

ROTARY CLUB OF BAIRNSDALE INC

Bulletin No. 05/18 8 August 2017

Monthly Theme: Membership and New Club Development

GUEST SPEAKER - PAUL HEATON-HARRIS - STEERS FOR STUDENTS

Last week we were given an update on the Steers for Students program, it is hard to believe that it is nearly three years since Paul Heaton- Harris spoke to us. At that time we thought that it was such a good program that we gave them enough money to purchase two steers, making it a donation rather than a loan.

It idea came out of a drought and a group of people decided that they might be able to engage farmers and students in the raising of steers on properties in the local area. It was decided to purchase good quality cattle fatten them up and then sell for a good profit. The original investment was \$600 per head, of course now cattle are dearer to purchase but by the same token they achieve more at sale so the profit margin remains the same.

They started with 10 steers, at present there are 43 head on free agistment at various farms, some farmers have more than one and have really come on board with the whole project. If needed they move the cattle around, from a property that may be low on feed, to say the river flats where it is more plentiful. Recently they sold 20 head as conditions have been a bit tough, but still managed to average about \$1800.00 per head. Paul thanked us for our decision to keep the money in the program as it gave them a chance to purchase more cattle which were later sold at a large profit.

So what is the profit/money used for? An example that Paul gave was that a student was given \$4500.00 sponsorship while attending university. The money is not handed to them but used when required and if at the end of the time at university, any that is left over it is handed back to the committee. This particular student was given assistance with rent money so that he could use the money he had, to buy expensive media equipment vital to his studies. Another student who was feeling home sick was given money to enable them to travel home to catch up with family. So it was obvious that the money can be used in many different ways.

At present there are 13 students in the program with eight on deferral and will take up the sponsorship next year as they have taken a gap year. Students are referred to the program by the schools and the committee are guided by their choices. They have students at several universities both in Victoria and interstate. It was very pleasing to see that from a relatively small donation we have been able to make a difference in our community.



Celebrations

Nil

DOOR & WELCOME ROSTER

August	Ken Sheather John Walker
September	Ula Sheather Volunteer required



President RI:	Ian H. S Riseley
D9820 Governor:	Don Ripper
D9820 EG Assistant Governor:	Judy van der Vlugt
Club President:	Tony Murray
Past President:	Helen Crosby
Corres Secretary:	Gillian Reeve
Minute Secretary:	Noel Wheeldon
Treasurer:	Gillian Reeve
Membership & Vocation	Brian Ross
PR, Bulletin, Facebook, Web:	Helen Crosby and Gillian Reeve
Youth Service:	Ula Sheather
Community Programs	John Ariens John Walker
International Foundation:	Margaret Macfarlane Margaret Macfarlane
Club Meets at: Tuesdays 6pm	The Bairnsdale Club 68 Nicholson St Bairnsdale PH: 5152 4301 Phone Club before 12 noon

Web Sites to visit:
Our Facebook Page – rcbairnsdale
Our Webpage – rcbairnsdale.org
Youtube.com/rotary
Rotary International - rotary.org.au

Marquee Hire: John Crawford
0412432325
Marquee Volunteers are welcome



Correspondence to the Secretary
Rotary Club of Bairnsdale
PO 287, Bairnsdale. 3875.

WHAT'S ON

Our Meetings (5.45 for 6.15pm) & Other Events

8 th August	District Governor Don Ripper Visit Partners welcome
15 th August	Trip USA – Gillian
22 nd August	Board Meeting
29 th August	TBA

OTHER CLUBS MEET

Monday	Mitchell River @ Bairnsdale RSL 5.45 for 6pm. Leave message Ph: 9517 1220 before 11am Mondays
Wednesday	Bairnsdale Sunrise @ International Motel Registration, Sue, Mobile 0438 278 258 Lakes Entrance @ Central Hotel, Esplanade, 6 for 6.30pm. Attendance, Lesley 0419871197
Thursday	Orbost @ The Orbost Club 6 for 6.30pm. PH Wendy 0457 345 369

DISTRICT GOVERNORS VISIT

It's that time of year again and District Governor Don Ripper will be visiting our club on 8 August 2017.

All Directors are asked to be at the Bairnsdale Club at 5.00pm to meet with Don and discuss our goals for the coming year

It will be a partners night and we would like you all to attend for an informative but social evening.

Remember the Rotary theme for the year:

Rotary: Making a Difference

Let's ensure that this is our goal

MERCY SHIPS

Some of you may be aware that in April, I started the process for volunteering on a Mercy Ship, 'The Surgery Ship', that is the subject of an eight part series on National Geographic.

I first heard about them at the Bendigo conference when Tim Moore was District Governor. I was very impressed with what they do, providing free operations to the African population, using an 80 bed hospital ship, converted from a ferry.

When first hearing this I thought what can I do? Am I too old? I am not in the medical profession, but on board are 400 staff/crew that perform a variety of jobs. Everyone is a volunteer and pays to serve on board, some working for two years at a time. As this is a faith based organisation many volunteers are sponsored by their local church. Then I discovered that they needed accounts staff and thought, that could be me.

It has taken four months of back and forth e-mails, application forms, references, CV's etc and last week my perseverance was rewarded with an acceptance into what they call the Talent Pool. I am hoping to take up a position as an Accounts Receivable Clerk on the Africa Mercy in February next year, where I will be on board for over three months. This year they have been in service at Benin and recently moved to Cameroon, I am not sure where they will be next year.

Follow them on Facebook, Google them to discover the fantastic work that they do.

Our club has made regular donations over the last few years as we recognise the valuable work they do. I still have a few more steps to take but thought that I would share this part of the journey with you now. I am feeling just a tad excited.

Gillian Reeve

DISTRICT 9820 CONFERENCE

SALE – 16 – 18 FEBRUARY 2018

On to Conference contact – Gillian Reeve

Let's get back into attending our district conference and hearing inspirational speakers while enjoying the fellowship of fellow Rotarians

