



**Board Directors**

**Other officers**

President: Ros Osbourne  
 Secretary & Public Officer: Keith Avent  
 Immediate Past President: Shukry Sahhar  
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 Club operations: Des Pain  
 Membership: John Widdup  
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 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

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**Previous Issues of the Raven**

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



# 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 – Robyn Singleton

**Occupation:** Mathematics teacher and Careers Advisor at Dickson College.

**My biggest Challenge:** Walking the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal in January 2008. It was hard work trying to breathe let alone walk at 5416 metres above sea level where we crossed Thorong La Pass. My daily training walks up Mount Ainslie were much easier!

**At school:** I went to Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar in Melbourne where I loved playing sport especially tennis and netball.

**Happiest moments:** The birth days of my two children were joyous. I was so happy to have healthy babies with all their fingers and toes! Sally (now a doctor) was born in 1983 and Rohan (now a physiotherapist) in 1986.

**After the children were born:** I stayed at home until both children were at school. I enjoyed my time as counsellor with the Nursing Mothers' Association (now known as Breastfeeding Australia).

**Organisations I have been involved with:** The Fraser Neighbourhood Watch Group and the Board for Fraser Primary School. Now I enjoy my involvement with Pedal Power and Woden Rotary.



**Favourite Gadget:** My pocket sized digital camera.

**Ambition:** To have a photo in the Bureau of Meteorology calendar.

**Guiltiest Pleasure:** Dark Chocolate.

**For relaxation I enjoy:** Cycling, bush walking, swimming and reading. I am a member of a book club.

**Favourite TV shows:** Sea Change, Grey's Anatomy and Numb3rs.

**My last meal would be:** Seafood platter followed by fresh berries with cream.

**If only I could:** Fly like I do in my dreams.

## The back page

### PEACE

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep. An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.' The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 - he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'

## Attendance last week

**Club Guests & Speakers:** Anil Chhabra  
**Visiting Rotarians:** Nil  
**Other Guests:** Susan Pelengaris  
**Members present:** 24,  
**Makeups:** 6  
**Percentage:** 96.6 %

## APOLOGIES

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

## DINNER ROSTER

	THIS WEEK – 11 November	NEXT WEEK – 18 November
<b>Program</b>	Marion Bateup Nurse education at Uni. of Canberra	Carlo Binutti Canberra Brickworks
<b>Introduction</b>	Lukas Strohmayer	Ajit Bannerjee
<b>Appreciation</b>	Annemarie Driver	Ros Osbourne
<b>Fellowship</b>	John Robson Robin Cromer	Lukas Strohmayer Bish Mukerjee
<b>Raven Recorder</b>	Gary Scott	Christine Bell
<b>Birthdays</b>	Ken Goard 12/11,	Bruce Wyatt 18/11
<b>Anniversaries</b>	Nil	Shukry & Helen Sahhar 21/11

**PARKING AT THOROUGHbred PARK**

Sun 29 Nov. –15 MEMBERS REQUIRED TO VOLUNTEER - GARY SCOTT ORGANISING

## Dates for your diary

**Parking** – See roster at foot of page 4 for next parking day.

**Tonight – Club AGM**

**25 Nov. –Landscape artist Brett Bailey, speaking**

**28-29 – District 9710 Rotary Focus**

**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**  
**Marion Bateup**  
**our Australian Rotary**  
**Health Indigenous Scholar**

## Last week

President Ros opened the meeting by welcoming for the second time a visitor, Susan Pelengaris. She went on to extol the work of the racecourse parkers on Melbourne Cup day who were able to cope with the extreme conditions, encountering heat, dust, mud and Gary's harsh discipline. She drew attention to the satisfied customer who handed money collector Pat Schmidt a donation of \$50 to the club in recognition of the work of Rotary in the community.

Piers attempted to finalize numbers to dine at Yarralumla on the occasion of the Brickworks visit and offered alternatives to any potential curry eaters with their own sauce.

