



# CLUB BULLETIN



25th March 2009

Rotary Club of Camberwell

Volume 53 Issue 37

Special points of interest:

- Bushfire Relief Report from Marysville
- Last Weeks Meeting to Flowedale
- Modern Parable
- Birthdays, Anniversaries, Etc.

## Next Weeks Meeting

Wednesday April 1st

Speaker: Fr. Des Dwyer

Subject: Ethics in the current Business Climate  
*Fr. Dwyer is involved in the St. James Ethics Centre, Sydney which has a leadership role in promoting business & social ethics*

Chair: Michael Blood

## Meeting Rosters

### APRIL

#### Registration Desk

Nichola Fabienne  
Anne Murphy

#### Welcomer

Jim O'Hara

### MAY

#### Registration Desk

TBA

#### Welcomer

TBA

It is the responsibility of the rostered Member to find a replacement if not able to attend

Inside this issue:

President's Message 2

Art Show News 3

Meeting at Flowerdale Hotel 3

A Modern Parable 3

Forthcoming Lunch - Overcoming Disaster 4

Vocational Visit 13th May 4

Bush Fire Reports 5

Anniversaries Birthdays, Last Meeting Details, Etc. 6

## Future Club Program

Date	Speaker	Subject	Chairman
------	---------	---------	----------

Wed 8th April Club Forum – Art Show Briefing Dennis Coleman/Jon Oppy

Wed 15th April Art Show—Set Up

Mon 20th April Art Show—Hanging

Wed 29th April Art Show

Wed 6th May—TBA

Wed 13th May Vocational Visit to Davies Bakery

Club Meets  
Wednesdays 6.15 for 6.30  
Canterbury Centre, 2 Rochester Road  
Canterbury

President: Neil Hookey  
Secretary: Ron Lear  
Treasurer: : Frank Leigh

Apologies—Bookings  
Alan Lorenzini  
Mobile 0411 884 032  
W: 9855 1444  
alan@lorenzinigroup.com.au

## President's Ponderings

“our club has a good "feel" about it with strong fellowship bonding”

I am writing this before our trip to Flowerdale as we are leaving for an Apex 40 reunion at Wyong early Thursday. Jenny Carra will be with us - we go back a long way.

Ron Lear and I had a meeting with PE Dennis & incoming Secretary Richard Gray last night at which we looked at where the club is now and where it might be going.

We have some good things going for us - our club has a good "feel" about it with strong fellowship bonding. The prime reason for that is almost certainly the team effort we put in to run our Annual Art Show, which is so important to our club life and to our standing in the community.

We all agreed that the main weakness we have is a general state of apathy among too many of our members. This is evidenced whenever support is sought for a community service activity, and even in the lax response to repeated appeals to return the Art Show availability form.

Too many members seem to believe that Rotary membership just means turning up to meetings - any other commitments are ignored.

Membership is also a concern . but we are encouraged by some initiatives planned which we hope will prove fruitful, PROVIDED we all put APATHY away and take on ENTHUSIASM.

We felt that Rotary needs a Major Project to take us past the Polio Challenge - the sooner the better, and we would like to see a concentrated effort put into finding it. Could it be Homelessness ? .Could it be International Peace Initiatives ?. Could it be an Anti-Drugs campaign ? Let's put our creative thinking caps on to find an answer.

On a personal note I have found it disappointing that we don't put a real effort into a hand-on type overseas aid project, such as I did in East Timor in 2000 and Peter Matthews did in Fiji . John Steven on several occasions has volunteered for aid programmes for outback indigenous communities - great stuff and so satisfying to those who go.

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY -

At the District Conference R C Melbourne South circulated a project called EYES WIDE OPEN - with both an overseas aid and an educational intent. It is aimed at Rotarians or children of Rotarians to involve them briefly in humanitarian projects while enjoying a tour of a developing country.

A sample programme lists six activities over 12 days in Cambodia , costing \$2,900 all found ex Melbourne.

Melbourne South need our approval of the concept so it may be trialed as a District project.

At first I thought it a "Mickey Mouse" attempt at overseas aid but it does have the potential to be expanded to offer more substantial and intensive tours.

I am going to ask for your opinion on this at next week's dinner, so will have some material for you to look at in Flowerdale.

Those wanting more information please ask Lena Condos at - [lenacondos@hotmail.com](mailto:lenacondos@hotmail.com) or look up [www.eyeswideopen-rotary.blogspot.com](http://www.eyeswideopen-rotary.blogspot.com).

