

Rotary



Bulletin for Gloucester

Vol. 66 No 10 Rotary Club of Gloucester Inc. 8th September, 2015.
Club 17925, District 9650 Chartered 17th May, 1950.

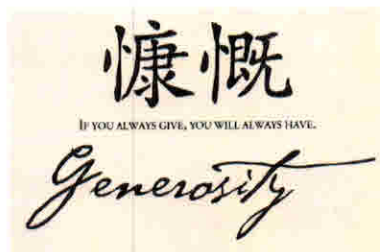
Secretary Don McLeod
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District Governor Maurie Stack, Rotary Club of Taree on Manning
RI President 2015/2016 K.R. Ravindran (Ravi) Rotary Club of Colombo Sri Lanka

Ring or email Ray Martin's Office for apologies and to include guests before 10am Tuesdays
Phone 65582200 or email rms@midcoast.com.au



Happy Spring

Coming Meetings

Tuesday 25 th August Partners Night 6.30 for 7	The District Governor's visit, Maurie Stack and De.
Tuesday 1 st September Partners Night 6.00 for 6.30pm	Our Exchange Student, Ida Sevon of Finland will do her presentation Finnish Theme Night.
Wednesday 9 th September	Hebby's Bakery 80 th Birthday Celebration Breakfast. Meeting at 7.30am with Croissants and Coffee. Meet in front of bakery. (NOTE: DATE CHANGE) Email Ray's office for attendance confirmation
Sunday 13 th September	25 th Gloucester Mountain Man TriChallenge – All Hands On Deck!! Volunteers needed to assist on that day.
Tuesday 15 th September	Board Meeting night
Tuesday 22 nd September	Fellowship Night at the Club
Sunday 25 th October Under the Yellow Box	Operation Cleft Fundraising BBQ Event. \$30 pp. Ladies Salad or Sweet. Meat is provided. If weather not suitable, Valda & Doug's Veranda
Saturday 14 th November	Guess who is coming to dinner. More Info to Follow.

PREVIOUS MEETING – 25TH AUGUST

Directors Reports:-

President Sharee welcomed District Governor, Maurie Stack and his wife, De to Gloucester. A few Rotarians turned up at 4.30pm for the unveiling of the second Gym site. It was really good timing because the equipments were just completed before the sky opened up and pelted down with rain. There were 3 young men already there at the site testing out the equipments when the Rotarians turned up for the photo op. We also had 2 representatives from AGL and co-incidentally, the Vice President of Lions Club was out walking her dog so she was also in the photo. Watch out for the story when it's advertised in the Gloucester Advocate. Meantime, here are some photos we took.



Special thanks to France and Sue for providing Nibbles for the DG visit night.

Reminder from Peter Markey, there is NO meeting on Tuesday 8th September. It is changed to a Wednesday Morning (at 7.30am) meeting off site at Hebby's Bakery to celebrate their 80th Birthday. So come along and enjoy some delicious croissants and coffee.

Ida Sevon, our Finland Exchange Student, saw her first Australia Rain. She was very excited to be able to walk in the rain and watched the lightning flashed across the Gloucester sky. She was very very homesick the last couple of weeks, cried for 3 days but felt she is more settled down now. She is looking forward to next weekend where she will attend the Rotary Orientation weekend at Bonville and meet the other exchange students in our District. On Tuesday 1st of September, she will tell her story at the club. She is going to bring along more Finnish candies. Jane Deen, her councillor, has offered to help her cook some "Swedish Meatballs" for the night, maybe along with some Moose Steaks and Pickled Herrings if she can find some...

Mia Bowden, our 2016 Outbound Student to France, gave a brief speech. She has been looking at pictures online of the place where she is staying. She is getting very excited. She had her first interview back in April and then her Orientation Debriefing weekend really helps her to prepare for the exchange next year.



Some of the Highlights in District Governor Maurie Stack's Speech

His journey since being elected District Governor, started about a month ago. They have travelled to the Rotary Clubs in Walcha, Lightning Ridge, Coonamble, Newcastle, Parramatta, Maitland and many others that it has become a blur.. But DG Maurie Stack loves coming to Gloucester because he feels that coming here is like coming back to home country. He comments that what makes a great club is just the fact that it is a fun organization and it's great to be a part of. He thinks that Gloucester Club is a great club because of the many Rotary events we hold, e.g.

The Bushyard Poetry, Opera In The Church, The Duck Races at Easter, The Motorcycle Expo, the upcoming fundraiser event for the Cleft Palates in Bangladesh for the next 12 months. All these events

are part of the infrastructure of Gloucester. It was great to be at the launch of the Second Outdoor Exercise Project Site and to know that it has been an ongoing project of the club. He loves the "Unsung Hero Award" as it is the first he has heard of and it is not anywhere else in the district.

