

Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. weekly
bulletin

The Beacon



Vol. 50 No.42 22 May 2008

Laurelle's Musings

Enjoy your evening.
Laurelle

International Toast

We salute the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central for the tremendous effort they have put in to save the sight of so many citizens of southern India. In District 3200 and chartered in 1980, the club has 58 members and sponsors an Interact club and a Rotaract club. It is one of 18 clubs designated 'Coimbatore'.

The Rotary Club of Coimbatore Manchester reflects recognition of Coimbatore as the Manchester of South India. The metropolis has an extensive textile industry based on locally grown cotton. It is also known for its engineering firms, automobile parts manufacturers, health care facilities, educational institutions - and pleasant weather and hospitality.

Program

Tonight: Pride of Workmanship – Partners Night

TASK	22 May	29 May	5 June
Greet /welcome/wheel	Phil Gaffney	Tony Fahey	Chris O'Brien
Cashier	Tony Fahey	Chris O'Brien	John Messner
Toast / thanks	Chris O'Brien	John Messner	Bill Hardie
4-way test	John Messner	Bill Hardie	Marilyn Gibson
3-minute talk	No Talk	Marilyn Gibson	Kris Elphick
FINES	No Fines	Kris Elphick	Neville Gough
Introduction	Bob Aston	Neville Gough	Bob Aston

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 – Joy Gillette

25 May	Narooma Rotary Market at NATA Oval
5 June	TBC
12 June	Cinders Night
19 June	Board Meeting
22 June	Narooma Rotary Market at NATA Oval
26 June	Changeover

The Foundation Snippet

Taken from a report in RI News adapted from a story in Rotary Samachar, the regional magazine for districts in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu is at the centre of an international effort that has helped prevent avoidable blindness throughout the country.

Concerned about this, the Coimbatore club partnered in 1990 with the Sankara Eye Foundation, an organisation that is dedicated to preventing avoidable blindness. The club coordinated a US\$167,000 Health, Hunger and Humanity Grant from The Rotary Foundation with support from Indian and U.S. districts that served a population of 1.85 million and funded nearly 10,000 eye surgeries over 5 years at the Sankara Eye Centre in Coimbatore.

Since then, the work of the Coimbatore Central Rotarians has only gained momentum. The club has headed up six Matching Grant projects, including an effort in 2007 that involved six districts from India and the U.S. joining forces with a group of international charities to support a program that screens rural people over age 40 for diabetic retinopathy using state-of-the-art mobile equipment. Through 5,613 screening events, this Gift of Vision outreach program served a five-state area with more than 32 million people and provided over 362,000 free eye surgeries.

Oyster Festival

What a great festival! The turn out has huge and a great credit to the organisers. I am sure that next year will be bigger and better and we will be more prepared. Those who worked in the van were flat chat for most of the day trying to feed the hungry hordes who just loved our wholesome food. We ran out of food on numerous occasions, having to send out for further supplies. A big thank you to Pam and Maureen who also helped out on the day – we would not have survived without you.

Kris reports that we grossed \$1319.15 at the van and \$15.40 from the Wishing Well. A great day's work.

Pride of Workmanship

Tonight we recognise some outstanding employees at our annual Pride of Workmanship Awards. Many Rotary clubs in Australia sponsor Pride of Workmanship Awards, which are given to recognise employees who display a distinct quality in their approach, attitude, and dedication on the job. The Award is not a competition it is a way of recognising the outstanding work done by our employees in our local community. Congratulations to the following Awardees

Bob Antill	Symons Bus and Coach Service
John and Tracy Morrow	Bodalla Public School
Geoff Stewart	Dalmeny Retirement Village
Sue Powell	Lynch's Hotel
Belinda Anderson	Dalmeny Pre-School and Long Day Care Centre
Sally Bladdeley	Narooma Plaza Pharmacy
Trish Waddilove	Blue House Surgery
Kelley Martin	South Coast Lighting
Alexis Swadling	Narooma High School

Funny Side

Yes folks its time again to revisit those gems from student exam responses

One of the fringe benefits of being an English or History teacher is receiving the occasional jewel of a student blooper in an essay. I have pasted together the following "history" of the world from certifiably genuine student bloopers collected by teachers throughout the United States, from eighth grade through college level. Read carefully, and you will learn a lot.

The inhabitants of ancient Egypt were called mummies. They lived in the Sarah Desert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere, so certain areas of the dessert are cultivated by irritation. The Egyptians built the Pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Pramids are a range of mountains between France and Spain.

Without the Greeks we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns. . .Corinthian, Doric, and Ironic. They also had myths. A myth is a feminine moth. One myth says that the mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Stynx until he became intolerable. Achilles appears in the Illiad, by Homer. Homer also wrote The Oddity, in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer, but by another man of that name.

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guinnesses, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, once asked, "Am I my brother's son?" God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Montezuma. Jacob, son of Isaac, stole his brother's birth mark. Jacob was a patriarch who brought up his twelve sons to be patriarchs but they did not take to it. One of Jacob's sons, Joseph gave refuse to the Israelites.

Pharaoh forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.

Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock.

In the Olympic Games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the javelin. The reward to the victor was a laurel wreath. The government of Athens was democratic because people took the law into their own hands. There were no wars in Greece, as the mountains were so high that they couldn't climb over to see what their neighbours were doing. When they fought with the Persians, the Greeks were outnumbered because the Persians had more men.

