

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE DISTRICT 9685 CHARTERED 1946

The HUB

Tuesday 9th July 2013

Volume 68

Issue #01

**ENGAGE
ROTARY**



**CHANGE
LIVES**



President Rotary International
District 9685 Governor

Ron D. Burton
Rotary Club of Norman, USA
Graeme Davies (Kincumber)

ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE

DIRECTORS

President	Adrian Hallett
Administration	Kalma McLellan
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Membership	Kathryn Dodd
Public Relations	Geoff Nix
Projects	Allen Horrell
Secretary	Bob Kaye-Smith
Treasurer	David James
Immediate Past President	Burkhart Foertsch

AVENUES

Community Service	Nora Etmekdjian
International Service	Siddharth Maheshwari
Vocational Service	Martin Aston
Youth Service	Charles Kilby

COMMUNICATIONS

The HUB Editor	Kathryn Dodd
Photographer	John Mazlin
Serjeant-at-Arms	Geoff Brennan
Programmes	Jan Cutler
Attendance	Ross Rocca
Social Secretary	Peter Cooper
Historian & Archivist	Doug Thompson
Events Co-ordinator	Julie Thorp
Public Officer	John Dodd
Webside Administrator	Stefan Sojka
HUB Contributions	editor@ryderotary.org.au

CLUB INFORMATION

Chartered 22nd April 1946 District 9685 RI Club #18039

MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY 6PM FOR 6:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

Next Generation Club (Level 2)
Ryde Aquatic Centre
504 Victoria Rd, Ryde

POSTAL ADDRESS:

Rotary Club of Ryde Inc.
PO BOX 90
Ryde NSW 1680

RSVP EXTRAS OR ABSENCES TO JULIE THORP: 9871 1109

July 09

Inside Pine Gap: The Spy Who Came in from the Desert

David Rosenberg served as an American representative at the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap in Alice Springs for 18 years. In 2011 he became the first 'high-tech spy' to publish an account of his life working for the American intelligence agency in the middle of the Australian desert.

TONIGHT'S ROSTER

Welcomers Charles Kilby & Allen Horrell

Loyal Toast Kalma McLellan

If you are unable to fulfill this duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Adrian of the change

Duty Roster for future meetings appears on Page 10

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Rotarians and Rotary Friends,

This week's HUB is a bumper edition, covering two eventful weeks of Rotary celebrations and fellowship. A final word from **Immediate Past President Burkhart**, and a welcome from **President Adrian Hallett** as we look forward to another brilliant year in Ryde Rotary can be found on **Page 4**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Jan Cutler** and **David James** for their assistance and support as I take over The HUB, and to thank in advance intrepid journalists **Kalma McLennan**, **Allen Horrell** and **Geoff Nix** for their amusing recollections of each weekly meeting in the coming year.

Kathryn Dodd

WE'LL BE SAD IF WE DONT SEE YOU NEXT TUESDAY!

If you need to give a late apology for non-attendance at any meeting, please contact **Julie Thorp** before **10am Monday**.

9871 1109 0416 208 332 j.thorp@bigpond.net.au

Club policy is that you will be expected to pay for your meal if you are absent without timely apology. **Isn't that fair to all concerned?**

Dear Rotarians and Rotary friends,

I find it hard to believe how fast this year has gone by. At this time last year, I was standing here, making my acceptance speech feeling nervous, being uncertain if I would make a good president. As the year progressed, I became more comfortable in the role and received tremendous support from both my board of Directors, from the Service Chairs and indeed from you the members.

Together we have made it another memorable year. It has been a real privilege for me to have had the opportunity to hold the position of President for such a great club. But the true essence of our Club is not so much about what has been successful and what hasn't, it's that we are a family, we share our successes and learn from our disappointments. We may not always agree with one another, but the glue that holds us together is one of a strong pull to serve others and to make a contribution to the world so that it can be a better place in which the human spirit can shine.

Our vision and culture is something we all must live and breathe every day, taking pride in our role as Rotarians and members of the Ryde Rotary Club. I look forward now to another great year of service in Ryde. Bring it on!

