



Board Directors

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Rotary Foundation:	Jeff Ibbotson	Webmaster:	Robin Cromer
Youth:	Gary Scott		

Previous Issues of the Raven

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

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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 or October.

ANOTHER FELLOW MEMBER!

Norma Donaldson - yes, a Novacastrian, born and raised in Newcastle-on-Hunter, a descendant of pioneering families on both sides. Educated at Newcastle Girls' High, and the University of Newcastle (Arts Degree and a Dip. Ed), my great interest was in geography. I taught it, together with a multitude of related subjects, at several Canberra high schools.

After 2 years in Europe, where I taught English in Germany, I returned and chose to settle in Canberra for many reasons, one of which was its proximity to the snowfields.

I could now enjoy skiing on weekends. I joined the then YMCA Ski Club (now Brindabella Ski Club). Skiing and the mountains have given me much enjoyment and many challenges.

In the mid 1970's, I had my house built and began the never-ending challenge of creating a garden in Canberra.

School holidays were an opportunity to

explore the world. My trips were actually 'field studies' which related to the subjects that I taught. One year I was privileged to be part of a group of Australian and New Zealand teachers to visit Japan, sponsored by the Japan Foundation. I spent 1986 as an exchange teacher in a high school in Vancouver, Canada.



My last post was Telopea Park High, a school with very different challenges, being also a *lycée français*, with a focus on many languages and with many international students.

In retirement I enjoy the freedom from timetables and the quiet life. I have joined a couple of U3A art groups, and Rotary, which does put a bit of structure into the week. I travel to many of the places I missed visiting earlier, e.g. South America, and to some that I liked so much I wanted to return, e.g. Canada. As you can see in the photo, it's pretty laid back on an island in British Columbia!

The back page

MORE INSULTS

This is the final Raven featuring insults from an era before the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words.

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it." - Groucho Marx

"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him." - Forrest Tucker

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends...." - Oscar Wilde

Attendance last week

Guest Speaker: Robert Messenger (Guest Speaker)

Honorary Rotarians: Don Whitbread

Other Guests: Louise Ibbotson, Elizabeth Wetherall, Keith Smith and Ruth Benton

Members present: 23

Makeups: 1

Percentage: 71.43 %

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Norma Donaldson

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DINNER ROSTER

THIS WEEK – 24 February

NEXT WEEK – 3 March

Program	David Flannery	Arto Avakian
	"Greenfields Development - Outgo or in fill?"	"The Muslim Month of Ramadan"
Introduction	David Fox	Ajit Banerjee
Appreciation	Robyn Singleton	John Robson
Fellowship	Bernadette Cappello	John Gray
	John Widdup	David Fox
Raven Recorder	Jeff Ibbotson	Christine Bell
Birthdays	Christine Bell 22 Feb.	Nil
Anniversaries	Nil	Nil

PARKING AT THOROUGHbred PARK
Sun. 7 March - See roster at foot of page 3

Dates for your diary

Racecourse parking – roster at foot of page 3

26-28 Feb. – Canberra Show (parking)

10 March – Jessica McConnell – My year on exchange in Switzerland

17 March – 17 Michael Linke, RSPCA ACT Matching People to Dogs

Early April – Grt. Moscow Circus event

12 May – WDHP Promotional Dinner

TONIGHT

We welcome tonight
DAVID FLANNERY
"Greenfields Development
– outgo or infill"

Last week

President Ros Osbourne welcomed members and guests to the meeting. She drew attention to a number of significant club events coming up which are indicated in *Dates for your diary* on the front page of this Raven. Also mentioned was the Rotary International Convention, in Montreal, Canada on 20-23 June 2010.

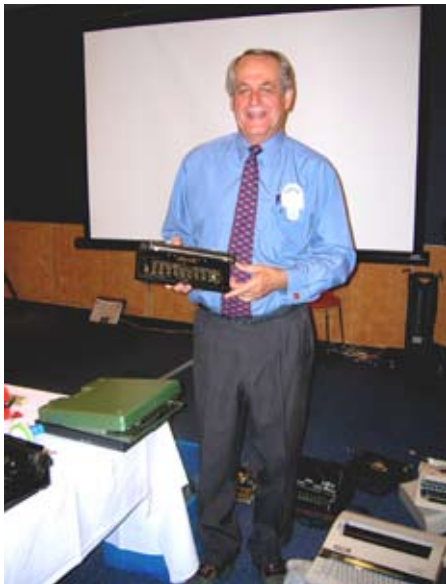
David Fox introduced the evening's guest speaker, Robert Messenger, who guided members and guests on a journey "From Baby to Baby: One Giant Backward Leap for Mankind?"

