

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

IT'S A SELLOUT

Friday night was the culmination of some fantastic efforts by our fellow Rotarians, so a public show of appreciation is in order:

To Cheryle Landolina. Congratulations on having the original inspiration for the dance and for seeing the event now be to a full house

To Stavros Rekaris. Thanks for looking after the raffle Stavros, as our TV raffle in it's second year is now an official fundraiser as well as raising the publicity

To Alice Nichol. Thanks for the special effort on the table settings for Friday night. The Hall looked an absolute treat, well done.

To Peter Johnstone. Thanks for ensuring that all the tables were out and the hall was setup ready for the first arrivals, however you were conspicuous in your absence on the dance floor

To Mal Dubock and Doug Walsh. Thanks for supporting Cheryle with the dance and Stavros with the raffle. Without the efforts of you two at the shopping centres we would still be wondering if we were wasting our time. You set up, stored the prizes, and without a complaint. Thanks guys.

To Mel Kennedy. Thanks for helping set up the hall, arrange the promotional material, deliver the promotional material, transport dancers without alternate transport.... Fantastic effort

To Dean Kennedy. Your efforts with the brochures, flyers, handouts, and other marketing ensured there was not a spare seat in the house. Thanks Dean

To Terry O'Meara. Thanks to Terry and his band of helpers at the bar for ensuring the crowd were sufficiently lubricated

To Maurice Sgarbossa. Showed the true Rotary spirit by pitching in to end a hand, and he is not yet a member. You have my vote Maurice

To David Kennedy. Hope the trip to Bright was enjoyable and thanks for your spot prize donations

To Michael Leahy. The night would have been a shambles and we would have been unprepared, not to mention some dancers still waiting for a ride, without your ticketing expertise. Thanks Mick

To Barry Cross. Thanks for helping out when there was no plan B with the raffle, and it was great to see you cutting a mean shape on the dance floor

To Michael Landry. Thanks for helping pack up, and a special thanks for your assistance with the bar duties. For those who weren't aware Michael was also a luck door prizewinner. Well done Michael

To Greg Sewell. Thanks for another great job as MC. The whole crowd appreciated the way you went about your task, generating plenty of laughs and making sure we all had a great time

To anyone I forgot – get over it!

Seriously a great night for the club to see the Brunswick Town Hall so full of smiles. Well done Team.

THURSDAYS MEETING

We had another great turnout for the meeting on Thursday with Maurice Sgarbossa (Photography and Publishing) and Sally Garden (Real Estate) both guests of the club. Maurice and Sally have both been nominated to be members and the nominations have been accepted by the board. See the secretary with any queries.

The meeting was mainly concerned with ensuring the Dance runs smoothly and there was some discussion about not having a Thursday meeting when next the Dance is on, but I suggest we deal with that closer to the time.

THIS WEEKS MEETING

This week's meeting will either have a surprise guest speaker or become a fellowship lunch as the arranged guest speaker has fallen through.

COMING EVENTS

Thanks to David Kennedy for arranging speakers for the following two weeks. And David I trust you will be available to introduce the Guest Speakers
25th May - Graham Walker - Chief Executive Officer - Brunswick Business Incubator
1st June - Jacinta Lucas - Executive Officer - Inner Northern Local Learning Employment Network
Both are Brunswick based organisations interested in working with Rotary

COMBINED CLUB MEETING

The combined meeting of Essendon and "Daughter Clubs" being, Bacchus Marsh, Keilor, Essendon North, Moonee Valley and of course Brunswick is planned for WED. night the 26th JULY at a venue to be agreed to by us Presidents, being large enough to accommodate the numbers etc. So, if you could get your numbers of interested members as soon as convenient, I can book accordingly.

Regards, Roger Leask, Royce Abbey Awards, Rotary Club of Essendon
Mobile: 0412 706 566, Fax: 9379 0102

BOY FROM OZ

Michael Leahy distributed tickets to Club members who have booked and volunteered to try to fit in any late comers who give him a call. This is probably a very good show (it ought to be at the price) so you are encouraged to come along.

Mick also advised that he has an application for an Ambassadorial Scholarship which he will present to the Board Meeting this coming Tuesday.

