



ROTARY CLUB OF BOX HILL



Internet
www.boxhillrotary.com.au

Email
info@boxhillrotary.com.au

Volume 54 Issue 19
Tuesday 24th of November 2009

A Message from the President

To be a Shining Light in your community or in your work is not an easy thing and something that I guess most of us would be proud to achieve. To be recognised for that achievement is an even greater honour for anyone. But for someone with a disability to be a Shining Light is an even greater achievement and worthy of special recognition. That is what the "Shine On Awards" are all about, recognising the outstanding community service and achievements of people with disabilities who by their actions serve as "Shining Examples" to the community. The awardees through their commitment to helping others show the true Rotary Spirit of "Service above Self" and contribute to the quality of life of others in the community.

First presented in Queensland in 1993, the Awards have recognised many people over the ensuing years and are presented annually at a special Presentation Ceremony focusing on those with a disability. Since 1999 the Rotary Southern District Committee has administered the Awards in Victoria with the Presentation Ceremony being hosted by Districts on a rotational basis. At the ceremony held last year and hosted by the Rotary Club of Richmond thirty-nine people received Certificates of Commendation and twelve received an impressive Shine On trophy. Like many others at the ceremony I came away feeling very humble after hearing some of the things that had been achieved and I know we all felt immensely proud of the recipients.

This year it is the turn of District 9810 to host the Awards and the Whitehorse cluster clubs are organising the Presentation Ceremony. The Ceremony will take place on Sunday, May 30, 2010, at an excellent venue which is being provided to the committee by Monash University. The lecture theatre which is being made available for the Awards has ample seating and provision for a number of wheel chairs plus facilities for projecting the nominees' achievements onto two large screens for all to see. Refreshment facilities are also being made available along with ample parking space. The committee is most grateful to Monash University for making these excellent facilities available. It will be necessary to have the help of volunteers on the day of the Presentation.

Nominees for the Awards are in two categories – Youth, ages 15-20 years and Adult, 21 years and over, age unlimited, both in any field of endeavour. The nominees must be residents of Australia. Nominations for these awards are now open and will close on February 25, 2010. Nominations can be from any form of disability from mild to severe but all nominees must have achieved something in the community within the limits of their disability.

Members are urged to seek out suitable candidates to be nominated by the club for these prestigious Awards. We need to act now. Good places to contact are schools, businesses, councils, disability centres and sporting clubs who may employ disabled people. There is no cost to the club to nominate and no cost to attend the Presentation Ceremony. Please see me for a nomination form and please search for a suitable candidate.

The future of Rotary is in Your Hands.

Yours in Rotary,

Tom Thorpe

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our meeting this week was chaired by Vice President David Tolstrup, and in his opening remarks made welcome our Guest Speaker – Senior Sergeant Luke Smeaton. David also reminded members of the Australian Rotary Health Seminar being held on SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 29 at The Waverley RSL, Coleman Parade, Glen Waverley commencing at 9am until 11.00am. Members wishing to attend this seminar should make contact with Robert Leach.

David then asked Chairman Ray McLeod-Dryden to take the chair and preside over the balance of the meeting.

SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – Tim Lynn. A make-up for Robert Leach at the District Australian Rotary Health Meeting was recorded.

OP-SHOP – Clem Joyce. Following Clem's e-mail to members late last week in which he advised the ill health of one of our volunteers – Mr Don Case, at the Op-Shop, Clem further advised that Don underwent surgery on Sunday last (15th Nov), and had since suffered a stroke and was now in intensive care. Clem thanked members for their response to his plea for assistance to cover Don's shifts at the Op-Shop. In the interim, Geoff Swain and Peter Cummins will share the Monday morning shift until further notice.

LOCAL PUBLICITY – Geoff Swain. Geoff was visiting the Bennettswood Neighbourhood House recently, and they were most appreciative of the Community Grant they had recently received. Due to some changes in their arrangements at the house, they were having some difficulties balancing their budgets for capital equipment and the day-to-day running of their centre. The Community Grant money has certainly assisted them in providing some capital equipment so needed in the house.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH SEMINAR – Robert Leach. Robert expanded on the previous comments of Vice President David, in discussing the up-coming Seminar. Speakers will include Professor Tony Jorm on the topic of

how ARH selects Research Projects, Veronica Kyle – an indigenous medical scholar, Judy Nettleton – Director of ARH will discuss the Financial Position of the ARH. Those members wishing to attend on Sunday November 29 at 9.00am should see Robert Leach.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – Joe Mardjetko. Joe requested a meeting of his committee after this evening's meeting at the Golf Club.

