

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President:	Adrienne Dale	Phone: 778-242-5549	E-mail the President
Secretary:	Brenda Jenkins	Phone: 604-816-6961	E-mail the Secretary
Editor:	Peter Boekhorst	Phone: 604-465-3392	E-mail the Editor



OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Today (Oct 15): **Rose Hamilton** - SOS Children's Village BC
Next Week (Oct 22): **Rebecca Murray** - Rotary Membership Growth

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	Oct. 19: Al & Brenda Jenkins

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Oct. 24		World Polio Day	
Nov. 15	5:30 pm – 10:00 pm	District Foundation Dinner in Abbotsford	Quality Hotel - 36035 N Parallel Road, Abbotsford
Dec. 13		Club Christmas Party @ Patrick O'Brien's Home	10328 276 St. Maple Ridge
Apr. 30-May 3		District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs	Harrison Resort
June 6-10		RI International Convention in Honolulu	

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

All guests welcomed.



Cheryl Zandbergen from "Moms Gone Wild" presented a cheque of \$2,500 to Ineke for the Starfish Pack Program.

Mike Davies presented a cheque of \$500 to **Pauline De Silva** of "SPECC-tacular Productions".

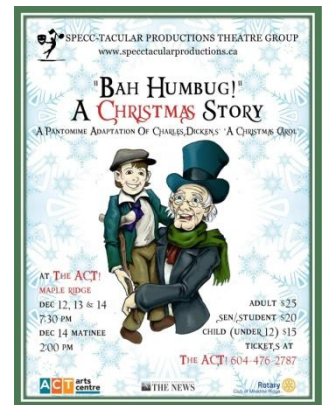
Pauline described their operation as follows:

I am the Treasurer of SPECC-tacular Productions Theatre Group. I want to thank Rotary so much for your cheque and the support you have given our group over the years. We are a Not for Profit Musical Theatre Company that due to the help and support of sponsors such as yourself have now been around for 10 years. As Actors and Singers we all love what we do and enjoy giving back to the community by bringing pleasure to our audiences however big or small.

In the Spring we perform a Musical Revue in the community, and a "Pantomime" every December at the ACT. This year's Panto we are doing is Bah Humbug - the story of Scrooge. There's lots of



Singing, Dancing and Comedy and we try to put on a quality show which our audiences all seem to love. It has now become a Christmas Tradition with a lot of families, and I hope you will come and enjoy this Christmas treat too.



One of our guests, **Anil Srivatsa** explained the importance of an organ donation. Anil has crossed 38 countries and more than 50,000 kms on his SUV with a single mission to create awareness on organ donation. "I am happy if I am able to convince even one person to donate his organ," says Anil.

An organ donor himself, Srivatsa feels it is his responsibility to make people understand the value of gifting life to someone by organ donation, if not when they are alive at least after their death. "I am able to talk louder and be more aggressive about it because no one can point a finger at me and say "tune kya kiya?" he says.

Anil Srivatsa was a workaholic and a control freak till three years ago when his elder brother, a neurosurgeon who was suffering from a renal failure, came to him asking for one of his kidneys to save his life. "I said yes. But I was afraid. I did a lot of things to prolong it. I went off to Antarctica and then to Himalayas just to get my head straight. At no point of time I did ever think of not giving it to my brother but I was just contemplating how to deal with it. Finally, when he got into dialysis I decided to step in. And now I am here happy," he says.

Another one of our guests, **Terry MacKenzie** extended much gratitude and thank for the donation of dictionaries to the ACCW as follows:

"ACCW is the main provincial correctional centre housing female inmates. Many female inmates are marginalized in society (more often than the male population) and are made more vulnerable because of their lack of education, resources and work skills. More often than not, they are victimized by those who would profit in some way from them. We've found that through the provincial Dogwood program and other training opportunities through SD42 and the Corrections Branch that women can be empowered to break out of their life of abuse, crime and drugs. Therefore, any time we can promote literacy, training or skills development with our women, we're empowering them to come out of their present circumstance and lead a more healthy, happy, safe and productive life. The dictionaries you donated will be added our libraries and given to the SD42 teacher for use in the classroom.



Our Guest Speaker was **Debi Pearce**, a past member of our Club, who donated one of her kidneys in June, 2019. Also in attendance was the Organ Recipient **Geoff Dunsire**.

Here is the story from the Ashcroft Cache Creek Journal of Jul. 25, 2019:



Geoffrey Dunsire is the 5,000th British Columbian alive today because of an organ transplant

A 31-year-old Mission man is grateful for another chance at life, after receiving a kidney transplant last month from a living donor. It makes him the 5,000th person in British Columbia alive today because of an organ transplant.

Geoffrey Dunsire received a kidney from Debi Pearce, a 64-year-old realtor from Maple Ridge, who decided to step forward as a

potential donor after meeting Dunsire and his family while finding them a new home.

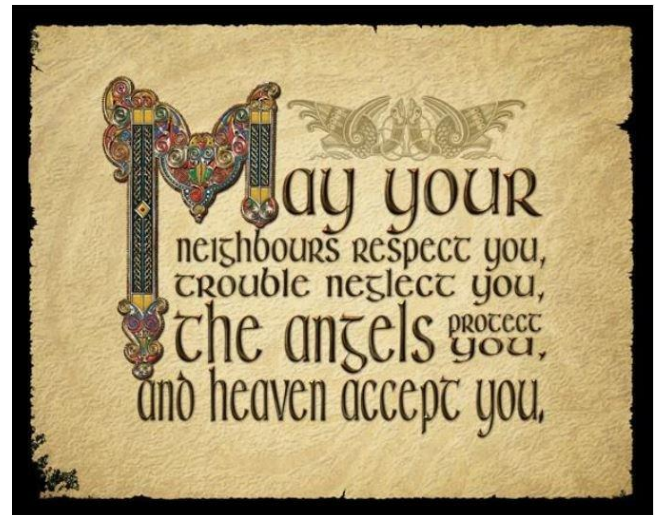
This was Dunsire's second organ transplant. He received an initial liver transplant six years ago at Vancouver General Hospital, but was so ill his kidney was damaged as well. Dunsire had been on dialysis for four years before his kidney transplant last month. Both Dunsire and Pearce are recovering well.

"There are literally no words to express how grateful I am to Debi for giving me the 'gift of life'," says Dunsire. "Thanks to her, I am ready to believe and hope for my future."

"Donating a kidney has changed my life in so many ways," says Pearce. "I feel empowered, positive, and so grateful to be able to help give Geoff back his 'normal' life again."



President Adrienne finished the meeting with an Irish Blessing:



Submitted by Bernard Bezuidenhout