



# ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKWOOD

Chartered 14<sup>th</sup> September 1970

## DISTRICT 9520

Club Bulletin Volume 41, Issue 04

26th July 2011 Meeting No. 2090



### International President

*Kalyan Banerjee*

### District Governor

*Bruce Richardson*

### CLUB BOARD

#### Club President

*Peter Geer*

#### Secretary

*Bill Flynn*

#### Treasurer

*Barry Sheridan*

#### Vice President

*Bob Arnold*

#### Immediate Past President

*Jeff Hunter*

#### Club Directors

##### Finance

*Ken Roscrow*

##### Club Service

*Bob Arnold*

##### Membership & Promotions

*Barbara Chappell*

##### Community Service

*Sue Wymond*

##### Youth & Vocational Service

*Tony Hughes*

##### International Service

*Bob Sothman*

##### Foundations Director

*John Penta*

##### Club Bulletin Editor

*Ray Smith*

### Rotary Club of Blackwood Inc.

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South Australia 5051

ABN: 40718875507

Rotary International: [www.rotar](http://www.rotar)

District 9520 [www.rotarynews.i](http://www.rotarynews.i)

### THE FOUR WAY TEST

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

### INVOCATION & TOAST

Sergeant Allen introduced our Chairman for tonight, Terry Tierney, who toasted Australia and her people...and Cadell Evans.

### PRESIDENT'S SPOT

President Peter was relieved to avoid the 4 Way Test and welcomed our guest speaker Dr Marcus Cooling, visitors Jacqui and Ray Wright; and Bob Sothman back from vacation.

### A few announcements:

1. the Art Show was a tremendous effort and a great success – thanks to all for a great effort
2. Next week is the Vocational Visit at The Grind – see details below
3. Flinders University requests mentors. See John Jackson
4. past member George Sargent phoned Peter from NZ to give his best wishes, and sends his regards to everyone.
5. The Flinders Rotaract Charter Night is 12th August – the Club has 5 single tickets. Jacko and Peter Geer are attending.
6. The Blackwood Memorial Hall Quiz Night is 6<sup>th</sup> August. Contact Helen.
7. Notes from the Board Meeting:
  - Bach to Brazil night is cancelled due to low ticket sales and many members being away on leave– the timing is not good.
  - Directors have submitted their budget estimates
  - Laz Meszaros retirement was accepted
  - Leave of absence approved for: Cherilyn Fleming, Margaret Congram, John Penta, Peter Geer, Sue Wymond
  - Sick Leave: - Bob Arnold, John Lewis
8. Members who do not notify their absence will be charged for their meal, if we are charged by the Belair Country Club
9. Christmas Fair 13 November: Sue Wymond & Barry chairing
10. Wine Bottling will be on 6th November
11. A Certificate of Appreciation was received from the CFS



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### ATTENDANCE

David did the maths and reported a 65% roll-up.

### FINES

Fines and cross fines raised a total of \$67.80. Copper Box \$16.10

### SPEAKERS FOR THE GOOD OF ROTARY

- **Peter:** Calperum thanked us for the \$1,500 donation which will be allocated to a camp kitchen upgrade
- **Terry:**
  - Tonight we banked \$835 from firewood sales. If the weather is ok we hope to chop and split wood this Friday to enable another truckload to be delivered to the site.
  - This Sunday is Green Waste Day so sellers are needed to cope with the expected rush of customers. An email will be issued
- **Bob L:**
  - Russell returned from hospital last Friday, but will not be attending our Club for a little while.
  - Bob Arnold is improving and limping around.
- **Stuart:** the Art Show raffle tickets **MUST** be returned by next week (at The Grind vocational visit) at the latest due to Government regulation. If you cannot do that then arrange to hand them to another member before that time.
- **Bernie:** the Earth Station camp runs from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23 October. It is the Woodstock of Belair National Park. Our task is to direct traffic and the shuttle buses. We are committed to it and will earn \$5,500. Bernie and Ken will direct it, with assistance from Trevor and Don.
- **Trevor:**
  - A bag of books was in the cupboard, and is assumed to be for the book sale
  - The next Book Sale will be 17th September
  - The Art Show gear is in the Shed but needs to be stacked properly. Please come on Thursday to assist. Coffee and bikkies are provided!
- **Ken** said the Art Show sales have exceeded past years to date with \$31,500 gross sales from 84 products sold. The net was \$13,500. Bob Sothman and Robyn also gave special assistance to Ken.



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### HEADS AND TAILS

Graham Lough presented a fine half dozen valued at a precise \$239.25. Garry Dolman came up trumps and soon stuffed the box under his chair. The takings were \$59.90.

### Raffle

The winning ticket was drawn by our guest speaker, Marcus, with Sue W the winner.

