



## President Elect Roger's Report

I'm grateful to Jeremy Charles, District Rotaract Representative Elect, for standing in at virtually the final minute to address our club last Monday night. This was due to our guest speaker, Leisl Gauci, District Rotaract Representative, being struck down by one of the viruses doing the circuit. We trust Leisl has returned to good health.

Jeremy informed us of the many benefits arising from Rotaract Clubs being closely associated with local Rotary Clubs. These include:

- Image of Rotary improving with younger people (between ages of 18 – 30) becoming part and parcel of the total local scene. The public currently tend to think of Rotary as a lot of “do good, old fuddy duddies”.
- We will have better cross section representation across vocations, and be considered more “with it”.
- The number of able bodies increases, giving a perceived bigger and much improved presence amongst our community.
- Projects requiring more man power can be undertaken, and will relieve certain members by their not having to take on so much - as can on occasions presently occur.
- Additional innovative projects are generated. Often amongst the younger generation.
- Rotaractors shall help keep us “thinking young”.
- As Rotaractors near the age of 30 they can apply to join the associated Rotary Club. Thus boosting membership numbers, whilst bringing the median age level down.
- Increased vitality should just naturally occur.



We must ensure as Rotarians that we adequately support the new Rotaract Club. This includes attending their meetings, and providing what ever help and assistance is required on an on going regular basis. In turn they need representation at our meetings, to thereby enable good up to date communications at all times.

We have membership interest from two past members, including the Vice President, of The Macquarie

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”*

University Rotaract Club - which just fizzled out, after commencing just a couple of years ago, due to a variety of factors I believe - most noticeably lack of adequate Rotary support. In our venture we are being backed in turn by The Macquarie Park Rotary Club, and The North Ryde Rotary Club – the latter were the originator of The Macquarie University Rotaract Club. Vanessa Sokalik, from The Shack and our RYLA Awardee 2006-07, has also shown interest in becoming a Rotaractor.

As mentioned I am giving my assistance to the Heart Foundation by volunteering for the Door knock Appeal which I'll conduct in my home street between Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September and Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007. I'm giving my support because of the wonderful work they do as experienced personally last year, but for them I may not be alive today. I'm aware that a number of other club members have also had serious heart problems quite recently. I urge support from club members that may be able to be part of this appeal. Please contact me if you would like to register.

Kevin Moloney, Manager of Community Services, City of Ryde, whom I've been liaising with, is to address our club on 15<sup>th</sup> October regarding what can be provided by his council to back up this New Rotaract Club(s) Project. He is keen to give overall council assistance and has grant money available for such a plan. It is my intention for us to speak to his counterparts, at both Parramatta and Hornsby Councils, to see if they can also be helpful.

Great news in learning last Monday that our chosen applicants for the NYSF (National Youth Science Forum), Holstein Wong and Rory Tarnow-Mordi, have been successful. Our thanks go to the clubs interviewing panel: John Payne, John Edwards, Monica Saville and Peter Slattery for making these selections.

This Monday night President Peter will be back in the chair having returned from his European holiday, with batteries recharged no doubt. Thanks everyone for help and assistance in making the last 4 weeks so enjoyable for me whilst standing in for Peter. Welcome back Pete.

Yours in Rotary,

*Roger*

Roger Dunn, President Elect.

### **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*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Avenue of Service</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Mon 6th August	Club Assembly	Club	
Mon 13th August	Helen Games RC of Glenhaven	International	E.Timor Teacher Training
Mon 20th August	Membership Night Health/Well-being Topic	Club	
Mon 27th August	Greg Smith Local State Member	Community	

Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Austerity Night The Shack	International	
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> September	RYLA An organiser's perspective	Youth	Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly
<b>Social &amp; Service</b>			
Sat/Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> September	District Conference Planning weekend at Bathurst	Club	Graham Stevens

**HOSPITALITY THIS WEEK –**

**What's on this week?**

Club Assembly

**Youth Service Report**

**Michael Sullivan's Monthly Report for June and July 2007.**

he months of June and July have been rather interesting for me. As I have already written, I stayed in a castle, but also, the summer holidays began and with this we saw most of the old exchange students return to their homelands. This was an interesting thing to witness but it was also quite sad as we had to say goodbye to many of the new friends we had made.

