



## Stories

### GUEST SPEAKER - 25th FEBRUARY 2014



#### **Natalie Duke The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival 2014**

Each year more than 300,000 people visit Melbourne Food and Wine Festival. Some fly here in an hour, others take 24, but all leave with a sense of the unique food and wine landscape that makes our state Australia's culinary heart.

The Festival started as a spark of an idea in 1993 with a modest program of 12 events dreamt up by Peter Clemenger. Twenty years later, it has grown to host over 200 events annually with a core team of 18 staff and hundreds of dedicated volunteers working behind the scenes during peak season.

Natalie will talk about some of the exciting experiences planned for the 2014 Festival, which runs from 28 February to 16 March.

Natalie Duke is the Marketing Manager of the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival. She worked with Tourism Victoria for over 4 years prior to her joining the Festival team in 2011.

### LOOKING AHEAD - ACTION NOW PLEASE

#### **ANOTHER GUTSY BUSINESS BREAKFAST**

**Profile your club to your business world - invite a friend who is in business to hear;**

**Peter Wilson AM**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

#### **"Mentoring – Origins and its Value to Modern Leadership"**

Now there's a topic that is appropriate to many business sectors, with one of Australia's most qualified to present the topic.

**Peter is our exceptional guest speaker on March 11<sup>th</sup> – usual time and place *PLUS* cooked breakfast. \$28.00pax**

**Please let Neville Taylor know of your guests ASAP but by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March at latest.**

### DUTY ROSTER FOR TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2014.

Chair	John Ilott
Sgt	Michael Bromby
Greeter	Bernie Gerlinger
Reporter	George Mackey
Photographer	Tony Thomas
Door	Neil Salvano
Director report - Club Administration	Neville Taylor
Bulletin Editor	David Jones



## Upcoming Events

### District Conference

*Mar 07, 2014 – Mar 09, 2014*

### Board Meeting

RACV City Club

*Mar 19, 2014 at 06:00 PM  
– 07:30 PM*

### McAuley House Working Bee

McAuley House

*Mar 22, 2014 at 08:30 AM  
– 03:00 PM*

### Board Meeting

RACV City Club

*Apr 16, 2014 at 06:00 PM  
– 07:30 PM*

## Speakers

Feb 18, 2014

Ms Peggy O'Neal, President  
Richmond Football Club  
*The Richmond Football  
Club 2014*

Feb 25, 2014

Natalie Duke  
*The Melbourne Food and  
Wine Festival 2014*

Mar 04, 2014

Membership Forum

Mar 11, 2014

Peter Wilson

*Mentoring - origins and its  
value to modern leadership*

Mar 25, 2014

Asst Commissioner Jack  
Blayney

*Ice and its effect on  
country Victoria*

Apr 01, 2014

Tom Trumble

*Rescue at 2100 hours*

[View entire list](#)

MEETING REPORT 18th FEBRUARY 2014

Reporter, Allan Driver.

Meeting opened with President Doug Robertson welcoming everyone, including

- Gary Jungwirth, RC Greenvale
- Ms Peggy O'Neal, President Richmond Football Club.

Chair, Bruce McBain invited everyone to toast Rotary International and all breakfast clubs throughout the world.

#### Announcements

- Kevin Love reminded members about the opportunity to assist with the sausage sizzle at Moomba on Monday 10 March 2014. 10 volunteers required to cover 2 shifts.
- Frank O'Brien reminded members about the opportunity to assist Donations in Kind [DIK] activities in the near future. The first activity is to assist with packing a container for East Timor, and also sorting/packing clothes, at the DIK warehouse (rear Shed 40, 400 Somerville Road, West Footscray) on this coming Thursday, 20 February from 9.00am or any time thereafter. Absolute finish is 4.00pm. Other opportunities will exist in the future and members will be advised.
- President Doug mentioned that the 40 members, partners and friends who attended the very successful BBQ at the Meehan's last Sunday were well rewarded with great weather and a very relaxing afternoon. Many thanks to the organisers. The club will provide a suitable memento to John and Lorraine in the near future. Doug encouraged members to attend the latest fundraising function at the Tarra Warra winery on Sunday 16th March, 2014.
  - Time: Starting at 12.30pm.
  - Address: TarraWarra Estate, 311 Healesville-Yarra Glen Rd, Yarra Glen VIC 3775
  - Cost: \$125pp with all funds raised going to our Club's Fundraising efforts.
  - RSVP: gregcuthbert@fastmail.fm or Tel. 0402 346 032 • Places are quite limited Greg is considering arranging a bus from the City to the winery and returning back to the city after lunch – if this is of interest please let Greg know when you RSVP.

