



## Welcome

- Today we had 15 members present, the DG, and 2 guests.
- A special welcome is extended to the District Governor, along with Edith, and Adam's wife Urszula.
- Welcome back to Ryan Diehl, Ambassadorial Scholar.
- Peter Johnstone, who did a make up at the Flemington Club, is glad he didn't go next week as DG will be there then too!
- Kevin Field is an apology

## Reg Geary

- Adam spoke to Reg yesterday. He's battling with pain at the moment. Adam passed on our regards to him, and he passes on his regards to us also.

## Coming weeks

- **A reminder** that our meeting on Thursday **October 26<sup>th</sup>** will be **at 6:00pm for 6:30**. This is so that members like Sally and Alice can come. Once again, we'll be aiming for a big meeting, and members are encouraged to bring guests. The 4th Thursday of each month will be a dinner meeting.

Cheryle advises that for our **first evening meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup>**, Father Joe Giacobbe will be our guest speaker, talking about horse racing – his presentation is titled "The Punting Priest." Father Joe will also discuss the DOXA youth project.

Adam requests that we please make a **special effort to come** to the evening meeting on the **26<sup>th</sup>**.

- Adam would like to get a table together for the fundraising breakfast with Kirsty Sword Gusmao, First Lady of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, and Chairwoman of the Alola Foundation which will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am, and which costs \$40 per head (see attached documentation).
- Rotary Club of Fitzroy Cup Eve Dinner November 6<sup>th</sup>, drinks from 6:30pm (see attached info)  
Fitzroy Victoria Bowling and Sports Club, 578 Brunswick Street, North Fitzroy  
\$40 per person including 2 course buffet meal  
Contact Ann Davie for information 0412 294 171

## Christmas is coming!

- The Rotary Clubs of Collingwood and Carlton wish to remind us all that Christmas cakes and puddings are available for purchase again this year. Proceeds from purchases of these items will be matched dollar for dollar and go towards the following two causes, being jointly funded by Collingwood and Carlton:
  - Senta Belong Helpim project -- helps and protects endangered children in remote North East PNG.
  - St Vincent's project -- extensively renovating the Fitzroy recreation facilities.



## Tractors in Timor

Adam is looking into what's happening with tractor parts for East Timor. He has had no word as yet from the East Timor government re their financial involvement (as per the last bulletin, it seemed that the Ministry of Agriculture might have a funding role in the project). There is a possibility that we may have access to a simplified grant, but it's also possible the \$8000 already sent may be the only funds.

## Guest speaker

Bernie apologises in advance for Ron who will walk out part of the way through his presentation ... good one Ron!

Bernie congratulates the club on its plans for this year to raise funds, and membership by 10 members ... a big objective!

Bernie advised that Rotary will continue with its successful projects, but it really needs publicity – the Rotary community is hard working, and cares about the community, but it has difficulty promoting Rotary, with many of the general public not knowing what we do. A young chap commented to Bernie that, as Rotary was full of old people, he asked his Gran what it was about! We're all volunteers, but few Rotarians become Australian of the Year. The World Health Organisation gets plenty of publicity, which is good, but Rotary helps in many ways, including the Polio Eradication Project, a disease we will beat, but gets little recognition.

Many people know that Rotary builds parks, has sausage sizzles and sells raffle tickets – we need to broadcast the other good things we do. Application forms are available for grants up to \$3,000 US to help publicise Rotary in general. This system advises what messages to use. The cut off date for applications for this grant is late October.

Many Club members don't even know the many projects Rotary takes part in. There is a need to promote programs and protocols. The Town and Country District Bulletin – which is not a magazine that can be found in newsagents – helps to this end. There is a mentoring program for new clubs and a Presidential Citation for clubs that qualify. To qualify, clubs need to gain 1 member.

There is a group called Friends of Rotary which help with projects, help sell raffle tickets, etc, but they are not Rotarians. They help publicise Rotary better than we do! Bernie encourages clubs to do more hands-on projects, and not just fundraising – ie research the project, raise money, then turn it into a hands-on project.

What does Rotary do – this is a hard question, but Bernie says it "does good in the world."

Rotary will establish Rotaract and Interact clubs, continue with youth support programs, and the Youth Exchange program, however there are no host families any more. When our kids go overseas, they need to be educated about things like alcohol at dinner. For example, a 16 year old whose host family was one that regularly had alcohol as part of its dinner, got stuck in to the alcohol and couldn't handle it! Students coming to Australia for the Youth Exchange program, despite Rotary wanting them to be immersed into our culture, they bring a mobile phone, and ring their parents every day, which makes it harder to get them immersed.

Peter Johnstone suggested the Youth Exchange program was hard on the youth who take part, due to their age. Bernie advised that the setup of the committee has been changed to improve the program, ie re inventing it.