Be sure to view "older Posts".

**President Neil**

## Art Show News

*It is understood that the Art Show Roster will be issued in the next few days.*

*There is only 18 days to go before the 1st Set Up Night at the Art Show*

## A Modern Parable

A Japanese company (Toyota) and an American company (General Motors) decided to have a canoe race on the Missouri River. Both teams practiced long and hard to reach their peak performance before the race.

On the big day, the Japanese won by a mile.

The Americans, very discouraged and depressed, decided to investigate the reason for the crushing defeat. A management team made up of senior management was formed to investigate and recommend appropriate action.

Their conclusion was the Japanese had 8 people rowing and 1 person steering, while the American team had 7 people steering and 2 people rowing.

Feeling a deeper study was in order; American management hired a consulting company and paid them a large amount of money for a second opinion.

They advised, of course, that too many people were steering the boat, while not enough people were rowing.

Not sure of how to utilize that information, but wanting to prevent another loss to the Japanese, the rowing team's management structure was totally reorganized to 4 steering supervisors, 2 area steering superintendents and 1 assistant superintendent steering manager.

They also implemented a new performance system that would give the 2 people rowing the boat greater incentive to work harder. It was called the 'Rowing Team Quality First Program,' with meetings, dinners and free pens for the rowers. There was discussion of getting new paddles, canoes and other equipment, extra vacation days for practices and bonuses. The pension program was trimmed to 'equal the competition' and some of the resultant savings were channeled into morale boosting programs and teamwork posters.

The next year the Japanese won by two miles.

Humiliated, the American management laid-off one rower, halted development of a new canoe, sold all the paddles, and canceled all capital investments for new equipment. The money saved was distributed to the Senior Executives as bonuses.

The next year, try as he might, the lone designated rower was unable to even finish the race (having no paddles,) so he was laid off for unacceptable performance, all canoe equipment was sold and the next year's racing team was out-sourced to India .

Sadly, the End.

Here's something else to think about: General Motors has spent the last thirty years moving much of its production out of the US, claiming they can't make money paying American wages.

TOYOTA has spent the last thirty years building more than a dozen plants inside the US. The last quarter's results:

TOYOTA makes 4 billion in profits while General Motors racked up 9 billion in losses.

General Motors folks are still scratching their heads, and collecting bonuses...and now wants the Government to 'bail them out'.

**IF THIS WEREN'T SO TRUE IT MIGHT BE FUNNY**

## Last Weeks Meeting

Nearly seventy members, partners and friends travelled to the Flowerdale Hotel most by bus, through the burnt out Kinglake Ranges.

The talk certainly became muted on the Bus when the burnt out and blackened vistas were seen.

A fine pub meal was provided by our hosts and together with a few glasses of whatever took your fancy a convivial evening was had by all.

The evening was enhanced by the music provided by local musician John and by Rotarian Tom McQueen who performed some of his own poetry as well as good favourites such as "Clancy of the Overflow" and the "Man from Snowy River".

Sandra, President of the Rotary Club of Yea outlined the projects and plans that the Club has in assisting the Bush Fire Areas and Survivors.

On the bus home the time passed as well as stopped those who wanted to sleep, by all trying to guess which of the three facts about each person was a lie. Sometimes it was difficult to guess which was true



Our Hosts



Tom "The Poet"  
in full flight

## Vocational Committee

### Vocational Visit to business premises of Rob Davies—13 May 2009

On this visit there is a limit of 50 people, it is for Rotarians and partners and it is first come first served. When the numbers reach 50, the invitation stops.

The intention is that there will be a bus from, and back to, Rochester Road and dinner will be at a hotel located near the business premises.

See Tim Landsberg to register attendance



## Rebuilding Lives in the Wake of Disaster

A request from DG Jim Studebaker

“I urge you to take part in a very special luncheon event at which London bomb survivor, Gill Hicks, and the Head of the Bushfire Recovery Authority, Christine Nixon, will inspire and uplift you as they share with you how the dream of a better future can be made real.”



The Rotary Club of Southbank presents:

## Rebuilding Lives in the Wake of Disaster

London Bombing Survivor and Head of the Bushfire Recovery Authority  
join to describe how the dream of a better future can be made real.



