

# RIM

## *The Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Epping Inc.*

Website: [www.rotarnet.com.au/epping](http://www.rotarnet.com.au/epping)

Vol 45 Issue 29



### **President John Reports**



Our Guest Speaker last week was Mick Warren who told us about the Royal Flying Doctor Service and all the wonderful work they do in remote areas of Australia. Mick brought along a video to show us and it was unfortunate that the sound system at Boronia Grove was not working and the video could not be shown.

Thank you to Joy Payne, Wal Cooper and John Payne who assisted me last weekend in removing graffiti and helping our suburb to be a better place in which to live and shop. Our work at the rear of Boronia Grove last Saturday morning was graffitied last Saturday night but this was removed by John Payne and me early Sunday morning – in less than 24 hours. This is the secret to eliminating graffiti – rapid removal. The graffitists will get sick of this before we will. It is very pleasing to note we are getting a lot of favourable comments from Epping residents who have seen us at work cleaning up the graffiti. I was hoping that our anti-graffiti project would be published in the Northern District Times by now but other stories have taken precedence.

DGE Monica Saville is now back home after attending District Governor training in San Diego in the USA. I met Monica and husband Geoff at Sydney airport early last Thursday morning. No doubt our Monica has come back with a lot of good ideas but I will leave that for her to tell you all next Monday night.

Thank you to all of those who have offered to be on the committee to discuss the future of our caravan. This is an important decision we need to make and it is essential we make the right decision for the good of Rotary.

We need to make a decision regarding what we are going to wear on the Saturday evening at the Mudgee District Conference next month. It is to be an international evening so that leaves it open to our imagination. Any suggestions would be most welcome and time is running out. Last year in Canberra we did win a prize for our outfits and I am hoping we can do the same this year.

This week I received an e-mail from Rotarian Margaret Small from Wahroonga Club regarding a request for children's and youth's clothing in good condition for the orphanage in Mongolia. You may recall a group from our Club went to this orphanage during their visit in September 2005. Any donations would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for all those who have volunteered for the Epping Street Fair on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March next. This will be a very big day for us and hopefully a profitable one for Rotary. This year we will have our own Rotary stand and no doubt this will generate a lot of interest.

This week has been significant for me as I have been anxious about the arrival of my third grandchild who was due on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Oliver Edwards, at 9 lbs 5 oz, and brother for William, finally did arrive on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February and Ross and Rebecca are ecstatic and his grandfather is also pretty chuffed.

**President John**

The Epping Mission Statement...

*"To improve the well being of our community and foster international understanding through action by Epping club members embracing Rotary ideals"*

Monday 12 February 2007

**CLUB MEETINGS CALENDAR**  
**EPPING ROTARY MEETS EACH MONDAY 6.15 FOR 6.30**  
**BORONIA GROVE RAWSON STREET EPPING**  
*Apologies to Neil Anderson 9876 1676 by midday Monday*

Date	Topic	Introduction	Appreciation /Report
February 12	Street Fair Planning Meeting	Roger Dunn	
<b>SOCIAL &amp; SERVICE</b>			
March 25 Sunday	Epping Street Fair	Roger Dunn	
<b>HOSPITALITY THIS WEEK – Ken Owler</b>			

*This Week's Meeting*

***EPPING STREET FAIR – 25 March***

Megan Miller, Special Events Co-ordinator & Adam Khuhak, Marketing Co-ordinator, from the Epping Club will be our guests at next Monday's Dinner Meeting. In conjunction with me they will address the club regarding the Epping Street Fair to be held on 25-03-2007. This shall be followed by a member's forum.

*Last Week's Meeting*



Our Guest Speaker last week was Mick Warren who told us about the Royal Flying Doctor Service and all the wonderful work they do in remote areas of Australia

Anne Bryce has changed her home email. The new email address is [annebryce@iprimus.com.au](mailto:annebryce@iprimus.com.au)



### **LETS GO!**

All the SRA trippers to Siberia in 2005 will remember Natasha and Vladamir from the Rotary Club of Baikal-Eco Centennial. Natasha, Vladamir and Natasha's mother Tatiana all looked after us in Irkutsk and at Lake Baikal.

Natasha and Vladamir got married just before Christmas and in March they are coming to Australia organised by Rotary and State Parks and Wildlife, to study trail making in NSW.

PDG Barry Philps and Pam Hudson (Nth Rocks Rotary) are assisting in organizing the visit. They will be working with State Parks in the Blue Mountains, and possibly in the Mt Kosciusko area as well. They arrive March 20<sup>th</sup> and will leave May 5<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully we will be able to get them along to our club for a meeting or two.