CLUB ELECTIONS – Peter Cummins. Peter reminded members of the up-coming elections for the positions of President (2011-2012) and 3 Directors positions for the Board commencing on July 1, 2010. All members were asked to consider their current role in the Club, and to give serious consideration to nominating themselves for one of these four positions. There are other Club Administrative positions to be filled – Almoner, Bulletin Editor, On-to-Conference Chairman etc, and these positions too will need to be filled for the commencement of the next Rotary Year on July 1, 2010.

Members were asked to put their names forward, and NOT to leave it to the person sitting next to you. Our Club has enjoyed a wonderful 53 Year History, and this has only been achieved by members using their skills for the benefit of The Rotary Club. Nominations for the Director positions close with the Secretary on December 1. New members were particularly encouraged to nominate, as the best way to learn more about Rotary is to BECOME INVOLVED IN IT, at an operational level.

SERGEANT – Carol Pawsey. Ray Riehm was fined for wearing Rae's dinner plaque. All members of the International Committee were fined to mark the recent record contributions to Shelterbox. Members NOT attending the Australian Rotary Health Seminar were fined. Mick Matthews was fined for an up-coming birthday. Secretary Tim was fined for his pose in last week's photo (Tim had accepted the nominating committees nomination for President in 2011/2012). The bulletin editor was fined for the non-supply of the Shortbreads in the list of Christmas Offerings.

All members were asked for \$1 fine to celebrate the up-coming wedding anniversary of Dr John and Dr Alison Booth.



Members celebrate with Dr John and Dr Alison Booth their Up-coming wedding anniversary.

LAST WEEK'S GUEST SPEAKER

Chairman Ray McLeod-Dryden introduced our Guest Speaker – Luke Smeaton – a Senior Sergeant, and Acting Inspector at Rosanna Police Station. Luke's responsibilities as Acting Inspector cover the area from Oakleigh to Wodonga, but it not Luke policing duties he will be discussing this evening, he will be talking about his experiences in materially assisting a hospital in Kenya. Luke's police work keeps him busy enough, and all of the time and effort devoted to the Kenya Project is undertaken in Luke's spare time.

Luke opened his presentation with one of those 'don't mention the war' type stories related to his service in The Victoria Police, concerning a criminal, the press and his then boss Ray McLeod-Dryden. At the end of the day, all was fine, the criminal was caught and is soon to be released from jail.

The real reason for Luke being with us has nothing to do with his policing activities, but relates to a deed of International Goodwill Luke has undertaken to assist his very skilled surgeon friend Mr Peter Bird at a hospital in

Kijabe, Kenya. Kijabe is about an hour's drive from Nairobi, and is township which boasts a very well equipped teaching hospital, owned by the African Inland Church. The hospital boasts 240 bed accomodation, and is the third busiest surgical hospital in Kenya. Kenya itself is in the top five developing countries in Africa, albeit that Health Care regulation is virtually non-existent.

Much of the equipment for the hospital has been sourced by both Peter Bird and Luke from Australian Hospitals which were up-dating their equipment ranging from hospital beds, to operating theatre lighting, to specialized equipment for the surgical hospital. The latest equipment was sourced from a hospital in Hamilton – ICU patient monitors, and operating theatre lighting, all in good condition, but because of the up-grading of facilities in Hamilton, they were declared surplus, and would have found their way to the local tip, had not Luke intervened with a request to ship them to Kenya. Beds too were sourced from a South Australian hospital – same reason – good condition, but destined for the tip, as they were

considered surplus to their requirements. Now all in Kenya.

Luke showed slides of the three containers which had been sent from Australia to Kenya, all filled to capacity with hospital equipment. Rotary had been a big help to Luke and his colleagues in assisting them with the permit information, and with the physical shipment of the containers to Kenya, insurances, and having people on the ground to make sure the goods were not pilfered. Without the assistance of Rotary, the job of getting these materials to Kenya would have been a lot harder. Rotary was a wonderful organization, he said.