Rotary has a program called Rotary Youth Driver Awareness, which teaches the handling of a car before the person gets behind the wheel. A Group Study Exchange will be held in the Netherlands next year.

District Conference next year will include a welcome at the National Museum, with a cocktail party for 1000+ people. The conference is being held at the Australian Institute of Sport. Forms to register for the conference will come shortly. Andy Thomas from NASA is a guest speaker. His wife (who won't actually be attending the conference) is also an astronaut, on the moon project -- she's set to be the first woman on moon.

On the 100th anniversary of Gallipoli on 25 April 2007, a time capsule created along with the Rotary Club of Gosku (Turkey) will be opened. It'll be interesting getting that through customs – no one knows what's in it!!

Bernie pointed out that contributions to the Rotary Foundation are voluntary, ie dues don't go to Foundation. The Foundation also gets funds through benefactors ie money left in a person's will. That money comes back to clubs, and Foundation money funds Group Study Exchange, Peace and Ambassadorial Scholars. Foundation admin costs come out of the interest earned on funds.

In its 102<sup>nd</sup> year, Bernie requests that we "Lead the way."

Bernie presented Ryan with district and Lead the Way badges ... and Bernie, of course, was presented with the Brunswick book.

### This week's joke

Courtesy of a friend of Dean and Mel's!

A man and his wife are dining at a table in a plush restaurant, and the husband keeps staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sits alone at a nearby table.

The wife asks, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," sighs the husband, "She's my ex-girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up seven years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" says the wife, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

### Weekly Program

October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday lunchtime	TBA – possibly speaker from Australian Rotary Health Fund
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday morning	Breakfast with Kirsty Sword-Gusmao, First Lady of East Timor in aid of the Alola Foundation
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday lunchtime	TBA
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday evening	6 for 6:30pm dinner meeting Speaker Father Joe Giacobbe, The Punting Priest

### Other stuff

- David Kennedy is the President Elect Nominee for 2008-. This will now go to the Board.
- It's 11 years since Adam and Urszula's first date, and Adam presented Urszula with flowers.

Apparently they went to see Beauty and the Beast!

- District Conference March 2007 – would those members interested in attending please contact Mick Leahy. Karin Penttila has advised that she would like to attend.

## Tribute to Lauri Penttila

September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1928 to August 24<sup>th</sup> 2006

Rotary in general, but particularly the Rotary Club of Brunswick, lost a fine Rotarian in the passing of Lauri on August 24<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Lauri joined Rotary in 1965 and in his forty one years of membership held many positions in the Club.

Sometimes controversial, he always had the best interest of our Club in mind. We will always remember Lauri for his enthusiastic Chairmanship of ON TO CONFERENCE and his organizational skills together with Karin in arranging dinners, excursions and bus trips. They were always full of fun and enjoyable.

Lauri was a well respected suburban Lawyer practising in the Brunswick area for many years. He was an active member of the Law Institute of Victoria acting as Members' Advocate until his death.

Lauri had many other interests. He was on the Board of Mount Royal Hospital, the Royal District Nursing Service, Chairman of the Brunswick Sheltered Workshop - now known as Brunswick Industries Association. He was Honorary Solicitor for the Helping Hand Association, Past President of the Rotary Club of Brunswick and a Paul Harris Fellow. Lauri was also a sincere and regular attendee at St. John's Church in Toorak.

Lauri went to Secondary School at University High School and was always at any reunion that took place and a great follower of the U.H.S. Old Boys football club.

In 1991 Lauri met his future wife Karin. In 1995 Lauri married Karin and began a partnership with her of which he was very proud and in fact it became his life.

The members of the Brunswick Rotary Club extend our heart felt sympathy to Karin.

## Our Club is the Ideal Size

By PDG Chris Offer

Chair – RI Membership Development and Retention Committee  
(excerpt from Membership Magic Newsletter Zone 8A)

### **This piece has some interesting membership stats and is worth the read! (the editor)**

I often hear "our club is the ideal size." Alas, this often means that the club is apathetic about membership growth and they mean we don't want any outsiders to join us.

There is no ideal club size. In fact, most of us, whether our own club's membership is 30 or 100, are sure that our club is the ideal size. Rotarians seem to prefer the status quo to the unfamiliar, even if something different might be better. Their reluctance to recruiting new members and resistance to helping their club grow is a significant obstacle to the growth of Rotary.

Perhaps what is most distressing is the Rotarian who opposes membership development in their own club, and impedes the formation of a new club. Perhaps some Rotarians are not interested in membership development because an influx of keen, energetic members bringing new life, new views, new interests, pose a challenge to what is now a comfortable place to sit at Rotary meetings.

The average size of a Rotary club worldwide is 38.5 members. In Australia the average club size is 29 members and in New Zealand, the average size is 40 members. The country with the highest average club size is Italy with 56 members. The USA has an average of 49 members.

