

Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. weekly
bulletin

The Beacon



Vol. 49 No. 37 12 April 2007

Marilyn's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Friends,

I hope you and your families have all had a happy and safe Easter.

Last week's meeting was very enjoyable and it was great to see Fred Doctor back in town. Fred gave us a short talk on his life in the Sunshine State.

We also had Rotarian Marren van de Linde with us from the Rotary Club of Dunstable Downs in the UK with us. Chris' mother Joan also made a return visit to the Club. It was lovely to see Joan looking so well after her recent illness.

This week we will be having our first meeting of the outgoing and incoming Boards to ensure a smooth transition of service portfolios at changeover.

Have a great week. Don't eat too many chocolate eggs!

See you Thursday.

Luv,
Pres. Maz

The Foundation Snippet

What a tremendous success The Rotary Foundation has experienced over the past few years. At the end of FY 2003 our Foundation was ranked 96th out of the top 400 most successful U.S. charities by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, a prestigious publication. This was the first time our Foundation has been included in the top 100. That year we raised over US\$133 million, largely due to the Polio Eradication effort. Since then The Rotary Foundation has set new giving records for the Annual Programs Fund, increasing from US\$55 million in 2002-2003 to nearly US\$85 million in 2004-2005. The next year's goal of US\$105 million was exceeded.

Although the numbers are impressive, when you make your gift to The Rotary Foundation - just think about all the people you are helping. That's the most satisfying aspect of our success.

APRIL IS MAGAZINE MONTH

Program

Tonight: Board Meeting

TASK	12 April 2007	19 April 2007	26 April 2007
Greet /welcome/wheel	John Messner	Kevin Young	Ian Thomlinson
Cashier	Kevin Young	Ian Thomlinson	Bill Hardie
Toast / thanks	Ian Thomlinson	Bill Hardie	Ted Bladwell
4-way test	Bill Hardie	Ted Bladwell	Phil Gaffney
3-minute talk	Ted Bladwell	Phil Gaffney	Lin Morey
FINES	Phil Gaffney	Lin Morey	Chris O'Brien
Introduction	Lin Morey	Chris O'Brien	George Barker

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: Kim Bush

COMING EVENTS:

- 22 April **Rotary Markets – NATA**
- 26 April **Barney Barnbrook**
- 2 May **Cinders Trophy – Narooma will retain the shield. Combined meeting with Moruya**
- 3 May **No Meeting – Meeting moved to Wednesday night**
- 10 May
- 17 May **Pride of Workmanship Award – Partners Night**
- 24 May **Board Meeting**

Last Week

Last week we were honoured to have Fred Doctor back with us. Fred as many would know was an valued member of our Club for many years. Fred now resides on the Sunshine Coast – he gave us a brief glimpse of his life up north. The bus trips sounded very interesting!

We also had the pleasure of having Rotarian Marren van de Linde with us from the Rotary Club of Dunstable Downs in the UK. Marren is in Narooma visiting his daughter, son in law and grandchildren. At short notice Marren gave us an interesting talk on his life working for a multi-national company and how three of his four children came to settle in Australia.

Chris O'Brien's mother Joan was also with us.

Neville won the eggs, Kevin the port and Fred Doctor picked up the special prize.

The Market Report

Last Monday's market was a great success. Treasurer Kevin reports that the gate made \$1070.00, the van took \$870.00, the wishing well \$319.50 and white elephant \$76.00. Well done to all the helpers on the day.

Attendance Matters

Attendance officer Ted reports that the attendance for the month of March was 77.4%.

Catching the green bug

From the Gobi desert to the Pacific coast, Rotary clubs plant seeds for the future.

The Rotarian

March 2007

Sometimes global problems seem so, well, global, especially when it comes to the environment. It can get downright overwhelming when you're constantly bombarded with headlines that scream, "EU Warns of Global Climate Chaos" (*The Guardian*) and, "Pollution in China out of Control" (*Edmonton Journal*). And then there are all the alarming statistics: The World Bank projected that, on average, 1.8 million people would die each year between 2001 and 2020 because of air pollution.

