



Rotary Club of Central Melbourne Sunrise Inc

eBulletin

Friday, December 17, 2010

[Club Web Site](#)

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

Future Speakers

Dec 21 2010

Christmas Function

Feb 22 2011

Mr Paulo Maia

"The role of banks in the world today"

Mar 8 2011

Professor Glen Mola

"Achieving good outcomes in maternity care with minimal resources"

Upcoming Events

Christmas Function

Dec 21 2010

No weekly meeting

Christmas New Year break

Dec 28 2010

No weekly meeting

Christmas New Year break

Jan 4 2011

Club BBQ

Feb 13 2011

Walking Tour - Melbourne's Incredible History

Mar 19 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

Apr 5 2011

Movie and Dinner Evening

May 14 2011

News

RYLA - Leading the way

Fraternitas Award plaque presented to International House student

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This Week's Meeting, Tues December 21st

by RIEBELING, Rebecca

Christmas Function

Come along and celebrate Christmas. We will have entertainment and we expect a visit from Father Christmas!



Duty Roster, Tues December 21st

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.

Chairperson	Paul Maguire
Sergeant	Paul Maguire
Reporter	Jasper Kwok
Door	Bernie Gerlinger
Photographer	Bruce Heron
Greeter	Gerard Hogan

Meeting Report, Tues December 14th

by Tom CALLANDER

Chair: Gerard Hogan

Announcements

Doug Robertson reminded members about Christmas cards available from him.



Herb Greenwood informed members that the club was halfway to achieving its fundraising target for the year. This was a minimum target and doesn't include funds required to support disaster relief. The proposed raffle has been deferred with tickets expected to go on sale three weeks before Easter with the draw at Easter time.

Paul McGuire reminded members that the annual Christmas party meeting next Tuesday starts at 7:30am. He also sought expressions of interest from those wishing to go to Japan to participate in the Rotary Club of

clubrunner.ca for details.

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Osaka Hommachi 20th anniversary celebration and a proposed guided group tour of western Japan following the anniversary celebrations.

Brian Downie informed members that the proposed Australia Day lunch at the MCG next year has been cancelled (it is proposed that it now be held in 2012).

Tony Thomas requested help next week with the Christmas hampers. Please see further details below.

Sergeant's Session

Paul McGuire was today's sergeant. His theme was to expand minds by exploring chaos theory and connections. His first example put to the members was to develop a connection and the reason for the recent attack on Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall. What was the cause? Riots over student fee increases. What was the cause of student fee increases? Britain has gone broke through overspending (one wit suggested that this was in support of the royal family) and the ultimate connection was that President Clinton had (mis)placed trust the bankers, the ultimate cause of the banking collapse which led to Britain's financial woes which led to student fee increases which led to riots affecting the royal family.

Vocational Talk - Roy Garrett

Roy Garrett presented a member vocational talk. His classification is chemical processing. He is an industrial chemist spending much of his time in the cement industry and six years in Vietnam up to 2001. He returned to Australia and bought a company "Mingrit", a chemical processing company then making render for another company. He has expanded products to address diverse needs including glues for cardboard (formaldehyde and macadamia nuts), floor surfacing, powder detergents including "pig treat" used for washing pig carcasses and "tripe treat" used to clean tripe (20 tonnes a year!), cheese coatings (utilising PVA woodwork glue less any carcinogens), fertilisers (peat beds from the Latrobe Valley coal), products utilising ultra fine quick lime which he buys from China, supplying dietary calcium for horses and a potassium gypsum based soil conditioner. He has reconnected with the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, a health, safety and environmental group full of clever scientists who speak in acronyms. His love of business is like playing with a big chemistry set every day. He is presently aged 66 and finds his industry extremely interesting with great people connections and sees no reason to retire to Noosa.

