Brunswick Bulletin
FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF BRUNSWICK, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA
No. 32 12 April 2007
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News from around the Club

A great turn out today, with 18 members!

Raffle

Week	Group 1	Group 2
April 5th	No. 7 Peter Johnstone	No. 1 Dean Kennedy
April 12th	No. 5 Mal Dubock	No. 3 Rina Paoli

Drought Breaking Festival

RC Mansfield and Eltham are holding a drought breaking festival on 4th, 5th and 6th May in Mansfield. See details attached.

Operation Solomon Islands

The members were unanimous in agreeing to donate $1200 for one shelter box for affected people in the Solomon Islands. District 9800 has pledged 6 boxes. See information below, as provided in the Bulletin Update last week.

Dance Into Autumn

Letters to our database for Friday May 11th's Dance Into Autumn at the Brunswick Town Hallhave been sent out, and Mick now has the tickets. Thanks to Brunswick Probus who've already booked 20 tickets!

CUB Visit date change

We can't get in for the CUB visit until **Tuesday 29th May @ 10.00am**. This date has been booked for 20 people, and it has to be pre-paid as per the Zoo concert. Mick Leahy must have full payment from everyone by Thursday 17th May, for the full 20 people. Cost is $18.00 & $14.00 pensioners. **We will still be having a club meeting on Thursday 31st May.**

Will Moulding

Barry reported that Will is doing well, and sends his wishes to everyone.

Upcoming Guest Speakers

Thanks to those who supported the "mega" meeting last week to hear guest speaker Jim Marett, President of the Tunnel Rats Association, from the comments received it was thought to be most worthwhile.

We would also seek your support for another outstanding speaker, one perhaps whom we should have kept for the next mega meeting.

COMMODORE DACRE SMYTH AO RAN (RET)

The week after this, Thursday 18th April we have Commodore Dacre Smyth AO RAN (Ret) a recognised speaker on ships and the Navy. In 2004, Commodore Smyth was awarded France's highest honour - Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honour, by President Chirac. It is the highest award given for meritorious service to France, to citizens of France or other countries, without regard to rank.

The Legion of Honour decoration was awarded in 2004, in recognition of Australia's contribution to D-Day operations during World War II. Cdre Smythe was one of four representatives of Australia's veteran community (representing all Australians who served in the Navy, Army and Air Force during D-Day) at 60th anniversary commemorative ceremonies in France in June 2004, attended by Prime Minister John Howard.

His father Major-General Sir Nevill Smyth VC was awarded the Victoria Cross at Khartoum in 1898 and commanded the 1st Australian Brigade at Gallipoli (including Lone Pine). His courage at Gallipoli won the respect of Australian troops that was never lost, he then commanded the 2nd Australian Division in Europe. He moved to Australia in the 1920s. He was a first cousin to Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell (1st Baron Baden-Powell) OM, GCMG, GCVO, KCB, the founder of the Scouting movement

Commodore Dacre Smyth a gifted speaker is also a competent artist and writer.

Guest speaker

Our guest speaker this week is Paula Gleeson. Paula, originally from Canberra, moved to Brunswick when she was 19, and was an actor at the time. Paula has produced TV commercials for companies including Nandos, Portmans and Bakers Delight, along with producing short films and documentaries. Paula's first project was "Trimmy," the story of her sister who committed suicide at the age of 18. The documentary has filmed on ABC's stateline, and at many film festivals.

Paula also directed, produced and shot a 90 minute documentary on the journey of an Olympian (Taekwondo champion Carlo Massimino) from the 2000 Sydney Olympic games to the 2004 Athens games. The documentary won Best Film at the prestigious sporting festival in Italy (Sport Movie and TV 24th Milano International FICTS Festival). It also won in its category of Great Champion. The documentary was up against the likes of Cindarella Man.

Paula is currently filming a documentary called My UN Journey, and has been working on it for just over a year. Paula's father holds one of the highest positions in the UN, in HR, where he recruits for UNDP (UN Development Programme) offices. In 2003 the US went over the UN's head, declaring war on terror. As the international media declared that the UN had failed, this prompted Paula's project idea, to find out what the UN do, and how they make a difference. Paula had to get permission to get into the UN and to film this documentary, which took some time.

Paula commenced in Liberia, Palestein and Lebanon, and followed the stepping down of Kofi Annan (seventh Secretary-General of the UN), and his incoming successor. In Lebanon, Paula went out with the peace keepers, met the locals, went on patrols, and went out with agencies like UNHCR. She also spoke to the first female African President (Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf). Paula felt that in the Middle East, the UN was not working so well. Paula sees her project as the "girl next door" asking "why can't you fix things?!"

