

# THE ROTARY CLUB of WOOLGOOLGA Inc.

## Woopi Whisper

VOLUME 24, Issue 9 — 22 Aug 2011

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



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

### TONIGHT (22 Aug)

Ken Boyle is going to entertain us with tales of outback driving in central Australia. Ken is currently the secretary of Woolgoolga Lions Club, has recently retired to the area and is building a new house on Arrawarra Headland.

### LAST MEETING (15 Aug)

It was a good turn out to hear DG **Barry Hacker** (at right with our YEPER Elisabeth) who told us that there is an increasing focus in Rotary on engaging with our communities and the old days of focusing on strict attendance requirements has faded into the background. Some interesting statistics from the DG indicate that there are 1.2million Rotarians in the world but



1.5million were inducted in the last 6 years so poor retention of existing members is perhaps a bigger problem than the difficulties of getting new members to join. Barry is confident (as are we) that Rotary is able to align itself to today's needs and that the spirit of service to those less fortunate than ourselves is timeless. He talked of the many changes happening and differences in the way younger people think and urged us to address those changes while maintaining the true core values and traditions of Rotary that serve it well.

**Bronwyn Hacker** took a few moments to tell us about her "partners project" for the year which is a cause close to our hearts—mental health. She is encouraging district Rotarians and their partners to fund raise for Australian Rotary Health and specify the funds for work on mental health issues. She reminded us that suicides take more lives than traffic accidents these days and the incidence is particularly high in rural communities. She also urged us to educate ourselves on mental health issues, including by doing the mental health first aid course (which several Club members have already undertaken). She reminded us of "Hat Day", which is 20 May, and the opportunities it provides for community fund raising for mental health research, awareness and care.

Meeting Place  
**Woolgoolga Bowling Club**  
Monday Evenings  
**6.00pm for 6.15pm**  
Apologies to  
**6654 7700**  
by **10.30am Monday**



**Bronwyn Hacker**  
explains her  
"partner's project"

Past President David presented Bronwyn with a cheque for \$250 made out to Australian Rotary Health as a Club contribution to her project.

### CLUB SPEAKER

Our 2007-8 exchange student **Hanni Hafellner** from Austria is back home in Woolgoolga for a visit with boyfriend Max. She reflected on her YEP year, saying that she was happy she still had lots of Mums & Dads and many good friends in Woolgoolga. She praised the Rotary program and the benefits of its counsellor system when problems arose. She remarked on how young she had been and how homesick at first, but how welcome she had felt after settling in. Hanni's big news is that after studying microbiology for a year she has now been accepted into a medical degree and will study for 6 years, possibly followed by another 6 years to specialise in either gynaecology or paediatrics. We are so proud of you Hanni.



### STATS AT A GLANCE

**Visiting Rotarians:** Rob Anderson (Coffs), Barry & Bronwyn Hacker (Port Macquarie West)

**Visitors:** Reece Hamilton-Foster, YEPER Elisabeth de Halleux, Hanni Hafellner & Max from Austria, partners Sue, Marie, Ila, Bronwyn, Judy, Marlies.

**Apologies:** John, Rob, Bill, Peter, Karen, Garry, Norm, Lyndee, Keith,

**Attendance:** 15 (62.5%)

**Raffle winner:** Terry

**Birthdays:** Elisabeth de Halleux 25 Aug, David Edwards 28 Aug.

**Anniversaries:** nil

## SERGEANT's SESSION

It started badly for some who were issued "talking" fines. Dick was fined for postponing the shovelling working bee although many were grateful for the reprieve. Sel though perfectly innocent, had to pay to restore his reputation (there really is no escape!) David E cannot win and was fined because there were absolutely no technical hiccoughs at RYDA - considered a little too weird! Treasurer Geoff was fined because not everyone has paid their dues so help save him next week by coughing up. There were census fines, a Chef fine for Ray and then a golf one for good measure and Dick scored a confusion fine. There were also parking fines and media fines as well as visitors tax.

## CLUB NEWS

**RYDA** was a huge success so big thanks to all who helped out whether as group monitors or catering/bbq helpers. The feedback has been excellent and if we have saved even one life then the program is worth running and a great gift to the youth of our community. SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 3.