Burkhart

ADRIAN'S ADDENDUM

Fellow Rotarians and Rotary friends,

Our Club has just finished another Club Changeover during which we celebrated Immediate Past President Burkhart's year as President and I was inducted as the Club's newest President. My thanks go to those members who worked, behind the scenes, to give us such a wonderful night.

I would like to thank IPP Burkhart and his Board for their efforts during 2012 – 2013 and passing to us a Club we can all be proud of. It is an honour to represent our fine Club as President and I am sure that with your support and guidance our Club will continue to grow and prosper. My Board and I are looking forward to a rewarding year.



On Friday night a number of us attended another significant changeover when our own District Governor John Dodd passed the reins to Graeme Davies. The night also brought to an end the old District 9680 and bought another 15 clubs into our new District 9685. Our first meeting for the new Rotary year will have David Rosenberg speaking on the topic - "Inside Pine Gap".

Looking ahead Tuesday 16th we will be holding our first Club Forum for the new Rotary year and should also be welcoming our newest exchange student, Lucile Richard.

Adrian

Our event was very exclusive tonight with visitors proving elusive – the drippy weather did not help! **Burkhart** acknowledged the many absent members who were mostly away working hard elsewhere, and reminded us of the exciting week coming up with two Changeovers to keep our social calendars well satisfied! Although mentioned elsewhere in the Hub, there was reminders also that from next week, **Apologies go to Julie Thorp**, and Hub correspondence goes to **Kathryn** as **Adrian's** team starts to take over the reins. And don't forget to let **Julie** know if you cannot make it or you will pay for your missed morsels of culinary delight!

Burkhart attended a glamorous event at Kirribilli House last week with other esteemed members of the club to receive a HUGE framed Thank You for our contributions to the cause of Prostate Cancer. He hopes to bring the trophy along next week as his forgetfulness lit the Sergeant's eyes tonight! We also received a formal Thank You from the Salvation Army for our efforts towards the Red Shield Appeal, with special awards presented to a number of members for their special assistance – well done everyone! **Adrian** reported Onni's successful departure from our fair shores, and the expected arrival of our next exchange student, **Lucille**, in mid-July.



The charming Ryde Rotary representatives at Kirribilli House & the HUGE framed Thank You from PCFA

Rob Mitchell then provided a fabulous photo tribute of the opening celebrations of the new school in Salmon e Fars, complete with queues of people trying to get into the event, and lots of other local headmasters marveling at the successful construction. Local building hero **Ali** and **Mr Anwar** joined the feast in celebration of the school's success, which caters for both boys and girls, from junior to high school. **Ali** was especially singled out, being gifted a treasured black woolly sheep in thanks for all he has achieved for the local peoples. **Ken Allen** suggested **Rob** share with **Ali** the Club's blessings on his upcoming wedding.

Since our project commenced in Afghanistan, 532 children have gone on to university education with 60 returning to the village as teachers. Overall it has been a very successful partnership between the villages, Indigo and Ryde Rotary, and it has engendered a similar partnership as a result of the Conference Partnerships presentation, with the Rotary Club of Macquarie Park now embarking on a similar project in Namibia.

The Serjeant announced he would let us all off in his last session, but true to form changed his mind! He managed to sting most tables, plus **President Burkhart** twice! He fined himself for forgetting the spackle, won by **John Mazlin**. **Patrick** also fined himself for using his new birthday toy (Samsun Galaxy pad) to delete a bunch of shared files from our Rotary DropBox!

Vocational speaker **David Johnson** told us about life at Channel TEN, starting as a data entry clerk and now dealing with a number of national and international sporting events. The technological changes in this time have moved from manual typewriters and carbon paper to everything remote, while still targeting the 18-49yr olds. There have been changes to management, logos, focus – almost everything, in order to maintain market share in the face of internet delivery, paid TV and generational preferences. He is very happy to have been associated with the broadcasting of 3 Olympics and 2 Commonwealth Games during his time.

