

Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. weekly  
bulletin

# The Beacon



**Vol. 50 No.36      10 April 2008**

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## *Laurelle's (Ian's) Musings*

Last week's meeting was really a tribute to volunteering as we were joined by Ian Scott, Divisional Commander of the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol, and Alan 'Woodie' Woods a long time 'firey' and secretary of the Rural Fire Service, Narooma branch.

For both organisations, their survival depends on volunteers to carry out the hands-on fire fighting and rescue activities, and the vital admin and support roles such as radio operations.

Both organisations continue to display great community spirit and are worthy recipients of our Club's donations of \$1000 to each group to assist with funding much needed maintenance and equipment.

It is also significant that Rtn Neville Gough was the first Divisional Commander of the RVCP when operations commenced in 1982.

Members of our Club have been invited to tour the RVCP HQ and also to inspect the rescue boat. It would be most interesting to slot this into our program in the near future.

Please note in your diary that the Cinders Trophy will now be contested with Moruya R C on the revised date 12 June at Narooma.

As we are defending the title earned last year, we would like a good turn out of Rotarians and partners to ensure a successful and fun night.

Tonight we welcome Mitchell Shaw who will address us as part of Youth Week activities.

Enjoy the evening.

VP Ian

**APRIL IS ROTARY MAGAZINE MONTH**

## *Program*

**Tonight:** Mitchell Shaw on Youth Week

<b>TASK</b>	<b>10 April</b>	<b>17 April</b>	<b>24 April</b>
<b>Greet /welcome/wheel</b>	Kris Elphick	Bob Aston	Jack Wightman
<b>Cashier</b>	Bob Aston	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young
<b>Toast / thanks</b>	Jack Wightman	Kevin Young	Lin Morey
<b>4-way test</b>	Kevin Young	Lin Morey	Angie Urichsen
<b>3-minute talk</b>	Lin Morey	Angie Urichsen	Phil Gaffney
<b>FINES</b>	Angie Urichsen	Phil Gaffney	Tony Fahey
<b>Introduction</b>	Phil Gaffney	Tony Fahey	Chris O'Brien

*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**

24 April	TBC
27 April	<b>Narooma Rotary Markets at NATA Oval</b>

## *From the international Service Director*

### **Helping a Shanty Town Help Itself**

Egyptian Rotarians have joined forces with a local charity to help families in a Cairo shantytown become self-sufficient. The project, partly financed by a US\$9,335 Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, provides residents of the poverty-stricken Establ Antar community with vocational training and other educational opportunities.

The idea for the effort came from a group of young Egyptians who had been working with the Sohbet Kheir organisation to provide free meals to families in the shantytown. Though they realised the importance of nutrition, they determined that Establ Antar's residents needed skills to support themselves. The group presented a plan to the Rotary Club of Cairo-Zamalek which obtained support from the Rotary Club of Berlin-Nord in Germany, and the project was born.

Establ Antar is a community of tiny, one-room homes made of wooden boards and cloth, clustered around the Antar citadel. There is no plumbing; water is delivered by donkey cart. "The conditions are quite desperate," says project leader Yasmina Abou Youssef, whose father is a member of the Cairo-Zamalek club. "Rotary provided assistance, and now we are making a big difference."

So far, more than 280 people - mostly women and children - have enrolled in courses offered by the project. Children receive instruction in literacy, English, art, sports, and moral development, and adults take classes in literacy and handicrafts. Project leaders are looking for wholesalers and shops to regularly sell the students' creations. In future, the effort may provide computer courses and a Montessori school for children.

## *Youth Week*

Youth Week has been part of the NSW calendar since 1989. Following the success of the NSW Youth Week program, Youth Week became a National event in 2000. National Youth Week is a joint Australian Government, State, Territory and Local Government Initiative.

### **What is the aim of National Youth Week?**

- Provide an opportunity for young people aged 12 to 25 to express their ideas and views, raise issues of concern to them, act on issues which affect their lives and create and enjoy entertainment.
- Provide an opportunity for the wider community to listen to young people, and to acknowledge and celebrate the positive contributions made by their efforts and achievements.
- Promote a community focus on issues of concern to young people.

