

The Brunswick Rotary Club Inc.
PO Box 152 Brunswick VIC 3056
Charter No. 906 District 9800
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SERVICE Above Self

THE VALUE OF ROTARY

Our guest speaker, Sue Attwood, spoke about her experience with INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA, a 30 year old organisation funded by Rotary Clubs, Government and corporate sponsorship under which volunteer Doctors perform plastic surgery in South East Asia.

INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA runs 30 programs per year at a cost of approximately \$40,000 per program averaging a cost of \$65 per patient. Sue showed slides of people who had suffered terrible deformities, either from birth or as a result of calamities such as fire, which had greatly prejudiced their chances of marriage or employment. The "after" photographs showed much happier looking individuals whose appearance had been transformed from grossly unsightly to something pretty close to normal average. It is not hard to imagine how much rosier would be their outlook on life after an operation that actually cost less than the price of a good meal in Melbourne.

Speaking of meals, Sue showed photos of hospital kitchens that would have put you right off your tucker until your return to "civilization". In the Bangladesh Hospital in which Sue worked, accommodation was at a premium and patients frequently had to double up in beds.

One could look at all of these photos and be very depressed but one could also take the point of view that Rotary is seriously contributing to making life better and happier for thousands of individual people in South East Asia.

Incidentally, we made \$300 profit at the Combined Meeting last week and that is going to INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA.

Henry Rekaris reported that Will Moulding had rung to congratulate him on bring Stavros into the Club. It is good that Will is still showing such close interest.

RAFFLE

This week's winners were Michael Leahy, M West, Sewell and Douglas and Lauri Penttila.

This is the fourth time that Lauri has won a ticket so Peter Johnstone as suggested that Laurie's ball should be removed from the bag. We must remember that Lauri is a Lawyer and think very seriously about the implications if he objects to the removal of his ball.

President Doug reported that he was having his last meeting with Education Authorities on Friday (October 28th) regarding the Aboriginal Education Project. He also informed the meeting that he and Reg Geary would be having a meeting with people in the Municipality of Moreland who were working out strategies to tackle the problem of Obesity among young people. The Interplast Team will be working with our contacts in Manila and we hope to assist their projects further. Now that the year has settled and new members have been inducted Doug will be calling for volunteers to assist in these projects in the weeks ahead.

A note from Kevin Field: It is that time of the year again when I am looking to see which clubs are willing to assist in the ABC giving Tree, picking up kids presents from a designated store in the city and dropping them off at an agreed charity. A roster will be worked out by Kevin to do this. It will take place in December and our Club will rostered on to do 4-5 days. Anyone interested please call President Doug.

The district 9800 Rotary Foundation Seminar (an absolute must for new Rotarians) will be held at International House, 241 Royal Parade Parkville on Friday evening, 4th November at 6pm for 6.30pm start finishing at 9pm. Please let Don Jago know if you would like to attend. Phone: 9819 4277 or email: foundation@rotaryd9800.org.

SOME PEOPLE HAVE FUNNY JOBS

During a visit to my Proctologist, we were chatting about childhood ambitions and I asked him was it always his ambition to be a Proctologist.

“No”, he replied, “my original ambition was to be a Dentist but I decided I could not spend the rest of my life peering into and fiddling about inside people’s mouths”.

A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT NEEDED

Please everyone – ring Peter Johnstone this week and ask him to read “Rindercella and the Prandsome Hince”. This week Peter is a little shy and needs some prodding to push himself forward.

REPORT ON VISIT FROM DR.NEIL AND LYNETTE (NURSE) BAGONG BARRIO
MANILA. (prepared by President Doug 11 /10/05)

The visit went very well and much was achieved. Below is a summary of what took place and what follow up in Manila and Melbourne needs to take place.

Contact 1: St.Vincent's Hospital – Catherine Mc.Carthy - member of Solidarity Committee at the Hospital – supervises Diabetic Clinic at the Hospital. Dr.Alicia Jenkins Diabetic Specialist at St.Vincents has connections with Insulin for life

Action: for Manila email contact for advice and help. For Rotary show them excerpts from the Bagong Barrio 10th.aniversary C.D.and request assistance (financially or otherwise)

Contact 2: Insulin for life Australia: Ron Raab, President. This group assists in sending Insulin to underdeveloped countries. The Insulin For Life Group believes the people who administer our Clinic in Bagong Barrio would be worthy recipients.

Action: for Manila to check the Customs in Manila and how to have the Insulin delivered to the Clinic safely. For Rotary liaise with Insulin for Life and to send 10 Vials of Insulin. The cost of sending the Vials would be \$3 per Vial (Cost in Manila \$20 Aust.). All the Vials would be donated .Eventually 50 Vials per month –annual cost \$1800 a year.

Contact 3: Interplast Australia- Sue Attwood and Marion Wright. This Group has a strong connection with Rotary District 9800. This Group is prepared to organize surgical teams to go to Manila to operate on children living in Bagong Barrio that will be referred by our clinic there .Sue Attwood will talk to our Club on October 27th.

Action: for Manila. Dr.Neil to see the Medical Supervisors of hospitals in Manila where these operations could take place. On the Interplast Team's next visit to the Philippines to arrange a meeting between the Australian and Manila team. For Rotary support the Interplast work here and liaise with other Clubs in our District.

Contact 4: Rainbow Medical and Surgical Suppliers: Professor Noel Campbell 167 Collins St. Hope Research Institute. This group will donate a list of Medical and Surgical items free of charge to our Clinic in Bagong Barrio. Neil and Lynette have organized their wish list.

Action: for Manila to check out with Customs how we can get goods into the Country. For Rotary to check the procedure from here. Door to Door Courier to Bagong Barrio or to Dr.Neil's Hospital maybe \$500.

Contact 5: Diabetics Australia – on going contact with the Diabetes Nurse Educator through email and website. Materials have been taken home by Lynette and Dr.Neil.

Contact 6: Cabrini Health: Cath Garner, Mission Integration Director who assisted us with links to the other organizations.

Contact 7: Thanks to Michael Leahy who gave us a Diabetic Patient to talk to.

We may need a small group from Our Club to assist Peter Johnstone and I bring this work to a satisfactory conclusion.