

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WOOLGOOLGA INC.

WOOP! WHISPER

VOLUME 22, Issue 32 — 8 March 2010

Club President
Geoff Royal

District Governor
Neville Parsons

RI President
John Kenny



REMINDER THAT 22 MARCH (2 WEEKS AWAY) IS MEMBERSHIP NIGHT AND ALSO PARTNERS NIGHT SO MAKE SURE YOU INVITE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS + THEIR PARTNERS ALONG. LET PAM FAYLE KNOW FOR CATERING AND MEMBERS KIT PURPOSES.

TONIGHT'S MEETING (8 March)

Carl and Julie Freeman help run the Northern Beaches Youth Centre which had its AGM on 3 March and has dreams of building a new Centre in town. Come along and hear how things are going, what the plans are and how Rotary can help.

LAST MEETING (1 March)

John and Valerie Taffs treated us to their amazing story of turmoil, courage and sheer hard work: Valerie's move from Ireland to Africa, marriage to John in Zimbabwe and the very normal lives they built there renting then buying a tobacco & maize farm and raising a family.....all of which ended abruptly in March 1998 with President Mugabe's decision to "redistribute the wealth".



John and Valerie were given 30 days to leave their farm. They were threatened by "war veterans", violent youths under 20 released from juvenile facilities. Fear and violence increased with the death of 3 farmers in the area. John and Valerie decided to move to Australia, leaving behind the farm they had sunk all their hard-earned money into.

Their adventures continued with John's employment in Emerald in central QLD where he along with others were retrenched when Rio Tinto closed the mine a month before Christmas. They then moved to Swan Hill in Victoria and worked on a vineyard, finally saving and borrowing enough to buy an avocado farm at Kyogle in 2004 and ultimately a second farm just north of Woolgoolga—the aptly named "Rainbow's End", which we hope will continue to develop into their pot of gold. They became Australian citizens in 2005 and we wish them all the best for their future in our community.

CLUB SPEAKER

Rod Mackenzie spent his 3 minutes explaining to us the difficulties he had deciding on a topic!! He listed the many topics he has regaled us with over his years in Rotary, the many other topics he contemplated talking about (including some beauties such as "the perils of lambs fry" and "why he's not a billionaire"!! ...and then his time was up! Rod's list may be distributed to future speakers in search of topics!

Meeting Place

Woolgoolga Diggers

**Monday Evenings
6.00pm for 6.15pm**

Apologies to
6654 1234



STATS AT A GLANCE

Visiting Rotarians: Bill Carroll

Visitors: Ila Rogers, Bronwyn Mackenzie, John and Valerie Taffs, and Des and Hilary Gall all the way from Ireland

Apologies: John, Clive, Rob, Ray, Echah, Mark, Alastair, Keith, Karen, Trish, George, Peter

Attendance: 12 (50%)

Lucky Draw: David Fayle

Birthdays: John Arkan, 15 March

Anniversaries: none this week

SERGEANT'S SESSION:



Norm was back with a vengeance so the fine bucket overflowed. Bronwyn and Brian received car fines (although Brian's was an aqua-car fine we understand! See photo to the left!). President-elect David scored a fine for going to a PETs weekend (someone thought he had enjoyed some time at the Playboy/Penthouse mansion!!) There were fines for Irish coin swapping, visitor fines and a number of fines for members being quoted in the press (a strong Rotary week in the local rag and the Independent with several items on the forthcoming auction and advertising bowel scan week). Ed was fined again for an error in the Whisper....keep reading it carefully folks, I'll get it right one day!!

CLUB NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

DON'T FORGET!! ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR THE AUCTION ON SATURDAY 6 MARCH

Bowel Scan A few gaps still on the bowel scan roster, so let David Edwards know if you can man or woman the desk at the Plaza in the week 7-14 March. If you are off to the District Conference, take a slot earlier in the week.

Member's News **Charles Phipps** is in Coffs Hospital after a breaking his femur badly. We all wish him the best for a speedy recovery. **Rob White** has now finished his course of hyperbaric treatment in Brisbane and is undergoing further tests, but he and Edith are back home now and fighting on for those who want to catch up. Condolences to **Keith Minhinnett** on the recent loss of his brother after a battle with cancer. Judy reports that **Ray Willing** has arrived safely in Mongolia where it is minus 11 and snowing! And a big welcome back to **Bill Carroll** who is re-joining Woopi Rotary on transfer from Deniliquin.

Coffs Rotary Club's 60th birthday Woopi Club members are invited to join the celebrations at the Deep Sea Fishing Club at 6pm on Sat, 20th March. Please let **Secretary David know by 10 March** if you wish to attend.

PETs President elect David briefed the Club on the President Elect Training Session in Armidale including reporting on the recent visit to India of several District 9650 reps to help on a polio immunisation day.

MUNA Update The MUNA equipment is now in Woolgoolga; 24 teams have indicated their intention to compete and registrations close 12 March, so we are hoping for more by then. **Keep 14-16 May free to help run MUNA.**

CLUB NOTICES

8 Mar	Board Meeting
7-14 Mar	Bowelscan week in Woopi
15 March	Trial of the Terry proposal
27-28 Mar	Fish Auction date
29 March	General Assembly
14-16 May	MUNA
21 Jun	Changeover

DISTRICT NOTICES

12-14 Mar	District Conference Port Macquarie.
10-17 April	RYLA at Bonny Hills
2 May	District Assembly Kempsey
14-16 May	MUNA at Woopi
20-23 Jun	International Convention Montreal Canada
3 Jul	District Changeover

MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend			
Date	8 March	15 March	22 March
Attendance	Terry Booth	Patty Delaney	David Edwards
Welcome/ Fellowship	Karen Sedgwick	Keith Minhinnett	Geoff Royal
Club Speaker	Dick Matthews	Norm Michener	N/A
Vote of Thanks	Sel Rogers	George Smede	N/A
Guest Speaker	Carl & Julie Freeman Update on Northern Beaches Youth Centre	tbc	Membership and Partners night. Peter & Amelia Ward

Your Rotary Club Needs YOU

Vacancies for Secretary and Vice President 2010-2011, and President-Elect 2011-2012
See Geoff or David F.

Help with
AUCTION PICK-UPS
(see Dick or Sel)

AUCTIONEERS
For 1st Sat of the month (See Sel & Keith)