

My Impressions of Conference.

Rotary District 9690 Conference this year was held last weekend at Forster NSW. Club Forster was an excellent venue with plenty of space to house all the various parts of the conference in comfort.

On Friday night we had one keynote speaker who was Zoe Ross from Queensland. Zoe had been a youth exchangee, then an ambassadorial scholar and then was asked to become a Rotarian and be the charter President of a new Club in Queensland. Zoe's life with Rotary was amazing.

The inbound GSE team from district 7820 Canada gave us an interesting insight into life in a cold country.

The International Presidents special representative was Rob Crabtree from New Zealand had worked as a sports presenter and was very interesting. During the whole conference we had a friendly banter going on between him and the audience regarding the cricket score.

On Saturday we had a vocational talk from Richard Ellery on the oyster industry in Wallis Lake (Forster) We learnt how oyster spat is collected and grown and harvested.

The next speaker was David La Motte a Rotary International Peace scholar and his journey with Rotary was amazing, having started his own overseas aid project in Guatemala in 2004 and then moving on with Rotary and becoming a Peace scholar and then working with various conflicts in the world.

Gemma Sisia from St Judes school on Arusha Tanzania never ceases to amaze us with her energy and the growth of the school from 3 students in 2001 to 1300 students in 2010 and an annual budget without consurction of A\$3.4 million. The formula used to select students and their education is certainly working and deserving of our support. Many Rotary RAWCS teams have helped.

Fred Watson of the Anglo Australian Observatory at Coonabarabran gave an interesteing talk on "Big Bang" and Einsteins theory of relativity and what it means to space travellers."The time machine"

In the Sunday reflections session we recognised Bob Mather and Peter Meredith both Past Presidents of Padstow Club.

We then had the outbound GSE team going to Sydney Canada. Followed by Paul Lumkin the navigator from the ill fated Sydney Hobart yacht race "Winston Churchill" in 1998. His story told how they spent 42 hours huddled in a life raft upside down before being rescued. Paul did not use any slide show but it was a rivetting presentation. Three fellow crew members were lost.

The next speaker was Ahn Do the comedian. Ahn told us of his escape from Vietnam as a child and his trip on a boat and internment in a Malaysian refugee camp. The family eventually came to Australia. Ahn went to school and then to University and studied law. Then he decided to become a comedian. His youger brother became young Australian of the year. Ahn kept us entertained.

It was announced that next years Conference will be at Bathurst. Elvis Presley brought us jailhouse rock and instrduced us the the delights of Bathurst.

Probably one of the best Conferences I have ever been to. The speakers were all excellent and inspiring and the Rotary content was excellent.



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PP Keith Roffey(DGNNEE we hope) here presents the traditional Boomerang to Meredith Collins

STOP PRESS

Tonights guest speaker is David Saxby a blind cricketer representing Australia

Presidents Report

- Pres. Julie welcomed our guests Meredith Collins, Celeste
- With John Earls spoke to Chef Brett on menus for upcoming functions.
- Liverpool's 60th Birthday Meeting
- Feedback and suggestions on Membership due back for Special Membership Board meeting.

Secretary's Report.

- Glenda distributed Invoices and mail to directors
- Advice from Daryl Melham on Volunteers Grants (we need a radio mike).

Treasurer's Report

- John advised that youth Advancement Program funds had been invested in various term deposits as required.

Public Relations

- Gaille reported that the Literacy Kits will be going to a very needy Aboriginal School at Alice Springs and a school at Campsie.
- Generic Certificates have been produced to be available for Thank You to Guest Speakers, Sponsors etc.

General Business

- Gary Metcalfe. ROK-ing tomorrow night (Wednesday),
- From a BBQ last year we held at a furniture outlet we have been advised by Melinda Heywood that the business has closed down and there is still some remaining stock of chairs which are to be given away at no charge. Garry & Terry to investigate and pick up
- Also last year we had a day out for Carers can we do this again? There about 20 people involved .Enquiries to be made on possible venues.
- Keith Roffey as an Elector along with Barry McConville asked the club for directions of how the club wished to vote on several matters to be decided at the Resolutions Sessions at the conference at the weekend.

introducing to the club Keith Roffey who has nominated for the position. If Keith is successful with his nomination he will become the 4th D.G. from this club.

- The club gave Keith unanimous support and wished him well.

➤ Attendance Kevin Bouffler 33/38 84.21%

Guest Speaker Meredith Collins

Our Guest Speaker tonight is Meredith Collins , Lindsay Collins daughter.

Meredith's subject is: " The Evolution of Business Marketing"

Meredith is an expert in Marketing and assists large and small businesses in setting up web sites and marketing plans for the Internet. The name of her business is Video Social Marketing. Internet Marketing and networking has taken place in several stages and we are now in the 3rd stage .

It covers all search engines eg. Google etc.and sites such as Facebook ,Blogs, Twitter, pod casting etc.

Social Networking enables people from all over the world to talk to other people on line. We have come a long way since the introduction of the Internet.

Social Media is disruptive and changes the way we do things; The advances in mobile phones , Digital Cameras, Faxes are now almost obsolete but were indispensable not very long ago. But basically it is about relationships social and business.

There are 4 main sites for business "linked-in" "facebook" "twitter" " u-tube " and some" blogs" . There are millions of people using these sites and with back-linking the contacts made are unlimited.

Barry McConville has been speaking on Rotary information for the past few weeks and last week in particular on becoming a District Governor. To night with pleasure has the pleasant duty of