



CROW ABOUT!

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAGGA WAGGA INC.

ABN: 42 569 872 625

Web: www.waggarotary.org

Address: PO Box 246, Wagga Wagga 2650

President of Rotary International
Governor District 9700
Club President
Club Secretary



Kalyan Banerjee
Ian Simpson
Barry K Francis
Peter Harding

BULLETIN NO: 29

Thursday 19th 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 26th January	Thursday 2 nd February	Thursday 9 th February
Programme	Australia Day Breakfast 8.00-8.30 a.m.	TBA	TBA
Attendance	Karel Bijker Mike Murray	Karel Bijker David Payne	Karel Bijker Bryan Short
Greeter	N/R	Alok Sharma	Ruth Barber
Sergeant at Arms	N/R	Neil Hilpern	Karel Bijker
International Toast	N/R	John Studdert	Phil Jackson
Introduce Speaker	N/R	Peter Veerhuis	Vici Murdoch
Vote of Thanks	N/R	Bruce Barber	Brad Bland
Bulletin	Ruth Barber	Ailsa Bowman	Peter Veerhuis
BINGO Ticket Sales commence at 12.45 p.m	Sunday 29th January Ailsa Bowman Bruce Bowman	Sunday 5th February David Cannon Bryan Short	Sunday 12th February Paul Galloway Phil Cross



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 32 members in attendance with one makeup from Phil Cross making a percentage of 73%. Apologies were received from: Peter Veerhuis, Allan Duffus, Karen Brill, Ailsa Bowman, Yvonne Hribar, John Turner, Tim Crowley, Peter Chenoweth, Bruce Barber, Rob Sharkie & Brad Bland.

CLUB NOTES:

- **Australia Day Breakfast:** Please remember that you need to bring all your eating gear, not just your mouths! This includes plate, bowl if required for cereal, knives, forks & spoons & cup or mug. Roll up at 8 to 8.30 a.m. in the area at the rear of the Entertainment Bowl.
- Bill Prest's sister Marie Donahue passed away last week & we extend our sympathy to Bill & Dot.
- Ailsa Bowman is making steady progress and expects to be back with us by the 2nd of February. We will be looking forward to this, she may still be fairly fragile so please handle with care!
- Local talent will be performing at the Civic Theatre on Australia Day our President Barry Francis will feature in the entertainment.
- Our Rotary Club has nominated Laurie Fromholtz to be included in the main street Walk of Honour
- The annual Peace Ceremony is on Sunday 19th February from 11 to 12 noon.
- **Change of Date** The Film Night will be on Thursday 23rd February, 2012, to raise funds for Polio Plus. Showing will be "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. Please make every effort to attend & invite non-Rotarian friends as the aim is for an attendance of over 250, in order to raise significant funds. It starts at 7 p.m.
- The District Conference will be held in Young on the weekend of the 23-25th March. Some accommodation is still available.
- The Eric Bogle Concert will be held at the King's Church on 25th 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 4th and 5th February. Please contact Alok Sharma for more details. The Darkness to Light Project has been recognised as the best International event. Alok unfortunately cannot attend as he is on call that weekend. He is looking for members to attend, particularly someone to present the Topic for the Club.

International Toast: The Toast this week was proposed by Mike Murray to the Rotary Club of Idle & Greengate, District 1040, and its President, Peter Frank.

Mike averred that he intended to avoid the flak associated with his continuing choice of British Clubs to toast. He chose the Rotary Club of Dubrovnik & lo & behold Google displayed The Rotary Club of Idle & Greengate which is a small area in North Bradford in West Yorkshire. There are 79 Clubs in the District. The Idle Club motto is "Be idle & be happy" "It is interesting that their Website states "We are a group of friends who enjoy the company of like-minded people in both social events (usually combined with raising money for local charities) and doing service for our Community through our many projects. If you would like to know more about us then we would be glad to meet you at one of our lunchtime meetings or social events so contact our secretary in the first instance using the "How to contact Us" section of our website. The worst that could happen is that you will enjoy a good lunch."

Every Rotary club is individual & unique because of the mix of people, historic club traditions, age or business related differences & slight changes of cultural values. Our club has often been described by visitors as being most friendly & welcoming. If you later decide that Rotary could possibly be for you but you do not easily associate with our club, then we would be happy to introduce you to other clubs in the area. There are lots of them & all are very different.

Mike invited me to check out the website via Google to verify the discovery via "Rotary Club of Dubrovnik"; & of course, as usual, Mike is a paragon of truthfulness, even if the discovery conveniently enabled him to sidestep his stated intention to avoid the British Isles.

Sergeant at Arms: Our Sergeant was Bryan Short who started off with a tale of a husband who promised to make his wife the happiest woman in the world whereupon she replied 'I'll miss you'. Another confronted his wife "what have you been doing with all the housekeeping money" – "look in the mirror & turn sideways".

