

The Beacon

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Marilyn's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Friends and Family,

What a busy week it has been! On Sunday we were blessed with fair weather for our markets. I would like to thank everyone for their efforts in making the markets such a success once again. Our white elephant stall got off to a slow start but we finished the day with \$93 so we will give it another go next month.

Last week we were, once again, entertained by Bernie Rodgers. Bernie spoke to us candidly about membership recruitment and then finished off with a couple of "ripping little flying yarns".

Tonight we have with us two special guests in Alissa and Siobhan who will update us on their NYSF experiences. My apologies that I will not be there to hear them speak but I am in Sydney wearing my principal's hat at a State Council of principal representatives.

Scott Ferguson has had a nasty brush with disaster and as a result will need a total knee reconstruction. Our prayers and good wishes to Scotty as he faces an operation in Sydney shortly.

Have a good night tonight! I will miss you!

Pres. Maz

Last Week

Last week we were fortunate to have DGE Bernie Rodgers with us. Bernie gave us some insights on Membership. Chris O'Brien amused us with a great fine session and Bob Aston gave us a 3 minute talk on his 'new' job.

Rotary Foundation – Snippets

The Annual Programs Fund is the primary source of unrestricted support for the programs of The Rotary Foundation. It funds programs in 168 countries on seven continents with projects ranging from digging clean water wells for villages in Africa to teaching basic literary skills to children in Latin America. Thousands of Rotarians volunteer their time and expertise to ensure that all contributions given to the Annual Programs Fund are spent wisely on quality Rotary projects. If **Every Rotarian, Every Year** makes a gift to the Annual Programs Fund, we will be able to continue the great work of our Rotary Foundation.

International Director – Jack

Program

Tonight: NYSF students - Alissa & Siobhan talking on the selection experience in Canberra

TASK	24 August	31 August	7 September
Greet /welcome/wheel	Bob Aston	Marshall Binstock	Bill Hardie
Cashier	George Barker	Ted Bladwell	Bob Aston
Toast / thanks	Kris Elphick	Bob Aston	Bill Hardie
4-way test	Neville Gough	Laurelle Pacey	George Barker
3-minute talk	Jeremy Ferguson	Bill Hardie	Chris Elphick
FINES	Chris O'Brien	Bob Aston	John Messner
Introduction	Bob Aston	John Messner	Laurelle Pacey

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: PP Maureen Manning of RC Batemans Bay will run a membership recruitment workshop

COMING EVENTS:

14 September Board Meeting

21 September

24 September ROTARY MARKETS ON NATA OVAL

28 September

*29 & 30
September
1 October*

Blues Festival

28-29 October DISTRICT CONFERENCE AT BATEMANS BAY – theme is 'Building on a strong Foundation'

Rotary in Lebanon (From the RI Website)

Lebanon's Rotary, Rotaract, and Inner Wheel clubs were transformed into an impressive corps of volunteers that provided much needed emergency relief to tens of thousands of displaced residents during a month of fighting.

As soon as the Israeli-Hezbollah conflict broke out mid-July, clubs in the less vulnerable areas set up committees to collect, purchase, and distribute relief supplies for refugees seeking safer havens.

"We met daily to assess the situation and plan how to address the needs of refugees," says Ronald Farra, of the Rotary Club of Baabda in Beirut. "We contributed our own money and accepted donations to buy food, medicine, and other relief packages."

Rotarians and Rotaractors exchanged news and situation reports and coordinated their humanitarian activities by e-mail, telephone, or word-of-mouth where the telecommunication infrastructure was destroyed.

To better synchronize their efforts, more than 100 participants representing all but two of the country's 20 Rotary clubs and 15 Rotaract clubs met in Beirut on 1 August. They set up a national relief committee and a bank account to receive donations.

According to Michel Jassar, of the Rotary Club of Zgharta-Zawié, the outpouring of support from Rotary clubs all over RI District 2450 and the rest of the world greatly encouraged and cheered up local Rotarians.

For example, Rotarians in Amman, Jordan, rushed 350 kidney dialysis filters to Beirut. Rotary clubs in Bahrain and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for emergency relief supplies, and Rotary clubs in Cyprus and Egypt sent shipments of relief supplies to Lebanon.

