



Fri Dec 14, 2012

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Merry Christmas
Jan 01, 2013
No Meeting
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Jan 08, 2013
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Upcoming events

Xmas Party
RACV City Club
Dec 18, 2012 07:30 AM - 08:45 AM

Club meetings: 7.15 for 7.40 am at the RACV
501 Bourke Street, Melbourne

DUTY ROSTER - 18 December 2012

Chair	Mary Voice
Sergeant	Michael Bromby
Greeter	Bruce McBain
Reporter	Peter Lake
Photographer	Allan Driver
Door	Kevin Walklate

OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY BREAKFAST - 18 December 2012



Be prepared for a stu
an aesthetic, emotional and gustatory high for the year!
Much of the breakfast doings must remain top secret till the day, but count on a t
from our never-quite-grown-up Sgt Michael Bromby, an a capella musical extrav
presentations and riotous party fun. Words simply cannot do justice to the deligh
YOU on Tuesday.

DIK Working Bee

Woolshed 40

May 11, 2013 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Photo Albums[Paul Harris Breakfast](#)[Vocational Visit Police College](#)[Laos school project](#)[Charity Gala](#)[Camp Getaway Working Bee](#)[McAuley House Working Bee](#)[25th Changeover dinner](#)[25th Anniversary Lunch](#)*Editor Robin STEVENS**If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor.*

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Our 2012 Christmas Party meeting is on next Tuesday. If you haven't already reg ClubRunner ... registration for yourselves and guests is essential. This promises which is being organised by Mary Voice.

Hopefully, members are making their final additions to their Christmas Hamper b your filled bags – **red bags** for Steps Outreach Service and **green bags** for Hotl Asylum Seeker Project – to our Christmas Party . Thee two recipient charities wil hampers for distribution to their clients.

Sing for our breakfast ! We are still looking for more members – or partners ar participate in the choir at our Christmas Party meeting. There will be a one-and-Kay and Robin's home in Malvern (19 Oxford Street) on Sunday, 16 December a Christmas cheer and other refreshments provided ! If you have not already done advise Robin at robin.stevens@optusnet.com.au if you are able to participate.

**REPORT OF LATEST MEETING: DEC 11**

Above: Chair John Barker and our speaker Roy Garrett

Meeting of December 11, 2012

Chair: John Barker

Reporter: Peter Lake

President Kay opened the meeting and welcomed Dr Dilip Deshmukh from RC Ic Catherine Curtain a colleague of Frank O'Brien's from Bendigo Wealth.



Picture left: the banner ex

Director Report

Doug Robertson, Community Service

Victoria Police have completed a video to promote the community village and it v the club in the near future. The program for December is in full swing, although e between the trailer lighting system and the towing vehicle caused Saturday night abandoned. Safety is the number one priority with the community village so plea constantly revised manuals and work with the village captain to ensure participar environment. In regard to McAuley House outdoor furniture, local Men's Shed ex available. Alan Seale has kindly volunteered to build the furniture in his garage v from the Club Members; a Men's Shed within the club! Volunteers to contact Ala Talbot working bee will occur 21 April 2013 (Rotarians at Work Day) with propos through a relationship with Bunnings. Steven Wells was congratulated on winning Year on Gardening Australia. Know Your Numbers will continue next year in May asking interested members to register for the 26 February 2013 inter-club visit to and reminding members of the happiness next week's Christmas Hampers will b

Announcements

Administration Director Neville Taylor reminded members they must preregister t for next week's Christmas Party

President Kay opened her announcements with the sad news that Tom and Ann son-in-law Michael Wardlaw has passed away at age 42 after a battle with cance behind a wife and three young children under the age of ten and the club has ext condolences to the family at this sad time.

Kay went on to note that ADG Tony Wells has taken part in the community village and sent the club an enthusiastic letter of congratulations on an excellent project Southbank have signed a memorandum of understanding to meet together but a projects separately.

