



# CROW ABOUT!

## BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAGGA WAGGA INC.

ABN: 42 569 872 625

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President of Rotary International  
Governor District 9700  
Club President  
Club Secretary



Kalyan Banerjee  
Ian Simpson  
Barry K Francis  
Peter Harding

BULLETIN NO: 28

Thursday 12th January 2012

Upcoming programs & events:

**Australia Day Breakfast 26th January**

**Duty Officers' Roster**

**Club meets at the Jezza Room, The Rules Club, 6pm for 6.30pm unless stated below**

	Thursday 19th January	Thursday 26th January	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February
Programme	Daya Govender My Life & Career	Australia Day Breakfast	TBA
Attendance	Karel Bijker Glendyn Groves	Karel Bijker Mike Murray	Karel Bijker
Greeter	Michelle Maddison	N/R	Alok Sharma
Sergeant at Arms	Neil Hilpern	N/R	Bryan Short
International Toast	Mike Murray	N/R	John Studdert
Introduce Speaker	Gerry Page	N/R	Peter Veerhuis
Vote of Thanks	David Payne	N/R	Bruce Barber
Bulletin	Neil Hilpern	Ruth Barber	Ailsa Bowman
<b>BINGO</b> Ticket Sales commence at 12.45 p.m	<b>Sunday 22nd January</b> Tony Hutchinson Bill Prest	<b>Sunday 29th January</b> Ailsa Bowman Bruce Bowman	<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b> David Cannon Bryan Short



If you cannot attend a meeting, please lodge your apology with **THE RULES CLUB** phone 6931 1511 by 2.30 pm Wednesday (or pre-record it in the apology book provided at the meeting attendance table.) Also, for catering purposes, please advise if bringing a guest or partner to a meeting.

Please arrange for a replacement if you cannot fulfil your rostered duty.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

There were 28 members in attendance with one makeup from Charlie Blomfield making a percentage of 67.5%. Apologies were received from: Don Pembleton, Peter Veerhuis, Allan Duffus, Karen Brill, Phil Cross, Christine Atkinson, Ailsa Bowman, Yvonne Hribar, John Turner, Charlie Blomfield, Bill Prest, John Goldsworthy, Bryan Short and Graeme Callander. Guests on the night were several members' partners and our guest speaker, Melina Skidmore

### **CLUB NOTES:**

- President Barry welcomed us all to 2012 and mentioned that Fran Mecham, Alan Lean and Arthur Nixon were all home from hospital and recovering. It was good to see both Alan and Fran with us at tonight's meeting.
- Reminder that the Peace Meeting is on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> February.
- The Film Night on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2012, to raise funds for Polio Plus, will be showing "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" starring Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Bill Nighy, Dev Patel & Tom Wilkinson. British Retirees travel to India to take up residence in what they believe is a newly restored hotel. Less luxurious than its advertisements the Marigold Hotel nevertheless slowly begins to charm in unexpected ways.
- Reminder that the District Conference will be held in Young on the weekend of the 23-25<sup>th</sup> March. Some accommodation is still available.
- The Eric Bogle Concert will be held at the King's Church on 25<sup>th</sup> February at a cost of \$35. It features Eric Bogle in person, along with the Murrumbidgee Magic Choir, Matthew Olsen and The Rugby Choir, which boasts several of our Rotarians as choristers.
- A RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) meeting is to be held at the Cowra Bowling Club on the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact Alok Sharma for more details.

**International Toast:** The International Toast this week was proposed by Tony Hutchinson to the Rotary Club of Apia, Samoa of District 9920. District 9920 is made up of America Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, part of New Zealand, Tonga and Samoa. All in all there are 48 clubs which boast 1762 members. The Rotary Club of Apia was chartered in 1970 and meets at 12 noon on a Tuesday at the Millennia Hotel.

