

October 20 Meeting no. 2004

PRESIDENTS SPOT

- Pres Cherilyn welcomed guest Geoff Baldwin, introduced by PE Jeff Hunter.
- Guest Stuart Lowden was also made welcome by Pres Cherilyn, he was introduced by Margaret Congram.
- Speaker for the evening Rhys Roberts of Blackwood Lions Club was also a guest.
- Pres Cherilyn made welcome member Barry Sheridan, who has been globe-trotting
- The Christmas Fair Committee will be hosted by Pres Cherilyn on Wed. evening.
- Next week the Blackwood Club will be meeting on Tues 27 October at the Flagstaff Hill Golf Club with the other Group 5 Clubs (Coro Valley, Flagstaff Hill, Noarlunga, Noarlunga East & Reynella). Cost will be \$25, the Golf Club is in Memford Way.

Meeting No 2004

Guest Speaker – Rhys Roberts

Topic – “Ainslie Roberts, the Artist”.

Chairman – Helen Henbest

Guests – Geoff Baldwin, Stuart Lowden, Reece Roberts.

INVOCATION and TOAST

Led by Helen Henbest.

PRESIDENTS WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Given by Pres Cherilyn.

MAKE-UPS

Barry Sheridan at Rotary Club of Widnes, District 1280, England.

AG Bob Arnold at Coromandel Valley.

ATTENDANCE

Amidst a stir of excitement, Reg Hansen announced an attendance of more than 100%. Pres Cherilyn promised to reward members in two weeks time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS by MEMBERS

1. PE Jeff Hunter handed out two lots of brochures – one “Blackwood Rotary – Come and Join Us” and another “What is Rotary”. The first specifically a colour glossy designed to persuade others to join the Rotary Club of Blackwood, and the second composed of four A4 pages clipped together with the headings What is Rotary, Brief History of the Blackwood Rotary Club, Achievements of the Blackwood Rotary Club in the Last 5 Years, and Shelter Box. Jeff added that these could be handed out at the Christmas Fair, he had procured sponsorship of approx \$500 from Spick Pharmacy Blackwood.
2. Peter Geer announced that the “gnomes” resume operations at the Karynia shed on Thursday 22 October.
3. Trevor Abbott has books for the Fair under control.
4. Wine Bottling on November 1 at Howard Moss’s, see Graham Lough.
5. Jane Silbereisen asked members to consider Rotary puddings and cakes – fill in her brochure to do so.
6. John Jackson reminded members of the Probus interest meeting on Thurs 29 October at 10 am at the Belair Park Country Club, Upper Sturt Rd, Belair.
7. Road Watch on Sat October 31 to involve Congram, Davenport, Dix, Eccleston, Eldridge and Tierney. Please find a replacement if you cannot attend, and advise John Jackson who will attend at the shed at 9:15 am on Sat 31 Oct. to hand out gear for the job.
8. Rhys Roberts for the Blackwood Lions asked for 10-20 Rotarians to act as Marshals for the Blackwood pageant on Fri Dec 4, 2009. Community Service Director Graham Roberts will arrange.

SPECIAL ITEM of an HUMOROUS NATURE

Secretary Robyn Venus somewhat cautiously, with Rhys Roberts trying hard to keep a “straight face” in the background, got up to announce that she had received a letter of an apparently litigious nature. It claimed that Rhys Roberts had been wrongfully and blasphemously referred to as Rhys Henbest by a certain Rotary Club Member, and that if found guilty the club could be fined , payment only acceptable in gold bars. The letter was from WIGGLE and LURCH, solicitors of OZ. Pres Cherilyn, amidst much laughter, replied that she had instructed our solicitors SLIMY and MOULD to appeal the sentence and fine as we were indeed guilty of the offence. Watch this space !!!

SERGEANT NEIL’S FINE SESSION

Sergeant Neil White fined one and all mercilessly including Tony Hughes for appearing on TV in connection with the desalination plant under construction, Pres Cherilyn for not involving a P plate Vice Pres this week, John Penta for going over to Victoria to see fellow Ducati rider Stoner win the Philip Is motor cycle Grand Prix last weekend, Ken Roscrow for not going to Philip Is, Sue Sedivy for complaining to Neil that her SA Water bill seemed too low, John Jackson for entertaining Heather’s schoolgirl friends (and some boyfriends as well, ED !), who attended Riverton High last century (oops !), at home last

weekend, Margaret Congram now back from conquering the heights of Peru, Helen Henbest seen walking in Blackwood hand in hand with the guest speaker, Laz Meszaros whose daughter is now engaged to be married, and Naz (Dastoor) and Laz for potential mix-ups in the future. Neil raised \$58.80 with his fine session.

RAFFLE: Won by Bob Arnold

GUEST SPEAKER

Chairperson Helen Henbest introduced Rhys Roberts, son of Ainslie Roberts. Rhys began by asking us to take out of our pockets a \$2 coin. The tail side depicts an aboriginal “one pound Jimmy” as drawn by his father. Rhys explained that he Rhys was born in SA and moved to Blackwood in 1947. He studied economics and engineering, and was a political lobbyist in Canberra before coming back home to manage his father’s business Australian Prints and Paintings. He said that his father Ainslie had a deep love of aboriginal culture and the far north of Australia. Ainslie Roberts became famous with his “Dreamtime” series which was the result of his meeting up with Charles Mountford. Charles had a great store of aboriginal myths, which as he told them to Ainslie, became fixed in his (Ainslie’s) imagination, and so began his artistic realization of aboriginal mythology in 1965.

About Ainslie – born in London in 1911 he moved to South Australia for health reasons with his parents, living at a family farm in Ardrossan for 8 months and then to Adelaide. He attended Westbourne Park Primary School and showed early artistic abilities. His first job was as an office boy at an Insurance Company in Adelaide, but his artistic talents beckoned him as he designed a label for a commercial product. He formed his own advertising company, only to find that before long he was managing people and not using his artistic talent. And so he became a freelance artist and took up full time painting.

Rhys described how Ainslie painted myths as gathered by his friend Charles Mountford. He learnt to freeze a moment of mythical time in a painting, all the while knowing he had to “get rid of Ainslie the person” in order to show the frozen myth artistically. His first exhibition at the Osborne Art Gallery in Leigh St was sold out. His technique was to begin with a thick line on paper, followed by black and white depiction and then colour. He once completed a work in 48 hr without stopping, others took as long as 15 years to complete. Often there were 3 or 4 paintings “on the go”. Rhys explained the paintings were by a “westerner” for westerners, a form of surrealism about aboriginal mythology, a form of abstract art.

Rhys finished his heartfelt exposition with a quotation he heard used by his father: “Latecomers to this land, tread softly on this land”.

After questions, Chairperson Helen thanked Rhys, as the club stood in acclamation for a most interesting talk.

CLOSE: Pres Cherilyn closed the meeting at 8:05 pm, announcing there would be a board meeting following the club meeting. She reminded members that the meeting next week would be at the **Flagstaff Golf Club**, not at Blackwood.

BULLETIN EDITOR: John Jackson