Eventually, the Romans conquered the Greeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in one place for very long. At Roman banquets, the guests wore garlands in their hair. Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Nero was a cruel tyrant who would torture his poor subjects by playing the fiddle to them.

Then came the Middle Ages. King Alfred conquered the Danes, King Arthur lived in the Age of Chivalry, King Harold mustered his troops before the Battle of Hastings. Joan of Arc was canonized by Bernard Shaw, and victims of the Black Death grew boils on their necks. Finally, Magna Carta provided that no free man should be hanged twice for the same offense.

In medieval times most of the people were illiterate. The greatest writer of the times was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature. Another tale tells of William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his son's head.

The Renaissance was an age in which more individuals felt the value of their human being. Martin Luther was nailed to the church door at Wittenberg for selling papal indulgences. He died a horrible death, being excommunicated by a bull. It was the painter, Donatello's interest in the female nude that made him the father of the Renaissance. It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented the printing press. Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes. Another important invention was the circulation of blood. Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the world with a 100-foot clipper.

The government of England was a limited monarchy. Henry VIII found walking difficult because he had an abscess on his knee. Queen Elizabeth was the "Virgin Queen." As a queen she was a success. When Elizabeth exposed herself before her troops they all shouted "hurrah." Then her navy went out and defeated the Spanish Armada.

The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. Shakespeare never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He lived at Windsor with his merry wives, writing tragedies, comedies, and errors. In one of Shakespeare's famous plays, Hamlet ratiocinates out his situation by relieving himself in a long soliloquy. In another, Lady Macbeth tries to convince Macbeth to kill the King by attacking his manhood. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couplet. Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Don Quixote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.

During the Renaissance America began. Christopher Columbus was a great navigator who discovered America while sailing about the Atlantic. His ships were the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Fe. Later the Pilgrims crossed the Ocean, and this was known as Pilgrim's Progress. When they landed at Plymouth Rock, they were greeted by the Indians, who came down the hill rolling their war hoops before them. The Indian squaws carried porpoises on their back. Many of the Indian heroes were killed along with their captives, which proved very fatal to them. The winter of 1620 was a hard one for the settlers. Many people died and many babies were born. Captain John Smith was responsible for all this.

One of the causes of the Revolutionary Wars was the English put taxes in their tea. Also, the colonists would send their parcels through the post without stamps. During the war, the Red Coats and Paul Revere was throwing balls over stone walls. The dogs were barking and the peacocks crowing. Finally, the colonists won the War and no longer had to pay for taxes.

Delegates from the original thirteen states formed the Continental Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virginian, and Benjamin Franklin were two signers of the Declaration of Independence. Franklin had gone to Boston carrying all his clothes in his pocket and a loaf of bread under each arm. He invented electricity by rubbing cats backwards and declared "A horse divided against itself cannot stand." Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

George Washington married Marth Curtis and in due time became the Father of Our Country. The Constitution of the United States was adopted to secure domestic hostility. Under the Constitution the people enjoyed the right to keep bare arms.

Abraham Lincoln became America's greatest Precedent. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands. When Lincoln was President, he wore only a tall silk hat. He said, "In onion there is strength." Abraham Lincoln wrote the Gettysburg Address while traveling from Washington to Gettysburg on the back of an envelope. He also freed the slaves by signing the Emasculation Proclamation, and the Fourteenth Amendment gave the ex-Negroes citizenship. But the Clu Clux Clan would torcher and lynch the ex-Negroes and other innocent victims. It claimed it represented law and odor. On the night of April 14, 1855, Lincoln went to the theater and got shot in his seat by one of the actors in a moving picture show. The believed assinator was John Wilkes Booth, a supposedly insane actor. This ruined Booth's career.

Meanwhile in Europe, the enlightenment was a reasonable time. Voltare invented electricity and also wrote a book called Candy. Gravity was invented by Isaac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the Autumn, when the apples are falling off the trees.

Bach was the most famous composer in the world, and so was Handel. Handel was half German, half Italian, and half English. He was very large. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died for this.

France was in a very serious state. The French Revolution was accomplished before it happened. The Marseillaise was the theme song of the French Revolution, and it catapulted into Napoleon. During the Napoleonic Wars the crowned heads of Europe were trembling in their shoes. Then the Spanish Gorillas came down from the hills and nipped at Napoleon's flanks. Napoleon became ill with bladder problems and was very tense and unrestrained. He wanted an heir to inherit his power, but since Josephine was a baroness, she couldn't bear children.

The sun never set on the British Empire because the British Empire is in the East and the sun sets in the West. Queen Victoria was the longest queen. She sat on a thorn for 63 years. Her reclining years and finally the end of her life were exemplary of a great personality. Her death was the final event which ended her reign.

The nineteenth century was a time of many great inventions and thoughts. The invention of the steamboat caused a network of rivers to spring up. Cyrus McCormick invented the McCormick raper, which did the work of a hundred men. Samuel Morse invented a code of telepathy. Louis Pasteur discovered a cure for rabbis. Charles Darwin was a naturalist who wrote the Organ of the Species. Madman Curie discovered radium. And Karl Marx became one of the Marx brothers.

The First World War, caused by the assignation of the Arch-Duck by a surf, ushered in a new error in the anals of human history.

MAY IS ROTARY PLANNING MONTH