



The Raven

No 26 Vol 39 Wednesday 20th December 2006

Tonight:



Rex Hunt
with his
Christmas Message

The Rev. Rex Hunt, Club Member, Minister at St. James, Canberra, and Director of the Centre for Progressive Religious Thought, will deliver this year's Christmas Message. He has said: "I think the church has to be brave enough to undergo a theological restatement. We have to make better contact with the community ... You have to be open and honest; there has to be a theological reshaping of the life of the church ... And until we're prepared to do the theological reconstruction, a lot of people in the community will ignore us."

In his message this year, Rex will revisit the subject of Christmas in the following, perhaps radical, ways:

- (i) offer some general comments on early Christianity and Christmas in Australia;
- (ii) look at the birth narratives in the religion called 'Christianity', and the enforcement of the celebration as a weapon of orthodoxy; and finally

Last Week:

Tom Davies reported briefly on the successful **Christmas Party** last week. ADG Barry Howe congratulated the Club for support in the landscaping of **Greenhills** prior to the formal opening a few weeks ago completing the three accommodation blocks and hall.

The **National Youth Science Forum** will meet this year at the ANU in the new John Curtin School of Medicine. The date for our Club to participate is Thursda

Thurs 18th January 2007 – cost \$20. Acceptance needed one week prior.(see p3)

Inner Wheel has acknowledged receipt of our donation of \$500 for catering etc for the recent Bike Ride.

The **Sergeant's Session** concluded with a memorable end-of-year performance by the “Woden Rotary All-Stars” (Ros, Bob, Neal, Shukry & Ken under the direction of Rex) of a selection of finely crafted Cricket Carols – greeted with spontaneous enthusiastic applause. The amount raised to discourage this performance was not disclosed.

The **District Drought Appeal** will be at the Woden Town Centre. Bob Harvie requires volunteers. “The drought will end but we don't know when”

“**KidsMatter**” is an initiative to encourage awareness of mental health in primary schools with 100 participating including the CGG Junior School. The ARHRF will support this and members have volunteered their time. (see pp 5-7)

Eric Taylor introduced **Allan Evans, Guest Speaker – President of the NRMA** and Acting President of the Australian Automobile Association. He came to this position in the NRMA about 5 years ago with qualifications in engineering, law and economics when the Association was riddled with controversy. The result – a massive turn-around to a re-vitalized service to motorists.

□ The Road-Side service fleet are now all LPG-powered Ford wagons, fitted out with a computerised dispatch system giving access to a comprehensive data-base of *all cars on the road to-day* gaining a 92% fix rate, with a built-in facility to tow the rest to a garage!

□ A quality (3 ½ Star) travel service to members has been acquired through buying the Travelodge Motel chain with additions for geographic coverage, providing options – 10% discount, breakfast of late check-out – your choice, with leisure parks – cabins, caravan sites and recreation facilities – good tariffs, car rental – at the best rates, and wholesale travel packages offering tours, some with volunteer opportunities on the way round.

□ NRMA has established a local service and repair facility – the first one in

Tuggeranong

- Safety is a priority. The advertisement “Fix our bloody roads” won the “Bill Board of the Year” award. They are insisting on all cars having crash-test ratings made known and aim for Level 4 on all cars.
- The NRMA has instituted a tighter driver training course hopefully to be adopted by all States before licenses are granted.
- The Blue & White Pantechnicon travels the State with a comprehensive educational program installed including a driving simulator.

John Widdup expressed appreciation on behalf of members.

Attendance: Club Guests: Alan Evans, ADG Bernie Howe. Visiting Rotarian: Bernie Rees-Ginninderra Club. Guest: Virginia Newcombe. Make-ups: David Fox, Jim Grainger-Launceston, Val Bland, Piers Booth- Children of the Golden Triangle. Number of members present: 22 Percentage 85.71%

National Youth Science Forum:

Date Change - University Change –Residential Change

This year the Rotary Dinners associated with the National Youth Science Forum are to be held on a **Thursday** night and will be held at the John Curtin School of Medical Research - Australian National University, not at the University of Canberra as in previous years. Also, the students will be living at Burgmann College at the ANU and thus the collection point for the Home Hospitality on the Sundays following the dinners will be different.

The Rotary dinners will be held at John Curtin School of Medical Research Daley Road, Australian National University

Time 6.15 for 6.45 pm

Cost \$20 - to be paid on the night

Session B

Thursday 18th January 2007

(RSPV to ROS OSBOURNE by Thursday 11th Jan 2007)

Home Hospitality
Sunday 21st January 2007

The purpose of the Dinners is to achieve three main aims. These are for Rotarians to meet the students attending the NYSF, for Rotarians to be present for one of the very interesting addresses given by a notable person from the scientific community and for Rotarians to be so inspired by the evening that they wish to participate in the Home Hospitality program on the following Sunday.