Enthusiasm is like a fire in a fireplace it needs an occasional poke with a stick and a clear conscience is a sign of a bad memory.

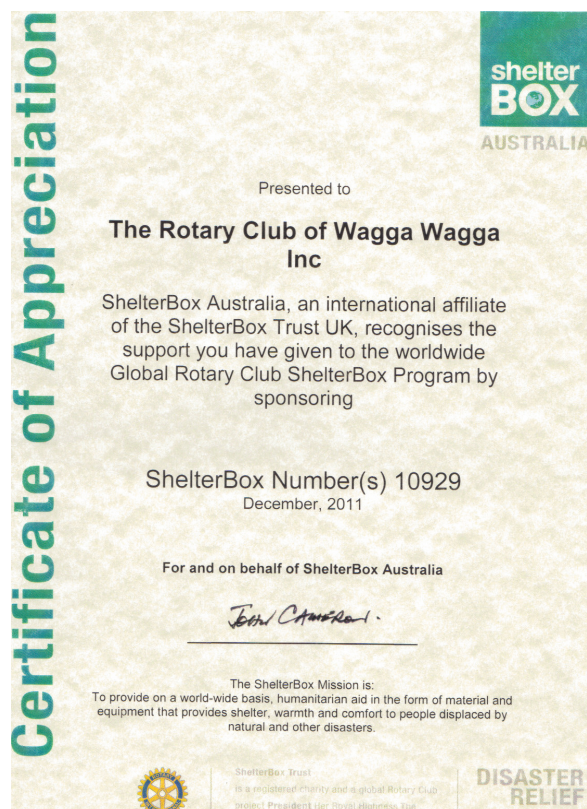
Guest Speaker: Our proposed guest speaker, Daya Govender, was unable to attend owing to the need to supervise a run of Pharmaceutical manufacturing. Gerry Page introduced the replacement, none other than Barry Francis who is renowned for his busking efforts raising substantial funds for charities & a tireless officer of the Club.

Barry shared with us something close to his heart, a much loved child who suffered from psychological problems resulting in behaviour, drug & alcohol complications.

These difficulties continued through school, where little help was offered, to adulthood & a succession of refuges until a Salvation Army Refuge in Sydney proved successful. A change of location was advised to break off contacts which would re-introduce the problems. This has been successful to date & a steady & responsible job & life has been achieved.

Barry advises that one of the parental attributes required is "tough love", never give up or stop loving but be firm. Lots of mental illnesses have similar symptoms and the person must get to the stage that they acknowledge that they are doing themselves harm & want to change for the better. Barry stated that he found that he needed to inform friends of the traumas & discuss it to maintain his own sanity.

David Payne thanked Barry for sharing his experiences with us and commented that it must have been very hard to speak of what must have been a journey to hell & back over the period. David stated that we are proud to have Barry as our President.



Track the progress of our latest ShelterBox by using the number-10929 to find out where it is deployed and when it happens.

A Thank You letter was received from the Manager of Vision Australia for the support which our Rotary Club has given in 2011 to Vision Australia in Wagga Wagga

December 16th 2011

Mr. B. Francis
President
Wagga Wagga Rotary Club
PO Box 246
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650



Dear Mr. Francis,

Re: Adaptive Technology training laptop for Vision Australia

On behalf of people who are blind or have low vision in the Wagga Wagga region, and the staff of our Wagga Wagga office, I would to thank the Wagga Wagga Rotary Club for your donation of a laptop computer to our centre.

This will make a real difference for people who are blind or have low vision in the Wagga Wagga region. Staff will be able to show clients and their families how adaptive technology can help them keep in touch with family and the wider world, without having to wait for specialists to come from Albury, Sydney or Melbourne.

This is particularly important for clients from more rurally isolated areas of the region. When visiting Wagga Wagga, they and/or their families are now able to drop into our centre, and see what support is possible.

Wagga Wagga Rotary Club has done marvellous work through your *Darkness to Light* project. We thank you for continuing to support people in the Wagga Wagga region who are blind or have low vision through the recent *Looking Ahead Family Day* held at Borambola and your generous donation of this laptop.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry Strauch
Team Manager
Vision Australia
Albury and Wagga Wagga

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 27th January to 2nd February

Birthdays: Nil

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

Rotary Anniversaries: Gerry Page (2/2/1984)



☞ KOOKABURRA ☛

Smoke was seen billowing from a second storey window and rescue crews burst their way in to find a man lying on a smouldering mattress.

Once rescued & the flames doused the question was asked “How did it start?” Came the reply ‘I don’t know it was alight when I lay down!’

I know that this is a very old story but it still amused me when I came across it again the other day.