

Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. weekly
bulletin

The Beacon



Vol. 49 No. 18 2 November 2006

Marilyn's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Friends and Family,

I hope last Thursday's meeting was as enjoyable as it promised to be. Thanks Jeremy for filling in for me. I had a great week in Sydney - luxury accommodation at the Sofitel Wentworth and lots of interesting and inspirational speakers as well as a chance to catch up with colleagues from all over the state.

Many thanks to those who represented Narooma Rotary Club at the District conference on the weekend. These events are always worthwhile. We may not have won the attendance award again but there is always next year!

The Mitchell River bike riders arrived safely at lunchtime on Friday. Jim was a great host in my absence and ensured that they were comfortable in our guest accommodation and had plenty of good things to eat for breakfast. They left early on Saturday morning and were last seen heading towards Bega. Many thanks to Laurelle for the publicity in the local press and for assisting with the linking up with the riders in my absence.

Tonight we look forward to hearing from Ray Johnson and Junette Harris from the St. Johns Ambulance Service.

Have a great night. I am looking forward to catching up with everyone.

President - Maz

Rotary Foundation – Snippets

A Rotary district in Western Australia and a district in Arizona, USA, planned a unique cultural exchange with indigenous peoples from their countries. The Australian district recruited a team of all Aboriginal Australians and the US district recruited a team of Native American members. Through Group Study Exchange these young professionals were able to share their experiences and learn about their respective cultures.

The GSE program is a 'one of a kind' experience for team members and the Rotarians who participate in sending and hosting these groups of young men and women. Now, more than ever, we need to increase our knowledge and understanding of different countries. We are fortunate that we have that opportunity by participating in the programs of our Foundation.

Attendance Matters

Attendance officer Ted reports that the average attendance last month was 81.5%. Well done all! Reports about indicate that Ted is contemplating a new role as a truancy officer!

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Program

Tonight: Ray Johnson & Junette Harris, St. John's Ambulance Service

TASK	2 November	9 November	16 November
Greet /welcome/wheel	Laurelle Pacy	Bob Aston	Marshall Binstock
Cashier	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young	Marshall Binstock
Toast / thanks	Bob Aston	Lin Morey	Chris O'Brien
4-way test	Marshall Binstock	John Messner	Laurelle Pacy
3-minute talk	Marilyn Gibson	Marshall Binstock	Kevin Young
FINES	John Messner	Ted Bladwell	Jack Wightman
Introduction	Jack Wightman	Not Needed	Kris Elphick

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

Next Week: . Board Meeting

COMING EVENTS:

- 2 November Kokoda Track Day Anniversary. Australian Troops retake Kokoda on this day in 1942
- 9 November Board meeting
- 16 November Scott White - Crime Prevention Officer, Batemans Bay - Youth Initiative 2007
- 23 November Thanksgiving Day – Special Roast Turkey Dinner. Carolyn Wightman will thrill us with a recount of a real Thanksgiving Day.
- 30 November Club Assembly

Last Week

The boss was away last week so the crew played up! Bob Aston won both the port and the wine and promptly spilt some of the sweet nectar over poor old Neville. Kris entertained us with a fine session quiz on the local Narooma News and Laurelle informed us of the latest with the Marine Park with her three minute talk.

It was a pleasure to have PDG Ron Thornton, his wife Pam and Pam Raynor with us. Ron informed us on how he met up with Paul Raynor and Pam as a part of the Rotary Friendship Exchange and the role Paul Harris' wife played in Rotary.

Emma-Lyn Barrett also joined us to tell us of her successes at the University of Wollongong – Emma is certainly a worthy Narooma Rotary Scholar!

District Conference

On Saturday morning Laurelle, Bill and your hard working editor set off to the District Conference at Batemans Bay. By the time we had arrived at our destination we had solved all problems facing Narooma and Rotary!

Once again this year the conference was excellent! It was great to catch up with other Rotarians as well as to hear some outstanding speakers. Well done to DG Mick and his team of conference helpers from Batemans Bay and Yass.

The first speaker of the day was RI President's Personal Representative PDG Ross Smith. I must say Ross was one of the best personal representatives I have heard at a District Conference, he was engaging and entertaining as well as being informative. The message was simple - We can and do make a difference!

Ross also led the forum with Nick Ewbank on the teaching of history in Australia. Ross and Nick presented a range of views on the topic.

We also heard from our outgoing GSE teams to New Zealand and Texas and our team that went to Great Britain earlier this year. I must say it fills you with a great deal of pride when you listen to the team and how GSE has changed their lives and aspirations for the future. It was especially pleasing to listen to our own Kim Bush and the effect GSE has had on her. We also had a presentation from the Texan team that is currently in Australia. A great group of young people who have also benefited from GSE. Maybe they even found out that NSW was bigger and better than Texas!

