

ROTARY CLUB OF SYDNEY CBD



BULLETIN



The Rotary Club of Sydney CBD
Rotary District 9750
Meet 1st & 3rd Monday 6pm for 6.30pm
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel
169 Castlereagh Street Sydney NSW 2000
PH:+ 61 2 9181 3128
www.rotarysydneycbd.com.au

FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

International President 2008-09 DK Lee
District 9750 Governor 2008-09 Barney Koo

16 February 2009

This Week's Speaker SHARON JACKSON



Sharon Jackson has conducted her own recruiting firm in Sydney for the last 20 years.

Her involvement in Tradewinds goes back 15 years and she has been a Director for more than five years.

Tradewinds imports tea and coffee from developing countries. It is a not for profit organisation and any surplus profits are spent on projects in East Timor, Sri Lanka and PNG.

Tradewinds offers an alternative to multinational commodity trading: it supports sustainable agriculture and sustainable development. This means encouraging small holders in developing countries by buying their products and by developing markets for them in Australia. We import value added products where ever possible so that the economic benefits remain in the producing countries.

Tradewinds was a major contributor to our recent District 9750 Conference whereby all Speakers were presented with an exclusive pack of their products.
Tradewinds website www.tradewinds.org.au

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S 104 ANNIVERSARY
21st February 2009
Sutherland United Services Club 6.30 for 7pm start
\$40 per person

Saturday 21 February is Rotary 104th Anniversary and our club will be celebrating with Rotary 9750 District at a special District Dinner. President Jim Harrison will induct Past Rotary International President Bill and Lorna Boyd (pictured) as "Friends of Rotary CBD". Another exciting experience for CBD Rotary, will be the induction by Past International President Bill of three new members to the Sydney CBD Rotary Maori Satellite Group.



It is a rare occasion on both counts. It is the also first time someone of such high rank in Rotary circles has been inducted into our club or conversely, carried out an induction of members in our Club. What an honour to be inducted by Past International President Bill Boyd into the first Rotary Maori Satellite group in the world!!!

What a way to celebrate a 104th birthday!
LAST CALL FOR MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE 104TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER ON 21 FEBRUARY 2009 Book with PP Joan Richards TONIGHT!!!

FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM
6.00 PRE – DINNER DRINKS
CHAIRMAN: PAST PRESIDENT GRAHAM STEER
6.30/40 CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
 (Remembering that this is the first anniversary of "The Apology" by our Prime Minister in February 2008)
"I wish to acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the traditional owners on whose land we hold this meeting tonight.
I pay respect to elders past and present"

ROTARIAN: Kim Smith

THE TOAST TO AUSTRALIA
Condolences to bush fire victims and pay tribute to the Fire Fighters and all volunteers of the disaster

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
BY PRESIDENT JIM HARRISON

REPORTS

SPEAKER: Ms Sharon Jackson
Introduction: Rees Rear
Vote of Thanks: Sasha Miroshnikoff

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PRESIDENT JIM HARRISON

CLOSE: ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

(At the close of the meeting a short Board meeting)



URGENT AND IMPORTANT CHANGE TO ROTARY DINNER MEETING BOOKING

As from this week we are required to give the Castlereagh Hotel our numbers by 12MD FRIDAY. This is a major change from what we have been used to, so we ask members to bear with us by advising of **YOUR ATTENDANCE - YES OR NO –each and every time and whether you will have guests.**

Also it seems to upset the apple cart if we bring along guests at the last moment – but do not worry - we need to do some forward thinking and have further discussions on the matter of visiting guests and visiting Rotarians"!!!! We will keep you informed of this and other matters in due course.

CONDOLENCES

To the Koo and Family

The President and members of the Rotary Club of Sydney CBD send sincere sympathy to Lorraine and District Governor Barney Koo and their families on the untimely death of Lorraine's father Daniel Chen. Daniel was a well known and highly respected member of the Sydney business community, also Sydney Rotary Club and of his Church.

Our thoughts are with Lorraine and Barney and the family at this sad time.

A Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 22 February 2009 at the Chinese Christian Church , 100 Alfred Street Milsons Point at 2pm. In lieu of flowers – donations to "The Chinese Christian Church, Missionary Fund Victorian Fire victims

Our thoughts are also with the families of the deceased in the horrific Victorian fires .

