

The Brunswick Rotary Club Inc.
PO Box 152 Brunswick VIC 3056
Charter No. 906 District 9800
THE BULLETIN Vol 53 No. 6
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SERVICE Above Self

KICKING WITH THE WIND

Doug hasn't been away on other duties for weeks now and presided over a very enthusiastic and enjoyable meeting this week.

He started by instituting a short General Meeting to pass the changes in the Articles of Association that have been made available for members to inspect of the past three or four weeks. I think that any of us gave a stuff and actually asked to see the proposed changes which will probably not impact very greatly on our lives. Ask Lauri if you want a legal explanation of them. (He will probably tell you to drop off).

SERGEANT GREG

Greg gave us another enjoyable session removing money from our pockets but I sometimes wonder why he takes such pleasure in being nasty to poor old Ron. Greg, Ron isn't really such a bad bloke at times.

WELL HEARD

Reg reports that the use of the sound system makes it much easier to hear what is being said. I would just like to cast a vote of very grateful thanks to me for bringing it along when ever I remember to. (Apparently 2 votes out of is a good result)

NEW MEMBER

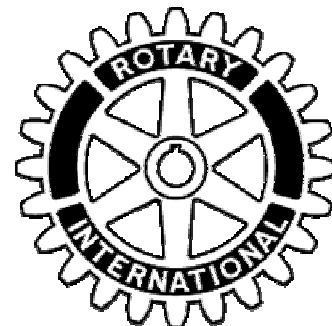
Welcome to David Kennedy who works in the field of Business Education. We will be expecting to learn plenty from you David over the next few years. Thanks also to Adam for nominating David. More new Inductions are expected in the near future.

THIS WEEKS INDUCTION

The Secretary would like to apologise for not communicating properly with Stavros regarding last week, but we all look forward to Stavros joining our club this week. Lets all be there to welcome him.

DANCE INTO SPRING

No excuses for forgetting the date. Please, please, please try to keep September 2nd free. This weeks meeting will include details on how we are going to make this event a success. Cheryle will be Guest Speaker and will be making sure everyone knows their tasks from now until the night.



GUEST SPEAKER

Michael Leahy was all dressed up in a jacket and tie to introduce one of his idols, Gary O'Donnell. Gary joined Essendon from Ringwood back in the dark ages when football clubs each had zones of influence from which players were drafted to the Club controlling the area. That is distinct from the situation today where the 17 year old from the far north western Australian desert where the hand of man has never set foot may be drafted to the bleak village of Geelong and has to leave family and friends far behind. Gary wasn't exactly a child bride on the football field as he played his first senior game at 22 and he finished up in about 1998 when it was gently suggested to him that he was finished.

Gary spent 6 years in Queensland with Leigh Matthews and was a bit reluctant to make the move from Melbourne but had little choice in the matter when his wife told him that he was going to do it.

He is now back in town and working as a midfield coach at Essendon. Can we expect him to graduate to the senior position when and if Sheedy ever retires?

One thing struck me when I was looking at Gary speaking. I suppose we could call him a worn out over the hill footballer since he is long past the days when he could get many kicks (if any) in an AFL game. Looking at Gary and considering his apparent state of perfect physical fitness and his youthful appearance, I think one could be excused for saying "hello sonny – what school do you go to?" Do any of you other old buggers feel the same way?

ADVERTISEMENTS

Rotary Club of Sunbury Charity Sportsman's Night

Eddie McGuire, Sam Newman, Gary Lyon, Trevor Marmalade & Barry Michael

Lexus Centre Melbourne

Wednesday 17th August 6.30pm for 7pm

Tables of Ten at \$120 per person

Dinner & Drinks included

Tickets are limited to 200

Tickets: Bruce Bouch 0419537920

Funds raised for Children's Literacy and Interplast

The Best Farmers' Market in Rotary District 9800

Sorry to all the pretenders out there, but the **Boroondara Farmers' Market** is on again at Patterson Reserve, Auburn Road (beside the Monash Freeway) on Saturday 20 August. Come and get fresh baby beetroot, rhubarb and other seasonal goodies - produce straight from the grower!! A project of the **RC of Glenferrie**. www.rotaryd9800.org/glenferrie

THE BIG PICTURE

Sudan NIDs target nearly six million children

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga

Rotary International News 22 July 2005

Close to six million children under the age of five were targeted during a crucial round of national immunizations against polio in all of Sudan's 26 states, 8-18 July.

