



Board Directors

Other officers

President: Ros Osbourne
 Secretary & Public Officer: Keith Avent
 Immediate Past President: Shukry Sahrah
 President Elect: Gary Scott
 Treasurer: Lyn Svanosio
 Club operations: Des Pain
 Membership: John Widdup
 Community & Fun: Bernadette Cappello
 Rotary Foundation: Jeff Ibbotson
 Youth: Gary Scott

Vocational: Carlo Binutti
 Bulletin: Robin Cromer/John Gray/
 Alec Philip & Bruce Wyatt
 Attendance Chief: Norma Donaldson
 Program: Phil Ibbotson
 Sergeant Chief: Bruce Wyatt
 PR & Media: David Fox
 Archives: Keith Avent
 Member Data: Ken Goard
 Webmaster: Robin Cromer

Previous Issues of the Raven

Web: <<http://www.rotanet.com.au/woden>>

Contact Information

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 Secretary: keith.avent@bigpond.com

**Organiser of the Rotary Spring Cycle Ride of Canberra.
 Held annually in September.**



THE RAVEN

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WODEN

Meetings: 6.00 for 6.15 pm Wednesdays, Federal Golf Club, Gowrie Drive, Red Hill

THE NEW ROTARY YEAR

The 2009/2010 Rotary year is upon us. We have a new President in Ros Osbourne, a new District Governor in Mike Pedler and a new President of Rotary International in John Kenny.

new theme seriously last week by throwing up the two-up coins in his hands in such a way that our new President won the prize. Congratulations Ros!



The latter has reminded us that: "In Rotary everything we are, and everything we aspire to become, lies in the hands of Rotarians in their clubs. If our clubs are congenial and our meetings well run, if our service is carefully planned and competently carried out, if our members are qualified, honest, and respected in their vocations and communities, then all of Rotary will thrive. This is why we say *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands.*"

All joking aside, as illustrated in this issue of *The Raven*, President Ros, and her Board are already working hard to set the course for the club in the 12 months ahead. They had their first meeting for the year last Wednesday and we can already see that things are starting to fall into place.

However our plans for the year cannot be achieved without the full support of all in the club. Let's work together for another productive and fun-filled year of Rotary service.

Sergeant Gary Scott obviously took the

The back page

IRISH LOVE STORY

An elderly man lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favourite scones. He gathered his remaining strength, and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning on the wall, he slowly made his way to the kitchen.

With laboured breath, he leaned against the kitchen's door-frame. Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there, spread out upon the kitchen table were literally hundreds of his favourite scones. Was it heaven? Or was it one final act of love from his devoted Irish wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself towards the table. His aged and withered hand trembled towards a scone at the edge. It was suddenly smacked by his wife with a wooden spoon.

'Go back to bed' she said, 'they're for the funeral.'

Attendance last week

Club Guest & Speaker: Dr Juraj Chimiel
Visiting Rotarian: AKM Bazlur Rahman (Dhaka West, Bangladesh), Mike Rodd (Nowra), and Julie Samuels (Gungahlin)
Visitors: Marcus Donnelly, John & Anne Robson
Members present: 22; **Makeups:** 2
Percentage: 82.75%

APOLOGIES

BY 3 PM TUESDAY
Lyn Svanosio
 0431 028 214
lyn@robsonenviro.com.au

DINNER ROSTER

Program	THIS WEEK - 8 July	NEXT WEEK – 15 July
	Matthew Driver	Bob Buckley
	Sustainability	Analytics at the AIS
Introduction	Anne Marie Driver	Ian Excell
Appreciation	Jeff Ibbotson	Des Henderson-Kelly
Fellowship	Lukas Strohmayer	Alec Philip
	Des Henderson-Kelly	Neale Emanuel
Raven Recorder	Ken Goard	Bob Harvie
Birthdays	Robyn Singleton 12 July	Peter Evans 14 July, Natalie Strohmayer 17 July
Anniversaries	Nil	Eric & Rosemary Taylor 18 July

Dates for your diary

- ?? August – Next working party to Kintore
- 5-12 Sept. – Adventure in Citizenship (RAIC)
- Sun 27 Sept. – Rotary Spring Cycle Ride
- Sat 17 October – Next parking job
- 23-25 October – District Conference in Cooma
- 26-28 February – Canberra Show (parking)

TONIGHT

We welcome Matthew Driver who will speak on "Sustainability – one person can make a difference"

July marks The New Rotary Year

Last week – History of Czechoslovakia

The sergeant for the day Gary Scott opened the meeting welcoming our new President and proposed the toast to Rotary International. President Ros welcomed visitors, guest speakers and visiting Rotarians.