Second speaker was **Geoff Brennan**, who spoke about the family company in which he has worked for many years as the operational force in support of the MDs creative supremacy. **Geoff** is responsible for anything that moves, or should move, and his technology expertise now covers Bluetooth, smartphones, dropbox and icloud to name a few – all used to facilitate communications with the organisational stakeholders.

The next struggle will be getting the client base to adapt to iPads! Along the way their importing processes have seen all transactions convert to \$US and admits that the giftware industry involves zero science and 100% suck it and see! His judgment must be pretty good, winning the Online Trader Competition last year with a novice trade within the final hours to outdo all the known legends at the game – well done **Geoff!**

FROM THE BENDIGO ADVERTISER PERSONALS...

SINGLE BLACK FEMALE seeks companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play. I love long walks in the woods, riding in your ute, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire, going to the pub. Candlelit dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me. Call and ask for Lucy - I'll be waiting...

Over 150 respondents called and found themselves talking to the RSPCA in Bendigo!

**PLEASE SUBMIT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE HUB
BY 5PM FRIDAY**

editor@ryderotary.org.au

The Changeover at **Ryde X Services Club** on July 2nd was a great success. A packed room of Ryde Rotarians, Partners & Wives, the new “First Family” of Ryde Rotary and dignitaries from District 9680/9685 **PDG Harold Sharp**, **DGN Gina Growden**, **AG Joy Pogson** and Ryde’s own **DG John Dodd & Janelle** celebrated the past year of Rotary service and warmly welcomed our new leadership team.

Kicking off with the Loyal Toast by our newest Rotarian **Victoria Gouel**, an acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land, the official welcoming of guests and partners, apologies, and toasts made and responded to led up to thunderous applause at the announcement of **PDG Les Whitcroft’s** 93rd birthday that very day.



A full house at Ryde-X Club for the Ryde Club Changeover 2013

President Burkhart made a heartfelt speech, commending the amazing work of the club over the last year and thanking his team and **Patricia** for their help and support throughout his time as President. In his own words, “We as a Club have it within us to make a very real difference in both the community and Rotary International and when I look back on this year I can honestly say I am proud to be part of this Club and the family of Rotary.” **PP Burkhart** also expressed relief at being released from the solitary confinement of the top table and is looking forward to joining “the unruly mob” again.

Treasurer **Maureen Mulheron** announced the end of year donations to Australian Rotary Health and Destiny Rescue, and the wedding card & gift for **Ali and Sughra Yunespor** was signed by all and presented to **PP Rob Mitchell** to pass on with our best wishes.

A presentation of awards followed the main course. A stunned **Rtn Julie Thorp** received a Paul Harris Fellowship, **PDG Les Whitcroft** presented a Sapphire Pin to **PP Doug Thompson**, and Sapphire Pins were awarded to **PP Jan Cutler**, **PP David James**, **Rtn Val Payne** and **Rtn Stefan Sojka** for their exceptional work in Rotary.



Sapphire Pin recipients Stefan Sojka, PP David James & PP Jan Cutler



PHF recipient Julie Thorp, Sapphire Pin recipient PP Doug Thompson, and Honorary Member PDG Alex Sawyer

This presentation took the form of a series of “Who am I?” listings of the achievements and Rotary history of each recipient. Particularly as a new member of the Club, I found it inspiring the way that each of these award recipients were surprised and humbled by the presentation of such prestigious awards, despite their unending work in Rotary and deep commitment to doing good in the world. To me, this attitude personifies “Service above Self” and absolutely deserves to be recognised. Congratulations!

PDG Alex Sawyer was inducted into the Club as an Honorary Member, the proceeds of the Para Port raffle were presented to **Janelle Dodd** for End Polio Now and certificates were awarded to “100% Attendees”, including a record 397.4% attendance effort by **DG John Dodd**. **PP Bob Kaye-Smith** took out the Ron Pacey Shield, **PP Geoff Brennan** won the “Fig Jam” award and **PP Burkhart** gave some stellar advice to **President Adrian**.

