



## ROTARY MEETING No. 1916



Sergeant Barbara Chappel opened the meeting following which Chairman Bernie Morgan gave the invocation and toast to Australia and her people.

Pres Michael McClaren welcomed back Rotarians who had been away and made the following announcements:

### Announcements

Next week is lawn bowls with the RC of Flagstaff Hill. Dinner and bowls will start at 6.00pm for 6.30pm at the Happy Valley bowls club.

Guess Whos coming to dinner? Let PDG John Jackson know if you intend to be involved this year.

Board meeting tonight @ Ken Roscrow

Notices distributed regarding shelter boxes in Kenya – over 200 delivered.

Russell Eccleston will be awarded the Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award on 25<sup>th</sup> January at Carrick Hill. Presentation will begin at 6.30pm.



**Attendance: 95%      Raffle: Ken Roscrow (again!!)      Make-ups: 1**

### FGOR

*John Jackson reminded members about Guess Who's Coming to Dinner.*

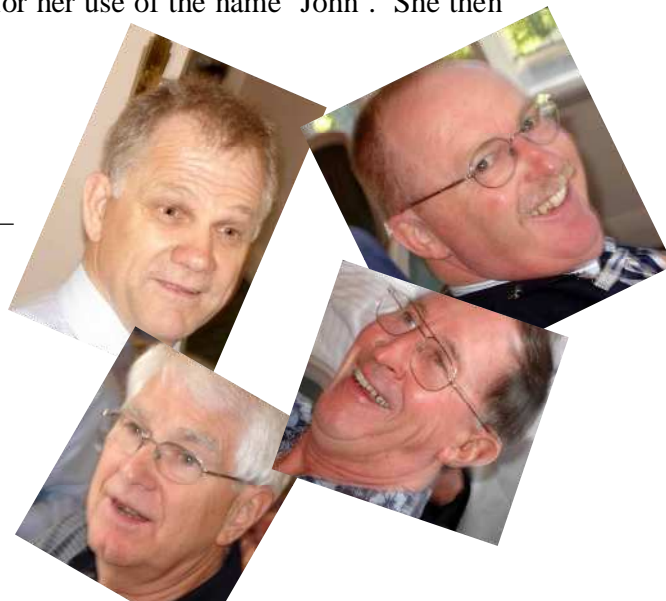
*Robyn Venus is collecting subs*

*Bob Richter reported that everyone attended Roadwatch and he reminded members to organise their swaps for the next Roadwatch on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.*

### Sergeant's Session

Sergeant Barbara Chappel fined the Bulletin editor Sue Sedivy for her use of the name 'John'. She then went on the fine the following unfortunate members:

- Pres Michael for forgetting his briefcase
- Bernie Morgan for called the Irish 'English'
- All those who don't know what a blackberry is
- David Rusk for going to the same hairdresser for years – why?
- Peter Geer for being pushy
- PDG John Jackson for using David Rusk's hairdresser
- Bob Richter who will forever be known as 'bobby'
- Richard Dix for taking 3 grandchildren on holiday
- Neil White for expiation notices (26)
- Ken Roscrow for throwing his mobile into the pool



## Membership

***Bernie took the members through a process of discovery resulting in an Action plan for a membership drive.***

Bernie posed the question “Why have we devoted this meeting to membership?” and then provided the following facts;

In Jan 2005 our Club had 53 members.

16 members in Jan 2005 have since resigned  
(= 10% per year)

In Jan 2008 our Club has 46 members with an average age of 63

Our three youngest members are Mark Burns, Bill Flynn and President Michael.

Resignations this Rotary year;

Ian Wicks; Sam Pearson; Gerald Morris; Carl Lloyd  
(= 8% in 6 months)

Last new member was inducted on 20 March 2007 (Barry Sheridan )

### Summary

Two of our youngest members resigned this year.

We have 7 fewer members than 3 years ago. And

It is 9 months since we have inducted a member.

We do not have a crisis, but to avoid losing our earning power and vibrancy, this analysis shows that we need action now with the involvement of all members.