## Who is responsible for Youth Week in New South Wales?

The NSW Government invites all Local Councils in NSW to jointly fund Youth Week activities in their area. The funding agreement requires Councils to involve young people in all aspects of Youth Week, including the planning, development and management of activities.

In Youth Week 2007, Councils in New South Wales supported events and activities in their local government area. More than 3,500 young people across the state were involved in the planning, development and running of around 1,000 events and activities, which over 190,000 young people attended or participated in.

## What's on the Eurobodalla for Youth Week 2008?

- Aamplify Battle-of-the-bands
- Touch Footy and BBQ  
Dressage and Show Riding Day
- Narooma Idol
- Eurobodalla Youth Strategy  
Barefoot Bowls
- Youth Consultation  
Mantras, Meditation and Mind Skills
- Mini Touch Footy
- Chocolate Making
- Pool Comp
- Mosaics
- A Slice of Cooking
- Pool Comp and Chess Comp

No doubt we will hear more about these activities tonight.

## *Funny Side*

### How Hot Is It In Hell - A True Story

A thermodynamics professor had written a take home exam for his graduate students. It had one question: "Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)? Support your answer with a proof." Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law (gas cools off when it expands and heats up when it is compressed) or some variant. One student, however, wrote the following:

First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So, we need to know the rate that souls are moving into Hell and the rate they are leaving. I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving. As for how many souls are entering Hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today. Some of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there are more than one of these religions and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all people and all souls go to Hell. With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially.

Now, we look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand as souls are added. This gives two possibilities.

1. If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.
2. Of course, if Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over.

So which is it? If we accept the postulate given to me by Ms. Therese Banyan during my Freshman year, that "it will be a cold night in Hell before I sleep with you," and take into account the fact that I still have not succeeded in having sexual relations with her, then #2 cannot be true, and so . . . Hell is exothermic.

The student got the only A.

## *From the RI President*

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

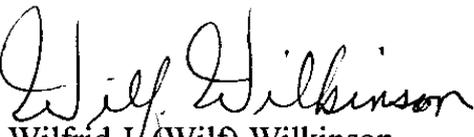
Too many people in the world today have not experienced the joy of reading or writing. Without basic literacy skills, more than 800 million people remain mired in poverty and hopelessness – unable to participate fully in the life of their communities.

Every March, Rotarians around the world gather together to celebrate Literacy Month. While many of you are already engaged in significant efforts to promote reading and writing, Literacy Month is an opportunity for us to renew our commitment to *Service Above Self* by sharing our talents, skills, energy, and resources to promote literacy.

Today, we have more tools than ever to support literacy. As proven literacy projects like the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) continue to have a tremendous impact, Rotary clubs are beginning to employ computers through the Computer Assisted Literacy Solution (CALs) to empower a new generation of students around the world. Rotary's relationship with the International Reading Association has yielded even more opportunities, including a new jointly developed literacy toolkit called *Every School a Star*, which provides resources and ideas for effective school based literacy projects.

Rarely have we been better equipped to help so many in such fundamental ways. As we focus our attention on literacy this month, I encourage Rotarians everywhere to seize this opportunity to act. Whether you adopt a school, tutor a student, or discuss literacy at your club meeting, the literacy projects we plan today have the power to enrich entire communities and bring hope to our friends and neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

  
Wilfrid J. (Wilf) Wilkinson  
President, Rotary International

### *International Toast*

Going on east in Canada we arrive at Sept-Iles (Seven Islands) in Quebec on the northern shore of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Formerly a fishing port and fur trading post, the town was officially founded in 1950 in conjunction with the construction of the Quebec North Shore and Labrador railway built to bring iron ore down to the port.

The Rotary Club of Sept-Iles, QC in District 7790 was chartered in 1989. Its 28 members meet at the Bistrot a la Carte, 649 boul.Laure, greeting each other with "bon soir!" and "comment allez-vous?".