The raffles were drawn, flowers exchanged, and gifts given to the outgoing board & committee chairs. **PP Burkhart** inducted **President Adrian** and the grand ceremony of exchanging the Staff and Charter between **Serjeants PP Duncan Taylor** and **PP Geoff Brennan** was observed. In all, a great start to an exciting new year!



The Changeover: PP Burkhart & President Adrian



FIG JAM recipient PP Geoff Brennan, PDG Les Whitcroft cutting his 93rd birthday cake & happy raffle winners the Abbouds!

Dear District 9685 Rotary Friends

Lyn and I extend a very warm welcome to all Rotarians in District 9685. Today we begin a new Rotary journey in humanitarian service, fun and fellowship that builds on the legacy provided by our former Districts. I trust you are as excited as we are about the year ahead and beyond. An excitement reflected in the new, bright from the mountains to the sea District 9685 graphic.

The District 9685 story began when the District 9685 Formation Steering Committee was established following the news PDG Marilyn Mercer received in November 2010 that Rotary Clubs in the Sydney area would undergo a process known as redistricting. Redistricting is not new and has occurred in previous years in all Districts. It can be difficult and challenging but also presents unique opportunities to take Rotary forward.

Thank you to the Redistricting Committee members and the many other Rotarians who have worked tirelessly with expertise, knowledge and wisdom to reach the point today whereby District 9685 Inc. is fully operational. The work of these Rotarians will be recognised in a special way later in the year.

We have been able to explore what has worked best in each of the Districts and ensure those programs and practices will be enshrined in D9685. An aspect of any entity is its organisational culture. We defined culture simply as “the way we do things around here” and have given a lot of thought to our preferred culture.

We want to see a forward looking, inclusive, vibrant, fun loving culture that underpins what we do. One that values Rotarians and works to find ways to support Rotarians fulfil their dreams in our diverse communities. We will be driven by the knowledge that our world needs Rotary more than ever.

Building relationships is fundamental to all we do in Rotary. For this reason our first District project will be Rotary Presidents Meet the Mayor to discover ways we can work more effectively with our communities. Of course it will also give us a PR opportunity to spread the Rotary story more widely.

More initiatives will be announced in forthcoming weeks. Not the least of which will be our one day Come Alive in District 9685 conference on 23 February 2014 and the Rotary International Convention in Sydney, June 2014.

Let's enjoy Rotary friendships and the journey ahead as we Engage Rotary, Change Lives.

Graeme Davies
Rotary Club of Kincumber
Governor RI District 9685, 2013-14

www.rotarydistrict9685.org.au
www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict9685

Percentage Attendance 25th June: 84.09%

Makeups: PDG John Dodd, PP Allen Horrell, PP Charles Kilby, Rtn Erdem Toner.

Apologies: PDG John Dodd, Dr Surinder Joson, PP Tony Abboud, Rtn Erdem Toner, PDG Les Whitcroft, Rtn Geoff Nix, PP Allen Horrell, PP Artin Etmekdjian, Rtn Nora Etmekdjian, Rtn Rob Senior, PP Bob Carroll, Rtn Victoria Gouel, PP Charles Kilby.

Percentage Attendance 2nd July: 95.24%

Makeups: PDG John Dodd, PP Allen Horrell, PP Charles Kilby, Rtn Erdem Toner.

Apologies: PP Noel Dunn OAM, PP Ashley Peake, PP Patrick Longfield, Dr Surinder Joson, PP Artin Etmekdjian, Rtn Nora Etmekdjian.