The hospital in Kenya, being a teaching facility has thus far graduated 700 nurses, 37 Kenyan medical interns, and 3 surgeons. The hospital now has 5 operating theatres with full anesthesia facilities, and 35 trained staff. It also offers patients full orthopedic services. The running expenses of the hospital are 80% funded by fees and charges levied on clients, with the balance being made-up from donations of cash and equipment from Western countries.

Several case studies were presented showing burns victims, both before and after surgery, and it was somewhat miraculous to see the vast improvement in the patients after their successful surgery was completed. Scared and disfigured persons, largely children, were generally left to fend for themselves, so the surgery not only changed their physical appearance, but also made them 'acceptable' again to live within their own communities. Burns from within the domestic environment were quite prevalent in Kenya. Another slide showed a small boy who had been mauled by a lion. He had travelled some 600 miles to attend the hospital, but after surgery he has made a full recovery.

As well as the work done inside the hospital, staff also spends time in the wider

community, and conducts clinics and educational sessions to further increase the amount of basic medical knowledge in the community, particularly the slum areas where sanitation is non-existent, and water is often polluted, with a consequent rise in disease. The hospital staff were also involved in food distribution to the poor, and due to the fact that corruption was really endemic, sometimes this was the only way food donations could be guaranteed to reach their targeted destinations.

Luke has established a network of 45 organizations here in Australia which encompasses Hospitals, Transport Companies, a range of supplier companies to hospitals eg Linen suppliers etc. The list goes on. Luke has built this network outside of his policing activities, and on his own time, when he used his rostered days off to work with passion for the Kenyan hospital and his friend and surgeon Mr Peter Bird.

I am passionate about this cause, and if I had thought several years ago that I would be assisting in an international equipment sourcing operation for a hospital in Kenya, I just would have laughed off that suggestion, but today it is a reality, we are doing it, and it is successful, he said.

In answer to Robert Leach's question about HIV Aids in Kenya, Luke said that about 75% of the Kenyan population were infected with Aids, and this was one of the educational activities run in the communities by the hospital staff, to educate these people with a view to minimizing the spread of this disease.

Geoff Swain observed from the method of unloading containers shown in one of the slides (tie the container to a tree, and driving the truck forwards, that a lot of damage was surely sustained to delicate medical equipment, but Luke said this method was only used where non delicate equipment was in the container. Containers containing the fragile materials were always hand unloaded while the container remained on the back of the truck.

In thanking Luke for his presentation, Chairman Ray McLeod Dryden presented Luke with a small gift as a memento of his visit with us.



Luke Smeaton with Chairman – Ray McLeod-Dryden.

Chairman Ray then asked the Fundraising Chairman to draw the weekly raffle which was won by Peter Cummins – with winning number 3.

Vice President David then resumed the Chair and reminded all members of the Australian Rotary Health Seminar on Sunday, November 29 at 9.00 until 11.00am. Members wishing to attend should see Robert Leach. David then closed the meeting.

ooOoo



A little guessing game for members. Who am I ? I am a golfer. I joined the Club in the year Peter Cummins was last President of the Club. I am now retired. I am married. I have been a President of the Club. I was Club Secretary before I became President. I drive a Blue car. I am a Paul Harris Fellow. This year I am only on one Committee. I joined the Club when it met at The Wattle Park Chalet. I am sometimes known as Romulus. This week I achieved a Hole in One at my golf club.....I am.....see Notices for your Fridge Page.....and I hope the Sergeant is reading this titbit.

ooOoo

Ed's Wisdom.

In our continuing discussion on membership. How many of you have picked up the challenge Ed has used in several weeks of **DOING SOMETHING** to improve our membership numbers by talking with YOUR business associates, friends, acquaintances – the butcher, baker, candlestick maker (if you know one!). Ed has painted a realistic picture in recent editions of your bulletin to support our need for more members, BUT.....and here's the rub.....unless we **DO SOMETHING** all the words, all the agreements on need, all the benefits which derive from an increasing membership, all means NOTHING.....NOTHING at all.

Why are YOU in Rotary.....The fundamental reason is **BECAUSE SOMEBODY ASKED YOU.**

If we are to increase membership, it relies on **YOU** to return the favour and **ASK someone to join our Rotary Club.**

This CERTAINLY one case where we may borrow from this years battle cry.....THE FUTURE OF ROTARY **IS** IN **YOUR** hands.