It was emphasised that the focus of the meeting was to gain new members (as opposed to retaining existing members). A clear understanding of action/s required to get new members was critical to our success.

Ken Roscrow, Neil White, Sue Wymond and Tom Davenport were interviewed about why they belong to our Club and aspects of being asked to join, the camaraderie within our meetings, and our Rotary achievements were major factors by them.

Graham Lough and Helen Henbest were interviewed about who they introduced to our Club and how they did it. They both reported that they had successfully gained members by actively asking acquaintances about Rotary, asking these people along to meetings and following up to ensure that interested people were inducted and mentored into our Club (Examples given by them included Bernie Morgan, Neil White, Mark Burns, Sue Wymond, Sue Sedivy, Robyn Venus and Ann Thelander).

A “Brain Storming” session was conducted and actions agreed upon were (in approximate order of importance)

1. Everyone should ask suitable people who may be interested in Rotary about joining our Club. (Flexibility concerning attending meetings was stressed).
2. Inviting guest speakers to join (particularly if they live locally as this makes communication, connectedness and commitment easier).
3. Targeting people (and their partners) who have a history of community service.
4. Targeting younger generations, particularly family members of Rotarians. (1 to 4 also requires filling in an application card for prospective members.)
5. Promoting ourselves at every opportunity including at local shopping centres.
6. Promoting ourselves in local school newsletters.
7. Wearing things that identify us as members of this Club.
8. Ensure that our Club is promoted at every event run by us.
9. Use local media to explain what Rotary does.
10. Continue with current strategies of
  - Providing good prospects with a free introductory meeting.
  - Providing timely feedback to proposers regarding progress towards membership of prospects.
  - Continuing to hold our community forums to promote awareness of our Club.

Bernie thanked all members for their participation and apologised for taking the meeting beyond our normal finishing time.

President Michael closed the meeting by noting;

- The objective of the night was future action not making anyone feel guilty about the past.
- We are a good and vibrant Club, and this gives us a good start to gaining new members as no member should be embarrassed about asking good people to join us.
- A future Rotaract Club will take a long time to gain new members, and action to gain young new members should not be delayed.
- That all members are urged to start asking suitable people to join us.

**ROADWATCH 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2008**

**Captain – Reg Hanson**

Sue Wymond, Arthur Finch, John Jackson, Russell Ecclestone, John Penta

**REMEMBER IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND –  
RING THE A/ATTENDANCE OFFICER  
(MARGARET CONGRAM – 82781131) BEFORE 12.00 ON TUESDAY.**

Meeting No.	1917	1918	1919	1920
<b>Date</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>30<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Happy Valley Bowls Club</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> February</b>
<b>Fellowship</b>	John Jackson	Peter Pargeter	Ken Prime	David Rusk
<b>Reg. Assistant</b>	Bob Lehmann	Graham Lough	Graham Roberts	Barry Sheridan
<b>Furniture</b>	John Lewis Carl Lloyd	Laz Meszaros John Penta	Bob Richter Ken Roscrow	Ray Smith Reg Tannebring
<b>Chairman</b>	Michael McClaren	Michael McClaren	Michael McClaren	Ken Roscrow
<b>Speaker</b>		Various	Margaret Congram and Ken Roscrow	Barry Sheridan
<b>Topic</b>	Lawn Bowls - joint meeting with Flagstaff Hills	Social Night and Committee Meetings	Travels	This is my Life
<b>Bulletin editor</b>	Sue Sedivy	Sue Sedivy	Sue Sedivy	Sue Sedivy

Coming events	Birthdays	Anniversaries
	Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> John Jackson	
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2008 <b>Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?</b>		
March 12 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> 2008 <b>RC Dillibazar Friendship Exchange</b>		
April 5 <sup>th</sup> 2008 <b>Musicfest</b> Mitsubishi Auditorium Tonsley Park		

Club Web Site: <http://www.rotarnet.com.au/blackwood>  
District 9520 Web Site: <http://www.rotarnet.com.au/9520>  
Rotary International Web Site: <http://www.rotary.org>



