



Woolgi Whisper

The Rotary Club of Woolgoolga Inc.

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www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwoolgoolga
woolgoolgarotaryclub.org.au
woolgoolgaheritagewalk.org

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 15 13 March 2017

Club President
Norm Michener
District Governor
Ian Jackson
Rotary International
President
John F GERM

Meetings each month
1st Sat: auction shed
8:30-3:30
2nd & 4th Mondays
6-8pm Woolgoolga C.ex
3rd Monday
Board meetings VIC
if 5th Monday,
contact Secretary

TONIGHT (13 MARCH) WE WILL WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS!!

Members are the lifeblood of the club, so it is wonderful that on this special night, two more will join us: **Karina Bettison** and **John Mitchell**. Both have retired from careers in education, and it is noteworthy how teachers with a career serving via education seem to make a disproportionately high contribution among those who serve afterwards in Rotary – at least in our club!

TONIGHT (13 MAR) SENIORS DRIVERS LICENSING /ACCIDENT REHABILITATION

Also tonight, **Phil Hannaford** has stepped in at short notice to speak on seniors' drivers licensing as well as accident rehabilitation and disabilities. A driving instructor of 20 years' experience, Phil's business is Hannafords Driving Academy, based in Nambucca Heads where he lives, but servicing the Coffs region as well. Among his specialities are Aged refresher lessons and RMS aged assessments; and Specialist training for disabilities and Accident & sickness rehabilitation. He helps older drivers maintain their independence, while minimising the stress of the test.

The club is very grateful to Phil, not just for that talk – At the RYDA days last Thursday and last August, Phil (*photo*) came up from Nambucca to be the Facilitator for the six "Hazards and Distractions" sessions.

C.EX MAKES MAJOR DONATION TOWARD AUCTION PICKUP VEHICLE

The C.ex Group and C.ex Woolgoolga –Bowling Club have donated a whopping \$4,000 towards the funds being raised to purchase a vehicle for auction pickups. C.ex also provides a grant every year to cover the cost of hiring the Rotary meeting room, as well any rooms needed for Rotary events such as RYDA. Their generosity is deeply appreciated.

To add your donation visit <https://www.givenow.com.au/rcwpickup> – **Woolgoolga Rotary's online donations page at GiveNow**, a commission-free online donation service. You will be taken to the Help Us Pick Up! Rotary Auctions Woolgoolga page, where you can donate using your credit card. (You can also get there from our website).

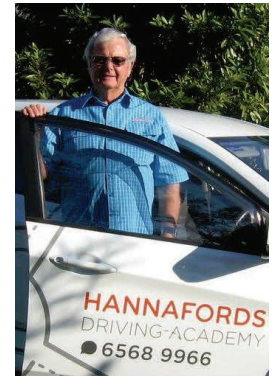
REPORT ON RYDA, THURSDAY 9 MARCH

The 128 students attending RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) on Thursday 9 March, was a record, thanks to months of effort by WHS teacher Megan Hart. The day went well, despite the usual unpredictable hitches and glitches causing a few minor delays. The behavior of the students was generally excellent, and their attentiveness throughout even the closing addresses indicated that they were thinking about the important messages from the day, and how they might shape the future.

We are indebted to our Facilitators: Phil Hannaford; driver Greg Johanson, of Coffs Harbour Auto Electrical; Vicki Rieder from Easy Driving [*photo*]; Jason Newcombe of Lifetime Connect; Danielle Canakis (who is a former Rotary Exchange Student from our club); Senior Constable Bernadette Snow of the NSW Police; and courageous crash survivor Les Burrell, assisted by Carol Fear from North Coast Brain Injury Rehabilitation Services. Also to Coffs Coast Isuzu Ute, who once again provided the vehicle and fuel. A big thanks to Rotarians and partners: David Fayle (organiser), Norm Michener (Assistant Day Manager), "gophers" Dick Matthews & Pam Fayle, Group Monitors Karen Sedgwick, Echah Wright, Mary Bryant, Glenda Kennedy, Peter Lacy & Dave Edwards; Catering Coordinator Patty Delaney; catering set-up on site, Lyndee Hagar, assisted by Ila and Sel Rogers and others; and Bus logistics Col Cafferky. Our venues Woolgoolga C.ex, the Community Centre, the Library and the Woolgoolga Sports Council managed track were all provided to us at no charge.

Secretary:
Patty Delaney
0429 449 385

APOLOGIES TO:
Echah
0418 861 253
6654 2557
by 9am Monday



STATS AT A GLANCE

Visiting Rotarians:

YEP:

Guests: incl. Karina Bettison, John & Cathie Mitchell, Louise Hardman, Lisa Nicholls, Mirian Sullivan, Val Swan, Theresa Peppernell, Clarissa Hodgkinson, Merv & Joy Richardson, Allan & Bree McKibbin, Joan Vinckx, Damon Greenwood, Kate Druhan, Chris -, Jean -, Paul -, Sam Birch, Tammy -, Victoria Wilkies, partners Helen, Sally, Marie

Attendance: 14 (64%)

Apologies: John, Harjinder, Trish, Gareth, Geoff, Rod, Mary

Raffle: none

Birthdays: John Arkan 15 Mar, Trish Baker 20 Mar

Anniversaries:

Woolgoolga High Canteen did a brilliant job catering lunch for everyone, and the Rotary spread for the adult volunteers was lavish – thank you to all who provided plates.