Think about it, and then **do something**.....with acknowledgement to John Kennedy.

ooOoo

ATTENDANCE

Total Attendance:	26
Club Members:	25
Partners:	NIL
Visitors & Visiting Rotarians:	NIL
Guest Speaker:	1 – Luke Smeaton
Apologies:	Kath Binns, Steve Dardamanis, David D'Silva, Trevor Donegan, Vincent Li, Clive Nicholson, Tom Thorpe, Paul Wheelton
Leave of Absence:	Greg Paine, Geoff Weeks
Make ups:	Robert Leach – ARH District Committee Meeting

ooOoo

Continuing in the Robert Leach Series titled “When Insults had Class” – we present the following

"A modest little person, with much to be modest about." - Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." Clarence Darrow

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the Dictionary." - William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway).

Thanks Robert.

NOTICES FOR YOUR FRIDGE

On the basis we all lead very busy lives, I have added a new page to The Bulletin. Members are welcome to send me details which involve their committees, activities, meetings or whatever, and we will publish them here. Call it Classified Adds if you like.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE – FEB 2010
See Bruce McKenzie for Details

CHRISTMAS CAKES, PUDDINGS &
MINCE PIES - See Geoff Swain to order
your needs.

CHRISTMAS CARDS – CORPORATE
OR PRIVATE. See Bruce McKenzie \$10
per pack of 10 Cards. Stock available
NOW.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CAB
CLIENTS – Due December 1st – Talk
with Carol Pawsey for details. Please
note Gifts **SHOULD NOT** be wrapped.
Also PLEASE DO NOT FORGET
YOUR \$2 WEEKLY DONATION AT
THE REGISTRATION DESK.

CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING –
All members should be advised the
Club's Christmas Dinner meeting will be
held on TUESDAY DECEMBER 15.
Special Christmas Menu but the Price is
Unchanged. We need to confirm numbers
with the Golf Club.

Nominations Close on December 1 for the positions of President (2011/12), for Treasurer (2010/11), and for 4 Directors for 2010/2012. Nomination forms have been distributed by Secretary Tim Lynn, and completed nomination forms should be lodged with The Secretary by December 1.

EVOLVE Youth Program at TYPO
STATION – AFTERNOON TEA
WITH RAY MARTIN IN
SHEPPARTON – on Saturday
November 28 at 2pm - \$25 per ticket
from info@evolve.org.au

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH
SEMINAR on Sunday November 29.
Come along and find out more about
this Australian Rotary Initiative.
Venue - Waverley RSL, Coleman
Parade, Glen Waverley. Time – 9am
to 11am. See Flyer for details.

CLUB PHOTO NOVEMBER 24.
All members are requested to be
present at the November 24 meeting
as the Club Photo will be taken that
night.

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS
BREAKFAST MEETING –
DECEMBER 22. All members are
advised of our Traditional Breakfast
meeting on this day. A Cooked
Breakfast will be offered for \$21.
More details next week.

If there are more events you want publicized, please let me know, and we will run an advert for you.

I am Ray Riehm.



**Rotary Club of Box Hill
CLUB PROGRAMME
November / December 2009**



Date	Topic	Speaker	Chair
November			
24 th	AGM	President Tom Thorpe	Tom Thorpe
December			
1 st	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Paul Mathewson	Sue Bishop
8 th	Small Business	Barry Henwood	Colin Johnson

**** PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to fulfil the chair duty on your nominated evening, it would be greatly appreciated if you could arrange a suitable substitute. ****

CLUB DUTY ROSTER

Date	Desk	Greeter	Grace / Toast
November			
24 th	Bruce McKenzie Clem Joyce	Mick Matthews	Ray Reihm
December			
1 st	Rob Bishop Rob Fenton	Colin Johnson	Robert Leach
8 th	David D'Silva Geoff Swain	Merv Agnew	Bruce McKenzie

**** PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to fulfill the allocated duty on the occasion, it would be helpful if you could arrange a "swap" with another person listed.**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Member	Event
November		
30 th	John Booth	Anniversary
December		
4 th	Val Johnson	Partners Birthday
7 th	Mick Matthews	Anniversary
8 th	Bruce McKenzie	Birthday & Induction Anniversary
11 th	John Booth	Induction Anniversary
15 th	Rob Bishop	Induction anniversary
16 th	Mick Matthews	Induction anniversary
22 nd	Merv Agnew	Birthday
26 th	Melissa Mardjetko	Birthday
28 th	Geoff Swain	Birthday