LOOKING AHEAD

July 16th Club Forum & Fellowship Night
Followed by a Board Meeting

July 23rd Doug Eldred - Natural Health

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

June 28th 73rd Birthday of **Ian Henderson**

July 2nd 93rd Birthday of **Les Whitcroft**

July 3rd Birthday of **Judy (Partner of Rob Mitchell)**

July 4th 7th Club Anniversary for **Rob Mitchell**

July 6th 17th Wedding Anniversary for **Ken & Danielle Allen**

CLUB MEETING DUTY ROSTER

DATE	WELCOMERS	LOYAL TOAST	THANKS
July 16th	Ken Allen Tony Abboud	Ross Rocca	-
July 23rd	Rob Mitchell John Brown	Patrick Longfield	Steve Thorp

Some of the largest community organisations in NSW will join forces on Sunday, October 20 for what promises to be the biggest Graffiti Removal Day yet. This year NSW Government and Rotary Down Under will run the State wide graffiti removal and prevention day with the support of a wide range of community organisations. "This is the first time such a broad cross section of community groups in NSW have volunteered their time to join the fight against graffiti," Mr Smith said.

"It is inspiring to see there is already so much support for Graffiti Removal Day and we are now encouraging local councils, sporting clubs, businesses and other organisations to get involved," Mr Smith said.

Over 520 volunteers took part in last year's Graffiti Removal Day, clearing more than 8,100 square metres of graffiti. "The operation was a great success, with the efforts of volunteers saving the community over half a million dollars in graffiti clean-up costs," said Rotary Down Under Executive Director, Bob Aitken.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF ST JUDE'S

Greetings from St Jude's!

Each week at our school assemblies, teachers and other staff at The School of St Jude have an opportunity to reward students for good work and good behaviour with awards. Your sponsored student Kelvin Jackson Laiser received an award for active participation in History presentations in class.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- July 16th (Tues)** Club Forum & Fellowship Evening
- July 21st (Mon)** Breast Cancer Brunch Fundraiser by Castle Hill Rotary Club
Castle Hill Country Club 10am / \$50pp / WOMEN ONLY
Castle Hill Rotary website: <http://www.rotarynews.info/3/lub/4201/8222/>
- August 4th (Sun)** Graffiti Removal (First Sunday every month!)
Meet 8am at Church St Carpark - Opposite LJ Hooker Real Estate
- August 17th (Sat)** Macquarie Uni Rotaract Trivia Night - Human & Hope Assoc.
The Atrium, Campus Hub Building, Macq Uni / \$15 pp / Tables of 8-10
For more information email: trivia@rotaractmq.org
- October 20th (Sun)** Graffiti Removal Day
Details TBC

How can I even begin this report. So much has happened since the last report it feels like a lifetime ago. If last month was just a chapter in the story of my life. It would be the chapter I read over and over again. But anyways, It begins with a change for something new, an exchange within exchange and unfortunately has an unhappy ending.

So, the day I moved to my second host family was the 23rd of May. Saying goodbye to my first host family was hard. I had felt so welcomed by them and so comfortable there. I called Lisa Aiti and Heikki Iska. My host siblings and I were like actual brothers and sisters. On the last night we had chocolate dinner because they knew it was my favourite food. Aiti gave me a Suomen Leijona necklace which I wear every day for two reasons. To me it symbolises home both in Finland and with the Rissanen's.

We talked about our three months together and all my weird habits that I thought no one knew of. But then it was a new start. In my new host family, I have two brothers Juho and Martti aged 13 and 11; A host mum called Sari, a host Dad called Pavo and a crazy little dog called borje. They're a pretty great family and the day after moving in with them we went on a scout camp together. Speaking of which I am now officially a scout of Finland. I've said the words, got my uniform and my scarf and will be attending Ilves, a large scout jamboree in a couple of weeks where I'll be working as a chef and extra in the movie they've made.

I should talk about my absolute closest exchange friends next because I had two of my best days in my entire life with these three guys. Matt Dudley is a fellow Australian newbie who has been my roommate on a couple of occasions. I've watched him grow from a bit of a lovable socially awkward guy to a lovable, very confident and crazy guy. Kristian is an oldie from Germany. He's another really confident guy who's always a lot of fun to be around. He isn't afraid to be publicly silly and makes friends easily. Finally, Erik is one of the best human beings on Earth. He's from America and has one of the best senses of humour, he's really charismatic and intelligent. The quality I feel we all share is that we try to take something normal and make it special, weird or fun. Just anything to make it more than average. I would spend thousands to go to their countries just to visit them alone.

