



Rotary Club of  
Canberra Woden Inc  
District 9710  
Weekly Bulletin, Vol 37 2004/2005



No. 14 Wednesday 6 October 2004

	This Week 6 October 04	Next Week 13 October 04
<b>Program</b>	Julie Tong Indigenous Health	Ali Garnett Cockatoo Island Birds
<b>Introduction</b>	Piers Booth	Piers Booth
<b>Appreciation</b>	Ajit Banerjee	Robin Cromer
<b>Fellowship</b>	Val Bland Carlo Binutti	Murray Crowe Neale Emanuel
<b>Raven Recorder</b>		David Fox
<b>Trash &amp; Treasure</b>	Tom Davies John Gray	Des Pain Ken Goard
<b>Birthdays</b>	Helen Henderson-Kelly 10/10	
<b>Anniversaries</b>	Ken & Denise 11/10	

Club Address: PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606  
<http://rotarnet.com.au/canberrawoden>

Dinner Meetings held each Wednesday, 6:00 for 6:15pm  
Embassy Motel, Hopetoun Circuit, Deakin

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The Raven

## October 10—Rotary Scenic Cycle tour of Canberra

Photo from Canberra Tourism



### Rotary Grace

O Lord and Giver of all Good  
We Thank Thee for our Daily Food  
May Rotary Friends and Rotary Ways  
Help us to Serve Thee all our Days.

Raven Deadline PM Sunday to [nhart@netspeed.com.au](mailto:nhart@netspeed.com.au)  
or [gdpain@netspeed.com.au](mailto:gdpain@netspeed.com.au)

## Meeting 29 September 2004

### Bike Ride 10 October

John Widdup reported on the duties of marshals at the bike ride and showed and explained the signs to be used. It is all systems go and members are urged to give their whole hearted support to the project which is being trialed this year.

### Guest Speaker Gina Hall – Women’s Suffrage

Gina spoke with great enthusiasm on a subject which is obviously very dear to her. She reflected on the hundred years since women gained the right to vote and sit in parliament and how far advanced the situation is compared to Great Britain. But still we have a long way to go particularly in politics where federally the government has only 5 female ministers out of 30 and the opposition only 6.

Gina introduced her talk by referring to the monument to women’s Suffrage which was planned to be erected in Federation square and announced with great gusto by the then minister William Tuckey. It was in the form of a fan billowing in the wind but the red colour and the interruption to the parliament axis saw its defeat in favour of a fountain in the senate rose garden. The women’s suffrage

movement colours of purple green and white will feature.

Gina went into the history of the movement and progress in Australia giving recognition initially of the important yet unrecognized role of women in the pioneering days of the colony. She gave credit to Louisa Lawson who in 1883 from Marrickville took a leading role through her journal “Dawn” to give the franchise to women.

The right to vote and the right to sit in Parliament progressed from State to State with SA being the leader mainly because of the efforts of Catherine Helen Spence who came from Scotland to Australia in 1839 as a 13 year old. ‘For nearly sixty years she wrote for South Australia’s daily newspapers in which she was an outspoken critic of the community and a loud advocate for democracy and justice, seen for example in a paper on charity in South Australia. She helped transform the South Australia she loved from a pioneer backwater into a respected progressive colony. Her name was a household word in her time. After her death she was praised as the ‘Greatest Australian Woman’ and dubbed ‘the Grand Old Woman of Australasia’

Australia had none of the violence and arson that has characterized the movement in the UK. WA quickly followed the lead of SA though the right to stand in that State did not come until 1920. Gina believes the giving of the franchise was a political decision to combat large mining interests rather than generated by justice to women. The other states followed – NSW in 1902, Tas in 1903, Qld in 1905 and Vic in 1908. Gina noted that NZ preceded Australian States in giving voting rights to Women.

Gina closed by acknowledging the women in Federal politics particularly singling out those who pioneered the way. She mentioned that Vider Goldstein was the first woman to stand for Federal Parliament and though having a strong policy base and persevering over a number of years never made it. Those who did and became first timers for women included Susan Ryan, Joan Childs, and Margaret Reed.

Gina concluded by saying that though there is a long way to go we have come far since Duncan McLachan voiced the opinion in 1904 “Even when [women] continue in the Service, it is found that they reach their limit of usefulness at a comparatively

early age... women are physiologically unfitted to carry responsibility at an age when men are improving and developing their capacity...”

### Rotary International

With the start of a new month we should be reminded that Rotary has a special emphasis on a Rotary Program each month:

July – Literacy

August – Membership Extension

September – Youth Activities

**October - Vocational Service**

November – The Rotary Foundation

December – Family

January – Rotary Awareness

February – Centenary of Rotary and World Understanding

March - Polio Eradication

April – Magazine

May - Planning

June - Fellowship

Vocational Service nurtures adherence to the principles of the *Four-Way Test* in our members' workplaces. Members contribute their vocational talents to serve society.

- *Is it the Truth*
- *Is it fair to all concerned*
- *Will it build goodwill and better friendships*
- *Will it be beneficial to all concerned*