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Previous Issues of the Raven:

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

The back page

Q: Why are hurricanes usually named after women?

A: Because when they arrive, they are wet and wild, but when they leave they take your house and car!

A woman applying for a job in a lemon orchard seemed way too qualified for the job. Look madam, asked the foreman, do you have any actual experience in picking lemons? Well as a matter of a fact, yes, she replied - I have been divorced three times!

Last week's attendance

Guest speaker: Bill Fraser
Honorary member: Frank Macklin
Rotary Guests: Mike Rodd (RC Nowra)
Make-ups: Jim Grainger,
Members present: 22, **Countable:** 20
Percentage: 75%

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Ros Osbourne
 6286 3097
rososbourne@ozemail.com.au

DINNER ROSTER

Program	This week - 24 September	Next week - 1 October
	Mike Rodd - RC Nowra Securing ACT's water supply	TBA
Introduction	Judy Skelton	Lukas Strohmayer
Appreciation	Lukas Strohmayer	Ajit Banerjee
Fellowship	Bish Mukerjee	Des Pain
	Judy Skelton	Ajit Banerjee
Raven Recorder	Ros Osbourne	Bernadette Cappello
Birthdays	Ajit Banerjee 22/9, N Emanuel 23/9, Anna Banerjee 25/9	Bob Harvie 2/10, Nell Pain 4/10
Anniversaries	Ray & Caroline Newcombe 23/9	



THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA-WODEN

Scenic Cycle Tour

The cycle tour is on this Sunday. Members need to be aware of the jobs they have been allocated and be in place well ahead of time. We are hoping for more riders than last year and pre-registrations are going well (including the Chief Minister).



Stop press

Approval to start building at the Blue House in Kintore has been given and final plans from the Architects are to hand. President Shukry would like to get started as soon as possible to beat the heat of summer so an October visit is being planned.

Contact Shukry if you wish to be involved in the first major effort at the site. This is likely to be about one week on site to clean up the area and start doing some painting. Travel to the site would probably be a flight to Alice Springs, overnight and then drive to Kintore (about six hours).

Formula 1

Our youngest member and renowned petrol head, Bernadette, told us to keep watch for her on the TV screen next weekend. She will be officiating on Turn 3 of the Grand Prix, Formula One races in Singapore!



Tonight

**Mike Rodd
 Securing Canberra's
 water supply**

**September is New
 Generations month**

**Guest speaker
Bill Fraser**

Royal Flying Doctor Service



Des Pain introduced Bill who indicated that this year's Rotary theme of "Make Dreams Real" fitted precisely with the aims of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

In 1839, Henrietta Smith from the Church of Scotland gave funds to be used for the welfare of aborigines in Australia. Efforts to use the funds for that purpose were not successful and the remaining money was donated to the Presbyterian Church in 1894. Reverend Thomas Mitchell was able to employ nursing sisters at Bel-tana and Oodnadatta. He retired in 1911 and was replaced by Reverend John Flynn.

Flynn was appalled by the conditions in outback towns and whilst he was lacking in theology, he was an excellent organiser and fund raiser. By 1928, the Australian Inland Mission had sufficient money to establish a flying doctor scheme. Supporters of the project included the industrialist HV McKay, manufacturer of the Sunshine Harvester and Hudson Fysh at QANTAS.

The Aerial Medical Service began on 15 May 1928, based at Cloncurry using a DH50 De Havilland plane. A 'fortunate' accident occurred at Mt Isa and a doctor flew from Cloncurry with the DH50 and evacuated the patient from Mt Isa. This flight proved the concept worked in practice.

The RFDS also initiated experiments with radio for outback communications, leading to the invention of the 'pedal wireless'. This was able to generate the 180 volts needed to power the radio valves so transmissions could cover a range of 600 km. It was generally the women who had to learn morse code and pedal the radio.

Technology has improved greatly and voice was introduced in 1936 so the radio could then be used for education and general communication.

The RFDS now services more than 80% of Australia's land surface, with much of the area not being particularly remote. The South-East Division includes NSW, Victoria and Tasmania and contains bases at Dubbo, Bankstown, Mascot, Essendon, Launceston, Sydney, Broken Hill, Moomba and Ballera.

The operational aircraft now is the Beechcraft Kingair at \$8 m each plus outfitting. The service aims to reach anywhere in Australia within two hours. The service is free and relies on government funding for operations and donations for capital.

Lynn McNeill thanked Bill for a most interesting talk.



Bill Fraser



Beginnings - 1928

Nowra Rotarian

Mike Rodd from the Rotary Club of Nowra visited the Club last week. He has been a member of Rotary for about a year but has now been seconded to Canberra for 12 to 18 months.

Nowra has about 30 members with a similar age structure to our own. They hold a number of small fund raising events but no major projects at this stage. The Club has been involved in adding improvements to a local special school

Mike works for GHD (previously Gutteridge, Haskin and Davey) as a Civil Engineer. A team of

Bill Fraser, Ros and Mike Rodd



about 70 people work from a site office on Mt Stromlo. The firm is contracted to improve the water security of Canberra and the region. This will include enlarging the storage of the old Cotter Dam and building a pipeline and pumping station to transfer water into Googong Dam during high flows in the Murrumbidgee.

Mike will talk to the Club about his work next week.

District Friendship Exchange

We have received an invitation for Rotarians and partners to participate in a visit to the UK (Wales) next year. If you are interested, please follow up directly with Committee Chairman Gerry McNamara (04 07 78 0 619). No date set as yet.

**Raven Reporter and Photographs
Robin Cromer**

Don't forget the District Conference - Oct/Nov 2008

The 2008 District Conference continues with the recent practice of holding the conference in the first part of the year. The Conference will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Sussex Inlet (District Governor Phillip Mewett's home Club).

The Conference will be held from **Friday, 31st October until after lunch Sunday, 2nd November 2008**. Conference activities will be under the marquee on the beautiful Sussex Inlet foreshore. Many businesses in Sussex Inlet have sponsored the Conference so delegates can come and enjoy all that Sussex Inlet has to offer.

Important dates for your diary

Sunday 21 September: Rotary Scenic Cycle Tour of Canberra

Wed. 12 November: Club AGM (adoption of 2007-08 reports, elections for 2009-10)

Saturday 15 November: Working bee, Greenhills Centre

10 December: A good old Christmas party to celebrate our long association with the Embassy Motel