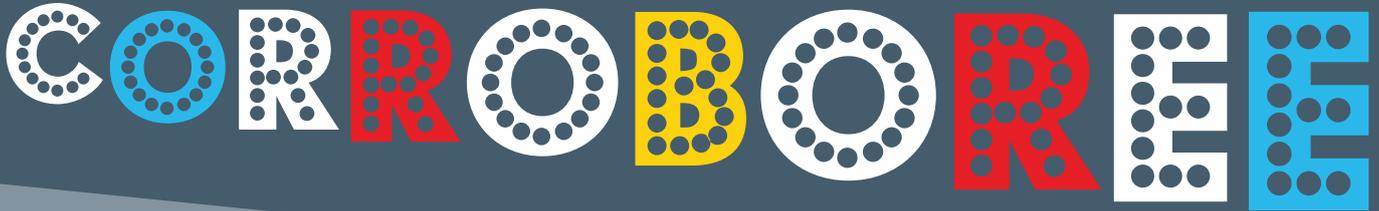


The Sydney 2014



INTERNATIONAL EDITION # 3



HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE
www.rotary2014.com.au



Enquiries/contributions to Public Relations Sub Committee
Chairman Bob Aitken – bobaitken@rotarydownunder.com.au

ROTARY TO BRING THE WORLD TO SYDNEY

Sydney (10 October 2013) – Sydney to host Rotary International's 105th annual convention 1-4 June 2014, which is expected to attract more than 18,000 Rotary club members from over 150 countries while injecting an estimated AUD 60.5 million into the local economy.

Often described as a “mini-United Nations” because of its global scope and cultural diversity, the always-colourful Rotary convention will transform the Sydney Olympic Park into a kaleidoscope of energy, colour and excitement as Rotary brings together its global network of volunteer leaders – men and women from all walks of life dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges – to engage in a full agenda of plenary sessions, workshops and a lineup of world class keynote speakers.

“Sydney is a vibrant international hub as well as a gateway between East and West,” said 2013-14 Rotary International President Ron D. Burton. “It is the perfect venue for our convention as we celebrate and share the many ways our members have found to use the resources of Rotary to improve the lives of



NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell (left) is pictured with RI President Ron Burton and his wife Jetta – with magnificent Sydney Harbour in the background – following the successful Sydney Convention Media launch on October 10.

families worldwide.”

Organized by Rotary International in conjunction with the Sydney Host Organizing Committee of local Rotary leaders, with significant support from the New South Wales Government, the convention also will provide registrants with ample opportunities to savor

Sydney's myriad of attractions, including an Australian Rules football match, a restaurant night and fireworks display, an authentic Aussie BBQ, and a performance of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Continued overpage

GREAT EVENTS - DON'T MISS OUT!

Since bookings opened just two and a half weeks ago almost half of the seats for the Sydney Opera House Concert on Monday 2 June 2014 have been sold.

There are still good seats available, but please book now to avoid missing what will be a most memorable concert by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at this world-famous venue. You can book your tickets online at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/concert-at-the-sydney-opera-house/>

867 people have booked in for their free sausage at the Great Aussie BBQ from 12 noon until 3pm on Sunday 1 June. You too can join them by booking at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/great-aussie-bbq/>

There are still plenty of places available at the various Host Hospitality Night events. Dine with local Rotarians in small groups. Make new friends and see what life is like for Sydneysiders. Don't miss out by booking early at:

<http://rotary2014.com.au/event/home-hospitality/>

New and exciting events are continually being

added to the Host Organising Committee website. What about a Party Cruise, or a unique "Corroboree" event on the magnificent Sydney Harbour. See the What's On page at

<http://rotary2014.com.au/whats-on/>

We look forward to welcoming you to Sydney in June 2014!

• **PDG GREG MULDOON**
Chairman, Events Sub
Committee



Continued from page 1

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell said Rotary clubs and volunteers around the world provide outstanding service to the community and Sydney is proud to host the 2014 Rotary International Convention.

"Sydney is the major events capital of the Asia Pacific and this event provides us with another fantastic opportunity to showcase our harbour city to the thousands of Rotary delegates travelling here from around the world.

"This event will inject an estimated \$60.5 million into the NSW economy, which is great news for local businesses and workers in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

"I encourage all of the Rotary delegates attending next year's conference to take the opportunity to explore Sydney and regional NSW during their visit."

