

Reasons

2020 DISTRICTS 9675 & 9685 CONFERENCE

Newsletter — March 2020

Issue #5

Conference Website: bit.ly/reasonsconference2020

Registrations are closing on 10 March!

We are looking forward to seeing Rotarians, Partners, Rotaractors, Youth Exchange Students and Friends at our Conference. There are a range of packages available to suit your availability and busy schedules! **Register for Friday Night-Sunday (FULL CONFERENCE) for \$280** or come for some of the weekend. To assist with the Conference preparations, we'd appreciate if you can register before Tuesday 10 March.

Check the Conference website, for a range of different registration packages that are also available to suit you...



Grace Ramirez — Guest Speaker

Grace comes from a generally for-profit background but has always dreamt of being involved in an organisation with a much higher cause.

As a migrant to Australia, she feels fortunate to have found employment with Rotary International as the South Pacific and Philippines Office's Finance Supervisor beginning September 22, 2010. She is fulfilled in the fact that she has the opportunity to utilise her knowledge, skills and more than 20 years of work experience which includes corporate planning, banking and internal auditing, in service to a much broader spectrum of people. Following Bruce Allen's retirement, Grace is now the Manager of the International Office and Financial Services.

Join us for breakfast on Sunday morning!

On **Sunday 22 March, from 7.00am – 8.30am** join us for breakfast at Lang Park – cnr Marine Dr and Crown St, just across the road from the Conference Venue, Wollongong Entertainment Centre. Prepared for us by Rotarians in the Wollongong area, enjoy a great start to the day, overlooking the beauty of Wollongong beach.

Then head across the road for the Conference Sessions that begin at 9.00am. Sunday Breakfast is included in your Conference registration.





Ravi Vadlamani — Guest Speaker

Ravi Vadlamani took to social service like a duck taking to water, thanks to his illustrious Chartered Accountant father. He was born to a committed Rotarian almost six decades ago and grew up on Rotary ideals of service. Ravi's first brush with Rotary was through Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program.

Journey to Atlanta, Georgia, in the US, as a leader of the Group Study Exchange Program in 1988 and understanding the international facet of Rotary and the friendships one makes across the frontiers gave a new dimension to his thought process. "There are no strangers in the world but only friends whom we have not met."

Ravi and his wife, Raaji attended the RI Convention at Philadelphia where they were pleasantly surprised by the power of Rotary – \$247 million USD was raised to fight polio in the world. Ever since, the couple attended 14 Rotary International conventions.

Professor Jane Pirkis — Guest Speaker

Professor Jane Pirkis (PhD) is the Director of the Centre for Mental Health in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. She has undertaken a number of policy-relevant studies of suicide and suicide prevention in Australia, including profiling the epidemiology of suicide and suicidal behaviour among the general population and among at-risk groups.



Professor Pirkis is the current chair of Australian Rotary Health Research Committee.



Sweet Home Wollongong!

On Saturday Night at the Conference, we'll celebrate the roaring 20s. Gather your club members, come dressed up together — there will be prizes. *Sweet Home Chicago*, Australia's leading Blues Brothers Show, brings their acclaimed high energy show to our Conference. Colin Hardcastle and Dave 'Quini' Quin head the 12 piece line up, including a full and brilliant trio of horns, a soulful blues rhythm section and heavenly backing chorus, featuring the dynamic voice of Susie Melbert.

Conference Sponsors

Thank you to our 2020 Reasons Conference Sponsors. We appreciate your support.



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Rotary
Districts 9675 & 9685



20-22 March 2020

Wollongong Entertainment Centre, Wollongong