

## Board members 2006-07

President Ray Newcombe  
 Secretary: John Gray  
 Immed. Past President: John Widdup  
 President Elect : Tom Davies  
 Treasurer: Noel Hart  
 Club service: Tom Davies  
 Community Service: Val Bland  
 International Service: David Fox  
 Vocational Service: Shukry Sahhar  
 Youth Service: Ajit Banerjee

### Office holders

Bulletin Editor Des Pain  
 Sergeant: Rex Hunt  
 Program Manager Shukry Sahhar  
 Historian/ Archivist Keith Avent  
 Webmaster: Robin Cromer

**Club address:** PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606  
 Secretary John Gray. email: graypj@tpg.com.au  
 ph: (02) 6290 1307  
 http://rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden

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



# The Raven

No 18 Vol 39 Wednesday 25th October 2006

**Apologies to: Ros Osbourne 62863097 <rososbourne@ozemail.com.au>**

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2005/2006

The AGM of the Rotary Club of Canberra Woden will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 29 November 2006. The meeting will consider for acceptance:

- Minutes of the last AGM on 23 November 2005;
- Annual Report for year ended 30 June 2006 (as tabled 21 June 2006);
- Audited Financial Report for year ended 30 June 2006;
- Confirmation of President for 2007-08 (elected 3 May 2006);
- Election of President Elect for 2008-09;
- Election of Secretary, Treasurer, and 5 Board Members for 2007-08;

Nominations for the above positions may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting or from the floor.

John Gray  
 Secretary & Public Officer  
 25 October 2006

## Roster:

	<b>THIS WEEK 25th Oct</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 1st Nov</b>
Program	Tom Davies "A Day That Happened Nearly Forty Years Ago"	Jacki Couchi
Introduction	John Widdup	Des Pain
Appreciation	Peter Evans	Bruce Wyatt
Fellowship	Ian Excell Des Pain	Neale Emanuel Tom Davies
Raven Recorder	Shukry Sahhar	Val Bland
Birthdays	Shukry Sahhar 28 Oct	Shirley Evans 4th Nov
Anniversaries	Piers and Maureen Booth 26 Oct	nil
Trash & Treasure	29th Oct Tom Davies-Bernadette Capello 12th Nov David Fox-Eric Taylor	5th Nov Piers Booth-Ajit Banerjee 19th Nov Des Henderson Kelly-Val Bland



*Tonight:*

**Tom Davies**

on

### **"A Day That Happened Nearly Forty Years Ago"**

Tom is an electrical engineering graduate from the University of NSW [BE(hons) and MEngSci] in Sydney after original graduation from the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1966. In his Army career, he served for 27 years in the Army's Signal Corps where he commanded 2 Signal Regiment at Watsonia Vic and also the Army School of Signals (also at Watsonia). He ended his full-time career in Russell Offices, Canberra, as the Head of the Signal Corps in the rank of Colonel. He was fortunate to have several overseas postings including war service in South Vietnam, engineering training at the UK School of Signals and three separate postings in the USA (Fort Huachuca Arizona, Norfolk Naval Base Virginia and Fort Monmouth New Jersey). He is a graduate of the UK Army Telecommunications Engineering Management Course, the Australian Command & Staff College and the US Armed Forces Staff College.

His life after Army included five years in Telstra in its Defence Support Unit as a Communications Consultant, Industry Marketer and Account Manager. Then followed almost ten years in the Housley Consulting Group where he was one of three directors of an ACN Company that managed a franchise for Housley's ACT operation as part of the national Housley Group. He is currently a full time employee of Compucat Pty Ltd at Belconnen working as a sub-contractor in Defence Science & Technology. He lectures part-time at the ADFA Campus of the UNSW in IT and Electrical Engineering. He is also a part-time student on the MSc(in IT) course at UNSW.

Tom is married to Pat, a medical practitioner GP at the Wakefield Gardens Surgery Ainslie. They have five adult children and six grandchildren. They live in Fisher in the Weston Creek area.