REPORT ON MARCH AUCTION

There was an excellent turnout of willing helpers and Rotarians, partners and friends, but the Monster Auction did not attract the big buyers and massive cleanout that we hoped for, and the result was modest compared with most recent auctions. The good publicity may well have attracted a reasonable number of extra people, some first-timers, but most had departed by 2pm, so **John** & novice Austrian auctioneer **Anneliese** (a natural!) had their work cut out moving stuff. The main verandah has little room left for the inter-auction pickups – hopefully some of the bulky items can find a new home before the next auction on April Fool's Day.

GREAT NEWS FROM COFFS HARBOUR INTERACT CLUB

Our recent Youth Exchange Program (YEP) rebounder **Clarence Harré** has joined The **Interact Club of Coffs Harbour** (formed in 2015, sponsored by Coffs Harbour Daybreak Rotary). The club has approached us seeking an auction-helper slot, and in the meantime will be running a **sausage sizzle in front of Woolgoolga Woolworths this Saturday 11 March** – so if you're in the vicinity buy a snag to support them.

REPORT (27 FEB) MICHELLE VAN SANTEN: MARINE DEBRIS

Michelle (Shelli) Van Santen's talk took us again out of our complacent comfort zone about the ramifications of our rampant consumption of **plastics** on our **oceans**. The first half of her talk (which deserves much more space than we have here) focused on **Bali**, and how, despite the fact that food marketing in a small village in northern Bali uses far less environment-sabotaging, unnecessary packaging than does an Australian supermarket, there is still a huge problem of habitually discarding of rubbish into watercourses than empty into the ocean. She talked about improvements that she and others had implemented to lessen the rate of damage, and about things that could be readily done, such as covering foam fishing-net floats (widely used in Asia and a major source of foam particles) with a sleeve.

With superlative timing, just 4 days before Shelli's talk, the **United Nations launched a major global #CleanSeas campaign to end marine litter**. They have declared war on microplastics in cosmetics and the excessive, wasteful usage of single-use plastic. Indonesia is one of ten countries on board already. Erik Solheim, Head of UN Environment, said, "It is past time that we tackle the plastic problem that blights our oceans. Plastic pollution is surfing onto Indonesian beaches, settling onto the ocean floor at the North Pole, and rising through the food chain onto our dinner tables. We've stood by too long as the problem has gotten worse. It must stop."

Shelli's talk then focused on the situation locally in the Woolgoolga area, including mentioning the two new local initiatives that we will hear about on 27 Mar, & a strategy to transition away from plastic bags, with local councils. **We're all part of the problem—can we be part of the solution?**

Home after Rotary, some of us switched on the TV and happened on ABC's Four Corners special on the same subject, complementing and amplifying what Shelli had told us. Crunch time is well and truly upon us!

CLUB NOTICES

1 Apr Auction (Mullaway P&C)
 3 Apr S&E Challenge Dinner, Seaview Tavern 5:30-8:30
 4 Apr Science and Engineering Challenge
 13 May (Sat) Swap Party (Karen Sedgwick's)

DISTRICT NOTICES

16-19 Mar RYMARINE (Coffs H Daybreak)
 24-26 Mar District Conference, Laurieton
 1-8 Apr RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)

MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend						
Date	13 Mar Partners	20 Mar Board	27 Mar Partners	3 Apr No meet	10 Apr Partners	17 Apr Board
Attendance	Lyndee Hagar	VISITORS INFO	David Edwards	AUCTION 1 APR	Geoff Royal	VISITORS INFO
Welcome/Fellowship	Leslie Casey	CENTRE 4:15	Kim Thompson	IN LIEU	David Fayle	CENTRE 4:15
Introduce Guest Speaker/s	Pam Fayle		Patty Delaney		Norm Michener	
Vote of Thanks	Rod Mackenzie		Echah Wright		Karen Sedgwick	
Guest Speakers or Event	Phil Hannaford, Seniors driving / rehabilitation & disabilities		Louise Hardman & Lisa Hunt Plastic recycling		Jane Body (TBC) Akili Girls School, Kenya	

Your Rotary Club Needs YOU

Want to be on the BOARD? - (see Patty)

Can you help with AUCTION PICK-UPS or auctioneering? (See Dick)

WISH TO PROPOSE A NEW MEMBER? (Contact Pam)

KNOW A FAMILY INTERESTED IN HOSTING A YEP STUDENT? (See Patty)