

# **BOB'S BELLBIRD BLOG**

This week we celebrate David Bremner's life and contribution to Rotary. Monday night was a sad but special occasion because of David's untimely death. It was great to have so many in attendance, particularly Connie & Bruce and Norm and Graham Howes.

David was a very committed Rotarian and one of his last acts was to present the Ford Davis certificate to Corey at the Hand Brake Turn graduation. David had 25 years of exemplary Rotary service after being nominated by Ian Smith in 1987. He was a major portion of the club's backbone.

President twice, Assistant Governor, Registration officer for a very successful District conference at Ballarat- a prime mover in club Visioning. We remember him and Heather as gracious hosts of GSE teams. A clear thinker and our legal eagle. We'll always remember his wicked sense of humour – when a meeting was flagging- there would be a timely interjection given with a deadpan face and the meeting would spring to life. Bulletin editor (often) and a promoter of Rotary in all its aspects.

Tributes have come in from our parent and grandparent clubs (Nunawading and Box Hill) and from DG Brian Martin.

The Texas GSE dinner Tuesday night was sold out- David would have been delighted.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Heather, children and grandchildren and the wider family.

Our guest speaker Tom did a great job turning what could have been a disastrous coincidence into an opportunity for celebration. Stan was in thoughtful mode as usual and raised \$49.50 for the Foundation. Stuart as chair had some appropriate thoughtful quotes and Doug highlighted the peace message.

Reminders

- Annual fees will be \$190 and can be paid in full or half-yearly
- Meeting on 13 August cancelled and replaced by the D9810 Cluster Foundation Roadshow (committee chairs will arrange own meetings)
- Next meeting we welcome our partners and our young American invitees Megan and Kylen for dinner

Future events that we should monitor and become involved with (if we can) are

- Deakin students report on the ABCD project-8 August RC Templestowe
- D9810 Cluster Foundation Roadshow -16 August- Dorset Gardens Hotel \$28 -numbers by Monday 13 August
- Charter meeting of the Rotary eclub of Greater Melbourne- 19 August-\$20- Sky High Restaurant-numbers by 10 August. The charter of a new club is always exciting.

Despite our grief and loss let us continue to seek new ways on the road to Peace through Service.

President Bob Laslett

### HAND BRAKE TURN PRESENTATION

Last Friday I attended the **Ford Davis Endeavour Award** presentation at **Hand Break Turn** premises at Dandenong along with David, as President Bob was interstate and unable to attend. Attending their award presentation was a provoking and rewarding experience, in confronting a lifestyle alien to our usual day to day activity.

A definite dress code was established which in the main included cap worn under a hoodie, and jeans that defied gravity hanging off the hips. Parents, family and carers, were also dressed in a similar code.

However what was important was their support of the students and their achievements through participation in the course.

The course is centered on the motor industry in panel beating, spraying, detailing and mechanics and on completion the students are awarded a certificate grade 1 in motor mechanics, plus a resume.

This course graduation, course No 80, comprised 13 male and 1 female students and the support from parents, family and carers was very strong. They had an obvious pride in the achievements of the participants.

There were 3 Industry awards in addition to our presentation made on the night, plus the graduation certificates to each student.

As was typical David had been down to Dandenong to collect the presentation board and had it inscribed with the name of the awardee for 2012, along with the framed presentation certificate, plus **my** speech to ensure that all aspects were adequately covered. The plaque was presented to Hand Brake Turn manager, Mark Binninton, and the certificate of achievement to the awardee, Corey Sarlo..

Overall an impressive event, and I felt a very worthwhile project for us to maintain involvement. We were advised that the management does maintain contact with the students after graduation, and they have agreed to keep us informed of the progress of the students into full time work force. John McPhee

# LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Speaker Tom Saunders Topic Old blocks and pushbikes

Tom made a very interesting presentation regarding his involvement with cycling and the benefits cycling provides to cyclists.

Tom started cycling some 30 years ago with the Blackburn Cycling Club.

In the past he was a competitive racing cyclist but today he enjoys cycling some 4 times a week for relaxation.

Cycling has become a family affair as he now rides with his wife regularly and on occasions with his son and daughter.

Tom gave a brief description of the evolution of bikes from the Malvern Star to the current hi tech. bikes.

The main theme of Tom's presentation was to explain the benefits of cycling and motivate people to take up the sport.

Of the many benefits of cycling Tom highlighted satisfaction, the courage to participate, the pursuit of a goal and the pride to reach the top of a hill and the thrill of descending the other side.

The East Link Bike Path from Ringwood represents an excellent place to ride a bike.

Member Ron Brooks, a keen cyclist, mentioned that there was a spare bike at his place.

Chris Tuck

### PEACE

MEMBERS TALK - PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

As you all know, Rotary is one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, with over 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary club members, who come from all political, social, and religious backgrounds, are united in their mission to promote international understanding, supported by Rotary's humanitarian and educational programs.

Rotary clubs participate in a broad range of cultural, educational, and service activities in their own communities and abroad to provide health care and medical supplies, clean water, food, job training, schooling, and youth outreach to millions of people in need. Rotary volunteers also travel the world, lending their technical expertise and knowledge where they are most needed to alleviate hardship and address humanitarian problems.

When armed conflict, political instability, and economic turmoil tear nations and communities apart, the challenges of meeting basic human needs multiply at an alarming rate. To a significant degree, the failure to provide for these needs — food, water, shelter, health care, literacy, jobs, and human rights — is the root cause of conflict. Left unresolved, conflicts intensify and expand, in turn generating greater needs.