SBS are very interested in airing the doco, and Paula now needs to produce a trailer, and is requesting funding. While overseas, Paula noticed the work of Rotarians trying to make a difference, and wants to align herself with that. For clubs who make donations to My UN Journey, a thank you credit will be included, and Paula will provide the the doco for clubs to use as a fundraiser. A total of $30,000 is needed to make the full trailer, and $2000 will help Paula make a start.

Paula says the UN is something of a scapegoat, which is partly why she wants to investigate more. She says that the media don't report on the success stories, only reporting on the negative; and Paula wants to hghlight the good stories. She understands that the UN can't do everything for everybody, even in Africa where the UN has had their best result. There are a number of factors where the UN is hindered, such as government issues. Paula has been unable to get coverage in some places such as Darfur.

Paula's project is aligned with the Australian Cultural Fund, allowing tax deductible donations.

Upcoming Club Program

Thursday April 19	**Lunchtime**	Commodore Dacre Smyth AO RAN (Retd) Topic: The Ships That Brought Us To Australia.
Thursday April 26	**Lunchtime**	TBA

News from elsewhere

Operation Solomon Islands

Because of the disastrous earthquake just out of Gizo that caused tidal wave damage to the Solomon Islands, I have given this story preference this week.

The earthquake epicentre was near Gizo where Rotary District 9600 has a Rotary Club. DG Mike Gregory (District 9600) has written the following update:

> "I am sure that you are all well aware of the earthquake and subsequent tidal wave that devastated the Western and Choisel Provinces of the Solomon Islands on 2nd April. Reports so far indicate that, fortunately, loss of life has been minimal but damage to villages and infrastructure is extensive and they will require a lot of help well into the future. D9600 has a Rotary Club in Gizo, capital of Western province, and we also have a Rotary Community Corps at Munda.
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> As the airport at Gizo has been inundated, all relief work is being channelled through the airport at Munda. Many coastal villages have been swept away and some islands have had their sole supply of fresh water contaminated so urgent need is to provide shelter, water and food.
>
> ShelterBox has agreed to 200 boxes being repositioned ready to distribute when DGN Wayne Morris of the Rotary Club of Honiara has sorted out the logistics with the Government and RAMSI. So, support for ShelterBox is the best way we can help in the short term."

Rotary always operates best in times of crisis and when the need is felt by our neighbours. This one such case and **I ask all Clubs and Rotarians to consider helping as much and as quickly as possible.** In agreement with the Trustees, $6,000 will be allocated from the District 9800 Disaster Relief Fund for Operation Solomon Islands. This will be sufficient for 5 ShelterBoxes.

Rotary Club donations for ShelterBox are payable to "ShelterBox Australia". For **businesses and individuals,** tax deductible donations for ShelterBox are payable to "ShelterBox RAWCS" and should be forwarded to:

Rotary Club of Kew
PO Box 101
Kew Vic 3101

General (non ShelterBox) tax deductible donations should be made by cheque payable to "RAWCS Overseas Aid Fund" and be sent:

RAWCS Overseas Aid Fund
c/- Gary Gunnell
PO Box 807
Strathfieldsaye Vic 3551

Lead The Way and assist the Solomons.

Bernie Walshe
District Governor

SHELTERBOX AUSTRALIA
ROTARY CLUB of KEW

SOLOMON ISLAND TSUNAMI

As further comment on from the information in DG Bernie's message above, the news following the earthquake and tsunami in Solomon Islands is coming through slowly. PDG Ray Stewart, ShelterBox Australia, has spoken today with DG Michael Gregory of D9600 who advised that communications are down with radio contact only. Airports have been wiped out and the main problem will be water – lack of and contamination after the waves washed away water wells. See details above in the message from DG Bernie.

Local teams have been sent from Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands, to assess the damage from the Tsunami.

Tom Henderson ShelterBox UK advises that “the need exists: the need persists”. Donations to purchase more ShelterBoxes will be greatly appreciated, especially at this time.

Use the attached PDF form if you prefer to use a credit card to make your payment.

IT'S ON!

The Rotary Drought Breaking Festival is nearly here!

4th, 5th & 6th May 2007 ! MANSFIELD

Rotary Drought Breaking Festival

Mansfield May 5th 2007

Dear Rotarians,

What with no snow season, the severe drought and the worst bush fires in living memory the community of Mansfield Shire has been doing it tough.

