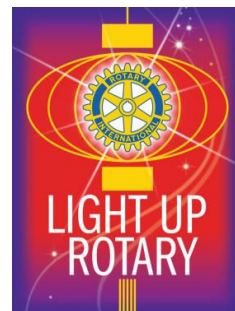


Rotary Gold Coast

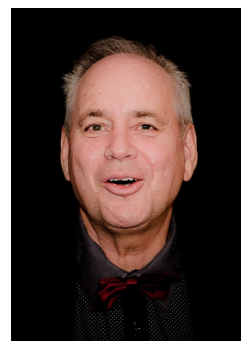


18 July 2014 #134

You're invited to join us for lunch 12 for 12:30 most Fridays upstairs in the Panorama Room, Arts Centre Gold Coast. If possible please advise Club Service Director Chawki on 0410 002 403 mango@winshop.com.au that you're coming.

July meeting roster
If you're unable to attend please directly arrange a replacement before the meeting. Thanks.
Welcome guests
- David Baguley
Front desk
- Nan Baldwin
Meeting chair
- Kate Kimmorley
International toast
- Jenny Bao
Sergeant
- Brian Kidd

goldcoastrotary.org.au
RI #17910
District 9640



Club President
Eddie Klimowicz PHF
04018 787 686
ejk@advancedns.com.au



Presidents meeting report

This was my first meeting as your new President, to say I was anxious would be an understatement. However, it seemed to go along with a minimum amount of fuss, many thanks of course to all those who contributed to its running; Nan and Carol at the desk; Kate as Chair; Jill on camera; Kathy stepping in on the fond farewells given to our YEP student Lena; Brian for a great sergeant's session (I mean belly-laugh great) coupled with a most appropriate International toast to Lena's home club; the directors who gave their reports with passion and precision; and of course the inimitable Phil for all the many things he does.

I was at a convention in Las Vegas at the MGM Grand for the last week where a sight of daylight is a rare thing. Thanks to the GCAC for making me feel right at home by having our meeting this week in the dungeon (aka "the Lounge" - there's a euphemism if I ever heard one). But you know, it didn't matter, the warm and friendly atmosphere that the meeting radiated would have allowed us to have a great time anywhere. This meeting was Lena's farewell as she left Australia on Sunday morning. Her farewell speech regaled her many memories of her time here and was dotted with small personal anecdotes that were both poignant and humorous. I was personally struck with how Lena has matured and how much more comfortable she is now addressing us when compared to when she first arrived. It seemed to me that if this is just one of the outcomes we are seeking from the program, then it has succeeded. Good luck Lena in whatever you will seek to do - don't forget us.

I was also struck by the generosity of a number of our members who had opened up their homes and hearts to welcome Lena into that most personal part of our lives, our families. Thank you so much for your big-heartedness, without people like yourselves a program such as this could not even be envisaged. A true example of "Service above Self"!

Dean won the raffle but failed to draw the Joker - sorry Dean, good effort but no cigar. On my arrival at the GCAC Dean was in a sub-committee meeting before our lunch, and when I left, he was at another one. Well done Dean, as a newish member you are already setting an example to all.

Next Wednesday your directors have their second board meeting and this serves as a gentle reminder for them. **More importantly, our lunch time meeting on Friday the 25th is our "think tank" meeting.** We promise it will be focussed and directed; everyone will have a chance to be heard; we want to gain direction on where to steer our organisation, not just for this year, but also for the years to come. **And so, I urge you all to re-discover why you joined and what is required to make you a contributing member to this giving, altruistic, fun-loving group of amazing people and urge you, cajole you, even command you (if I could) to be there on the 25th. Be heard!**



The Gold Coast Marathon & Rotary

Hello Rotary friends,

Thank you all very much for helping at our 22.5k Aid

Station on Sunday morning.

I hope you enjoyed it.

David please pass our thanks also to our Rotary friends especially to Lachlan and Jeremy whose energy in chasing down used water cups was wonderful!

Everything went smoothly from the early set up to the wrap up at 10.30ish.

The mass of humanity taking part in the Marathon is so impressive from such close range while supplying their refreshment, and the interchange with many of the runners, and walkers, is very pleasing.

There were 5617 entrants in yesterday's race, of whom 4924 finished. The male winner crossed the line in 2h09.14, the female winner took 2h28.51 and the average time was 4h17.43.

- Mary Woods, Secretary, Friends of the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens.

"Rana and I were joined by Sue Foskett, Jennifer and Hillary Rakauskas, Joe Kertesz and grandsons for Marathon water station on Sunday" - David Baguley

TRIVIA. ...

Did you know that your Rotary Club originally started and organised the Gold Coast Marathon for many years?



