

Board members 2006-07

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The lesson to be learned is, make Rotary fun and enjoyable. Do not get stuck in a rut and look for new ideas that promote fellowship while attending to the objects of Rotary.

In summary, only 11 out of 46 appear to have left Rotary because of something we did (or did not do!). So please take heart that we are running a good organisation and doing it quite well. However, we must always be on the lookout for improvement, and only the members can do that; because each club is different. There are many ways to be a good Rotarian, let us make sure we support our similarities not ridicule our differences.

Bernie Rodgers DGE

Roster:

	THIS WEEK 18th Oct	NEXT WEEK 25th Oct
Program	DVD Children of the Golden Triangle	Tom Davies "A Day That Happened Nearly Forty Years Ago"
Introduction	John Gray	John Widdup
Appreciation	Rex Hunt	Peter Evans
Fellowship	Bob Harvie Bish Mukerjee	Ian Excell Des Pain
Raven Recorder	Phil Ibbotson	Shukry Sahhar
Birthdays	John Joslin 18th Oct, Robin Hart 22 Oct David Fox 23 Oct	Shukry Sahhar 28 Oct
Anniversaries	nil	Piers and Maureen Booth 26 Oct
Trash &	22nd Oct David Fox- (?)	29th Oct Tom Davies-Bernadette Capello
Treasure	5th Nov Piers Booth-Ajit Banerjee	12th Nov Robin Cromer-Eric Taylor

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Tonight:

Piers Booth

with a DVD on

Children of the Golden triangle

Last Week:

President Ray reminded all members that the District Conference will be held from 27 to 29 October at Bateman's Bay. Registrations may be made on the District website.

He also announced that District 9710 is now incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory. This will mean that Club Members involved with District activities will be covered by this incorporation. Club activities are covered by our own incorporation. Our Club is an "ordinary member" of the incorporated District and entitled to vote at AGMs. The first AGM will be held in conjunction with the District Conference at Batemans Bay on 29 October 2006. A representative of our Club will be appointed to vote on our behalf.

For those interested in attending the Salt Lake City RI Convention 17-20 June 2007 the relevant information is held by Secretary John Gray.

John Widdup handed to all the participants in Sunday's Scenic Cycle Tour, the necessary diagrams and instructions for their involvement on the day, and Lachlan Lewis was presented with a special wrist band as the No.1 ticket Holder!

Gary Scott told us about the Handicapped Athletics Meeting at the Gold Coast where Gold Medallists are likely to proceed to the Shanghai Games. Kylie Scott won a silver and bronze in tennis. (The Club contributed \$1500 to allow athletes from ACT to attend)

Our speaker Susan Prosser is a long-term friend of the Club. We met her first as our Rotary Exchange Student to Hokkaido, Japan in 1982. She was a member of Rotaract while in Melbourne early in her career, and after her return to Canberra attended Rotary Adventure in Citizenship. As Sue pointed out, the aim of Rotary Student exchange is to foster world understanding by way of intercultural exchange. Her involvement with Rotary, her career and her strong links with Japan and the Japanese people are a wonderful example of a successful teaming of a motivated person and the program.



Sue Prosser with a former Exchange Student to Japan, Lachlan Lewis.

Having completed Year 12 at Canberra Girls Grammar, Sue went to Hokkaido, Japan in 1982 with a student team led by Bob Shelley. She did Year 11 there, and tells us that because academic achievement was not at issue, she was able to undertake a range of studies more related to Japanese culture, including the language, calligraphy and ikebana. Because of a pent-up demand due to a lack of exchange students in previous years, she had 6 host families instead of the usual 4. Her favourites were the Hiroyuki family.

Sue has had many trips back to Japan. In recent years she has been accompanied by her husband Frank, who shares her love of Japan, and their young daughter Cate Emi – Emi being a Japanese word meaning “To live life as beautiful as a painting”. Every time she visits, she is warmly welcomed – it is as if she hasn’t been away from her friends there. With additional tertiary training in Japanese and Asian Studies after her return from her student exchange visit, Sue’s career has included work in Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Federal Police Force and Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Attendance:

Hon Member: Frank Macklin, Visiting Rotarian: Terry Randall-Ballarot Soiuth, Lachlan Lewis-Canberra, Other guests: Dallas Glasby (Bruce Wyatt’s sister from Darwin), Make-ups: Ajit, Neale, Peter, David, Phil, Ros, Shukry (all for service at the Bike ride and/or Trash & treasure) and Jim (Palm Beach). Number Members present: 20. Percentage: 85.7%

DGE Bernie Rodgers Reports - Beyond 2000: As many of you would know, I have been contacting as many Rotarians as possible who have left Rotary this year. The idea was to have an exit interview to find out why they chose to leave. Subsequently, as at 12 September, I have been advised of 46 people leaving Rotary from our district since approximately April 2006, and have spoken to 22 on a personal basis.

The results (though limited by the sample size) are not as discouraging as first appears. Only five Rotarians quit as a result of some upset or personal confrontation. By far the most common reason for leaving was that of moving away from the district and over half of those interviewed said that they intended to join a Rotary club in their new location. Of course this exercise does not include surveying new members and some of those will be joining us from other districts.



Here is the list categorised as best I can from the information obtained:

Moved from District	17
Pressure of Business	7
Passed away	6
Tired	5
Upset (general)	4
Sickness	3
Made Honorary member	2
Pressure of family	1
Upset by Sergeant	1

In relation to the “Tired” category, those Rotarians indicated that they had just had enough of Rotary for the time being and were typically, newly retired persons who were re-defining their priorities.

The Honorary members were, of course, not lost to Rotary at all. Indeed, they were still active but for the purposes of statistics: had left!