



Hello Bernie! This email has been generated just for you as a member of our club. We hope you enjoy receiving this newsletter!

**Editor:** Rebecca RIEBELING  
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

**Future Speakers**

**Feb 22 2011**

Mr Paulo Maia, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bank  
*"Australia's place in emerging Asia "*

**Mar 1 2011**

Prue Simmons  
*"D9800 Group Study Exchange to Spain in 2010"*

**Mar 8 2011**

Professor Glen Mola  
*"Achieving good outcomes in maternity care with minimal resources"*

**Mar 15 2011**

Brian Kelly  
*"Victorian Historic Vehicle Movement"*

**May 3 2011**

Kevin Love  
*"Facilitating United Nations Negotiations"*

**Upcoming Events**

**Eminent Speaker Mr Paulo Maia, CEO, HSBC Bank Aust**  
Feb 22 2011

**Walking Tour - Melbourne's Incredible History**  
Mar 19 2011

**Trivia Night**  
Mar 19 2011

**DIK Working Bee and BBQ**  
Mar 27 2011

**Rotary District 9800 Conference**  
Mar 31 2011 - Apr 2 2011

**ROTARY ANZAC PEACE TOUR**  
Apr 1 2011

**Rotary Club of Osaka Hommachi 20th Anniversary**

**This Week's Meeting, Tues February 22nd**

by RIEBELING, Rebecca



**Eminent Speaker Mr Paulo Maia, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bank**

*"Australia's place in emerging Asia"*

Paulo Maia has been Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bank Australia since July 2009, having previously been Deputy Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bank Brazil. Paulo has over 25 years experience in a banking career that has spanned retail, commercial and corporate banking across Brazil, Great Britain and the United States.

Paulo will provide HSBC's insights into the global economy, particularly the structural shift from West to East, the importance of China to Australia and the implications for the local and global financial sectors.

**Please note this is a ticketed event**

Cost: Pre-purchased tickets until 15th February \$45pp including GST. All bookings received after 15th February \$55pp including GST.

**To obtain tickets please contact:**

Kerstin Steiner at kerstin.steiner@monash.edu.au  
Greg Michener at mitch3166@optusnet.com.au

**Duty Roster, Tues February 22nd**

by REBECCA RIEBELING

**Note:** Duty people are expected to be on duty at RACV at **7am** as many guests start arriving from this time.

**Please note if unable to attend please arrange to swap your role with another member.**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Anne King</b>
<b>Sergeant</b>	<b>Frank O'Brien</b>

Apr 5 2011

**Club Horizons/Planning Meeting**

May 1 2011

**Cafe International**

May 7 2011

**Movie and Dinner Evening**

May 14 2011

**RCCMS Annual Hypothetical**

May 20 2011

**Echuca Moama Steam Rally**

Jun 11 2011 - Jun 12 2011

**News**

RYLA - Leading the way

Group Study Exchange Welcome Dinner

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<b>Reporter</b>	<b>Herbert Greenwood</b>
<b>Door</b>	<b>Neville John</b>
<b>Photographer</b>	<b>Mary Voice</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Keith Frampton</b>

**Meeting Report, Tues February 15th**

by Gerard HOGAN

**Chair:** Robin Stevens

**Guest:**  
Annie Garrett

**Visitors:**  
Dee Dee Wacksman (RC Bay City Michigan)  
Try Perdanat (a Perth Rotary Club)



**Announcements:**

Alan Seale announced he had a couple of raffle tickets left for the Polio Plus program

Frank O'Brien requested members to contact him as soon as possible to sign up for the tour of the Western Treatment Plant.

Greg Mitchener thanked members for their support of the Eminent Speaker Breakfast next week and advised that the cost of the breakfast would be \$55 per person for those who had not already booked.

John Ilott announced the engagement of Erclin Gorham.

**President's Announcements:**

Anne King displayed photographs of recent club events and advised that Bernie Gerlinger has been selected for the nominating committee and District Governor selection for 2013/14 Rotary year.

Anne reminded members that places are still available and can be booked for the District Conference.

A half yearly review will be undertaken at the next board meeting and an update will be given to members at the following breakfast meeting.