**NATASHA AND VLADAMIR TO VISIT AUSTRALIA IN MARCH/APRIL**

## *The Return of Flash Jack*

### **Flash Jack's DOWN WITH GRAFFITI ODE**

*Graffiti is such ghastly stuff, as everybody knows,  
And them what squirts it over walls is drongos, I suppose,  
A mob of misbegotten twits, a pack of yobbo dills,  
Who vandalise our world, and why? For egocentric thrills!*



*Imagine, if you will, an outcast shunned by man and beast,  
A very down-and-outer, with his kinfolk all deceased;*

*No thing in life to buoy him up, no star to guide his way,  
With just a spray can in his hand to help him through each day.*

*Your wall confronting him is symbol of life's emptiness,  
Its bareness and its blank expanse invite his warm caress,  
A little squirt of red just here, a big black one right there,  
And he (or she!!!) has left a mark, one step up from despair.*

*But on the other hand, this clot might live next door to you,  
His home a picture of refinement, elegance and view  
To rival Johnnie Howard's out of sunny Kirribilli.  
Aw, strike me lucky! How could such a nice kid be so silly?*

*There wouldn't be a mum or dad (or uncle, for that matter)  
From Vacluse or Kemp's Creek or even lovely Parramatta  
Would think his little pet could be so nasty, so malignant  
As to daub a wall with words of every shape and pigment.*

*I tell you, it's a crime and nobody should pass the buck  
But take up arms against this sea of vandalistic muck,  
Dob in the perpetrators of graffiti with élan  
And lobby for the quick demise of paint in a spray can.*

*Or you could join with Jolly Johnnie Edwards and his mates  
Who've pledged themselves to expunge nonsense from walls, doors a gates,  
Restoring pristine beauty and carte blancheness overall.  
For those Spraycan Picassos, mate, 'the writing's on the wall!'*

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### *Graffiti in Canada Bay*

Canada Bay Council introduced a comprehensive Graffiti Prevention Strategy in 2005. As part of the strategy they invested \$75,000 buying a special truck and committed \$63,000 to ongoing support each year.

***As part of its strategy Council assists property owners removing graffiti from private property with the consent of the owner and the cost being shared between to council and the property owner***

The Council has introduced a Community Graffiti Committee and is actively working with police, local schools and

the community implementing programs to report, remove and prevent graffiti. ***Photos of graffiti are taken and sent electronically to the police.*** Council statistics showed a 33% drop in reported graffiti from the July 2005 compared to the July 2006 quarter. The Council believes its rapid removal strategy is working well.

*Perhaps there are some ideas for us. Why don't we also think about some small stickers saying "Epping Rotary has removed the graffiti and have sent photos to the police"*

### *Report from Nicole Bowman*

Here is an extract from Nicole's Ambassadorial Report to Rotary. As you would expect Nicole has a number of insightful comments. If you would like to see the full report Roger has a copy.

*"I went with Epping Rotary Club on a service trip to Vanuatu. We utilized the principles of sustainable development and helped teach carpentry skills to the community youth on Tanna Island. The local hospital was in dire need of repairs. Instead of performing the tasks ourselves, we empowered local teenagers with the knowledge and skills necessary for performing the tasks so that after our departure, they would be able to sustain ongoing quality and maintenance. We definitely embodied the philanthropic adage, "Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime." Additionally, I took on a personal goal of forming friendships with the teens, and developing the "human" side of our humanitarian trip. Instead of spending all my free time bonding with only my Rotarian team mates, I would attempt to bond with the kids through simple activities like sharing sticks of sugarcane, trading my Western outfits for their traditional clothes, or having the girls braid my hair. After our trip, I mailed the kids copies of my photos that I had taken throughout our week together. For more details and photos, please reference my online website, at [www.travelblog.org/bloggers/nikoleta](http://www.travelblog.org/bloggers/nikoleta).*

*One sunny spring afternoon, I accompanied Epping Rotarians on a community event called "The Golden Oldies Cruise." We picked up elderly people from local nursing homes, and brought them out on a river cruise into the heart of Sydney. Some local high school children also volunteered with us, and together we served refreshments to the attendees. One Rotarian organized a time of singing, and everybody enjoyed participating. It was truly a fabulous community service activity, and I'd be highly interested in investigating whether our Seattle clubs do similar activities for our local elderly and shut-ins; if not, I'd definitely be willing to help implement that tradition here!*

*The above are only a few examples of my efforts to serve as an ambassador of goodwill. The example that probably most changed my life, however, was my service trip to Vanuatu. After spending hours in the classroom learning about international communication and sustainable development, it was immensely rewarding to solidify the theories into practicum, which in turn solidified my desire to pursue a philanthropic career and future. Although I had participated in previous international service trips prior to arriving in Sydney, this was the first trip I had attended that utilized the principles of sustainable development, instead of performing service work that simply endorsed the endless cycle of external aid and volunteer assistance.*

*Having talked with fellow ambassadorial scholars also being hosted in Sydney, Australia, I feel MOST privileged and appreciative of my sponsor and host Rotarians, Erik Gulmann and Roger Dunn. Both sponsor and host counsellors were very skilled in hospitality and at initiating contact. I felt like I had a rock-solid support network that neither smothered or babied me, nor abandoned me (and given stories I hear from other scholars, I feel very lucky to have had such involved, nurturing, and empowering counsellors). For me, I had the perfect mix of being treated like a self-*

sufficient adult and dependant child.

