



**Board Directors**

**Other officers**

President:	Ros Osbourne	Vocational:	Carlo Binutti
Secretary & Public Officer:	Keith Avent	Bulletin:	Robin Cromer/John Gray/ Alec Philip & Bruce Wyatt
Immediate Past President:	Shukry Sahhar	Attendance Chief:	Norma Donaldson
President Elect :	Gary Scott	Program:	Phil Ibbotson
Treasurer:	Lyn Svanosio	Sergeant Chief:	Bruce Wyatt
Club operations:	Des Pain	PR & Media:	David Fox
Membership:	John Widdup	Archives:	Keith Avent
Community & Fun:	Bernadette Cappello	Member Data:	Ken Goard
Rotary Foundation:	Jeff Ibbotson	Webmaster:	Robin Cromer
Youth:	Gary Scott		

**Previous Issues of the Raven**

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

**Contact Information**

PO Box 637 Woden ACT 2606  
Secretary: [keith.avent@bigpond.com](mailto:keith.avent@bigpond.com)



# 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

Organiser of the Rotary Spring Cycle Ride of Canberra.

Held annually in September.

## YOUR FELLOW MEMBER – Noel Hart

My great uncle was a bushranger, my father was a policeman and I have been an auditor and a priest. Not very auspicious but at least moving in the right direction!

Born in Bathurst in 1934 I spent my early life in Earlwood, Sydney - have vivid memories of the war years - trenches in the backyard and playground, sirens sounding the all clear, blinds drawn at night, street lights shaded and an American camp just down the street complete with concrete bunkers and free lollies for the kids. Primary School was at Clenton Park and high school at Canterbury, played soccer, cricket, tennis and table tennis and lived for sport.

I married Robin in 1960 (50 years in January!). We have two children – Stephen

named after our Penrith church and Kimberley - born in the Kimberleys where we spent three years from 1962.

After 4 years as a children's court chaplain (Wollongong) I left the ministry and took a position with the National Capital Development Commission. There I finished my time managing the financial programming of Commission design and construction.

Following the demise of the Commission in 1988 I became self-employed then did a stint as Secretary for an overseas aid organization and gradually retired. I still enjoy my sport, ride my bike play table tennis and enjoy watching my grandchildren participate at a high level in junior athletics.



## The back page

### SERENITY

I've sure getting old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, and fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, and can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine,

Take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation, hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 89 or 98. Have lost all my friends.

But, thank God, I still have my driver's licence!

## Attendance last week

**Club Guests & Speakers:** Emi Okuda, June Ren  
**Visiting Rotarians:** Nil  
**Other Guests:** Nil  
**Members present:** 18,  
**Makeups:** 8  
**Percentage:** 83.87 %

## APOLOGIES

**BY 3 PM TUESDAY**  
**Norma Donaldson**  
**6231 6680**  
**normad@apex.net.au**

### DINNER ROSTER

	<b>THIS WEEK – 7 October</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK – 14 October</b>
<b>Program</b>	Jeff Griffiths Marymead	David Bennett Indigenous community volunteers
<b>Introduction</b>	Ian Excell	Piers Booth
<b>Appreciation</b>	Phil Ibbotson	Jeff Ibbotson
<b>Fellowship</b>	Robyn Singleton Bruce Wyatt	Marcus Donnelly John Robson
<b>Raven Recorder</b>	Jeff Ibbotson	Christine Bell
<b>Birthdays</b>	Nell Pain 4/10, Celeste Rowlands 8/10	Helen Henderson-Kelly 10/10,
<b>Anniversaries</b>	Ken & Denise Goard 11/10	Nil

**PARKING AT THOROUGHRED PARK**

Saturday 17 Oct. Ian Excell (Leader), Carlo Binutti, Robyn Singleton, Shukry Sahhar

## Dates for your diary

**Parking** – See roster at foot of page 4 for next parking day.  
**15-19 Oct.** – Club hosts Shanghai GSE team  
**23-25 Oct.** – District Conference in Cooma  
**11 Nov.** – Club AGM  
**9 Dec.** – Club Xmas Party  
**23-30 Dec.** – No meetings  
**6 Jan.** – First meeting of 2010  
**26-28 Feb.** – Canberra Show (parking)

## TONIGHT

**We welcome Jeff Griffiths**  
  
**who will talk on**  
  
**Marymead**

October is Vocational Service Month

## Last week



The meeting was opened by Sergeant David Fox, who welcomed members and guests. Phil Ibbotson introduced guest speakers Emi Okuda from Japan and June Ren from Shanghai, China.