Our heart goes out to all people who have lost their homes and their friends.

We know that Rotary in that area is stepping up to the mark and our Board will be deciding on what assistance our Club can provide.

Key College help the kids of fire victims

Some of the street kids from Key College with their teacher Ben, travelled down to Victoria to give assistance and encouragement to the children and young people victims of the bush fires.

They will play games with them , read to them, and talk. The street kids know what it is like to be homeless and traumatised!

Special thanks to the kids from Key College on behalf of the President and all members of CBD Rotary

CBD CLUB AGAIN GIVES AID TO FIGHT MALARIA

With some 300 million people infected with malaria, including at least one million deaths from this tropical disease, the **Rotary Against Malaria (RAM)** is being supported by many districts in Australia, New Zealand, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

For the past few years our Club has supported the campaign with funds to provide bed nets impregnated with insecticide for distribution to affected areas. **President Jim presented this year's cheque of \$2,500 to the District to buy the impregnated nets for distribution to a particular Village in PNG.**

Club members

Leave of absence – approved by Board

A number of members are on leave at the moment for good and sufficient reason, including:

Virginia Binns, Bruno e Silva Castro, Kaye Gordon, Alycia Inglis, Michael Kenyon, Sharon Kerr, Fred Naboya, Sarah Overton, Caroline Soucek as well as a couple of exempt.

Resignation: Bridget O’Kane - The resignation of Bridget was accepted with sincere regret. Bridget was part of the Rotary Edge initiative which due to circumstances did not develop further and she has now given her spare time to The Life Saving Association. Bridget was also the driving force in revamping RYPEN which was taken over by the Rotary District 9750 Committee last year.

Thanks are extended to Bridget for the excellent work on the club website. Bridget is willing to continue with it and to assist anyone who would like to take it over. It is hoped that Bridget will return to membership of Sydney CBD when she finds that she has more time to spare.

ROTARY IS THERE AT THE VICTORIAN FIRE DISASTER WITH SHELTERBOX AND OTHER ASSISTANCE

Our Club has given over 15 Shelter Boxes in the past couple of years for overseas victims of natural disasters. Now some will go to our own Australian people.

Each Shelterbox contains up to two 10 person dome tents, thermal blankets, water purification tablets, a



multi fuel stove, tools and other essential equipment.

Shelterbox. **This was an initiative of Tom Henderson in the year 2000 as a project of the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard Cornwell UK, which now is supported by Rotary Clubs worldwide, including our CBD Rotary.**



WHY ARE WE ROTARIANS?

Because one member of a club can have an idea which, put into practice by their club, can spread worldwide to benefit our fellow human beings!!

One person can do extraordinary things under the umbrella and with the backing of Rotary!
THAT IS WHAT WHY WE ARE ROTARIANS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HONORARY MEMBER JUSTICE MICHAEL KIRBY AC CMG ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA



Letter sent 2 March 2009

“Dear Michael

President Jim Harrison and all members at CBD Rotary, send congratulations on completion of your 13 years of service on the High Court Bench. Your balanced and well defined judgments have helped bring about long overdue change in important areas of law. The High Court will be a diminished place without your presence.

More than that, thank you for your compassion, love and understanding of everyday people and those in a minority who through you have had their “voice heard”. You are a champion! You have a left big shoes to be filled on the Bench!

Which reminds me of a quote from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow from “A Psalm of Life” *“Lives of great men all remind us, we can make our lives sublime. And, departing, leave behind us footprints in the sands of time”*

Michael, I know that the next phase of your working life, whatever it is, will benefit those less fortunate. *That’s how you are!*

I know that you will not slow down and probably get even busier – but think of us at Rotary CBD sometimes! We have a small presentation to give you on reaching 70 “not out” – so I hope that you and Johan can find time to make a date available to come and see us.

Wishing you complete health and happiness for the next phase of your life and with anticipation to seeing you in the near future”.

PS – Michael has replied thanking the Club and indicated that he and Johan will join us at one of our meetings in the very near future (ED)

NEW HOPE GALA DINNER 6 MARCH AT LE MONTAGE LEICHHARDT

The Club’s major International fund raiser for this year’s project is to assist the orphan street children of Salvador Brazil. Children as young as 6 years live on the streets and are subjected the most horrendous treatment by all and sundry.

