



**Board Directors**

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 Vocation & Internal Leadership: Norma Donaldson  
 International & Foundation: Neale Emanuel  
 Youth Development: Gary Scott

Bulletin: Robin Cromer/John Gray  
 Attendance Chief: Norma Donaldson  
 Attendance Desk: Bernadette Cappello  
 Program: Phil Ibbotson  
 Sergeant: Neale Emanuel/David Fox & Gary Scott  
 Archives: Keith Avent  
 Member Data: Ken Goard  
 Webmaster: Robin Cromer

**Contact Information**

PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606  
 Secretary: [keith.avent@bigpond.com](mailto:keith.avent@bigpond.com)  
 Web: <http://www.rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden>

**Organiser of the Rotary Scenic Cycle Tour of Canberra.  
 Held annually in September.**



# THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WODEN

## ROTARY ON OPERA HOUSE SAILS

Rotary International, celebrated its 104th birthday on Monday, February 23, by beaming the words “END POLIO NOW – THANKS ROTARY” on the sails of the Sydney Opera House. On the same night, a similar message was beamed on other well known world buildings such as the British Houses of Parliament in London, UK, and the United Nations Building in New York, USA, to highlight the pending culmination of Rotary’s twenty year crusade to rid the world of the crippling childhood disease, Poliomyelitis .

“By illuminating these historic landmarks with our pledge to end polio, Rotary clubs are announcing to the world that we will not stop until the goal is achieved,” said Jonathan Majiyagbe, chair of The Rotary Foundation, which oversees Rotary’s polio eradication program. “We hope people everywhere will see these words – either in person or through the media – and join with us and our partners in this historic effort to rid the world of polio once and for all.”

## The back page

This bulletin’s name reflects the ancient Scandinavian God Woden or Odin – the supreme God and Alfadur (All-Father). He drew wisdom from the well of the Giant Mimir. He had two ravens called Hugin and Munin (Thought and Memory) who flew forth every day and returned at night to tell him what they had seen, so contributing to his wisdom. The land bought in 1837 by classical scholar Dr James Murray was named ‘Woden’. From 1962 onwards Woden Town was built on that land.



## Attendance last week

**Speaker:** Peter Budd  
**Other Club guests:** Andrew Savoulidis, Eric Noitakis & Robyn Singleton  
**Visiting Rotarians:** Mike Rodd  
**Other Guests:** John & Jacki Cauchi, Helen Sahhar & Jenny Fox.  
**Members present:** 25  
**Makeups:** 1 (John Widdup)  
**Percentage:** 89.65

## APOLOGIES

**BY 3 PM TUESDAY**  
 Norma Donaldson  
 6231 6680  
[normad@apex.net.au](mailto:normad@apex.net.au)

## DINNER ROSTER

	THIS WEEK - 4 March	NEXT WEEK – 11 March
<b>Program</b>	Tamara Wilcock The new Australian	DG Phil Mewett District Governor’s visit
<b>Introduction</b>	Norma Donaldson	Shukry Sahhar
<b>Appreciation</b>	Lyn Svanosio	Shukry Sahhar
<b>Fellowship</b>	Piers Booth Bish Mukerjee	Des Pain Alec Philip
<b>Raven Recorder</b>	Ros Osbourne	Gary Scott
<b>Birthdays</b>	Jeff Ibbotson 4/3, Janet Mukerjee 5/3	Ian Excell 9/3
<b>Anniversaries</b>	Nil	Nil

## Canberra Show Parking

Last weekend was the culmination of many weeks of intensive planning activity by Gary Scott, our show parking specialist. Approximately 12,000 cars were parked over the three days. Gary had to contend with many changes from previous years but he really rose to the occasion. This year, for the first time, we had a number of Rotarians from the recently founded Rotary Club of Gungahlin, including Vicky and Julie seen here with Gary.



We look forward to a report tonight from our leader on how we finished up.

## Dates for your diary

**8 March** – Black Opal parking  
**13 to 15 March** – Social weekend at Thredbo  
**Sat 30 May** – Our Club’s 40th Anniversary Event

## TONIGHT

**We welcome tonight**  
**Tamara Wilcock**  
**The new Australian**

**March is Polio Eradication/Literacy Month**

## Last Week

Everyone was greeted by Sergeant Neale after which President Shukry was given a tumultuous welcome!