While the convention is not open to the general public, Sydneysiders are encouraged to join Rotary members in a major book drive in support of Australian literacy programs and to visit a special photographic exhibit in the city's centre highlighting Rotary's many humanitarian efforts worldwide.

A major portion of the convention will be devoted to Rotary's top priority, the global eradication of the crippling disease polio,

and many area residents will remember seeing the exterior of the iconic Sydney Opera House illuminated with Rotary's End Polio Now message in February 2009. The convention will include an update on Rotary's funding campaign with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in which the latter will match 2 for 1 every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication up to AUD 38 million (USD 35 million) per year through 2018.

Rotary launched its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary members have since contributed more than AUD 1.3 billion (USD 1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours to protect more than two billion children in 122 countries from polio. Australia's 32,243 Rotary members have donated AUD 21.2 million (USD 19.5 million) toward ending polio. The Government of Australia has committed AUD 73.3 million (USD 67.35 million) through 2014, and in late May this year announced a new commitment of AUD 80 million (USD 73.4 million) from 2015-2018. Great progress has been made, as the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from 350,000 new cases a year to only 223 for all of 2012.

QUILTS SHOWCASE AUSTRALIA

Experienced quilters throughout Australia are invited to create an original pictorial wall hanging panel depicting something Australian or the Australian landscape for a special display in the Billabong House of Friendship at the Sydney Convention next June.



Some suggestions for the panel could be a portrayal of some aspect of the area where you live, or a single theme such as flora or fauna. Depicting an Australian poem or a song is another option. The subject can be serious or amusing.

Any technique or embellishment may be used providing it is stitched. Panels (finished size 15"x 50") must be made of two layers of fabric sandwiched with thin batting and finished with a black homespun binding.

Panels will be showcased in the Billabong House of Friendship to welcome overseas visitors and add to the Australiana atmosphere.

To obtain details and an entry form, please contact Vere Gray on (02) 4471 3468 or by email at garryandvere@bigpond.com Deadline for completion is 30 April 2014.



The Rotaract Host Committee (from left to right), Tara Pullen (Media/PR Co-ordinator), Brett Sham (Administration/ Finance Co-ordinator), Melissa Newman (Logistics/Delegate Liaison), Krissie Bredin (RI Committee Liaison). Not pictured Rotarians Amanda Woods (Volunteer Co-ordinator) & Stephen Lovison (Transport/Accommodation Co-ordinator)

2014 ROTARACT PRECONVENTION NEWS!

The Rotaract Host Committee is hard at work putting together some spectacular events for your enjoyment. We are aiming to showcase the best that Sydney has to offer to make your PreConvention truly one-of-a-kind.

Share in the sights of Sydney as you explore

the VIVID Sydney Festival and join us for a night that showcases Australia from the outback to the sea. We are busy working to make your visit to Sydney a memorable experience where you will develop amazing friendships that will last a lifetime.

Stay tuned for more details and don't forget to LIKE our PreConvention Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/rotaractprecon2014> to be the first to find out what we have planned. See You in Sydney!

• **ROTARACT HOST COMMITTEE**

NEED A VENUE IN SYDNEY IN 2014?

Business Events Sydney offers a free service for your event during the Rotary International Convention 2014 in Sydney.

Planning an event in Sydney is easy with the assistance of AccessNSW. It will identify venues and support services and will provide advice, quotes and contacts to save you time to ensure your event in Sydney, or the NSW regions, is secured during the Convention.

Sydney offers a wide range of venues with large and small capacities to suit



all types of events from seminars, conferences, cocktail receptions, gala and private dinners. Venues will be in high demand during the Convention

and AccessNSW is able to assist you to identify those that are most appropriate to meet your requirements. It can also assist with other services such as audio visual, photography, tours to restaurants, team building activities and attractions.

To start planning your event with AccessNSW, complete a Request for Proposal (RFP) form at www.businesseventssydney.com.au call AccessNSW on 1300 134 920 or email accessnsw@BESydney.com.au

G'DAY FROM SYDNEY!



RI Convention Committee Chairman Mark Maloney practices what he preaches and is always looking for something special to do – not just in Sydney Olympic Park but throughout Sydney town! He is pictured here on top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, enjoying the exhilaration of Sydney's famous 'Bridge Climb'.