President Anne then exchanged banners with Dee Dee Wacksman and thanked Kay and Robin Stevens for hosting last weekend's hugely successful Sunday afternoon barbecue.

**Sergeant's Session**

Birthdays - Athina Driver, Jane Bromby and Neville John

Wedding Anniversaries - Ro & Gerard Hogan (30 years) and Pip & Roger Thornton (40 years)

In his final sergeant's session Sgt Frank O'Brien tested members on their knowledge of history and Rotary and finished with some brilliant jokes.

**Member behind the Badge - Alan Driver**

Alan Driver provided an insight into his current professional undertakings

and family life. Semi retired since September 2007, he went from working about 10 hours a day as a General Manager to another career in a short time.

Alan currently undertakes a wide range of jobs and had to become accustomed to focusing on a number of activities at once. Naturally, his most important job is to keep his wife, Athina, happy. Athina is now a General Manager at Southern Health and works long hours. This means Alan's activities include running the household properly and supporting Athina. He is chief cook and bottle washer, needs to keep the garden up to scratch, carries out house maintenance and organises holidays.

They still have two adult children at home, Lucas 27 and Anastasia 22. Lucas works for International Power and Anastasia for Le Louvre. Anastasia will be Vice President and Director International Service next year at the Rotary Club of Melbourne Park. Both Lucas and Anastasia have very active social lives. They travel for pleasure and business, so Alan has to try to keep up with their movements to know whether one or both may be home for dinner or whether Athina or Alan will eat out. They like walking to local restaurants.

Alan tries to keep up with the latest recipes and keeps fit through rowing, walking, some bike riding and general exercise. He also needs to keep up with reading as Athina and he run a literary, wine and food group at Inverloch on a regular basis. When he was working full time he started rowing in 2001 and so when he left full time work, he became more involved in the running of Melbourne Rowing Club in a voluntary capacity. He has been Vice-Captain for two years and responsible for boat maintenance and statistics. This takes up an average of 15 hours per week. He also endeavours to go sailing most weekends on a 14 foot Windrush catamaran during the summer.

He is enjoying his current involvement in Rotary as Director of International Service. He enjoys the challenge of committee and Board work as well as contributing to the District program Rotary Anzac Peace Tour in 2011 and the RAPT 2015 planning. One of the holidays that he has organised is to spend 5 days in Istanbul after the RAPT with Athina.

To demonstrate that he is still interested in the electricity industry in Victoria and Australia, Alan still carries out some consulting work. He works under the business name Alan Driver & Associates. He recently undertook a project to provide advice to consumer organisations in Victoria concerning the cost implications to consumers of the previous Victorian Government's decision to introduce Smart Meters (or interval meters) into every house in Victoria on a mandatory basis. This meant working solidly with those organisations in order for them to understand the decisions made by the government and the decisions made by the Australian Energy Regulator to set metering charges for consumers. You may be aware that all domestic electricity accounts now have a metering charge factored in to the regular accounts whether a smart meter has been installed or not.

Currently, he is working with an international company providing advice on electrical safety procedures and licensing issues from a legislative and regulatory perspective, to ascertain what electrical work can be done by licensed and unlicensed people. He is also keeping a watch on electrical safety and national licensing issues.

Lastly, but by no means least, he keeps in contact with family and friends through Rotary, travelling companions and work, whether they are in Australia or overseas.

## **Guest Speaker - Rod Fraser, principle of Ivanhoe Grammar School**

### *"Your Own 2 Hands Foundation"*

Ivanhoe Grammar School has made a commitment to internationalise its curriculum in the belief that in the globalised environment that these children will enter, the school has a responsibility to fit them with global competencies. His interest and belief in access to educational opportunities has resulted in Rod and his immediate family establishing an overseas charitable trust. Your Own 2 Hands Foundation assists in improving educational facilities and pathways for village children in Laos.

This foundation is an attempt to give to children in northern Asia who are devoid of educational opportunities. This was an extension of Rod's work at Ivanhoe Grammar which is one of eight schools in the state helping to roll out a State Government programme.

Round Square is an organisation of 85 schools who are committed to getting children to engage in service, democratic principles, internationalism, a democratic environment and international service projects. Children work on common projects in their holidays with people from all around the world. They spend between 2 to 3 weeks on building classrooms, providing clean water, etc. The impact of these experiences on 17-year-old students is quite profound.

