

Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. weekly  
bulletin

# The Beacon



**Vol. 50 No.19      8 November 2007**

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## *Laurelle's Musings*

It was good to be finally back last Thursday and what a great music trivia night Chris and Marilyn organised for us. Well done ladies! It was challenging and great fun.

Good to see Sam, Heather and Carolyn there, as well as Lin's friend Maureen and of course Honorary Rotarian Pam. We were also privileged to the company of locum vet Rotarian Michael Eland, inducted into Canberra Club just the week before. We missed Phil, Bob, Ian, Tony and Neville.

Many thanks to Vice President Ian for filling in for me over the last three weeks. Now Ian and Micki are in India sampling India's many mysteries and delights and no doubt collecting the low-down on local WCs. Definitely a talk for after dinner at a later stage...

Tonight we will hear from the two Narooma High students we sponsored to the recent RYPEN weekend at Mogo – Tom Sydenham and Josh Hayes. It will be interesting to hear their feedback. Hopefully we will also hear more about the driver education day for Year11 students organised by Bega Club. Our club assisted with the cost of sending a contingent from Narooma High and I am still trying to organise to hear from some of them.

Enjoy your evening.  
Laurelle

### **Tonight's International Toast**

Georgia, the last of the British colonial provinces to be established in North America (1752), became the 4th state of the Union in 1788 although initially reluctant to join the agitation for revolution and independence.

Let's visit Savannah, historic city of southern charm and hospitality, and cradle of creativity. Savannah contributors to culture include songwriter Johnny Mercer, music producer Fatboy, and Mad Magazine writer and artist Al Jaffee.

There are six Rotary clubs in the Savannah metropolitan area, including Skidway Island. RC Skidway Island, Savannah, GA in District 6920 was chartered in 1997. It is a breakfast club of 82 members and they sponsor a Rotaract club.

**NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH**

## *Program*

### **Tonight: RYPEN Report from Tom Sydenham & Josh Hayes + possible Driver Education Report**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>8 November</b>	<b>15 November</b>	<b>22 November</b>
<b>Greet /welcome/wheel</b>	Lin Morey	Phil Gaffney	Chris O'Brien
<b>Cashier</b>	Phil Gaffney	Chris O'Brien	Neville Gough
<b>Toast / thanks</b>	Chris O'Brien	Neville Gough	Jeremy Ferguson
<b>4-way test</b>	Neville Gough	Jeremy Ferguson	George Barker
<b>3-minute talk</b>	Jeremy Ferguson	George Barker	Bill Hardie <sup>(R)</sup>
<b>FINES</b>	George Barker	Bill Hardie	Tony Fahey
<b>Introduction</b>	Bill Hardie	Tony Fahey	Marilyn Gibson

*If you can't make it to the next Rotary meeting, please ring our attendance officer Ted Bladwell the day before on 4476 4676 or you will be charged for your meal. (R) signifies a Rotary talk, if you can.*

### **COMING EVENTS: Next Week - Board Meeting**

16 – 18 November	District Conference
22 November	Thanksgiving Dinner – Partner's night
25 November	Narooma Rotary Market – NATA Oval
29 November	Barbecue at Rotary Park for the Canadian team on Friendship Exchange and Rotarians from Pambula. Narooma Rotary members are required to transport the team to Batemans Bay.
6 December	AGM – A 2008/09 President is needed urgently
13 December	Board Meeting

## *From the International Director*

In his Fines session last week, Jeremy drew our attention to the article "ShelterBoxes Ready to Go" in *Rotary Down Under*. It reported that 220 ShelterBoxes purchased with funds donated by Australian clubs had been stored in Melbourne ready for deployment where needed in our region. It noted that a storage facility for 'instant response' will also be located in Indonesia.

ShelterBox Australia's News Update of 15th October reported the delivery of aid to three countries, with ShelterBox Response Teams sent on each deployment to ensure it reaches the neediest people. 400 tents were sent to Peru in response to the earthquake that occurred in August, 100 ShelterBoxes were sent to Uganda where torrential rains have devastated the country's Teso region, and 230 boxes have been delivered to Somaliland to aid families displaced by years of civil war.

The leader of the first ShelterBox Response Team to Peru said, *"The scale of disaster warrants a substantially bigger international response. When we were there, we saw hardly any signs of Western aid and didn't bump into any other Western aid workers. It is an absolutely appalling tragedy to see a disaster of this magnitude and barely a sign of aid other than ShelterBox."*

## *Attendance Matters*

Ted reports that average attendance for the month of October was 87%.

## *From the Governor's Desk*

Folks

The conference is nearly here and registrations are extremely low. However, we do have a good programme and I am sure that quality will triumph. Could I ask you to give your members one last encouragement to register as soon as possible please? The committee are doing a great job but it will be so much easier with early registrations. Very few people are coming on Sunday (52 at the moment) and we have certain minimums that we need to meet for meal contracts.