The sisters of the Mary McKillop Foundation have procured a small property with a couple of buildings established – BUT it desperately needs a fence to enclose the buildings. This will enable the children to escape the ravages of the street and to come inside where they will be safe.

We are endeavouring to fund – “THE FENCE OF SAFETY”!!! The Fundraising committee have carried out tremendous work in record time to meet our commitment. We need 200 people to attend the Gala Dinner on Friday 6 March.

Can you help IN ANY WAY – if so email Shirley Doust shirleydoust@bigpond.com ASAP

**SHELTER BOXES DEPLOYED IN FIRE DISASTER
RELIEF
First response- Aid delivered to Kinglake and
Whittlesea.**

WILD FIRE RAGES IN VICTORIA



A first delivery of 50 Shelterboxes was made to the fire ravaged Whittlesea area last Wednesday, 40 boxes are in Kinglake, with 10 at Whittlesea recovery centre.

Shelterbox General Manager Jenni Heenan spent the day with the response team and witnessing scenes that she described as "unimaginable loss and destruction". Jenni was so moved by the sense of community and especially the support given by the Rotarians in these areas. "When people saw what these green boxes contained, they could not believe that they were being given a tent, blankets and other equipmentand at no cost! They are so grateful. Tearfully saying their need is NOW". **That is what Rotary has provided!!**

Personal donations will be received by The Rotary Club of Sydney CBD to the Shelterbox project. Donations are tax deductible! Read more about Shelterbox at www.shelterboxaustralia.org.au

From District Governor Barney

During my Official Visit to RC Picton, I was much encouraged by the comments of the members and their Board. For a club of their size and limited resources, the Board will be deliberating on dipping into their club reserves to make a five-figure sum donation to our D9750 Disaster

Relief Appeal announced. *DG Barney*

Below is a précis of what the Victorian Rotary Districts are doing.

Rotary District DG 9520 (SA): " Each Club within our District to look at raising (from the general public) or donating \$1,000 plus. Our aim and objective in this would be to raise a minimum of \$100,000 which would then be made available to the five affected Districts in Victoria. These funds would be operated by them through the creation of a single multi-District account. This would then allow appropriate and agreed dispensation of the funds. Agree that the District 9520 Disaster Fund be utilised over and above the monies raised. In the future, Clubs or groups of Clubs to look at providing working groups as was done at Port Lincoln, in order to assist in re-building, re-fencing, and other things.

Working in the affected areas, we intend to use these funds on medium to long-term assistance with a primary emphasis on community rebuilding. Donations of goods are specifically not sought through Rotary due to difficulties with their distribution. We simply don't have the resources to warehouse and distribute goods.

The RI Director for our Zone, John Lawrence, responded to offer of help from California USA in the following manner: "We are heartened by your Zone's enquiry to help the victims of "Black Saturday" in Victoria. The needs are great and District 9800 have established a Trust Fund with all the necessary approvals - they encourage any fundraising efforts to be directed to this fund. D9710 DG Phil Mewitt (phil@mewitt.net) has set up an Australian Tax Deductible vehicle for those Aussies who need tax deductibility. Our RISPPPO Manager Frank Pezzimenti is also in the loop. D9800 advises that whilst there are many Government and Non-Government Organisations already working in the affected areas, we intend to use these funds on medium to long-term assistance with a primary emphasis on community rebuilding. I know that District 9710's history they responded to the Shoalhaven fires several years back with a "Bring them home" campaign for loaned caravans/mobile homes. Australian Districts have a practical way of getting public donations by asking clubs to set up donation points in their local malls (after gaining Mall Management permission and that involves presenting Insurance certificates and signage etc.), so we encourage Aussie Districts to help in that way, whilst Queensland Districts will be focus on the needs of the flooding in north Queensland."

4. District Governor 9700 (Country NSW): "Thank you for your emails and information, our hearts bleed for you all who are so adversely affected by this disaster. I have been flat out organizing media, press releases and the like to our clubs and communities.

We are a very ambitious bunch in 9700 and we would like to exceed the Tsunami total of \$340,000 I think we can do it."



