



Coolamon Rotary News

Bulletin of the Coolamon Rotary Club Inc, Coolamon, NSW Vol. 41(19) 20 Feb, 2012

Weekly Meeting – 13 February, 2012

In attendance: John Burns, Ian Durham, John Glassford, Henk Hulsman, Dick Jennings, Ian Jennings, Grahame Miles, Neil Munro, Marg Perkin, Garth Perkin, Leslie Weston, Paul Weston
Guests: Marilyn Jennings, Jane Perkin, RYPEN students (Lauren Exton, Dean Hawthorn, Erin Kean, Jaydon Spry)

President Marg called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Ian Jennings (Foundation Chair) reported that the GSE from Scotland would be arriving in Coolamon on 25 March, after the District Convention in Young. Aside from visiting local sights (the licorice factory and railroad museum in Junee, Huff 'n Puff Straw Houses in Ganmain, etc.), the visitors will be attending the Rotary meeting in Coolamon on 26 March (along with guests from Junee Rotary). It would be great if we could get a good rollout for the meeting from our club.

Neil reported that bingo yielded a net of \$296. As reported at the board meeting following the business meeting, those participating in bingo were not overwhelmingly in support of allocating bingo revenues to the Damien Piltz Playground project. It was decided that the revenue would be

used to support projects that will directly benefit Allowah Lodge.

Four of the five Coolamon school students participating in RYPEN were in attendance and gave a presentation on their experience. All of the students said they got a lot out of the program, and expressed their gratitude to the club for sponsoring them.



Leslie poses with the appreciative RYPEN students.

Dick closed the evening with a rousing fines session, and as usual, no one was spared. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

President of Rotary International
Governor of District 9700
Coolamon Club President
Coolamon Club President-Elect
Coolamon Club Secretary
Coolamon Club Treasurer



Kalyan Banerjee
Ian Simpson
Marg Perkin
Paul Weston
John Glassford
Henk Hulsman

Coolamon Rotary Club Inc. P.O. Box 23 COOLAMON N.S.W. 2701

Web Site: <http://www.coolamonrotary.com>

Weekly Meeting – 20 February, 2012

In attendance: Craig Corrigan, Ian Durham, John Glassford, Dick Jennings, Ian Jennings, Grahame Miles, Marg Perkin, Garth Perkin, Leslie Weston
Visiting Rotarians: Christine Atkinson (Wagga Wagga Rotary Club)

Guests: Marilyn Jennings

Guest speaker: Deb Bewick, Autism support group of Wagga Wagga

President Marg welcomed all and reported the following:

- Wagga Wagga film night is fully booked. An alternative is to see the movie (The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel) plus pizzas to follow in Leeton at 4:00pm on Sunday 26th February. Tickets \$15 for the film and \$15 for the pizzas afterwards.
- Clean Up Australia Day Sunday 4th March - This year will be on an individual volunteer basis.
- MUNA to be hosted by Boorowa Rotary Club on Saturday May 12th in Boorowa.
- No RYDA this year for Coolamon Central School.

Dinner was prepared by the Sports Club, Marg and Garth Perkin and cooked by Garth.

The guest speaker was Deb Bewick from Wagga who gave an excellent talk on autism. This was a talk from the heart by a mother who has an autistic child. Deb gave us all a very thorough insight into what autism does and how it can be managed. The work of such parents and carers is to be admired by all of us in society today.

Deb explained in great detail that autism is a lifelong neurodevelopment disorder that begins at birth. There are many symptoms including anxiety, impaired social skills, and language and communication difficulties. Autistic people have difficulty understanding the verbal inputs of other humans and have great difficulty in starting and maintaining conversations.

Deb showed us a toolbox of tricks and aids that go towards providing help to autistic people. These include speech-generating devices, sensory aids, and physical aids such as spinning tops and stretching dolls. Other aids include colour-coded cards to help the children coordinate their day.

All in all Deb gave a wonderful talk and we all are better for her experience, passion and dedication. Visiting Rotarian Christine Atkinson thanked Deb on behalf of our club with a Rotary Cook Book.

President's Report



13 Feb - Thank you for the good roll up we had last Monday. It was great to meet Sue and Joy from the Parkinson Support Group. They certainly held everyone's attention. What amazing people.

Thank you to the workers at this month's Bingo and the street raffle.

Also thank you to John and Paul who have been working hard on the Diary in the Bulletin and on the website to ensure it is easy to understand and that there are no clashes with the dates.

Hope to see as many of you as possible at future meetings with the proposed guest speakers. It goes without saying that partners are welcome at any of these meetings. I think it is great that we are getting a very good roll up.