Worldwide, 159 Rotary clubs have more than 200 members. Of the clubs of this size, 136 are in the USA. Five

clubs, all in the USA, have more than 500 members each. They are San Antonio, 695; Seattle, 678; Fort Worth, 569; San Diego, 543; and Birmingham, 550. There is one large club in Australia, Melbourne with 249 members. The members of these clubs feel that their club is the right size.

While the USA has the largest clubs, cities in other countries claim the greatest number of clubs. Seoul, leads with 159 Rotary clubs and a membership topping 4,500. Tokyo has 138 clubs with more than 9,000 Rotarians and in Taipei there are 107 clubs.

We do know that when a club is under 20 members it has difficulty operating effectively, finding a club president each year and filling all committee positions. Almost 25% of the Rotary clubs in the world could not charter because they have less than 20 members. There are more than 800 clubs with less than 10 members.

The challenges of a small club are that they do not represent the classifications in their community, the types of service projects they can undertake are limited, and they frequently convey a poor image of Rotary to speakers and visitors. There is membership 'burn out' as all members must do every task.

Clubs under 20 members need special attention from the District Membership committee, the AG and the DG. One strategy is to appoint a special representative of the Governor to advise and steer the club in ways to increase their membership. This Rotarian needs to be diplomatic but candid with the club. Clubs must be told where change is needed in their meeting venue, leadership style, attitude to club fellowship and service projects.

A re-chartering celebration when the club meets their goal of 20 or 25 members can serve as an incentive to the members. The Governor can re-present the clubs charter or create a district phoenix award.

The solution for some small clubs is to amalgamate with another club. This may be the best strategy to keep the members in Rotary.

Clubs should never restrict membership growth. Rotary needs a quantity of quality members. A Rotary club is "the right size" when every person who is qualified for membership in the community has been invited to join Rotary. More members mean more hands to do more service. More members mean more support for The Rotary Foundation. More members mean new ideas, more enthusiasm and support for Rotary projects. My club is not the right size – yet!

# HELP SAVE LIVES IN EAST TIMOR

## DID YOU KNOW?

East Timor's GDP is Amongst  
the World's Lowest

Nearly Half the Population Live  
on Less than \$US1 per day

\$1 feeds a Family of 8 for 1 day

**Your Attendance at Breakfast  
Could help Save a Life**



The Alola Foundation was established in 2001. Its primary aim is in empowering the women and children of East Timor by providing programs in

- Advocacy
- Employment
- Education
- Maternal Health
- Child Health
- Humanitarian Aid

## DETAILS

**DATE:** Thursday October 12, 2006

**VENUE:** Leonda by the Yarra  
2 Wallen Road, Hawthorn

**TIME:** 7.00am for 7.15 am

**PRICE:** \$40 per person  
\$380 for a Table of 10

## BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

### Contact

Phone: 0412 171 353

Email: [jill.forsyth@formax.com.au](mailto:jill.forsyth@formax.com.au)

Join Us for a Fundraising Breakfast

In Aid of the Alola Foundation

Take a Unique Opportunity to Hear Our

Keynote Speaker

**Kirsty Sword Gusmao**

First Lady of the Democratic Republic of East Timor  
Chairwoman of the Alola Foundation

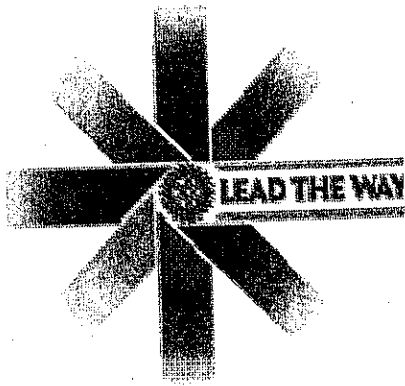


If you are unable to attend but would like to make a tax deductible donation to help save lives in East Timor, please mail your cheque to  
Rotary Australia Overseas Aid Fund  
P.O. Box 807, Strathfieldsaye, Victoria 3551  
(please include a note directing it to the Alola Foundation East Timor)



This Event is Proudly Hosted by  
The Rotary Club of Kew  
and the Governor of Rotary District 9800

Web: [home.vicnet.net.au/~rckew](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rckew)



# Rotary Club of Fitzroy

## Cup Eve Dinner

*When: Monday November 6*

*Where: Fitzroy Victoria Bowling & Sports Club  
578 Brunswick Street  
North Fitzroy*

*Drinks from 6.30pm*

*Opportunity to bet on Phantom Call!!!*

*Tickets \$40.00 each*

*Includes 2 course Buffet Meal*

*Drinks on arrival*

*Contact Ann Davie*

*0412-294-171 for tickets*