Job Talk

Chair John Barker introduced Dr Dilip Deshmukh of RC Ichalkaranji a city located of Bombay and known as the Manchester of India. Dilip spoke to the club about deaf and his involvement with a school for the deaf established in 1989. Rather t deafness as a disability Dilip and his colleagues celebrate what the deaf can do t history, language and art. Sign language is the means of communication and sta with US expert Sue Anne Thompson to educate the students and spread the me Russia, New Zealand, Australia and Pakistan. Dilip hopes to establish a Rotary C

and to continue with a joint Indo/USA project researching genetics and deafness

Sergeants Session

Sergeant at Arms Michael Bromby continued our musical odyssey by nominating recorded performances and why he chose them. The music took us through sopranos, harmonies and popular artists before Michael asked members to nominate which made the hair stand up on the back of his neck. Ian Angus won a book of famous songs by choosing Dame Kiri Te Kanawa! Michael, a lawyer, continued his generosity by "lending" the music to five members of the club in return for a \$10.00 donation to Sergeant at Arms.

Guest Speaker

Chair John Barker introduced RCCM-S Presidential Nominee Roy Garrett to speak about the School Project. Roy and his wife Annie organised a wonderful holiday for four RCCM-S members, their wives and six friends with the view of mixing great sightseeing and fun with funding the construction of a school building in the poor Laotian village of Ban Houei Yer. Roy was interacting with the village through an education program.

Roy narrated a photographic presentation depicting stunning accommodation, sightseeing, cooking classes, cultural entertainment, river and elephant rides and importantly, having a great time! Three weeks were spent travelling through Chang Mai, Chiang Mai, down the Mekong overnighting in a luxury eco lodge, the Laotian heritage town of Vientiane, Hanoi and Hoi An to name the more famous locations. Photographs showed members having a great time, particularly a North Balywn lawyer Roy referred to as "derelict" and his three RCCM-S partners in chaos! Contact was also made with Frank, a young fellow who goes by the name Callander.

Visiting the village where the school was built involved travelling for 18km on a tuk-tuk crossing a substantial river in a four man canoe before arriving at Ban Houei Yer. At the school building they had built through The Rod Fraser Foundation's Your Own Tuk Tuk, the first day's visit involved the tour party members conducting a lesson for the children on the importance of washing your hands and general hygiene. The photographs of smiling faces made true the first rule of comedy ... nobody will starve performing toilet jokes!

There still remained two hard days' work finishing off the school building and work was done! The work was completed while the village was celebrating a two day water festival. In the Rotary tradition Roy co-opted the "derelict" and his partners in chaos into the work. Roy and everybody else. Given the amount of sweat depicted in the photographs, I do hope they had a few beers for their troubles!

After all this work the whole village and local dignitaries turned out for the ceremony. Roy and the school and Herb Greenwood made a Rotary Banner for the occasion. Each club member was presented with an exercise book and pencil, sporting goods and books organised by Pauline O'Brien were handed out as were a great many teddy bears brought along by the participants Julie and Rob.

The tour party also visited Hue Kang where there is a school and minority high school. Roy and Annie are planning on another tour next year to build three school buildings and this will mean 600 children would have eight toilets ... yes, your arithmetic is correct, currently two toilets for six hundred teenagers! Please have a talk to Roy if you want to be a part in this great holiday and if you have any ideas for assisting in funding.

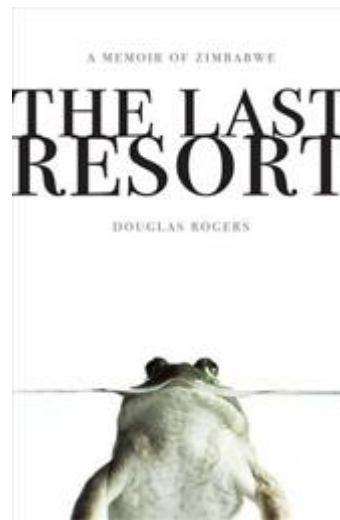
Banner exchange

Chair John Barker called on President Kay to exchange banners with Dilip and c Frank, Herb and Roger to exchange banners for certificates of appreciation!

A HAPPY MOMENT IN ZIMBABWE

Posted by Tony THOMAS

At a dark moment in Zimbabwe's modern history, a Rotary man keeps the flag fly civilisation. (Re-printed from Networker)



It was an unforgettable experience when our District 9800 Friendship Exchange Zimbabwe from Zambia last year. One surprise was the warthog packs scamper footpaths of the town of Victoria Falls. Another was being offered a Zim\$100 trillion banknote for \$US1. The biggest surprise was that Rotary clubs in Zimbabwe had survived the troubles there but were back in action giving support to stricken indigenous groups in that unlucky country.

