



## Rotary Club of SOUTH BUNBURY (INC)

PO BOX 324 BUNBURY WA 6231

[www.southbunburyrotary.mysouthwest.com.au](http://www.southbunburyrotary.mysouthwest.com.au)



### Dinner Bookings & Makeup's

#### **South Bunbury:**

Rose Hotel  
Wednesday  
6.15 for 6.45pm start  
97214533

#### **Bunbury:**

Parade Hotel  
Monday  
6.00 for 6.30pm start  
97212933

#### **Bunbury Central:**

Rose Hotel  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
6.15 for 6.45pm start  
97214533

#### **Bunbury Leschenault:**

Parade Hotel  
Wednesday  
12.00 for 12.30pm start  
97212933

### **APOLOGIES:**

To Sgt-at-arms Turk  
Ellis, by 10am by phone  
or SMS only on 0413  
743 601  
(apologies to Rose  
Hotel have been  
discontinued)

### Send Contributions & Information for the Bully to week-about editors:

[dspriggins@westnet.com.au](mailto:dspriggins@westnet.com.au) and  
[brian.castieau@integralife.com.au](mailto:brian.castieau@integralife.com.au)

## THE BULLY Issue No: 31

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**NEXT MEETING – Wed, February 23<sup>th</sup>**  
**International Night – Powerboat Club, NOT the Rose Hotel**

#### **DUTIES**

Host with Grace  
Reception  
Properties  
Introduction  
Thanks  
Ticket sales  
Fines

#### **FEBRUARY 23rd International Night**

Duties as arranged

#### **Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**

Boyd Brown  
Murray Connop/ Kevin Cooote  
Mike Hendy/ Mike Presser  
Morris Johnston  
Stephen Hinton  
Glen Fraser  
Colin Mitchell

#### **LIFE'S LITTLE CELEBRATIONS**

##### **BIRTHDAYS**

Colin Mitchell 20/2  
Jim Stephen 16/02  
Clive Pearson 16/02

##### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Terry and Debbie Paini 27/2

##### **INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES**

Ray Jordan 11/2/1987  
Trevor Wilson 20/2/2008  
Scott Buchanan 27/02/2008

#### **Coming Events**

Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	Children's Fair
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2011	International Night-Power Boat Club
Fri Feb 25th	Happy Hour- Home of Len and Telma Andel
Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> - 2011	Chef's Long Table Lunch
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Castrilli & Marcus Stafford MS Society on update on special care facility at Treendale
March 9th	Graham Fisher- Speaking on Val Lishman Foundation-
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Boyd Brown Thumbnail sketch; Rotary Information Night
March 25-27th, 2011	District Conference, Burswood

Our indefatigable **Don Spriggins** presented a riveting expose of one aspect of the South West's depleted dams. Only 5% of rain runs off into dams, and much of this 5% is being soaked up by stream reserves, that land between the dam and the forest. These reserves were increased from 30-50m to some 100-150m or more in some cases, resulting in a much-reduced run-off. Don and an associate have secured a meeting with the Minister in coming weeks to highlight this problem and propose a solution. Let's thank Don for first recognising this problem, and then having the gumption to do something about it. See below for Don's argument.



**President's Report:** **President Neil** announced that \$10,500 would be sent to the Carnarvon and Queensland fund causes, and thanked givers for their generosity. He also thanked absent members who send in apologies, and acknowledged **Kevin Coote** for the relaxing and inspiring Happy Hour on his catamaran *Wild Thing*. See photos on last page. **Len and Telma Andel** will be hosting the next Happy Hour on the 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**Gordon Goldby** reminded members of key **International Night** matters:

- At the Powerboat Club this Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>
- The theme is Fancy Dress – international
- Raffle prizes include a \$500 travel voucher, 4 dozen bottles of wine, a pendant (the latter donated by **Ben Andrew's** parents)
- Ben needs help to set up tables at 3pm that afternoon
- A member to do reception duty on the Night is needed.

Ben has worked hard for the success of this event, and it promises to be exceptional. Well done Ben.

