

Board Members 2007-08

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|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| President | David Fox | Office holders |
| Secretary | Keith Avent | Bulletin Editors John Gray & Bruce Wyatt |
| Immed. Past President: | Ray Newcombe | Sergeant: Ian Excell |
| President Elect : | Shukry Sahhar | Program Manager Neale Emanuel |
| Treasurer: | Noel Hart | Historian/ Archivist Keith Avent |
| Club Service: | Peter Evans | Webmaster: Robin Cromer |
| Community Service: | Neale Emanuel | Member Databases Ken Goard |
| International Service: | Bernadette Cappello | Club address: PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606 |
| Vocational Service: | Shukry Sahhar | Secretary Keith Avent, |
| Youth Service: | Val Bland | keith.avent@bigpond.com |
| | | http://www.rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden |

Apologies to: Phil Ibbotson 62813415 <pibbotson@ozemail.com.au>

Postscript

DON'T MESS WITH CHILDREN – EPISODE 2.

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.' The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.'

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'

Attendance

Guest Speaker: Dr Paul Minitier

Club Guests: Jessica McConnell (Outgoing Youth Exchangee), Mrs Lindele McConnell & Stephanie McConnell

Honorary Member: Frank Macklin

Other guests: Maureen Booth & Sue McKee

Make-ups: Val Bland & Jim Grainger

Members present: 20, **Percentage:** 72.7%

Rosters

Copies of previous issues of the Raven can be found at
<<http://www.rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden>> Click on 'Club bulletins'

| Program | THIS WEEK - Wed 25 June | NEXT WEEK – Wed 2 July |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | President David Fox | TBA |
| | Club Changeover | |
| Introduction | N/A | Ajit Bannerjee |
| Appreciation | N/A | Carlo Binutti |
| Fellowship | Rex Hunt | Val Bland |
| | Carlo Binutti | Juliet Badu-Tiwa |
| Raven Recorder | John Gray | Ros Osbourne |
| Birthdays | Nil | Rosemary Taylor 4 July, |
| Anniversaries | Nil | Nil |
| TRASH & TREASURE | | |
| 29 June Piers Booth–Peter Evans | | |

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Canberra-Woden Inc.



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ROTARY YEAR 2007-2008

Tonight we meet to recognise the conclusion of a year of Rotary service and the commencement of a new one under President-Elect Shukry Sahhar. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors including PDG Len Goodman and ADG Barry Howe who have come to share with us this special event.

A quick glance at copies of the 50 Ravens produced over the past 12 months reveals a year of remarkable achievements for the club under the leadership of President David Fox. His annual report, to be presented tonight, will set down the detail of these achievements and confirm the extent to which his board and all members of the club have worked towards the ideals of Rotary and in particular towards 'Rotary Shares'.

The year will be remembered particularly for the way in which David has pursued, with persistence, the 5 year Rotary Western Desert Project in association with the Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaka (WDNWPT) Corporation.

He has assessed on the ground the 'purple house' in Alice Springs and the 'blue house' in Kintore. He has also achieved strong financial and practical support for the project from a number of other Rotary clubs and the project is now becoming well known in Australian Rotary circles. That paid off recently when, in response to an enquiry from WDNWPT, 13 wheel chairs, 4 walking frames and bedside table tops appeared in his garage with little notice – these are currently being prepared for transport to Alice Springs.



Aerial perspective of the proposals for the refurbishment of the 'blue house' at Kintore

Plans are now complete for the refurbishment of the Kintore 'blue house' to achieve additional dialysis capacity there, one of our important objectives for our 5-year relationship with WDNWPT.

Congratulations President David on a remarkable year of Rotary service.

Club News

Dates for your diary: Board Meeting – 2 July; Club Assembly – 9 July.

Rotary Western Desert Project: Continuing his search for hospital furniture to send to Kintore, and drawing on the contact made at Hall Rotary Club a couple of weeks ago, President David was able to gather together some superseded bedside tables, four walking-frames and 13 wheel-chairs, all to be packaged for a trip to The Alice and on to Kintore for use with the Haemodialysis Program.