JULY

4 Rotary lunch meeting, Mac Miller:
Peace through soccer balls!

6 Lena Haumons

9 Jenny Wong/Tony Ang (35)

10 Ian Daw

11 Rotary lunch, Farewell to Lena

18 Rotary lunch, Brie Everson and
Portia Large, Ernie Hicks' scholarship
recipients

21 Greg Bowler (18 years)

25 Rotary lunch meeting 'Think Tank'

24 Jenny Bao

29 Ruay Loo

AUGUST

MEETING ROSTER

Welcome guests - Joe Kertesz

Front desk - John Kelly

Meeting chair - Mark Urquhart

International toast - Tony Nesci

Sergeant - Peter Laurens

8 Ann Gazal

13 Mark Urquhart

14 Rotary dinner, venue TBC

15 Bruce & Coralie Roddick (15)

18 David & Rana Baguley (41)

22 Genik Klimowicz

23 And Csabi. David Baguley

27 Sue Fosket

28 Rotary dinner, venue/speaker TBC

30 Bruce Roddick. Yew-Chaye/Ruay Loo
(45)

SEPTEMBER

MEETING ROSTER

Welcome guests - Dean Castell

Front desk - John Goldstein

Meeting chair - Joe Kertesz

International toast - Sheila Catterall

Sergeant - Andrew Csabi

3 Margaret & Noel Grummitt (26)

7 Kate Kimmorley

9 Dean Castell. Lindy Campbell

10 Tony Nesci (10 years)

14 Rotary dinner, venue TBC

15 Jann Davies (14 years)

16 Eddie Klimowicz (9 years). Nancy
Smith (10 years)

19 Lynda Haynes

25 Chawki & Ann Gazal (38)

26 Coralie Roddick

28 Rotary dinner, venue/speaker TBC

29 Carol Allan. Justin Shaffer

Birthdays Wedding Anniversaries Club Anniversaries



Olivia's European adventures part 1

I started the long summer holidays that go for 8 weeks. As I am in Grade 12 over here and their school year finishes in the middle of the year, my host sisters and everyone in my grade have now graduated from school.

Finishing school in Belgium (well at least in my school) is very different to what I am used to in Australia. I was expecting everyone to be excited and for there to be lots of celebrations and assemblies, like in Australia.

But, during the last three weeks of school, the students had their finals exams and so they didn't come into school unless they had an exam and then once they had finished their last exam, that was it, they

went home and had finished school.

No one showed any excitement and no one celebrated the event that is considered a huge milestone back in Australia.

They returned to school one additional time after their last exam and that was to check a sheet of paper to say if they had passed or not (there is no final grade, just a pass or fail), and that was all.

So this was very different for me.

One Sunday my host mum took me to a festival called Doudou (pronounced doo doo) in a town around 20 minutes away. The festival went for 5 days, but we went on what I was told was the biggest day.

We began the day by standing and watching a two hour parade that started from the cathedral and went all around the main city area. Hundreds of people walked in small groups of 7-10 and represented what I think were different historical and religious groups, as every group wore different traditional clothes, carried some type of relic and played traditional music. I have attached photos of the many groups that marched passed me and you can see how different they are.

After this, my host auntie took my host mum and I up to an exclusive area that she had organised for us that was located in one of the higher levels of a building in the main square (which I was so grateful for in the end!!).

After an hour, the main square had gone from being almost empty, to overflowing with people, as you can see in the picture (and the photo was just of one small part of the square and so it still doesn't properly portray the large

amount of people that were actually there). This was when I realised how lucky I was to be high up, away from the crowds, because from the way the crowd was behaving, I would have been squished if I was down there!

There were suddenly tens of thousands of people standing around waiting for the traditional staged 'fight' between Saint George (played by an actor) and the dragon (a 10 meter long model that is moved around the arena by 10 men).

It was a very interesting experience for me because the people on the ground level were also involved in the show. This is because the dragon tail is covered with horse hair and it is believed that if you manage to pull out a hair from the dragon tail, you will receive good luck for one year. So although the 'fight' went for one hour, the only fight was between the audience and the dragon tail as the dragon tail is thrown out into the audience for a few minutes at a time, giving them a chance to get a hair.

Because I was so close to the arena and also above everyone else, I was able to truly see how violent the audience (which is made up of 99.9% men because of the aggressive behaviour) became.

To be continued.....





“Au revoir Lena...”

A small band of early risers trekked up to the Brisbane International Airport to farewell Lena Haumont.

It was hard getting out of bed in the dark on a chilly Sunday morning but it was nice to be able to see Lena off on her journey home.

We all met at the airport and Max, the other YEP student from France who arrived with Lena, was on the same flight so he was there with his host family. It was nice for Lena to have someone to travel with.

From our club Mark and Kerrie Urquhart, Brian and Lexi Kidd, Lyn MacArthur, Sue Foskett and me were there as well as Lena's last host mum Janine.

We laughed at the funny stories of Lena, and Janine trying to get all of her accumulated possessions into her suitcase. Of course they couldn't so Lena was trying to get through with very heavy hand luggage and acting like it wasn't heavy at all.

There were lots of laughs until it was time for Lena to go then the tears started. Lena kept saying she didn't want to leave and there were tearful hugs and kisses.

Finally we pushed Lena and Max through to the customs area.

I think Lena was fine by the time they arrived in Cairns. She sent a txt saying that the flight wasn't very full so her and Max were able to get up and look out of the windows on both sides to see the reef.

- Kathy Hogan