



Board Directors

Other officers

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| President: | Ros Osbourne | Vocational: | Carlo Binutti |
| Secretary & Public Officer: | Keith Avent | Bulletin: | Robin Cromer/John Gray/ Alec Philip & Bruce Wyatt |
| Immediate Past President: | Shukry Sahhar | Attendance Chief: | Norma Donaldson |
| President Elect : | Gary Scott | Program: | Phil Ibbotson |
| Treasurer: | Lyn Svanosio | Sergeant Chief: | Bruce Wyatt |
| Club operations: | Des Pain | PR & Media: | David Fox |
| Membership: | John Widdup | Archives: | Keith Avent |
| Community & Fun: | Bernadette Cappello | Member Data: | Ken Goard |
| Rotary Foundation: | Jeff Ibbotson | Webmaster: | Robin Cromer |
| Youth: | Gary Scott | | |

Previous Issues of the Raven

Web: <<http://www.rotanet.com.au/woden>>

Contact Information

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THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WODEN

Meetings: 6.00 for 6.15 pm Wednesdays, Federal Golf Club, Gowrie Drive, Red Hill

Organiser of the Rotary Spring Cycle Ride of Canberra.

Held annually in September.

Christmas and New Year Message

A time for family - A time for celebration - A time for reflection

One of the pleasures of Christmas is that it is a time when we come together and enjoy our families. We set aside all other activities and spend precious time with our immediate and extended families. Emails, facebook and many other ways of electronic messaging bring those scattered around the world to our family gatherings.

December is Family Month in the World of Rotary, a time to value the contributions our families make in our own Rotary lives. It is also a time to think of the wider family of Rotary, Rotarians around the world, and the many lives Rotary has enriched through humanitarian programs.

Life is a treasured gift to celebrate. Each day the sun rises and ahead of us is a new day to enjoy. Take time to celebrate Christmas and to celebrate life.

Christmas is a time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas in our lives. The Christian message of the birth of Christ is celebrated by many of us. The rich traditions of people of many nations are also celebrated in our multicultural city. Pause to think of others, those without family, those suffering at this time, and the many volunteers who will be working on Christmas Day.

Best wishes to each one of you and to your families for Christmas and the year ahead.

President Ros

The back page

SOME PAIN FROM DES PAIN

A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.

A will is a dead giveaway.

A backward poet writes inverse.

In a democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, it's your Count that votes.

A chicken crossing the road: poultry in motion.

Attendance last week

Club Guests & Speakers: Rev. Dr Okert Meyer

Visiting Rotarians: Nil

Other Guests: Helen Sahhar, Tony Sahhar, Ros Sahhar, Maureen Booth, Helen Harvie

Members present: 16

Makeups: 2

Percentage: 54.84%

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Norma Donaldson

6231 6680

normad@apex.net.au

DINNER ROSTER

| | THIS WEEK – 6 January | NEXT WEEK – 13 January |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Program | Family picnic Eddison Park, Woden | Jeff Griffiths Marymead |
| Introduction | President Ros | Piers Booth |
| Appreciation | | Jeff Ibbotson |
| Fellowship | Everyone | Marcus Donnelly |
| Raven Recorder | Jeff Ibbotson | John Robson |
| Birthdays | Anne Robson 27/12, Bish Mukerjee 5/1, | Christine Bell |
| Anniversaries | Nil | Yvonne Avent 10/1, |
| | | Noel & Robin Hart 16/1 |

PARKING AT THOROUGHbred PARK

Friday 8 Jan. – Bob Harvie (leader), Peter Evans, Piers Booth, Bruce Wyatt

NEXT MEETING IS ON 6 JANUARY

FAMILY PICNIC - EDDISON PARK, WODEN, 6PM

* please bring along family members if you so wish.

* the site is on the western side of the park with space for cars in Easty Street

* please bring your own food/drinks. There are approx. four BBQ's and 4 tables.

* if you wish you might like to bring a salad or dessert to share with the group.

* bring chairs and picnic tables if they can be easily transported.

LOOK INSIDE THIS RAVEN FOR THE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

January is Rotary Awareness Month

Last week

President Ros kicked things off by thanking St James Uniting Church in Curtin for providing the venue for the evening, and thanking Masterchef Shukry and his trusty kitchen hand Piers for their efforts in preparing our meals.

Ros welcomed our guests for the evening: Tony, Ros and Helen Sahhar, Maureen Booth, Helen Harvie and guest speaker Dr Ockert Meyer.

President Ros pointed out that Gary Scott was not present as he was presenting, on behalf of our club, the Arthur Holder & Stuart Garnsey Awards to achieving students at Canberra College – an acceptable reason for his non-attendance of the meeting. Thanks Gary!