Sydney Olympic Park may well be the best venue for a Rotary International Convention ever. In addition to offering world-class convention and meeting facilities, Sydney Olympic Park is a holiday destination in its own right! Just steps away from the Convention plenary hall in Allphones Arena and the Billabong House of Friendship at the Sydney Showground can be found a vast array of family-oriented activities.

Many of the activities offered by Sydney Olympic Park can be enjoyed without charge. For families with younger children, playgrounds can be found throughout Sydney Olympic Park, even just outside the Billabong House of Friendship in Cathy Freeman Park. The Convention facilities are surrounded by 640 hectares (1,580 acres) of parklands. These natural areas offer more than 35 kilometers of bicycle trails and walking paths. A unique walk is the Brickpit Ring Walk, an elevated 550-meter walk overlooking the habitat of the endangered Green and Golden Bell Frog, which in earlier days was the source of the millions of clay bricks used to build Sydney. Other trails take you through wetlands and woodlands from which more than 180 species of birds can be observed. You can even walk to a shipwreck viewing platform!

As a site of the world's premier sports festival,

the 2000 Olympic Games, you would expect Sydney Olympic Park to offer excellent sporting and athletic facilities. Sydney Olympic Park does not disappoint! You can play tennis on the same courts in the Tennis Centre and swim in the same pools at the Aquatic Centre at which Olympians competed during the Olympics. The Aquatic Centre also offers a fully-equipped health club. Bicycle hire is available seven days a week at Bicentennial Park.

For the more adventurous, there is the gantry tour at ANZ Stadium which takes you on an "above-the-scene" tour along a steel mesh walkway 45 meters above the stadium turf. You can try out your skateboarding skills at the Monster Skatepark. And Segway tours are available at the Newington Armory.

Although Australia and New South Wales offer many tourism opportunities, Rotarians and their families will have the opportunity for a complete family-friendly holiday within the confines of Sydney Olympic Park itself. Please join your fellow Rotarians from around the world in Sydney as we Engage Rotary, Change Lives.

• **MARK DANIEL MALONEY**
Chairman
Rotary International Convention Committee
Sydney 2014

WELCOME COMMITTEE

During their recent inspection visit to Allphones Arena (the Convention venue) a reception was held for RI President Ron and Jetta.

In his acknowledgement speech, President Ron referred to the exceptional welcome that he always receives when he comes to Sydney and what a welcoming place Sydney is in any case. His expectation is that all delegates to the 2014 Convention will be similarly delighted with the welcome that they receive. That has spurred the Welcome Committee to work even harder to provide delegates with a first class reception as soon as their feet touch the ground and throughout their stay in Sydney.

We have begun meetings with representatives of the Sydney Airport Corporation. Their response to our requests for assistance and cooperation to cover delegates' needs on arrival and departure has been most encouraging. They have made several suggestions to facilitate the process, including making arrangements for arriving delegates to be able to configure their mobile phones to local conditions with competitive pricing plans.

Future meetings will include discussions with the airport retailers regarding special purchasing incentives for delegates and the Tax Refund Scheme (TRS). The latter enables delegates to obtain a refund of the 10% Goods and Services Tax paid on conforming items, when they leave the country. Our volunteers will be fully equipped to deal with your questions on this and any other issue that is likely to arise. All you have to do is register and book your travel arrangements.

• **PDG BOB RICHARDS**
Welcome Sub Committee
Chairman
richardsbob@bigpond.com



REGISTRATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The HOC website www.rotary2014.com.au is fully functional with new information being regularly added.

Of critical importance, the HOC website, like the new www.rotary.org site, has been written for modern Internet browsers. If you have an old version of Windows and using Internet Explorer Version 8 or earlier you will not be able to correctly view the HOC or the rotary.org site or www.riconvention.org where you register for the 2014 Convention.

If you can, update your browser to Internet Explorer V9 or V10 or download Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox to see these three websites correctly formatted.

If you have not yet done so, you need to re-

register on www.rotary.org by clicking on the REGISTER button. Enter your basic details and if recognised as a Rotarian you will receive an email suggesting "Activate my Account". Follow the prompt to "Activate my account" and you will be asked to Create and confirm a Rotary website password that will most likely require more characters for more security, than your old RI password.

Once done successfully, you can access www.rotary.org and access the RI 2014 Convention site to register for Sydney via the My Rotary button, Exchange Ideas, International Convention and you will be asked to Sign In and all your Rotary details will be available to assist you to register for Sydney 2014.

