

13 November 2008

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The Beacon



**RI President
Dong Kurn Lee**

**9710 DG
Phil Mewett**

**President
Ted Bladwell**

**Secretary
John Messner**

**Treasurer
Kris Elphick**

**Apologies to
Phil Gaffney
the Tuesday
before the
meeting on
44765547 or
you will be
charged for
your meal.**

The Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. Bulletin

Ted's Tips

Hi all,

Next meeting David Shackleton is our guest speaker. This is not a partners night but they will be welcome to hear David, along with any one else you may wish to bring. As mentioned this would be an ideal time to bring a friend interested in Rotary.

Also time to give thought to next Rotary year's office bearers. The AGM of the Club is only 3 meetings away, and at the meeting we will need to choose our President 2009-2010, President 2010-2011, along with Secretary and Treasurer and Directors. It would be great to have all the new Board lined up ready to go! Don't be shy, indicate if you are willing to nominate.

Party time is getting close. We have the lunch at Pub Hill on the 16th this month, followed by our annual visit to the Aston's on the 6th December, and the Christmas Party on the 18th, as well as our commitment to the food van at Bar Beach over Christmas/New Year. A roster will be out shortly.

Please make a point of advising apologies to Phil if you and your Partners are not attending. Remember the rule..... you are believed to be attending each function or meeting, unless you apologise.

Cheers
Ted

Tonight

Vice Admiral David Shackleton RAN (Rtd.)

Duties

TASK	13 November	20 November	27 November
Welcome/Wheel	Laurelle Pacey	No	Bill Hardie
Cashier	Bill Hardie	Meeting	Paul Smith
Toast / thanks	Lin Morey	In –Lieu	Bob Antill
4-way test	Bob Antill	Of	Marilyn Gibson
3-minute talk	Marilyn Gibson	Lunch at	Chris O'Brien
FINES	Chris O'Brien	Ian's & Micki's	Kris Elphick
Introduction	Paul Smith	On 16 November	John Messner

Coming Events

13 November	Vice Admiral David Shackleton RAN (Rtd.)
16 November	Lunch at Ian and Micki's
20 November	No Meeting
23 November	Narooma Rotary Markets – NATA Oval
27 November	TBC
4 December	No Meeting
6 December	Cocktails @ Chez Aston
11 December	Club AGM
14 December	Carols by Candlelight
18 December	Club Christmas Party

Just a reminder that there will be no meeting next week 20 November – Instead we will be meeting at Micki & Ian's on Sunday 16 November 2008. Please note a Beacon will not be published next week. The next edition will be out for the meeting of 27 November 2008.

The Week that was

Last week it was back to the Whale. Ted and Max gave an informative talk on the District Conference that was held the week before. From all accounts the speakers were outstanding, especially Le Cunxin better known as Mao's Last Dancer. As I forgot to bring my pen I can't remember who won the wine etc, however, I do remember Marilyn's excellent fine session, it seems that we have all won positions of power in OB's new cabinet! Well done everyone.

We were also fortunate to have Fred and Pam Falk with us from Canberra with us. As many members would know Fred and Pam are regular visitors to Narooma Rotary. At short notice Fred gave a two minute talk on *Shelterbox* (I have told Fred I will buy him a watch next time he visits)

This week's Guest Speaker Vice Admiral David Shackleton RAN (Rtd.)

David Shackleton was promoted to Vice Admiral on 3 July 1999, and assumed command of the Royal Australian Navy at that time.

He was born in Leeds UK in March 1948, and joined the RAN as a Supplementary List Seaman Officer from Adelaide, South Australia, in March 1966. After completing initial training, he gained extensive experience through almost continuous sea service from 1967 to 1979. In that time he served in HMA Ships ANZAC, STUART, SYDNEY, VAMPIRE, CURLEW, QUEENBOROUGH, MELBOURNE, PERTH (twice), HOBART (twice), as well as undergoing training in the USA and exchange service with the Royal Navy where he served in HMS ARIADNE.

He saw Vietnam service in HMAS PERTH while qualifying as a seaman officer, and subsequently qualified as a warfare officer, specialising in combat systems and aircraft direction. He has served as Executive Officer of HMAS PERTH (DDG38), and commanded HMAS DERWENT (DE49) and HMAS BRISBANE (DDG41).

Highlights of staff postings up to the rank of Captain include being a member of the Directing Staff of the RAN Staff College, Project Director for acquisition of the Maritime Intelligence Centre, Director of Operational Requirements for the Jindalee Over-The-Horizon- radar system, and the inaugural Chief Staff Officer C3I to the Maritime Commander.