So a good place to begin would be after my experiences at burg Feuerstein which I previously wrote about. Basically after these holidays, school continued as usual, however the atmosphere became a little more tense with final exams for the year and the prospect of the upcoming reports! (I don't know if I received a report; I was a little confused by the process however I'll check when I get back). However for me, school life continued to be pretty relaxed as usual and though I have a now a pretty good grasp on the language, the real work lay in trying to understand what was going on in classes such as Philosophy and Biology. What was interesting though is when I asked my German friends what the lesson was about, they seemed to not have much of a clue either!

In the last week of school, we had to so goodbye to a friend from the USA, Erin, as she returned home from her exchange. We threw her a surprise party which turned out to be a pleasant evening at which we spent most of the time playing a rather extreme any-thing-goes version of badminton. This was great as I got to know some of my class mates a bit better but also sad as Erin and I had kept each other amused through many a long, and I regret to say, totally boring Biology class. We said our final goodbye to her on Tuesday

19<sup>th</sup> June when Ramika (from Japan), Dan (from Romania) and I (from Australia) all had lunch in Düren together. This was sad but a great day!

Next to go was Ramika, so we saw her off at the airport the following Thursday and then Dan left on the Friday. These were my main exchange student friends who went to my school and now I'm the only one left! It was sad to see them go but I look forward to getting to know many more exchangers!

On the 27<sup>th</sup> June, Rotary held a Harp Concert in a local art gallery in Düren for the induction of the new president. The harpist was Han-An Liu, a professor of the harp from Munich. This was an amazing evening as the pieces she played were absolutely beautiful and she was almost acrobatic in the way she played. After this they formally thanked the guests and undertook the formal induction of the new president (in both German and French as we had visiting clubs from France, Belgium and the Netherlands). Afterward, we had drinks and finger food in the adjoining hall (this gallery is one of the few older buildings remaining in Düren and is absolutely beautiful!). I was able to get to know many of the Rotarians and their wives a lot better and also got to know the incoming president of the Netherlands Club of Heerlen. He invited me to a meeting of his club that Friday as Rotarians from my club would be attending. So it was organised so that I could join them that Friday.

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June I attended the meeting in the Netherlands which also turned out to be the induction meeting for the incoming president as well as the first meeting in which the members of the club formerly reported on their new duties! I discovered that I can understand a little Dutch as it shares some similarities with German and English, however I didn't understand enough to know what was happening!

They also presented me with a banner and a badge so that I could remember the club and that day! Afterwards I was able to chat with some of the members of this club as well. They had also hosted an exchange student however she found it too difficult and returned home. I think I was nice for them to see someone who was enjoying and getting involved in their exchange!

After this I had a pretty relaxed holiday just meeting with friends and sleeping in. At the moment I'm living with my Counsellor just for this holiday period. The holiday didn't stay relaxed for long though as an exciting opportunity arose for me to travel with a friend Lauren (currently on exchange in Belgium) and her mother through Belgium and London (however due to recent events we thought it best if I gave the London leg of the journey a miss which was a shame).

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July I was trying to help my host parents get ready for a dinner party that evening (for which I had baked, and taught my host mother to bake, 2 Pavlovas, which I later heard was a bit of a hit with the guests) when Lauren called and asked if I could be in Belgium that evening as we were going to make a trip the next morning. So I quickly threw everything I could into my bag, organised the trains I needed to catch, then pretty much left straight away! (a rather stressful but exciting and encouraging experience as I managed it all by myself and didn't make one mistake on my way there!). I caught the Rurtal Bahn from Jülich to Düren, then the Regional Express to Aachen, then the Inter City Express from Aachen to Liege (in German Liege is Lüttich). It was interesting to discover that as I was travelling, most people didn't realise that I was not German, which is really cool as it makes me feel like I've penetrated the culture a bit.

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July we travelled to Brugge, a very old city in Belgium which is a little touristy but is very beautiful. I think we managed to visit every church in Brugge and possibly every chocolate shop as well. Brugge has a beautiful canal system on which you can make tours through the old sections of the city by boat. We however took the hard core route by foot. If we were to add up the amount of time we spent walking that day, it would probably amount to over six hours.

That evening we went to the house of Lauren's first host parents which was good as the mother new how to cook gluten free which was excellent! We also spent time helping the older brother and his girlfriend look for apartments in Australia.

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> we went to the Markets in Liege which is the biggest of its kind in Europe and really

interesting. The two things that amazed me most were one, you could buy pigeons there, and two, there were so many stores with the same poor quality products (so many shoes!). After this we returned the home of Lauren's second host family (where we were bunking). They took us to the Baptism of their new grandchild which was certainly an interesting experience as I didn't have a clue as to what was going on as it was all in French. However it was really nice and all the people were very friendly even though we had only a little English and a little French to get by on, but it somehow worked! It's interesting how on exchange you learn to understand people even when there is the language barrier! It also helped having Lauren there for the odd French translation or two!