*I would highly recommend that the Foundation change its expectations or rules to include that a scholar MUST attend the weekly meetings and that the counsellors should assist or organize weekly transportation for the scholars. If a scholar has a mandatory class (not an elective) that conflicts with the schedule of his or her host club's weekly meeting times, I would strongly recommend the reassignment to another host club with which the scholar can bond on a more regular basis. If the Foundation wishes not to make weekly attendance a requirement (except for warranted reasons, of course), then I would suggest advocating to scholars that they definitely OUGHT to attend the weekly meetings, and make sure the Foundation articulates the numerous recreational and relational BENEFITS that arise from that commitment. Additionally, I personally attest that scholars will gain a much more direct and deep understanding of how Rotary functions by attending those weekly meetings."*

*Nicole*

### *Bowelscan*

Thursday 15th February - Bowelscan stock will arrive by truck at North Rocks at 10am. The Rotary Club of Carlingford will be helping us to unload the truck and set up stock for our Friday and Saturday distribution to participating clubs.

All clubs collecting stock have been asked to do so between 9:30 am and 3:00 pm on either Friday 16th or Saturday 17th February.

Would you please stress at the President's meeting: all Sydney clubs who have not collected their stock on Friday to do so before 3:00 pm on Saturday 17th - 'Presidents to contact and advise Bowelscan coordinators'.

Yours in Rotary  
Walter Leijten

### *Out & About with Paul & Stan*

**Respite from the Air.** Mick Warren, our speaker last Monday brought us up to date with the Royal flying Doctor Service and the contribution it is making throughout the country through the health and medical assistance it gives to those needing care in country and remote areas of our nation and has done so since its formation in 1928. Mick indicated that there is no patient in Australia, the Service cannot reach within two hours from 22 bases across the country with the fleet of 50 high speed aircraft fitted with state -of- the - art medical equipment in recent days by 136 pilots, 115 doctors and 117 nurses. Truly a remarkable story! Mick, an Australian, still retains that engaging Lancashire Accent.

**Another Zorro.** PP Graham Stevens and Carol, we hear, recently paid another visit to New Zealand to catch up with son Andrew and Daughter-in-Law Angelique and their young son Devon .Devon has just celebrated his sixth Birthday and presented

with a new pup with the adventurous and great name of Zorro – the name with which all boys of yesteryear are familiar. With Zorro at his side Devon’s life will certainly be full of adventure and no doubt leave quite a mark! Devon attends the local school nearby at Browns Bay on Auckland’s pleasant North Shore  
Our Best wishes to young Devon and his new pal Zorro.

**A Polio Plus Reminder** . From time to time it does well to muse on our organisation and what it is achieving on a worldwide basis and remind ourselves of the significant contribution for good this organisation to which we belong is making .and be pleased that we are a part of it. One major achievement, not highlighted as much ,locally, as perhaps it should, is the Polio Plus Program .Not so many may be aware that the World Health Organisation is a spearheading partner with Rotary to rid the world of Polio. To that end Rotary has raised more than US\$ 600 million to eradicate polio and almost every Rotarian has donated his or her time and money to protect more than two billion children in 122 countries. As a result ,the number of confirmed polio cases has decreased from 350.000 in 1988 to just more than 1,500 in 2005. (From RDU October2006)  
An organisation of which each member can be very proud. Is this not so?

### Thoughts for the Road Ahead.

Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal  
My strength lies solely in my *tenacity* **Louis Pasteur**  
Never run away from anything. Never ! **Winston Churchill**  
Keep adding, keep walking, keep advancing, do not stop, do not turn back, do not turn from the straight road **Saint Augustine**  
If you have a lemon, make lemonade **Dale Carnegie**

### Anniversaries and Birthdays

#### Membership Anniversaries

Ken Owler      February 14    13 Years

#### Birthdays

Stan Ledger    February    19

*Paul & Stan*



*A justifiably proud grandfather*

*Editor's note: Reports for RIM should be sent to [stevenscg@optusnet.com.au](mailto:stevenscg@optusnet.com.au) by Thursday evening each week*

## **Advance Australia Fair**

*Australians all let us  
rejoice,  
For we are young and free,  
We've golden soil and  
wealth for toil,  
Our home is girt by sea.  
Our land abounds in  
nature's gifts,  
Of beauty rich and rare,  
In history's page, let every  
stage  
Advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us  
sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.*

## **Rotary Grace**

*O Lord and giver of all  
good,  
We thank thee for our  
daily food,  
May Rotary friends and  
Rotary ways,  
Help us to serve thee all  
our days.*