### When?

Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April,  
12.00pm for 12:15pm

### Where?

The Bellarine Room  
at:



Corner of Spencer  
and Flinders streets

### Cost?

\$65 per person or  
Corporate package  
\$1200 for a table of  
ten including table  
naming rights & a  
Rotary Centurion  
Package

Two course lunch,  
including drinks.  
(Vegetarian and  
special food  
requirements are  
also available upon  
advance request).



Gill Hicks was the last person to be rescued from her train in the London bombings of 7<sup>th</sup> July 2005. Losing both her legs in the incident and coming perilously close to losing her life, Gill faced a battle few could imagine. But her recovery forms just part of the story that makes Gill so remarkable.

Since September 2006 Gill has been a passionate ambassador for Peace Direct, an organisation whose focus is grass roots peacebuilding in areas of conflict across the world. Back home in Australia, Gill will share her inspirational story with local Rotarians of Districts 9800 and 9810 as well as interested members of the public at The Melbourne Convention Centre (corner of Spencer and Flinders streets) on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April.

Gill will be joined in her speaking role at lunch by Victoria's new Head of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, Christine Nixon.



As Victoria's most recently retired Chief Commissioner of Police, Christine Nixon will share with us how a lifetime of challenges rising through the ranks of Australian policing has prepared her for the challenges now facing our State. With Victoria facing a huge task in recovering from our deadliest ever bushfires, a multitude of questions are faced by the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, with humanitarian, financial, ethical, psychological, emotional, logistical, material and future planning issues all at the forefront. Over lunch Christine will share with us her thoughts on just how the Authority can best address the needs of individual victims and communities, whilst responsibly coordinating government assistance and the generous contributions from millions across Australia and beyond.



NET PROCEEDS WILL BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL  
D 9800 BUSHFIRE RECOVERY FUND

## Bush Fire Relief RC Alexandra

This report No 4 is an outline of the current activities of the members of the Rotary Club of Alexandra as they work with the community that has consumed the entire southern part of Murrindindi Shire. The Rotary Club of Yea is dealing with the townships of Flowerdale and Hazeldene while Alexandra R C is dealing with the eastern half including Marysville, Narbethong and Buxton. The Rotary Clubs of Healesville and Whittlesea are addressing issues on the Southern part including Healesville, Kinglake, Kinglake West etc. The RC of Southern Mitchell is dealing with the Kilmore area and the very western edge of the Shire of Murrindindi.

Thank you to all who have assisted the relief and recovery program in any way, receipts and thank you notes for contributions received are being sent directly by post.

Marysville residents have returned to their homes, some to begin a major clean up others to begin the massive task of rebuilding. The needs of the Marysville community are just surfacing and it is much too early to have a clear idea of the priority needs. It was reported today that Marysville Golf Club fairways and greens are mostly in good shape but it is estimated that the Golf Club needs \$1, 000, 000 to cover the costs of replacing equipment and getting the course and amenities back into pre fire conditions.

Lake Mountain has announced a major program to get the resort back into action including offering employment. Other businesses are following suite.

### Current activities:

1. Relief centre: The Alexandra Centre, the hub of so much energy is being transformed. Specialist relief hubs are being established in and adjacent to the Shire including Marysville, Healesville and Kinglake. The tons of goods at other centres are to be placed in secure storage in Melbourne and the Alexandra Centre will close on Friday April 3, 2009. The relief centre manager said the 8000 hours put in by volunteers (so far) represents over four years full time work for one person a massive effort and could be valued in the hundreds of thousands of dollars
2. Voucher System: \$34 000 has been distributed to assist with the purchase of new basic equipment and tools to initiate the recovery program. As the survivors begin the recovery process new needs arise everyday. The funds in the Rotary Club of Alexandra's fire relief fund have been committed – THE FUND NEEDS MORE MONEY – can you help? Currently there are requests for over \$7500 and growing daily.
3. Farm Fencing. Work to commence in early April.
4. Shed Project (the Bayside Construction Group and the Rotary Club of Sandringham): The 20 sites are ready, the frames for the sheds are on site and the cladding etc is to arrive Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>. The construction teams arrive Friday and construction will be complete by Sunday lunch time. The current estimated cost of this one project is \$250 000.
5. Community gatherings: It is race day this Saturday and the weather forecast looks great. Get a bus load and come up and have a day out at the races.

