



# CLUB BULLETIN



21st January 2009

Rotary Club of Camberwell

Volume 53 Issue 28

Special points of interest:

- Boroondara Cares Projects
- RI Financial Crunch
- Bill Gates Gives More for Polio Plus
- 2009—2010 Theme
- Holidays For Farmers
- Birthdays, Anniversaries, Etc.

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## Next Weeks Meeting

Wednesday January 28th

Speaker: Henry Nissen

Subject: My Life as a Boxer and Charity Worker

*Henry trained as a boxer but decided to work with Fr. Bob McGuire in the charity area instead of a professional boxer*

Chairman: Dennis Coleman

## Meeting Rosters

### JANUARY

#### Registration Desk

David Loftus  
Michael Blood

#### Welcomer

Peter Anderson

#### Drinks

Eric Heyburn/Colin Gould

### FEBRUARY

#### Registration Desk

Geoff Angus  
Geoff Heath

#### Welcomer

Bob Heinemann

#### Drinks

TBA

**It is the responsibility of the rostered Member to find a replacement if not able to attend**

## Future Club Program

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
<b>4th Feb</b>	<b>TBA</b>		
<b>11th Feb</b>	<b>Club Forum</b>		<b>Dennis Coleman</b>
<b>18th Feb</b>	<b>Supt. Ignhard Ehrenberg</b>	<b>Police Mentor- ing Program</b>	<b>Chair: Geoff McCormick</b>
		<i>Supt. Ehrenberg will discuss the Rotary community initiative</i>	
<b>25th Feb</b>	<b>Fellowship Night</b>		
<b>4th March</b>	<b>TBA</b>		

**Club Meets**  
Wednesdays 6.15 for 6.30  
Canterbury Centre, 2 Rochester Road  
Canterbury

President: Neil Hookey  
Secretary: Ron Lear  
Treasurer: : Frank Leigh

Apologies—Bookings  
Alan Lorenzini  
Mobile 0411 884 032  
W: 9855 1444  
alan@lorenzinigroup.com.au

## President's Ponderings

### "Report on Katunga"

While I was sorry to miss Richard Balsillie's address, I was pleased I was able to represent the Club while also being part of the entertainment at the Evening with the Stars event at Katunga Sports Ground last Wednesday.

Camberwell Rotary was the principal sponsor of this Boroondara Cares/Moira Cares project, which was planned as a morale-booster during the worst part of summer. Sing Australia sent two busloads totaling 120 singers from the Hawthorn & Camberwell choirs, while choirs from Yarrowonga and Numurkah also joined in - when we were all on stage together the combined choirs totaled 180 and severely tested the safety limits of the stage.

We were welcomed by the Mayor of Moira, David McKenzie, and Boroondara Cares Chair PDG Don Jago. We entertained the crowd of about 800 for 2 hours climaxing with a stirring rendition of "Evening Hymn with Last Post" complete with Trumpet, and Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.

The Rotary buses went back after the concert but the choir stayed overnight at Cobram and on Thursday morning gave a concert at the Cobram Uniting Church which was largely attended by elderly citizens unable to attend the outdoor concert. Afterwards the choir was given a panel discussion by local farmers and Moira Shire officers on the effects of the

drought.

Farmers are amazingly resilient and have coped fairly well as the drought enters the tenth year, but the international recession may prove to be the final straw for many.

Government policy is bewildering to them - water trading, carbon trading and free-trade policies all seem to work against their interests. There is now a crisis in confidence..

There is no longer Government funds available for drought relief - It is called Climate Change - so the farmer must put up with it .

The dairy farmers had a co-operative - Murray-Goulburn - a few years ago the shares went up so much enough farmers sold shares to lose control of the company - they have just been told that because of E U subsidies the farm-gate price for milk is to be cut by 30%. The fruit growers are being treated similarly. Up to now the farmers have put up with the hazards of farming because they were brought up in that environment - their children will not

**President Neil**

### ROTARY CLUB MEETING DIRECTORY

A 2009/10 pocket-size directory of all Rotary Clubs in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands has now been released by Port Pirie Rotary Club, South Australia. It also contains meeting details for each club.

Cost of the directory is \$2.50 and proceeds go to the Rotary Foundation.

A copy of the directory can be viewed by contacting Secretary Ron Lear who will be taking orders for the directory up until 31 January 2009.

Australasian  
Wide Club  
Directory  
Available

## Last Weeks Meeting

Richard Balsillie provided an interesting Member Behind The Badge presentation to the Club. Richard has been a member since May last year, and has shown himself to be a willing and good Rotarian.

He outlined his life starting in Armadale before it was full of antique shops, attending Armadale State School and Malvern Grammar School, He outlined his work in the Docks, and his stint with the Public Service both in Melbourne and Canberra.

He moved into HR in Consultancy and then for 15 years heading up the Australian Fire Protection Association, from which he has retired.

