

the bulletin

20th September 2011



rotary club of diamond creek inc.



District 9790

rotary club of diamond creek inc. Bulletin

Volume 20 Issue 12
20th September
2011

RI President

Kalyan Benerjee Rotary Club of Vapi

Governor

David Anderson Rotary Club of Yea

AG

Pat Miller Rotary Club of Diamond Creek

Club Officers

President	Alan Jones
Vice President	PP Clyde Hulme
President Elect	Steve Crosling
Secretary & Attendance	Eileen Gatt
Treasurer & Public Officer	Greg Adams

Directors and Standing Committees

Club Administration	PE Steve Crosling
Membership	John Egan
Public Relations	PP Bev Baker,
Service Projects	PP Alan White
Rotary Foundation	PP Linda Gidlund

Who ya gunna call !

President Alan Jones	0414861558
Secretary Eileen Gatt	0427712688
Treasurer Greg Adams	0419355842

Editor: Greg Adams
Art Director: Greg Adams
Advertising : Greg Adams
Bottle washer : Greg as well
Editorial: send to ferrairgreg@gmail.com

Note: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Club or its members

On the Cover

Town Fair Fun



from the president keeping up with the joneses!

"The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place!"

– George Bernard Shaw

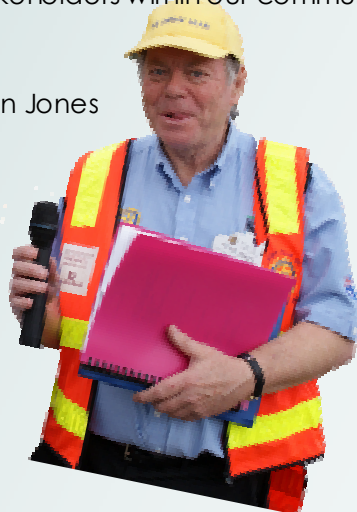
Effective communication is one of the most important elements in life. This can be applicable to our businesses, our families and of course to our Rotary Club. We meet on a regular basis, we see each other at various events, we receive a plethora of emails, but how well do we really communicate?

So often members have an opinion and something worthwhile to contribute, but not always do they feel comfortable to do so. This may be because they are new to the club, they believe that their opinion would not be valued, or perhaps they feel intimidated by the comments of another member. They may not even be comfortable with the role that they have, but instead of speaking to someone about their concerns, they just cover it up or worse still, make comments in the background. I would like to encourage all members to speak freely at meetings or if you feel a little shy, and still have a concern, speak to one of the Board Members with whom you feel comfortable and ask them to take up the matter for you.

All of us receive an overabundance of Rotary emails. Some are relevant to us and some are not. Unless it is relevant to the whole club, don't send it to the list – respond to the person who needs to know. It is better to communicate directly with the appropriate person and that way your message will get through. The tone of the email is important too! Because you are not speaking directly to the person sometimes they can get the wrong impression from your email. Think before you write – it's all part of better communicating with your fellow member. If the issue is a little controversial, pick up the phone.

Good interaction and exchanges of ideas can only mean better success within our club and with other stakeholders within our community.

Alan Jones



past presidents

Brian Bowen
1978-1979
Heidelberg North

Bob Eycken
1983-1984
Alperton UK

John McCrohan
1992-1993

Ron Gordon
1993-1994

Chris Doupe
1994-1995

Cliff Wearne
1995-1996

Ern Wardell
1996-1997

Rod Mackenzie
1997-1998

Steve Sampson
1998-1999

Robin Chapple
1999-2000

Peter Marriage
2000-2001

Rob Lloyd
2001-2002

Bev Baker
2002-2003

Joe Di Natale
2003-2004

Geoff Swan
2004-2005

John Gatt
2005-2006

John Arthur
2006-2007

Linda Gidlund
2007-2008

Alan White
2008-2009

Pat Millar
2009-2010

Clyde Hulme
2010-2011

so what happened last week?

13-09-2011

Minutes of the RCDC Meeting.