When he was at Parramatta, one of the speakers there was talking about the Cleft Palates and so far, about 10,000 people had their Cleft Palates operation and it really changes their lives. DG Maurie Stack was also talking about the 'Donate Life Week' Program. This came about because of what happened to his Grandson and his wife, De, will be talking about this in more details later. And he encouraged Rotary to donate to this cause. During The 'Donate Life Week', the Organ and Tissue Authorities encourages people to sign up on the National Register to be Organ Donors. So he was there in Parramatta addressing the incoming group of District Governors and hopefully, they will put their hands up to support this cause in the coming year. Driving up today, they had Guiller Tumungan, Rotary International Director representing Australia, New Zealand and Philippines, in the car with them and Guiller commented that he was very touched by DG Stack's grandson's story. His first grandson was a 'Blue Baby' and sadly, his grandson died at 28 days. Guiller set up a program to fund medical assistance for 'Blue Babies' in the Philippines and they have been able to pay for surgical interventions for 300 'Blue Babies' and of those, all but 4 had survived as a result of that program. During that meeting, there was one person there that wasn't a Rotarian and after hearing the speech, was considering becoming one because he didn't realise that Rotarians are such passionate people.

About a week ago, the bombing at Bangkok once again shook the world. This incident had affected DG Maurie and his wife more because at that time, his daughter, 3 grandchildren and son-in-law, who is a counter-terrorism specialist in the Australian Federal Police, were living in Bangkok near where the bomb attack happened. He then commented that someone had said to him in San Diego that if we could get every young person to go on the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, there would be no more wars. As soon as there are conflicts, there are stories to be told to the young people that are going to fight, the young Australians that are attracted to go and fight for ISIS were told that they were a race of people who are devil worshippers. And they have captured a lot of young girls to be their sex slaves when these young men go over there and it is fine because these girls are devil worshippers. But when young people go onto the Rotary Youth Exchange Programs, they realized that they are all quite alike and there are no different, for example, between Finnish people and Australia people. So if young people from all over the world can go onto the Rotary Youth Exchange program, the Government won't be able to sell stories that the other side are evil or devil worshippers.

When DG Stack was young, they had a second bible in their family, and it's the 'How to Win Friends and Influence People' by Dale Carnegie. Dale had a central theory that every human being has a drive to be important, this need for purpose in our Lives. We all have a choice, we can choose what makes us feel important. Some choose to have the biggest, boldest house in Gloucester, or by possessing the flashiest, newest vehicle. The trouble with this is if Unfortunate frowns on you and the business goes under, if your happiness depends on these materialistic things, then maybe you will lose all of that next week. And we get our happiness from the applauses of others, then our happiness is in the hands of others. What happens when they stop clapping? The suicide rates in Hollywood, as we know, are quite high. And the third world country look at these Hollywood stars and wonder why they want to end their life when they got everything. The theme that our Rotary International President, Ravi Ravindran, has chose for this year – Be a Gift To the World. This theme is about the concept of giving to others. Being a gift and more than just making a gift, it is a much fuller commitment. And to the world, Gloucester Rotary Club not only supports local projects, but has also supported International Programs like the Cleft Palate Program and it is so important to continue our support beyond the bounds of Gloucester.

Sometimes, he was asked, 'What is your elevator speech?'. What do you say when someone in the elevator asked why do you want to join the Rotary club, what is the 30 seconds response? The survey that Rotary has done around the world indicates that there are 2 main reasons why people join Rotary. One is the wish of a person to give back, to be doing something useful in the community. The second is the relationship, the friendship that follows. DG Stack also wanted to mention the Rotary Foundation donations. On average, a person will contribute to 3 charities per year and he would like us to consider the Rotary Foundation as a potential benefactor because 92% of the donations find its way to the destinations. The same cannot be said for other donation causes like the Red Cross, or the World Vision. And secondly, there are not other charity where 50% of the money comes back to our District and

the club members can then decide on how to spend that and the other 50% is still available to use through the World Fund. So there is a lot of ways we can support the Foundation.

Some of the Highlights in De Stack's Speech:-

The partner of the District Governor is asked to support a charity each year. This year, De hopes we might consider support the Rotary Health Foundation, with a particular project. Their Grandson, Little Jack, inspired this project. Little Jack was born in March 2013, after a perfect pregnancy, only to find that he was suffering from a condition called "Congenital Nephritic Syndrome. This meant that his kidneys weren't working properly and would never work properly and he would eventually need a transplant. And so began the journey with Little Jack, straight down to Westmead Children's Hospital with months of hospitalisation where they are trying to stabilise him. Eventually, Little Jack was transported to Newcastle John Hunter Valley where he became an outpatient with daily visits back to the hospital at least 4 hours a day of infusions of the proteins his kidneys needed. In September 2014, his kidneys failed completely and straight back to Westmead Hospital for Dialysis and more surgeries. Programs like the Wiggles, Play School, High Five, were a good distraction to settle the 18 months old boy while he undergo his 5 hourly dialysis routine. While all these were going on for Little Jack, the hospital was desperately seeking for the perfect donor



and it was lucky that Little Jack's dad was the perfect Donor Candidate. So in January 2016, Little Jack received his transplant. This is only the beginning of Little Jack's Journey. Anyone that receives an organ transplant is then required to be on anti-rejection medications for the rest of their lives daily. Each of these medications has to be tailored to the individuals and their immune systems are affected by the same medications that mean they are more prone to virus infections. Patients on dialysis are also more susceptible to skin cancer. DG Stack and De have asked Rotary Health if they would provide a research grant. De is already receiving support for her partners program - Jack Wilson Kidney Research Program - in partnership with Australian Rotary Health. Three applications have been received for appointment of a young scientist as a Ph.D. research fellow for 3 years to improve outcomes for children who have had kidney transplants - it will improve outcomes for transplant recipients generally.



