already registered for golf, we invite you to join us on Thursday 14th March at 11.00am.

See details on our Conference website:
www.rotary9800conference.org

Could you please confirm and advise at your earliest convenience.

The fine print below...



Registration: meet at the Commercial Golf Resort Albury, 530 North St Albury, at 11:00am
Cost: \$50
Complimentary BBQ: between 11:00 and 12 noon, (drinks to be purchased by players)
Shot Gun Start: at approximately 12 noon to 12:30 (estimating finishing time: approximately 4.30 pm)
Presentations: in the lounge at 5:00 pm, by DG Dennis
Catering: Finger food supplied (drinks purchased by players)
MC: *Hey Hey*, the MC will be John Blackman (Australia's most successful radio and TV personalities)
Excellent prizes

It will be lots of fun.

Regards, Simon O'Donoghue (0407 315 049).

DAVID NYUOL VINCENT-

'CONNECT TO THE COMMUNITY' NIGHT



Our latest 'Connect to the Community' guest speaker, David Nyuol Vincent, meeting President Wendy Learnmount, and some of our other guests present on the night.

CLUB DUTY ROSTER -

February is the Rotary Month of World Understanding

DATE	13th February (<i>Note: No meeting 14/2/13</i>)	21st February	28th February
ACTIVITY	Cluster Dinner	Guest Speaker- Inner Wheel	Guest Speaker- Bronwyn Stephens from 'World of Difference.'
CHAIRMAN	Wendy Learmount & Doug Lougoon	Ruth O'Connell	Ros Chenery
CASHIERS	VACANT & Other Cluster Rep.	Bill Ashman & Peter Ryall	Matthew Scott & Andrew Palmer
REGALIA	-	-	-
FELLOWSHIP	-	Andrew Palmer	Ruth O'Connell
RAFFLE	-	Helene Brown	Ian Hanger
SERGEANT	N/A	Lindsay Jackson	David Cotton

MEETING INFORMATION

David Nyuol Vincent-	Date:	Thursday 7th January
"Connect to the Community" event		
Total Attendance:	45	Fines: None Taken
Members:	22	Raffle: \$82
Chocolates: N/A	Guests: David Nyuol Vincent, Pierre-Louis Nottllet, and many other visiting Rotarians and guests.	Echidna: Still nibbling at the finger food!

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST.

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND.

High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD.

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH.

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

WHO'S WHO?

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT- Sakuji Tanaka (Kyoko)

RI DISTRICT 9800 GOVERNOR- Dennis Shore

ASSISTANT GOVERNOR (GOLDFIELDS CLUSTER)-

Rick Reid

PRESIDENT- Wendy Learmount

VICE PRESIDENT (Club Protection Officer)- Ruth O'Connell

HON. SECRETARY- Gary Pinner

HON. TREASURER- Philip Jan

CLUB SERVICE- Helene Brown (President Elect)

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT/ P.R.- Jim Boyer

COMMUNITY SERVICE- Terry Dalwood

ROTARY FOUNDATION & VOCATIONAL SERVICE-

Sam Tayeh

NEW GENERATIONS- Rod Spitty

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE- Ros Chenery

SIGNPOST EDITOR- Matthew Scott- mattgscott@telstra.com

ATTENDANCE & MAKE UP OPPORTUNITIES

DISTRICT 9800 GOLDFIELDS CLUSTER ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS

KANGAROO FLAT- Monday 6pm, Rotary Gateway Park

BENDIGO- Tuesday 12:45pm, Bendigo Club
BENDIGO STRATHDALE- Tuesday 6pm, All Seasons

ECHUCA MOAMA- Tuesday 6pm, Border Inn Moama

BENDIGO SANDHURST- Wednesday 7am, BRIT Restaurant

EAGLEHAWK- Wednesday 6pm, Mechanics Institute

ROCHESTER- Thursday 6pm, Commercial Wine Tavern

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO SOUTH ATTENDANCE OFFICER

MATTHEW SCOTT- mattgscott@telstra.com

Please email your attendance to Matthew before each Wednesday.

To telephone through your attendance, please do so on Matthew's mobile phone number.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

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?