And after all that keyboard work you'll be ready

to register for the greatest Rotary Convention in the best city in the world.

NB After you have signed in and you wish to help another Rotarian to create an account using your computer, you must ensure you have Signed Out from your account otherwise additional users will be denied access. Go to My Rotary then My Profile and Sign Out is at the right.

See you at www.rotary2014.com.au

• **PP LINDSAY MAY**
Technology Sub
Committee Chairman
lindsaymay@live.com.au



Important Registration Information

I've decided to attend the family-friendly convention in Sydney, Australia!

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Register online at www.RIConvention.org! If you are an active user, your account will be ready for immediate use; otherwise, you'll need to create a new user account with a unique email that is not shared by another Rotarian.

WHY REGISTER ONLINE?

Our new and improved online registration system is fast, easy, and secure:

- Confirmations (with letter of invitation if necessary) will be sent to you as soon as you complete your registration!
- We now accept credit card payment in several currencies online.
- If you're in a country with a Rotary International Office or Fiscal Agent, you can register online and get your confirmation right away, and then complete payment with your fees due notice through your office or agent.

AFTER I'VE REGISTERED, HOW CAN I MAKE CHANGES?

You can log into your account and update your registration:

- Edit your contact information and update your membership record.
- Add or cancel your guests, RI luncheons, preconvention meetings or registration
- Send yourself a new copy of your confirmation (and letter of invitation) after making any edits.

NOW THAT I'M REGISTERED, WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Take a look at Host Events and tours, make your travel plans, get your visa*, book a hotel, and tell everyone you're going!

*All visitors to Australia will need a visa, but citizens of many countries can apply electronically.

RI REGISTRATION SERVICES



Tour DownUnder with Fellow Rotarians

If you are you planning to travel Downunder in 2014 for the Rotary Convention in Sydney and intend to do a bit of exploring while you're here, then why not join fellow Rotarians and share the sights and enjoy countless amazing experiences along the way in the company of like-minded travellers.

These multi-day tours have been designed by Rotarians and are exclusively for Rotarians and their friends and families only. The trips are designed to take in Australia and New Zealand's best highlights and fit in perfectly around the 2014 RI Convention dates. All of these tours are escorted by professional english speaking guides who will make your trip a pleasure from start to finish. So what are you waiting for? Come join us!



Great Barrier Reef & Uluru Tour

Save \$75pp

Tour the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru with fellow Rotarians. Together you will explore the cruise out to the reef for a snorkel tour and visit the sacred red rock in the outback. Enjoy an evening of dining under the sparkling outback sky and so much more.

Pre-Convention 6 Day Tour from \$1,790pp



Uluru & Great Barrier Reef Tour

Save \$75pp

Tour the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru with fellow Rotarians. Explore the reef up close and visit the sacred red rock in the outback. Enjoy an evening of dining under the sparkling outback sky and so much more.

Post-Convention 6 Day Tour from \$1,790pp



Blue Mountains & Hunter Valley Tour

Save \$60pp

Tour two of New South Wales most beautiful regions with fellow Rotarians. Meet Aussie wildlife at an animal park, take in aboriginal performances, see the Blue Mountains and taste world-class wines on vineyard tours in the Hunter Valley.

Pre-Convention 6 Day Tour from \$1,439pp



Hunter Valley & Blue Mountains Tour

Save \$60pp

Tour two of New South Wales most beautiful regions with fellow Rotarians. Meet Aussie wildlife at an animal park, take in aboriginal performances, see the Blue Mountains and taste world-class wines on vineyard tours in the Hunter Valley.

Post-Convention 6 Day Tour from \$1,439pp

For more details visit:
www.globalconnection.com.au



Official Travel Partner of the
Host Organising Committee

BOOK NOW AND SAVE!
Earlybird Specials end on 15th December 2013



Down Under Highlights Tour

Save \$175pp

See and experience the best Australia and New Zealand have to offer with fellow Rotarians. Visit New Zealand's Auckland, the Bay of Islands and Rotorua; as well as Australia's city of Adelaide, the Barossa Valley, Uluru and The Great Barrier Reef on our showcase tour.

Pre- Convention 15 days from \$4,205pp



Far North Queensland Tour

Save \$30pp

Explore Far North Queensland with your fellow Rotarians. Cruise out to the Great Barrier Reef on your high-speed vessel and enjoy a presentation by a marine naturalist, whilst viewing the spectacular coral and tropical fish from the underwater.