President Alan Jones opened the first meeting after the Town Fair. Makeups were called for and DGE John Gatt admitted he had none to report. PP Pat Millar attended the Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges on Wednesday night the 7th in her role as Assistant Governor and Alan Jones went to the Rotary Club of Eltham with Mariko our Ambassadorial Scholar on Thursday the 8th.

Rod Mackenzie gave a brief report on the Town Fair, thanking Ern Wardell, Greg Adams and Dennis Kerr for all their effort. He said that they are still receiving between 200 and 300 emails a day which giving feedback from a survey they have put out to participants regarding the date and improvements to the Town Fair. Financially, the Showbag trailers did well.

PDG Rob Lloyd advised the club that the Bushfire Committee Meeting would take place at Kinglake this Wednesday. The Strathewan Primary School has made five applications which they want the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek to be sponsor for and this will

be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

Alan Jones informed the members that Warrick Leeson will be travelling to Turkey and had requested information on the club's involvement there. Ern Wardell and Bob Eycken supplied information about a matching grant in 1999-2000 which had been organized with the RC Bursa following the earthquake. A Dialysis Unit had been purchased as many of the survivor's had had their kidneys compromised by dehydration in the days following the emergency. Warrick will attempt to visit the area and take photos and the club will try to

organize to send something with him.

PP Linda Gidlund advised that RYLA time is near, with need for 55 participants this year.

Roger Knight introduced the speaker Mathew Williams, a youth worker in the custodial system, whose work is the rehabilitation of sentenced youths aged 15 to 18 years, by the process of mentoring and education. He also spoke about the life changing experience of RYLA.

And what's gunna happen this week?

Town Fair de-brief ,

a full run down on what happened, what didn't, what could have, what shouldn't, what the Stall holders thoughts are , what our thoughts are

What can we do to make it better, easier,

Theme thoughts for next year ?





the program/up and coming calendar and who's doin what

20 September 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Club Meeting Town Fair De-brief

27 September 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Club Meeting Club Ass

4 October 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Combined Services Dinner Ashton Manor

11 October 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Club Meeting Cake decorating –Joint meeting
Greensborough

18 October 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Pride of Workmanship Awards Night—Partners welcome

25 October 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Club Meeting Club Ass

1 November Tuesday NO MEETING CUP DAY

8 November 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM Club visit to Parliament House Partners welcome

15 November 2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Club Meeting Linda's presentation Partners welcome



Life events

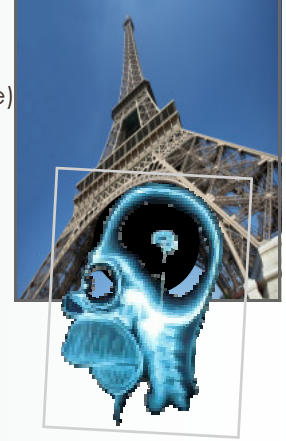
Sep 22 Sir John's birthday

Oct 5 Roger nightie Knight joined Rotary 11 years ago

Oct 11 Peter and Jacqui - anniversary

Oct 13 travel Alan White—birthday





Bon jour

We have almost reached the end of our travels through southern France and now leaving Chinon in the Loire Valley and moving up to Paris. Ah.....Gay Paree!!!! Chinon was a lovely old 14th century town - population about 8.5 thousand with the old medieval part where we stayed centred along the Vienne River and below the ancient fort complex (yes - ABC - another B.... castle) and then more parts spread out either side of the river. We stayed in a 14th century 3 storey stone cottage which was about a 2 minute walk from the town square and all the restaurants and wine bars. The cottage had a garage on the ground level which was big enough for a child's toy car but I managed to fit the Citroen C4 Picasso in there - took several attempts to get in and out each time but I DID IT!!!! First floor was the living area / Lee's bed room and the second floor our bedroom and bathroom. Semi-circular stair case - next holiday we travel light and stay in nothing that has more than one step. Beautiful cottage in one of the town's oldest laneways that was so narrow I could lean out the window and shake hands with the people on the other side. The old part of the town was fascinating with lots of different shops poked into all sorts of buildings and all spread out along the river. The Loire Valley itself is of course famous for its wineries and more recent chateaux (16th - 19th centuries) build by wealthy French families as retreats from Paris - those French certainly knew how to live. What surprised us was the fact that the "revolutionaries" booted the aristocracy out of their chateaux during the French Revolution and then took their place. Viva la revolution!!!! Chinon is also famous as the birth place and residence of Francois Rabelais - the 18th century (????) satirist, author and philosopher. Bit of culture to go with the ABC. And now for the ABC

