

Friday 6 June 2014

## **PRAYER BREAKFAST MESSAGE “Turns Messes into Miracles”**

Members of Christian communities across the City of Ryde will gather to celebrate the 23<sup>rd</sup> Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast on Friday 27 June.

Special guest speaker at the Prayer Breakfast will be recently Retired Chief Inspector Gary Raymond, APM, OAM, whose presentation “How Police turn Messes into Miracles” draws on his extraordinary 33 years’ service in the NSW Police Force.

As a member of the elite Police Rescue Squad, Gary Raymond performed over 1,500 rescues, negotiated sieges and resolved suicide negotiations. He took part in many of the State’s major disasters, including the Granville Train Disaster, Thredbo Landslide and Newcastle Earthquake. He was involved and in-charge of many successful homicide and other criminal investigations.

Gary is Senior State Chaplain to the Volunteer Rescue Association of NSW and counsels traumatised or suicidal police officers. He has spoken both in Australia and overseas conferences including the Hendon Police Training College London, Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department.

He has received numerous medals, awards and commendations including Australian Police Medal, National Award of Excellence for the Critical Incident Stress Management Foundation, Australia Day Achievement Award, Blacktown Citizen of the Year.

The Mayor, Cllr Roy Maggio, said “Gary Raymond has had a remarkable career and a positive impact on the lives of thousands in the community.

“In addition to his extraordinary acts of bravery, counselling and negotiating skills, he is also a uniformed member of The Salvation Army and continues to serve the community in many ways.

“We are delighted to have this highly sought after speaker as our guest.”

Date: Friday 27 June 2014  
Time: 6.45 for 7.00am start to 8.30am  
Venue: Civic Hall, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde  
Price: \$20pp or Tables of 10 \$160. Breakfast included.  
Bookings: Essential. [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/prayer](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/prayer). Phone 9952 8222