

**ROTARY CLUB OF WODEN INC.**



**Board Directors**

**Other officers**

President: Gary Scott  
 Secretary: Mike Rodd  
 Immediate Past President: Ros Osbourne  
 President Elect: Bernadette Cappello  
 Treasurer: Lyn Svanosio  
 Club Service & Administration: Jeff Ibbotson  
 Projects: David Fox  
 Community: Shukry Sahhar  
 International & Foundation: John Widdup  
 Youth & Social Activities: Christine Bell

Vocational: Carlo Binutti  
 Bulletins: John Gray/ Des Pain/Alec Philip & Bruce Wyatt  
 Attendance Chief: Norma Donaldson  
 Program: Phil Ibbotson  
 Sergeant Chief: Bruce Wyatt  
 PR & Media: David Fox  
 Public Officer: 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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**SOME RECENT WORDS OF RI PRESIDENT RAY KLINGINSMITH**

*Rotary has both a distinguished heritage and a bright future. My primary task as President is to enhance the vitality and viability of Rotary clubs and to enable them to succeed in the midst of societal changes. This is an important task because it is the clubs that address and alleviate the root problems of society and thereby make the world a better place.*

**Attendance last week**

**Introducer & Guest Speaker:** Eris Harrison and Wilma Robb  
**Guests:** Maureen Booth & Lisbeth Henderson-Kelly  
**Members present:** 21  
**Makeups:** 1  
**Percentage:** 68.97%

**APOLOGIES**

**BY 3 PM TUESDAY**  
**Norma Donaldson**  
**6231 6680**  
**[normad@apex.net.au](mailto:normad@apex.net.au)**

**DINNER ROSTER**

	<b>THIS WEEK – 21 July</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK – 28 July</b>
<b>Program</b>	District Governor Bill Seelis Rotary and District 9710	Neil Inall Food glorious food
<b>Introduction</b>	President Gary	Alec Philip
<b>Appreciation</b>	President Gary	Piers Booth
<b>Fellowship</b>	Alec Philip	Des Pain
	Neale Emanuel	Sue Pelengaris
<b>Raven Recorder</b>	Bernadette Cappello	Christine Bell
<b>Birthdays</b>	Norma Donaldson 22/7, Dorothy Macklin 22/7	John Widdup 26/7, Maureen Booth 31/7
<b>Anniversaries</b>	Annemarie & Rod Driver 20/7	Nil

**PARKING AT THOROUGHbred PARK**

Friday 23 July: Ros Osbourne (Leader), Piers Booth, Phil Ibbotson, Des Pain, Alec Philip



# The Raven

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Woden

Meetings: 6.00 for 6.15 pm Wednesdays, Federal Golf Club, Gowrie Dr, Red Hill, ACT.

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

**RI COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION 2010 – Keith Avent**

The Council met in Chicago on 25-30 April this year to consider changes in the way things are done in Rotary. It has representation from districts all over the world, and PDG Bob Greeney represented District 9710.



Rotary Peace Communities, landmine relief, relief in designated disaster areas, and clean energy. We will need to wait and see what emerges on these. Meanwhile, the PolioPlus program remains a top priority for RI.

There were 220 items considered, of which 66 were adopted with or without amendments. I shall comment on only a few of these.

**General Matters**

- \* The RI motto “He profits most who serves best” was gender-neutralised to read: *They profit most who serve best.*
- \* The traditional four avenues of service (Club, Vocational, Community and International) are to be extended to include a fifth one, New Generations, to place an emphasis on service work relating to young people. This Club has already had an emphasis on this field for 25 years
- \* Some of the resolutions adopted called for the RI-wide adoption of a Rotarian Declaration of World Peace, and programs on

**Club Matters**

- \* Clubs will be encouraged to create training and leadership committees. We are already moving on this field.
- \* Qualification as an 85er and rules for counting attendance by an 85er are being altered. Details later.
- \* Proposals to allow variation of the standard Rotary practice of weekly meetings were considered but none adopted. However, it was agreed to permit up to two “e- clubs” (electronically linked groups) per District, which by definition do not have meetings in the traditional sense.
- \* The RI Board is to consider requesting Districts to take a greater role in public relations matters - a point of potential importance in the Canberra area.

**Dates for your diary**

- Racecourse parking – roster at foot of page 4**
- 4 Aug – Julie Colbran- Abalashrama (Bangalore India)**
- 11 Aug. – Graham Waite TADACT**
- 18 Aug – Forum**
- 21/22 Aug – Aust. Rotary Conference - Hellenic Club**
- 25 Aug – Phillip Flood, Former Secretary, Dept. of Immigration – Indonesia**
- 22/24 Oct – District Conference, Nowra**

**TONIGHT**

We extend a warm welcome to  
**DG BILL SEELIS**

**July marks the new Rotary year**

## Things you should know about

**DG's visit to our club:** DG Bill Seelis will meet the Board at 5.15pm today at the Federal Golf Club to discuss our plans for the year.

