



# THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA-WODEN

## ROTARY CLUB OF



## CANBERRA-WODEN INC.

### Board Directors

President: Shukry Sahhar  
 Secretary & Public Officer: Keith Avent  
 Immediate Past President: David Fox  
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 Community & Public Relations: Bernadette Cappello  
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 International & Foundation: Neale Emanuel  
 Youth Development: Gary Scott

### Other officers

Bulletin Editors: John Gray/ Robin Cromer  
 Attendance Chief: Ros Osbourne  
 Attendance Desk: Bernadette Cappello  
 Program: Phil Ibbotson (from Feb 09)  
 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.

## Last week's attendance

**Guest speaker:** Helen Harvie

**Visiting Rotarian:** Owen Clary (Aiken, South Carolina) and son Clay. **Guests:** Denise Goard

**Make-ups:** Ros Osbourne, R.C. Mbantua, Alice Springs

**Members present:** 23, **Percentage:** 70.96 %

## APOLOGIES

### BY 3 PM TUESDAY

Ros Osbourne  
6286 3097

[rososbourne@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rososbourne@ozemail.com.au)

## DINNER ROSTER

This week - 12 November  
Mystery speaker

Next week - 19 November  
AGM plus "Progress at Kintore" by Shukry & John

Program	This week - 12 November	Next week - 19 November
Introduction	Robin Cromer	Carlo Binutti
Appreciation	Jeff Ibbotson	Des Henderson-Kelly
Fellowship	Des Pain	Eric Taylor
	Alec Philip	John Gray
Raven Recorder	Jeff Ibbotson	John Gray
Birthdays	Judy Skelton 7/11, Ken Goard 12/11	Bruce Wyatt 18/11
Anniversaries		Shukry & Helen Sahhar 21/11

## Visitor from USA

On the day that the US public voted in their first African-American President, we were privileged to have with us Owen Clary and his son Clay.

Owen comes from the Rotary Club of Aiken in South Carolina, USA. To maintain his very long record of 100% attendance, he visits Rotary Clubs wherever he is staying. He finds this is a wonderful way to

learn more about Rotary and truly feel part of Rotary International.



President Shukry exchanging banners with Owen Clary

## Rotary Western Desert Project

A six-member team from the club is on the ground at Kintore this week. Members include President Shukry Sahhar (with wife Helen), John Widdup (with wife Julia) and Neale Emanuel (with Lucinda Lang).

The team aims to spend the week cleaning out the Blue House, painting it inside and out and securing the building ready for refurbish-

ment and refitting as a health clinic and dialysis unit.

David Fox also reported that the Rotary Clubs of Goulburn Mulwaree, South Nowra and Wodonga have offered to assist the project by attending a work party. PDG Burnie Rodgers has encouraged a Rotary Club in South Korea to provide an overseas link so that a matching grant of US \$3000 (x 4) can be arranged.

## Dates for your diary

**Sat 15 Nov:** Working Bee, Greenhills Centre

**Wed 19 Nov:** Club AGM and Elections

**Wed 26 Nov:** Prospective new members night

**Sun 30 Nov:** Parking for Canberra Cup

**Wed 3 Dec:** Workplace meeting, Fyshwick

**Wed 10 Dec:** Club Xmas Party

**Wed 17 Dec:** Christmas message, Rex Hunt

**2009**

**Wed 14 Jan:** President's barbecue

## Tonight

**Mystery speaker  
Don't miss it!**

## Trakking Australia



Guest speaker  
Helen Harvie

Norma Donaldson introduced our Guest Speaker, Helen Harvie, and suggested we seek inspiration and knowledge in preparation for a Rotary Bike Ride

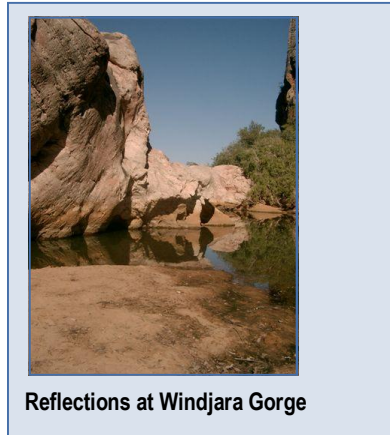
around our wonderful continent. Unfortunately due to illness, Bob was unable to be present to tell us of the industries, agriculture, museums and the Rotary visits he enjoyed.

Helen's presentation took us on a journey across southern Australia, and then north to Derby and east again through NT and outback Queensland. The journey of 17,000 km in their reliable Trakka, a Mercedes Benz Sprinter, took three months and would have been longer but for the need to return to attend their son's wedding in Melbourne.

In every town Bob and Helen sought out the Visitors Information Centre to book for tours into areas more remote than they wished to travel in the Trakka. Helen described in detail three of their many stops. Her description of the five day camping trip to see eight gorges in the Kimberleys lived up to its name "*Kimberly Wild*". Swimming across a river pushing ones possessions in a floating box, walking on rocks in an area where one could easily become lost, and trekking for hours to find vertical gorges, lush remnant rainforest and swimming holes was truly a challenge. Helen

told us of the whistling kites looking for road kill, the dust as they passed huge road trains, and seeing lots of fresh water crocodiles.

She described the Windjara Gorge, with huge vertical sides and striking red and orange colours and told us that the walls are really a coral reef which has been pushed up over thousands of years.



Reflections at Windjara Gorge

Another memorable journey was the overnight trip to the Horizontal Falls at Talbot Bay. Flying in a seaplane from Derby they saw wonderful scenery. They also travelled on a banana boat through the gap of the horizontal tidal waterfall in shark and



Water gushing through the Horizontal Falls at change of tide.

crocodile infested waters. Exhilarating but scary.

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Helen and Bob stayed in caravan parks and found that travellers were catered for with sites adjacent to ensuite facilities, but due to the high cost of fuel at the time fewer travellers were on the roads. Comparative costs were a high of \$2.39 for fuel, \$15 for four small batteries and \$7 for half a pound of butter (makes one wonder what happened to metric weights in the out-back). These costs emphasise just how expensive daily living can be in remote areas. One unexpected sight was that of a huge refrigerated road train which had broken down and everything inside appeared to be melting as there was a large amount of water running down the road.

An interesting initiative was burying two time capsules, a challenge

for their young grandsons to find in twenty years time. The locations were carefully selected and the capsules secretly buried. One however was discovered and has already found its way back to the Harvie household.

If you intend to follow in their footsteps make sure you take a communication system such as wireless internet and a water filter.

Thank you Helen for a fascinating presentation.



## Club News

### International Convention

Club Secretary, Keith Avent has received information about Rotary's 100th International Convention to be held in June 2009 in Birmingham, UK. Members who are interested may borrow the Club copy or visit the RI website.

### Car Parking

John Widdup reported on a successful day parking cars at Thor-oughbred Park on Melbourne Cup day. The team parked a constant stream of cars from 8.30 am, until they slowed to a trickle at 2 pm. John thanked the team for their efforts that enabled us to raise \$2000 for Club projects.

### Speaker Seeker

Phil Ibbotson announced that he will be arranging the Club's guest

speakers from 1 February and asked members to assist him in this task. He noted the Club will be purchasing a data projector and asked for someone to volunteer as equipment officer to bring this equipment to the meetings and set it up for the guest speakers.

Phil and the Club extended their thanks to Neale Emanuel (in absentia) for the work he has done this year in arranging excellent speakers for our meetings.

### Raven Reporter

Ros Osbourne

Photographs

Helen Harvie, Robin Cromer