Working Bee at the Auction Shed postponed and now likely to be Saturday 27th Aug (tbc) Help will be needed to collect trailer loads of gravel and shovel it out where needed around the shed. Let Dick know if you are available. Rotary Friendship Exchange is now calling for applications (by 30 September) for trips to Sweden (May 2012) Philadelphia (Sep 2012) and Nova Scotia (May-June 2012). Coming soon are trips to Florida, Italy and 3 Rotary districts in India. Check out the district website for application forms or contact Rod Mackenzie for further info. Selections for the 2012 trips will be made on 6 October.

YEP News 2007-8 student from Austria, **Hanni**, is in Oz and it was lovely to see her and boyfriend Max (see page one to catch up on Hanni's latest news). 2008-9 student **Minami** from Japan will be visiting next Jan-Mar. Our scuba diving course for YEPPEs is around 24 Nov this year, dates tbc. Mark that one in your diaries. (Billets for students for a week will be needed).

Africa night is on Sat 17 September at the Community Hall. Ethiopian food and African entertainment and funds will be raised for Africa (details to be confirmed). This will be in lieu of our Rotary meeting on 19 September.

Bon Voyage Gareth who is heading off to Tanna with a Rotary RAWCS team (leaving this Saturday 20 August). Rob & Edith have put together 10 baby kits with the help of the Salvation Army and these will be delivered in person by Gareth.

Plant Stall is on at the September auction so don't forget to pot up some seedlings, make some jam or prepare some produce to bring along. The extra funds will be useful for our Africa project.

**Annual Fees Are Now OVERDUE** Make sure you pay Treasurer Geoff now. The Board has confirmed fees at the same level as last year so you can either pay \$100 for 6 months or \$200 for the full year. You are not covered by Rotary insurance for Rotary events if you are overdue on fees.

CLUB NOTICES		DISTRICT NOTICES	
	27 Aug	Working bee at the shed (tbc)	18-22 Aug
	29 Aug	Club level of public speaking competition	28 Sep
	3 Sept	Auction (Bishop Druitt Cambodia building project). Also Plant Stall.	
	17 Sept	Africa night at the Community Hall	10 Nov
	1 Oct	Auction (Northern Beaches Youth Centre)	16 Feb
			9-11 Mar
			6-8 May
			18-22 Aug
			Cluster Final of the Windsong
			Public Speaking, Coffs Surf Club
			Presidents & Secretaries meeting
			Presidents & Secretaries meeting
			District Conference Inverell
			International Conference Bangkok

MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend				<b>Your Rotary Club Needs YOU</b> Help with AUCTION PICK-UPS or want to be an AUCTIONEER? (See Dick) WISH TO PROPOSE A NEW MEMBER? (See Pam) KNOW A FAMILY INTERESTED IN HOSTING a YEP STUDENT? (See Patty)
Date	22 August	29 August public speaking	5 September	
Attendance	Dick Matthews	Geoff Royal	Karen Sedgwick	
Welcome/Fellowship	Glenda Kennedy	Sel Rogers	George Smede	
Club Speakers 3-5 minutes	Keith Minhinnett	Na (public speaking)	Geoff Royal	
Introduce Guest Speaker	Patty Delaney	Karen Sedgwick	Ray Willing	
Vote of Thanks	Ray Willing	Echah Wright	Terry Booth	
Guest Speakers	Ken Boyle "Outback driving in Central Australia"	Public Speaking contestants compete (partners welcome)	tbc	

# RYDA 2011

Big thanks to RYDA sponsors: **BOC, RYDA Australia**, and local sponsors **Mike Blewitt Ford, Woolgoolga Bowling Club, the Community Centre, the Seniors Centre, Woolgoolga Sports Council, Coffs Harbour Council and Dept of Fair Trading**. Thank you also to the teachers and facilitators who volunteered their time (**Alison Taylor** of Headspace; driver **Steve Botes**; Stopping Distances Facilitator **Sue Ridden** of Aware Driver Training; **Greg Taylor** of GMT Driving School, Senior Constable **Bernadette Snow, Neil Currall**, long-time owner of a towing and smash repair business; and courageous crash survivor **Les Burrell & Latasha Helliwell** of North Coast Brain Injury Rehabilitation Services. Thanks to all our Rotarians and partners who helped out on the day and to **Luke Clarke** for assisting us again.