In the contiguous United States, the past nine years have been among the 25 warmest on record, an unprecedented streak, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. But Rotarians are not ones to sit idly by, no matter how daunting the task seems. Maybe that's because they know a secret: Just as tossing a tiny pebble can cause a ripple across an entire pond, the smallest project can have profound global effects. Good ideas, after all, are contagious, especially if you're part of a worldwide network.

Take the Rotary International Preserve Planet Earth focus. It was launched by Past RI President Paulo V.C. Costa in 1990. That year, about 2,000 club projects aimed at protecting the environment began. Today, Rotary clubs around the world are doing everything from promoting alternative energy practices to planting trees.

Here are some ideas from a few that have been successful, just in case your club catches the "go-green" bug.

Korean Rotarians plant trees to stop desertification

"Who else but Rotarians would attempt a feat like turning the Gobi desert green?" asks Sangkoo Yun, past governor of District 3650 (Korea). But that's exactly what Korean Rotarians are aiming for with Keep Mongolia Green, a Centennial Community Project that continues to grow. To prevent desertification of parts of Mongolia, Rotarians have planted more than 100,000 locally grown trees to form a windbreak forest.

Rotarians and Rotaractors from all 17 Korean districts travelled to the middle of the Gobi desert to build the windbreak, which covers 196 acres of desolate land. Rotarians also established two tree nurseries, dug and refurbished wells, and built 8 miles of fencing. A US\$150,000 Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation, \$10,000 from each of the Korean districts, and \$50,000 from the Mongolian government helped finance the project.

Mongolian Rotarians also helped with the planting, and some made individual donations.

Since the project began, administrators at the Korean Forestry Agency were so impressed by its success in the South Gobi region that they agreed to help plant trees in Mongolia for the next 10 years.

"For the local residents in South Gobi, [the windbreak forest] could mean the survival of their motherland," says Yun. "My dream is someday soon, the children of South Gobi will look after these trees as their personal tree of hope and will plant more trees as their hopes grow."

California Rotarians promote alternative-energy solar ovens

In nearly a dozen countries, the Rotary Club of Fresno, Calif., USA, has helped people use the sun to make a hot meal – harnessing clean, efficient solar power for cooking.

Fresno club member Wilfred Pimentel and his wife, Marie, realized the need for an alternative oven while living in Nigeria, where they witnessed the environmental and health problems caused by wood-burning ovens used in much of the developing world.

"Chopping down trees strains the environment, especially in areas subject to mudslides," says Marie Pimentel, an honorary member of the Fresno club. She explains that the traditional method of cooking requires hours to gather wood and that burning can cause severe lung and eye problems, especially for women and children exposed to thick smoke inside tiny, poorly ventilated kitchens.

Solar ovens provide a solution. The couple introduced the idea of a sun-powered oven to their club in 1994 after learning about them through the organization Solar Cookers International. The simplest solar oven is constructed of local, recycled cardboard covered with aluminium foil.

"The Cookit is cardboard that's 3 feet by 4 feet, with an upper flap and a bottom flap and four creases so it's round, and the whole thing is covered in aluminium foil," explains Marie Pimentel. "It acts like a Crock-Pot."

As an added benefit, a solar oven can also pasteurize about a quart of water in an hour. The Fresno club distributes a thermometer called a water pasteurization indicator (WAPI) with the ovens. It contains a small amount of soybean fat inside a tube, which melts when the water has reached 149 degrees Fahrenheit, hot enough to kill most bacteria. "We make the WAPIs here in Fresno with a local Interact group," says Marie Pimentel.

The Pimentels travel as Rotary Volunteers to train communities around the world how to use solar ovens, often working with local Rotarians as part of a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant project. "We go to a country at the invitation of a Rotary club president and ask him or her about Rotary club support, possible help from nongovernmental organizations, and the availability of foil and cardboard needed to make a simple cooker," says Wilfred Pimentel.

