

# *The Rotary Club of* **Padstow** Inc.

## **Club Notes of 26 June 2007**

### **Keith Roffey – President**

- Tonight Trevor Withnall, John Earls, and Garry Mostyn will be talking to us about Angel Flight. Welcome Garry.
- The Annual Report has been finished. Thanks to the Directors for getting their reports completed. Peter Townsend and Keith spent all weekend working on the final product.
- Letter received from the Padstow Heights P&C thanking the Club for running the barbecue on State election day. The day was very successful, and raised money for technical equipment that will be used by the whole school. Enclosed were a certificate of thanks and a cheque for \$130 (10% of the money raised).
- The \$500 deposit for the 50th Anniversary Night at the Workers Club was returned.
- Joan Wells sent an acknowledgement about the arrangements on the passing of her Mum.
- Letter of thanks received from Caroline Chisholm Special School for the donation of \$9,500.
- Some of the new Club shirts were distributed.
- The plaque commemorating Russell Brideson's life and work will be dedicated at 10am on Wednesday 4th July at Sylvan Grove. Morning tea will be provided, so a sheet was sent around to get numbers.
- The record of payments for *Christmas in July* was given to Garry Metcalfe to pass to Maureen.
- The last Board minutes, District newsletter, committee structure for next year, and Bankstown City Council newsletter *Community Link* are available.
- Bankstown City Council wants to do a display at *Padstow on Parade* about the beautification of Padstow.
- The Vanuatu Hospital desperately needs sheets, even used ones.
- If anyone knows of a young person who should be recognised by the ROYA program, please let Keith know.
- Veronica Necyporuk, wearing her principal's hat, commented to President Keith that there was good feedback about the RYDA program.
- Recognising the Sweet's various contributions as Board member, Golf Day arranger, mentor, and the extension of the hospitality of their house, President Keith presented them with a certificate of appreciation.

### **Colin Duff – Club Administration**

- Last week, an attendance sheet was sent around for the Club changeover.
- Cheques have come in from various people in the community, including federal member Daryl Melham, to book their places for the changeover.

### **Tony Blazek – Community**

- Trent Engisch has been booked to speak about the *Relay for Life* on the 24th of July.
- The road closure for *Padstow on Parade* has been approved.

### **Cliff Dailey – Youth**

- There are two applicants for *National Youth Science Forum*.

### **Joan Wells – Public Relations**

- (Keith Roffey) When the cheque for RYDA was passed to EHGTHS, the School took a lot of photos. Will try to get those photos to the Express.

### **Kevin Bouffler – Attendance**

- 29 / 38 or 76.31%
- Apologies from Charles Garcia, Geoff Hayman, Frank Katalinic, Jean Mullick, Glenda Murray, Veronica Necyporuk, Alex Thomas, Kaye Townsend, and Gaille Walton.
- At DIK, everything has been moved from the temporary storage to the permanent storage.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Barry Thompson

- Report on the Salt Lake City convention.
  - > It was a very nice convention. The city was a good venue, and the taxi drivers didn't look for tips.
  - > Bill Boyd set a really nice tone for the whole event.
  - > Two out of five speakers were Australian.
  - > Bill Gates Snr. Received a certificate for the donation of \$75M from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Greetings from Carol Bush, a former exchange student. Barry had delays or diversions everywhere in trying to get back home, and during one delay contacted Carol. Her family was having a reunion, to which Barry was invited. Her brother Tom paid the Club a great compliment when he said that the trip to Australia really made Carol.

### Peter Townsend

- Thibaud sent an email saying [ed: reproduced in full at the end of these notes.]

### Keith Roffey

- Need to paint the Salvos store at Panania. Keith will talk to the staff about the spruce up.

### Sharon Bond

- There will be a ROK kit working bee tomorrow night, followed by Italian food.
- A lot of kits, blankets, and pillows have been distributed:
  - > Aussi Helpers – 200
  - > Kalgoorlie Rotary – 2,000
  - > Queen Victoria Hospital, Picton – 100
  - > Rotary House, Campbelltown – 70
  - > St Vincent de Paul, Campbelltown – 100
  - > Lifeline – 680

### Mike Kenny

- Like to check the time for the District changeover meeting. [ed: as reported in a previous edition, 6:30 for 7:00pm, 30th June, at Parramatta Leagues Club.]