4 Day Tour from \$615pp



New Zealand North Island Tour

Save \$40pp

Join your fellow Rotarians from around the world on this exclusive Rotary Down Under Tour of New Zealand's North Island. Visit New Zealand's biggest city, Auckland and immerse yourself in the cultural heart of the country during a visit to Rotorua. Experience the Maori Culture and enjoy a traditional meal and ceremony.

Pre & Post-Convention 6 Day Tours from \$1,240pp



New Zealand South Island Tour

Save \$65pp

Visit Queenstown, a picturesque town also known as the adventure capital of the world. Explore the former Gold Mining Town of Arrowtown and discover the magic of Milford Sound on a leisurely cruise. Visit New Zealand's highest peak, Mt Cook. See the city of Christchurch, known as the gateway to New Zealand's South Island.

Pre & Post Convention 6 Day Tours from \$1,545pp

VOLUNTEERS AND VISAS

VOLUNTEERS

What does it cost to be a volunteer - a smile, a gesture, some directions, some assistance? With free transport to and from volunteer locations, and with smart vests and caps provided, being a volunteer at the 2014 Convention for a few hours will be a highlight of your Rotary service next year.

When RI President Ron Burton was in Australia in October he told a large gathering of club presidents from Sydney and surrounding areas that when he has visitors he makes certain that he is at home to welcome them. So, he added, when the world come to Sydney for the Rotary International Convention 1-4 June 2014, he hopes that Rotarians from the "home" districts will be there in force to welcome the 20,000 visitors.

To give a big Aussie welcome to Rotarians from near and far register as a volunteer by going to



www.rotary2014.com.au
and click on the volunteer tab.

• **PDG MONICA SAVILLE**
Services Sub Committee
Chairman

SavilleM@bigpond.net.au

VISAS

The Australian Government's visa processing section is looking forward to granting thousands of visas to Rotarians and their families over the next few months.

If you or your friends are planning to come to Australia to attend the Convention check out visa requirements on the Government's website www.immi.gov.au and apply early.

When overseas Rotarians register for the Convention, Rotary International will send them letters of invitation that will facilitate the granting of visas.

An Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) provides authorisation to travel to and enter Australia and is electronically linked to your passport. It is for short term stays for tourism or business visitor activities and will cost US\$20 per person.

Applicants for an ETA online at



www.eta.immi.gov.au/ETA/etas.jsp must hold a passport from one of the following countries: Brunei - Darussalam, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and the United States of America.

If you do not hold a passport from any of the above countries, you cannot apply for an ETA online. You may be eligible to apply for an ETA through a travel agent, airline or an Australian visa office. Alternatively, you may be eligible to apply for other types of electronic visitor visas.

See: www.immi.gov.au

RUSH ON HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP BOOTHS

PDG Harold Sharp, Chairman of the Sponsorship/House of Friendship Booths Sub Committee, is delighted with the response to Booth space sales in the Billabong House of Friendship.

The Sydney Showground Dome/Exhibition Halls offer the perfect facility for an effective Convention House of Friendship.

Harold said 'Bookings for exhibition space has exceeded our expectations and if any is still considering participating in the Convention they need to contact him as soon as possible at harold.gina@bigpond.com - or they will almost certainly be disappointed'.

PP Angelo Raveane, Chairman of the Billabong House of Friendship, said that first class attractions certain to please international and Australian visitors continue to 'pour in'.

'Jetta Burton's book collection project, a mini Aussie Zoo with native animals and lots of photo opportunities, fashion parade, sheep shearing, wood chopping

and culinary delights from around the world are just a few of the attractions', he said.

Angelo emphasised that entertainment in the Billabong-HOF included 'Top class international artists,

cultural dance groups, Australian indigenous performers, musicians, magicians and choirs that will provide tremendous variety and fun!' he said.

IAN RISELEY APPOINTED

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

As you all know, Past Director Ravi Ravindran has been confirmed as the President Nominee of Rotary International. Ravi has been serving as Vice Chair of the Sydney Convention Committee. Upon his confirmation as President Nominee, Ravi has submitted his resignation as a member and Vice Chair of the Convention Committee, and President Ron has reluctantly accepted the resignation.