After lunch we were treated to a great keynote from Brennon Dowrick. Brennon is one of Australia's most successful gymnasts winning many medals in international competition, including gold at the Commonwealth games. Brennon demonstrated many routines on the pommel horse – not bad for someone who retired more than six years ago. Brennon's message was that you don't just need talent to succeed you need will, dedication and determination. You must practice to excel and the importance of the team over the individual.

We also heard from Mr Charles Lepani, OBE, High Commissioner for Papua New Guinea on malaria in his country and the efforts of Rotary to help eradicate it, Dr John Harvey on ROMAC and Richard Shanahan on the POSM program (Project Orientated School Mentoring). Unfortunately family and work commitments made it impossible to get back to the conference on Sunday. Maybe next year we will have representatives on both days.

No doubt we will provide a full verbal report on Thursday.

The Board Report

The Board which met on 19 October supported some worthy causes with donations through the avenues of Community Service, International Service, and Youth Service. These were:-

- \$500 to the Eurobodalla Shire Nursing Home Auxiliary for their fundraising fete on 2 December.
- \$1,000 to Rotary against Malaria for their "Adopt a Village" project (the distribution of treated bednets within PNG).
- \$200 to the South East NSW Area Consultative Committee to go towards the publication of the 2007 Student Diary for secondary students.

We were also asked by Eurobodalla Shire Council to forward the \$2,000 reserved for the Narooma Rotary Park project (erection of shelter over the Centenary picnic table & seating). Council has allocated additional funding to complete the work.

The Board deferred a decision on whether to continue sponsoring the student Elizabeth Peter at the School of St Jude.

The Board received an offer of a grant of \$5,000 from the Movement Disorder Foundation to help an eligible young disabled person. Community Service Director Kris Elphick is seeking to nominate someone to receive this assistance.

As at the date of the Board meeting there was \$1,773.54 available in the Administration A/c and \$8,548.19 in the Charity A/c. Acting Treasurer Jack reported that food van sales at the GSB&RF 29 September - 1 October realized a surplus of income over expenditure of \$3,217.63. He will be producing a statement of profit taking stock figures into account.

History of The Rotary Foundation

In 1917, Arch C. Klumph, Rotary's sixth president, proposed to the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, the creation of an "endowment fund for Rotary . . . for the purpose of doing good in the world in charitable, educational, and other avenues of community service." A few months later, the endowment received its first contribution of \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

In 1928, when the endowment fund had grown to more than US\$5,000, the fund was renamed The Rotary Foundation, and it became a distinct entity within Rotary International. Five Trustees, including Klumph, were appointed to "hold, invest, manage, and administer all of its property. . . as a single trust, for the furtherance of the purposes of RI."

Two years later, the Foundation made its first grant of US\$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. The ISCC — created by Rotarian Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen — later grew into the Easter Seals organization.

The Great Depression and World War II both impeded significant growth for the Foundation, but the need for promoting a lasting world peace generated great post-war interest in developing the Foundation. After Rotary founder Paul P. Harris died in 1947, contributions began pouring into Rotary International, and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created for the purpose of building the Foundation.

That same year, the first Foundation program was established — Fellowships for Advanced Study, which was the forerunner of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships program. Then in 1965-66, three new programs were launched — Group Study Exchange, Awards for Technical Training, and Grants for Activities in Keeping with the Objective of The Rotary Foundation, which was later called Matching Grants.

The Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) program was launched in 1978, with the Rotary Volunteers program being created as a part of 3-H in 1980. The PolioPlus program was announced in 1984-85, and the following year saw the introduction of Rotary Grants for University Teachers. The first Peace Forums were held in 1987-88, leading to the establishment of Rotary Peace Programs. Then in 1989, 1963-64 RI President Carl P. Miller and his wife, Ruth, donated US\$1 million to establish the Discovery Grants program.

Throughout this time, support of the Foundation grew tremendously. Since that first \$26.50 donation in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totalling more than US\$1 billion. More than US\$70 million was contributed in 2003-04 alone. To date, some 914,792 individuals have been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows — that is, someone who has contributed US\$1000 or has had that amount contributed in his or her name.

Such strong support and involvement of Rotarians worldwide ensures a secure future for The Rotary Foundation as it continues its vital work for international understanding and world peace.

The Funny Side

Here are some warnings about drinking to excess.

- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to wake up with a breath that could knock a buzzard off a wreaking dead animal that is one hundred yards away.
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is a major factor in dancing like an idiot.
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell the same boring story over and over again until your friends want to assault you
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to thay shings like thish.
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell the boss what you really think of him.
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is the leading cause of inexplicable rug burn on the forehead.
- WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, handsomer and smarter than some really, really big guy named Psycho Bob.

Tonight's international toast

We go west again this week, over the Ural Mountains to Western Russia, to toast the Rotary Club of St Petersburg White Nights in District 2220, chartered in 2000. The club has 28 members and sponsors a Rotaract club. The top of the high season for tourism in St Petersburg is late June - early July ... the "White Nights", when there is a massive arts festival and much unofficial revelry.

The Narooma Rotary Beacon

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