

## Know your Fellow Member: Keith Avent



Born Melbourne 1927. Graduated Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Melbourne University 1948.

Initially employed in the Victorian Department of Agriculture as a Horticultural Research Officer near Melbourne. In 1957 moved into research management roles, first at Tatura in Northern Victoria and then to Commonwealth organisations in Canberra - the Department of Primary Industry, and for 18 years in senior management with CSIRO in Commonwealth/States liaison work and biological resources. After

1988, carried out contract studies and project management for several Departments, until retiring in 1992. Undertook voluntary work with Technical Aid to the Disabled, ACT. In 1994, began voluntary work on cataloguing and curatorial research at the National Gallery of Australia. Still doing both voluntary jobs.

Charter President of the Tatura Apex Club about 1959. Member of Tatura Rotary 1961-68, and then Woden Rotary from 1972. At various times, served as President and Secretary of both these Clubs, and in most Directorships. Paul Harris Fellow 1988. Special roles have included the Polioplus campaign, support for Open Family in its establishment in Canberra, the naming of the Clarrie Hermes Park in Hughes, and continuing liaison with The Canberra Hospital.

Member of the Bruce TAFE Council and Chairman of the Reid TAFE Council before their amalgamation into the CIT. Secretary and then President of Outreach, which helped young people in trouble with the authorities, before handing it over to Richmond Fellowship.

Played golf badly for about 20 years and gave up in despair. Enjoyed choral work, but lost my voice. Current leisure interests centre mainly around art and pleasant times at the Coast.

### Rosters:

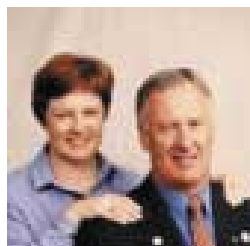
	This week 3rd Aug		Next week 10th Aug	
Program	DG Noel Trevaskis		David Whitney Director Canberra Theatre "The Development of a theatre."	
Introduction	Keith Avent		Piers Booth	
Appreciation	Ajit Banerjee		Robin Cromer	
Fellowship	Pamela Best		Murray Crowe	
	Carlo Binutti		Eric Taylor	
Raven Recorder	Val Bland		Neale Emanuel	
Birthdays	Frank Sheldon	8-Aug	Julia Widdup	13-Aug
			Edna Crowe	14-Aug
Anniversaries			Peter and Shirley Evans 14-Aug	
Trash & Treasure	08-Aug-09	Piers Booth	Ajit Banerjee	
	15-Aug-09	Robin Cromer	Eric Taylor	
	22-Aug-09	Gary Scott	Pamela Best	
	29-Aug-09	Tom Davies	Val Bland	

# The Raven

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Canberra-Woden Inc.

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## Tonight: District Governor's Visit



DG Noel Trevaskis and Sue

"Welcome to the New Year of Rotary and the theme "Service Above Self". Rotary International President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammer has decided to go back to what he feels is Rotary's greatest theme of "Service Above Self". He has also chosen the best logo ever created to go with the theme - our trademark, the Rotary wheel.

"As we start this New Year of Rotary we can get caught up in the business of Rotary and forget our families and our work. Our families should and must come first, then our work and then Rotary. Lets make sure we enjoy our families, our work and Rotary in the correct order in our lives."

**Last Week:** Two members returned from recent travels: • Piers Booth from the UK where he visited family, including a new grandson and • Carlo Binutti, who had been cruising the Kimberly coast.

Visiting Rotarian Harry Dury, Immediate PDG of District 9650 (northern NSW) told us about his District and club in Armidale.

Our guest speaker Dennis Moore, was introduced by Ray Newcombe. Dennis spent his early years travelling around Australia with the circus. His family had a number of acts and shows, the best known being his father Selby's Boxing Tent. His theme was the need for us to expand our comic awareness, and develop tools to assist us in that. When people are enjoying themselves, they are happy to *(contd over)*

**A Thought for the Week:** When we are mindful of every nuance of our natural world we finally get the picture: that we are given one dazzling moment of life here on earth and we must stand before the reality both humbled and elevated, subject to every law of our universe and grateful for our brief but intrinsic participation with it. *Elizabeth Gilbert*



SERVICE Above Self

spend money. ... The "Power of Fun" can be a creative tool in business. He quoted the case of Flight Centre, where the concept was introduced a few years ago. The company found that the incidence of sick leave was reduced by 25 per cent and the rate of staff turnover was also significantly reduced.