President Ron has now appointed Past Director and committee member Barry Matheson to serve as Vice Chair of the Convention Committee. In addition, President Ron has appointed Trustee Ian Riseley to fill the vacancy on the committee. We welcome Barry to this new position with the committee, and

we also welcome Ian to the membership of the committee. Barry has provided invaluable assistance in considering stage production and entertainment issues involving the Convention, and I know that he will continue to provide worthwhile advice. I am confident that Ian will join the rest of us in our efforts to plan and implement the greatest Convention in the history of Rotary!

Gay joins me in sending our best wishes to you all!

Kindest regards,

Mark

• **MARK DANIEL MALONEY**
Chairman Rotary International Convention
Committee Sydney 2014

YOUR PERSONAL SYDNEY 2014 CONTACT LIST ...'

RI CONVENTION COMMITTEE	HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE	RI PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE	
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Member	Services (volunteers)	Member	Member
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Advisor	Sponsorship/House of Friendship Booth	Member	Member
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Advisor	Billabong House of Friendship	Member	Advisor
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Staff Liaison		Member	
L.J. Williams LJ.Williams@rotary.org Ph: +1 847 866 3032		Bharat S. Pandya drbspandya@gmail.com Ph: 22-28904511	



GENERAL INFORMATION



BANKS

Banks in Australia are open from 0930 to 1600 Monday to Thursday and 0930 to 1700 on Friday. Selected banks are open on Saturday; however, all banks are closed on Sunday.

The easiest way to get cash away from home is from an ATM (automated teller machine) with an international network such as Cirrus (Mastercard) or PLUS (Visa). Australian ATMs use a four-digit code, so check with your bank and make sure you change yours before you leave home.

The closest bank to the convention venue is the Commonwealth Bank, located on 4 Dawn Fraser Ave, Sydney Olympic Park – just opposite the railway station.

CLIMATE

Sydney enjoys a temperate climate with a mild winter, and has more than 340 sunny days a year.

June is part of Sydney's winter season and temperatures on average will be 16.9°C (62.4 °F) during the day and 9.2°C (48.6°F) during the evenings.

CURRENCY

Australia's national currency is the Australian dollar which comes in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 notes. Coins come in 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents and one and two dollar denominations.

All major credit cards are accepted throughout Australia.

Current exchange rates can be viewed through the following link <http://www.xe.com/ucc>

Currency exchange facilities are located at international airports and throughout Sydney's central business district.

At Sydney Olympic Park, currency exchange is also available at the Commonwealth Bank and the Pullman hotel.

Bringing money into Australia

There is no limit to the amount of currency you can bring in or out of Australia, however, if you plan to arrive in Australia with more than AUD\$10,000 in cash (Australian dollars or foreign equivalent) you must declare it to Australian Customs at the airport when you land.

You may also be required to fill in a Bearer Negotiable Instruments (BNI) form if you're carrying promissory notes, traveller's cheques,

personal cheques, money orders or postal orders. For further information visit the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service.

DUTY FREE

Tobacco

If you are aged 18 years or over you can bring 50 cigarettes or 50 grams of cigars or tobacco products duty-free into Australia with you. All tobacco products in accompanied baggage are included in this category, regardless of how or where they were purchased.

General goods

If you are aged 18 years or over, you can bring up to AUD\$900 worth of general goods into Australia duty-free. If you are under 18 years of age there is a AUD\$450 limit. General goods include gifts, souvenirs, cameras, electronic equipment, leather goods, perfume concentrates, jewellery, watches and sporting equipment

Alcoholic beverages

If you are aged 18 years or over, you can bring 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages duty-free into Australia with you. All alcoholic beverages in accompanied baggage are included in this category,

regardless of where or how it was purchased.

Aviation security regulations may restrict the volume of liquids that you can bring into Australia as hand luggage. As an alternative, duty-free alcoholic beverages can be purchased in an airport duty-free shop on arrival in Australia. For more information about the restrictions, visit <http://travelsecure.infrastructu.re.gov.au/>

Families travelling together can pool their duty-free concessions. Family means:

- (a) a husband and wife, and any of their children; or
- (b) a person and his or her de facto partner (within the meaning of section 22A of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901), and any of their children;

Be aware that if you exceed Australia's duty-free limits, duty and tax will apply on ALL items of that type (general goods, alcohol or tobacco), not just the goods over the limit.

