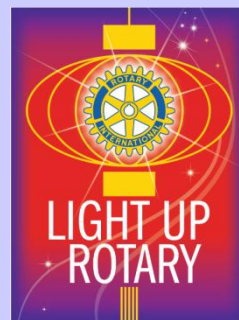


THE BIDGEE

The Bulletin of the
Rotary Club of South Wagga Wagga (Inc)
District 9700 - NSW, Australia

President: Laurie Myers
Secretary: Lindsay Wilson

District Governor: David Kennedy
Rotary International President: Gary C.K. Huang



Web Site: <http://rotarnet.com.au/users/9/97029/index.htm>
email: southwaggarotary@bigpond.com
Address: PO Box 2149, Wagga Wagga 2650

Bulletin # 444

Monday 14 July, 2014

Welcome: PRESIDENT LAURIE MYERS - welcomed members, Rotarian wives Christine Hope and Ros Hamilton, and guest speaker Dr Elaine Deitsch, and her husband John.

International Toast: JOCK HAMILTON - Tonight's International Toast to the Rotary Club of **Palermo Italy**.

Palermo is a city in Insular Italy, the capital of both the autonomous region of Sicily and the province of Palermo. The city is noted for its history, culture architecture and gastronomy and has been in existence for 2,700 years. The population of Palermo is 870,000 in the urban area, and the metropolitan population is 1.2 million. Palermo was first settled by Greek tribes in 734 BC and the settlement was then called Ziz. It eventually came under Roman control and joined Italy when it was founded. Roman Catholicism is highly important in Palermitan culture, the patron saint is Saint Rosalia and her feast day is the biggest social event in the city. The Rotary Club of Palermo was formed in 1925, has a membership of 190 and meets on Thursdays at 1:30pm at the Grand Hotel Villa Igea Hilton. The President is Giovanni Cannizzaro and the Secretary is Guiseppe Cusumano.

Reports:

- **PRESIDENT LAURIE MYERS** – Circus Quirkus on Monday 21st July have 2 shows 1:30pm and 5:00pm. Laurie will be there at 1:00 to coordinate, and Bill Roche will be there at 5:00. Volunteers at 1:00pm are Alistair, Henry, Jock, Clive and Jenny. At 5:30 Volunteers are Henry and Christine, Mick Lucke, Tony Crawford, Harry Wilson and John. Please all wear Rotary Shirts and name badges. There will be notes to hand out with each ticket holder, inviting feedback and letters of appreciation, informing of positive impact for the children, and encouragement to encourage future sponsors. Laurie thanked the Lilliah Lodge volunteers. There will be a District Governors visit at our 11th August meeting, meeting Laurie at 5:00pm and the club Board at 5:30pm before the meeting. There are new requirements for the Working with Children Check where forms will be filled out online, members will have a number to take to the State Services Office in Little Best Street (the former RTA) to complete the process.
- **SERVICE DAVID CARROLL** – Thanked the 7 volunteers who attended the work at Lilliah Lodge on Saturday 12th. There is only a little more to complete the job this Saturday 19th at 8:30, don't forget the safety equipment and tools.
- **SECRETARY LINDSAY WILSON** – Correspondence from the Cancer Council promoting Daffodil Day; District Governor inviting volunteers for district Directorships. Information on our Districts Friendship Exchange program, see Lindsay if you are interested.
- **PRESIDENT ELECT BILL RICHE** – now is considering prospective new Board members for his year next year. He also has nomination forms for Relay for Life, the club has a team number 37, and those interested can join online. The Relay for Life will be on 11-12 October. There are Relay for Life Raffle tickets to sell, see Bill.
- **ADMINISTRATION MICHAEL SLINGER** – has given Geoff Mackney the Risk Management information from PETS.
- **FOUNDATION BRUCE DUFFY** - Circulated a Foundation Newsletter promoting an increase of our Centurian numbers, and promoting district applications for District Grants with news of successful 2013-14 grant projects.
- **SOCIAL JOCK HAMILTON** – a group of members attended a very enjoyable June Rotary Changeover where there were 60 guests, and 2 June members were awarded Paul Harris Fellowships, including Lola Commins. Jock is planning Christmas in August Lunch at the Illabo hotel on the 24th August, \$20-25, as a mixed social event. A bus could be arranged for transport, leaving Wagga at 11:00am. See Jock for details.

General Business:

- **Bruce Duffy** – enquired on the progress of the service project at Caloola Court .

Guest Speakers: JOHN WRIGHT INTRODUCED DR ELAINE DEITSCH.