Home Hospitality involves hosting two or more students at your home during the Sunday from approx 9.00 am until 6.00 pm with the purpose of allowing students to meet with your family, rest and to have the chance to make use of your washing and drying machines. As the students will be seeing a lot of Canberra and the ACT as part of their 12 day program they don't need to be taken on tours of the area but just to make the most of their time at your home. As Rotarians register for the dinner you will be asked if you wish to participate in Home Hospitality and we will put a star on your name badge. Students will then know to approach you during the dinner to arrange to be your guests for the following Sunday. Further information will be provided at the dinners. If you are not able to attend the dinners and wish to Home Host please let me know.

If you are not able to host students for the Sunday please feel free to attend the dinners and enjoy the occasion.

Bruce McFarland
Chair NYSF Committee
District 9710

23 November 2006
Ray Newcombe
President,
Rotary Club of Canberra Woden
PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606

Dear President Ray,

KidsMatter

The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund has joined with the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and beyondblue: the national depression initiative to introduce KidsMatter.

KidsMatter is a national mental health initiative specifically developed for Australian primary schools.

Primary schools in Australia were invited to join the KidsMatter initiative, and Canberra Girl's Grammar Junior School, Deakin has been selected as one of the 101 participating schools in the pilot.

The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund will prepare a plaque to be presented to the school and we invite you and/or representatives of your Rotary Club to join with an ARHRF representative to make this presentation. Your club may then wish to continue the association in other ways and some options are mentioned on the attached paper prepared by the KidsMatter team.

To start the ball rolling, could I please have your agreement to be the Rotary Club selected for this exciting involvement?

Once we have this agreement, we will make arrangements for the presentation of the plaque and further discussion with the school.

Please let me assure you, this project need not incur any costs to your club.

The ARHRF will fund the cost of the plaque and the ARHRF will provide the funding for the school - as detailed in the attachments.

I look forward to your response and invite you to contact me by phone, fax or email.

With our best wishes
Joy Gillett

Schools Recognise the Importance of Good Mental Health

Schools and teachers recognize the importance of good mental health for their students. Students who are mentally healthy learn better and have better relationships with their teachers, family members and peers. Good mental health makes it easier for students to negotiate the transition into adolescence and then adulthood, improving their chances of achieving long-term education and career goals as well as a better quality of life. The importance given by education to student mental health and well-being can be seen in the National Safe Schools Framework.

KidsMatter: A National Mental Health Initiative for Primary Schools

KidsMatter is a national mental health initiative specifically developed for Australian primary schools by the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and beyondblue: the national depression initiative and is supported by the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

The KidsMatter Initiative has three major aims:

- Improve the mental health and well-being of primary school students
- Reduce mental health problems amongst students (eg anxiety, depression and behavioural problems)
- Achieve greater support for those students at risk of or experiencing mental health problems.

With KidsMatter, schools develop and implement a comprehensive plan that addresses the specific mental health needs of their students. These plans focus on four key areas:

1. **Social and Emotional Skills for Students:** Students receive social and emotional curriculum using evidence-based programs to improve their self-awareness, social-awareness, self-management, relationship skills and their capacity for responsible decision-making.
2. **Education and Support for Parents:** Parents and families receive opportunities to access information on child development and parenting as well as engage with other parents and families.
3. **Early Intervention for Students at Risk and their Families:** School staff and parents receive information on strategies on how they can support and assist children at risk of or experiencing mental health problems. This includes information on detecting signs of mental health difficulties in young children, information on local service providers, how to access evidence-based programs and interventions.
4. **A Positive School Community:** Schools identify how they can enhance their school climate to support student mental health and well-being, giving particular emphasis to ensuring that students, teachers and parents feel 'connected' to each other and the broader school community.

National Roll out of KidsMatter: A Two Stage Process

Stage 1: KidsMatter begins in late 2006 with a national two year trial involving 101 primary schools. Participating schools will come from all States and Territories, from government, catholic and independent school sectors, and from both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. Project officers will be employed in each state to assist schools design and implement their plans to improve student mental health and well-being. This trial will be comprehensively evaluated with parents, school staff and students asked to provide their views as to the success of the KidsMatter Initiative and how it can be improved.

Stage 2: Following this initial trial, all primary schools in Australia will be offered the opportunity to access the resources and materials developed under the KidsMatter Initiative to assist their efforts to improve student mental health and wellbeing.

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://rotarnet.com.au/canberrawoden>

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



Roster:

	THIS WEEK 20th Dec	NEXT MEETING 10th Jan
Program	Rex Hunt Christmas Message	New Year BBQ at Judy Skelton's
Introduction	Peter Evans	37 Guilfoyle St
Appreciation	Bernadette Capello	Yarralumla
lowship	Des Henderson-Kelly	
Raven R	Robin Cromer	
border Birthdays	David Fox	
Anniversaries	Jill Cromer 20th, Noel Hart 25th Dec Bish Mukerjee 5th Jan	Yvonne Avent 10th Jan
Trash &	nil	Noel and Robin Hart 16th Jan
Treasure	24th Dec Tom Davies-Bob Harvie 7th Jan Piers Booth-Bernadette Capello	31st Dec (?) - (?) 14th Jan Neale Emanuel-Ros Osborne