

- o Saturday evenings entertainment was fabulous and everyone in attendance was dressed to the Hawaiian Beach Party theme. What a sea of colour!!! This was a great night with dancing until we dropped – Gary dropped very early though – absolutely no staying power. The rest of us had a ball which will be a hard act to follow in Canberra next year.

Sunday:

- o More of the same, great speakers and great fellowship.
- o Brett Blundy (Candy's brother) told the story of his failures and successes in the business world. Coming from a small town in rural Victoria to head his companies Bras and Things, Sanity Music and Bridgeclimb. It has been a rocky road at times but with determination and words of wisdom when he was just 16 he has prevailed and become a very successful businessman. Brett's father was a Rotarian and Rotary played an important role in determining his path at the ripe old age of 16. Brett's philosophy of being able to look ahead and take risks has been most successful and when he has strayed away from this policy he has struggled. A good honest insight.
- o The importance of Vocational Service was outlined to us by Peter Davidson who emphasised our roots in vocational classifications. This is an important part of Rotary but is often neglected through ignorance. Our current president Joan will be taking over the role of District Vocational Chairperson in July.
- o Inner Wheel also pointed out their need for recognition and to gain new members. Their contribution has been significant with many hundreds of thousands of dollars being raised for charity.
- o Dr Maree Abbott from the ARHRF then gave a presentation on anxiety disorder which affects a significant percentage of our community. This anxiety may be only mild or in severe cases quite debilitating.
- o Well what can one say about Max Walker our keynote speaker. Max has a gift for the gab and a great heart, relaying some wonderful stories about the magnificent work performed by ROMAC. This was a most informative and entertaining session which should not have been missed. For those who didn't attend, you missed something special.
- o The days proceedings concluded with the inbound GSE team presentation which has been covered through our transferred meeting.
- o GSE Team Leader Allan Sweet then introduced his team to depart for Texas in just three weeks time.
- o Steve Lans is a 40 yo High School teacher from a Catholic College in Windsor who lives in Lower Portland.
- o Geoff Booth is a 33yo High School teacher from Winmalee High School who lives in the Lower Blue Mountains.
- o Adrian Lus is a 25yo Mechanical and Instrument Technician from the Glen Davis area. Adrian works in plant maintenance at Qenos (formerly ICI) in Sydney.
- o Danielle Donnelly is a 25yo Events & Projects Officer for Parramatta City Council and lives in Parramatta. Danielle has been involved with Rotary for over 7 years and is currently a Youth Co-ordinator for RYPEN.

A great weekend enjoyed by all those who attended. Padstow won the prize of a PHF for having the best attendance of a club with more than 25 members.

“The Fulcrum” Rotary Club of Padstow Inc.

rotarnet.com.au/users/9/96923/index.htm



Lend a Hand

Vol: 48 No: 37 Date: 23th March 2004



Above: President Joan receiving over \$1600 from Padstow Rotaract dedicated to Nepal Project

Left: Joan and Barry enjoy the Saturday night at District 9690 Conference

PROGRAMME

Tonight
Mar 30th
April 6th
April 13th
April 20th
April 27th
May 23rd
May 25th
May 29th

Board meeting and club assembly (conference reports)
Membership Development Barry T, Barry Mc.
GSE Outbound Farewell Hero's Hill
Myra Douglas Summer Science Forum
Gillian Burrows M7 Orbital Motorway
Job talk Terry Martin
Red Shield Appeal
Pride of workmanship awards and Club Birthday
Charity Trotting meeting Bankstown Trotting Club

Transferred Meeting – Sunnybrook Hotel

- Meeting was essentially a GSE presentation by the inbound team from Houston Texas USA.
- No rotary business was conducted by the club at this meeting.
- Russell Brideson conducted a fines session on behalf of our Sergeant at Arms Gary.
- One of the members present had his head shaved and raised several hundred dollars for Leukemia Research – a most worthwhile cause.

Group Study Exchange – Inbound Team District 5890 Houston Texas USA.

