



# The Beacon

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## *Laurelle's Musings*



First my apologies for not being able to be with you tonight for what I know will be an absolutely wonderful evening (I'm en route to Brisbane). I know you are in for a treat.

We had a great night last Friday with the five Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Blacktown City. Melvin Gray was cycling from Blacktown to Bomaderry via the Southern Highlands, Cooma, Snowy Mountains and Bega and the rest were his support crew. It will be interesting to see how much they raise along the way for the Australian Rotary Health Research Foundation for arthritis research.

We presented them with a cheque for \$200 towards their fundraising and we will present another \$1,900 to the Foundation on top of that.

Don't forget to get your own BowelScan kit from the chemists over the next few weeks and go through with the test. We don't have a good record over the past few years as a Club in heeding Rotary's own health message...

See you next week.

Enjoy your evening.  
Laurelle

**MARCH IS ROTARY POLIO ERADICATION MONTH**

## Program

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

TASK	13 March	20 March	27 March
<b>Greet /welcome/wheel</b>	Phil Gaffney	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson
<b>Cashier</b>	Jeremy Ferguson	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien
<b>Toast / thanks</b>	Marilyn Gibson	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick
<b>4-way test</b>	Chris O'Brien	Kris Elpkick	Bob Aston
<b>3-minute talk</b>	Kris Elpkick	Bob Aston	Jack Wightman
<b>FINES</b>	Bob Aston	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young
<b>Introduction</b>	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young	Lin Morey

*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: Board Meeting**

23 March	Narooma Rotary Markets at NATA Oval
27 March	Combined meeting with Bega Rotary at the Cobargo Pub



### *From the International Service Director*

Rotaractors from the University of New South Wales will travel to India and Mongolia in July as part of Habitat for Humanity's Global Village Youth Program which sends volunteers ages 14-25 to other countries to help needy people build new homes.

Since 2004 the Rotaractors have travelled on the program to Cambodia, Fiji, the Philippines and Thailand. They've paid their own travel and lodging expenses with help from corporate donations and eight Rotary clubs in New South Wales.

Rotaractor Yiling Cheah went on the Philippines trip in 2005 and led another trip in 2007 to Cambodia. There she and 10 others built two houses in six days and donated money to build a home for a blind elderly woman and her grandson.

Covered with mud and sweat, the volunteers in Cambodia mixed cement, laid bricks, and hauled soil in wicker baskets. The work was exhausting, but the bigger problem was the ankle-deep water caused by flooding. "The soil we carried was wet, meaning that it was a lot heavier to carry. It also meant that we had to work with things hidden in the water, whether it was our tools or parasites," Cheah recalls.

The hard work seemed worthwhile when the homes were presented to their new owners in a special ceremony. "The homeowners were in tears of joy. They were also in tears of sadness because we were about to leave, and they never really got to know us due to language barriers," Cheah says. "The homeowners didn't know how to thank us for what we had given them, and we didn't know what to say. It was only then that our team members realised what a huge contribution we had made to the two families' lives in a matter of six days."

### *From the Historian/Archivist*

It seems apt to feature Rotaract in the International Service report this week, as Rotaract is celebrating 40 years of association with Rotary. Rotaract became an official program of RI with the charter of the Rotaract Club of North Charlotte, USA on 13th March 1968. Forty years later Rotaract has expanded to include more than 7,000 clubs in about 163 countries.

Australia was among the first countries to embrace Rotaract, with the first club in Brisbane being the fourth official Rotaract club in the world. That we should try to form one was agreed at a club assembly in July 1977. An interest meeting held in June 1978 voted to form the Rotaract Club of Narooma. Their Charter Dinner was held on 25th November 1978. They functioned until February 1984 when a sub-committee including our George and Kev was appointed to try to resurrect it. The club's account was closed soon afterwards.

Club archives do not include the register of members of the Rotaract Club of Narooma, nor do they tell us much about what they did. Perhaps George and Kevin can tell us more.

### *The Golf Report*

Last Sunday saw the Editor, Ian and Kevin set off for a round of golf at Royal Narooma. The weather was fine, the course was in magnificent condition and Ian was resplendent, in his Indian golfing attire. The golf played by Kevin and Ian was outstanding, if a little boring, Kevin (aka Gary Player) kept hitting them up the middle and chipping the ball within inches of the hole, scoring a par on the difficult fourth, Ian was hitting the ball great distances, almost getting a hole in one on Hogan's hole, sadly he had to settle for a par. On the long par 5 fifth he easily made par again and was within millimetres of scoring a par again on the sixth when the Editor warned him that if such an event was to occur again he would be banned for six weeks, fortunately he heeded the advice and scored a gritty seven.

The Editor's golf is best left unreported.

## *Funny Side*

The Reverend

Francis Norton woke up Sunday morning and realizing it was an exceptionally beautiful and sunny early spring day, decided he just had to play golf. So... he told the Associate Pastor that he was feeling sick and convinced him to say Mass for him that day.

As soon as the Associate Pastor left the room, Father Norton headed out of town to a golf course about forty miles away. This way he knew he wouldn't accidentally meet anyone he knew from his parish. Setting up on the first tee, he was alone. After all, it was Sunday morning and everyone else was in church!

At about this time, Saint Peter leaned over to the Lord while looking down from the heavens and exclaimed, "You're not going to let him get away with this, are you?"

The Lord sighed, and said, "No, I guess not." Just then Father Norton hit the ball and it shot straight towards the pin, dropping just short of it, rolled up and fell into the hole. It WAS A 420 YARD HOLE IN ONE!

St. Peter was astonished. He looked at the Lord and asked, "Why did you let him do that?"

The Lord smiled and replied, "Who's he going to tell?"

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century....**

#### **We are becoming lesser by the day (From Fred Doctor)**

**Our communication - Wireless**

**Our dress - Topless**

**Our telephone - Cordless**

**Our cooking - Fireless**

**Our youth - Jobless**

**Our food - Fatless**

**Our labour - Effortless**

**Our conduct - Worthless**

**Our relation - Loveless**

**Our attitude - Careless**

**Our feelings - Heartless**

**Our politics - Shameless**

**Our education - Valueless**

**Our follies - Countless**

**Our arguments - Baseless**

**Our Job - Thankless**

**Our Boss - Brainless**

**Our Salary - Very less**

**Our emails - useless!!!**

## *International Toast*

Let's take a detour from our Canadian journey to go to the state of Washington in north-western USA. We are introduced to the Rotary Club of Bellevue Breakfast by a member who is an acquaintance of Tony Fahey, one Norm Johnson.

Rotary must be quite influential there. RC Bellevue has 199 members, Bellevue Breakfast has 117, and RC Mercer Island which is Norm's address has 141 members. There's also a Bellevue Sunrise club (25 members).

The Rotary Club of Bellevue Breakfast, WA in District 5030 was chartered in 1985. They sponsor an Interact Club. Look it up - go to <http://bbrc.net>