A bit confused? Here's a clue. What do Corona, Hermes, Olivetti, Underwood, Blickensderfer and Remington mean to you?

Not too sure? Sir Edmund Hillary used one during his Everest expedition, as did journalist Lee Martin during an expedition to the Antarctic. Many well-known authors used them, and some still do.

Of course I am talking about that mechanical (or electromechanical) device with a set of keys that, when pressed, cause characters to be printed on a medium, usually paper – the typewriter.

Our guest speaker, Robert Messenger, was eminently qualified to talk about typewriters.



A journalist for over 40 years, and well-known to Canberrans for his contributions over many years to the pages of *The Canberra Times*, Robert was born and raised in New Zealand. He has worked in New Zealand, Ireland and Australia and has strong familial connections with Rotary – being both the son and the brother of past Rotary Club Presidents in Greymouth, New Zealand. Robert has been using typewriters since 1958 and has developed an extensive personal collection of typewriters with historical significance.

Robert's love for the typewriter was manifest as he took us on the fascinating journey from Baby to Baby: from the Hermes Baby, a portable typewriter, to the Manchester Small-Scale Experimental Machine (SSEM), nicknamed Baby, the world's first stored-program computer. Using photographs and a great variety of machines from his personal collection, Robert illustrated the practicality, versatility and elegance of the typewriter. At the conclu-

sion of his talk he was surrounded by a large number of typewriters!

It was evident from the ensuing discussion, which ranged from the origins of the QWERTY keyboard to stenotype machines, that, whilst computers may be ubiquitous, the trusty typewriter is far from obsolete.

On behalf of all present, Carlo Binutti thanked Robert for his very interesting and informative talk and presented him with that other great writing device – the pen!

Club News

Show Parking: Bernadette Cappello, hard-working and ever-enthusiastic Show Parking Chief, reported that she has distributed the roster for Show Parking via email. Any requests for changes should be directed to Bernadette. Daily Chiefs will be responsible for allocating tasks on the day.

WANTED FOR SHOW PARKING: Anyone with a caravan or motor-home, or with cool boxes, that could be used during Show Parking should contact Bernadette urgently.

Western Desert Health Project: John Widdup reported that three working parties are now scheduled for Kintore: a Canberra City Club working party in early April; a working party led by John Widdup to work on plumbing in late April; and a working party led by Shukry Sahhar in late May to fit cupboards and benchtops.

President Ros thanked John Gray for preparing the second edition of the Western Desert Project Bulletin which members and supporters received via email on 19 February.

Great Moscow Circus: President Ros reported that Michael Edgeley is bringing the Great Moscow Circus to Canberra in early April. In cities around Australia he offers free tickets to the Mayor (or equivalent) for local charities. Through the excellent contacts of Honorary Member Don Whitbread, the Rotary Club of Woden has been offered all 800 tickets for the first night's performance. The Board has accepted the offer.

Tickets will be sold by Club members for \$20 per head, with proceeds being split amongst worthy causes. President Ros will provide further details, including the agreed apportioning of proceeds, at next week's meeting, following a meeting with the organisers. A list will be available next week for members to estimate the number of tickets they might each need.

RAWCS Team visit to Tanzania

David Bailey from the Rotary Club of Jerrabomberra has contacted the club regarding a **Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS)** team visit he is planning to the School of St Jude Arusha Tanzania in August 2010. The RAWCS program number is 121/2004. He has invited members (or partners/friends etc) of our Club to join the visit and assist with the ongoing work at the school.

The visit departs Sydney on Friday 6 August. Due to the limited facilities at the School of St Jude, numbers for this trip are limited to 16.

Members interested can contact David Bailey on 0408 663 977. You can also email him at: davidbailey@profsol.com.au

Thoroughbred Roster for Sunday 7 March

Gary Scott, Ray Newcombe, Des Pain, Pat Schmidt, Julia Widdup, Shukry Sahhar, Christine Bell, John Robson, Bob Harvie, Bish Mukerjee, Jeff Ibbotson, Bernadette Cappello, Ian Excell, Lyn Svanosio, Des Henderson-Kelly, Robyn Singleton.

RAVEN REPORTER

CHRISTINE BELL

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