- Team Leader Dr Charles Grant presented a polished performance on his home state of Texas and showed us photos of some of the beautiful scenery and highlight. Charles has been a member of the North Shore Rotary Club since 1987. Dr Grant is highly qualified having obtained his Ph.D from Texas A&M University, a M.Ed from Sam Houston State University, a BS from Stephen F Austin State University and an AA degree from San Jacinto College.
- Phyllis B Sliva: A 31 year old (birthday last week) social worker who was born and raised in Houston, but now lives in Wharton a small rural town to the south of Houston. Phyllis recently graduated with a Master's degree in Social Work with a concentration on Gerontology. Phyllis has been running a nursing home for the past several years but takes up a new position, upon her return, on a mobile clinic for the poor and working poor in the Wharton area.
- Nyamusi K Igambi: Name derived from her Kenyan father. Nyamusi is a graduate of the Texas Tech University where she studied journalism and Spanish. Currently Nyamusi is working as an international trade specialist with the US Department of Commerce in Houston and has recently started her own cosmetics business..
- Diana Sensano: Born in Maracaibo, Venezuela and moved to Texas in 1988 to go to Texas A&M University where she graduated in Engineering Technology, Industrial Distribution Specialty. Diana has lived in Houston since 1994 where she has been involved in metallurgy sales until her recent career change to selling building materials – doors, windows etc.
- The team gave a polished presentation which was well received by the assembled Rotarians and their partners and guests.
- Our outbound Team Leader Allan Sweet thanked them for their wonderful presentation and expressed his delight to be going to Houston in just a few weeks time.

District 9690 Conference 2004.

Friday:

- Well what can I say, we all had a fabulous time from start to finish.
- Friday night was a Youth Feast with presentations from various youth programs.
- The flag ceremony was a great start with Elina proudly carrying her national flag, Finland, to the Finnish National Anthem. The pride clearly showed in Elina's smile.
- YEP gave a great presentation with 2 rebound students from last year, Josephine Coby from Springwood RC (Japan) and Gavin Douglas from the Wallacia-Mulgoa Valley RC (France) giving a very comprehensive and emotional account of their year on exchange and what it has done for them.
- The Youth Presentation by Ken Linfoot covered all aspects of his portfolio, including RYPEN, RYLA, PACE & NYSF

- Matthew Reardon and Candice Reinhart, both rebound exchange students, then sang to the audience along with Shin a former exchange student from Japan who returned to study for his HSC. Elina also featured singing in front of a large audience for the first time in Finnish and we didn't understand a word but she still really did us all proud.
- Rotaract featured prominently and gave a very polished presentation of projects undertaken both locally and around the world by Rotaractors. They as always are seeking new members and if anyone can help in this regard it would be most appreciated. Now that Padstow Rotaract has ceased to exist, we should give the other clubs within our District our full support.

Saturday:

- The Northcott Society was originally founded by the RC Sydney who doorknocked all of Sydney back in the 20's to assess the number of crippled children in need of assistance. From this was born the Northcott Society which is a wonderful organisation and has achieved so much. DG Warwick has so far raised over \$80,000 of his target of \$150,000 with of course the end of year contributions still to come.
- Saturday was dominated by a very special presentation of 2 PHF to Claudia Anstey and Judy Batson who devoted countless hours of support and assistance at a time of particular crisis. That crisis was the sudden critical illness of Kristal Quinn an inbound exchange student from Houston Texas back in 1999. Kristal fell ill on the very day her parents arrived to visit her for what should have been the time of their lives and not the nightmare that greeted them on their arrival. This presentation was made all that much more special by the appearance of Kristal and her parents to participate in this fabulous gesture by DG Warwick and the RC of Holroyd. It brought a tear to many eyes in the audience. Congratulations Claudia and Judy.
- Another PHF was presented to Mark Thompson for his tremendous achievements with the Port Villa Hospital in Vanuatu. This project was conceived by Mark after a visit to the island where he saw and recognised a great need and actually did something about it. How many individuals had visited Port Vila, saw the dilapidated state of their facilities without doing anything about it? Congratulations Mark.
- OUTREDS is a program of the RC of Silverwater where disadvantaged children from our outback are assisted to achieve their educational goals in Sydney. One such student gave a very moving account of her circumstances and how this program had made the difference in allowing her to continue her studies at university in Sydney. The program offers more than financial support as this support also includes the family and emotional support of the Rotarians involved, similar to that of host families in YEP.
- RAWCS a topic dear to the heart of the editors of this newsletter. A pictorial presentation of DIK, RAM and FAIM projects in PNG, Solomon Islands, Nepal and Mongolia gave those present an insight into how our overseas projects operate and what can be achieved. It is important that we as an international organisation recognise our obligations to our not so fortunate neighbours.
- The guest speaker Dr Stephen Carroll addresses a topic near and dear to every man's heart – his penis. This was a very amusing and informative session on men's health, an area much neglected, mostly through men's own neglect of their health. This was followed up by a further more private session in the afternoon which was well attended and most informative.