Rotary Club of Wollundry - Wagga Wagga

Volume 34 No 27

10 January 2012



Reach Within to Embrace Humanit

PRESIDENT
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
KALYAN BANERJEE

DISTRICT GOVERNOR IAN SIMPSON

CLUB PRESIDENT WOLLUNDRY WAGGA WAGGA

DOUG CONKEY



Doug opened the meeting, called on Chris Nash to lead us in Rotary Grace, and proposed the toast to the Queen of England, and Australia too. Guests were welcomed, and condolences noted at the loss of David Benn's Mother, and also Phil McIntosh's Father.

Last week, Paul Milde ran into Peter Davies, and reported that Peter looked even younger than we all remembered, and that retirement was obviously agreeing with him.

President Doug gave a "virtual" Sunday Market report, before introducing Kerry Pascoe, who gave an apologetic report - See page 7. Then David Byfield made the secretary's announcements, and Doug reminded members of Food and Wine committee meetings, weekly from today, each Tuesday at 5.30pm in the Commercial Club boardroom. The Twomey Patterson golf also recommences after a break for Christmas, next Monday.

The sergeant was held back until there was no time left, but Silas took time and launched into a mobile phone themed fine session. Brian Roberts was target #1, taking a call, but David Been went three times, his phone rang, he answered it, and then had a conversation. Kev Roben was #3.

Silas read a manifesto from Al Queda, about the shortage of virgins available to Suicide bomb martyrs, as a result of increased Terrorist activity. The emergence of Susan Boyle has to some extent dimmed the interest in martyrdom, now that they know what a virgin looks like.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Club Guests:

Lu-Wei Spinks

Eugenie Coche

Laura Sahi

Apologies:

Peter Clucas

Alan Lloyd Rav Pankhurst

John Hawkins Neil Pinto Nick Leywood

Phil McIntosh

John Ferguson James Ross

Rob Pearson

Ken Cook Evan Robertson Darren Wallace

Visitors:

Wendy Conkey

Carolyn Murray

THE ROSTERS

17 January 24 January

Peter Clucas John Egan 31 January Michael Eldridge

Fellowship,

Reception, **Greg Conkey** Alan Eldridge

John Ferguson

Furniture: Colin Duff John Flynn **Mark Fleming**

Bulletin Editors Roster.

Jan 17. Jan 24. Jan 31: Feb 07, Feb 14, Feb 21:

John Egan John Ferguson **Paul Murray**

Feb 28, Mar 06, Mar 13: Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 03:

Apr 10, Apr 17, Apr 24:

Doug Sutton Michael Knight

Sergeants Roster.

Jan 17: John Grav Jan 24: Peter Clucas

Jan 3: Silas Darby

MILESTONES

Partners Birthdays:

Angie Gerlach. (Gerry)

15th January

Wedding Anniversaries

Geoff and Ros Breust

12th January

Club Anniversary

Richard Braid 10 years in Club John Egan 27 Years in Club

15th January 15th January

APOLOGIES AND GUEST ATTENDANCE

APOLOGIES OR NOTIFICATION OF GUESTS SHOULD BE ADVISED TO DOUG CONKEY BY 4.00 PM ON MONDAY. THE PHONE NO. IS 69253039

Not The Passport Photos





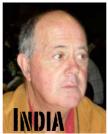


















All these Wollundry Rotarians are heading overseas to pursue various sporting interests, like Cricket, Skiing, or whatever George and Graham do. The strong Australian Dollar, which has been destroying the livelihood of Australian primary producers, and caused Australian manufacturing to be wound back to museum exhibition levels has allowed all these intrepid travelers to scatter their bloated currency to the benefit of other world currencies, artificially positioned to take advantage of our poor farmers or battling workforce. Just looking at the photos, perhaps David Hodge or John Flynn are the only ones even aware of all the issues.



Eugenie Coche Activity update

EUGENIE WAS BACK AT THE MEETING THIS WEEK, AND WAS WITH US TO HEAR LU-WEI TELL US ABOUT HER PREPARATION FOR EXCHANGE TO FINLAND. SHE HAD AN AIR OF "BEEN THERE, DONE THAT" IN HER ADVICE TO THE OUTGOING STUDENT, AND HER SUPPORT WAS REASSURING TO LU-WEI.

EUGENIE'S REPORT TO OUR MEMBERS ON CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES, HOPEFULLY NEXT WEEK.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE District 9700 Conference will be held in Young on 23rd, 24th, & 25th March. Diarise it Now



Today was Lu-wei Spinks farewell presentation, and a chance to run through her speech that will be given in Finnish at its next outing. Born 17 years ago and raised on a 3300 hectare property on a flood plain outside Balranald, four hours drive west of Wagga Wagga. The farm has been in her family for three generations, but ten years of drought had taken its toll, so Bruce yearned for the big city, and Wagga Wagga was in his sights - an olive grove at Harefield.

Growing up on the farm was never dull, her dad's parents both lived on the property, along with her parents, Aussie Bruce, and his Malaysian Chinese Wife, Joo-Yee, and the two girls, and a dog called Rusty. Mainstream production was cropping, but diversified at times into cauliflowers corn and mung beans, all grown in broadacre formats.

After the move to Wagga Wagga, the senior Mr Spinks celebrated his 80th Birthday, and the theme for the evening was the Gangster life in the 20's. The lucky audience saw photos of the party, and obviously a great time was had by all. The photos could not be published, as Lu-wei cited copyright restrictions, but Frank Fuller may know other reasons why they are best not published.