The hill tribes in northern Thailand have been a recipient of Round Square water projects for the last 15 years. From Rod's experience the reason why young people are so involved in developing social consciousness seems to be that many people have very strong, young role models available. Hugh Evans who started Street Kids International looks after 700,000 children around the world with his programme and Craig Kielburger who started Free the Children at age 12, now has an organisation with offices in five different countries.

The Your Own 2 Hands Foundation has helped set up projects in Cambodia. Rod's family decided to start an overseas charitable trust about four years ago after 23 trips to Laos. They wanted to raise money to build village schools. They have now built three schools at a cost of about \$10,000 each. Village schools generally have dirt floors and thatched roofs and are serviceable for about two months of the year due to the monsoon season. The Your Own 2 Hands Foundation is trying to provide structures which allow education through the complete year. They are trying to rebuild primary schools which provide clean water, develop hygiene agreements with all the villages they are involved with, and use the education process to improve the physical, intellectual and environmental care for the villages.

Rod has also developed links with a secondary high school to provide secondary level support, equipment and toilets. He hopes that in time people will be able to go and physically work on projects, but their initial concern is to raise money to finance these endeavours.

They have also developed a link with a minority high school of 526 students just south of the old northern capital. The aim is to provide career pathways to police, tourism and hospitality. Only twelve percent of these students currently have funding to go to university. The rest go back to their villages to pick out a subsistence life. The children live on about one dollar a month after expenses are taken out. KOTO, started by Jimmy Haun in Vietnam, is a model of enterprise Rod believes they may

be able to develop in this area.

Your Own 2 Hands Foundation is not a registered tax-deductible organisation at the moment, but Robert is going through the process to achieve this. The Foundation is trying to raise about \$125,000 to construct dormitories for 40+ students. They are currently looking for people who have links with transport companies to assist them to transport equipment to the school from Australia. Rod invited those interested in the network to express their interest through registering on their website.

Access the Your Own 2 Hands Foundation website at the following [LINK](#)

#### **GSE Welcome Function**

by *RIEBELING, Rebecca*



District 9800 will welcome the visiting GSE team from District 5840, based in San Antonio in Texas with a function at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club at 7pm on Tuesday, March 15, 2011.

The cost will be \$74 per head. It will be a two course dinner with wine, beer and soft drinks supplied.

Further details can be obtained from David Rush (davidr@rennicks.com.au) or 9882 2056), Ian Salek (isalek@bigpond.net.au or 9882 3324) or Richard Groom (rgroom@iinet.net.au or 9888 4099) by March 8, 2011.

Download the booking form at the following [LINK](#)

#### **The Thornton's Dubai B&B is open for business**

by *THORNTON, Roger*

Pip and I have now been in Dubai almost a month and are beginning to feel settled. We have rented an apartment in the Marina area of Dubai. It's on the 23rd floor and has excellent views over both the Marina and out to the ocean.



The apartment has 3 bedrooms and we hope some of you will visit us over the next 12 months. Dubai is certainly different - you should come and experience it.

They do bureaucracy very well here - resident visa, work permit, Emirates ID card, driver's licence, bank account, alcohol licence (available only to non-Muslims) and the amount of alcohol you're allowed to buy is linked to your salary etc. Without a sponsor (the agency I'm working through) and his PRO (Public Relations Officer) to guide us through the maze, I don't think we'd ever get to the end.

We've fallen foul of the system only once so far - when I tried, unsuccessfully, to hire a car, having obtained my residence visa but not my UAE driver's licence (because once I'm a resident I can no longer use my Australian driver's licence!). Pip was unable to hire the car with her Australian licence because, although she has not yet obtained her residence visa, we couldn't produce her passport because it is with the Immigration Department being processed!

I have attended one Rotary meeting so far - last Wednesday evening - at

the Jumeirah Dubai club, in District 2450. District 2450 is interesting in that it covers 9 countries and three continents. One of the countries is Egypt and the D2450 Annual Conference this year is to be held in Luxor (good timing!). The Jumeirah club is one of two clubs in Dubai. It was established in 2007 and now has about 50 members. The President and Treasurer are Emiratis but the rest of the membership appears to be a