The Rotarians of Eltham thought they would like to help out the local community by arranging for their Club members and partners visit the area on the first weekend of May (4th to 6th).The idea was to inject some money into the local economy, gain an understanding of the devastation caused by the bushfires, have a good time and have some fellowship with the Mansfield Club.

The Mansfield Rotary Club is very supportive of this idea as are many members of the local community. The Council as they became aware of what we are trying to achieve, were also keen to support this event. In conjunction with the Eltham visit it has now been decided to put a festival on for the whole of the Mansfield Community on Saturday night of May 5th. The high light of the evening will be a spectacular fireworks display, which is being underwritten by the Eltham Club and provided by one of their club members. There will be entertainment food and wine stalls at the festival and a dinner for all Rotarians and friends who wish to come along.

The local Mansfield Hospital plays a pivotal role in the Mansfield Community. It was the first port of call for those injured New Zealand firefighters in the bushfires. Normally the local community raises funds every year for the Hospital. But times are tough….. SO……

The Mansfield and Eltham Rotary Clubs have decided they would like to raise $25000 towards a post natal humidifying crib for the Hospital as the present one has broken down. This is a vital piece of equipment as up to 80% of all babies born at the hospital, use it during their stay.
We look to other Rotarians and their Clubs for support. It's going to be a great weekend. There is plenty of accommodation available. Trips have been arranged to visit the bush fire areas , four wheel drives into the Mountains and a golf competition on the Sunday at the local Mansfield Club

If you would like to put something back into a rural community that is suffering and join in the weekend festivities and or if you or your club would like to donate something to the hospital appeal please contact me.

Yours in Rotary,

Mike Irwin April 4th, 2007

(Festival Co-ordinator Eltham Rotary Club)
Ph: 043 232 052 or 03 5779 1651
Email: mike.irwin@optusnet.com.au

"Rotary Drought Breaking Festival"

Mansfield weekend of May 4th 5 & 6th 2007

To all Rotarians, partners and friends,

This itinerary is designed for you to have a good time in the High Country, to get an understanding of what happened in the bush fires, to put some money into the local economy, to put on a festival for the community of Mansfield Shire and bring closure to the drought and bush fires and to raise money for the local Hospital which is in urgent need of a post natal humidifying crib valued at $25,000

Friday evening 4th May 2007

1) Arrive in Mansfield and book into accommodation of your choice. Contact the High Country Reservations on 1800 039 049 or www.mansfield-mtbuller.com.au. There is plenty of accommodation to suite ever bodies taste.

2) Enjoy dinner at one of the local Hotels or restaurants in the area.

Saturday 5th May 2007

1) A trip to Tolmie and the Ned Kelly Country has been arranged to see the devastation from the bush fires around Tolmie,Powers lookout and Whitfield. (Time of departure 10.00am)This will be a guided tour by a member of the CFA who will give us some idea about all the facets of bush fires back burning etc. We will also be met by a local historian who will tell us about Ned Kelly and his gang and show us some of their local haunts. Buses will be provided for this trip depending on numbers.

2) Lunch either at the local Tolmie pub or the Whitfeld Pub depending on numbers.

(Please note alternative trips can be arranged to the Jameison area depending on numbers)

3) Arrive back in Mansfield mid afternoon

4) A **Rotary Drought Breaking Festival** has been organised by the Eltham Rotary Club which will start at 4.30pm. It will include a fantastic fire work display at 6.30pm which is being provided by Advanced Fireworks Australia at cost. **Deborah Conway** has also agreed to provide entertainment on the night. There will also be other entertainment and food and beverage stalls. I f you would like to participate in this event please let me know by the 15th April 2007

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5) A Rotary Dinner is being provide at the Alzburg Resort at 8.00 pm. All Rotarians and friends are welcome but number are limited.

Sunday 6th May

1) A Golf Tournament has been arranged at the Mansfield Golf Club for the morning. It will be an Ambrose competition and open to all in Rotary and friends. The Golf Club has agreed to donate 90% of the green fees to the Mansfield Hospital
2) For those who do not wish to play a trip up Mount Buller is being organised or.

3) Members of the Mansfield Rotary Club will take you on a four wheel safari as long as you have your own 4 wheel drive.

4) A lunch has been organized at the Golf Club for everybody involved and this will be the last organized function for the trip.

If you would like to join in in any of these activities or if you would like to make a donation for Festival and the Hospital Fund. Please contact me:

Mike Irwin

Rotary Drought Breaking Festival Co-ordinator
Eltham Rotary Club
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Email mike.irwin@optusnet.com.au

Cheques should be made out to the Eltham Rotary Club
PO Box 793 Eltham VIC 3095