



**RI President  
Dong Kurn Lee**

**9710 DG  
Phil Mewett**

**President  
Ted Bladwell**

**Secretary  
John Messner**

**Treasurer  
Kris Elphick**

**Apologies and  
additional  
guests to Phil  
Gaffney the  
Tuesday before  
the meeting on  
44765547 or  
you will be  
charged for  
your meal.**

## *The Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. Bulletin*

### **Ted's Tips**

Hi all,

Those of us that travelled to Cobargo had a great night of fellowship with our mother Club Bega as well as an informative talk on Membership from Past District Governor, Noel Travaskis, with our ADG Maureen Manning in attendance. All in all a well attended meeting and we look forward to continuing next year.

*Rotary Youth Driver Awareness*, to be held this year at the Moruya Jockey Club on the Tuesday and Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April and being run by the Batemans Bay club need two members from Narooma each day to assist in the organising of the students. Please consider helping on either of these days. The Batemans Bay Club is having a BAREFOOT BOWLS day on the Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> March to support the RYDA project and have invited us to put up a team. Any takers?

Our Youth Director Laurelle has received nominations for *RYPEN* (*Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment*) This is a 2 day camp for 14 to 17 year old boys and girls and is held twice a year at Mogo.

I still need names of people that I can approach for prospective members of Rotary. Why not give someone else what you have experienced as a Rotarian !

Make Dreams Real

Cheers

Ted

### **Tonight**

**A meeting of the Board + Some Trivia!**

## Duties

TASK	19 March	26 March	2 April
Welcome/Wheel	Bob Antill	Angie Ulrichsen	Kris Elphick
Cashier	Angie Ulrichsen	Kris Elphick	Lin Morey
Toast / thanks	Kris Elphick	Lin Morey	Bob Aston
3-minute talk	Lin Morey	Bob Aston	John Messner
FINES	Bob Aston	John Messner	Laurelle Pacey
Introduction	John Messner	Laurelle Pacey	Jack Wightman

## Coming Events

19 March	Board Meeting
22 March	Narooma Rotary Markets at NATA Oval
26 March	Gordon Beattie - living book from Bega talking about surviving a stroke
2 April	Youth Speaker
8 April	Cinders
16 April	TBC
23 April	Partners night - Frank Chatteway about ANZAC

## Last week

IT was off to the Cobargo Pub to meet with Bega and to enjoy the delights of Chinese for a change – the food was very good it just took a while for it to be served. The company was excellent – it was great to catch up with members of the Bega Club and get our finger nails paint blue for a dollar a throw (If you were not there and are intrigued as to why – cough up a dollar to Jack and he will tell you! For an extra dollar you might even get your nail painted)

PDG Ann Louttit fined us all for a range of sins and visiting Rotarian Fred Fawke updated both Clubs on Shelterbox.

PDG Noel Travaskis, gave a thought provoking talk on membership. Noel said that in order to attract younger members we need to look at our rituals and meeting structure and maybe make some changes - I for one think he is right. Do we really need to sing (say) grace, drink a loyal toast and sing *Advance*

*Australia Fair?* Do we need to have a dinner meeting every week? Something no doubt we will discuss in coming months.

## **Dolly Parton and Rotary partner to promote reading**

By Ryan Hyland

Rotary International News -- 9 March 2009

On 6 March, country music legend Dolly Parton and Rotary International announced a collaborative relationship to begin a new chapter in promoting early childhood reading.

Under the agreement, Rotary clubs in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States are encouraged to support the Dollywood Foundation's Imagination Library, which provides a book each month to children from birth until age five.

Local Rotary club participation could include promoting the program within the community, helping to identify and register the children, and paying for the books and mailings.

Citing its impressive role in the polio eradication effort, Parton is proud to have Rotary on her foundation's side, she says.

"This partnership is a marriage made in heaven," says Parton. "Rotary does such good work around the world. This is a big deal for us. We feel proud and honoured to be working with such a prestigious organization."