"Their understanding, contributions, and messages of support kept us going," he says. "We need to explain to all Rotarians that the refugees will need more help as they return to their homes."

In its latest meeting, the emergency relief committee of the clubs in Lebanon decided to assess the needs of displaced people returning to the most devastated areas in the south and east of the country. Dealing with trauma will be a huge responsibility, Farra points out. So will the rebuilding of medical facilities, schools, and even the social fabric that has made Lebanon a multireligious community.

"It is not possible for us to match what bigger organizations like the Red Cross and UN are doing," he says. "But we can help. For example, we can repair houses, do cleanups, or provide small loans for individuals in villages that are not serviced by these organizations."

According to Christine Arzoumanian, president of the Rotaract Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan, such postconflict support includes helping local businesses reopen so residents can return to work.

"We are doing our best," she says. "No matter what happens in the future, we want to keep the spirit of Rotary alive in Lebanon."

An Invitation from Dg Mick

Fellow Rotarians and partners,

The District Conference being held on the last weekend in October is a very important event for a number of reasons:

- firstly, it will let you publicly celebrate the ideals and achievements of Rotary at the District level and worldwide;
- secondly, it will provide an opportunity for you to enjoy a range of quality presenters – they will employ a diversity of techniques to capture your interest on a wide range of important topics. I can assure you there will be plenty of “food for thought” from their presentations and they will inspire and motivate you; and
- thirdly, it will allow Rotarians and their partners from all over the District to get together for a weekend of fellowship and fun.

The Conference theme is “Building on a Solid Foundation” – please attend and help us do just that for the rest of my year and thereafter.

The Conference committee from the Yass and Batemans Bay Clubs have gone to considerable lengths to ensure quality speakers, venues and catering arrangements, at a very reasonable cost.

In this regard I must pay tribute to the eleven sponsors whose generosity has assisted the Conference Committee to defray many of the not inconsiderable costs of running a quality conference of this size.

The other key ingredient for a successful Conference is attendance by lots of enthusiastic Rotarians and partners. So it is up to you to now “Lead The Way to Batemans Bay”.

Register now for the Conference and help make it an outstanding success.

Lori and I look forward to seeing you at “The Bay”.

Yours in Rotary

Mick Newling

You can register for the conference at the following website

<http://www.d9710.rotary.org.au/Conference/information.htm>

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSION MONTH

The Funny Side

The Rules of Golf – According to Nyngan

Nyngan invented a number of rules to make play more enjoyable and entertaining. Rotarians generally use Nyngan Rules when playing at the Royal Narooma Course on a Sunday afternoon.

Rule 4

If a player can retrieve his/her ball within five seconds of hitting it, the shot can be replayed without penalty!

Supplementary Rule 4

Wearing a glove does not necessarily improve one's game of golf!

Dad will never say

Top Ten Things You'll Never Hear a Dad Say

1. Well, how 'bout that?... I'm lost! Looks like we'll have to stop and ask for directions.
2. You know Pumpkin, now that you're thirteen, you'll be ready for unchaperoned car dates. Won't that be fun?
3. I noticed that all your friends have a certain "up yours" attitude ... I like that.
4. Here's a credit card and the keys to my new car -- GO CRAZY.
5. What do you mean you wanna play football? Figure skating not good enough for you, son?
6. Your Mother and I are going away for the weekend ... you might want to consider throwing a party.
7. Well, I don't know what's wrong with your car. Probably one of those doo-hickey thingies -- you know -- that makes it run or something. Just have it towed to a mechanic and pay whatever he asks.
8. No son of mine is going to live under this roof without an earring -- now quit your belly-aching, and let's go to the mall.
9. Whaddya wanna go and get a job for? I make plenty of money for you to spend.
10. Father's Day? aahh -- don't worry about that -- it's no big deal.

Tonight's international toast

Tonight we raise our glasses to the Rotary Club of Trumansburg in District 7170. The club was chartered in 1927 and has 11 members. The village of Trumansburg, located in the Finger Lakes district of New York state in the USA, hosts a so-called Grassroots Festival of Music every year. Held on four stages over four days/nights with 60 bands, its impact on the village must be like that of the Great Southern Blues and Rockabilly Festival on Narooma.

The Narooma Rotary Beacon

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