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President's Report (continued)

20 Feb - Rotarians who couldn't make it on Monday missed an excellent presentation from Deb Bewick who is part of the Autism Support group based in Wagga. She is also the parent of 16-year-old Monique who suffers from autism, as well as epilepsy and an intellectual disability. Monique goes to Willans Hill School and is learning to communicate using visuals and speech aid technologies. Deb was very interesting with her powerpoint presentation and the different aids she brought to show us what helps to make life easy for Monique and her family. These included tactile objects which help to soothe Monique when she becomes distracted or off task.

We learnt that autism is a broad term that encompasses a range of abilities and strengths. Perhaps Einstein suffered from Autism yet he has left an amazing legacy to Mankind. There are also other disabilities that can also affect people with autism. All this makes it very hard on families but Deb can be proud of the way she has adapted to meet Monique's and her family's needs.

It was great that Andrew from the Club was able to cater for us and he did an excellent job. I don't think anyone was unhappy with their meal (I hope not anyway!).

I just wanted to acknowledge Grahame in particular and his team for the efforts they are making for the Market Day and Monster Raffle. Grahame has been working hard consistently for some time now, so thank you Grahame. I'm sure your efforts will be well rewarded on the day and at the conclusion of the Raffle.

It was great that all tickets for the movie this Thursday were sold but unfortunately none left for us. The alternative in Leeton on Sunday may suit some people so let Grahame know if you'll be able to attend.

Yours in Rotary,
Marg

Upcoming Events

- Our guest speaker for 2nd April will be Melina Skidmore from a program called Angels for the Forgotten, which is a program dedicated to working towards better outcomes for children living in care or crisis situations.
- On 23rd April we will hear a presentation from Narelle Thomas, a botanical artist who recently had an exhibition at the Wagga Art Gallery. Narelle has been inspired by the unique Australian flora and fauna, and will be the Artist in Residence at the art show and the Up-To-Date Store later this year.
- Don't forget the gardent show planned for Easter Saturday (7th April). Tours of local gardens of distinction will be on offer, an effort to promote the township of Coolamon. Rotary members will be asked to give assistance on the day (more details to follow).

Don't forget to consult the diary for other upcoming events.

DIARY

(NOTE: All Coolamon RC meetings are 6:30 for 7:00 unless otherwise listed)

- 26 Feb Polio film night, "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" and pizza at Leeton.
- 27 Feb Coolamon RC fellowship meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Hamburgers will be on offer (phone Garth if attending).
- 5 Mar Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Induction of John Burns; representatives of local school P&Cs in attendance. Catering by Gilbert; phone with apologies.
- 8 Mar Bingo. Roster: Neil Munro, Henk Hulsman, Rod Jarrett, John Burns.
- 12 Mar Coolamon RC board meeting, self-catered.
- 19 Mar Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Guest speaker: John Glassford on the Mountains of the Moon trek. Catering by Gilbert; phone with apologies.
- 23-25 Mar District 9700 Convention (Young, NSW). Visit [Coolamon RC website](#) for details regarding accommodation (early booking is recommended).
- 26-29 Mar Visit from GSE participants from Scotland
25 Mar: Arrival in Coolamon
26 Mar: Attending Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec. Club). Catering by Gilbert; phone with apologies.
- 2 Apr Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Guest speaker: Melinda Skidmore, Angels of the Forgotten.
- 12 Apr Bingo. Roster: Leslie Weston, Paul Weston, Marg Perkin, John Glassford.
- 15 Apr Coolamon Rotary Craft & Produce Market, Up-To-Date Store, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.
- 16 Apr Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Guest speaker: TBA.
- 23 Apr Coolamon RC regular meeting (Coolamon Sports & Rec Club). Guest speaker: Narelle Thomas, botanical artist.
- 6-9 May Rotary International conference in Bangkok. Further information can be located on www.rotary.org/convention.
- 2 July Changeover dinner and drawing for Monster Shopping Spree raffle.

Websites of Interest

Coolamon Rotary Club: <http://coolamonrotary.com>

Mountains of the Moon Climb 2011: <http://www.mountainsofthemoon.org>

Rotary Down Under on line: <http://flipflashpages.uniflip.com/2/26587/49598/pub>

Rotarians For Fighting AIDS: <http://www.rffa.org>

Our Rotary Centennial Twin Club Hout Bay, Cape Town, South Africa:

<http://www.rotaryhoutbay.org>

Don't forget to regularly check our club web site for current information such as bingo rosters and various newsletters from the District Governor, the School of St. Jude's, the monthly membership on the move newsletter as well as several other club bulletins.