**President-elect Glenys** told us that the Black Tie Ball has been tentatively set for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August, with venue yet to be announced. The 3 working parties have met, and Glenys invited members, if tapped on the shoulder to do a job for the ball, to say yes. The event could raise over \$30,000, and be at the exclusive disposal of our club.

Glenys invited ideas for the auction at the Ball. 2- 4 big-ticket, high-value items are sought, rather than many lesser-value items. **Mike Honeybell** gave a house pad as a suggestion, **Len Andel** offered a full septic tank! Other ideas could be a black pearl, cruise, work of art, a Harley Davidson, and so on....

**Rod Downe**, Membership Director presented his committee's half-yearly report. Key points included:

- 83% of the club have a meeting attendance rate of more than 80%
- Our 11 senior active members, not obliged to come to meetings, averaged 10% attendance
- 3 new members have been inducted over the last 3 months
- We have 65 members
- Members on leave of absence are **Liz McNaughton, Kerry Roberts, Rick Houden, and Scott Buchanan**.
- The Club will subsidise new members' Conference tickets to the tune of \$100.
- Membership and mentoring policies and procedures are in the pipeline, including suggestion to refrain from acronyms (eg RYLA, DG), in order to help newer members' understanding.

**John Gray** updated members on the Children's Fair:

- Support MinuteMan Press when possible; they did a great job on our posters
- Be there at 8am on Sunday, park off Woodrow St (not Blair St), in order to maximise parking spots for the public.
- Contact John if you have a ute and can transport plants from **Rob Prestage's** to the Fair, at 7:45am on Sunday
- **Bruce Lynch's** hedges, prepared for the plant stall, have achieved pre-sales of \$120!
- **Roger Veen** has kindly prepared a Fair Site Plan, to assist in the smooth set-up of stalls
- Bring a chair if you need to sit on Sunday; also consider bringing some sort of shade (Beach umbrella, shelter) in case required.
- A 1:30pm finish time is expected
- After-fair relaxation is at a venue that will be confirmed via email

Starting from this week Don Spriggins and Brian Castieau will be producing the bulletin week about. Please send Bully contributions to both editors.

**Ray Philp**, PR Director advised

- Members can utilise the Rotary Down Under online Business Directory at that website. Send your business's details to Ray on the recent email.
- The Bunbury Mail ran a one-page feature on the Children's Fair, sponsored by various Bunbury businesses; support them where possible.

You can hear an interview on ABC radio with the Suitcase Circus manager, on Ron Tate's show on Friday (check local guides). The Circus will perform at the Children's Fair



Rotary Club of South Bunbury's

# Children's Fair

Where?  
Forrest Park  
Blair St Bunbury

**FREE ENTRY**

When?  
Sunday 20th  
February  
9.30am to  
1.30pm

**FREE FUN**  
SUITCASE CIRCUS  
TRACTOR/TRAILER RIDES  
"INCREDIBLE CREATURES"  
(ANIMAL NURSERY)  
"THE GOAT LADY WITH LILLI PILLI"  
(FEEDING & MILKING GOATS)  
CLANCY THE CLOWN

**LOW COST FUN**  
FACE PAINTING, SIDE SHOW ALLEY  
(MERRY-GO-ROUND, BOUNCY CASTLE,  
LUCKY LAUGHING CLOWNS)  
TRAIN RIDES, COCONUT SHY

**FOR THE ADULTS**  
FRUIT, VEGE & PLANT STORE  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE, BUNBURY CITY BAND

## Rotary Clubs of Bunbury International Night 23rd February

On The Back of Your Tickets you will Find the  
Entry form to the Door Prize Quiz Fill it out and  
drop it

In the Barrel after you checkin

Question is What was Rotary's First Community  
service project you have to go all the way back to  
1906 to find the answer to this one.....



  
**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

  
**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

### **WATER SUPPLY DAMS SHOULD NOT BE WRITTEN OFF.**

**By Don Spriggins**

An additional 50 Gegalitres of water a year (equal to the output of one desalination plant) could be obtained from Water Corporation dams at no cost according to the WA Division of the Institute of Foresters who amongst their membership have people with considerable knowledge and experience in hydrology of the jarrah forest, fire ecology, silviculture, fire management and utilisation of forest products.

