



# The Beacon

Vol. 50 No.25      20 December 2007

## *Laurelle's Musings*



On site at the school, Ian T. with the Headmaster Mr. Tjah. Notice cricket pitch being prepared with roller.

A happy Christmas to everyone here tonight. A big welcome to AG Phil Armstrong and his wife Kim. I hope everyone has a great night and a wonderful family time over the coming week or so and a safe one.

It's been a full Rotary week. Last Thursday we had our Board meeting and we voted funds to a number of international projects, including a school Ian Thomlinson found out while in India.

We voted \$1200 for a ShelterBox, \$500 to the RAWCS Appeal for the Oro Province Disaster Papua New Guinea and \$1,000 to BAAS Educational Trust for a school in India (seen in India by Ian Thomlinson (see pic). More about all those later.

My thanks to the panel of AG Phil Armstrong, VP Ian Thomlinson and Angie Ulrichsen who last Saturday interviewed seven students who applied for the 2008 Tertiary Scholarship. It was a great effort by the team. I acted as coordinator and student fetcher. We have a busy time ahead with markets on Sunday and the food van at Bar Beach Boxing Day to New Year so please make sure you complete all the rosters circulating tonight. We will email and hand deliver the final copies to those not with. We will talk more about this tonight and I will circulate a draft roster to get everyone thinking about whether they can commit to that time. In the meantime, please don't forget your duck race tickets – make sure you sell to friends and relations don't leave them until the last minute

Enjoy your evening.  
Laurelle

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

Richard D King from California was RIP in 2001-02. The driving force to our service in Rotary in that year was his theme, "Mankind is our Business".

PRIP Richard's home club is the Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont) which was chartered in 1937 in District 5170. The club has 104 members and sponsors an Interact club.



**DECEMBER IS ROTARY FAMILY MONTH**

## *Program*

### **Tonight: CHRISTMAS PARTY**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>20 December</b>	<b>27 December</b>	<b>31 January</b>
<b>Greet /welcome/wheel</b>	Bill Hardie	No Meeting	Tony Fahey
<b>Cashier</b>	Tony Fahey	No Meeting	Marilyn Gibson
<b>Toast / thanks</b>	Marilyn Gibson	No Meeting	Kevin Young
<b>4-way test</b>	Kevin Young	No Meeting	Angie Ulrichsen
<b>3-minute talk</b>	Angie Ulrichsen	No Meeting	Bob Aston
<b>FINES</b>	Bob Aston	No Meeting	Phil Gafney
<b>Introduction</b>	Phil Gafney	No Meeting	Jeremy Ferguson

*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: No Meeting**

26 December – 1 January	Food Van at Bar Beach 10.00am to 4.00pm each day
2 January	<b>Narooma Rotary Markets – NATA Oval</b>
3 January	No Meeting
10 January	A night of fun at Bob and Therese Aston's place 8 Tarourga Place Dalmeny. Meat provided need to bring drinks, salad or dessert.
17 January	Home visit TBC
24 January	No Meeting
26 January	Duck Race
27 January	Narooma Rotary Markets – NATA Oval

### *The Beacon over the holiday period*

The Editor is taking a little vacation from putting together the Beacon over the holiday period. The next issue will be published in time for our meeting on 31 January 2008.

### *From the International Service Director*

At the Board meeting last Thursday consideration was given to funding several international projects.

Natarbora Agricultural College. The coordinators of this project report that they have applied to assist another project in the same province of East Timor, as a German charity has taken over at the College. We have withheld our contribution intended for the College pending RAWCS listing of their new project - the Uma Boco Clinic.

Kokoda Aid Posts. Though funding is still required for the maintenance of these facilities in the Oro Province of PNG, priority was given to giving financial aid for disaster relief in the province which was devastated by Cyclone Guba and the floods which followed. The Board voted to donate \$500.

ShelterBox Australia. Our Australia Day Duck Race raffle is being held to raise funds for the purchase of a shelterbox. The Board decided to make a donation in advance of the event - \$1,200.

Operation Cleft. Run by RC Box Hill Central, this project supports and enables surgeons in Bangladesh, Vietnam and Sri Lanka to perform corrective surgery on children born with cleft lips or cleft



palates at minimal cost - \$150 per operation. D9710 is supporting the project financially, and the Board resolved to help with a donation of \$600.

BAAS Educational Trust. The trustees have established a school which serves three villages in India in order to provide a standard of education superior to that which government schools in the area can give. PP Ian visited it during his recent holiday and brought back a detailed report to the Board. On that basis the Board agreed to provide a one-off contribution of \$1,000 towards ongoing operating expenses, and to seek further funding by way of a matching grant if that can be arranged through District.

## *Documenting disaster*

By Janice S. Chambers

For nearly four years, Mark Pearson has endured malaria, landslides, and rebel gunfire to photograph the disaster relief efforts of ShelterBox volunteers -- a nonprofit founded and supported by Rotarians that delivers tents and critical supplies to disaster victims.

We spoke with Pearson, an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Wadebridge, England, to find out more about his extraordinary job.

### **Q. How did you get involved with ShelterBox?**

A. I was working as a press photographer, and I was sent to do some portraits of Rotarian Tom Henderson for a local newspaper. I spoke to Tom and showed him some images, and he asked me to volunteer to cover ShelterBox work in northern Uganda. At that time, thousands had fled the Lord's Resistance Army and there was a huge IDP (internally displaced person) problem. So it all started from there. Three months later the tsunami happened, and I went to cover the east of Sri Lanka. Tom gave me contacts for Colombo Rotarians, and the Rotary clubs gave me a vehicle.