ELECTRICITY

Australian electricity supply is 240 volts; 50Hz. Appliance connection is via a flat 3-pin plug of unique design to Australia. Most hotels provide 110-volt

outlets for shavers; however adaptors can be purchased for 110v appliances as well as adaptors for 220v appliances with differing plug types.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The emergency number for police, ambulance and or fire brigade is 000.

FOOD

REMEMBER – Do not bring any food into Australia. Help keep Australia disease free!

LANGUAGE

English is the spoken language throughout Australia and will be the official language for the Convention. The Convention program will also be translated into Korean, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, German, Portuguese and Mandarin Chinese.

LOCAL TIME

Local time in Sydney during June is Greenwich Mean Time plus 10 hours.

MEDICAL CENTRE

The closest medical centre to the Convention venue is the Newington Family Medical Practice located at 3/8 Avenue of the Americas, Newington NSW 2127. Phone: 02 9348 2224. The Practice is open Monday – Friday from 0900 – 1730, and Saturday from 0900 - 1400.

MOBILE/CELL PHONES

Analogue mobile/cell phones will not work in Australia as it operates on a digital network. Mobile/Cell phones can be hired from telecommunication outlets in the central business district if required.

There are a number of mobile phone retailers (Optus, Vodafone and Lebara) at the International Arrivals Lounge at Sydney Airport who are able to assist you with setting up your phone for use in Australia and/or set you up with a local SIM card.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Catholic Church

St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta
1 Marist Place
Parramatta, NSW 2150
P: 02 9630 1115

Anglican Church

St John's Anglican Cathedral
Parramatta
195 Church St
Parramatta, NSW 2150
P: 02 9891 0700

Uniting Church

Leigh Memorial Uniting Church
119 Macquarie Street
Parramatta, NSW 2150
P: 02 9891 2277

Mosque

Auburn Gallipoli Mosque
15 – 19 Gelibolu Pde
Auburn, NSW 2144
P: 02 9646 5972

Hindu Temple

Sydney Murugan Temple
217 Great Western Highway
Mays Hill, NSW 2145
P: 02 9687 1695

Synagogue

Parramatta Synagogue
116 Victoria Rd
Parramatta, NSW 2150
P: 02 9683 5626

RESTAURANTS

Sydney is one of the most eclectic food capitals in the world. Combining its fresh food produce, creative chefs and multicultural flair, Sydney prides itself on being a world class food destination. For dinner with a view, Circular Quay home to the famous Harbour Bridge and Sydney Opera House also have an extensive selection of restaurants to cater for all tastes.

Sydney Olympic Park has a number of restaurants, cafes and fast food outlets to suit all budget and tastes. The Convention venue will also have multiple food outlets available to delegates.

SHOPPING

Shops are open from 0900 – 1730 Monday to Fridays with late night shopping until 2100 on Thursday evenings. Shops are open from 0900 – 1700 on

Saturdays and from 1000 – 1600 on Sundays.

Sydney shopping has it all, from luxe labels and home-grown fashion to markets and outlet tours. Westfield has the largest shopping centre portfolios in Australia and Westfield Shopping Centres are located in Sydney and suburbs. The closest Westfield shopping centre to the Convention is Westfield Parramatta.

TAXES

A Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 10% is included in all consumer goods in Australia. The 10% is included in the retail price advertised. You may be able to claim a refund of the GST paid on goods bought here if you have spent AUD\$300 or more in one store, no more than 30 days before departing Australia. Tourist Refund Scheme facilities are located in the departure area of international terminals. For more detailed information see Australian government information on the Tourist Refund Scheme

TIPPING

Tipping is not standard practice in Australia but is welcome when the service exceeds expectation. It is recommended to tip 5 – 10% in bars, cafes and restaurants. Delegates should not feel obliged to tip and should not accept being harassed if they choose not to tip.

TRANSPORT

Registered delegates will receive free public transport on trains, buses, ferries and light rail valid from Thursday 29 May to Thursday 5 June. Pick up your delegate badge at the registration hall at Sydney Olympic Park to receive the free travel.

Sydney's public transport system allows easy travel for delegates between the hotel and the Convention venue or around Sydney's central business district.

Darling Harbour is linked with Sydney's central business

district through a regular light rail service. Services depart every 10-15 minutes.

Taxis can be booked in advance through hotel concierge or hailed from the street.

For the most up to date transport information, including timetables and fares you can contact NSW Transport Info on 131 500 or visit www.131500.com.au 24 hours, 7 days a week. You can also download the NSW Transport Info 131500 app for your iphone or android.

