

The Rotary Club of *Padstow* Inc.

Club Notes for 30 June 2009

Mike Kenny – President

- Welcomed Guests – Elizabeth Pickering, Daniel, and Bev Pedder

Glenda Murray – Secretary

- Micronews Newsletter – about micro surgery.
- District Changeover reminder for Friday night 6:30pm for 7:00pm at Panthers Penrith \$30.00 pp.
- National Tree Day Sunday 2/08/2009 9:30am to 4:30pm. The Council are asking for people to help plant trees at Carysfield Park, Bass Hill – Parking is off Johnston Road. A barbecue lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Allan Sweet – Treasurer

- No report

Joan Wells – Club Administration

- No report

Julie Harris – Community

- Thanked all committee members.

Garry Metcalfe – Rotary Foundation / International Service

- No report

Keith Roffey – Public Relations

- Rotary International are holding another Invitation to Membership, Public Image & Marketing Seminar at RDU House 25/07/2009 10:00am – 2:30pm. RSVP to Keith by 15/07/2009.
- RAWCS & District 9650 looking for volunteer team to work on a hospital in Vanuatu. See Keith for details.

Kevin Bouffler – Attendance

- 31/43 70.45%
- Apologies from David Edmunds, John Milne, Frank Pezzimenti, Maurie & Jeiji Abbott, Terry Martin, Terry Pedder, Sharon & Warren Bond, Melinda Heywood, Charles Garcia, Alex Thomas, Jo-anne Wallace.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Gaille Walton

- \$2.00 for “exercise jackpot” – list going around.
- Sewing for “Wrapped With Love” – has 290 squares – anyone interested in going to Gaille’s place on Sunday 5/07/2009 and/or 12/07/2009 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm or Saturday 18/07/2009 at Diane’s place

Veronica Necyporuk

- District RAWCS are holding a fundraiser dinner Saturday 25/07/2009 at the German Club. 3 course meal \$55 ph.
- Picnic Point Principal Wolly Negroh apologised for not coming to the Captains & Principals night; he was sick.
- Attended the MUNA dinner last Saturday.
- Veronica handed Michael a \$712.50 cheque – the Club’s portion of EHGTHS selling Community Chest tickets.

Keri Sweet

- Good news story – attended Garry Yang’s wedding at Paddington. He is doing his doctors internship in Wagga Wagga.

Kevin Bouffler

- Requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Police.

Garry Metcalfe

- Transferred meeting list is going around for Como-Jannali's changeover on 14/07/2009.

Elizabeth & Daniel – GUEST SPEAKER

- Daniel came back to report on his visit home to the Sudan. It had been 17 years since he saw his parents.
- It was a very emotional time. The people in Elizabeth's office pooled together and bought Daniel a video camera but soldiers seized the camera at the airport. A Friend gave him a digital camera so he has some photos to show us.
- Daniel thanked us very much for helping him get home to see his family. He left Sudan as a child and grew up in Kenya until he was 18 then came to Australia.
- Daniel said we have changed something in his life with our generosity.
- His mother lives in Khatoum. At the airport his mother had to page Daniel so they could see who would respond to the page. It had been so long since they had seen each other they didn't recognise each other.
- Elizabeth told us they had trouble getting to Sydney airport and then getting Daniel's excess baggage on the flight – arrived only 20 minutes before flight was due to leave.
- He went to Juba and saw his father – but didn't recognise him at first – his father had remarried and had many children – he was the chief of his village.
- Daniel is a full time student doing a Bachelor of Arts and hopes in the future to do some law, if he can get another scholarship, then plans to go home to help his people. To do this he will have to learn Arabic.
- Unfortunately Daniel contracted Legionnaire's Disease and ended up in hospital. He is lucky to be alive.
- He presented the Club with a walking stick with carved animals on it. It was all done from one piece of wood and is very beautiful.
- Since returning to Australia Daniel had a phone call to say that a neighbouring tribe had attacked his mother's village and a number of his relatives had been killed.
- Chad Pethybridge thanked Daniel and presented him with a Boomerang.

President Michael Kenny

- Thanked everyone in the club for their help to him during the year. It has been a great year and a humbling experience for him.