Guest speaker - Tony Thomas

Tony Thomas was our guest speaker this morning on the topic of travels in North Vietnam, concentrating particularly on Dien Bien Phu and the famous French Vietminh battle there in 1954. He was in Hanoi for its 1,000th anniversary on which billions of dollars were spent. He noted the dichotomy between communist Vietnam and the capitalist face shown by many of its people. He visited the War Museum in Hanoi, fascinating from the perspective of the side which won the battle that the West lost. Dien Bien Phu is on the north west border near Laos. It is in the mountainous area of the Mong people. This area used to be almost impassable. Dien Bien Phu is on a plain surrounded by a rim of mountains. The French went there to provoke Vietminh, then headed by General Vo Nguyen Giap. The French did not think Vietminh could get enough troops and supplies to that area and that the French would easily overwhelm them. Vietminh however overcame those difficulties utilising human backs and bicycles (350 kilograms of supplies per bicycle) and took heavy artillery up the mountain slopes even using human chocks if the artillery started to slip backwards. 51,000 Vietminh crossed the mountains. They then imposed a long siege on the French. The rains hampered the French who couldn't fly in, couldn't drop supplies and couldn't evacuate wounded. After a 55 day battle the French surrendered with 1,500 dead, 4,000 wounded and 10,000 prisoners. Tony then recounted his observations about the Hanoi Hilton, the story of Kim Phuc "the girl in the picture" who was napalmed during the Vietnam War and who was then used as a "propaganda slave" by Vietnam before eventually going to Canada. She expressed views which were quite communist, yet her life story book is on sale in Hanoi! He observed that the Hanoi resistance to the US was considerable including its response to the US Christmas 1972 bombing of 730 sorties over 11 days by B52 bombers. Vietnamese claim to have shot down 30 B52s, the Americans only have admitted 12 to 15.

Tony answered a number of questions from members including comments about the strategic reasons of the French being in Dien Bien Phu (to block supply lines between Vietnam and Laos), the attitude of the Vietnamese to Australians (very welcoming) and aspects of corruption (such as the broken bridge where contractors substituted bamboo for steel), and the number of Vietnamese affected or deformed by Agent Orange (3 million).

President's Announcements

President Anne King wrapped up the meeting with President's announcements and reminded us about the District Conference in Adelaide (early bird registration finishes 31 December) highlighting a proposed wine tour following the conference and noting an impressive array of conference speakers. President Anne also advised that the full Club survey results will be available on the club website soon.

Christmas Hamper Drive Update

by THOMAS, Tony



Our Christmas hamper drive got off to a good start on Tuesday 14th December 2010 with 45 hampers going to Steps Outreach additional to a dozen delivered previously.

We organised a Steps utility to rendezvous in the RACV car park after the meeting and members loaded the hampers, easing previous logistics problems.

For the Christmas Party on Tuesday 21st December we encourage members to bring in all their remaining hampers, which will then be allocated largely to Hotham Asylum Seekers and McCauley Community Services for Women in North Melbourne, depending on the numbers available.

A Hotham utility will rendezvous in the RACV car park to collect Hotham's quota. If members bring in an empty shopping bag or two, it could help in some rationalisations of over-full and under-full hampers. We will need a dozen member volunteers to stay back half an hour or so after the Christmas party to sort and lug hampers hither and yon.

Many thanks,

Director, Community Services

Youth Exchange Presentation Dinner

by ZONNEVELDT, Mandi

Oscar Clift, our outgoing Youth Exchange Student for 2011, was presented with his official Rotary Youth Exchange jacket at a special ceremony at International House on Sunday 12 December. Oscar will spend 2011 in Sweden, hosted by the Stockholm-Soder Rotary Club.



Oscar has vowed to learn 100 words in Swedish before he sets off on January 21, so his first challenge will be to see if he can incorporate some of those into the presentation he will give to our club on 11 January (before his departure on 21 January). His second challenge will be to see if he can keep his luggage under 10kg in order to win a competition being held by the travel company organising the flights for more than 300 exchange students across the country.

On his arrival in Sweden, Oscar will take part in a language camp and is already looking forward to a ski/snowboarding weekend in March. His counsellor, Mandi Zonneveldt, reports that he's not half looking forward to having three Swedish host sisters in his first family either!

Support for Donations in Kind

by DRIVER, Allan



For the Rotary year 2010-2011 our club has contributed \$3,000 toward the running of the Donations-in-Kind facility at Brooklyn.

The RCCM-S Board will review our financial commitment to the DiK facility

on an annual basis based on fundraising activities and the pressure of other RCCM-S projects. Members are reminded that the RCCM-S is committed to holding at least two working bees at DiK, with the next working bee planned for **Sunday 27 March 2011**, so please put this date in your diary.

A copy of the December DiK Newsletter can be downloaded from our website a the following [Link](#).

Marjorie's Commitments

Event Attendance

Date	Event Name	Location	Member/Friend
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