We often get "walk-ins" at conference, but please tell your members that if they do that they cannot be fed as we will have locked in numbers well before (Tuesday 13th) and only small variations can be accommodated after that time.

Folks, we are struggling to make this event a success, a lot of people have put a lot of effort into this conference (and I was asked by many Canberra based clubs to bring the conference back to Canberra). Please, one last plea to have people attend and register early. We need all of you and I believe that we can really enjoy our Rotary - even at a conference!!

Regards

Bernie

## *The Funny Side*

### **What Gender is a Computer?**

A SPANISH Teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

"House" for instance, is feminine: "la casa."

"Pencil," however, is masculine: "el lapiz."

A student asked, "What gender is 'computer'?"

Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for themselves whether "computer" should be a masculine or a feminine noun.

Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that "computer" should definitely be of the feminine gender ("la computadora"), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers are incomprehensible to everyone else;
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your pay cheque on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ("el computador"), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

## *A Puzzle- The answer*

Surprising as it may seem the first day of a century can never occur on a Sunday, a Tuesday or a Thursday. In 1582 to improve the accuracy of the calendar, Pope Gregory XIII decreed that instead of every fourth year being a leap year an exception would be made for centurial years not being divisible by 400. Thus 2000 was a leap year but the years 2100, 2200 and 2300 will not be.

To see what effect this has on century days consider the number of days from January 1 on one century to January 1 in the next century. There are 100 years which would normally contain 25 years and hence 36525 days which is equivalent to 5217 weeks and 6 days. Thus from one century to the next without Pope Gregory's adjustment, the weekday would move by 6. However this only happens when a century day follows on from a century divisible by 400. When this is not the case there will only be 24 leap years in the intervening century so the day will move on by 5!

The century day in 2000 was a Saturday. In 2100 it will be a Friday (plus 6 days), 2200 it will be a Wednesday (plus 5 days), 2300 it will be a Monday (plus 5 days), 2400 it will be a Saturday (plus 5 days) and 2500 a Friday (plus 6 days).

**2007 – 2008**  
**ROTARY SHARES**

Rotary International President:	Wilfrid J. Wilkinson
District Governor:	Bernie Rogers
President:	Laurelle Pacey
President Elect:	
Vice president:	Ian Thomlinson
Secretary:	Ted Bladwell
Treasurer:	Kris Elphick
Club Service:	Marilyn Gibson
Community Service:	Kevin Young
International Service:	Jack Wightman
Vocational Service:	Bob Aston
Youth Service:	
Foundation:	Jack Wightman

**PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NAROOMA**

1958-59 Syd Morgan	1975-76 Jim Lavis	1992-93 Ian Thomlinson*
1959-60 Bill Smyth	1976-77 David Ryan	1993-94 Paul Rayner
1960-61 Moran Callaghan	1977-78 Ray McCarthy	1994-95 David Banson
1961-62 Neville Gough*	1978-79 Tony Cobcroft	1995-96 Kevin Young*
1962-63 Fred Wood	1979-80 Ted Oliver	1996-97 Fred Doctor
1963-64 George Barker*	1980-81 Mike Barry	1997-98 Peter Bull
1964-65 Miles Brice	1981-82 Bob Dorling	1998-99 Ian Thomlinson*
1965-66 Charlie Matheson	1982-83 John Williams	1999-00 James Denny
1966-67 Ray Cooper	1983-84 Alex Venn	2000-01 Jeremy Ferguson*
1967-68 Jeff Brice	1984-85 Barry Lake	2001-02 Bob Aston*
1968-69 Allen Swan	1985-86 Norm Hoyer	2002-03 Paul Schaefer
1969-70 Bill Smyth Jr.	1986-87 Peter Nelson	2003-04 Bill Hardie*
1970-71 Kevin Young*	1987-88 Peter Maclean+	2004-05 Georgina Staley
1971-72 Norm Hoyer	1988-89 Jack Ings+	2005-06 Richard Lovatt
1972-73 Harry Dudley	1989-90 Ron Simpson	2006-07 Marilyn Gibson*
1973-74 Ted Rose	1990-91 Bruce Grimmond	2007-08 Laurelle Pacey
1974-75 John Taylor	1991-92 Bruce Barrett	

**DISTRICT 9710 – Annual Conference 16 – 18 November**

The theme for the District Conference is: Enjoy your Rotary

The Conference activities will occur at the Hellenic Club, in Woden in the ACT.

Conference Program See the website

Registration is only online via the District web site

<http://www.d9710.rotary.org.au/Conference/index.php>

There is no registration fee, but there are charges for all Conference functions that involve meals.

There is also information about accommodation on the website