After spending time with them in Helsinki I had my second experience as a Primary school teacher, this time teaching my youngest brother Martti's class. It was more of a challenge because the language barrier was that much greater between us this time. However, they remained interested and I organised a large game of Bang! With about 30-40 of them as something to do at lunchtime. This was also the day I started a new hobby. I do Zumba dancing now! It's possibly the most exhausting sport I've ever tried but a lot of fun.

On the Friday before Summer holidays started, I went into school for the last day. Because there was no point to doing the tests they gave me; my school said it was ok if I just didn't show up to them. So many of my Finnish friends had not seen me in a couple of weeks. When I showed up, some of them asked me if I was homeless. Besides smelling like one after Zumba it does sort of describe my life. In the past two months

I've spent at least half of my time living and travelling outside my hometown (including Eurotour) But I wouldn't trade this lifestyle for anything in the world. Nothing makes me happier than the feeling of leaving the house and not knowing what the next couple of days will bring but knowing it will be awesome and that I'll have the freedom to make it even more awesome.

SO BEGINS EUROTOUR!!!!

Day 1: Left from Turku, excited to see everyone again. Buffet dinner on Viking cruises, explored the boat and did the Titanic pose.

Day 2: Went through Sweden by buss quite quickly. Geographical convenience makes it pointless to meander. Took another, shorter cruise to Denmark. Went to one of the most awesome theme parks there called Tivoli.

Day 3: Went sightseeing around Copenhagen. One of the most beautiful cities in the world, everyone in it looks like they could be in a movie. Ended the day in Bremen, Germany.

Day 4: Travelled through the Netherlands. Saw a dike, A cheese factory, a clog factory. In Amsterdam we went on a ferry cruise through the canals of the city and then visited the Anne frank museum which will make me never complain about the little things again.

Day 5: Breakfast in the Netherlands, Lunch in Brussels, Belgium then Dinner in Paris.

Day 6: Visited Fontainebleau castle, my camera broke so there will be minimal eurotour pictures up. Had a bus tour of Paris then free time in the afternoon to explore it. Learnt something important about organising people because at the start there was 8 of us and if we tried to be democratic nothing got decided, we'd wander for hours and see nothing and just end up angry. So I decided to be decisive and made a plan for us to walk to the arch de triomphe, no detours and then to a park near the obelisk. It worked so much better and the mood improved greatly.

Day 7: Free day in Paris. Visited the Eiffel tower (didn't go up it cos the line was so long) Visited a military museum at the hospital de invalides and saw the magnificent tomb of napoleon. Visited the Louvre saw a painting of a woman with a weird smile, Visited notre dam and then the Moulin rouge. Even though we were exhausted we decided it was better to be exhausted and see a lot because we probably weren't going to be back in Paris for a while. Gotta sieze the day.

Day 8: Bus day to Grenoble. Kidnapped the other bus's bird made a hostage video then I got kidnapped. Long story.

Day 9: Wore a dress for half the day, visited sisteron, and Grasse where they make the world's highest quality perfume (or so they say) Ended up in Nice where we swam at the beach and I may have had a late night skinny dip.

Day 10: Went through Monaco to Genova.

Day 11: Visited Verona, Italy

Day 12: Arrived in Lido de Jesolo. Had free time in the afternoon.

Day 13: Spent an amazing day in Venice. My favourite city in the world. Had a gondola ride, Italian pizza saw a lot of the city not just the tourist bits and the inside of the San Marco Cathedral. Felt like I was playing Assassins Creed 2.

Day 14: Free day in lido de jesolo. We went to the waterpark called Aqualandia. Totally worth the cost the rides were awesome and there was never any line. ALSO went bungee jumping! I was standing up there for ages because they need a different rope for my lighter physique and to be honest I wasn't nervous. I'd seen a lot of my friends do it and they were all still alive and it was only 60 metres up. But when I got to the place to jump off, I made doubly sure not to get nervous by just not looking down until I was actually falling. I was supposed to yell I'm batman then jump but I forgot and did it at the bottom so from my friends perspective I appeared, they heard I'm batman then I disappeared into the sky. Extremely fun and exhilarating. We then travelled through the alps through Innsbruck, Austria then had a Bavarian dinner night.