In a public ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, Rotary Foundation Trustee John Germ joined Parton onstage to make the announcement in front of more than 500 people.

"Our partnership with Parton's foundation will bring tremendous improvement in children's literacy," says Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee. "Dolly is the perfect spokeswoman for promoting early childhood reading."

Parton's impoverished childhood and her father's illiteracy inspired the country singer to create a literacy program in 1996 for preschool children in her native Sevier County, Tennessee.

The Imagination Library spread quickly. Today, it serves 47 states, along with parts of Canada and the United Kingdom, and has provided children with more than 15 million books.

"I love books. Anytime I have spare time, I'm reading a book," says Parton. "My father lived long enough to see this program become a success and was so proud people called me 'the Book Lady.'"

According to the Dollywood Foundation, research shows that preschoolers exposed to reading are more likely to look forward to starting school, do well in class, read at or above grade level, finish high school, and go on to college.

"It's great to start the children when they're little, when they're most impressionable, to teach them how to read, teach them how to learn to love books just as much as I do," says Parton.

The program also helps strengthen families by encouraging positive interaction between parents and children through shared reading.

"Let's face it, when a little child gets a book with their name on it, they're going to run to the nearest family member and badger them until they sit down and read it," says Parton.

The Imagination Library is especially valuable for children in underprivileged families, who may find books to be an unaffordable luxury in today's economic slowdown.

For an annual cost of \$28 per child, the Dollywood Foundation sends children registered for the program one book a month, beginning with *The Little Engine That Could*. The books are age appropriate and range from life lessons to bedtime stories.

About 115 Rotary clubs already participate, and that number will triple with the addition of all 203 clubs in Georgia, the first to sign on under the new agreement. The clubs will work through the Georgia-based Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy, with the goal of extending the Imagination Library to all 159 counties in the state.

"For decades, Rotary clubs worldwide have supported literacy programs for children and adults," says Germ. "This collaborative relationship with the Dollywood Foundation will help lift our literacy effort to the next level by promoting early childhood reading."

Parton says she's excited to be working with an organization with so much international reach.

"Rotary has always been willing to do their part in about everything," she says. "Like I always say, you can never do enough, but you can always do something. Just knowing they have all those wonderful clubs all over the world, we can try and help everybody."

## **The Funny Side**

Thanks to Tony Fahey

A guy was driving around Dublin when he saw a sign in front of a house,

'Talking Dog for Sale.'

He rang the bell and the owner told him the dog was in the backyard. The guy went into the backyard and saw a Labrador sitting there..' You talk?' he asked.

'Yes,' the Lab replied.

'So, what's the story?'

The Lab looked up and said, 'Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the Police about my gift, and in no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.

I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running.' 'But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered

some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a load of puppies, and now I'm just retired.'

The guy was amazed. He goes back in and asked the owner what he wanted for the dog. 'Ten euros.' the man said. 'Ten euros? This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?'

'Because he's a liar. He never did any of that rubbish.'

*A woman was fascinated by the elegant calligraphy on the hand-written menu in a Chinese restaurant. She took it home and spent months knitting a sweater with Chinese characters down the front. She was wearing it at a cocktail party when a Chinese physician asked where she got the symbols. "From a menu," she admitted.*

*"Do you know what they say?"*

*"I'm afraid to ask," my wife said, "but tell me anyway."*

*"Cheap, but good."*

A year 4 student came up to her teacher and asked

"Mr Harmer, what is a shi tzu?"

His teacher replied, "Well it's a little dog that is usually white and fluffy."

She replied, "My mum told me it was a zoo with no animals!"

## **International Toast**

Tonight we toast the Rotary Club of Zagreb in Croatia - the oldest Rotary Club in the country - chartered in 1991 and has 53 members. Members meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.00pm at the Hotel Esplanade.

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries for March**

25<sup>th</sup> Steve Deck & Laurelle Pacey Anniversary  
20<sup>th</sup> President Ted's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday