



Stories

This week's speaker, Louise Bugeja

Louise Bugeja This is me

Louise was born with multiple disabilities (heart condition, several skeletal issues including very weak limbs, short arms and no thumbs, and severe vision impairment) and is one of a kind type of person as nobody in the world has been diagnosed with the same series of disabilities. Louise encompasses the true meaning of being an "individual".

She also appeared of the ABC program "Stateline" talking about the rights of young people who are blind and vision impaired.

Louise would like to use the challenges and setbacks she has had to face in life as a training tool for others. She is interested in developing and delivering disability awareness training to the community and is passionate about addressing disability awareness in the primary school sector to teach children not to be "afraid" of people with disabilities. Louise believes this is where real attitude change in society can be achieved; by starting with children and letting them pass on their awareness to future generations.

Louise has worked in the community services sector for over 18 years and enjoys having input into the community. She is an active member of the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing. Louise is the club's Facebook page manager, weekly Bulletin Editor, serves on their International and Community committees (which she will chair next Rotary year). She is also a member the organising committee of Wynspeak - a public speaking competition for secondary school students, run in partnership with the Apex Club of Hoppers Crossing.

Duty Roster for Tuesday, 15 April 2014

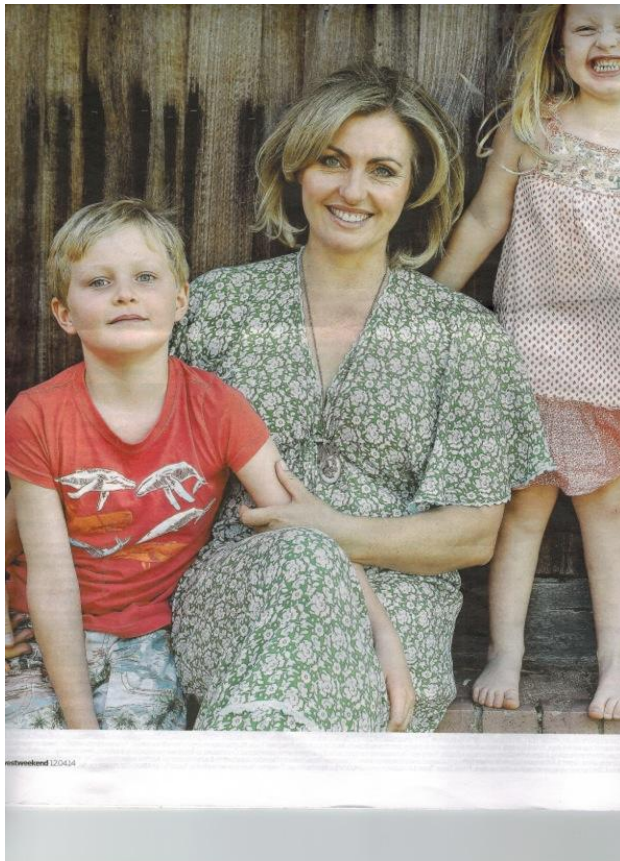
Chair	Sat Mishra
Sgt	Michael Bromby
Greeter	Justine Murphy
Reporter	Kevin Walklate
Photographer	Roger Thornton
Door	Frank O'Brien
Director Report - Intl Service	Roy Garrett

Cover Girl and Celebrity Author

Tony Thomas's daughter Ros was cover girl for The West Australian's weekend magazine on April and subject of a 3-page profile story inside. This media attention stems from the launch of her book, "Was it something I said?", at the Perth Hyatt on May 2.

Proud father Tony is dashing to Perth for the occasion. Ros has been writing a weekly column for The West for the past 18 months, her topic being housewifely life in suburbia bringing up 3 kids and interacting with her bloke Matt. Topics might be anything from broken vacuums and toasters, to discovering a giant insect in the marital bed. Tones range from bright to dark -- the

latter including her long and fraught struggle to produce her third child Ella. For whatever reasons, these columns have struck a big chord with WA readers and The West and University of WA Press joined forces to produce and market a paperback of 70 of her columns. The May 2



launch with 200 places at \$40 per head sold out with days and has been slightly expanded. The West -- WA's only daily newspaper -- is throwing its weight behind the book's marketing.

Ros is a third generation West writer -- her grandmother Joan reported for The West in the 1930s, as did Ros's grandfather Pete, and Tony reported there through the 1960s before moving to the Canberra Press Gallery in the 1970s.



Mik Wells - New arrival in the family!

Mik Wells drew gasps at last week's meeting, announcing his new arrival at 5pm on April 11, Hyosung, at a healthy 230kg. All well.

