

# THE ROTARY CLUB of WOOLGOOLGA Inc.

## Woopi Whisper

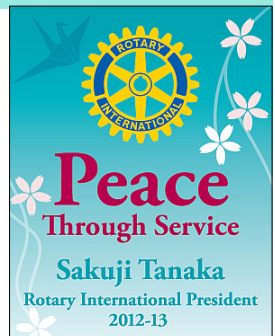


Club President  
**Pamela Fayle**

District Governor  
**Brian Beesley**

RI President  
**Sakuji Tanaka**

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**DON'T FORGET TO POT UP SOME PLANTS OR MAKE SOME PRESERVES FOR THE PLANT STALL AT THE NOVEMBER AUCTION!**

### THIS WEEK (22 Oct)

Deb Thompson from CHES is coming along to talk to us about her organisation and the specialised employment and support services it offers in Woolgoolga.

### LAST MEETING (15 Oct)

Cathy Kiely came along to tell us about **Karuna Children's Centre** which she and her family started and have partly funded in Cambodia, with the help of fundraising at Sydney schools their children attended and from friends. A visit to that country in 2002 and seeing the extreme poverty, particularly among children, stimulated Cathy and her family to do something. Seeing poor families living on Phnom Penh garbage dump, scavenging and earning a \$1 a day to feed family left Cathy believing these families would be better off back in their countryside villages if opportunities could be provided there. What the family did is inspirational and left all of us quite moved.

Through a monk they met they travelled to northern Cambodia to a district called Varin. It is so remote it has been ignored by most non-government organisations (NGOs) who try to assist people in this war-torn country. The monk introduced them to local monks in an old temple there, who quickly identified extremely poor children who were not receiving enough food or any education. A 25-year lease on some of the temple grounds enabled Cathy and her family, under the umbrella of the Peace Project NGO (a requirement of the Cambodian Government), to build accommodation in very simple style to fit in with the village atmosphere. They opened and with no water or electricity took in 64 children.

The youngsters quickly flourished with proper nutrition and lessons. Cathy's son, in his final year of medical school, gave the children a medical examination which revealed impending blindness in one, a harelip in another and other problems needing treatment. Doctors without borders helped (100km to the nearest hospital for serious medical issues). Gradual progress through putting in a pump and an electricity generator and building vegetable gardens was achieved through Cathy and family members visiting often and staying for several months at a time as required. Many students started to do well at the local school but the school was having trouble getting teachers so Cathy offered incentive payments for them to come to the remote area and so her project has had ripple effects for the whole village.



Cathy told tales of typhoid and malaria, contaminated wells and many problems along the way, but the children are happy and successful and the older ones are now attending high school in Siem Riep having grown up at the Centre. Now there are some 25 children still at the Centre and costs have gone from \$60,000 a year in the establishment stage down to about \$22,000 a year, most of which Cathy's family funds or raises the money for. An amazing story indeed.

Meeting Place

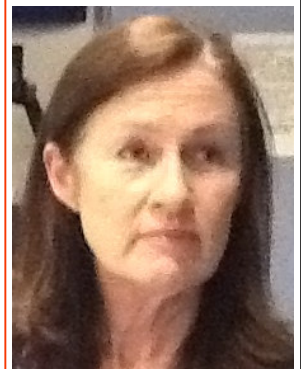
**Woolgoolga C.ex  
(Bowling Club)**

**Monday Evenings**

**6.00pm for 6.15pm**

Apologies to

**6654 0373  
by 10.30am Monday**



**Cathy Kiely,  
Creator of Karuna  
Children's Centre in  
Cambodia**

### STATS AT A GLANCE

**Visiting Rotarians:** nil

**Visitors:** Cathy Kiely, Sylvia Rodriguez, and partners: Marie, Bronwyn, Ila, Helen.

**Apologies:** John, Peter B, Peter L, David E, George, Terry, Rob, Keith, Echah, Gareth,

**Attendance:** 13 (54.2 %)

**Raffle winner:** Trish

**Birthdays:** Pam Fayle 21 Oct.

**Anniversaries:** Gareth & Lisa Owen 26 Oct.

## SERGEANT'S SESSION

There were a few late fines and "kept women" fines, a grandma fine for Trish and a memory (or should I say memory stick) fine for David F. A blast from the past saw a few "Argonaut" fines levied and the hyena fines were back again for any untoward laughter. Sergeant Rod incurred a "loud trousers" fine for his attire at golf and Patty was again a little risqué with a fine for making a GP blush (wish you had attended this meeting now, I bet!).