#### **FINES: Garry carried the box *[whilst furtively glancing back at his chair]***

- Tony has a 12 WEEK old kelpie named "Russell"
- Those NOT on the Art Show Committee
- the NFL losers
- Mark paid for his raffle tickets...but with coins
- Graham L spilled \$67.20 worth of wine at the Art Show
- John Walters has the only garden in the street with an unmown lawn
- Terry for pressuring Bob Arnold to take his walking stick to cut firewood
- Webmaster Ken for not updating the Website
- Barry (Mr Fixit) for replacing lightglobes at the Art Show, together with JJ's granddaughter
- David Neil for having a day off from courier driving. *[he crashed the vehicle and it's being repaired!]*
- Don organised the Art Show ok, despite the *[Irish]* language barrier
- Graham Roberts: the only person with the proper Rotary dress code on Sunday.
- Bob S and Bob L were both at the Art Show collection tables with their wives – but not the same tables as their wives!
- Reg Hanson the door Bouncer
- Naz removed black cloth from the wall but needed pliers, screw driver and knife to do it
- all Tour de France watchers.
- Bill Flynn- wanted to pin his badge on the dangly bits
- Neil White for snagging a carton of wine for \$2
- Terry and Jill had to walk off the footpath to avoid John Walters' car *[with John at the wheel]*
- Naz for his mobile ringing during the fine session
- Sue W and Graham R: "What's wrong with your parts?"

#### **Cross Fines**

Ken lost \$8,000 of docketts. They were found by the School

Denise was vacuuming until it was pointed out that the cord was not in the power socket!

Bernie on Peter G: The Art Show did so well because Peter arranged for such good weather!

Graham for not finding Don's badge in the middle of the cabinet



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### GUEST SPEAKER

Chairman Terry introduced our guest speaker, Dr Marcus Cooling who lives in Coromandel Valley and is a self-employed aquatic ecologist with particular experience in environmental water management. Marcus has worked on the restoration of flooding regimes in the River Murray, flow management in streams and the provision of groundwater to support wetland ecosystems.

The Murray-Darling basin (MDB) is a large geographical area which drains one-seventh of the Australian land mass, and is currently by far the most significant agricultural area in Australia. It spans most of the states of New South Wales, Victoria, and the Australian Capital Territory, and parts of the states of Queensland (lower third) and South Australia (south-east corner). It is 3,375 kilometres in length. The Murray River is 2,589 km long.

Most of the 1,061,469 km<sup>2</sup> basin is flat, low-lying and far inland, and receives little direct rainfall. The many rivers it contains tend to be long and slow-flowing, and carry a volume of water that is large only by Australian standards.

Of the approximately 13,000 gegalitres of flow in the basin, which studies have shown to be divertible, 11,500 gl are removed for irrigation, industrial use, and domestic supply. Agricultural irrigation accounts for about 95% of the water removed, including for the growing of rice and cotton. This extraction is highly controversial among scientists in Australia, regarding the agriculture industry's high water use in a region extremely short of water (as much due to exceptionally low run-off coefficients as to low rainfall).

Marcus commenced his passion when, as a new graduate, he was recruited to Shepparton to find "how water can be used for the environment". His brief was to find how to get water for the environment and not to irrigators. Initially, conclusions were difficult to quantify as there were floods in 1992, and thus water levels were unusual. A very low inflow year was 2006. In 2011 there have been floods in QLD, and VIC, with cool winters. Now that we are awash with water and have mild weather, support for the carbon tax has waned and the public has lost interest in the MDB, which has unequal allocations. The Federal Govt under Howard invested \$10bn in the MDB, which is allocated to Victoria for reallocation. There is now 70gl available for the environment to be used to regulate peak s and flows of the River. Despite the recent government agreements, the Cwth and States still bicker.

Marcus felt he needed to increase his knowledge base, so did a PhD at Adelaide on Environmental Water Management, which enables him to consult to Government on water management.

River flows are reduced by dams and groundwater bores, but are now all regulated so that Govt has the power to control it.



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Reedy Lake is a shallow 5.5 km<sup>2</sup> freshwater lake or swamp on the lower reaches of the Barwon River, on the Bellarine Peninsula near Geelong. It is included in the Lake Connearre State Game Reserve, which is managed by Parks Victoria. It is the largest freshwater swamp in central Victoria, and is part of a wetland complex which includes Hospital Swamp, Lake Connearre, Salt Swamp and the

Barwon estuary. Its outlet to the tidal lower Barwon River is controlled by a weir. It is listed under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international significance, as part of the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site.

Six thousand years ago Reedy Lake was part of a large marine bay. With a subsequent change in relative sea level it was cut off from the sea by a barrier of sand dunes, and its bed covered by a layer of alluvial clay deposited by the Barwon River. Before European settlement of the area in the early 19th century the lake was an ephemeral wetland that became saline in summer from the seepage of salty ground-water and occasional exceptionally high tides. In winter it usually became fresh, as river floods flushed out the saline water.