I've just finished **The Last Resort: A memoir of mischief and mayhem on a farm in Africa**, by Douglas Rogers, a fellow journo whose elderly parents' backpacker resort farm in Zimbabwe was beleaguered for years by Mugabe's "war veterans" and violence. All around, farmers (white and black) were being thrown off their land, bashed around, and won't spoil the plot but want to mention a passage on page 116, which caused me to sit in my chair:

"I was surprised to discover, however, that my parents had made black friends at the camp now, people every bit as interesting to them as their formerly all-white friends. I spoke in amazement of an electrician he had met named Brian Ndlovu, who had been a week while fixing the wiring in the lodge soon after Dawson [a sub-tenant] had been evicted."

'He seemed like an ordinary bloke,' Dad told me. 'Matabele guy from Bulawayo in the forties. Anyway, I go down to check on things one afternoon and I find him talking to the staff and a dozen guests by the pool. They're all sitting on the grass and talking. I'm thinking, *What's this bloody bugger up to?* [suspecting he might be a member of Mugabe's ZANU-PF party]. Turns out he's teaching them about HIV/AIDS to so many people, how to prevent it, using protection, et cetera. I'm impressed. He was just some cheapo electrician."

'When he's finished, I say, 'Brian, that was interesting, how do you know t me he's a member of Rotary! He did a course. He volunteers all over the

He goes to the dartboard and throws three triple twenties first go. Top sco hell, Brian, that was good.' He says, 'Ja, thanks. I play in the big leagues.

More about the book at www.douglasrogers.org.

UPDATE ON SHELTERBOX

Posted by Allan DRIVER

The international relief charity [ShelterBox](#), which distributes greer containing a tent and lifesaving supplies to disaster victims, has be success: in 12 years its annual income has grown to £16m and so f has helped more than 8,000 families.

But it has recently been rocked by the decision of its trustees [to dis misconduct its founder](#) and chief executive, Tom Henderson, after resulting from an allegation that he had tried to place an order wor with a company connected to his son John.

In a statement earlier this month, the trustees said they had conclus investigation earlier this year, that Henderson had failed to abide b "related-party transactions policy", failed to give an adequate expl actions, neglected the charity's intellectual property rights and put risk."

[Tom Henderson, the founder of the ground-breaking disaster relief charity, dismissed as chief executive for gross misconduct and is pursuing an unfa claim. Andy Hillier reports on how the crisis unfolded. FROM THIRD SECT](#)

The international relief charity [ShelterBox](#), which distributes green boxes contain lifesaving supplies to disaster victims, has been a notable success: in 12 years it has grown to £16m and so far this year it has helped more than 8,000 families.

But it has recently been rocked by the decision of its trustees [to dismiss for gross founder](#) and chief executive, Tom Henderson, after a row resulting from an allega tried to place an order worth £650,000 with a company connected to his son Joh

In a statement earlier this month, the trustees said they had concluded, after an i earlier this year, that Henderson had failed to abide by the charity's "related-party policy", failed to give an adequate explanation of his actions, neglected the chari property rights and put the charity at risk.

[Henderson disputes this](#), denies wrongdoing and has lodged an employment trib wrongful dismissal. He also plans to start a new charity that will "take disaster rel level" by including water, sanitation and medical facilities in addition to shelter.

ShelterBox's links with companies owned by Henderson's son John go back some annual report says that it purchased goods and services worth £52,081 in 2011 a 2010 from Ocean Fabrication Limited and Camping Solutions Limited, of which J was director and sole shareholder.

With the trustees' knowledge, the companies supplied ShelterBox at a competitiv Frontier Stove and a specially designed multitool. But in 2010 the charity receive from a member of the public about the purchases that led it to review its "related-transactions" policy and introduce stricter procedures.

The events that brought matters to a head are detailed in a serious incident repo

ShelterBox to the Charity Commission that was made public earlier this month. If Tom Henderson decided that certain items should be purchased from new suppliers, in January 2012 placed a £650,000 order with Found International for 2,000 disaster kits, 1,000 multitools and 3,600 toolkits. The report says Found International was disclosed as the charity's head of finance, Michael Johns, to be connected with Camping Solutions, another John Henderson company: "It was feared that the proposed order was a transaction that had not been reported by the chief executive in accordance with internal processes, and that the previous transfer of business between Camping Solutions and Camping Solutions Online Limited (now trading as Found International) was to circumvent the related-party transaction policy."