Visiting Rotarian AKM Bazlur Rahman, a Pharmaceutical Consultant, spoke and presented a banner. He belongs to the second oldest club in Bangladesh (Dhaka West 1953). He drew attention to the increasing population of the country, particularly of the elderly among whom there is a high incidence of cataracts.

We were honoured with a talk on the Czech Republic by His Excellency Juraj Chmiel who has been the Czech Ambassador to Australia since January 2008. His Excellency outlined his career which included time in Africa, and Somalia in particular before embarking on a diplomatic career.



What is now a country of some 10.5 m people, in an area just a bit bigger than Tasmania, Czechoslovakia first gained its independence as a nation following the breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire after WW I. The Ambassador described the period between the two world wars as probably the best in the country's short democratic life. This came to an end in 1938 with the German invasion. A post war struggle for power brought the Communists to power. This led to the first wave of migration from Czechoslovakia to Australia, when some 15,000 people left for a new life in this country.

Rumblings against communist rule began in 1967 as the country tried 'socialism with a human face'.

The Prague Spring came to an abrupt end in 1968 when half a million troops from the Soviet bloc invaded the country and snuffed out any deviation from hard line communist orthodoxy.

Winds of change started to blow again under the Charter 77 banner. The group spoke out on human rights which had suffered under the Communist regime. However, while President Gorbachev introduced perestroika in the Soviet Union, hard core Communists remained firmly in control in Czechoslovakia.

In November 1989 a student protest began the velvet revolution which led to the rapid fall of the Communist regime by December that year. However, Soviet troops remained in the country until June 1991.

Much to the surprise of most citizens, the country split into the Czech and the Slovak Republics in January 1993, as a result of an almost casual discussion between leaders.

Since then the Czech Republic has been integrating with Europe, by joining NATO and the EU and culminating this year with a term of Presidency of the Council of Europe. For its Presidency the Czech Republic adopted the theme 'a Europe without borders' and set priorities that included the economy and energy. The country has weathered the economic downturn quite well and will not consider adopting the Euro until 2012.

Phil Ibbotson expressed our appreciation to the Ambassador for giving us his time and for a most illuminating talk on his country.

Club News

Minister for fun: Bernadette Cappello encouraged members to come forward with suggestions on enjoying Rotary. She will not force members to have fun but for starters has mooted a visit to Lerida winery, Lake George, for a wine tasting (\$10) with optional lunch to follow and optional transport. If interested contact her.

Leave: Secretary Keith Avent clarified the requirements for leave. An application to the Board is no longer necessary but the dates away must be notified to the Attendance Officer by recording in her Book. This info will be passed to Secretary and Raven Editors.

Book tagging at libraries: President Ros reported that tagging has been completed on the south side and has raised over \$2,800 for the club. She thanked all volunteers and particularly Alec Philip for the many hours spent on this exacting task.

Resignation of Judy Skelton: The meeting noted with regret Judy's resignation. She will continue to get the Raven and remain a friend of the club. Present membership is 33.

Annual Membership Fee: The meeting noted that Treasurer Lyn will be proposing to the Board an annual fee of \$240 for the Rotary year 2009/2010. The fee is now payable.

GSE visits 2009/2010: President Ros circulated an information sheet for two visits this year - Arizona and China. Please contact her advising your intentions and offers of help.

Board Bytes – Ros Osbourne

Some of the items discussed at the Board meeting on 1 July are as follows:

Rotary Spring Cycle Ride: The agreement has been signed with the Rotary Club of Gungahlin. The Board discussed possible local charities to benefit from the Cycle Ride in addition to our fundraising for Kintore.

Budget: The Board passed the draft Budget and ratified the membership fee for 2009/2010 at \$240.

Group Study Exchange Team: Following support from a number of members, the Board will submit a program and offer to host one of the two GSE Teams coming to Canberra later this year.

Parking Agreement: The Board accepted the proposal presented by Gary Scott regarding an agreement with Thoroughbred Park to undertake the parking at twenty-three Race Meetings and Functions in 2009/2010.

Rotary Indigenous Health Scholarship: The final payment for Marion Bateup's scholarship has been made. No information is yet available regarding the support of another scholar.

Rotary Western Desert Health Project: Next week the Board will be meeting with the Management Team for the project to discuss the forward planning for it in 2009/2010.

Have you updated your contact information?

Some members are still using incorrect contact information for Bruce Wyatt. His email address is: bwyatt@netspeed.com.au and his work telephone number does not now apply – just use his home phone number.

RAVEN REPORTER

Jeff Ibbotson
Ken Goard

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Robin Cromer