Doug further mentioned the important work carried out over the years through Donations in Kind. Some statistics are:

- \$ 2.0M raised to pay for freight
- \$ 3.0M value of the volunteering allocated as Overseas Aid
- \$32.0M value of materials donated overseas
- 3.7kilometres – length of containers if stacked end on end
- 20,000m3 of goods recycled –much of which might have ended up as landfill.

#### Vocation Talk.



Marjorie Gerlinger broke her duck and presented her first job talk to the club. "How Times Have Changed"  
 "I started at Baird Publications 25 years ago. It was a niche market family business publishing commercial marine industry magazines and until last year also running exhibitions and conferences for the industry. When I started, my role was office administration and accounting."

Marjorie told us of the technology changes over the years and how her firm was one of the first to adopt Mac computers and associated publishing equipment, at a huge cost premium over similar equipment today. Her role changed to

#### Bulletin Editor

David JONES (If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor)

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Production Manager which required her to carry the can for everything that went out the doors – plus managing the company web site. Latterly the accounting activity has returned to her care again, along with the production role.

"During the years, we have rationalized the number of magazines produced monthly. Currently there are no plans to make the magazines totally digital as our readership prefers hard copy, although we do make them available online 3 months after the cover date."

"I have been able to translate a lot of vocational skills I've acquired over the years to my Rotary life. This has enabled me to take up a variety of District roles, something I can highly recommend to anyone wanting to serve Rotary at the next level. There are many roles available from being a member of District committee, committee chairs, District Leadership Team roles and the District Board to mention a few."

As a final note, the middle son of the owner, who was six when Marjorie started with Baird Publications, is now her boss.

#### Sergeant's session

Michael kicked off with a joke to celebrate the years of great jokes by Gerard. Michael then asked Frank to be the subject of the *"Would I lie to You"* segment. Frank had about 80% of the members convinced he was being truthful –wrong! Allan Driver presented his four lines for the epic poem which were:  
*"At last, salvation and dreams afoot, in bed prone on one hip,  
 Drifting to lands far away on an old wooden ship,*

*As a boy, he had stood on the burning deck,  
 After that he could not remember much more by heck."*

Guest Speaker; Peggy O'Neal, President of the Richmond Football Club.



Guest speaker Peggy O'Neil with some tiger cubs.

Peggy commenced her address by indicating that people have been following Richmond for many years with the emphasis on "following".

Prior to becoming the first female President of an AFL club, Peggy has spent 8 years on the Richmond Board and 4 years involved in the Tigers Community Foundation. Over that time a new administration building was erected together with a new training ground and the foundation received a Federal Government grant to assist the Wurundjeri people, in particular with pre-employment training.

Peggy covered the following points:

- The plans for Richmond have been developed by the Board and this has held the FC in good stead, particularly as there have been some good decisions made over the past 5 years.
- These decisions have been conservative e.g. income budgeting is based on the past 5 year average game attendance.
- There is constant monitoring of the budget performance.
- The club is looking at its strategic direction through to 2018, being mindful of

the FC's constituents and with the 2014 strategy about to end in October 2014.

- Players, new and existing, executive and CEO are assessed as to whether they meet the club's values.
- A holistic technology upgrade is required and an assessment is currently underway.
- Non-football revenue streams are always a challenge including the question of where does gambling fit. Alternatives to gambling are welcome, however, the FC does not have assets other than the training ground. As such, increase in membership is vital as well as increased attendance at games.
- The AFL system gives all teams a chance to win a premiership through the equalisation policy.
- While Richmond may have not taken advantage of opportunities in the past, that has now changed. The Board members may be passionate about Richmond winning games, however, their job is to work as a management Board and keep the FC on an even keel; and
- Engagement of women at the FC is increasing and is seen to be essential.

Aspirational goal is to have 30% women on the Board and as members. It is understandable why women are not in the FC, however over time this has improved with women in human resource roles and indigenous affairs. It is now normal to have women around the club. There were no surprises when Peggy was appointed a Board Chair and recently an additional woman, Ms Kerry Ryan, has been appointed to the Board.

Peggy was asked questions about the AFL Equalisation policy and how the rich club/poor club gaps can be overcome, the NFL system in the USA, the players in general and the dilemma about players complying with the club values and the AFL Players Association and Occupational Health and Safety issues.

Bruce thanked Peggy on behalf of the members.

Meeting closed by President Doug.