On promotion to Commodore in December 1993, he took up the position of Director General, Naval Policy and Warfare in Navy Office, Canberra, with responsibilities for development and coordination of strategic policy for the RAN. During this posting, he also completed the 1994 Senior International Defence Management Course at USN Post Graduate School Monterey.

Commodore Shackleton joined the Defence Acquisition Organisation in September 1996 as Director General, Information Management. On implementation of the Defence Reform Program in July 1997, he changed roles to become the first Director General, Command and Support Systems, with responsibilities for the acquisition of all of Defence's major command and intelligence information

support systems and joint operational headquarters.

On promotion to Rear Admiral in July 1998, he joined Australian Defence Headquarters, and took up the position of Head, Capability Development, with responsibilities for the operational requirements of all new major capital equipment investments for all of the Australian Defence Force.

Vice Admiral Shackleton is an Associate Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and a graduate of the RAN and Joint Services Staff Colleges. He has a Diploma in Corporate Management, a Graduate Diploma in Management, and a Master of Business Administration (Executive) from Monash University. He was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (Military Division) on Australia Day 2000.

David Shackleton is married to Robyn, and has two sons (Peter and Christopher) by a previous marriage.

The Funny Side

Council and housing association complaints

The following are real extracts from actual complaint letters sent to various councils and housing associations throughout the UK.

- I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.
- I wish to complain that my father hurt his ankle very badly when he put his foot in the hole in his back passage, and their 18 year old son is continually banging his balls against my fence.
- I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof. I think it was bad wind the other night that blew them off.
- My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand.
- I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
- Will you please send someone to mend the garden path? My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant. We are getting married in September and we would like it in the garden before we move into the house.
- I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.
- 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and the rest are plain filthy.
- I am still having problems with smoke in my new drawers.
- The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.
- Will you please send a man to look at my water, it is a funny colour and not fit to drink.
- Our lavatory seat is broken in half and is now in three pieces.
- Would you please send a man to repair my spout. I am an old age pensioner and need it badly.
- I want to complain about the farmer across the road; every morning at 6am his cock wakes me up, and it's now getting too much for me.
- Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two children and would like a third so please send someone round to do something about it.
- I have had the clerk of the works down on the floor six times but I still have no satisfaction.
- This is to let you know that our lavatory seat is broken and we can't get BBC2.

I am told this is a true account of an accident to a bricklayer on a building site – you can be the judge.

Dear Sir

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information in Block 3 of the accident report form. I put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident. You asked for a fuller explanation and I trust the following details will be sufficient.

I am a bricklayer by trade. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the roof of a new six story building. When I completed my work, I found that I had some bricks left over which, when weighed later were found to be slightly in excess of 500 lbs. Rather than carry the bricks down by hand, I decided to lower them in a barrel by using a pulley, which was attached to the side of the building on the sixth floor. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the roof, swung the barrel out and loaded the bricks into it.

Then I went down and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow descent of the bricks. You will note in Block 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 135lbs. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rapid rate up the side of the building. In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel which was now proceeding downward at an equal, impressive speed.

This explained the fractured skull, minor abrasions and the broken collar bone, as listed in section 3 of the accident report form.

Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope, in spite of beginning to experience a great deal of pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of bricks hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Now devoid of the weight of the bricks, that barrel weighed approximately 50 lbs. I refer you again to my weight.

As you can imagine, I began a rapid descent, down the side of the building. In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, broken tooth and several lacerations of my legs and lower body. Here my luck began to change slightly. The encounter with the barrel seemed to slow me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell into the pile of bricks and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, as I lay there on the pile of bricks, in pain, unable to move, I again lost my composure and presence of mind and let go of the rope and I lay there watching the empty barrel begin its journey back down on to me, this explains the two broken legs.

I hope this answers your inquiry.



The crew on arrival at Coila Inn (Thanks to Bob Antill)

International Toast

The Rotary Club of Auckland, District 9920, chartered in 1921. This club is a lunchtime club with 155 members who meet on Mondays at the Auckland Club.

Anniversaries

Marilyn advises that George and Anne Barker celebrate a very special wedding anniversary on 15 November.

Congratulations George and Anne



Who is the guy in the blue mask?

A free bottle of red - thanks Ted for the kind offer, if you guess the answer.



BARE FOOT BOWLS



The Inaugural
Batemans Bay - Moruya - Narooma

Barefoot Bowls Challenge

A barefoot bowling day has been arranged
at the Bodalla Bowling Club.

We will field, 14 teams of 4,
but will also need a strong team of supporters.

Date: January 17, 2009

Time: 10.30am for 11am

The cost will be \$15pp. This provides a Chinese banquet lunch, trophies and prizes throughout the day.

Teams will be mixed, one person from each club. There will be winning team as well as an overall winning player. So, get moving organise members and partners and let make this a day to remember