About 40,000 volunteers, including members of the country's only Rotary club, the Rotary Club of Khartoum, went to great lengths, sometimes riding on camels and donkeys, to reach children in hard-to-access regions where roads are practically nonexistent as a result of 22 years of war and economic decline.

"It was the fifth National Immunization Day this year. Two more are planned for this calendar year," says Sohaib Elbadawi, chair of Sudan's national PolioPlus committee. "We had to hold most of them before heavy rains and floods make it impossible to travel."

Although immunization activities went without any war-related disruption in much of the country, thanks to a peace agreement between the government and a major rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, a United Nations appeal for a cease-fire in Darfur was ignored in parts of the region.

"We've worked under more difficult circumstances — the vehicles of our partners have been ambushed and hijacked or shot at during past NIDs," says Elbadawi. "But the security situation has improved considerably, and this is probably the most successful immunization of all the 13 NIDs we have undertaken since Rotary started providing support."

Despite the protracted civil war, Sudan managed to stop transmission and was declared polio-free in 2001, but a new case of the disease was reported near the border with Chad in May 2004. Now, 152 cases have been confirmed in 18 states, creating fears of reinfection of other polio-free countries.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners and the Sudanese government have been carrying out emergency national and subnational immunizations to contain the spread of the outbreak.

"Our biggest concern is that Sudan is such a vast country," says Elbadawi. "It will be nice if the neighboring countries synchronize their immunization days with ours during the next four rounds, because these borders exist only in name and families cross them with children all the time."

He echoes the worries of UN officials who have been keen to see that the smoldering war in Darfur doesn't further complicate matters by making it impossible to immunize all the children.

"It is in everybody's interest that this epidemic is contained as soon as possible," said Manuel da Silva, the UN Secretary-General's deputy special representative for Sudan, in a statement on the eve of the July NIDs. "Otherwise, the consequences for the Sudanese people and neighboring countries may be disastrous. All Sudanese parties must rise to the occasion and shoulder their responsibility towards their own people."

The Rotary Foundation has provided nearly US\$11 million, including emergency funds and PolioPlus Partner contributions, toward polio eradication in Sudan.

THE BIG PICTURE (cont.)

RI approves US\$250,000 for emergency polio immunizations in Indonesia

3 August 2005

Rotary International has approved a US\$250,000 grant to the World Health Organization to fund polio immunization activities in Indonesia.

The first and second rounds of national immunization campaigns will be conducted on 30 August and 27 September to protect approximately 24.4 million children under the age of five against polio. These activities are in response to an outbreak of polio after a previously un-immunized 18-month-old child in West Java contracted the disease in April.

Genetic sequencing at a WHO reference laboratory in Mumbai, India, revealed that the child was infected with a strain of poliovirus that originated in West Africa and was similar to the viruses that caused an outbreak there in 2003. According to experts, the virus may have been carried to Indonesia by a traveler from West Africa, most likely Nigeria, who passed through Sudan. The disease has since spread to several other provinces, with a case count of 155 as of 27 July 2005.

Noting the urgent need to halt the spread of the poliovirus in Indonesia, which had been polio-free for the last 10 years, RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar said: "We must all do everything possible to stop this outbreak. No child should go unvaccinated, as the tragic and lifelong consequences of polio can be easily prevented by an effective and safe vaccine."

Indonesian Rotarians have been fully engaged in halting the spread of polio in the country, and plan to be active in the upcoming National Immunization Days. Their volunteer activities will include educating communities about the importance of immunizing their children, administering the oral polio vaccine, helping community leaders ensure that every child is reached, and assisting health workers in keeping accurate records of children immunized.