

The Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. Bulletin



**RI President
John Kenny**

**9710 DG
Michael Pedler**

**President
Jack Wightman**

**Secretary
Ted Bladwell /
Laurelle Pacey**

**Treasurer
John Messner**

**Apologies and
additional
guests to Rolf
Gimmel the
Tuesday
before the
meeting on
44762274 or
email
[rolfs@dodo.
com.au](mailto:rolfs@dodo.com.au) OR you
will be charged
for your meal.**

CELEBRATE BEING A ROTARIAN

"The magic of Rotary is that it allows ordinary people to achieve the most extraordinary things. By using the powerful synergy of one, people unite to achieve exceptional global change. Many ordinary members of Rotary have developed projects that brought significant change to the world. Around the world there are 1,210,047 Rotarians in 32,774 clubs and 34,000 Rotarians in 1164 clubs in Australia." – from the Rotary web site home page.

Even though we are a small club and at the moment have a few challenges, "which are nobody's fault, not even the Romans" we do achieve some wonderful things.

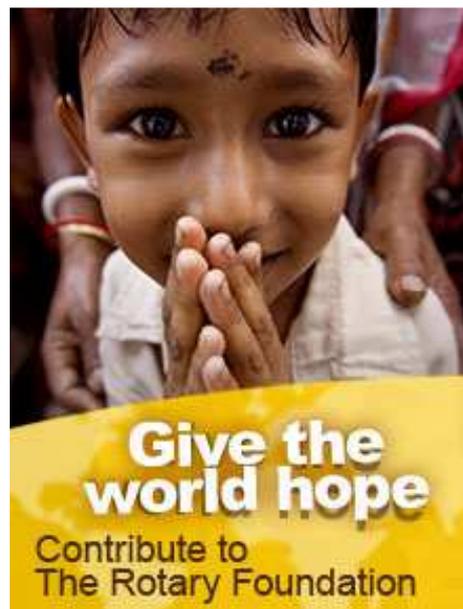
Being part of a great non-political organisation that is dedicated to the service of others makes us special. Not to the people we help, for that is what we do, but to each other. Without friendship and team work we would achieve nothing.

The four way test was brought about as a reminder of how we should not only live our Rotary lives but that we can carry it into every aspect of our everyday lives. Read it again and be very proud that you are a part of such a great organisation.

On page 4 is an article from the Rotary web site on the Four Way Test.

Last Week's board meeting covered a few topics #Jack donated a cash register for the van and John Messner will train people. #A fridge has been bought for the van and two extra tables, replacement chairs to come.

MARKETS THIS SUNDAY - ALL WHO CAN HELP PLEASE DO



TONIGHT: Bob Reid from Blue Mountains Sunrise Club

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: Steve (Santa Claus) Deck celebrates his birthday tonight.

COMING EVENTS

25 th March	Bob Reid from the Blue Mountains Sunrise Rotary Club
28 th March	Markets and R M Band from Duntroon at the Bay @ 2.30pm
30 th March	Youth Driver Campaign at Moruya (some members assisting)
1 st April	TBA
8 th April	Forum on membership – retention and recruitment
15 th April	Hannah Prior & Brandon Scriven – Youth Week
22 nd April	Cinders
25 th April	Markets
29 th April	Pride of Workmanship – (Partners Night)

DUTIES

TASK	25th March	1st April	8th April
Cashier	Rolf Gimmel	Ian Thomlinson	Jeremy Ferguson
3-minute talk	Bob Antill	Rolf Gimmel	Chris O'Brien
Wheel	John Messner	Kris Elphick	Laurelle Pacey
FINES	Chris O'Brien	Jeremy Ferguson	Terry Irvine
Introduction	Kris Elphick	George Barker	
Thanks	Lin Morey	Terry Irvine	

INTERNATIONAL TOAST: To Rotary International and all 32,774 clubs throughout the world.

JACK'S JOURNAL

The Whale Motor Inn has a new chef - Gilbert and his wife have taken an extended holiday to Europe and Michael Donovan has been engaged to maintain the high standards set by Matt and Jen. It was Michael's menu we enjoyed last week. We missed Ted, Marilyn and Max (all on leave), and Ian, Jeremy and Chris, and welcomed Kevin (not seen often as befits his membership status) and visiting Rotarian Marien van de Linde from RC Dunstable Downs (here again visiting family).

Who amongst Rotarians would dare question the relevance of the Four Way Test? Editor Bob, who is the Vocational Service member of our Service Projects Committee, extracted the enclosed article from a recent RI Weekly Update. Naturally it drew a large number of responses, one of which is also enclosed. Makes one think about having the test recited in weekly meetings again?

