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 Youth: Gary Scott

Vocational: Carlo Binutti
 Bulletin: Robin Cromer/John Gray/
 Alec Philip & Bruce Wyatt
 Attendance Chief: Norma Donaldson
 Program: Phil Ibbotson
 Sergeant Chief: Bruce Wyatt
 PR & Media: David Fox
 Archives: Keith Avent
 Member Data: Ken Goard
 Webmaster: Robin Cromer

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Previous Issues of the Raven

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



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.

YOUR FELLOW MEMBER - Jeff Ibbotson

One of our newer members, Jeff Ibbotson, settled in Curtin with his family in 1991. He grew up close to Sydney Harbour, where he enjoyed mucking around in small boats.

After completing an Arts degree he thought he'd better do something to earn an honest living; so he studied law by night while working in a solicitor's office by day.

On a university vacation job he met Gerda Lambeck over the workplace gold fish bowl. Actually it was the water cooler, but Jeff and his mate thought it would look better with goldfish swimming around in it. They've been together ever since (Jeff & Gerda that is, not the goldfish).

After spending 12 months living mostly in a VW combi in Europe, they moved into

what seemed a palatial 16 ft. frontage terrace in Glebe, Sydney. Along came Bronwyn, then Kathryn.



A three month temporary posting to Darwin ended up as a two year tropical stint before the thought of another sticky build up brought them to Canberra just in time for winter.

For the past 10 years Jeff has worked as a lawyer with the Therapeutic Goods Administration where he advises on and helps shape the regulatory requirements for medicines and medical devices.

He tried to bail out last year to work less and travel more, and yes, to join Rotary. The GFC stymied some of those plans, but he still enjoys both work and Rotary.

The back page

FROM DES PAIN FOR LEXOPHILES

With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.

Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I'll show you A-flat minor.

When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine was fully recovered.

A grenade fell onto a kitchen floor in France & resulted in Linoleum Blownapart.

You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

(All complaints should be directed to Des Pain!)

Attendance last week

Guests: Rod Driver, Julia Widdup, Joanne Binutti, Jill Cromer, Pixie Gray, Pat Schmidt, Maureen Booth, John Joslin, Nell Pain, Gerda Lambeck and Bronwen Ibbotson

Members present: 16

Makeups: 0

Percentage: 45.7 %

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY
Norma Donaldson
6231 6680
normad@apex.net.au

DINNER ROSTER

	THIS WEEK – 13 January	NEXT WEEK – 20 January
Program	Jeff Griffiths 'Marymead'	Elaine Fotu "Opportunities for Chinese Students".
Introduction	Piers Booth	Bish Mukerjee
Appreciation	Jeff Ibbotson	Des Henderson-Kelly
Fellowship	Markus Donnelly	Alec Philip
	John Robson	Susan Pelengaris
Raven Recorder	Christine Bell	Bob Harvie
Birthdays	Yvonne Avent 10/1	Val Excell 22/1
Anniversaries	Noel & Robin Hart 16/1	Nil

PARKING AT THOROUGHRED PARK

Frid. 22/1 – Robin Cromer (Leader), John Gray, Keith Avent, Alec Philip

Dates for your diary

Racecourse parking – roster at foot of page 4

27 January – **Speaker John Howard** "Teaching in the outback"

10 February – **Returning GSE Team from Shanghai** visits our Club.

26-28 Feb. – **Canberra Show** (parking)

12 May – **Fund-raising dinner**

TONIGHT

We welcome tonight
JEFF GRIFFITHS

He will speak on Marymead

Last week

What more pleasant way for the Rotary Club of Woden to welcome the new year than to enjoy some fellowship in the centre of Woden, under the ample arboreal shade of the gardens of Eddison Park?



Rotarians, friends and family spread their picnic chairs and rugs in a big circle. President Ros welcomed one and all. Pretty soon we were all chatting, imbibing and making our way through an array of picnic and BBQ fare.

The background to Eddison Park is not widely known. While planning for the park commenced in 1972, it was not officially opened until 1992.

The park takes its name from the Eddison family whose rural property, Yamba, was resumed for the urbanisation of the Woden Valley which began in the 1960s.