### **Q. Are you a volunteer or are you getting compensated?**

A. I was a volunteer for the first year or so, giving my time and supplying my equipment free of cost to ShelterBox. Now I receive a nominal payment for my time, and of course, on-site and travel expenses. I am still a freelance photographer but now spend much of my time working with ShelterBox worldwide. ShelterBox work to me is more of a passion than a job!

### **Q. What do you hope to accomplish with your book?**

A. I want to demonstrate the "reality" of humanitarian aid work -- the thread being the ShelterBox project and their work worldwide. I want to show people the difficulties humanitarian aid workers face -- in particular, the ShelterBox teams -- and let them know it is not just a question of delivering "aid" material to the nearest airport or port. There are many obstacles and problems to overcome, not the least of which are the terrain, the weather, etc. The book illustrates amongst other things the similarities between a manmade disaster in southern Lebanon and the same destruction in an earthquake in Pakistan. There is really little difference in the damage caused -- of course in war-torn areas there is often the added problem of unexploded ordnance to watch out for.

### **Q. What were your impressions of Rotary before volunteering with ShelterBox? And now?**

A. I knew of the Rotary organization, but had not been involved before ShelterBox. Over the last two years, I have found out how big an organization it is, with a great worldwide network. All the Rotarians I have met are very influential, trustworthy, and respected in their countries. I think it is a great organization. I have met many UN officials who praise the work ShelterBox, and of course Rotary, does.

### **Q. How would you describe your approach to photography?**

A. My general approach to photography is on a social documentary side, rather than looking for the immediate sensational images. I like to immerse myself in the story. I have stayed in the worst conditions for months, like with the tsunami. After spending that much time, you start to see the real side of the

problems faced by the people affected. Then you see what's really going on, and as you are living in it, you have a better understanding of the crisis.

## *The Funny Side*

### *Barbie's Letter to Santa*

Dear Santa,



Listen you fat little troll, I've been helping you out every year, playing at being the perfect Christmas present, wearing skimpy bathing suits in frigid weather, and drowning in fake tea from too many tea parties. I hate to break it to you Santa, but it is DEFINITELY payback time!!

There had better be some changes around here this Christmas, or I'm gonna call for a nationwide meltdown (and trust me, you don't want to be around to smell it!) So, here's my holiday wish list for this year, Santa.

1. A nice, comfy pair of sweat pants and a frumpy, oversized sweatshirt. I'm sick of looking like a hooker. How much smaller are these bathing suits gonna get? Do you have any idea what it feels like to have nylon and Velcro up your butt?

2. Real underwear that can be pulled on and off. Preferably white. What bonehead at Mattel decided to be cheap and mould imitation underwear to my skin? It looks like cellulite!!!

3. A REAL man....maybe G.I.Joe. Hell, I'd take Tickle-Me-Elmo over that wimped out excuse for a boy-toy Ken. And what's with the earring anyway? If I'm going to have to suffer with him, for christ's sakes, make us anatomically correct.

4. Arms that actually bend so I can push the aforementioned Ken-wimp away once he is anatomically correct.

5. Breast reduction surgery. I don't care whose arm you have to twist, just do it!!

6. A jog-bra. To wear until I get the surgery.

7. A new career. Pet doctor and school teacher just don't cut it. How about a systems analyst? Or better yet, a public relations senior account exec!!

8. A new, more 21<sup>st</sup> Century persona. Maybe a "PMS Barbie", complete with a miniature container of chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream and a bag of chips; "Animal Rights Barbie", with my very own paint gun, fitted with fake fur coat, bottle of spray blood and handcuffs; or "Stop Smoking Barbie", sporting a Nicotrol patch and equipped with several packs of gum.

9. No more McDonald's endorsements. The grease is wrecking my vinyl.

10. Mattel stock options. It's been more than, 47 years-I think I deserve it!

Okay Santa, that's it, considering my valuable contribution to society, I don't think these requests are out of line. If you disagree, then you can find yourself a new bitch for next Christmas. It's that simple.

Yours truly,  
Barbie

## *Ken's Letter to Santa*

Dear Santa

I understand that one of my colleagues has petitioned you for changes in her contract, specifically asking for anatomical and career changes.

In addition, it is my understanding that disparaging remarks were made about me, my ability to please, and some of my fashion choices. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of some issues concerning Ms. Barbie, and some of my own needs and desires.

First of all, I along with several other colleagues feel Barbie DOES NOT deserve preferential treatment-the bitch has EVERYTHING!! I, along with Joe, Jem, Raggedy Ann & Andy, DO NOT have a dream house, Corvette, evening gowns, and in some cases, the ability to change our hairstyle. I personally have 3 outfits which I am forced to mix and match at great length. My decision to accessorise my outfits with an earring was my decision and reflects my lifestyle choice.

I, too, would like a change in my career. Have you considered:"Decorator Ken", "Beauty Salon Ken", or "Out of Work Actor Ken"? In addition, there are several other avenues which could be considered such as:"S&M Ken", "Green Lantern Ken", "Circuit Ken", "Bear Ken", and "Master Ken".

These would more accurately reflect my desires and perhaps open new markets. And as for Barbie needing bendable arms so she can "push me away", I need bendable knees so I can kick that bitch to the curb.

Bendable knees would also be helpful for me in other situations-we've talked about this issue before.

In closing, I would like to point out that any further concessions to the blond bimbo from hell will result in action taken by myself and others.

PS. Barbie can forget about having Joe-he's mine, at least that is what he said last night.

Sincerely,

Ken

*The Compliments of  
the Season to  
Members, Partners  
and Friends of  
Rotary*



**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	