Elaine has been visiting the Congo for 10 years. She has some disturbing stories to share. The Congolese women want to tell their stories. There is hell horror and hope in the Congo. Midwives need to do 10-20 days a year of clinical practice, to maintain clinical midwifery skills, these visits fulfil the clinical practice, and provide compassionate support to those in need. She met a young clinician, Luke, who told her about these women. On her first visit she met four young women. One was Johanna the wife of Luke who died young leaving Luke to care for their young child. Luke went to a loan shark to pay for her burial, Elaine's work colleagues raised the money for Elaine to give to Luke. Malaria takes a great toll of women and children, 5.5 million will die in Africa alone. HIV Aids will kill women, mostly infected through rape. There are 12-15 million deaths from Aids, maternal and infant mortality is one in 60. In Congo the most common cause of death is rape. What the rebels do is another form of genocide. Congo is very rich in gold, diamonds, oil, and other minerals. It should be one of the richest nations. The war in Congo has killed more than any world war since WWII. 1.4 million died in Rwanda, but more than 4 times that in the Congo, where Amnesty international estimate that 5.9 million have been killed since 1996. When women know Elaine was visiting, they walk miles to visit her to sing, dance and tell their stories. Many women die from complications of childbirth, some of shame. Women are rejected by their husbands and often are left to raise their children alone in poverty, living in huts with no sanitation, or protection from rebels. Micro financing loans help women to grow crops, like amaranthis which is traded to women growing fish, The fish are sold as food, but as a benefit also eat the malaria mosquito larvae. Micro finance loans almost always pay off the loan with their first harvest, which sets them up for future crops, food for their families and profits are good, so their lives are enriched.

ROS HAMILTON thanked DR DEITSCH for her very though provoking talk and presented her with the club memento.

Apologies to be phoned to Lindsay Wilson - (0419 611 424) to assist catering please

| Date | Monday 21 st July | Monday 28 th July | Monday 4 ^s August |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Venue | RSL Club 6:15 pm | RSL Club 6:15 pm | RSL Club 6:15 pm |
| Program | Building Industry | TBA | TBA |
| Intro.& Hosting | Steve Biggin | Michael Slinger | Kerry Flinn |
| Sergeant at Arms/Boxer | Bill Riche Kerry Flinn | Charlie Baker Henry Hope | Des Hamilton Steve Biggin |
| Furnishings | Karen Mackney Lindsay Wilson | Richard Sleeman Brian Roy | David Carroll Tony Crawford |
| Int. Toast | Brian Roy | John Rorrison | John Rorrison |
| Guest Speaker | Tony McPherson | TBA | TBA |
| Vote of Thanks | Rod Bowman | Jock Hamilton | Bruce Duffy |

Sergeant at Arms: CLIVE WILLIS AND BOXER BRUCE DUFFY

ATTENDANCE: 99 Percent

HEADS AND TALES: John Deitsch

- ☺ John Wright - attended on the wrong day
- ☺ Dick Bostock - also attended on the wrong day
- ☺ Collingwood Football supporters
- ☺ Tony Crawford - locking his keys in the car
- ☺ Henry Hope - too well dressed
- ☺ Tony Crawford - no tree
- ☺ Bruce Duffy - wife in the paper, not sure if he approves

- ☺ David Carroll - left his lights on
- ☺ John Wright - a big win
- ☺ Rod Bowman - the owner
- ☺ Carlton and Swans fans
- ☺ Lindsay Wilson - steering lock
- ☺ Kerry Flinn - in the paper again
- ☺ Mick Lucke - enjoyed the prawns
- ☺ All who did not go to June

Joke of the week

Want a job?

A very cool looking Guy with two gold front teeth, and a half inch thick gold chain around his neck; walked into the local welfare office to pick up his check.

He marched up to the counter and said, "Hi. You know, I just H A T E drawing welfare. I'd really rather have a job.. I don't like taking advantage of the system, getting something for nothing."

The social worker behind the counter said "Your timing is excellent. We Just got a job opening from a very wealthy old man who wants a chauffeur and bodyguard for his beautiful daughter. You'll have to drive around in his 2012 Mercedes-Benz CL, and he will supply all of your clothes." "Because of The long hours, meals will be provided. You'll also be expected to escort the daughter on her overseas holiday trips. This is rather awkward to say But you will also have, as part of your job, the assignment to satisfy her sexual urges as the daughter is in her mid-20's and has a rather strong sex drive."

The guy, just plain wide-eyed, said, "You're bullshittin' me!"

The social worker said, "Yeah, well... You started it."