Lu-wei attended Balranald Central school until the end of year 8, and then the school lost staff due to a reorganization, so she moved to Wagga, boarding and at Wagga Wagga High school, which had as many pupils as the population of Balranald. She has just finished year 12 at WWHS.

During her talk, Lu-Wei told us of her extra curricular activities, and these fell into two streams - Music and Athletics. Musically, she has played, to varying levels of competence, the flute, piano, guitar, clarinet and drums, and has saxophone in her sights if a teacher is available in Finland.

The highlight of Lu-wei's athletic career came in 2008, when she qualified for the Pacific School games, held in Canberra, and drawing on thew best school student athletes from Australia and the South Pacific. She competed in the 100 metres, in a time of 12.64 secs, and ranked 13th overall among the young athletes - a fantastic achievement. We were shown some photos of the tracks on which she trained, and they certainly were not Institute of Sport standard. An injury has interrupted the running career for two years, but Lu-wei feels that she is ready to resume training, and could do that in Finland.

.....Dad hopped on the grader and made us a few tracks to train on.....



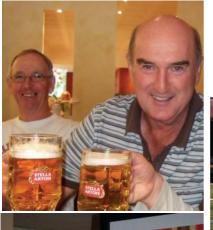
Other activities that she has tried include Soccer, a two and a half hour round trip to Swan Hill away, and a season of netball, but that was not enough of a challenge. She regretted that the AFL on offer in Balranald was only for the boys, but we think that the boys might never have caught her!!!! She played Hockey for Wagga High School, and though the team didn't win a game all season, Lu-wei scored their only goal.

Then Lu-wei got onto the subject of Finland, and with Laura Sahi in the audience, she was unable to con us with any old pronunciation. When she arrives in Finland, it will be midwinter, so very short days, long nights, and the jokes are already bandied around about losing her suntan.

The school that Lu-wei will attend is a "classics" high school, with Latin among the subjects that are on offer to students. The host parents have all made contact with their Aussie visitor, and they communicate through email, facebook, and social media that we only vaguely understand.

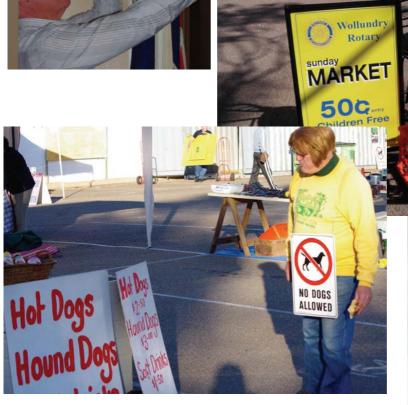
The overall impression we all took from today's presentation was that this young lady was an outstanding candidate for a Rotary exchange, and an admiration for the dedication of her parents to her upbringing.

the road to Adelaide was fairly flat



Photos from the Archives









The market team were on site nice and early last Sunday to try and awaken the sleeping Giant - the Markets. The OIC was Kerry Pascoe, and the team included Brian Roberts, David Hodge, Robert Pearson, Geoff Breust, and Mark Sayer, with assistance from Mark's daughter, Georgia.

Kerry was determined that his market would be memorable, but the long break since the last market, the overcast weather conditions, the stallholders who stayed away, and the shoppers that didn't eventuate all conspired to deflate his ambitions - until in an inspired moment, a flash of genius, with the wisdom of Solomon, the path to memorability appeared, and "No Market" was invoked.

The Benefits of this decision were obvious - no rent had to be collected, and stallholders were unlikely to have any concerns. It was a popular move in the classic Win - Win mould. There had been money collected at the gate, so unfortunate consequences such as reporting and banking, didn't have to be endured, and a cash amount of \$341.75 was briefly mentioned at the meeting.

The post market wrap-up was catered for in the best traditions of market Fare. The sandwiches were impeccable, ham, cheese tomato on the freshest bread, and the Blueberry Muffins were to "die for".



MARKET ROSTERS

Start Times

Saturday 6.30am Start
Sunday OIC at 6.30 Team at 7.00am

Saturday 14 Jan OIC Phillip McIntosh David Benn Greg Conkey John Mason Colin Duff Hugh Campbell Paul Gianniotis George Thomas. Rob Balding Peter Clucas John Knight

Sunday 15 Jan OIC Peter Crozier Glenn Elliot Laurie Blowes Alan Lloyd David Byfield James Ross

Sunday 22 Jan OIC Geoff Hamilton Steven McCoy Alan Eldridge Paul Murray Mark Hillis Dennis Shean

Sunday 29 Jan OIC John Ferguson John Gray John Egan Paul Milde Mark Fleming John Smith

Sunday 05 Feb OIC Darren Wallace Andrew Irvine Graham Burmeister Kevin Moffat David Foster Bruce Spinks

Saturday 11 Feb

OIC Peter Clucas Rick Priest Michael Eldridge Simon Musgrave Pat Ingram Frank Fuller John Flynn Doug Sutton Tim Barter Brent Pickard Jim Gibson

Sunday 12 Feb

OIC James Hamilton Nick Leywood Richard Braid Michael Georgiou Doug Conkey Michael Merrylees

Sunday 19 Feb

OIC Greg O'Hare Chris Nash Peter Mackinnon Neil Pinto Chris Metcalf Evan Robertson