Two important events have taken place in Samoa since 2008:

1. On 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, Samoa became the first country since the 1970s to change the side of the road on which cars are driven. The Samoan Government introduced the change to end its reliance on expensive left-hand drive imports from America.
2. On 29 December, 2011, the Samoan Islands west of the International Date Line shifted back to west of the date line by skipping Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December. The International Date Line now passes between Samoa and American Samoa which remains aligned to the American date. This was done because Australia and New Zealand are Samoa's biggest trading partners and Samoa has a large number of expats. Being 21 hours behind made business difficult as the weekends were on different days. This meant only four days of the week were shared work days.

**Sergeant at Arms:** Our Sergeant was Terry Mecham who entertained us with a number of jokes and bumper stickers. Examples of the bumper stickers are: "I don't suffer from insanity,

I enjoy every minute of it”; “Sometimes I wake up grumpy; other times I let him sleep”, “I’m not a complete idiot, some parts are missing”.

**Guest Speaker:** Mary Ann Kelly ably introduced our guest speaker, Melina Skidmore, who is the founder and CEO of “Angels for the Forgotten”.

Melina spent her childhood suffering excessive chores, beatings and rejection from her mother. In her teen she was placed in the care of DoCs and in four and a half years was placed with several different foster parents. At the age of 16 she gained her pilot’s licence and also won a scholarship to study in Japan. When she returned from Japan DoCs no longer catered for her so she had no option but a Women’s Refuge. At the age of fourteen Melina had made up her mind to do something for others who were faced with her predicament. Hence the birth of “Angels for the Forgotten”.

‘Angels for the Forgotten’ has three major projects: Crisis Care Package Service (CCP), Women in Need Gaining Strength (WINGS) and the latest one Boost for Youth.

The Crisis Care packages consist of a bag of essentials for any child going into care. The bags consist of toiletries, Teddy Bear or transitional item depending on the age of the child, basic stationery items-a simple note book, crayons or pencils or pens and items of clothing and toys that may be required by the child entering care. For teenagers the teddy bear is replaced by a useful mental health pack along with other articles appropriate to the age of the teenager.

WINGS Program aims to provide quality preloved and new items to young or at risk mothers to aid them in being prepared for the arrival of their child. Crisis Care kits are also offered to women who are in crisis and need help to ensure the well being of their child during the crisis and while the Mum is seeking further support and intervention.

The aim of the Boost for Youth program is to provide young Mums with a transition pack so that they can live independently. This provides basic groceries and home necessities such as pegs and toilet brushes. The aim is to teach these young people how to cook, clean and eat properly. It also aims to assist these young people in returning to school by providing uniforms, shoes and stationery items.

How can we help? Melina said that the best way we can help is financially and by donations.

More information can be found on the website [www.angelsfortheforgotten.org](http://www.angelsfortheforgotten.org). There is blog on this site which outlines Melina’s life and what led her to found this extraordinary program.

Alan Lean thanked Melina for her riveting address and congratulated her on her fantastic achievements.



President Barry, Melina and Alan.

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 20<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> January

Birthdays: Karel Bijker (24<sup>th</sup> January)

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

Rotary Anniversaries: Nil



## ∞ **KOOKABURRA** ∞ **BE GLAD**

### **A Real Eye Opener.**

Do you consider a litre of petrol expensive? This tends to put things into perspective:

A can of Red Bull, 250 ml \$2.50 = \$11.80 per litre

Robitussin Cough Mixture, 200ml \$9.95 = \$49.75 per litre

Bundy rum, 1250ml \$51 = \$40.80 per litre

Visine Eye Drops, 15ml \$5.69 = \$379 per litre

Britney Spears Fantasy Perfume, 50ml \$29 = \$580 per litre

Evian water, 375ml \$2.95 = \$7.86 per litre. Yes, \$7.96 for a litre of water !!!

Someone calculated the cost of computer ink at, you won't believe it but it's true; \$1040 a litre.

So the next time you are at the petrol station be glad that your car doesn't run on water, Red Bull, Robitussin, L'Oreal or, God forbid, Printer Ink!