A spokeswoman for the charity has confirmed to Third Sector that its investigation successfully established that Tom or John Henderson were closely involved with Found International. But as a result of the suspicions, the report says, the order was not placed, the charity's ties with Camping Solutions Online Limited and the trustees commissioned an independent investigation by solicitors Foot Anstey in April this year. This lasted longer and cost more than an internal investigation, the report says, largely because of "the lack of cooperation from the chief executive and Tom Henderson".

The trustees considered that the charity could not afford a more forensic investigation, but felt able to conclude from the solicitors' inquiry, which has not been made public, that there "was sufficient evidence at this stage to prove a concern about managerial competence and a lack of awareness of the attendant risks". The report adds that there were "serious concerns about the functioning of the relationship between, on the one hand, the board and management team, and, on the other hand, the chief executive officer".

Henderson disputes many parts of the serious incident report. Speaking to *Third Sector*, he said that he spent approximately 180 days a year travelling, was not directly involved in the fundraising process and only found out recently that his son John was acting as a designer for Found International. "There was a team in place that would order the stuff and I would see it on a monthly or two-monthly basis and ask 'what are we short of?'" he says.

But the board decided, in the light of the solicitors' report, that Henderson could not continue in his executive role and offered him a presidential role in recognition of his contribution to the charity. ShelterBox says in its recent statement that Henderson "reneged" on an agreement to continue in a presidential role and made it clear to the board that "it was chief executive or not".

At a board meeting on 23 July, the board unanimously voted that Tom Henderson remain as chief executive, and he was formally dismissed by letter. He used an internal appeals process but the decision was recently upheld. A number of ShelterBox's 20 international partners raised concerns and some threatened to withdraw from its network.

Henderson disputes the allegation of gross misconduct and the reasons for his dismissal. He said both he and his son engaged fully with the solicitors' investigation and that the conclusion was that he had seen concluded that he had acted "in the best interests of the charity" and that "everything that was bought from his son was bought at cost or less". The report adds that "so far as the trustees are aware, no products were purchased with a view to generating an indirect financial gain".

Henderson says: "After the investigation was completed, the chair told me that they were not in that report to worry me and he also said I could be proud of my son. In that report, it was discovered that my son had been working very hard in the background for many years doing his best to save ShelterBox many thousands of pounds."

Of the trustees' conclusion that the solicitors' report showed managerial incompetence and raised grave concerns about his relationship with the board and senior managers, Henderson says: "At no stage has ShelterBox or the board talked to me about my capabilities or managerial incompetence, which they would have done in any normal business organisation."

Henderson argues that he was acting in the interests of the charity by seeking to secure supplies for critical items in case existing suppliers went out of business. He also denies that he ever placed an order with Found International, and instead says that the alleged order was only a proposal for the charity to consider.

He believes that the main reason for his removal was a personality clash with the Munday, who, he says, did not like his management style. "I believe that it started with the senior management team quite rightly raising what he believed to be a problem, then I believe that Ian Munday saw it as an opportunity to get me out of the door with both feet. There was a huge difference between Ian Munday's attitude and mine, and that's where part of the conflict came from."

He admits he can be forthright but says that is why he has been successful. "Whether it's by what I've done and not by what you've heard. Why do you think ShelterBox is on the world stage as a leader in disaster relief? It's because of my management style. I know my people, forgive me. But I'm focused and I need to be focused because I'm in the business of saving lives in a disaster."

Henderson also believes that the charity failed to follow the proper processes. He was engaged by ShelterBox to handle his unsuccessful appeal against his dismissal. A letter in October that there had been "no notice from the employer that it was a constructive dismissal on the grounds of misconduct and no disciplinary hearing". The barrister claims, concluded that he was wrongfully dismissed and entitled to damages.

ShelterBox declines to comment on Henderson's allegation that a personality clash was behind his departure and says it will robustly defend the claim that he was wrongfully dismissed.

A spokeswoman says: "The board of trustees worked with Mr Henderson for months on a number of matters around his capability and conduct until they unanimously agreed that he no longer be chief executive."

"On at least three distinct occasions, Mr Henderson has remained unwilling or unable to engage with the nature of the £650,000 transaction. As trustees are bound by UK law to protect the charity, and were unable to reach resolution, they dismissed Mr Henderson for gross misconduct."