Adds Marie Pimentel: "I've seen women take pots out of the cooker, and the steam hits them in the face, and they can't believe that the food is cooked. Many of the women don't know what Rotary is, but they take your hand in both of theirs and look at you, and they say, 'Thank you for coming.'"

New Zealand Rotarians trust in Trees for Survival

In 1991, the Rotary Club of Pakuranga, New Zealand – RI President Bill Boyd's home club – launched a national charitable trust called Trees for Survival. Boyd serves as a trustee on the blossoming effort, which encourages schoolchildren to grow seedlings in their classrooms and plant them on designated land that needs trees to help prevent soil erosion, improve water quality, or increase biodiversity.

The Trees for Survival Trust began in Australia and was redeveloped in New Zealand. Local sponsors donate boxes for growing the trees. Then, a local Rotary club provides the seedlings, planting mix, and other materials. The supplies cost the Rotary club about US\$500 per year. Children plant the seedlings into individual containers and nurture them for a year until they're large enough to be planted outside.

The seedlings are always native to the area where they will be planted, according to President Boyd. Regional councils identify places where there is erosion or where water quality has deteriorated, and the children who've raised the trees go out on a one-day expedition to plant them. If they plant on the land of a private farmer, the farmer must agree to fence off the property until the trees have grown to sufficient size.

"The success of the project is such that the only limitation on it is the ability of the Trees for Survival Trust to provide the administrative support," Boyd says.

The Funny Side

Evidently these notices have appeared in church bulletins!

- Don't let worry kill you. Let the Church help.
- Thursday night-Potluck Supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Thursday at 5PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become Little Mothers please see the minister in his private study.
- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- Next Sunday, a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and get a piece of paper.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- The 1991 Spring Council Retreat will be held May 10 and 11.
- Pastor is on vacation. Massages can be given to church secretary.
- 8 new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- The Senior Choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.
- Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who are preparing for the birth of their first child.

Friday 13th

Tomorrow is Friday the 13th. Below is some trivia that may be of some interest!

- Legendary heavy metal band Black Sabbath's first, self-titled album was released in the UK on Friday, February 13, 1970.
- Novelist Daniel Handler, also known as Lemony Snicket, released the 13th book of the Series of Unfortunate Events on Friday, October 13, 2006.
- January 13, 2006, and October 13, 2006, were not only Fridays, but the digits in the month, day, and year of each date add up to 13. This last occurred on October 13, 1520, and will next occur on May 13, 2011.
- There is an almost uncanny occurrence (at least in recent years) of the full moon falling on or very close to a Friday the 13th. July 13th, 1984, February 13th, 1987, March 13th, 1998, October 13th, 2000 were all full moons. June 13th, 2003 and January 13th, 2006 were the days before a full moon, and June 13th, 2014 and January 13th, 2017 occur slightly after the full moon. Friday, September 13th, 2019 will be the next year to contain a full moon on a Friday the 13th.^[11]
- The asteroid 99942 Apophis will make its close encounter on Friday, April 13, 2029.
- Every year has at least one month with Friday the 13th.
- The Harry Potter Movie: Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix will be released on Friday, July 13, 2007.
- Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, Margaret Thatcher, Fidel Castro and Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen were all born on a Friday the 13th

Tonight's international toast

Alderney is the closest of the Channel Islands to France. Its agricultural economy has lately given way to tourism and finance industries. The community of 2,400 people is served by a Rotary club of 15 members which was chartered in 1979 in District 1110.

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the Ideal of Service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- 1. The development of acquaintances as an opportunity for Service;*
- 2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of worthiness of all useful occupations and the dignifying by each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;*
- 3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;*
- 4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.*

The 4-Way Test

of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Grace

O Lord and giver of all good.

We thank Thee for our daily food.

May Rotary friends and Rotary ways.

Help us to serve Thee all our days.

The Narooma Rotary Beacon

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