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Previous Issues of the Raven:

<http://www.rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden>

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

The back page

An email virus has been causing great concern, mostly to those who were born prior to 1960.

This virus causes you to send the same e-mail twice, it causes you to send a blank e-mail, it can cause you to forget to attach the attachment and it can even cause you to hit "DELETE" instead of "SEND".

Watch out for it, the virus is called the "C-NILE virus"!

Last week's attendance

Guest Speaker: Dr Frank Bowden
Club guests: Robyn Singleton
Visiting Rotarians: Mal Ferguson (Weston)
Members: 27 **Makeups:** 1
Countable: 24 **Percent:** 86.2%

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Norma Donaldson
 6231 6680
normad@apex.net.au

DINNER ROSTER

Program	This week - 25 February	Next week - 4 March
	Peter Budd - South Pacific: Political, Economic & Environmental issues	Tamara Wilcock The new Australian
Introduction	Piers Booth	Norma Donaldson
Appreciation	Norma Donaldson	Lyn Svanosio
Fellowship	Gary Scott	Piers Booth
	Jeff Ibbotson	Bish Mukerjee
Raven Recorder	Ken Goard	Ros Osbourne
Birthdays	Christine Bell 22/2	Jeff Ibbotson 4/3, Janet Mukerjee 5/3
Anniversaries		



THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WODEN

The Hut Project - Glebe Park

The hut was designed and created by the Bengali Cultural Association of Canberra with support from the ACT government, The Rotary Club of Woden, The Home Loan Centre and Target Travel & Tours, Brisbane. The display items are courtesy of members of the Indian community in Canberra

This hut symbolises one word that best describes India and also multiculturalism: *Diversity*. It is like many in rural India, with their walls of clay and roofs of paddy straw providing shelter for millions. Though simple and basic



these dwellings often reflect the regional flavour with their simplistic decorations.

As you enter the replica hut, the foot-prints are of Goddess *Lakshmi*, the goddess of wealth. The front panels are decorated with *Alpana*, a style prevalent in the eastern state of West Bengal. The exterior of the side panels portray rural scenes of daily life and festivities and have been inspired by paintings of the *Warli* tribes from the western state of Maharashtra.

Inside there are several artefacts collected from all over India. You will see dolls from Rajasthan and West Bengal, *Dokra* figurines from Madhya Pradesh, dolls made of shells from coastal regions, examples of *Madhubani* paintings from Bihar and *Patachitra* from Kolkata. In essence this is a very modest attempt to capture a glimpse of all the richness in diversity and heritage that makes India a great country.

Dates for your diary

27/28 Feb & 1 March: Canberra Show Parking
8 March: Black Opal parking
11 March: District Governor's visit
13-15 March: Social weekend at Thredbo

Tonight

Peter Budd
Political, Economic & Environmental issues
in the South Pacific

February is World Understanding Month

Guest speaker - Dr Frank Bowden

The End of Infectious Diseases - A False Prophecy.

Des Henderson-Kelly introduced the speaker, who was educated at Melbourne University, then practised at St Vincent's Hospital and later at Fairfield Infections Hospital in Sydney. In 1991, Frank went to the Northern Territory and worked in Aboriginal Health. In 1999, he studied for a Doctorate in Infectious Diseases at Oxford. He came to Canberra in 2002 as Professor of Medicine at A.N.U.

Dr Frank MacFarlane Burnett, recipient of a Nobel Prize, declared an end to infectious diseases in the 1940s, but Frank noted that this is still a long way off!

Sanitation, clean water and good nutrition are the critical factors that have reduced infectious diseases. He listed a number of important human infectious diseases, some of which have been eradicated or controlled but many of which are major problems. He commented that younger mothers today often do not appreciate the importance of vaccinating their children and mentioned the presence of whooping cough in today's society.

Frank described the development of vaccination as the single most important bio-medical invention for humanity. Edward Jenner developed the first vaccine using cowpox to immunize people against Smallpox, which has now been eradicated. The Australian Frank Fenner was a virologist who also worked to abolish smallpox. Polio is another example of the

effectiveness of vaccination. Although a vaccine was not developed until well after the epidemics of the 1950s and 60s, we are close to eradicating Polio from the world.

He referred to a number of other serious infectious diseases. A vaccine was developed for Hepatitis B in the 1980s and today every child in Australia is vaccinated. Hepatitis C was not identified until 1989. It is spread by injecting drug users and contaminated blood products. It poses an enormous threat to health of Australians and currently there is no vaccine available.



Dr Frank Bowden

One third of the world's developing nations have populations which are infected with TB. Multiple drug-resistant strains of TB now exist and this is of great concern. TB may lie dormant for years while a person is healthy but it may become active when the body's defences are weakened. Infection can be detected by a positive result to a Tuberculin Skin Test. Other highly infectious diseases for which no vaccine is available include Malaria, HIV and Dengue Fever. Continued P3

Raven Reporter: Norma Donaldson

Photographs: Robin Cromer

Club news

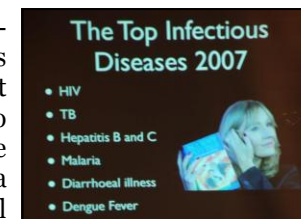
ROMAC: Piers Booth reported on a ROMAC meeting he attended in Sydney. He explained that it was expensive to bring a child into Australia for treatment (\$900-\$1000/day in hospital). He observed that ROMAC is a well organised, highly professional organisation, and this was demonstrated by the success of Somchai's treatment and recovery.

Parking: Gary Scott discussed the timetable for Show Parking (in a little over a week's time). He also requested an indication of interest in helping with another parking job for the Black Opal Stakes, one week after the Show. Sufficient volunteers were available for Gary to proceed.

Newcastle: President Shukry announced that a small group of members will travel to Newcastle for a lunchtime meeting with the Newcastle Rotary Club on 6th April. Awards will be presented to the Newcastle firms which have supported the Kintore Project.

Nasik Road Ambulance: A letter was received from the Rotary Foundation saying thank you for the final report regarding Matching Grant

From P2: The influenza virus mutates rapidly and it is difficult for vaccine production to keep up. A world wide pandemic of influenza could occur and there will be little we can do. Frank emphasised that **we should all be vaccinated annually**. We would be unable to control a pandemic except by



restricting the movement of people, which will be difficult in the modern world.

Hospital-acquired infections are a serious problem and there is not enough hand washing! Medical staff should wash their hands between seeing one patient and the next. Des Henderson-Kelly thanked Frank for a most interesting talk.

The view from our meeting place at the Federal Golf Course!



Project #66965, to

help provide a cardiac ambulance to Jairam Hospital in Nasik Road, Maharashtra, India. The letter notes that as all of the required information has been included, the Foundation will mark the file as closed. Great effort!

Apologies: Norma says **many thanks** to all those who wrote their **apologies** in the **little 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**. In addition, it is 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.