### Trevor Withnall, John Earls, and Garry Mostyn – GUEST SPEAKERS

The trio displayed a series of videos and slides, as well as speaking about their experiences. From this presentation came the following facts:

- *Angel Flight* was started in 2003 by Bill Bristow, its current Chairman.
- The task of *Angel Flight* is to transport patients and carers from their remote location to the city with the appropriate medical care.
- Flights are free of charge to those being transported, but pilots bear about 50% of the costs.
- As well as the sky angels (pilots), the service uses earth angels, who transport people to and from the airport.
- The service has a bout 1800 pilots on its database, as well as about 1400 doctors, nurses, and social workers.
- The flights are generally from / to places that commercial flights don't cover.
- Most planes have a 5 hour range, and 4 or 6 seats.

### Keith Roffey – President

- Next week's meeting is changeover.
- Russell's plaque dedication is Wednesday 4th, at 10am, at Sylvan Grove.
- This Saturday is the District changeover.
- Thanks to the Club members for a great year. The members have rallied around in a very successful 50th year. There has been some sadness, but we've stuck together.

### President Keith – Thought of the Week

The youth of a nation are the trustees of posterity. (Benjamin Disraeli)

### **Thibaud's Email**

Hi everyone in Padstow Rotary Club.

Almost one year I got back from Australia, time goes so quickly!!!!

What I have been doing since then, studying, studying and studying again (It's during those moments that you think about how really nice Australia was,....).

I'm studying economics and business with half of my courses in English in order to keep improving my English (Thank you to you for giving me the great opportunity to learn English, it's really helpful!!!!). I'm enjoying uni break until September quietly, I will travel somewhere to Europe, don't now yet and I got a job I'm saving money to come down under in a few years hopefully!

I met Gemma Ashton in Belgium when she came around her trip to Europe last January, it was nice to see her again. I also heard from Denmark with the help of internet that Jacky Blazek enjoying her time over there.

I'm looking forward to hear some news from Padstow.

Luv,  
Thibaud from Belgium

### **Keri's Take on Retirement**

About 2 years ago we were on a cruise through the western Mediterranean aboard a Princess liner. At dinner we noticed an elderly lady sitting alone along the rail of the grand stairway in the main dining room. I also noticed that all the staff, ships officers, waiters, busboys, etc., all seemed very familiar with this lady. I asked our waiter whom the lady was expecting to be told she owned the line, but he said he only knew that she had been on board for the last four cruises, back to back.

As we left the dining room one evening I caught her eye and stopped to say hello. We chatted and I said, "I understand you've been on this ship for the last four cruises". She replied, "Yes, that's true." I stated, "I don't understand?"

She replied without a pause, "It's cheaper than a nursing home". Here's the proof -- when I get old and feeble, I am going to get on a Princess Cruise Ship.

The average cost for a nursing home is \$200 per day. I have checked on reservations at Princess and I can get a long term discount and senior discount price of \$135 per day. That leaves \$65 a day for:

1. Gratuities which will only be \$10 per day.
2. I will have as many as 10 meals a day if I can waddle to the restaurant, or I can have room service (which means I can have breakfast in bed every day of the week).
3. Princess has as many as three swimming pools, a workout room, free washers and dryers, and shows every night.
4. They have free toothpaste and razors, and free soap and shampoo.
5. They will even treat you like a customer, not a patient. An extra \$5 worth of tips will have the entire staff scrambling to help you.
6. I will get to meet new people every 7 or 14 days.
7. TV broken? Light bulb need changing? Need to have the mattress replaced? No Problem! They will fix everything and apologize for your inconvenience.
8. Clean sheets and towels every day, and you don't even have to ask for them.
9. If you fall in the nursing home and break a hip you are on Medicare. If you fall and break a hip on the Princess ship they will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

Now hold on for the best! Do you want to see South America, the Panama Canal, Tahiti, Australia, New Zealand, Asia, or name where you want to go? Princess will have a ship ready to go. So don't look for me in a nursing home, just call shore to ship.

P. S. And don't forget, when you die, they just dump you over the side at no charge.