

Rotary



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Thursday 13th October 2016

Rotary Club of Maffra

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The Rotary Club of Maffra meets on Thursday, 6 pm for 6.30 pm

Duart Receptions, 20 McLean Street, Maffra

(Apologies and visitors to Nathan Smith by 1 pm. Telephone (03) 5147 1985)

TOAST: "To The Privilege of Community Service"

Editorial:

9820 District Conference 2017



Come Join us in Hobart 2017

for the 59th District Conference
MARCH 24th -26th

**SPEAKERS
GETTING THERE**

REGISTER NOW!

Registration forms are now available, and all information regarding guest speakers, tours, registration etc. is available on the above link. Accommodation is at the Wrest Point Casino, but bookings are up to the individual.

Shane Smallwood
Bulletin Editor
shasma.1@bigpond.com

MEETING SNAPSHOT 13.10.2016



18 members present
2 members on caravan duty
Roger Malouf won the swindle (again)
Unfortunately, our scheduled guest speaker did not turn up so we were left to improvise again and it turned out to be another very interesting and early evening.

Roger Malouf gave a brief report on his mentoring role with the senior sergeant in Sale.

Pauline reminded us that there would be a call for volunteers to man the gate at the Maffra show on 22nd. Details to follow next meeting.

BJ reported on his week he has been visiting friends at Mornington, going cliff diving and catamaran sailing. He also attended a local Oktoberfest and is going to camp in preparation for his Rock to Reef tour next year.

Helen Lanigan reported on her attendance at a morning tea in Bairnsdale to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Junior Community Awards. The awards, begun by the Rotary Club of Mitchell River, have been adopted by a number of clubs throughout Australia, England, Gibraltar and Spain. They were based on the Duke of Edinburgh awards and were for year 6 students.

Ross Neilson updated us on his recent health issue with the pleasing news that it is mostly behind him now. His last procedure will be in a few weeks when his heart will be stopped, and then restarted to bring it into proper rhythm.

STOP PRESS!!!!

All conference registrants for the 59th annual District 9820 Conference to be held in Hobart from 24th to 26th March 2017 will be eligible to win an all-expenses paid 14 days South Pacific Cruise for two departing Melbourne.

The only condition to winning this fabulous cruise valued at over \$3,000.00 is that you are present in the auditorium at the time it is drawn.



This prize is proudly sponsored by P&O and helloworld Travel at Waverley Gardens.

From the [September 2016 issue](#)

of *The Rotarian*



This is your European correspondent with my final report after I managed to get down off Mont Blanc and now continue my story.

Following on from last time, we arrived in Barga and checked into the Il Ciocco resort high on a hill, surrounded by majestic mountains and looking out over the valley with small villages including the town of Barga scattered around the hillsides. Barga itself is high up on a hill and when we visited the next day found the walk up the narrow winding cobblestone streets and up to the duomo at the top of the hill was indeed as hard as we had been forewarned it would be. We visited the old church The Collegiate Church of San Cristoforo (the duomo of Barga) which dates back to the 11th to 16th centuries although little of the original church remains today. The town itself is built into the steep hillside and the streets are so narrow and windy that only the locals dare drive vehicles inside the old town.

We also visited another mountain top village named Tigio Alto high above the valley below. Here the roads were so windy and narrow I held my breath all the way to the top in case we met another vehicle coming down. We didn't but on the return trip we did meet another vehicle coming up only this time we were on the inside of a steep corner, not the cliff side!!

From Barga we also did a day trip to Lucca, a walled city some 45 minutes away not far from Pisa. We had a beautiful warm sunny day, found parking easily which is rare anywhere in a popular place like Lucca and spent the day sightseeing in this beautiful medieval city.

Next day we set off for our next stopover which was to be a mountain top village called Montepulciano. Checking accommodation, the night before indicated plenty of rooms vacant but on our arrival we found all available rooms were taken, the last as we walked into reception to book one. Not happy we had a bit of a walk around the village which is also quite beautiful then reluctantly went back to our (illegally) parked car and left.