The first barrier across the Barwon was built in 1838 to provide fresh water for Geelong. In 1899 a second barrier, known as the 'lower breakwater' was built further downstream on the river at the southern boundary of Reedy Lake, making it a predominantly freshwater wetland, with an extensive cover of vegetation, that supported diverse populations of waterbirds and other aquatic wildlife. By the 1930s its natural values were becoming appreciated and, in 1935, it was temporarily reserved for "public purposes". Later it was protected permanently and its level of protection upgraded to that of game reserve. During the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s further works were carried out and refinements added, such as inlet pipes from the river above the lower breakwater and an outlet channel with a flow regulator, to maintain and control water levels in the lake.

The vegetation was mapped by water bird shooters in 1983, and they found that the reeds grow to a height of 2.5m. However by 1992 the lake began to suffer degradation as the more permanent and deeper water levels allowed a large population of the introduced Common Carp to build up. The feeding behaviour of the carp undermined the reedbeds and increased water turbidity, leading to the death of submerged plants, decreased oxygen levels and the decline of small aquatic wildlife. This was remedied in 1996-1997 by drying out the lake to kill the carp before allowing it to fill again. With reduced carp numbers the reeds flourished again and other plants and fish died. Since



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then water levels have been closely managed, with some seasonal drying in summer, to limit carp numbers and to maintain areas of open water as waterbird habitat.

Many types of plant flourish because the water is saline with a fresh overlay from rains.

The new water entitlement is merely an entitlement to air space. Only when a lake is full can you take the water. There have been enormous fluctuations in the water level in the last 120 years. At times one could walk across the Murray. It is inevitable that the heights of the 1956 flood will occur again.

Chairman Terry thanked Marcus for his talk on a very current and also very important topic for all South Australians.

### PRESIDENTS CLOSING WORDS

- Thank you Marcus for taking the time to update us on the problems of the Murray
- Thank you to our visitors, Jacqui and Ray Wright for attending tonight
- The raffle ticket stubs **MUST** be returned by next meeting so they can be included in the draw. This is a legislative requirement. Neil White will collect the money and the stubs.
- Next meeting is the vocational visit to The Grind. Graham Roberts will collect the \$20 for the dinner

### Words of Wisdom, FOR THIS WEEK Basic Definition of science

If it's green or wiggles, it's biology. If it stinks, it's chemistry. If it doesn't work, it's physics.

Remember the theme from our new International President *Kalyan Banerjee*:

***"Reach Within To Embrace Humanity"***

Good night , and I'll see you at the Grind.



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*If you have booked your place at the Grind, but find you are unable to attend, contact Peter promptly because there are no vacancies at present, and someone may be able to fill your spot.*



### WAREHOUSE

61-65 Tapleys Hill Road (*between Florence and Stacey Streets*)  
Hendon

Rotary Club of Blackwood  
Vocational Visit  
2 August 2011

### Programme

- 6.30 Welcome & Introduction  
History of The Grind
  
- 6.45 Soup served
  
- 7.05 Presentation  
The History of Coffee  
Green Beans  
Organic, Fair Trade, Forrest Alliance, Cafe Femenino & The Grind's commitment to these organisations  
Roasting methods  
Roasting display
  
- 7.30 Dinner served - while roasting continues
  
- 7.50 Dessert / coffee / tea

### Menu

Pumpkin soup  
Lasagne, vegetables, salad  
Danish with ice cream  
Coffee, Tea  
\$20

Please advise me of any special dietary needs  
Peter Geer



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MEETING ROSTER AND SPEAKERS 2011				
Meeting No.	2091	2092	2093	2094
Date	2 August 2011	9 August 2011	16 August 2011	23 August 2011
Fellowship	Graham Roberts	Naz Dastoor	Helen Henbest	John Jackson
Reg. Assistant		Tom Davenport	Jeff Hunter	Graham Lough
Furniture		Garry Dolman Alan Eldridge	Bill Flynn Tony Hughes	Bernie Morgan David Neil
Chairman	The Grind Warehouse	Peter Geer	Bob Lehmann	Ken Roscrow
Speaker	Silvio Lombardi		John & Catherine Lawler	Lael Mayer
Topic	Vocational visit 6.00 for 6.30	Committees Board Meeting	<b>ROMAC</b>	Blackwood Park- Where to next?
Sergeant		John Penta	Michael McClaren	Michael McClaren
Bulletin Editor	Ray Smith	Ray Smith	Ray Smith	Ray Smith

Events and Celebrations 2011	
Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 August – the Grind Warehouse (<i>coffee, tea, coffee!!!</i>)</li> <li>• 9 August – Board Meeting</li> <li>• 17 September – Book sale</li> <li>• 18 October – <b>Earth Station</b> Briefing</li> <li>• 6 November – Wine bottling</li> <li>• 13 November – Christmas Fair</li> </ul>
Birthdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 August – Jan Arnold</li> <li>• 8 August – Laz Meszaros</li> <li>• 15 August – David Neil</li> <li>• 19 August – Jill Tierney</li> <li>• 28 August – Trevor Abbott</li> <li>• 28 August – Don Venus</li> </ul>
Anniversaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31 July – Barry and Kathryn Sheridan</li> <li>• 16 August – Russell and Bev Eccleston</li> <li>• 29 August – Bob and Jan Arnold</li> </ul>