Our Guest Speaker was Peter Budd who was introduced by Piers Booth. He spoke on “political, economic and environmental issues in the South Pacific”. Peter is Director of the Pacific Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is Victorian-born with degrees in Arts and Political Science from Latrobe University.

Rotary has a presence in the Pacific and although having never been to a Rotary meeting he has been aware of the valuable support given to countries overseas. In particular he mentioned working parties, medical and other professionals, builders etc. who have contributed to special needs that have arisen in the South Pacific.

There are other visitors to the region, State, political, diplomatic and trade representatives who deserve special recognition with a public reception. Diplomacy is needed to avoid irritating encounters between our and their leaders.

For visitors a feast is in order and a spit-roast pig features. This is where the guest is embarrassed. Without any instruction in the technique he will be required to stun and kill the offered animal.

The challenges which need to be faced in the South Pacific Region are numerous. Overall this involves their economy and

development. Many Governments are immature democracies managed by equally inexperienced public servants.

Education is a problem with inadequate buildings and teaching materials and there is a diversity of language. Other issues surround land tenure, and there are hereditary rights conflicts with population increase.

In relation to private sector investment, the Australian banks in the region are very helpful. However the present economic crisis will not help trade and tourism.

Natural resources are also scarce. Fisheries are under threat with the high competitive cost of licenses favouring international companies.

There are environmental challenges – the people wish to be helped to stay as weather changes impinge on their small communities.

Our immigration people and the AFP are cooperating against illicit drugs and narcotics in border patrols.

Pacific Partnership in Development is an arrangement to encourage joint developments and facilities. There is a need for suitable people to lead and teach strengthening the indigenous structures.

Norma Donaldson gave the appreciation drawing attention to the wealth of information presented which added to her teaching experience on the region, with ethnic mixes in the class-room.

## Message from Norma Donaldson!

Many THANKS to all those who wrote their APOLOGIES in the RED BOOK last week - it is sooo much more reliable than just telling me at the dinner table. Also many thanks to all who EMAIL notice of their ABSENCES. It is also useful to receive written confirmation that you will be coming if you have been away for a time. It makes the dinner orders much more accurate. - Norma D



## Club News

**Somchai Yaeso:** Piers gave an update on Somchai following surgery a year ago in Canberra under the ROMAC program, to repair damage to his ankle arising from polio. He is going well – he is able to move a lot faster and do more things. He is pain-free.

**ROMAC (Rotary Overseas Aid for Children):** ROMAC is bringing an 11 year old Fijian child to Canberra for surgery in March and a host home is needed for the mother and child for about 6 weeks. Any offers? Please contact Piers Booth for more details.

**Trachoma:** Piers Booth reported that a plan for eradication of trachoma from Australian indigenous communities was set out in 2006 for more intense management. He will look further at progress on this and report further to the club. A few days later the Prime Minister announced the government’s intention to eradicate trachoma. Is this something that could be tackled by Rotary along the lines of the PolioPlus program?

RAVEN REPORTER

Ken Goard

PHOTOGRAPHER

John Gray

## Welcome Robyn Singleton!

John Widdup presented to members for induction Robyn Singleton. Robyn is a Victorian who has been a resident of Canberra for 27 years. Her tertiary education is in mathematics, statistics and genetics at Latrobe. Later she qualified as a Careers Advisor.



Her present appointment is at Dickson College. She has a daughter, a medical graduate and a son in final year physiotherapy. Her interests are in bushwalking, hiking and cycling with the more relaxing page-turning activity of a book club. Last year she did the 1,600 km *le Tour de Murray* with John Widdup and 22 others. Another cyclist!

Her classification is “Education – Mathematics”.

## Excellence in Service Award

“Xtreme Bean” was the enticing title for Norma Donaldson to introduce the recipient of an *Excellence in Service Award*.



She with other members of her U3A Water-Colour Painters gather at the above Xtreme Bean Café in Woden for talk over their experiences, exchanging pallet and brush for coffee cup and cake.

So impressed have they been with the attention and service received they nominated the Café, the proprietor of which is Andrew Savoulidis, for this award which he graciously accepted.