And Rotary International News of 8th March announced that we (Rotarians world-wide) have so far raised about US\$114.5 million towards raising \$200 million to match the \$355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This money will directly support immunisation campaigns in developing countries where polio continues to infect and paralyse children. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere remain at risk.

We have received a letter of thanks from Pauline Gleeson, now President of Dharmik Australia, for our donation towards the RAWCS Bal Mandir Children's Home Renovation. The donation was made in November, however the cheque went missing before reaching their Treasurer, and Pauline included in her letter an apology for this unfortunate occurrence and thanks to John for issuing another cheque. Pauline and Rohan are now in Tibet to see how things are going with the project.

DG Michael has announced that the Nominating Committee for **District Governor 2012-13** has nominated **PP Phil Armstrong** of RC Moruya to that position. Under the Bylaws of RI the nomination is subject to challenge until 5th April, however I don't think that Phil is worried and he has our hearty congratulations.

Our meeting on 8th April will take the form of a club forum on Membership Recruitment and Retention. Subsequently we will be prepared to turn talk into action, with a Membership Committee appointed to keep us focussed on strengthening and building our membership base.

Yours in Rotary Fellowship,
President Jack.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

In 1932, Herbert J. Taylor wrote down four questions on a small white piece of paper to serve as an "ethical yardstick" for his employees.

His simple creation has come to be known as [The Four-Way Test](#). Revered by Rotarians, it has been translated into more than 100 languages and recited weekly at club meetings around the globe.

When Merv Hecht, a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, California, USA, challenged the notions behind the test as unrealistic and impractical in today's world, his letter in the December 2009 issue of *The Rotarian* prompted a flood of responses, many in defense of the test.

"Is it the TRUTH? The truth is variable," Hecht writes in his letter, reflecting on the first tenet of the test. "It used to be the 'truth' that the world was flat. And if you didn't accept that truth, you were burned at the stake. Then for many years it was taught that the world was round. Now they say it's elliptical because of the pull of gravity. Which is true?" He goes on to argue that what is fair for some is seldom fair for all, and that the final two points of the test are "not the way the world works." ([Read the full letter.](#))

Hecht says he is surprised by the response his letter has received. "It was a spur-of-the-moment letter, but in thinking about it now, I think it's a reaction to the black-and-white attitude that is permeating our society," he says. "Absolutism is dividing our fellow Americans as well as our international friends. The Four-Way Test is another of these absolutes that fails to train people to see the grays in social relationships. Perhaps Rotary, one of my very favorite organizations, could be improved with a new Four-Way Test that includes an openness to other points of view."

At 10:54AM on 8 March 2010, **Rtn Bruce de Graaf** wrote: Rotary Club of Crows Nest; Australia. I have mused over this for quite some time before posting anything. The first thing that astonishes me is that Mr Hecht was surprised by the response to his letter. Surely calling obsolete the values that underpin everything that we Rotarians do, would not go without incident or response. It would seem that if we adopt Mr Hecht's point of view then we could also take a shot at the Ten Commandments. Perhaps Mr Hecht would try announcing that the Commandments are also obsolete. Given the decay of our society and general failure to observe the ten Commandments they could be renamed the Ten Suggestions. I am joking of course. I am relatively new to Rotary and have young kids; but far from being obsolete or irrelevant, the 4 Way Test absolutely work for me. It is an unconscious thing, I don't have to think about it. It is part of my value structure. I want to be a person that you can depend upon; to be truthful and be fair; to do a good turn; and in doing so strengthen relationships. This is a tremendously good thing for us all to do, which is why the 4 Way Test exists. Kids learn from us by what we say but more importantly by what we do; through Osmosis. It is not what I say, but what they see me do that they adopt as the way that they carry themselves. If I show them that I am in reality what I appear to be then I am doing my part to ensure that my kids will contribute to society rather than wreak havoc upon it or contribute to it's decay. In our family we have the Three "R"s. Respect for yourself; Respect for others; and Responsibility for our own actions. Mr Hecht, society no longer allows parents to discipline children; schools have no authority; police and other authorities have no power; litigation is rife; graffiti is everywhere; bullying is a major problem in the schools and in the workplace; crime is escalating. If we do not stand for something, we will not arrest this. We should be encouraging more people to take up the 4 Way Test, not slamming it as obsolete. Mr Hecht, you have done little more than provoke reaction in defence of the 4 Way Test.