



# The Beacon

Vol. 50 No.31      7 MARCH 2008

## *Laurelle's Musings*

*Don't forget there is no Rotary this Thursday night.*

*Instead we are meeting on Friday night at The Whale (PLEASE ENSURE YOU LET TED KNOW IF YOU ARE NOT COMING!) to coincide with the visit of five Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Blacktown who are cycling from Blacktown to Bomaderry via the Southern Highlands, Cooma, Snowy Mountains and Bega and now up the coast.*



*They are raising money for the Australian Rotary Health Research Foundation and the Arthritis Foundation.*

PP Melvin Gray has been communicating with us over the last few months about their visit. They were to cycle along the Highway but some Police concerns will see them doing the equivalent distances around here on the Dalmeny- Narooma cycleway, at least the sections completed.

So a very warm welcome to the Blacktown Rotarians.

Many thanks for all those who turned out on Sunday for the Clean Up Australia day – Ted and Sam, Kris, Tony and Sue, and Fred Fawke from RC of Belconnen, and me. Bill Hardie (despite some poor communication from the President re picking up the sausages!) did us all proud by manning the barbecue at Quota Park for all the volunteers for the morning from Lions, Bushwalkers and the Sailing Club, as well as Rotary. Rotary worked through George Hogge of Lions who was site coordinator for Narooma foreshores.

Thanks everyone for last week's very successful Club Assembly (first for the year). Notes will be in a following bulletin as well as notes from the Board meeting that followed. Please everyone remember what you said you would do so we can get a few of these things moving. A feature was of course arrangements for our 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations in August.

Great to have the company of Chris' mother Joan again last week and also Fred and Pam Fawke from RC of Belconnen.

Enjoy your evening.  
Laurelle

**MARCH IS ROTARY POLIO ERADICATION MONTH**

## *Program*

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

<b>TASK</b>	<b>7 March</b>	<b>13 March</b>	<b>20 March</b>
<b>Greet /welcome/wheel</b>	Bob Aston	Phil Gaffney	Jeremy Ferguson
<b>Cashier</b>	Phil Gaffney	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson
<b>Toast / thanks</b>	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien
<b>4-way test</b>	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick
<b>3-minute talk</b>	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick	Bob Aston
<b>FINES</b>	Kris Elpkick	Bob Aston	Jack Wightman
<b>Introduction</b>	Ian Tomlinson	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young

*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:** A Bollywood Night – The Thomlinson's take us on a tour of India  
Partner's Night

20 March	Board Meeting
<b>23 March</b>	<b>Narooma Rotary Markets at NATA Oval</b>
27 March	Combined meeting with Bega Rotary at the Cobargo Pub

## *Brazilian Arch C. Klumph Society member driven to 'move mountains'*

By Dan Nixon

Rotary International News - 29 February 2008

Sometimes it takes a Herculean effort to turn a dream into reality. Past District Governor Helmut Keitel says that's not a problem for Rotary Foundation donor Virgilio Pina of Brazil, who takes on every challenge in overdrive.

Keitel, of Wisconsin, USA, calls Pina "a man who can move mountains. If I were to ask Virgilio what is the heaviest burden you can carry, his answer would be having nothing to carry."

Pina has transformed dreams into reality many times. A member of the Rotary Club of Santos-José Bonifácio, São Paulo, he was the driving force behind the club's formation in 2006 and served as its first president. He has also led by example in promoting club support for the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund, contributing approximately US\$255,000 to the fund since the club's founding.

In addition, Pina challenged club members to become Paul Harris Fellows by offering to match their \$500 contributions with his available Foundation recognition points. His plan resulted in 55 new Paul Harris Fellows and raised more than \$25,450 for the Foundation. He has offered to continue the challenge until every member of the club is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Under Pina's leadership, Santos-José Bonifácio became the world's highest per capita contributing club to the Annual Programs Fund in 2006-07, averaging \$6,054.63 per member. This helped propel District 4420 to the top as the highest per capita contributing district worldwide at \$394.59 per member. Moreover, the club's membership increased from 45 to 153. It now has 162 members and is the largest club in the district.

Pina is also helping his club organize a network of public health clinics in Santos through a joint project of districts 4420 and 6250 (parts of Minnesota and Wisconsin, USA).

“The first clinic serves a needy population of approximately 10,000 people,” he says. “It is one of 12 that will be funded by partnerships with private companies. All the equipment and material will be funded by Rotary Foundation Matching Grants.”

“Virgilio decided that the poor have the same right to good medical facilities as the rich,” said Keitel at a ceremony inducting the Pinas into the Arch C. Klumph Society at RI World Headquarters on 19 February. The society is named after the founder of the Foundation and honors supporters who contribute \$250,000 or more.

“The gifts that you share change lives,” said 2007-08 Foundation Trustee Chair Robert S. Scott of the Pinas’ generous Foundation support. “Your gifts bring food, education, water, and medicine to those who are hungry, who are thirsty, and who yearn for a dignified life, to which all human beings are entitled.”

Pina says that Rotarians are well-equipped to make life better for others. “Rotary International is a tool that allows any Rotarian to transform the dream of serving into reality. When a Rotarian gets involved in Rotary, there are no limits to the capacity to serve.”



### *From the International Service Director*

ShelterBoxes funded by our club have gone far a field to provide temporary homes for families displaced by disasters. Jenny Aston's donation of \$1,000 that she won as 1st prize in the 2005 Duck Race raffle went towards a Box deployed to Indonesia for tsunami relief. The Box we funded last year was sent to Pakistan for flood relief.

We are proud to have adopted ShelterBox as a project which provides such a practical form of aid to people suffering the life-threatening effects of disasters in our region of the world.

### *The Foundation Snippet.*

Here's a challenge! Swim, ride a bike and run nearly 500 miles to raise US\$100.000 for The Rotary Foundation. This is what Rotarian Jeff Glidden of the Rotary Club of Spokane Valley (Opportunity),

Washington, USA did last year. The course of 482 miles covered District 5080 from north to south and amounted to more than three ironman distance triathlons.

Jeff timed his challenge to arrive to the closing banquet of District 5080's annual conference. Exhausted but elated, he entered the ballroom with US\$65,000 pledged to the Foundation. Within 20 minutes the gathering was overwhelmed with US\$35,000 in cheques, cash donations and pledges - and additional donations continued to come in, topping US\$120,000 in late September.

Fantastic!

## *Funny Side*

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

"Because white is the colour of happiness and today is the happiest day of her life," her mother tried to explain, keeping it simple.

The child thought about this for a moment, then said "So, why's the groom wearing black?"

Bill Gates dies He finds himself in purgatory, being sized up by St. Peter.

"Well, Bill, I'm really confused on this call. I'm not sure whether to send you to Heaven or Hell. After all, you enormously helped society by putting a computer in almost every home in America, yet you also created that ghastly Windows '95. I'm going to do something I've never done before in your case: I'm going to let you decide where you want to go."

Bill replied, "What's the difference between the two?"

St. Peter said, "I'm willing to let you visit both places briefly, if it will help your decision."

"Fine, but where should I go first?"

"I'll leave that up to you."

"Okay then," said Bill, "Let's try Hell first."

So Bill went to Hell. It was a beautiful, clean, sandy beach with clear waters and lots of bikini-clad women running around, playing in the water, laughing and frolicking about. The sun was shining, the temperature perfect. He was very pleased.

"This is great!" he told St. Peter. "If this is hell, I REALLY want to see heaven!"

"Fine," said St. Peter, and off they went.

Heaven was a place high in the clouds, with angels drifting about, playing harps and singing. It was very nice, but not as enticing as Hell.

Bill thought for a quick minute, and rendered his decision. "Hmmm. I think I'd prefer Hell," he told St. Peter.

"Fine," retorted St. Peter, "as you desire." So Bill Gates went to Hell. Two weeks later, St. Peter decided to check on the late billionaire to see how he was doing in Hell. When he got there, he found Bill, shackled to a wall in a dark cave, screaming amongst hot flames, being burned and tortured by demons.

"How's everything going?" he asked Bill.

Bill responded, with his voice filled with anguish and disappointment, "This is awful! This is nothing like the Hell I visited two weeks ago! I can't believe this is happening! What happened to that other place, with the beautiful beaches, the scantily-clad women playing in the water?"

"That was a demo," replied St. Peter.

### *International Toast*

Moving on through Canada, our destination this week is Jasper, Alberta. Jasper (population about 4,500) is the commercial centre of Jasper National Park located in the Canadian Rockies.

The Rotary Club of Jasper, AB in District 5370 was chartered in 1997. The club has 27 members. Look it up on the world wide web and see what it's doing.

### *Attendance Matters*

Ted Reports that attendance for last month was 78%  
Well done everyone.

### *The Market Report*

Our chief financial officer Kris reports that the markets held on the last Sunday in February grossed the following

Gate	\$812
Van	\$538.05
White Elephant	\$35.25
Wishing Well	\$99.90

It appears that those members operating the White Elephant staff are underperforming when compared with other areas of the organisation. Remedial action may have to be considered!!!