TRANSFERS

The Convention does not provide any transfers from the airport to Convention venues or the Convention hotels. Each delegate must make their own transport arrangements to the Convention. The following costs are provided as an estimate for travel from the airport to Sydney's business district.

Airport Shuttle Bus to city hotels
- AUD\$15 to AUD\$20

Train
- AUD\$15.90 to AUD\$18.00

Taxi fare estimates:
- Sydney City \$45-55 (one way)
- North Sydney \$55 - \$65 (one way)
- Manly \$90 - \$100 (one way)
- Parramatta \$100 - \$120 (one way)
- Liverpool \$95 - \$110 (one way)
- Cronulla \$75 - \$85 (one way)

WI-FI ACCESS

You'll find widespread access to the internet via Wi-Fi or plug-in at locations around the city. They include internet cafes, most hotels, backpacker accommodation and hostels, major airports, some railway stations, public libraries, fast-food chains, and on board Sydney Ferries. Many international hotel chains offer free WI-FI access for a limited time throughout their lobby area.

At Sydney Showground, free WI-FI is available at The Lounge Café.



CAN YOU SPARE A BED FOR OUR OVERSEAS ROTARIANS?

R.I President Ron on our behalf has invited the world to Sydney and what better way to welcome them than to have them stay with us in our own homes.

What a fantastic opportunity for you to meet Rotarians from another country or perhaps other areas of Australia and make lifelong friends and share your Australian family experience with them.

If you have a spare room or two around the period of the Convention 1-4 June 2014 and wish to share in this great experience then this is your once in a lifetime opportunity.

To be a home stay host simple click on <http://rotary2014.com.au/the-convention/homestay/> or go to www.rotary2014.com.au click on "The Convention" tab and then "Home Stay"

For further information please contact PDG Paul Reid at homestay@rotary2014.com.au or phone on 0424 026 343

BRING THE CONVENTION TO YOUR PLACE!

Offer to Host a Dinner!

Tuesday, June 3, 2014 is your opportunity to "show off" (in a nice way) how we live and do things in Australia. A dinner for visiting Rotarians and their partners could, ideally, be in your home; however you and your club members could entertain your guests in a way that best suits you.

We would like to think it would be a personal experience where visiting Rotarians dine in small groups in an informal setting, make new friends, and see what life is like in Sydney. It is a fantastic opportunity for you to meet Rotarians from all around the world and share your experiences.

If you would like to host a dinner, please go to <http://rotary2014.com.au/the-convention/host-a-dinner/> or go to www.rotary2014.com.au click on "The Convention" tab and then "Host a Dinner"

For further information please contact PDG Dick White at hosthospitality@rotary2014.com.au

A SPECIAL AUSSIE TREAT . . .

To prepare intending Sydney Convention visitors for the culinary delights of Australia, this 'recipe corner' will be a regular feature of The Corroboree Newsletter.



PAVLOVA

Serves 10-12

INGREDIENTS

- 4 egg whites
- 1 cup caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice or vinegar
- 2 teaspoons cornflour

METHOD

In small electric mixer bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form.

Add sugar, lemon juice and sifted cornflour and beat until stiff and glossy (at least 10 minutes).

Cover a baking tray with baking paper.

Pile meringue onto paper and shape into a large circle, leaving the centre slightly hollowed.

Bake in at 130°C for 1 hours or until crisp on the outside.

Turn oven off and leave pavlova to cool in oven with door ajar.

Decorate with whipped cream and fruit in season.

*Note: Eggs must be room temperature
Do not open oven door until cooking is completed*



FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

One of the key attractions of the Sydney Convention is free public transport on Sydney's buses, trains and ferries for registered Rotarians, courtesy of the New South Wales Government so you will be able to experience all that Sydney and its surrounds has to offer at no cost.

Take a bus to Bondi Beach and see the Bondi Lifeguards at work or a ferry across beautiful Sydney Harbour to Manly Beach. Catch a ferry to the world famous Taronga Park Zoo. Take a train over the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Details on how to access free travel will be provided in CORROBOREE and on www.rotary2014.com.au in due course.

You can plan your trip and find out how to get around Sydney by train, bus or ferry by using the 131 500 Trip Planner or calling the 131 500 Transport Info line.

This service provides up to date travel and timetable information as well as information on getting to events taking place in Sydney during your stay.