Background is that his Honda XR250 trail bike was stolen 7 weeks ago from outside his front door in East Melbourne, after which he has been using a pushbike and improving his fitness through the 25-minute ride to Shine for Kids at Footscray. The bike was coming up to its 10th birthday and Mik says he was 'getting sentimentally attached to it'. However, his home is visible from Hoddle St and its 60,000 passing vehicles, so if only 1% of those drivers are thieves, that means 600 people could notice potential loot at his housefront. Two guys must have arrived with a ute and hoisted up the 150kg bike, probably intended for spare parts. His watchdog border collie Bella let him down by not barking.

Insurance got him only half his money back, financing a deposit on his Hyosung 650cc, the cheapest big bike around at about \$6500, weighing 230kg and hence will require 3 thieves rather than two to lift-and-leave.

Two years ago he had a caravan outside his house - "my kids grew up in it" he says. He had just got it ready for their next camping trip, including stocking it with wine and port. It was well-secured but in a storm that night the thieves arrived equipped with lock-disabling tools and towed it away. It was worth about \$20,000 and he got \$15,000 insurance back on it.

Mik says, "My final parting advice would be to make sure you have good insurance cover for any valuable left outside or make sure you have good locks and as you say, 'never trust your guard dog'. If they really want my bike next time, they will need to bring their own oxy torch or angle grinder for a quick getaway!"

Pic: Mik counsels his dog Bella over dereliction of duty and possibility of a long sleep via the vet if this dereliction recurs. The new bike enchained is on the right.



Dinner for 12 at the Garretts - don't miss out!

Roy and Annie Garrett are putting on a club fund-raising dinner on Saturday May 3 at 7pm at their beautiful Fitzroy home. Annie's kitchen certainly rules when it comes to tender fillets basted in Asian sauce concoctions, raspberry coolies etc, and Roy will lay on his finest wines, including a 1976 marque, although he is out of Grange Hermitage 1959 vintage as enjoyed by ex NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell. Cost per head is \$120 but Roy can arrange for this to be a tax-deductible contribution to RAWCS en route to its destination, improving school structures in Laos. Capacity is limited as the Garrett's can only handle 10 guests. The previous such dinner, at the Seales, was a night to remember. Tickets to the Garretts will be on a first-booked, first-served basis. Apply at roy@mingrit.com.au, or 9416 2615.

Meeting Report, April 15



Left: Sat Mishra and Mary Voice, acting sgt.
Below: Valerie Pereira and husband Glen.
Chairman , David Jones



Special guests: Rob Knox, Rob Hines and visiting Rotarian from Swan Hill RC Archana Patney.

Good attendance of 40+

Announcements:

Jillian Cavanagh - Vocational Visit to MFB No. 1 Station 5pm 12 May – meet at Stuart Ellis's office and walk over

Mik Wells announced a new addition to his family – a shiny new (black) motor bike (see exclusive in-depth investigative report in bulletin)

Tom Callander – last call for Café Internationale 10 May - \$82pp

President Doug: District Assembly coming up soon all members especially new directors encouraged to attend

A special general meeting was held which elected George Mackey as President Elect for 2015/16

Our newest member Sat Mishra gave us an interesting overview of his work including starting an Australia outpost of a Singapore based company called Stone Apple. Sat was grilled by other members on his greatest business challenges and some tech support was requested! Stand In Senior Sergeant Mary Voice gave an opportunity to win Easter eggs for answering her probing questions and Mik Wells shared his contribution to our [ever-lasting] poem.

Our guests speakers were [Valerie Pereira](#) and her husband Glen who spoke about the Significant Investment Visa (SIV) program. Valerie and Glen run a company called Dagama Pereira & Associates in Richmond. The SIV program allows wealthy individuals with \$AU5million to invest in suitable financial instruments to obtain a visa to live with their families in Australia. The program aims to encourage economic growth by creating new businesses, jobs and encouraging innovation. Valerie and Glen suggested these funds could be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure programs across the country in place of government bonds or further borrowings. The current Federal Government is undertaking a review of the program and Valerie encouraged members to consider making a submission about the future direction of the program.

Needless to say our members had a wide range of questions for our guests speakers and the club enjoyed the detailed questions from members on various aspects of the program. Our good natured guest speakers parried some challenges to the program and suggested if members had concerns or suggestions that a submission to the government review panel would be the best method to affect change in the elements of the program of concern. Chairman David thanked Valerie and Glen for their presentation and presented the customary soap gift.