**Normal Board Meeting 28 July:** This meeting will follow the completion of the club meeting at 8pm and should conclude at 9pm.

**Donation to Western Desert Health Project:** The club lost a long-time group of associates and valued helpers with the recent closing down of the Canberra-Woden Inner Wheel Club. President Gary told us of the kind donation of \$1250 from them for the Western Desert Health Project.

**Club pamphlet:** This has been updated by Des Pain and is available for your use. It is useful when you are talking to someone interested in what Rotary is all about and perhaps in joining Rotary. Please contact him by email if you want copies.

**Australian Rotary Conference:** A reminder that this event will be on 21/22 August at the Hellenic Club. RI President Ray Klinginsmith is expecting to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to broaden your appreciation of Rotary both in the world generally and in Australia. Persons wishing to attend should register ASAP. Cost is \$145 per person. Already President Gary and Past President Ros are registered. Please contact Gary if you are planning to attend. For further information and registration go to:

<http://www.rotarydownunder.com.au/australianrotaryconference/>

**Western Desert Health Project – Working parties:** Two more working parties are currently in planning for Kintore (pictured below), one on installation of cupboards and other jobs about 30 July to 5 August, and plumbing about 4 to 14 August. The experts are lined up, and Shukry Sahhar is looking for helpers. Can you help?

Please contact Shukry at: [sahhars@bigpond.com](mailto:sahhars@bigpond.com)



## 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.**

## Last week

Sergeant David Fox opened the meeting, the second in President Gary's year. The pleasant talkfest among members until 7 pm was appreciated.

David reported that following his interview on ABC 666 about the Kintore project, he had received feedback from several directions, including offers of help.

President Gary reported that sadly Lyn Svanosio's sister died suddenly last Saturday. We extend our condolences to Lyn and family.

Bernadette Cappello reported on her visit to Europe, attending the Valencia Grand Prix and tripping around a number of exciting places. This was followed by Jeff Ibbotson's resume of his visit to the UK, taken up with cycling, sailing, canal boating, communing with nature in the Scottish Western Isles, and even managing a short spell in London. Good examples of RI President Ray Klinginsmith's words about bridging continents?

Our speaker, Wilma Robb, was introduced by Eris Harrison who reminded us of the large number of people who suffer long-term trauma because of childhood spent in institutions such as orphanages and homes. Eris is with the *Association for Forgotten Australians*, which was originally involved in advocacy and promotion. They are now working to develop a support and service centre in the ACT.



Wilma Robb, who is a survivor of this "system", is now able to talk about her experiences. Wilma, who only learnt to read a few years ago, was placed in a children's orphanage in 1953 at the age of 5, due to her mother's illness with cancer. Until age 13, she was variously living at home with a dysfunctional family, in foster care where she was "treated like a slave", and in another institution. At 13, she came before the Court, where she did not have legal representation, and was judged to be uncontrollable and exposed to moral danger under the child welfare code. She was made a NSW State ward and committed to a girls' home. After running away again, she was committed to Parramatta girls' home, where she described brutal treatment, including the forceful administration of a drug unsuitable for young people. She resisted, and was sent to Hay girls' institution. She talked of rigid discipline, harassment and sadistic work regimes. On her return to Parramatta she was again punished and put in isolation.

After 15 months at Parramatta and Hay, she went home, but could not function in the community, and attempted suicide. She was sent again to Parramatta and Hay. She told us that, because she was so used to the regimes there, this was where she felt "safe" (a common syndrome for people in institutions).

Wilma told us that she now looks back with deep bitterness on her four and a half years in Parramatta and Hay. She recalls that she was never accused of criminal offences, and she learnt to live in the "system" by disassociation. She told us of problems of child abuse, lack of education and social skills, isolation, drug use and many others. She has often felt alone, isolated and angry.

The release of documentation from Government and institutional sources in recent years has helped to shed light on the situation faced by Wilma and others in her situation. She had the opportunity to present her experiences at a Senate inquiry in 2004.

Copies of a booklet were provided to members. It reports amongst other things that "On 16 November 2009, the Australian Parliament, through the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition, formally acknowledged and apologised for the experiences of Forgotten Australians and Child Migrants, their harsh treatment and their ongoing trauma. It is hoped that the public recognition of their needs increases awareness and stimulates improved responses from governments, past providers of 'care' and the health and welfare community".

An emotional expression of thanks by Sue Pelengaris was perhaps the best indication of the way we all felt about Wilma's story.

President Gary closed the meeting pointing out to the speaker that "the 30 people here tonight will not forget your talk".

RAVEN REPORTER

KEITH AVENT

PHOTOGRAPHER

ANNEMARIE DRIVER  
JOHN GRAY