## CLUB NEWS

**Pride in Work:** Do you know someone you deal with in Woopi who deserves recognition for the quality of the job they do? At our 3 December meeting we will be making some Pride in Work awards to several recipients. See Terry if you have any suggestions for him to follow up.

**Car Boot Market** is on Saturday 27 October at the High School car park (8am-1pm) to raise funds for the P&C. Phone Helen on 0412589051 by 20 October if you want to have a space to sell things (\$10 per car or area). Otherwise pop along to support the school by buying something interesting.

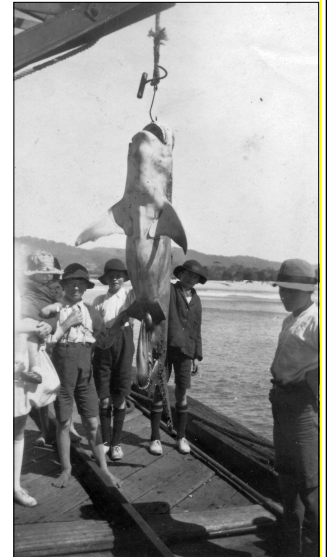
**Movie fundraiser in Coffs: Put 6 December in your diary** as Sheridan Blaney has secured this date at the Bray St theatre for a fundraiser event for the Ashley Haven orphanage in Ethiopia. The movie to be shown is "Life of Pi".

**Christmas Party date to be put in your diaries.** We are off to Grafton on **Saturday 15 December** to see the Archibald prize finalists at the Grafton gallery followed by lunch at the Duke St restaurant (1 Duke St) nearby.

**ROTARY RECHARGE RIDE** The DG is doing his Rotary Recharge motorcycle ride 3-10 November collecting old batteries along the way as a fundraiser. If you ride a motorbike and would like to join for part/all of the ride contact Pam or David who have the details. There is also a lunch in Coffs on 8 Nov for those interested.

## HERITAGE UPDATE AND PHOTO

Photo at right was taken in the 1930s of a shark caught and hung on the jetty. Note the boys' outfits. Interesting that they all had hats on way before we were conscious of sun damage and skin cancer!! One hopes the boys' descendants are still around and the sharks descendants are not so close to the surfing beach!



Check out our new **Heritage Walk Website** currently under construction:

<https://sites.google.com/site/woolgoolgawalk/>

### CLUB NOTICES

3 Nov	Auction to help St Francis Xavier School
5 Nov	Melbourne Cup partners meeting
12 Nov	Board Meeting
26 Nov	Dive School Week begins
1 Dec	Auction and Xmas Stall
5 Dec	Volunteers Day BBQ

### DISTRICT NOTICES

October	is Vocational Services month
27-28 Oct	Presidents semi annual district mtg in Armidale
24-25 Nov	YEP briefing Port Macquarie
26 Nov	Woolgoolga Dive School
December	is Rotary Family Month

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

Date	22 October	29 October	5 Nov
Attendance	Terry Booth	Mary Bryant	Patty Delaney
Welcome/ Fellowship	Keith Minhinnett	Gareth Owen	Sel Rogers
Club Speakers 3-5 minutes	Karen Sedgwick	George Smede	Rob White
Introduce Guest Speaker	Peter Bannister	Glenda Kennedy	Peter Lacy
Vote of Thanks	Geoff Royal	Karen Sedgwick	Echah Wright
Guest Speakers	Deb Thompson CHESS	Marcus Baynes-Rock Hyenas & Ethiopia	Melbourne Cup Night

**Your Rotary Club Needs YOU**

Want to be on the **BOARD?** - (see Pam or Karen)

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

**WISH TO PROPOSE A NEW MEMBER?** (See David E)

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