World War II claimed the lives of

all three Eddison sons. This has influenced the manner in which the park has been developed and used. Two memorials, one from 1966, the other placed there on Anzac Day 1996, remember those who 'served their country so that we may live in peace'.

The design takes the radial design approach used in the adjacent Woden Cemetery and adapts and connects it to the park site. A substantial ornamental pond takes the central position in the design for the park which follows the cemetery's radial planting geometry.

The people of Woden are making more use of this large park. The grassy eastern part of the park is an informal sports field and hosts the Woden Community Festival. Aquatic birds have taken up residence around the pond. The annual Anzac Day memorial services have attracted good numbers since 1992. The recently opened skateboard/BMX park sees lots of kids whizzing around its slopes.

The park provided an ideal setting for us to relax and regroup for the year; to admire its natural beauty and memorial elements; and to reflect on its important messages of peace for the people of Canberra.

Your dutiful correspondent is indebted to the ACT Territory & Municipal Services website for the freely plagiarised information on Eddison Park. The website in turn acknowledges that noted parks authority John Gray and his 1997 tome *The Historical and Cultural Background of Selected Urban Parks in Canberra*.

Attention! Jeff Ibbotson needs your help!

We need to plan the Western Desert Health Project fund-raising dinner at which our former Governor-General has offered to speak on 12 May. A small organising group is being formed to set to work. If you wish to be part of this group please stay behind after tonight's dinner for a short get together to discuss a proposal on the format of the night for the board to consider. If you cannot attend but have ideas or time to contribute, please contact Jeff Ibbotson, ibbo@netspeed.com.au, 6281 5920

Norma Donaldson's Green Book !

Norma reports that there is a new apology book - it is **green!** She reminds us: "You know the rules - please email your apologies and your visitors by 3 p.m. on Tuesdays, so that your meals can be ordered. You may also telephone and leave a message."

normad@apex.net.au or ph. 6231 6680

RAVEN REPORTER

JEFF IBBOTSON

PHOTOGRAPHERS

DON WHITBREAD

JOHN GRAY

50 years in Rotary and 100% attendance !

Members know that the Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga Koorringal is contributing generously to our Western Desert Health Project. You might be interested to read the fascinating story below by Hon. Member Don Whitbread about one of that Club's members who has been a Rotarian for 50 years with 100% attendance and was once our District Governor.

"As some members of the Club may know I was the first Canberran to be selected for a GSE Team. It was in 1973 and four other young men and myself represented District 270 in a 7-week visit to District 757 (Virginia and Tennessee, USA). We were fortunate to have as our Leader, John Clough, who joined Rotary in 1959, and became District Governor in 1971. It was a huge district then, reaching from Orange to Hay and Griffith to the Victorian border and across to the coast. It was split shortly after and again some years later.



The Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga Koorringal hosted a Tribute Dinner to John and his wife, Marge, in Wagga on Saturday, 28 November, attended by over 150 people. John is now 93 and in 50 years has 100% attendance. He served as a RAAF Officer during WWII and after a successful ballot, became a soldier-settler on a virgin block near Junee in 1947, which is still in the family. He soon joined the Junee Club and over the years filled most positions including President (several times) and Secretary, etc.

The tributes to John were marvellous, coming from the Mayor, present District Governor, former DG's, family and friends and a message from

the President of RI. All spoke highly of John's integrity, work ethic, friendship and an ability to get things done, underscored by his gregarious nature and a fine sense of humour.

There was a great power-point presentation running throughout the night, showing John from his war years to the present. His contribution to the cause of Rotary, be it local (Clubs of Junee and Koorringal) and Rotary International (through national and international committees) is second to none and he was honoured by receiving the OAM in 2008, an honour richly deserved.

John's health started to deteriorate late last year and he came out of Wagga Base Hospital to attend the dinner. Since then he has been transferred to Transitional Care at Junee Hospital, where he is reported to be comfortable."

Don Whitbread, Honorary Member

Get well soon Phil Ibbotson !

We are sorry to hear that Phil had an argument with some boiling water before Christmas and as a result his right foot and part of his leg are badly scalded. He is under continual care by a visiting nurse and we will not see him at Rotary for a while. He is however still doing his job as program director. As he says, he doesn't need a foot to run the program!

Best wishes from us all Phil. We look forward to your return to our midst.