## *Last Week:*

**President Ray** congratulated everyone on the Bike Ride, and the involvement of members both of Rotary & Inner Wheel Clubs of Woden.; He received an email from Bruce Hall thanking the Club for the welcome he received at the Club's meeting on 4 Oct and the gift was most appreciated; Rotary Down Under is about to launch a "Projects Page". This will present the opportunity for our Club, for a fee, to seek support for a particular project from other Rotary Clubs in Australia, NZ and the South Pacific. It is possible that RAIC may fit into this category. We may also learn of projects being pursued by other Clubs that we would like to be involved with; He reminded members that the District Conference will be held from 27 to 29 October at Bateman's Bay.

**Review of Rotary Bike Ride:** John Widdup gave a review of The Rotary Bike Ride. It was a good day due to Rex Hunt's intervention. 250 people participated and revenue was in the order of \$3600. As John pointed out the success of the activity was due to the involvement of most of the Club members as well as other groups such as Inner Wheel. John was satisfied with the planning and organisation but felt the marketing and publicity needed much more attention.

He called for suggestions for improvement. One was first aid kits. John agreed but pointed out that provision of first aid by unqualified people could lead to claims. It was suggested that any story written about this project should draw attention to the 70 year olds, the mother and daughter team and the one-legged bicyclist! It was also suggested that planning for 2007 should start now, particularly with respect to publicity and marketing. A further suggestion was that the Ride should be renamed the *Rotary Family Fun Ride* and some provision made for involvement by children in an appropriate way.

**Children Of The Golden Triangle:** The members of the Club are familiar with this project, many of them having been involved directly in the development of the buildings. This DVD produced by Rotary International clearly identifies the problems, particularly for the children of the Akha tribe in the Golden Triangle formed by the conjunction of Myanmar, Thailand and Laos. It shows how the provision of education for Asa, an Akha girl led to her taking up the cause of these children and also to meeting her future husband David Stevenson who had been deeply touched by their situation.

It also describes the involvement of two Canberra Woden Rotary Club members, John Lawrence and Des Woods. From a limited involvement of raising money and providing a team, this project has spread internationally and has teams from a wide range of countries. From shelter in very basic housing, the project has developed to the provision of dormitories and classrooms, providing opportunities for 500 children.

This DVD shows Rotary doing what it does best - identifying problems for the most vulnerable and doing something practical about them.

Every Club in this District should make a point of watching this DVD and getting involved, if not already. *Thanks to Raven Recorder Phil Ibbotson*

**Attendance:** Make-ups: Eric Taylor, David Fox. Number members present: 23. Percentage: 78.59%

## **A Letter from the DG, Mick Newling:**

Fellows,

Thanks to the initiative of Keith Notley of Canberra Fyshwick, I am pleased to promote an opportunity for Clubs in the Canberra area to offer the joys of Rotary to members of the many hundreds of individuals working and living in the ACT Diplomatic Community.

The proposal is to have the 20 Clubs in the immediate Canberra area unite to host a social gathering at which they can showcase what their Clubs have to offer to these visitors to Canberra.

I have asked Keith to Chair a Committee to work with the members of the "Beyond 2000" committee, the Assistant Governors and the Clubs in Canberra to assist with the organisation and conduct of the function.

The concept is that of a "cocktail party" style of function, held in a central location in Canberra, to which we would invite up to 200 members of the Diplomatic Community, from, say, Assistant Secretary downwards.

The function would be hosted by 3 representatives from each of the 20 Clubs, District program chairs and others. Each Club would provide a concise brochure about their Club – i.e. meeting venue, day & time of meeting, fee structure, gender and age balance, particular focus and current and proposed programs and projects.

Whilst this should not be seen as a competitive structure, the effort taken would be reflected in the quality of the product and this, combined with interaction with the Club representatives may influence the guest when they make a decision about which Club would suit them best.

The District would provide a brochure showing the structure and profile of the District and the National and International programs we support.

I anticipate that the cost of the function would be in the order of \$20 per head, or about \$5,000 in total. I would like to think that Clubs would meet the large part of that total – about \$275 each. The District would meet cost of printing & postage.

I think that this idea has real merit – it would offer members of the Diplomatic Community an opportunity to meet Australians in an environment of fellowship and equality and it would offer Rotary Clubs an opportunity to recruit members who would add a different dimension to their membership.

Contact details of relevant individuals and the Clubs in the immediate Canberra area are attached.

I urge you to support this initiative. It is truly an opportunity to "Lead the Way".

Yours in Rotary,

Mick Newling

21st September 2006.