That afternoon we caught the train to Brussels and went out to dinner in the Grand Place in the centre of the old city which was beautiful as they had a light show at about ten which lit up the Town Hall and was very pretty. Brussels is generally a very beautiful city but it does have a problem with pick pockets, however we didn't encounter any!

The next day (Monday 16<sup>th</sup>) we decided to do our own tour of Brussels and visited the major cathedrals and other significant sights as well as enjoying a nice lunch in a café and later, Belgian chips with mayo (though I reckon the mayo was a bit off as it looked a bit yellow and later, I was a bit sick!)

We also found a nice little Thai restaurant where we ate dinner. We had decided to spend two nights in Brussels so we could meet Steph who was arriving at Brussels airport the next day. (Steph was returning to Belgium from exchange in our district in Australia where he was in the same group as Jade who was hosted by my family).

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> we got up early to go meet Steph at the airport however we managed to get on the wrong train as it came in late at the exact time as the train we were supposed to catch. So we actually ended up at the train terminal and had to wait while they washed a train. They gave us a lift to the nearest station and even stopped a train for us! This was amusing as we arrived at the airport later than we had hoped however we were right on time for Steph. What was also amusing was another Belgian man was stuck with us on the train, and began cursing and calling the conductor rather profane and amusing names! After meeting Steph at the airport we returned to Liege and slept!

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, Steph's parents invited us to stay with them for a couple of nights. We travelled there by train (by the way, the Belgian rail system is nowhere near as efficient as the German system!) which was a couple hours journey. During this train ride there was a large group of girl scouts riding in the same carriage and when they chose to get off I was assaulted by an assortment of camping packs and gear (ok so maybe assaulted is a too strong a word however I was a little bruised by this experience). Lauren and her mother found this quite amusing as I had to dodge a bag every time one of the girls would turn to talk to a friend! We eventually got to Steph's house and that evening he took us to meet some of his friends which was nice as they were rather friendly and keen to talk to us!

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> we went to a monastery called Duval where the monks there brewed Beer and made cheese. This monastery is very beautiful and we were able to walk around some of the older sections of the complex! This was really quite an amazing experience as you are able to see the progression of the development of the monastery. This monastery is located about 30km from France and very close to Luxembourg which we actually drove into briefly! That evening we watched a video of Steph's final presentation in Australia and had a nice BBQ dinner. This was the first time I'd passed a rugby ball around in a long time so I was absolutely stoked! On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> we relaxed in the morning (by morning, I really mean afternoon as we were allowed to sleep in a lot!). That evening we said goodbye to Steph and his family who had been so kind to us and are extremely friendly people!

That evening we also met Lauren's brother Shaun, cousin Andrew and two friends from their Uni, all of whom had done some sort of exchange program or gap year. Shaun and one of the girls actually spoke German. The closest I had come to it that week was Flemish (I can understand some of the writing!), so by this time I was missing speaking German (so I don't know what I'm going to do when I get back to Australia). That evening we went out in Liege and had a nice dinner and chatted with a really friendly waiter

in the restaurant (he actually gave his number to one of the girls). We ended up staying in Liege as there were no trains back to the host parents' house.

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> we went briefly back to Laurens host parents' house and then to her first host parents' for dinner. Then we all went into Liege together and had a very pleasant evening after which we returned to Lozz's host parents and slept. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, I said goodbye to everyone, thanked Lauren's host parents for their hospitality, and then returned home in less than 2 hours (which is pretty fast considering it's a completely different country!).

Since then I have spent a couple days working on my Blazer and on my presentation which I'll have to present in English at an upcoming camp as it is an international camp!  
I consider myself very lucky as I will miss out on two weeks of school!

All's going well living with my Counsellor and I'm going to miss them as it has been really enjoyable. Their two little kids have been fun and it's been just a great family to live with however I've found all my host families great! These holidays have been really excellent!  
Jülich is a beautiful town to live in with its tracks along the Ruhr River where you can walk or ride a bike - it is just a really pleasant place to live.

Bis Nächster mal  
Freundlicher grüße  
Michael.

## Bathurst or Bush 7-9 September 2007

Fellows, we are giving you the choice of visiting beautiful Bathurst in the Springtime or being gridlocked in Sydney with George Bush and APEC.

