



Laurelle's Musings

It was great to have such a good turn-out last Thursday to check out the VRA's new headquarters and the 'jaws of life' before our regular meeting. It was training night so while one crew was practicing cutting into a vehicle to release a trapped person, another crew was on the inlet practicing rescuing someone on the bar. That practice came into its own the next morning on the bar.

We even had our guest Rotarian Gordon Bentley from RC of

Dubbo (Has a holiday house here) join us for the evening, including at the VRA headquarters.

Last week was also different in that we had our meeting in what was Miss Lynch's old cottage (now part of The Whale's premises) due to circumstances beyond both the Whale's and our control, but it worked well.

VRA Captain Ben Bate joined us briefly in the cottage for us to present him with a \$1,500 contribution towards a new Lukas jaws of life with a 68 tonnes cutting capacity capable of cutting through the hardened steel of most recently manufactured cars.

Great three-minuter from Jeremy (fascinating story of accidental discovery in Solomon's!) and Marilyn's fines session with a nautical theme.

Thanks everyone who helped out at the markets on Sunday, particularly Bill Hardie who stood in for Chris O'Brien and did a great job. We had to make a few decisions on the run, but all will be revealed.

Now tonight is a Club Assembly (first for the year) when the 50th celebrations will feature, so put your thinking caps on because the Board wants everyone to be a part of this. A Board meeting will follow. Please let either Ted or me know any items you might particularly like to raise.

Enjoy your evening.
Laurelle

Program

Tonight: Meet Club Assembly followed by a Board Meeting

TASK	28 February	7 March	13 March
Greet /welcome/wheel	Lin Morey	Bob Aston	Phil Gaffney
Cashier	Bob Aston	Phil Gaffney	Jeremy Ferguson
Toast / thanks	Phil Gaffney	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson
4-way test	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien
3-minute talk	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick
FINES	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick	Bob Aston
Introduction	Kris Elpkick	Ian Tomlinson	Jack Wightman

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: Meet on Friday night at the Whale to entertain cyclists from Bankstown.
Marilyn will be on her unicycle

13 March	A Bollywood Night – The Thomlinson's take us on a tour of India Partner's Night
20 March	Board Meeting
27 March	Combined meeting with Bega Rotary at the Cobargo Pub



From the International Service Director

Rotary International has received a US\$3.5 million challenge grant from the Google Foundation, a non-profit organisation managed by Google.org, in support of Rotary's top goal to eradicate polio worldwide. Rotary will raise funds to match the Google Foundation grant dollar-for-dollar over one year.

The grant and matching funds will directly support polio immunisation activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), a partnership spearheaded by the World Health Organisation, Rotary International, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Following the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$100 million grant to Rotary in November, Google.org represents another response to the call for support by Rotary and its partners to finish polio," says Dr. Robert S. Scott, trustee chair of the Rotary Foundation. "Both challenge grants reflect strong confidence in Rotary's leadership role in working relentlessly to help achieve this vital public health goal for the world's children."

Globally, the number of polio cases has fallen from 350,000 annually in the mid-1980s to approximately 2,000 cases in 2006. The GPEI has succeeded in slashing the number of cases by 99 percent and decreased the number of polio-endemic countries from 125 to just 4: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Funny Side

Some one-liners

- Energizer Bunny arrested — charged with battery.
- A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
- Practice safe eating — always use condiments.
- A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean a mother.
- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
- I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- If electricity comes from electrons... does that mean that morality comes from morons?
- Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- Corduroy pillows are making headlines.
- Is a book on voyeurism a peeping tome?
- Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play.
- Banning the bra was a big flop.
- Sea captains don't like crew cuts.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.
- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor
- Without geometry, life is pointless.
- When you dream in colour, it's a pigment of your imagination.
- Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.
- Reading whilst sunbathing makes you well-red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

A new Bob Dylan song

How many roads must a man drive down
Before he admits he is lost
Why when a man becomes married is he
unable to find his own socks.
How many times will it take 'til he knows
he has seen the three stooges enough
The answer my friend, I cannot comprehend
The answer, I cannot comprehend

How many shows can a man surf through
before the remote burns out
Why does he think that an intimate gift
is a Dustbuster Plus for the house
How many sounds can a man's body make
before he sleeps on the couch
The answer my friend, is take two aspirin
The answer is take two aspirin
Why when we go for a romantic drive
do we wind up at Builder's Square again
How many nights will he leave the seat up
so I land on cold porcelain
How men really feel is mystery to me
and probably a mystery to them
The answer girlfriend is driving me to gin
The answer is driving me to gin.

International Toast

Back on the west coast of Canada, in British Columbia, we call on the Rotary Club of Prince George (Yellowhead). The club was chartered in District 5040 in 1977. It has 52 members and sponsors a Rotaract club.

Originally the fur trading post of Fort George, the economy of the area is nowadays driven by timber - forestry, plywood manufacture, numerous sawmills and three pulp mills.

Prince George is in a low lying location at the confluence of two rivers. Late last year an ice jam formed on the Nechako River and soon grew to a length of 6km, causing widespread flooding in the town. A report in the town's daily newspaper (going around the table tonight) indicates the duration of the event and its effect.

FEBRUARY IS ROTARY WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH