



# THE ROTARWAVE



THE ROTARY CLUB OF SURFERS PARADISE

<http://surfersparadiserotary.org>

PO BOX 5267, Gold Coast MC. 9726

Volume 75 Issue 11 – 23.09.19

Meetings – Monday 6.30pm – Fables Restaurant – Mantra Legends Hotel – Surfers Paradise



RIP Mark Maloney



President Adrian



DG. Harry Bolton

Date	30.09.19	07.10.19	14.10.19
Chair	Phil Dunsford	Public Holiday	Kirk Mason
Door	Stuart Fairley		John Lenehan
Fellowship	Donna Gillett-Shaw		Alan Midwood
Toast	Alan Guignon		Alan Guignon
Thanks	Don Kissell		
			Board Meeting



Club Visitor, Soma Fido of MINJ in New Guinea.

### Forthcoming program

Date	Speaker	Topic
30 Sept	PDG Wendy Scarlett	Friendship Exchange
07 Oct	Public Holiday	
14 Oct	Social Evening	Club discussion Re Meetings

Soma is a dentist from his area in Papua New Guinea. He is staying with Trevor Taylor while he is doing some intern work with a local dentist to let him be aware of the facilities and procedures that can be available.

His internship is being sponsored by a Rotary Club in the Newcastle area.

He is the only dentist servicing a large area covering many small townships. One of the problems he has to deal with is the lack of money in the villages.



Soma Fido with Trevor Taylor.

## Our Rotary Exchange Student – Tom Lesobre



Tom is currently staying with Barbara and Alan. If any member is able to include Tom in any activity during the school holidays, it would be appreciated. Just call Alan.

Tom is really fit. He has a bike, he surfs and loves to bushwalk. For example, he gets up at 4am, walks with his surfboard from Alan's to the surf, surfs, then walks back to school and back home with the surfboard after school. Not Bad!

Tom spoke to us about things he has accomplished since being here. He has undertaken a lifesavers course and is now a qualified lifesaver.

School results have been good, a "A" in French, not surprising and a "B" in English, a great achievement.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### Bill White

We need to lock these tables in with three weeks to go. We have 14 tables confirmed and the Malaria people have a further 10 tables. Bill and the committee will be following up on others who have indicated but not yet confirmed.

### Alan Guignon - GWV

Alan advised that we have two units coming available at Golden Wheel Villas. Both are couple units.

We are taking this opportunity to renovate the units since the clients have occupied them for many years.

### Alan Guignon – Guest Speakers Program

Alan advised he has taken on the role of finding guest speakers for our meetings.

He is asking for assistance from anyone who is aware of someone who would make a good guest speaker to contact him.

## President Adrian

Adrian announced that Kiah had tendered his resignation.

He directed members attention to DG Harry's letter re the Redistribution of districts.

Adrian mentioned that PDG Wendy Scarlett would be our guest speaker at our next meeting. Her topic is The Rotary Friendship Exchange.

Adrian brought the clubs attention to the work of Kirk, Jeff and Sue, looking at various options that we have regarding our meeting and membership.

Adrian was going to circulate the options to the members .



## RYTS

## Rotary Youth Transition Seminar

17 to 22 November 2019

**RYTS** is a residential camp for students who have just left school and are aged 17/18years, or are in final 2 years of High School and maybe taking on leadership roles in their Year 12

Applicants required for this course.

Contact Bill White

**Why is it that video footage of coal fired power station focus on cooling towers not smoke stacks?**

**Please Google "coal fired power stations". Bloody steam returned to the atmosphere via cooling towers again**

The following is by Douglas Adams of "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" fame.

"Australia is a very confusing place, taking up a large amount of the bottom half of the planet. It is recognizable from orbit because of many unusual features, including what at first looks like an enormous bite taken out of its southern edge; a wall of sheer cliffs which plunge into the girding sea. Geologists assure us that this is simply an accident of geomorphology, but they still call it the "Great Australian Bight", proving that not only are they covering up a more frightening theory but they can't spell either.

The first of the confusing things about Australia is the status of the place. Where other landmasses and sovereign lands are classified as continent, island or country, Australia is considered all three. Typically, it is unique in this.

The second confusing thing about Australia is the animals. They can be divided into three categories: Poisonous, Odd, and Sheep.

It is true that of the 10 most poisonous arachnids on the planet, Australia has 9 of them. Actually, it would be more accurate to say that of the 9 most poisonous arachnids, Australia has all of them. However, there are few snakes, possibly because the spiders have killed them all.

But even the spiders won't go near the sea. Any visitors should be careful to check inside boots (before putting them on), under toilet seats (before sitting down) and generally everywhere else. A stick is very useful for this task.

The last confusing thing about Australia is the inhabitants.

A short history: Sometime around 40,000 years ago some people arrived in boats from the north. They ate all the available food, and a lot of them died. The ones who survived learned respect for the balance of nature, man's proper place in the scheme of things, and spiders. They

settled in and spent a lot of the intervening time making up strange stories.

Then, around 200 years ago, Europeans arrived in boats from the north. More accurately, European convicts were sent, with a few deranged people in charge. They tried to plant their crops in autumn (failing to take account of the reversal of the seasons), ate all their food, and a lot of them died.

About then the sheep arrived, and have been treasured ever since. It is interesting to note here that the Europeans always consider themselves vastly superior to any other race they encounter, since they can lie, cheat, steal and litigate (marks of a civilized culture they say), whereas all the Aboriginals can do is happily survive being left in the middle of a vast red-hot desert, equipped with a stick.

Eventually, the new lot of people stopped being Europeans on 'extended holiday' and became Australians. The changes are subtle, but deep, caused by the mind-stretching expanses of nothingness and eerie quiet, where a person can sit perfectly still and look deep inside themselves to the core of their essence, their reasons for being, and the necessity of checking inside their boots every morning for fatal surprises. They also picked up the most finely tuned sense of irony in

the world, and the Aboriginal gift for making up stories. Be warned.

There is also the matter of the beaches. Australian beaches are simply the nicest and best in the world, although anyone actually venturing into the sea will have to contend with sharks, stinging jellyfish, stonefish (a fish which sits on the bottom of the sea, pretends to be a rock and has venomous barbs sticking out of its back that will kill just from the pain) and surfboarders. However, watching a beach sunset is worth the risk.

As a result of all this hardship, dirt, thirst and wombats, you would expect Australians to be a dour lot. Instead, they are genial, jolly, cheerful and always willing to share a kind word with a stranger. Faced with insurmountable odds and impossible problems, they smile disarmingly and look for a stick. Major engineering feats have been performed with sheets of corrugated iron, string and mud.

Alone of all the races on earth, they seem to be free from the 'Grass is greener on the other side of the fence' syndrome, and roundly proclaim that Australia is, in fact, the other side of that fence. They call the land "Oz" or "Godzone" (a verbal contraction of "God's Own Country").

**THE IRRITATING THING ABOUT THIS IS  
THEY MAY BE RIGHT.**

## **TIPS TO SURVIVING AUSTRALIA**

**Don't ever put your hand down a  
hole for any reason WHATSOEVER.**

**The beer is stronger than you think,  
regardless of how strong you  
think it is.**

**Always carry a stick.**

**Air-conditioning is imperative.**

**Do not attempt to use Australian slang  
unless you are a trained  
linguist and extremely good in a fist  
fight.**

**Wear thick socks.**

**Take good maps. Stopping to  
ask directions only works when there  
are people nearby**

**If you leave the urban areas,  
carry several litres of water with you  
at all times, or you will die. And don't  
forget a stick.**

**Even in the most embellished stories  
told by Australians, there is  
always a core of truth that it is unwise  
to ignore.**

## **HOW TO IDENTIFY AUSTRALIANS**

**They waddle when they walk due to  
the 53 expired petrol discount**

**vouchers stuffed in their wallet  
or purse.**

**They pronounce Melbourne  
as "Melbin".**

**They think it makes perfect sense  
to decorate highways with large  
fibreglass bananas, prawns and sheep  
etc.**

**They think "Woolloomooloo" is  
a perfectly reasonable name for a  
place,  
that "Wagga Wagga" can be  
abbreviated to "Wagga", but "Woy  
Woy" can't be called "Woy".  
Their hamburgers will contain  
beetroot. Apparently it's a must-have.  
They don't think it's summer until  
the steering wheel is too hot to  
handle.**

**They believe that all train timetables  
are works of fiction.**

**And they all carry a stick and say  
"have a good day mate "**