

# THE ROTARY CLUB of WOOLGOOLGA Inc.

## Woopi Whisper

VOLUME 24, Issue 30—13 Feb 2012

Club President  
**Norm Michener**  
District Governor  
**Barry Hacker**  
RI President  
**Kalyan Banerjee**



**REMINDER: THIS MONDAY EVENING IS THE SMALL BUSINESS SOCIAL FORUM at WOOLGOOLGA POOL**

### THIS WEEK (13 Feb)

Tonight is our second Small Business Social Forum at the Woolgoolga Swimming Pool, courtesy of our hosts Scott and Tracey Hunt. Start time 6:30pm. A big thank you to Terry and the Hunts for organising it. This event will be more successful if we all put some effort and thought into guests to invite. Please give Terry an indication of attendance/numbers before the weekend, then advise him of major changes.

### LAST MEETING (6 Feb) Honeywell Engineering Summer School

A packed house was thoroughly entertained hearing from our three guest speakers, students who had attended the Honeywell Engineering Summer School; from George on Monty Python moments in Spain; from El Presidente, a victim of a triumph of bureaucracy over common sense, and from the new(ish) Principal of Woolgoolga High School with a powerful and personal reminder of how Rotary changes lives.

**Honeywell Engineering Summer School** students **Herjot Lehl** (left), **Nathaniel Locke** (centre) and **Simon Verhoef** (right) gave us a wonderful insight into the variety of engineering challenges they tackled, university engineering departments visited, and industrial sites (eg Bluescope Steel –a highlight - and Railcorp) explored. From winning a challenge with a lightweight craft made from a tray supported by balloons, to building lightweight bridges, control systems and robots (mechatronics), kilometre rolls of steel, & blueberry icecream made using liquid nitrogen. Universities included Macquarie, UTS, UNSW, Sydney, Western Sydney & Wollongong.



On behalf of the 3, Herjot told how deeply grateful they were to Rotary for funding them and past attendees, and urged our club to continue supporting students to attend. Club members, in turn, were deeply impressed by how much they had gained, how it was shaping their career ideas, and in the leadup how they had succeeded in being selected (3 of only 100 total) and then backed up their commitment by each part-funding attendance.

**Guy Wright**, Principal of Woolgoolga High School, told of an important, formative time in his career when the Rotary Club of Sydney, together with Caltex, supported Guy to visit numerous countries (eg USA, Singapore) to learn about educational best practice. Not only did the experience change & shape his career, but his resulting paper was widely distributed by the Federal Health Minister Brendan Nelson. Guy also thanked our club for its consistently strong support of the school, reiterating that things we foster such as The Science Experience & HESS really do change lives. We hope to hear more in future about major initiatives in innovative teaching that he is introducing.

**Club Speaker George Smede**, who recently travelled to France with Sue to catch up with their daughter Joanna (YEP outbunder to France in



Meeting Place  
**Woolgoolga Swimming Pool this week**

**Monday Evenings**  
**6.00pm for 6.15pm**  
Apologies to  
**6654 7700**



Above: Simon, Nat and Herjot  
Below: Guy Wright



### STATS AT A GLANCE

**Visiting Rotarians:** Graham Cooper (Southport), Robin & Nerida Gourlay (Narrabri)

**Visitors:** Simon Verhoef, Herjot Lehl, Nathaniel Locke, teacher Michael Talve, parent Hank Verhoef, Chris Edwards, Guy Wright, 5 partners

**Apologies:** John, Pam, Rob, Trish, Peter B, Keith, Gareth

**Attendance:** 16/23 (69.5%)

**Raffle winner:** Bronwyn (test tasting a red mullet!)

**Birthdays:** nil

**Anniversaries:** Dick & Marie Matthews 17 Feb

2000), teaching there, as well as exchange student Stefany (here 1999-00). They took a family tour from Carcas-sonne to Barcelona (to experience Gaudi's awesome Sagrada Familia cathedral for instance) . Where most people would take a gastronomic tour, the Smedes took a *gastric* tour, amongst other things testing whether an iPod would survive and continue operating in a gastric fluid environment! The saga of the carpark lift into the wrong building was worthy of Python!