Day 15: Visited Nuremberg museum

Day 16: Last day of Eurotour we had some time in Berlin then an extremely emotional goodbye at the airport in Finland.

So as a summation paragraph; it's important to note that the best part of Eurotour was the busses (even though we were sick of them at the time) they were like our home and they were the place we could be and talk with everyone. I love my exchange student friends.

The week after Eurotour was my depression week. I was sick and missed everyone a lot. It isn't fun typing about this because I'm starting to cry but Eurotour was like an exchange within exchange. It was a mini life within my current mini life, only packed to the brim with awesome.

Didn't really get out of this depression for five days when it was Midsummer. I went with my host family to their Summer Cottage for the night. We went tubing, boated around the lakes of the region and then sat around the campfire until late. At midnight we visited the neighbours Kokko. These are huge stacks of wood that get set on fire as part of a tradition to ward off evil spirits. Then I watched a Finnish movie before going to bed.

For the week after midsummer I was meeting up with and saying goodbye to many of my close Exchange friends before they left. Whilst we had a lot of fun together in Tampere, Linnanmaki theme park and Helsinki it has been incredibly sad to say goodbye to them all. Now that they're gone I want to spend more time with my Finnish friends.

Anyways I'm coming up to the second half of my exchange. It feels like I've been here for years but at the same time it's going quickly.

21st July / 10am / \$50pp / Castle Hill Country Club

Come and join us at the Breast Cancer Brunch for the Breast Cancer Institute at Westmead Hospital. Enjoy a beautiful brunch of fresh fruit, moist muffins, crispy bacon and eggs and much, much more. Whether you're a mother, grandmother or someone's aunt or sister, if you are a woman, you should come along and learn about the truths and misconceptions of breast cancer. Come and enjoy sisterhood, lucky door prizes, raffles, and lots of fun and laughter.

Contact: President Bev Cooney 0424 792 440

MACQUARIE UNI ROTARACT TRIVIA NIGHT

17th August / 6.30pm / \$15pp / The Atrium, Campus Hub Building

Each year we hold a trivia night to raise funds for a specific cause which our club members are most passionate about. Last year we raised a record \$2500 for Wildmob, an Australian conservation group, and Anjali House, a school for children in Cambodia. This year our club has decided that the funds of our trivia night will go to Human and Hope Association. This is an NGO based in Cambodia which aims to create a sustainable future through education of the community. They have a school which teaches children English, Khmer (the local language) and vocational skills. To provide a more holistic approach they are aiming to also have a micro financing program, computer skills class and a sustainable farming project for the local families.

Contact: trivia@rotaractmq.org

MEN DO REMEMBER ANNIVERSARIES!

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband was not in their bed. She puts on her dressing gown and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a hot cup of coffee in front of him. He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee.

'What's the matter, dear?' she whispers as she steps into the room, 'Why are you down here at this time of night?' The husband looks up from his coffee, 'I am just remembering when we first met 20 years ago and started dating. You were only 16. Do you remember back then?' he says solemnly. The wife is touched to tears thinking that her husband is so caring, so sensitive. 'I do'. The husband pauses.

The words were not coming easily.. 'Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car?' 'Yes, I remember!' said the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him. The husband continues. 'Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, 'Either you marry my daughter, or I will send you to jail for 20 years?' 'I remember that too' she replies softly.

He wipes another tear from his cheek and says... 'I would have been released today.'



THE ROTARY VISION

Rotary is a worldwide organisation of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary Clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are non-political, non-religious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto "Service above Self", Rotary's main objective is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

ROTARY GRACE

O Lord and giver of all good
We thank you for our daily food
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways
Help us to serve you all our days

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

of the things we say, think & do

- 1.** Is it the Truth?
- 2.** Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3.** Will it build goodwill & better friendships?
- 4.** Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice, for we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage, Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing, Advance Australia Fair!