They say reducing the density of the jarrah forest by half on water supply catchments would increase stream flow into dams by about 50 Gegalitres per year. There is ample evidence from past thinning trials to substantiate the claim that an additional stream flow of 50mm from the 100,000 hectares of forest on water supply catchments would follow thinning. It is not generally known that even in more abundant rainfall times before 1975 that forest trees used about 95% of the rainfall. Today the trees are not only using all the rainfall, they are "mining" the groundwater which has a finite limit.

There are many benefits from this approach. The one billion cost of a new desalination plant would not be required. All the existing infrastructure including pipes are already there and the 30-50 cent per kilolitre cost of water ex dams compares very favourably with the \$2 to \$3 cost of water from a desalination plant.

The Institute of Foresters say the trees removed in a thinning operation which will largely only be suitable for firewood should be burnt in a biomass plant as renewable energy and converted into electricity estimated at about 80-100 megawatts per year which would more than cover the costs of thinning and generate revenue for the State. The value of additional water produced as a result of thinning would be of the order of \$1000 - \$1500 per hectare making water one of the most valuable products of the jarrah forest.

Importantly, thinning would also have great environmental benefits for the forest. Whilst rainfall up until 1975 could support existing forest densities, the decline since then means this is no longer possible. There are simply too many trees for the water available and the forest and its ecosystems are already under severe water stress. Forests under stress are more prone to insect and disease attack and relieving this stress by thinning is sound forest management. **There is a major threat to Jarrah forest biodiversity if thinning is not started soon.**

The stream and near stream ecosystems in the jarrah forest are already suffering badly from lack of water. Several streams that were once perennial now dry up each summer for 3-4 months and without thinning not only will streams be dry but much of the associated biota will die. Scientists from UWA have been studying this change for some years.

Forest management practices that were acceptable in pre 1975 rainfall times are not today and urgent changes are needed. Rehabilitation after bauxite mining which occurs on a high proportion of the jarrah forest is designed to retain all water within the pit and combined with a dense planting of trees after mining means no rain falling on mined -over areas reaches the streams. The rehabilitation prescription needs to change to a much lower tree density.

Increased stream reserve widths introduced by the Conservation Commission about 2001 to favour fauna habitat and without consideration of the effect on water production have had a deleterious impact on stream flow as vegetation in the near stream zone is a very high water user. A return to original stream reserve widths is urgently needed. Without thinning, most of the vegetation in current stream reserves will very likely disappear in years to come due to a major drop in groundwater levels. This will negatively affect the birds and animals that live in the stream-zone. Similarly the creation of 500 hectare Fauna Habitat Zones where minimal disturbance is permitted has had a negative affect on stream flow.

Fire management of the jarrah forest needs to return to a 5-7 year burning cycle. Currently much of the northern jarrah forest carries fuel 10-12 years of age which increases the risk of bushfire damage if a bushfire occurs but also acts like blotting paper when rain falls so that less rainfall finds its way into streams.

In 2005 Water Corp initiated a 12 year research experiment on the 12,845 hectare forested catchment of the Wungong dam south of Armadale involving leading scientists in WA from universities, CSIRO and other research institutions. The aim of the trial was to better understand the relationship between forest health, biodiversity and water production and ensure their sustainability under a reduced rainfall. A major part of the original proposal was to "thin out" or reduce the density of trees on 62% of the catchment by about half and measure the impact of this treatment on stream flow and ecosystem health.

Whilst this laudable trial it will not be completed until 2017 at the earliest. The Institute of Foresters say this is too long to wait. By 2017 some of the jarrah forest ecosystems may be past the point of recovery. The Institute of Foresters believe there are now enough data from past and current research trials that measure the increased stream flow response following thinning of the jarrah forest.

Thinning of the forest on the high-rainfall parts of water supply catchments should be greatly expanded, starting forthwith.



Happy Hour aboard *Wild Thing*. Many thanks to **Kevin and Annette Coote** for their kind hospitality