Sergeant David Fox left vivid images of Neale not paying his full attention to the job and Ajit in his memorable solar fan hat for which they paid handsomely in fines.

The speaker, Anil Chhaba, at very short notice provided a talk aided with pictures on the topic of his life and the Indian Army.



He started by recognizing our club members who understood his background. His father was in the Indian Army and married an Australian who was working in the USAF Radar corps. They had met originally in India and both some years later had jobs in Washington but left there separately.

Anil's father's aunt, a Walt Disney artist, had divorced in America and with her child lived with Anil's mother in America until his mother followed Anil's father back to India where they married. But the marriage had to be performed three different ways to accommodate the fact of it being a Farangi, a Sikh and an army wedding in front of a magistrate,

The army complicated things by transferring his father to Frankfurt. A further period and they were transferred back to India in a promotion to a 1000 tank corps.

At the age of 13 Anil was summoned one day to be told he was leaving to be sent to an army training college as had his brother following the family tradition. This led to him being posted to a Sikh infantry unit. He obeyed orders and was told to become a parachutist - a story being that if the parachute didn't open he could spend the rest of his life to puzzle why.

He eventually did 4,917 jumps including a HALO jump from 40,000 ft. with oxygen. He took part in at least two wars, Bangladesh in 1971, Daka City, and Karachi where he was used to drop napalm on the wharves for three days. India has some 1,700 kms of what he calls a rabbit fence on the top of the Himalayas where he spent time in their army buddy system. Army discipline caused him to spend three periods doing RI. He provided impressive details on the size and capabilities of his Army of 1,350,000 men and 30,000 tanks.

Ajit Banerjee gave the vote of thanks

## Club News

**Future program events:** On 25 November the speaker will be Brett Bailey, a local artist. Born in Melbourne he grew up in England & Germany. He has an interest in the links between Asia & Australia. Recently he has concentrated on Australian landscapes. The talk topic is 'How and why Art is beneficial both within and between societies'. Unfortunately our meeting that night will be in the general part of the golf club with some noise interference.

**Western Desert Health Project:** Shukry Sahhar reported that our volunteer electricians Cliff Hicks and Geoff Hunt have now finished all power points and are now installing the data points. Very hot conditions are reported and they will be returning to Canberra in about a week.

**Group Study Exchange Shanghai Team Farewell:** There will be a dinner at University House to farewell the team on Tuesday November 10 at 6.30 pm. Contact President Ros if you want to attend.

**Board Meetings:** The next formal meeting will be the 25 November. There will be a meeting tonight to discuss the future of the cycle ride. Members are invited to send any questions for the Board to Ros via email.

**Eric Taylor:** Keith Avent reported that Eric Taylor, our long time club member and past member has transferred to Clare Holland House. We wish him a comfortable stay there.

## ShelterBox

At the District Conference in Cooma recently delegates learnt that in 2009 some 6,095 ShelterBoxes had been deployed in many different countries around the world. Rotary Clubs can finance a box with a contribution of \$1,200. President Ros inspected an unpacked ShelterBox on display at the conference.



A ShelterBox provides shelter and warmth for at least 10 people for a prolonged period. Each box is uniform in size, and normally contains a 10 person tent, 10 thermal blankets, a multi-fuel cooker and ancilliary equipment such as water purification tablets, torch and batteries, spade, rope, plastic bags etc., the basics a family would need after losing everything in a disaster.

The contents can be varied when requested by aid agencies. When ShelterBoxes are being sent to tropical climates like SE Asia, blankets are often replaced with an extra tent and equipment for another 10 people.

## Have you arranged a dinner roster swap?

It is appreciated that you cannot predict all of your commitments many weeks ahead and inevitably you will find yourself rostered on a night you cannot attend Rotary. In these circumstances all you need to do is arrange a swap with a fellow member.

**BUT PLEASE REMEMBER TO ADVISE THE RAVEN EDITORS OF THE SWAP.**

RAVEN REPORTER

BOB HARVIE

PHOTOGRAPHERS

ROBIN CROMER

JOHN GRAY

BRUCE WYATT