#### "WELL FRANKLY"



#### **Bank boffin b----s off.**

Veteran club member Frank O'Brien 69, finally bit the bullet and retired from Bendigo Bank in January. He had been manager of trustee services there for 17 years and before then with National Australia Bank Trustees, which he helped set up in the early 1990s.

Frank says his main activity now is a 'property developer'. He's rebuilding a holiday place at Pt. Fairy and just completed a major renovation at his daughter and son-in-law's place at North Balwyn. He plans a similar big renovation of his and Pauline's own home later this year. Herb Greenwood is assisting with architectural flourishes.

Frank also continues his interest in share investments. He manages the charitable trust at his local church St Bede's in North Balwyn, which despite its conservative bent, managed a 20% return in the strong market last year. Personally, his favourite stock has been ANZ which he has ridden up from under \$3 in 1987 to about \$33 today, plus dividends en route.

He keeps fit(ter) at the Kew YMCA thrice weekly where he often bumps into Roger Thornton.

He has two offspring and three grandchildren in Melbourne.

Frank says, "I went out from Bendigo Bank on my own terms, they were happy for me to stay there as long as I like. I can't speak highly enough of their professionalism and considerateness."

Pauline says of Frank's retirement and omnipresence 24/7: "I'm just surviving. Dinner is

OK but lunch is an issue."

Club Reporter Thomas.

### TRAVELLERS BE WARNED

#### **Robbers hit a friend of the club.**

Jeanette Lynch of Keilor Rotary Club, has been a stalwart on District level on Friendship Exchanges, and has facilitated some great exchanges for our own club's members.

She now reports a rotten experience for herself and husband Michael in Barcelona on Saturday Feb. 15.

"At 10.30am we leave the hotel and walk up to the Hop On - Hop Off bus, this time it is a 15min walk.

Splat bird droppings on us...or so we thought...then in all the confusion a man appears, starts wiping it off and you would think that we would have been switched on and told him where to go, in no time we realize he has removed my bag from across my body and ran off...I yell "Police" a lady comes with her phone and rings the Police, they arrive within minutes. Luckily one spoke good English. We went back to the hotel to clean up. My hotel key was in my bag, so we quickly had new ones reissued. Poor Michael had his never worn, Ralph Lauren shirt on, pale yellow, turns out the thief had thrown a mixture of chocolate over us.

So no photos today as my camera was in my new Hedgren bag, along with my brand new Sennheiser Head phones, a couple of lipsticks, medicine etc The mongrel tried to pull my ring off my finger, rings will now stay in the hotel safe.

We then walked to the Police station, 30 mins away. They told us there was a 90 min wait until we can lodge our report. They have asked us to come back at 10am in the morning...more wasted time.

We got on the bus and did a circuit and came back to the hotel. We did not want to be out as evening was rapidly approaching. Michael's brand new shirt back from cleaning, but the chocolate has set a permanent stain by the looks, all down the back. Will see if they can have another go. It was \$15 to get it washed. \$45 to get 2 shirts and a pair of cargo pants washed.

We are so cross with ourselves for getting caught out, as we know that this is one of their ploys. I think that we were just so relaxed and maybe because we have never encountered anything like this before, we were lulled into a false sense of security. Apparently the crimes against tourists are extremely high here. Looking forward to leaving Barcelona in 3 days time.

It could have been worse as the guy did not use violence. Also I did not have my wallet so he did not get any cash, cards or passports. Mind you we had eyes in the back of our heads on the way back to the hotel.

Some people we were with in Barcelona 18 months ago were robbed of money, passports and credit cards from a small bag the guy had on his chest. Another friend who I worked with goes to Barcelona each year to a mobile engineering conference has been subjected to an attempted robbery by the **same** person two years in a row!

Apparently another scam is puncturing tyres of cars with foreign plates...keeping our fingers crossed as we have French plates on our lease car. If you have a look at trip adviser warnings, you would never come to Spain...we cannot wait to get out of here on Tues...worst part is that apparently the warnings are also for Seville and Valencia and that is where we are heading.

We are both feeling rather nervous...and we are such seasoned travellers. Guess we have just been so lucky in the past....lulls you into a false sense of security

Keep your fingers crossed for us!"

Another Rotarian, commiserating with Jeanette, wrote to her:

"Barcelona is a beautiful place but dangerous. I friend of mine was on the up escalator from the subway when thieves tried to grab his camera. When he resisted they pushed him backwards and he broke his spine."

#### BBQ PICS AT MEEHAN'S FEBRUARY 2014

A selection of pics from the BBQ. More in the club photo album.