Chateau de Chinon - Joan of Arc. This was our local chateau / fort / Abbaye about a 10 minute walk

from our place. We cheated and took a purpose built lift up to the front door - I think the French have realised that their tourist are getting older and may need assistance. Great idea. This chateau is famous in that Joan of Arc - a 17 year old female met the future King Charles 7th and persuaded him that she could lead his armies and defeat the English in the 15th century. She succeeded in liberating Orleans, had Charles crowned but then fell afoul of Charles after being defeated in Paris. Betrayed and handed over to the English and burnt at the stake as a heretic at the age of 19. Apparently she questioned a decision made by a male!!!! Made a saint 500 years later. This chateau had a large number of static displays concerning JofA and the history of the chateau in relation to successive owners which was very well set up and a great thumbnail history of the Chinon region.

Abbaye de Fontevraud. A very old monastic complex famous for the Plantagenet's and in particular Henry 2nd and his wife Eleanor of Aquitaine, their son Richard the Lion Heart and his wife. All buried there complete with sarcophagi. This place was also used as a prison during the French Revolution and on up to the early 1900's with very little change in conditions - those guys knew they were in prison.

The tank museum at Saumur. This was established by the French army and has a collection of tanks and field artillery dating from pre WW1 up to and including modern times. They have collected and restored tanks (over 200) from all armies around the world, and for those inclined to weapons of mass destruction is a great place to spend a couple of hours. Having now seen the size of the German Tiger tanks I can understand why soldiers facing felt a slight twinge of fear

- apart from the size the weight was incredible - 60 odd tons made up of 16 cm thick armour. Looking down the barrel of a 150 mm cannon probably added to the "I have just wet my pants" factor. Some nifty pieces of military hardware at this place.

The Chateau de Montsoreau at Saumur overlooking the River Loire. We stopped here but didn't go in as it was late in the day and we were well and truly ABC'd out. However it was one of the most classic looking gothic castles with incredible views overlooking the Loire valley and a vineyard right up to the back door. I could imagine living in a place like this but may need a few paying guests to help offset the running costs.

The Chateau Villandry is one of the so called garden chateaux because of its' amazing complex of classic gardens which are fully maintained by a staff of 10 full time gardeners and I must admit presents a truly amazing and colourful sight. All of the gardens, including the vegetable gardens, are laid out in incredible colour coordinated symmetrical patterns and everything is manicured to within an inch of its life. Might try for the same effect in Hurstbridge!!!

The last visit we made in the Loire Valley was the Chateau Usse which was (and still is) privately owned and is comparatively new - only about 400 years old. This chateau is also known as "the Sleeping Beauty Castle" as it inspired the tale of Sleeping Beauty and other gothic children's fairy stories when the author lived here. You can imagine (wait for the photos) a classic castle with turrets, spires and all very gothic backed up onto a very dark and brooding forest. Classic stuff.

That's a wrap for this leg of our travels - next stop Paris. Hello to all my fellow Rotarians and see you all soon.

Au revoir from Steve and Lexie

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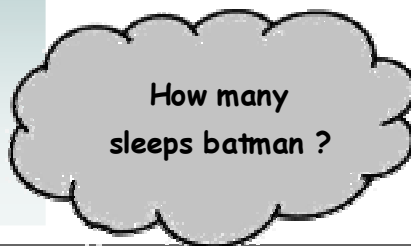
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Rotary Grace

O Lord and giver of all good
We thank you for our daily food
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways,
help us to serve you all our days.



Advance Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in Nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia fair!
In joyful strains then let us sing,
"Advance Australia fair!"

354 Days

8496 Hours

509760 Minutes

30585600 Seconds

The Diamond Creek Rotary Town fair 2012 starts in