## SERGEANT'S SESSION

With both Sergeant and Corporal on the ball, the coffers were nicely boosted. Patty had an accident while riding her broomstick; Karen and Marie had an Irish pushmepullyu moment carrying an auction mattress; yours truly 'fessed up to inadequate rubbish-strapping & four people helping cleaning up the spillage on the road, while our President told a horror story of failure to have reversed a \$350 fine & -3 points for the "dangerous", grave offence of obscuring a number plate, while offences that are actually dangerous go daily unscrutinised & unpunished.

## CLUB NEWS

A Big Thank You: to the indomitable **Dick Matthews** and **Rob White** for collecting a large number of surplus desks and chairs from Woopi High, and lugging them to Rob's where he is cleaning them up and going to take them to Brisbane by trailer to ship to schools in need overseas; to **Dick and the many members, partners and friends** who put in huge time and effort into the successful February auction—for once helped by good weather; to **Jon Hall** and **Dick** for a further whole morning of pickups; and **Marie and Dick** for all their work at the shed, including flood cleanup. Also to the retiring Secretary of the Northern Beaches Youth Centre, **Karen**, for all her work on that body. And to **Ray**, assisted by **Rod** and **John**, for organising the Swedish visit (see below).

Movie Afternoon to raise funds for the EndPolio Now campaign will be held at Birch Carroll & Coyle Cinemas, Bray St Coffs Harbour on Sunday 19 February at 2.30pm. Cost is \$20 a ticket (pay on the day) and there is a lucky door prize of 2 bottles of wine. Let Secretary David know if you are attending (bring as many guests as you like) so he can provide numbers to Assistant Governor Rob Anderson. The movie is called "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" and stars Judi Dench, Bill Nighy and Maggie Smith which sounds promising indeed.

Recreational Vehicle Fellowship Visit is 14-21 March and we expect 20 or more guests at Partners Night 19 Mar.

Swedish Rotary Friendship Exchange is 26-29 March. Thanks to Ray & Judy, George & Sue, Karen & Col, Echah & Graeme, David & Pam and Norm & Helen for agreeing to host the visiting . We will of course be rolling out our secret Swedish-speaking weapon, Tom Podbury, for the visit! Ray has circulated the program.

### Treasurer Geoff says DUES ARE DUE NOW - if you pay half yearly

#### CLUB NOTICES

13 Feb Small Business Social Forum at the Pool  
 3 Mar Auction (helpers: Red Rock Corindi RFS)  
 9 Mar Club delegation off to District Conference  
 14-21 Mar Rotary Recreational vehicle fellowship visit  
 17-18 Mar Fish auction  
 26-29 Mar Swedish Exchange visit

#### DISTRICT NOTICES

16 Feb Presidents & Secretaries meeting  
 23 Feb Rotary's 107th birthday  
 9-11 Mar District Conference Inverell  
 24-31 Mar RYLA at Lake Keepit  
 31 Mar YEP applications close  
 16-8 May International Conference Bangkok

#### MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend

Date	13 February	19th for 20 February (no meeting...instead...)	27 February
Attendance	Terry Booth		Glenda Kennedy
Welcome/ Fellowship	Norm Michener 3mins on the Club	Film afternoon on 19 Feb at 2.30pm	Echah Wright
Club Speakers 3-5 minutes	Jaimie Hunt	At Birch Carroll & Coyle cinemas, Bray St, Coffs	Peter Bannister
Introduce Guest Speaker		Will be in lieu of Mon- day's meeting	Karen Sedgwick
Vote of Thanks	Norm Michener		Geoff Royal
Guest Speakers	Small business So- cial Forum at the Woolgoolga Pool	"The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" movie fundraiser	Students who attended The Science Experi- ence

#### Your Rotary Club Needs YOU

Want to be on the  
BOARD for 2012-13? -  
(see Norm or Pam)  
Can you help with  
AUCTION PICK-UPS  
or auctioneering?  
(See Dick)  
WISH TO PROPOSE A  
NEW MEMBER?  
(See Pam)  
KNOW A FAMILY  
INTERESTED IN  
HOSTING a YEP  
STUDENT?  
(See Patty)