We decide to continue on to Tivoli, near Rome and the town our former property in Clematis had been named after. This time I booked ahead and had a nice room overlooking the gardens and the valley awaiting us on our arrival. Unfortunately, though it started raining as we set out to explore the town and we returned drenched to our hotel room. The rain continued all night and into the next day and we decided to leave and head south to better weather. These are a few photos taken during our brief stay in Tivoli.

We left Tivoli in pouring rain and headed for Bomerano in Agerola, 660 metres above the Amalfi coast in southern Italy and known as The Land of the Gods due to its beautiful scenery and position above the spectacular Amalfi Coastline. Agerola is known for its mozzarella cheese and is very popular with walkers who come from all over Europe to explore its many and varied trails. Here is a photo taken from where we stayed in Agerola looking down towards the town of Amalfi. It gives some idea of the spectacular scenery and of the narrow winding road down to the coast.

From Agerola we went on day trips down to the coast to visit Positano, Praiano, Salerno, Ravello and Amalfi, each time having to negotiate the endless curves in the road with a bus lurking around the corner of each one just waiting for me to try and get around. We of course had lots of pizza including this one metre monster - which was delicious!!

We spent two relaxing weeks in Agerola then began to head back north towards Amsterdam for our flight home. Our first stop was at a stunningly beautiful town called Pitigliano in Tuscany, perched high on a hill and built onto the top of a cliff, Pitigliano is famous in Italy for its wines and its unique and beautiful scenery. Photos only begin to give some idea of what it is like, it has to be seen to be believed.

After Pitigliano we headed further north east and stayed at the old city of Bra. On arrival it did not seem like much but when we drove into the old part of the town and began to explore it we found it too was quite an attractive place to visit.

After just one night there we headed off to Aosta which is in the Aosta valley surrounded by the magnificent Italian alps. We had been there only twelve minutes mths ago but had forgotten just how good it was. Many roman ruins, lovely cobblestone streets, plenty of shops, cafes and restaurants and the sort of place one could keep going back to. On our second day in Aosta we set out to climb Mont Blanc, or Monte Bianco to the Italians. The peak is some 3,500 metres and the cable car goes all the way to the top. Actually there are two, one goes half way for the less experienced skiers I presume, the second to the top. I have to say that only the very skilled, very brave or very silly would even attempt to ski down that mountain. Might be a challenge for Ian and Bjarne.

From Aosta it was on towards Normandy where we were to visit friends who live there several months of the year. Our next two stopovers were chosen because they were one third and two thirds the distance from Aosta to Normandy so we had no idea what to expect. The first stop was a town, or city named Besancon and on arrival we almost turned away. However, when we drove right into the old original part of the city it was as good as any we had been to, except maybe Pitigliano.

From there to Auxere and once again we were overwhelmed by how gorgeous a place can be. We had a hotel room just off the main square within walking distance to all the sights of which there were many. Plus, it had the added 'advantage' of having a great shopping street!! We spent two days in Auxere and vowed should we return to Europe it would be on our list of places to revisit for sure, probably along with nearly everywhere else we have been.

We left Auxere and headed for our friends home in Saint Pierre du Val where we stayed for four days to recover from all our driving. While there we had a day trip and beautiful French style lunch in Ruen, another to Honfleur and a third at a small French village nearby. Normandy is a very beautiful part of France and we enjoyed our time there very much.

