



Rotary Club of Gloucester



*The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands
through 2009-10 with Ashleigh Hickman*

Rotary Club of Gloucester Bulletin

Volume 61, Issue 10, Club No 17925

1 September, 2009

WHAT'S ON TONIGHT 1 September

6:00 for 6:30pm Round About Inn **PARTNERS WELCOME**

Guest Speaker Adrian Carruthers – New Beverages and Drinks

SPECIAL NOTICE

Standard Tuesday night Dinner Fees are now \$17.

This is in response to a rise in caterer charges and minor dinner overheads
(eg presentation mugs, speakers' dinner)

DATES TO REMEMBER

3 September

Mental Health Forum:

7 for 7.30pm; RSL; light supper provided by the Uniting Church Ladies Auxiliary

5 September (Saturday)

Dungog Agog – Foreign Film Fest (see end of Bulletin for details)

5 September (Saturday Night)

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Auction

8 September

Guest Speaker **Geoff Marshall**

Theme: **Job Opportunities in Gloucester**

Guest Introduction:

Guest Thank you:

13 September

Triathlon Weekend

15 September

Gloucester meets Wingham at Mt George - **Partners Night**

Guest Speaker: Michael Davies (author of children books)

19 September

Friends of Opera visit Gloucester.

45 seats now available from Webbs \$30 per person

20 September

Moppy Don't miss this one

22 September

Vocational Visit (Organised by John Hopkins)

29 September (Partners Night**) 6:30 for 7:00pm**

Welcome Party for our exchange student Elisabeth Midtbo

Guest introduction: Dianne Montague

Guest thank you: Bernie Tressider

3 Minuter: Ray Martin

23-25 October

F.A.R.T.

27 October

Barrington School Fundraiser

3 November

Melbourne Cup At Taree. *Book now.*

6-7 November

RYSAP

17 November

Club Visioning

Rosters

Tonight

Next Week

1 Sep

8 Sep

Introduce
Guest Speakers

NA

John Hopkins

Thank Guest
Speakers

NA

Terry Carson

Don't forget, if you can't make a meeting ring Pam at Webbs, 65581507.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST WEEK 25th August

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

A welcome was extended to our guests Dr Col Martin and Sally Martin and to Sam Arthurs.

The Duck Races are being arranged by Valda and Ash.

REPORTS

Stelz reported apologies from Stuart Benson, Adele Compton, Simon Griffin, Bruce Montgomerie, John Read, John Faull, Darrel Wisemantel, Denver Webb, and John Hopkins.

Attendance was 76%.

F.A.R.T. Now nearly full. Get in early for this annual fun event or you will miss out.

Don Mcleod. The DG is conducting a survey on how best to distribute the DGs Newsletter. Good response please.

Aznive reported that the Melbourne Cup trifecta tickets will be done on 8 September meeting.

John Walton. RYLA does anyone have nominees for this please.

Debbie Faull has reported that the Barrington School's participation in the Adopt A School program with Tanna Island is "all go".

Sam sought volunteers for the Fathers day BBQ to be held on Thursday morning 3 September.

Valda has kindly accepted doing the Bulletin again on 8 September. No other Rotarians were ready to volunteer for this.

3 Minutes with Peter Markey

Peter knows sheep. He ran some little maggot taxis out Carinda way before coming to Gloucester.

Peter's list of woolly facts kept us 'interested' to 'concerned' to 'relieved'. We learned of the decline of sheep. We learned of this impressive fibre and that one jumbuck equals 6 or 7 jumpers.

Not all wool is equal. Top wool comes from the sides where the 'long blow' is to be found. Belly wool is less preferred - while the stuff that dogs prefer is the stuff they make our socks and jocks from.

Peter explained this last point with some force - leading some to believe that perhaps he only wore such items in polite company. Murmurs and scratching in the audience suggested there could be others following Peter's example shortly!

We learned too of wool classing and the techno approach to assessing fine fibre.



It's all in the timing

GUEST SPEAKERS - Col & Sally Martin

Theme The Leprosy Mission – 'Trek For Treatment'

All of us have heard of leprosy. Many believe that it is incurable. Many believe that it only exists overseas. Dr Col Martin and his wife Sally have returned from their 'Trek for Treatment' visit to Nepal with first-hand facts about this disease and what is being done to treat it and cure it.

Trek For Treatment is a fundraising and awareness program set up by The Leprosy Mission to attract paying visitors to Kathmandu and the hospital at Ananbadan.

Both Sally and Col gave a compelling account of their visit. The trek was a wonderful experience but it was dwarfed by the pictures they painted of life for those with leprosy and the work being done to support and cure them.