Gloucester Rotary donated all our "Kookaburra" money, after a fantastic "fine" session by Peter Markey. In addition to that, President Sharee surprised De with a Cheque from our club to go towards a great cause.

The night ended with De produced her ukulele, assisted by DG Maurie on banjalalee and a few other ukulele beginners and everyone had a bit of a sing-along.



Maurie & his Banjalalee



Ann Martin



Peter Markey



Cathy Webb



De & her Ukulele

------(Our Ukulele Beginners)-----

PREVIOUS MEETING – 2ND SEPTEMBER

Directors Report:-

Don't Forget there is NO meeting on Tuesday 8th September. It's been changed to a morning meeting at Hebby's Bakery at 7.30am to celebrate their 80th Birthday!!

Gloucester Mountain Man TriChallenge

Held on Sunday 13th September 2015. Volunteers needed to facilitate and give advice and assist in any way possible. Please see John Faul



Ida Sevon – Our Finnish YEP Student.

Ida gave a presentation of her life in Finland and her aspirations for her time in Australia.

Ida is an only child who lives in a town called Pinjainen about 75kms west of Helsinki. There are about 9,000 people in the town, and she goes to a small school of 180 students. They are given a hot meal for lunch at the school, which she misses here. School is a bit like

university here, in that you just attend your classes and there may be times when you do not have a class. You come and go as you please, and there are no uniforms. Her town has the record cold temperature being -40degrees so it gets very cold there. We thought it funny, but she does not ski. Because there is snow for about 4 months of the year it doesn't have the novelty factor it does in Australia. In the summer it can get up to 30 degrees. The main sport in Finland is ice hockey and Ida is a great fan. Finland itself is not regarded as a wealthy country, and the main cost to the government is the military presence they have on their east coast facing Russia. Apparently they have been sparring for years. Ida pointed out that Finnish people have different customs to Australians. The main ones are that Finnish very rarely use eye contact, and never hug or kiss anyone unless they are extremely close. She will learn the Aussie way before she goes home no doubt. She is looking forward to our summer and getting around to see more animals and scenery. She is currently staying with Sam and Megan de Witte but would welcome an invitation to dinner from anyone, just remember no kisses or hugs yet!

More Photos from the Travelling Bees



Riding in Denmark



Beautiful Norway

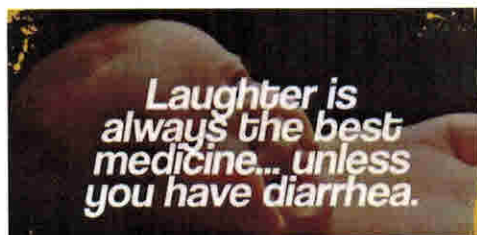


More bikes in Norway

Vicki found more Duckies at Cape Cod USA for our Easter Duck Race



Funnies from Peter Markey....



If God had wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.

I have finally figured out why the missus is so fat: the shampoo she uses in the shower, that runs down her body, clearly says, "for extra volume and body."

I'm going to recommend she uses dishwashing soap instead; it says, "dissolves fat that is otherwise difficult to remove."

A blonde is terribly overweight, so her doctor puts her on a diet. "I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for two weeks. The next time I see you, you'll have lost at least five pounds.

When the blonde returns, she's lost nearly 20 pounds. "Why, that's amazing!" the doctor says. "Did you follow my instructions?" The blonde nods. "I'll tell you, though, I thought I was going to drop dead that third day."

"From hunger, you mean?" asked the doctor.

"No, from skipping."

Meeting Preparation & Clean Up

June	Sam de Witte, Wayne Salvestro, Jane Deen,
July	Vicki Collett, Chris Pritchard Li Meng Wong,
August	Bruce Montgomerie, Brian Beesley, Geoff Slack
September	Lindy Dupree, Ray Martin, John Read
October	Grahame Holstein, Young Rustandi, Peter Markey
November	Karen Miles, Don McLeod, Donnelle Walker

Please if you do not have time to set up please let one of your team know.

Our Executive 2015/2016

President:		Sharee Abeysekera	65588158
President Elect:	PP	Ashleigh Hickman	0409 323 867
Immediate Past President:	PDG	Brian Beesley	0419 634 275
Communications	PP	Don McLeod	6558 4297
Treasurer:		Vicki Collett	6558 2099
Club Service	PP	Peter Markey	0418 633 060
Youth Services	PP	Sam De Witte	6558 1734
Community Service		Paul Hedditch	6558 1471
Vocational Service		John Read	6558 1064
International Service		Valda Barron	6558 2992
Public Officer	PP	Don McLeod	6558 4297

Four Way Test

Of all the things we say and do:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and friendship?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?