Rotary helps to addresses these problems through programs such as Shelter Box and Disaster Aid Australia, Safe Water Save Lives, Rotarians Against Malaria, to name a few. They also do this through the Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Rotary Peace Fellows are leaders promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities. Fellows earn a master's degree in international relations, sustainable development, peace studies, conflict resolution, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies.

The Rotary Peace Centres program supports the mission of The Rotary Foundation of improving health, supporting education, and alleviating poverty by:

•• Supporting and advancing research, teaching, publication, and practical field experience on issues of peace, goodwill, causes of conflict, and world understanding

Inspiring people to work for a culture of peace and tolerance while enhancing their capacity, knowledge, and skills by generating interaction between practitioners and academics
Providing advanced international educational opportunities in the area of peace and conflict resolution

Rotary also builds world understanding through international scholarships and vocational exchange programs. Every year, it sends up to 1,000 students and professionals to study abroad in more than 60 countries. Rotary's program alumni work in a range of areas including grassroots and nongovernmental organizations, national governments, militaries, police forces, and international organizations such as the United Nations, World Bank, International Organization for Migration, and Organization of American States. Graduates also enjoy the support of a growing worldwide network of fellow alumni committed to building peace.

To quote Andrea Fanta (University of Queensland), Representative, Department of Economic and Community Development, State of Tennessee, USA

"The goal of the (Rotary World) Peace Fellowship is to get students out of their comfort zone, into a different country, and equip them with the skills they need to return to their homes and pursue work in international development and conflict resolution..... Rotary is once again striving to achieve nothing short of world peace and understanding."

So you can see, Rotarians through Service can build Peace - and we have so many options open to us.

#### Doug Berwick

# **ROTARY CLUBS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN KIDS EDUCATION**

#### Lavena pre-school update





It's finished! And the new name is the Lavena Parrot Fish Kindergarten. The Deakin students returned a few days ago with great stories to tell of the opening ceremony for the pre-school and brought with them some amazing photos and some great video of the children at the school performing 'Daisy Chains' - the ABCD theme song - complete with movement and dance. The finished building has received much praise from the village elders and the chief, the parents, children and the teachers. They really did treat us all like royalty while we were there, and the farewell party for the students was by all accounts very special.





A couple of pictures attached so that you can see the new building, the great murals painted on the walls and get a glimpse of the new playground. An allocation of \$3,000 District Designated Funds has been approved and our application for \$6,000 matching grant has been submitted. Together

with the \$5,000 from Deakin, \$1,000 from the Gala Dinner and \$100 from RC Taveuni we will have enough to provide a complete fit out of the new building with places for 40 children to go to the kindergarten. We will also be able to pay for a range of learning materials, stationery, paints, and play materials for the next year. Included in the budget are training places for two new pre-school teachers from the village to enrol at the University of the South Pacific. The Deakin University students will be guest speakers at a meeting soon - please look out for the date and invite your partners, friends and special guests to see what a difference Rotary can make. The Deakin University students will be presenting at RC Templestowe on 8 August - we would love you to invite your members to join us on the evening if you had the time?

Ken Wall, ABC Dreams

## **CLUSTER FOUNDATION ROADSHOW**

The Rotary Club of Croydon is organising the Cluster Dinner Meeting for the Northern and Eastern Region Clusters. Our meeting is in lieu of our normal meeting that week.

When:	Thursday, August 16, 2012
Where: Time:	335 Dorset Rd, Croydon VIC 3136 6:30 for 7:00pm
	Finish 9:00 pm
Cost:	\$28 pp (Drinks at Bar prices)

Please advise if there are any special dietary requirements.

## FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

We publish the table below to keep us aware of the challenge.

Membership at the beginning of the year	Current Membership	Change
18	17	-1

## INTERESTING THOUGHTS

The secret of patience is doing something else in the meantime

Most people believe in law and order as long as they can lay down the law and give the orders.

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

30/07/2012	Club meeting	
31/07/2012	Welcome - inbound youth exchange students	
6/08/2012	Club meeting	
10/08/2012	AG Meeting with Presidents at Wheelers Hill 5.30pm	
11/08/2012	NYSF applicant interviews	
11/08/2012	Blackburn Station Market	
12/08/2012	Youth Exchange - outbound student orientation	
12/08/2012	Whitehorse Farmers' Market	
13/08/2012	No club meeting - District Cluster Roadshow for Rotary Foundation	
13/08/2012	Club Committee Meetings	
16/08/2012	District Cluster Roadshow for Rotary Foundation	
17/08/2012	Mt Evelyn Camp Awakenings	
19/08/2012	Youth Exchange –Inbound Student Orientation	
19/08/2012	e-Club Charter	
24/08/2012	College of Governor's meeting	

# **ROTARY ECLUB OF GREATER MELBOURNE**



Dear Club Presidents,

President Gael and the Charter Members of the Rotary eClub of Greater Melbourne, have pleasure in inviting you and other members of your Club to our Charter Event.

This will be 'High Tea' and held at the Sky High Restaurant, 26 Observatory Rd Mount Dandenong on Sunday 19 August from 3.30 to 5.00pm. The cost is \$20 per person - \$10 each for children 5-12 years old.

In addition, there is a \$5 cost per car to enter the park, however, as you are attending an event you will receive a voucher for free entry next time you visit the park.

Please could you complete and return the booking form by no later than Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2012.

Kind regards Philip Hedley Secretary Rotary eClub of Greater Melbourne

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at rlaslett@optusnet.com.au by **5 pm next Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format please)