After Normandy we started out for Amsterdam via Ypres in Flanders to see the Menin gate where the names of thousands of soldiers 'Lost without a trace' are engraved not the walls. I was searching for and found the name of who I believe was one of my father's uncles who was killed in 1917.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 2016-2017

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Sue Gray
Immediate Past President	Ross Neilson
Secretary	Dianne Honey
Treasurer	Graeme Hemming
Club/Vocational Service Director	
Community Service Director	Pauline Hitchins
Foundation/International Director	Shane Smallwood
Youth Service Director	Sharon Knight

OTHER ROLES

Sergeant at Arms/Fines	Rob Noble /Ted Mitchell
Program Co-ordinator	Brian Gray / Veronica Dwyer
Club Bulletin and Publicity	Shane Smallwood
BBQ Co-ordinators	Hans Van Wees / John Watts
Attendance	Neil Wishart
Arthur's Swindle	Cath Noble / Sandra Houghton
Family of Rotary	Dianne Honey
Club Protection Officer	Sjors Duursema
On to Conference	Ross Neilson
Club Website	Logan Connolly

Rosters - Registrations / Friendship / Property /Caravan / BBQ Shane Smallwood

PLEASE APOLOGISE
if you cannot attend the meeting. If you do not apologise you will be asked to pay for the meal that has been provided for you and for which the club has had to pay.



COMMITTEES

Community Service	International Service/Foundation
Pauline Hitchins (Director) Cath Noble, Rick Dare, Hans Van Wees, Veronica Dwyer, John Watts, Brian Gray, Peter Quennell, Nathan Smith	Shane Smallwood (Director) Rob Noble, Ross Neilson, Iain Stewart, John Osbom, Neil Wishart
Youth Service	Club Service/Vocational Service
Sharon Knight director) Sjors Duursema (Protection Off.), Logan Connolly, Sandra Houghton, Roger Malouf, Ted Mitchell	Sue Gray (Pres), Ross Neilson (IPP) Dianne Honey (Sec), Graeme Hemming (Treas), Helen Lanigan.

On a bitterly cold winter morning a husband and wife in Dublin were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through". So the good wife went out and moved her car.

A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through". The good wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park..." Then the electric power went out. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through?"

Then with the love and understanding in his voice that all men who are married to blonde's exhibit, the husband replied, "Why don't you just leave the bloody car in the garage this time."

HOUSEKEEPING PAGE

Please take note of your roster.

When you are rostered on for duty and you are unavailable, please arrange your own swap.

Special instructions for those on the BBQ rosters, please make sure you collect the tear drop flag.

PROGRAMME

Date	Programme	Host
20 th October	Committee and Board meetings	Sue Gray

CARAVAN ROSTER

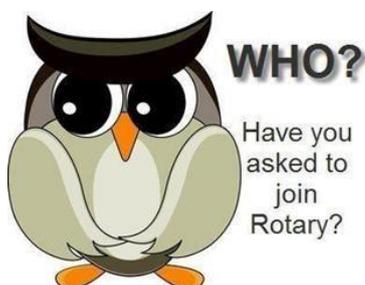
Date	Deliver	Pick Up	Booked by
14 th October	Brian Gray	Rick Dare	St Johns
21 st & 22 nd October	Peter Quennell	Peter Quennell	Maffra Agricultural Society
28 th October			Not required
4 th November	Iain Stewart	Nathan Smith	Maffra Cricket Club
11 th November	Rick Dare	Cath Noble	Maffra Volleyball
18 th November	Brian Gray	Peter Quennell	George Gray Auxiliary
25 th November	Hans Van Wees	Shane Smallwood	St Marys

CLUB DUTIES

DATE	GREETING	REGISTRATION	PROPERTY	MARKET BBQ	WOOLIES BBQ
Oct	Graeme Hemming	Helen Lanigan Sharon Knight	Roger Malouf		8 th : Iain Stewart, Helen Lanigan, Dianne Honey
Nov	Cath Noble	Logan Connolly, Veronica Dwyer	Ted Mitchell	6 th : Hans Van Wees, John Watts, Logan Connolly, Shane Smallwood,	

MILESTONES 21st to 27th October.

NAME	MEMBER'S B/DAY	PARTNER'S B/DAY	WEDDING ANN.	JOINED ROTARY
John & Carole Watts			25 th October	



Seniors Computer Skills Tech support: How may I help you?

A woman customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.

Tech support: Are you running it under windows?

Customer: 'No, my desk is next to the door, but that is a good point.

The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine.'