CYCLOVIA

The Rotary Club of Coburg is seeking the assistance of volunteers to act as guides whilst Sydney Road is closed to cars and trucks between Bell Street and Brunswick Road. Sunday May 28th 8.am to 2.pm. Mal has indicated to Coburg that we have been quite active recently and may not be able to commit en-masse, however that should not stop anyone interested in being part of a first for Australia. Contact the Rotary Club of Coburg for further details.

DON'T FORGET

Sunday May 21st
Saturday July 8th

District Changeover – La Trobe Bundoora from 9.00am
Change over night at Moonee Valley – 7.00pm

Teens who remove barriers can change society

By Maureen Vaught
Rotary International News
28 April 2006

Six high school students from Northern Ireland took a transatlantic break from classes this week and learned that teenagers are the same around the world, regardless of race, religion, or even taste in music.

"When we all come together, we all have the same interests," says participant Kerri O'Loane. "I go to a Catholic school, so I don't have many opportunities to be with people from different religions. I learned so much from this trip."

The 16-18 year olds spent 10 days touring the Chicago area as part of TABU (Toward a Better Understanding), a program of the Rotary clubs of Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Highland Park, Illinois, USA. In its 15th year, TABU seeks to encourage greater understanding and acceptance between youth in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland as well as among students in the United States.

"Our objective has always been to bring together young people of different backgrounds so they can learn about conflict resolution together. An even broader goal, though, is to ultimately change our respective societies for the better," says Neil Dahlmann, a member of the Highland Park club, which hosted the Irish group.

Each year, TABU alternates between sending six students from Northern Ireland to the United States and from the United States to Northern Ireland. The Rotary clubs pay all travel expenses for the participants, who stay as guests of local families with teenage children.

This year it was Belfast's turn. Accompanied by three members of the Belfast Rotary club, the students comprised three Catholics, two Protestants, and one Muslim — a first for the program.

"My barriers aren't the same because I'm not involved in the Catholic and Protestant conflict, but there are cultural barriers," Tamim Mobayed says. "But what I've learned [from this trip] is that we're really all the same. It's opened up the world for me."

It's these lessons that have inspired past participants to pursue careers in conflict resolution and international relations. Terry McGuinness traveled to Highland Park in 2000 with TABU. Today, he is pursuing a master's degree in international law and will intern this summer at the Global Policy Forum at the United Nations in New York.

TABU "encouraged my interest in learning about other countries, faiths, and cultures; it added a strong international perspective to my life," McGuinness says.

In addition to spending a day at the Highland Park High School, this year's participants visited a homeless shelter, the Chicago Police Department, Naval Training Center Great Lakes, and the Anti-Defamation League.

RI honors African Union chief with polio award

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga
Rotary International News

Rotary International has honored Alpha Oumar Konaré, chair of the African Union Commission (AU), with the Polio Eradication Champion Award in recognition of his commitment to polio eradication.

Konaré, who is also a former president of the West African nation of Mali, received the award from Past RI Director Sam Okudzeto in Abuja, Nigeria, on 4 May. Members of the African Union Commission, representatives of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners, journalists, and Rotarians attended the event.

"On behalf of Rotary's 1.2 million members worldwide, I am honored to present this award to Professor Konaré, who has been personally committed to a polio-free world," said Okudzeto. "Through his leadership and dedication, African nations have successfully united to address a common issue."

Thanking Rotary for the great honor bestowed on him, Konaré pledged to continue supporting the anti-polio effort in Africa. "I am a soldier by your side," he said. "You can always count on my support."

The honoree called for community mobilization to ensure early completion of the polio eradication initiative. He hoped that the advances made in polio eradication would inspire a similar success in Africa's struggle with the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Konaré commended Rotary for its humanitarian projects. "Rotary is always present where there is any form of suffering," he said.

In 2001, when he was president of Mali and chair of the Economic Community of West African States, Konaré launched the first-ever joint polio immunization campaign in West Africa. He also joined Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo and other West African public officials in signing the Lungi Declaration, which spelled out the region's commitment to polio eradication.

As AU Commission chair, Konaré coordinated the launch of the West and Central Africa synchronized National Immunization Days in October. The effort reached more than 80 million children in 23 countries. Konaré also placed polio on the 2005 AU summit agenda, urging member states to ensure that every child receives polio immunizations.

The Polio Eradication Champion Award was established in 1995 to recognize governments and world leaders who have made outstanding contributions toward the goal of eradicating polio.

Past recipients include former U.S. President Bill Clinton, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and Egyptian First Lady Suzanne Mubarak.