Wishing Well at Canberra Hospital: Secretary Keith Avent reported he had collected together the coins deposited there and with some of the money had delivered and presented some furniture to the hospital. He is now looking further to use the surplus for the comfort of patients and visitors or in intensive care.

Future club meeting place: Peter Evans advised on the present situation with the Yamba Club still available but perhaps not till November due to renovations in the main building. In the meantime Fridays or Sundays were possible alternative meeting days.

New email address for Gary Scott: Our Director-General of Parking has retired from Canberra Institute of Technology. His new address is: garyhscott@gmail.com

Rotary Adventure in Citizenship: It is yet early to have many enrolments in the RAIC Program but Ros Osbourne reports that an indigenous student from Torres Strait with a particular interest in Turtle Tagging will be coming and hopes that she will be able to contact Canberran scientists with similar interests.

Last week

The sergeant proposed toasts to the people of Australia and to Rotary. He introduced President David who welcomed the medical team associated with the speaker and the newly-appointed exchange student Jessica McConnell.

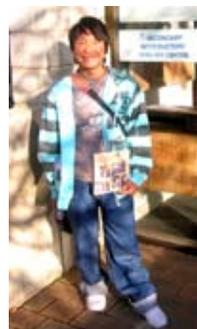


This evening we were introduced to Jessica, aged 15 years from Telopea Park High School, who will have next year in Switzerland representing our Club as our Rotary Exchange Student. She spoke competently and without notice about herself. Her study of German at school will be an asset. Diversity of countries and cultures has been an interest encouraged by her visit to the recent Scouts' World Jamboree. Skiing will be her immediate relaxation in the alpine surrounds.

Piers Booth, following his close association with Somchai, introduced Dr Paul Miniter, a Private Canberra Orthopaedic Surgeon who we planned to thank for his care of this lad. This shows specialization – Paul treats only affections from the hip down!

We were shown illustrations and x-rays to define Somchai's problem the consequence of poliomyelitis probably at the age of three years. This was shortly before the Polio-Plus Program, initiated world-wide by Rotary International, led to eliminating polio except for small parts of Africa and Asia.

Thanks to Raven Reporter Ken Goard



Polio, caused by a virus which invades the brain and spinal cord damages the nerve cells which work the muscles of our bodies. A severe acute phase may paralyze the breathing muscles and survival may depend on using an iron-lung.

A less aggressive infection may cause many or few muscles to weaken or fail. Bone growth may be impaired and with loss of muscle activity leads to deformities. Somchai's foot was permanently twisted so that he walked on the tips of the toes of the affected leg. Running was simply not on.

Dr Miniter's surgery, performed in phases, loosened shortened tendons, reshaped deformed foot bones and allowed fusion of these so that he will walk with a rigid foot but one which will be placed flat on the ground.

Australians saw the last of polio in the 1950's when universal vaccination was instituted leaving the legacy of deformity in the few now aged survivors.

President David presented two Certificates of Appreciation to Dr Paul Miniter and the senior staff member Sister Sue McKee of the medical team in recognition of the generous donation of expertise and time in the treatment and care of Somchai Yaeso.



Neal Emanuel formally thanked Dr Miniter for his presentation.

51st Raven for 2007-2008 – John Gray

This is the last weekly bulletin for the year. The Raven serves an important function in our club. In addition to the simple things like rosters, reports on talks, articles about Rotary generally and the odd bit of humour, it is a good historical record. Shortly three bound copies of the 51 Ravens will be produced – two will go to libraries and a personal copy to President David. The Annual Report to be tabled tonight will be included in these bound copies. All the Ravens since 1969 have been placed in the National Library and, in more recent years in the ACT Heritage Library – they are on public access.

On behalf of Bruce Wyatt and myself I extend our thanks to those who have helped us with the Raven. We recognise particularly the Raven reporters during the past 12 months. They include: Bernadette Cappello, Robin Cromer, Norma Donaldson, Ken Goard, Noel Hart, Bob Harvie, Rex Hunt, Judy Skelton and John Widdup.

Finally my sincere thanks to Des Pain on whom I have leant throughout the year for technical advice on the world's most advanced computer – the Apple Macintosh!.

Watch this space for the new Raven next week. There will be a few surprises!