Imagine leaving your home, family and friends to travel thousands of kilometres to study in another country where not only the language, but also the culture is different. Emi and June did just that when they came to Canberra to study at the Australian National University; Emi to undertake environmental studies and June business studies.

Emi and June both chose to study in Canberra because of its reputation as a safe place and a quiet environment, conducive to study. They were not disappointed. They have been made to feel most welcome in Canberra, particularly by Club member Phil Ibbotson and his wife Louise, who acted as host parents to both young women during the early part of their time in Canberra.

Both Emi and June have been impressed with the high standard of education at the ANU. Whilst initially it was daunting to have to study everything in a foreign language, English, support was provided through the ANU College and appropriate foundation courses.

For Emi, her biggest challenge was to learn how to write a good essay. Some wise advice from host parent Phil Ibbotson to “Keep it Simple” worked well and she was delighted to report that, by following this sage advice, she had not failed any of her courses.

June has found it a little frustrating that buses in Canberra run less frequently than they do in Shanghai. However, she was delighted to report that the *Action* bus drivers are more friendly and polite than those in Shanghai; perhaps the different pace of life has something to do with this.

Both women have met students from many countries and made many friends during their time in Canberra. They both identified this as one of the benefits of studying in Australia – to meet people from other countries, expand their social networks and gain a broader perspective on the world.

Phil Ibbotson spoke briefly about Australian attitudes towards foreigners, especially those from Asia, in the period before the Second World War when he was a young lad. People were concerned about the “Yellow Peril” and even the Irish were viewed with some suspicion. That world has changed significantly, largely as a result of post-war migrations and the influx of international students. Emi and June’s experiences have been very different from what they might have been before the war.

After graduation Emi plans to return to Japan and seek employment in Japan or overseas, whilst June hopes to work in Australia or Shanghai.

Ray Newcombe thanked Emi and June for sharing their experiences and wished them both every success with the rest of their studies and their future careers.

**The Raven - Page 2**

## Club News

**Western Desert Health Project:** Project Co-ordinator David Fox reported that the Club had won a matching grant of US\$20,000 from Rotary International for the project. The grant is supported by a Rotary Club in South Korea. Congratulations David for all your hard work on this.

**Rotary Spring Cycle Ride of Canberra:** Cycling supremo John Widdup reported that, despite very wintry conditions, a record turn-out of 430 riders participated in the Rotary Spring Cycle Ride on Sunday 27 September 2009. The majority of riders undertook the longer routes, with 60 riders completing the route through Oaks Estate. There were no adverse incidents among the riders, however, Club member Des Pain was sporting an impressive shiner after a fall near his marshalling point. Thankfully no bones were broken and Des was fit enough to attend the 30 September club meeting. Noel Hart reported that the gross income from the cycle ride was approximately \$8,800. Once expenses have been paid, the profit will be shared with the Rotary Club of Gunghalin, whose members assisted with marketing of the ride. **Club members thanked John Widdup and Noel Hart for all their hard work to make the ride a success.**

**Board Meeting:** President Ros advised that the next Board meeting will be held on Saturday 10 October 2009. Members are invited to send any questions for the Board to Ros via email.

**Group Study Exchange Visit:** President Ros reminded members that the GSE team from China will be visiting Australia from 15 October to 12 November 2009. Woden Club will be hosting the team from 15-19 October. There will be a Chinese banquet meal on Friday 16 October at Silk Road, Isaacs. Members interested in attending the dinner should advise Ros. Drivers are still required on some days to ferry team members around Canberra and members who can assist should also advise Ros.

**RAVEN REPORTER**

Christine Bell

**PHOTOGRAPHER**

John Gray

## District Conferences – an enjoyable Rotary experience

If you attend all or part of our District 9710 conference in Cooma in two weeks time you will not be disappointed. By the way there are nearly 50 Rotary Clubs in our District.

The conference is a great opportunity to be in touch with other Rotarians, to learn more about Rotary and be inspired by what over 1.2 million Rotarians are achieving in the search for a better world.

The Conference speakers will make for an exciting and memorable conference. They include: **Peter FitzSimons** - Sportsman, Author, Media Personality, ex Wallaby; **John Schumann** - Singer, Songwriter, Motivational Speaker - “I was only 19”; **Direct from the USA - Chris Lewis** - The Wheelchair Foundation; and **Wayne Benson** - ex GSE team member.

To register go to: <http://www.rotaryd9710.org.au/district/2009-district-conference.html>



**The Raven - Page 3**