The Bathurst Conference committee is planning a weekend away for members and partners in Bathurst from Friday 7 September to Sunday 9 September. This will be a chance for Epping members to see the Bathurst that you won't see when you are involved in delivering Monica's Conference in Bathurst next year from 6-9 March 2008.

We have organised some sightseeing, some good restaurants and a chance to familiarise yourself with Bathurst and the venues for the conference. We are also expecting a contingent from Carlingford Club so there will be an opportunity to meet the people you will be working with at the conference.

We are hoping to stay at the Bathurst Country Comfort motel where room rates range from \$126 to \$158 per night but we are negotiating a better rate. Please discuss with your partners and let me know on Monday night if you would like to come along for a great social weekend.

Graham Stevens

## JEREMY CHARLES\* ... on ROTARACT

Up stood Jeremy on his feet,  
A right good way to stand,  
His thoughts on *Rotaract* complete,  
His palm cards in his hand.  
He fixed us with his steely gaze  
And took a fighting stance ...  
Well might one think he would amaze  
Just from one's merest glance.  
Said he that *Rotaract's* a place  
Where young folk meet to share  
Each with a very earnest face,  
And each one quite aware  
That **SERVICE ABOVE SELF's** the way  
To give one's fellow man (or woman!)  
A better chance to work and play  
And live much better every day  
Regardless of one's feeble clay ...  
They do the best they can.  
"Feel free, friends all, to take us on  
And use our grand resource,  
Our skills, our sweat and tears, upon  
Your projects and, of course,  
Do please refrain from putting us  
To menial tasks because  
We need a proper syllabus,  
To ride a well-bred horse."  
Oh, Jeremy was eloquent,  
He gave us all the drum.  
Young Jeremy, you are a gent ...  
We're glad that you have come.

\* Guest Speaker - 30JUN07 **Flash Jack**

## Out & About with Paul & Stan

**Timely News.** It was so pleasing to see the photographs of our new members and article about our club in last week's edition of the Northern District Times. It is some time since we have had the publicity which we have been receiving of late. Congratulations to PP Graham Stevens. He has been doing excellent work in ensuring that the newspaper receives news of our club operations and achievements, including that personal aspect which clinches the interests of journalists and editors responsible for determining what will be published. Well done Graham!

**Another Enjoyable Interlude.** We have had many a sergeant in the life of our club. It is clear though that double PP John Goddard is one of the very best if not the best. Algy Morris was outstanding when in flight in his day and hard to beat, however, John, recently, has been outstanding, particularly last Monday Evening, excelling himself, engaging everyone with his repartee and humour, lifting the meeting to a "good to be there" level! Not too many in District 9680 would be up there with him. Thanks again John!

**A Trek up North.** Secretary Peter Tugwell, Libby and family, had an interesting trip up north for two and a half weeks during the recent school holidays. After flying into Darwin, where Libby's dad, during World War II was a Naval Diver surviving Japanese air attacks, they hired a land cruiser and set off for Litchfield National Park, where waterfalls abound and enjoyed a swim in the beautiful cool waters there. Then to

Kakadu National Park, a home of crocodiles and birds and birds of every description. A trip on the East Alligator River was a highlight perhaps a little hair raising with all those crocodiles about! However, they were adventurous and intrepid enough to drive at night to the local boat ramp and shine lights from a respectable distance on to the river and see the appearance of those crocodile non inviting red eyes floating by! On through Katherine to Mataranka and the hot springs there, thence to Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and the Alice Springs Show, Uluru and the Olgas. Each member of the family climbed Uluru –quite a feat especially for Jessie, William and James! Having travelled an exciting and eye opening 3300 kms, after Uluru they were homeward bound!

**A Rotaract Message.** Jeremy Charles, strong advocate for Rotaract ,our speaker last Monday evening presented a warm and young person’s perspective on the operations of Rotaract He spoke about issues to which our club should give consideration, when forming such a club.He compared the plusses and minuses of forming a club for young people from a commercial environment to one for those at a university – one which he favoured and outlined the reasons why he did so. He stressed the need for close interaction between Rotary and the members of Rotaract. Rotarians should involve Rotaractors with Rotary Programs and vice -versa, ensuring that they can claim ownership and responsibility for a program or a segment of a program .He indicated that he was hopeful that our club would form a Rotaract Club at Macquarie University.

### **Anniversaries and Birthdays**

#### Membership Anniversaries

Ross Hinton August 5 11 Years

No Birthdays this 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.*

### **Notes:**