Here are just a few of the facts about The Leprosy Mission ('TLM') and leprosy:

- TLM started in 1874 to support people shunned by society to die 'unclean'.
- TLM has 2000 field staff in 29 countries including Australia supporting 300 million people with leprosy.
- Ananbadan Hospital has 125 staff supporting 225 beds – of which only 20 are used for non-leprosy patients.

- Leprosy is not easily transmissible. It is spread by coughing and sneezing but it requires close long-term contact - and 95% of people are naturally immune.
- Leprosy likes the cooler areas of the body. So hands, feet, and the face are especially vulnerable.
- It is a very slow developing disease – so slow that it cannot be grown in a petrie dish. So there is no vaccine and no quick, definitive, diagnosis.
- It affects skin pigment making the skin 'patchy'. Nerve damage leads to loss of feeling, muscle weakness and a reduced ability to sweat. These all contribute to untreated wounds and infections. Chronic ulcers are a feature of leprosy.
- Blindness is a condition created as the ability to blink is lost.

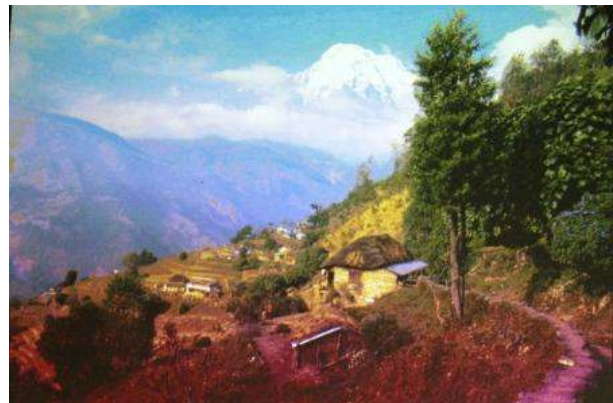
There are effective medical treatments however.

- Some rely on surgery in which tendons in the body are reattached to affected areas to allow some basic movements to be performed. (eg for some people a jaw tendon can be used to make the eye blink when chewing).
- Unfortunately amputations are sometimes necessary.

Importantly, leprosy is curable. With monthly multi drug therapy for 6 to 12 months, the patient is no longer infectious after 2 weeks of treatment.



Selfless endeavour. Col and Sally tell of adventures and learnings in Nepal



At the foot of Everest lies the real challenge



David Collett echoed our sentiments in thanking Sally and Col for their passionate insights into the world of leprosy



President Ashleigh presented a \$1500 cheque to help this important cause

OOhhh

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**"I'm going to order a broiled skinless chicken breast,
but I want you to bring me lasagna and
garlic bread by mistake."**

The Rotary Club of Gloucester District 9650
Fellowship Automobile Rotary Tour
[FART] 23, 24, 25 October 2009

The 2009 Rotary FART will depart from the Gloucester Bowling Club at 3 pm Friday 23rd October. Unfortunately we have a limit of 40 Rotarians and their guests this year – so first in best dressed!

Participants will be given directions at time of departure - sometimes somewhat cryptic! Included with the directions will be a heap of observation questions which require answering along the way.

We suggest four participants per car but this is certainly not a requirement. However, the more the merrier and more eyes make observations easier. Perhaps you might like to consider inviting a guest or two to share your company and fuel costs. Of course motorbikes are welcome but no handicaps will apply!

Each day you will receive directions for travel and questions for observation, which will not only help you along the way but help you to win points in the observation quiz. There will be daily winners and an overall winner. It is not a time trial but you are urged not to dally too much along the way!

We will be meeting up with at least three other Rotary Clubs over the weekend, take in some wonderful sights and scenery and perhaps learn a little history.

Costs are still to be finalized but will include 2 nights accommodation, 2 dinners, 2 cooked breakfasts and lunch on Saturday. At this stage lunch on Sunday TBA and total costs are expected to be approximately \$200 per person on a twin share basis.

Make sure you bring a pen, or two, and something firm to rest your observation sheets on. Further information will be forthcoming at a later date.

A deposit of \$100 per car is required with booking slip ASAP and no later than Tuesday 18th September.

Final payment required by Tuesday 6th October

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Fellowship Automobile Rotary Tour
[FART] 23, 24, 25 October 2009

Car Owner/Driver: Car Registration:
.....

MobilePhone: (Take it with you)

Number of participants:

Names of participants, if known:
.....

Deposit Paid: Date: Cash
Cheque

DON'T FORGET - DUNGOG AGOG !!

Feast of Foreign Films
Saturday 5th September
James Theatre Dungog
Tickets start at \$40 for the five films

www.agog.net.au

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**"My doctor told me to start my exercise program
very gradually. Today I drove past a store
that sells sweat pants."**