Secretary Keith Avent delivered a message from Rosemary Taylor thanking members for everything during Eric's illness and recent passing. She advised that Eric was pleased to have been made an honorary member. She expressed particular thanks for the Guard of Honour formed by club members at Eric's funeral which she considered a very moving ending to the service. Keith advised that arrangements have been made for an entry for Eric to be made in the memorial book at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Thanks Rosemary!

Our guest speaker for the evening was Dr Ockert Meyer from the Uniting Church at Yaralumla, who delivered the Christmas Message.



He described the birth of Christ as an incarnation of God becoming human, before going on to discuss gnosticism and the gnostic spirit in everyday life – with less 'religion' and more 'spirituality' and the division in the history of theology between gnosticism and incarnation (or embodiment) with the Christian belief in incarnation being almost an affront for the gnostics.

In discussing the Virgin Birth and incarnation of Jesus, he made the distinction between the divinity of Jesus and the humanity of God, and proposed that Christmas is a celebration of the latter, with humanity being key to making a better world. (Amen, BC)

Ockert drew attention to the book, *Children of Men* by P.D. James. It is a story set in 2022 where the human race has become infertile and hope for a future is gone, and folks are essentially abandoned by the traditional providers of hope – science and religion. Somehow a reason to care is discovered.

Neale Emanuel thanked Ockert for his interesting and thought-provoking message.

ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - 6 JANUARY

IN THE EVENT OF FORCASTED INCLEMENT WEATHER AN EMAIL WILL BE SENT TO ALL MEMBERS BY 3PM TUESDAY 5 JAN

- * the meeting will then be for members and partners only at President Ros' house.
- * please bring a salad or dessert to share plus your own drinks.
- * Ros will provide cold chicken and ham or similar plus bread etc.

Marion Bateup's Graduation – 15 Dec.

Bernadette Cappello reported that she and John Gray attended, on behalf of Rotary, Indigenous Health Scholar Marion Bateup's graduation ceremony for her Bachelor of Nursing, University of Canberra. It was held in the Great Hall of Parliament House for students from the Faculties of Health and Education. Marion was one of approximately 15 Rotary Indigenous Health Scholarship holders graduating this year around Australia.

She was accompanied by her husband Chris, son Sean, and parents-in-law John and Helen. Numerous other well-wishers were there to congratulate her on her success. Marion was also highly sought after by local Canberra press who were keen to speak to her about her achievements. Keep an eye out for the Canberra Weekly in coming weeks!



Marion was a proud graduate, and again reiterated to Bernadette and John her gratitude for the support received from our club via the Indigenous Health Scholarship scheme. Neale Emanuel's support for Marion was acknowledged.

John Gray managed to catch, on camera, her smiling face as all graduates progressed from the Great Hall after the ceremony. In addition to the normal academic dress of gown, hood and cap Marion proudly wore at the front a special red and black long sash signifying she was graduating as an indigenous person at the University. At one end of the sash the aboriginal flag was displayed. Marion will spend her experience year at Queanbeyan Hospital. We are sure she will be a fine nurse and that she will serve Australia well.



The club has been presented with a certificate of appreciation from Australian Rotary Health in recognition of our participation in the Indigenous Health Scholarship Program.

Indigenous Health Scholarship 2010

John Gray reported it is proposed that, subject to availability of a suitable student, the Board supports another Indigenous Health Scholarship from year 2010 onwards. Cheryl Deguara of Australian Rotary Health has greatly appreciated our support for the scheme and has pointed out that we are the first Rotary Club in the Canberra area to do so. To use her words – "having a club in the Canberra area is good and I appreciate your encouragement to Marion". This year Australian Rotary Health has sponsored 73 students Australia wide.

President Ros, President-Elect Gary and President-nominee Bernadette all strongly support having another Indigenous Scholar over the next 3 years. A scholarship costs our Club \$2,500 per annum, this money being doubled by State and Commonwealth Government to make a \$5,000 scholarship; a useful supplement to the Abstudy support scheme.

In this context the Club has received a pleasant surprise. Catherine Kiernan, a former member of a District 9710 GSE team to Germany 10 years ago has offered to share, on a 50:50 basis, the \$2,500 per annum cost for the 3 years. In her discussion with President Ros she pointed out her life had been greatly enhanced by her involvement with Rotary.

President Ros has expressed to Catherine the Club's appreciation for her generosity.

RAVEN REPORTER
BERNADETTE CAPPELLO

PHOTOGRAPHER
JOHN GRAY