We must give ourselves permission to "think like a child", so that we can laugh more often each day (as children do). Mark Twain said that the best way to cheer yourself up, is to try and cheer someone else up! Expanding comic awareness is not so much about joking all the time, but about being positive and putting your problems in perspective. Dennis suggested that we do at least two things a day to keep the child alive within us, for a period of 21 days (so that it becomes automatic) and try to get out of our comfort zone. For example, show people a photo of your pride and joy (a jar each of pride and joy brands).

In order to be more comically aware we need to:

1. Believe that we can be.
2. Know your own natural style of humour.
3. Read the book "Making Fun Work" (by Dennis).



Dennis asked us to remember that humour is not a skill, it is an attitude, and that fun is not an event, it is an atmosphere. Rex Hunt thanked Dennis for speaking to the club.

*Thanks to Recorder Robin Cromer*

*Attendance Matters: Visiting Rotarians..PDG Harry Dury AM Make-ups...Jim Grainger (Yamba), Tom Davies (Canberra). Guests...2 Number of members present...20 Attendance: 72.4%*

**The ROTARY FOUNDATION** invites young Australians between 25 and 40 years of age to apply for GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE) to the District 1090 OXFORD /UK in March 2006. The applicant has to have a proven record of working a minimum of 2 years in their profession, has to be an Australian citizen and be a healthy individual. The application forms and information can be obtained on the Internet: <http://www.rotary.org.au>. go to Rotary Foundation go to Educational Programs and Down Load Centre.

Contact number: Brigitte Kestermann 02 62559846 or [bkester@ozemail.com.au](mailto:bkester@ozemail.com.au)  
Applications close August 20th 2005.....*International Director Piers Booth*

**VOCATIONAL DIRECTOR Shukry** is asking for members to prepare a 3 to 5 minute maximum talk on what is current in their vocation, their hobbies, or what members are doing now for retired members.

Secondly could members start thinking about suitable recipients for the George Paulus award. This could be an individual or a organisation. It would be nice to award this in October for Vocational Service month.

Finally I would like members to nominate people who have provided a service above and beyond what was expected so that we as a club may recognise them with a Club Service Award.

**TRASH AND TREASURE:** Ian Excell would like to draw attention to the next few weeks as there have been some significant changes due to Allan Ford, Bish and Frank being un-available. We did have balance between the tow bar and non tow bar participants but the loss of three non tow bar people causes a significant imbalance.

**Ros Osborne** in a note to Val Bland says "It is warm and sunny here on the Dalmation Coast at Dubrovnik. I am absorbing a tremendous amount of past and recent history and am appalled at the devastation from recent conflicts. The intensity of feeling between the different ethnic groups and the long history is something we do not see at home."

**Congratulations** to Piers Booth on attaining his Bachelor of Theology from the Charles Sturt University. Someone was heard to say "Watch out Rex!"

**CHARITY COMPUTERS** Before you send your computers to landfill, why not donate them and see if they can be recycled. Charity Computers is a community organization who specialise in supplying supported, refurbished computers to concession card holders such as the unemployed, disabled, seniors and students and Not For Profit Organizations. Contact is Faye Brockelsby (6232 5043) or Email: [admin@charitycomputers.com](mailto:admin@charitycomputers.com) Website: <http://www.charitycomputers.com>

**The Fred Hollows Foundation** is a non-government organisation which seeks to eradicate avoidable blindness in developing countries and to improve the health outcomes of Indigenous Australians. The organisation uses a sustainable development approach to achieve its objectives.



In its vision is of a world where no one is needlessly blind and of a land where Indigenous people enjoy the same health outcomes as all Australians. The Foundation is inspired by the work and example of the late Professor Fred Hollows.

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