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 Attendance Desk: Bernadette Cappello
 Program: Neale Emanuel (acting)
 Sergeant: Neale Emanuel / David Fox & Gary Scott
 Archives: Keith Avent
 Member data: Ken Goard
 Webmaster: Robin Cromer

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Previous Issues of the Raven:

<http://www.rotanet.com.au/canberrawoden>

The back page

This bulletin's name reflects the ancient Scandinavian God Woden or Odin – the supreme God and Alfadur (All-Father). He drew wisdom from the well of the Giant Mimir. He had two ravens called Hugin and Munin (Thought and Memory) who flew forth every day and returned at night to tell him what they had seen, so contributing to his wisdom. Land in what we now know as Canberra, purchased in 1837 by classical scholar Dr James Murray was named 'Woden'. From 1962 onwards Woden Town was built on that land.



Gary's law of probability:

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Last week's attendance

Guest speaker: Jeff Ibbotson
Visiting Rotarians: Nil
Other guests: John and Anne Robson, Don Ellis
Make-ups: Jim Grainger
Members present: 22, **Countable:** 21
Percentage: 71%

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Ros Osbourne
 6286 3097
rososbourne@ozemail.com.au

DINNER ROSTER

	This week - Tuesday 19 August	Next week - Wed. 27 August
Program	The Rotary Western Desert Project Canberra City Club, at the Canberra Club	Bernard Powderly, Travel Mgr. Country Link "Trains I have known"
Introduction	Jeff Ibbotson	Bish Muckerjee
Appreciation	Bish Muckerjee	Ray Newcombe
Fellowship	Lukas Strohmayer Ajit Banerjee	Eric Taylor Peter Evans
Raven Recorder	Ken Goard	Bernadette Cappello
Birthdays	Piers Booth 19/8	Ros Osbourne 28/8
Anniversaries	Phil & Louise Ibbotson 20/8	Harvies 25/8, Widdups 27/8

Bound Ravens

"The Raven" provides an important social and historical role in the life of the Canberra-Woden Club.



John Gray presents PP David Fox with a bound set of Ravens for 2007-08

On behalf of the Joint Raven editors during last Rotary year (John Gray and Bruce Wyatt), John Gray presented to PP David Fox a bound copy of Volume 40 for 2007-08. Two other bound copies were presented to

Secretary Keith Avent. These two will be lodged in the National Library of Australia and the ACT Heritage Library (Woden) and will be available on open public access for research purposes.

John Gray pointed out that a full set of Ravens over the past 40 years is held by the National Library. The collection at the new ACT Heritage Library covers only more recent years. Electronic copies covering the past six years are also available on the Club's web site.

Stop press

We meet this week on Tuesday 19th August! Joint meeting and partners night with Canberra City Club.

At the Canberra Club, 45 West Row, Civic Centre at 6.00 for 6.30 pm.

August is Membership Extension month

Tonight

The official launch of the Rotary Western Desert Project. PP David Fox will report on the project and progress to date. The two club Presidents Shukry Sahhar and John Gray (Cbr. City) will lead a discussion on the project

Our new member Lukas Strohmayer will be inducted

Club News

Induction - Lynette McNeill

President Shukry inducted Lynette into Rotary and the Club. Lyn is the Office Manager for local Canberra Company Robson Environmental and watching her induction with interest were Lynette's employers John and Anne Robson.

Lyn has lived in Canberra for 10 years and before that she was in the RAAF and was posted all over Australia. Lyn came to Rotary through her Brother-in-law and Sister, both of whom are Rotarians and Paul Harris Fellows.

Lyn went to the recent Rotary Membership Conference in Canberra (also attended by International President DK Lee) and was influenced to join Rotary. Her classification will be "Environmental Science".

Rotary Western Desert Project

PP David Fox reported that the wheel-chairs and walking frames had reached WDNWPT in the Northern Territory. He also advised that the mechanical drawings for the buildings have been completed. Once the drawings have been approved, refurbishment of the Blue House can commence in earnest.

The donated wheel-chairs and walking frames have arrived on site in the Western Desert



Thai Restaurant Deakin

Following our meeting last week at the restaurant, there was a general discussion on its suitability as a permanent venue for club meetings. A range of views was expressed but no firm commitment to this venue emerged. President Shukry felt that the outcome was "let's keep looking." There was also mention of the Federal Golf Club and the Hellenic Club. The latter will be examined by Carlo Binutti.

Important dates for your diary

Tuesday 19 August: Joint meeting with Canberra City

12 September: Autism fund-raising dinner

Sunday 21 September: Rotary Scenic Cycle Tour of Canberra

31 August-6 September: Rotary Adventure in Citizenship

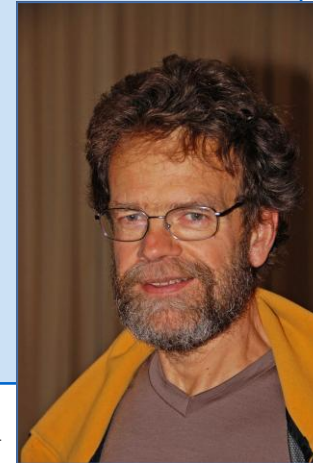


Guest Speaker Jeff Ibbotson

Our own club member Jeff Ibbotson was the speaker in the place of the scheduled speaker who had been called to Western Australia on business.

Jeff centred his perceptive talk on his reflections on a recent bike ride of 800 km with his partner Gerda, predominantly through eastern Europe. Regions visited included Italy, the Adriatic, Russia and the Baltic. He remarked how many of these countries have seen instability throughout their history, many having been invaded by other countries and freed and then re-invaded. In this context he noted particularly the frequency of castles throughout the regions he covered.

He pointed out that, in the wake of the demise of the USSR, many countries had gained entry to the EU and cities damaged by bombing and shellfire during periods of instability had been reconstructed. Despite joining the EU, a number have retained their own currency



which complicates things for tourists. Croatia has come along greatly since the destruction of the 1990s.

Statues of Lenin in many town squares have been removed, while in Latvia one such statue has been placed in a coffin so that residents don't forget the past. Some statues have been incorporated into theme parks and a museum in Riga has also been created to remind residents of what happened in the past.

Jeff had some special comments about Russia, noting that the people there are not as happy as those in the other countries he visited, possibly as a result of the harsh climate. He spoke of St Petersburg and its similarity in some respects to Canberra as a planned capital, and the way in which many churches have been rebuilt in Russia, including one which had been demolished to make way for a swimming pool. He drew attention to Moscow's Metro, which he observed is the biggest in the world and a "work of art".

This was a fascinating talk which was listened to attentively by all members.

Des Henderson-Kelly gave a lengthy vote of thanks, reflecting his outstanding ability to ask wordy double-barrelled questions. President Shukry noted we had had two speakers! Good on you Des.

Raven Reporter

John Gray

Photographs

Robin Cromer