Member support – Food and shelter – the inside story proved to be a great program at Rotary tonight. Rotarian Tom Farrell told the story of how on Saturday night he had received a call from a fellow Rotarian for help and by Sunday morning Rotary was totally involved feeding and housing 1400 people – the evacuees from the fire. The effort continued for two weeks as the evacuees found longer term accommodation, some of these were tourists visiting the area and they headed for home as soon as the roads were opened (this took a few days). Many Rotarians accommodated evacuees in their own homes and Tom explained that he had six guests around his dinner table but not always the same people as some left they were replaced by others.

### Emerging issues:

1. Don't forget Marysville. The people of Marysville need time to get to grips with their new situation, please respect their privacy and give them time. There is a vast amount of work to do to assist this community, those of us who wish to help need to be patient so that the real needs can come for the people.
2. Support for the Rotary Art show over Easter. There are over 400 entries in the show. Yes we have space for more entries. You may consider coming to the opening on Friday night, local wines and great finger food but the best part will be the auction of an Ern Trembath original oil painting. The painting has been donated, so all funds from the auction will go directly in to local community service work. You can also help by promoting the art show as a place for artists to display their work and the Shire of Murrindindi as fantastic Easter holiday destination.
3. Encouraging tourists to visit the area and support local businesses to create the economic foundation for the recovery – Please come to support the community across all fire ravaged areas from Beechworth to Yarram and Noogee to Horsham
4. **Funds for the Rotary Fire Recovery account** – The current demands clearly show an ongoing need and new donations are required to sustain this service.
5. Volunteers to staff the recovery centre to sustain this major effort

Keep a smile on our faces and in our hearts as there is yet another funeral or memorial service to attend.

If you think you can help us deal with these issues in any way please contact the Secretary Rotarian Brian Dillon email [Alexandra@rotary9790.org.au](mailto:Alexandra@rotary9790.org.au)

Rotary Club of Camberwell  
Inc  
(Inc. A0020974E)

**PO Box 178  
Canterbury 3126**  
Web Page:  
[www.camberwellrotary.org.au](http://www.camberwellrotary.org.au)

**President:**  
**Neil Hookey**  
(H) 9882 2648  
(E): [nmhooks@bigpond.com](mailto:nmhooks@bigpond.com)

**Secretary:**  
**Ron Lear**  
(H) 9882 8539  
(M): 0417 544 316  
(E): [ronlear@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ronlear@bigpond.net.au)

**Treasurer:**  
**Frank Leigh**  
(H) 9889 7742  
(M): 0408 876 001  
(E): [frankleigh@bigpond.com](mailto:frankleigh@bigpond.com)

**Bulletin Editor:**  
**Mike Pavey**  
(H) 9898 3206  
(M): 0418 990 815  
(E): [m.pavey1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:m.pavey1@optusnet.com.au)

**District Governor:**  
**Jim Studebaker**  
R.C. of North Balwyn  
(E): [dg@rotarydistrict9800.org](mailto:dg@rotarydistrict9800.org)

**ADG: Keith Ryall**  
[kfryall@alphalink.com.au](mailto:kfryall@alphalink.com.au)



**Last Meeting's Guests, Apologies, Etc**

**Guests**

Geevan—Neil Hookey  
Ian Lynch  
Anne McQueen  
Cameron King and Family  
Members Partners (20)

**Visiting Rotarians:**

Sandra Hanley - President, RC Yea.  
Julie Lynch - RC Yea.  
Tom McQueen RC Yea and Entertainer

**Apologies:**

David Baker, Richard Balsillie, Michael Blood, Chris Carra, Dennis Coleman, Murray Dance, Geoff Day, Richard Gray, Mark Hassed, Warwick Heil, Bob Heinemann, Graham Hope, Tim Landsberg, Gerry Lavender, Geoff McCormick, Aub McLaren, Michael Mullins, Malcolm Munro, Michael Neumann, Jim O'Hara

**Make Ups:**

None Listed

**Raffle Winner**

No Winner This Week



**Quote Of The Week**

“”

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Etc.

**Birthdays**

David Loftus            30 March  
Heather Heath        31 March

**Wedding Anniversaries**

None

**Club Anniversaries**

Rob Davies	27 March	19 Yrs
Don Fotheringham	27 March	13 Yrs
Gary Goldsmith	25 March	22 Yrs

**Almoners Report**

Congratulations to PE Dennis and Anita who have decided to marry.

**Directory Changes**

None

