



# THE GEN



Rotary Club of Glen Eira—[www.rotarygleneira.com.au](http://www.rotarygleneira.com.au)

Meets at: London Tavern, **414 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield**

We Meet at 6.30pm for 6.45pm each Tuesday evening

## March is Literacy Month

March 27, 2012 Volume 22, Issue 32

### Rotary tent city dream falling short

BY CAMERON LUCADOU-WELLS 26 Mar, 2012

FLYING into Cagayan De Oro in the Philippines last December, Disaster Aid Australia volunteer Hans Van Dyk was confronted by a scene where more than 1000 had died and 7000 homes were flattened.

The Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills-based agency provided tent cities, clean water, first aid supplies and expertise to Filipinos in dire need.

"You may see 150 people living in a school classroom - it's shocking to see. We offer families a tent with their own space and dignity," Mr Van Dyk said. "It's mind-blowing how grateful they are and the amount of thanks we get."

But Australia's own economic downturn is curtailing the group's ability to do good deeds not only in the Phillipines but elsewhere around the world.

Disaster Aid Australia has set a \$1 million target for donations for survival packs to be used around the world - \$800 packages that include a family-sized tent, cooking utensils, water containers, children's books and pencils, and a stove.

Less than a week from the deadline, chief executive Jenni Heenan says they are nowhere near the target.

"It's a sign of the times. I've spoken to other not-for-profit groups. They're down 60 per

cent on donations from the same time last year.

"However, we live in a lucky country. When we went to Pakistan [in 2010], 23 million people lost their homes. Imagine everyone in Australia losing their homes and all their belongings."

Since June 2010, the agency and its Rotarian volunteers have handed out about 2000 survival packs in disaster-ravaged areas such as Sudan, Kenya, Pakistan and Haiti.

Each survival pack - what Ms Heenan calls "a box of hope" - means a lot in a disaster zone. The four-metre-diameter tents can be a family's home for several years, such is the slow pace of recovery.

Last week, Mr Van Dyk, of Narre Warren, was on a 600-kilometre bike ride in country Victoria, hoping to raise \$15,000 for the cause.

He said the agency thoroughly trained him for the worst conditions he was expected to face. "It's not so emotionally gruelling for me. We get a great kick out of being able to help."

**To donate or volunteer, go to [disasteraidaustralia.org.au](http://disasteraidaustralia.org.au) or call Hans Van Dyk on 0428 123 124.**

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#### President 2011/2012

Garry Fabian

#### 2011/2012

#### RI President:

Kalyan Banerjee

#### District Governor:

Keith Ryall

#### Assistant Governor:

Gordon Cheyne



|                                |               |              |              |              |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>March is Literacy Month</b> | <b>March</b>  | <b>April</b> | <b>April</b> | <b>April</b> |
|                                | <b>27</b>     | <b>3</b>     | <b>10</b>    | <b>17</b>    |
| <b>Speaker</b>                 | JOHN LESKE    |              |              |              |
| <b>Topic</b>                   | Crime Fiction |              |              |              |
| <b>Chair</b>                   |               |              |              |              |
| <b>Toast to Club</b>           | D Heuberger   | K Langfelder | J Leske      | Basil 'O'    |
| <b>Toast to Australia</b>      | G Oscar       | M Lau        | A Nelson     | M Preston    |
| <b>Meeting</b>                 |               |              |              | Board        |
| <b>Cashier</b>                 | D Panakos     | Basil O      | A Samuel     | J Leske      |

**THE ROTARY FOUR WAY TEST**

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

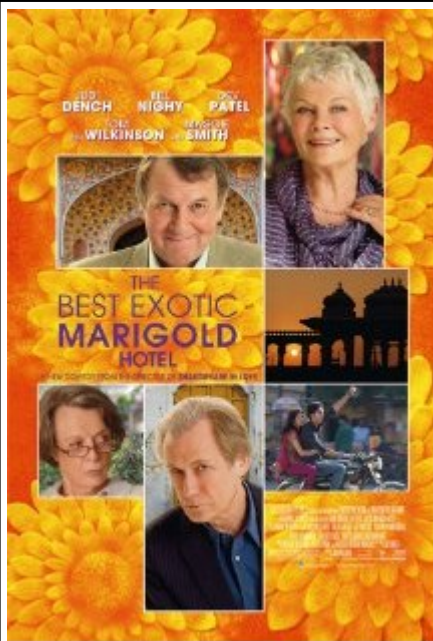
**LOCAL ROTARY CLUBS MEETING TIMES & VENUES**

**Brighton North:**  
 Wednesday 6:30pm  
 Royal Brighton Yacht Club,  
 253 Esplanade,  
 Brighton

**Caulfield:**  
 Thursday 12:30pm for 12:45pm  
 Signatures Cafe,  
 741 Glen Huntly Road,  
 South Caulfield

**Brighton:**  
 Thursday 6:00pm for 6:30pm  
 Royal Brighton Yacht Club,  
 253 Esplanade,  
 Brighton

**Brighton Beach:**  
 Tuesday 6:15pm for 6:45pm  
 Millanos Hotel,  
 4 The Esplanade,  
 Brighton Beach



**Coming up 7pm April 1st at Classic Cinema, our fund-raising movie night!**

\$20 per person.

Inc Light Supper.

[Check out the preview here.](#)

**THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL [PG]** tells the story of a group of misfit British pensioners who are enticed to retire to a fabulous hotel in Jaipur, India, where they are promised

to live a life of luxury for a bargain price. Upon their arrival, they are dismayed to find that restoration of the once elegant Marigold Hotel has stalled. There is water...sometimes. And electricity...sometimes. The hotel's eager manager, a young Indian entrepreneur, is quick to tell them that his ambitious renovation is going to turn the place around. Surprisingly, the retirees find themselves settling into this strange new world and creating bonds with each other. What their new life lacks in luxury they come to find is plentiful in adventure, stunning beauty, peace and love.

## **Forthcoming Events**

**1st April** Movie Night

**3 June 2012 (Thursday)** Business Persons Breakfast Ford CEO Robert Graziano

## **Appointments for 2011/2012**

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>President:</b>       | Garry Fabian    |
| <b>President Elect:</b> | Mark Preston    |
| <b>IPP:</b>             | Jan Hill        |
| <b>Secretary:</b>       | Ian Marks       |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>       | Keith Faiman    |
| <b>Membership:</b>      | Basil Ornellas  |
| <b>Club Service:</b>    | Mark Preston    |
| <b>Speakers</b>         | Debbie Panakos  |
| <b>Bulletin Editor</b>  | Larry Blode     |
| <b>Community:</b>       | Geoff Asher     |
| <b>Vocational</b>       | David Heuberger |
| <b>New Generations:</b> | Alan Samuel     |
| <b>International:</b>   | John Strong     |
| <b>Foundation:</b>      | Sam Binstock    |
| <b>Sergeant:</b>        | David Heuberger |