He told of his family of Maureen, 3 children and 8 grandchildren

A great talk Richard in the great tradition of these talks

Another  
Good  
Member  
Behind The  
Badge

## Rotary International Financial News

The following release has been received from the Hon Secretary of RI, which shows all are affected by the current world wide financial crises.

Dear Rotarians:

The current investment climate continues to present challenges to our organization. Since 30 September, Rotary International's General Fund declined another 16.1 percent, resulting in a fiscal year-to-date investment loss of 24 percent, or US\$22 million. The Rotary Foundation's investments (except for the Polio Plus Fund) also have experienced declines in line with the markets, resulting in losses of \$165 million from July through November.

As we previously reported, nearly all losses to date are unrealized (i.e., due to declines in the market prices of the securities held and would be realized only if the securities are sold). Because Rotarians have continued to pay their dues on time and make generous contributions to the Foundation, we have not had to sell any of our investment securities to meet operating expenses.

You have likely read about the securities fraud committed by Bernard Madoff. Through one of its hedge fund managers, the Foundation had minor exposure (less than 0.1 percent of the Foundation's total investments) to one of Madoff's investment vehicles. We are working with our independent investment consultants to minimize this loss and reduce Rotary's risk in this area.

Investment earnings, and if necessary, operating reserves, are used to fund a portion of RI's operating expenses, and all of the Foundation's operating expenses. While RI's reserves remain above the Board's targeted level, the Foundation's reserves have declined significantly below the level required by the Trustees. Therefore, we (your Board of Directors and The Trustees of the Rotary Foundation, and your secretariat staff) have been reducing spending and are taking the following actions:

- Deferring all nonessential activities, including committee meetings
- Canceling all nonessential discretionary spending, including staff and volunteer travel, overtime expenses, temporary help, consultants, and staff development
- Reducing staff and volunteer costs while traveling on Rotary International and Foundation business
- Preparing contingency plans and austerity budgets for 2009-10

As noted in my previous communications, Rotary's senior leaders, the Financial Services staff, Rotary's investment consultants, and I continue to closely monitor the financial markets. We are taking all possible steps to ensure that Rotary remains financially strong in this difficult economic environment.

Sincerely,

Ed Futa, General Secretary

Finance  
Crises Hits  
Rotary

Holiday  
Homes  
Required

## Boroondara Cares

### HOLIDAYS FOR FARMERS

The Holidays for Farmers program is now ready to go. It took time to reach a position where District was happy with the Insurance situation.

We now have a methodology as to how the program will work, and a draft agreement between intending occupiers and the owners of the properties. The agreement takes Rotary out of the deal and makes it solely between the Occupier and the Owner.

We now need offers of properties available for holidays for farmers and other Moira people affected by drought.

Moira Community Program people will provide the Boroondara Cares person in Moira Shire office with names of potential occupiers. She will forward them to Bill Granger, Canterbury Club, who will match them with "Suitable" properties. Bill will then put the potential occupier and the owner in touch with each other. If, after that, both parties want to go ahead, Bill will organize the signing of the Agreement and the occupancy.

Further details are available from [williamjohngranger@dodo.com.au](mailto:williamjohngranger@dodo.com.au)

## Polio Plus News

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million.

Shortly after meeting with incoming district governors from the four countries where the wild poliovirus is endemic -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- Bill Gates announced the new grant at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.



"Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Gates said. "However, complete elimination of the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

"We are going to end polio now," affirmed Robert S. Scott, chair of RI's International Polio Plus Committee.

In response to the new \$255 million Gates Foundation grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary committed to match by raising \$100 million.

### But There Is More


The British and German governments have committed a total of \$280 million in new funds to fight polio, and urged additional donors and leaders of countries where polio still exists to join them in an aggressive push for eradication.

The announcement coincided with one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that it is awarding an additional \$255 million challenge grant to Rotary, which Rotary will match with \$100 million raised by its members over the next three years. The money from the United Kingdom and Germany during the next five years will not count toward what has now become Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge

Extra  
Millions For  
Polio Plus

Fellowship Committee

**FELLOWSHIP  
NIGHT**



**BILLY  
ELLIOT**

**THE MUSICAL**

**THURSDAY MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>.**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
ALAN LORENZINI**

**98551144**

**FIRST COME FIRST SERVED**



RI President-elect John Kenny announces the 2009-10 RI theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*, to incoming district governors at the 2009 International Assembly



"The future of Rotary will not be shaped at RI headquarters -- it will be shaped in each and every Rotary club," Kenny said, "because it is for each of us -- as Rotarians -- to do what is necessary to keep Rotary strong."

Rotary Club of Camberwell  
Inc  
(Inc. A0020974E)

**PO Box 178  
Canterbury 3126**  
Web Page:  
[www.camberwellrotary.org.au](http://www.camberwellrotary.org.au)

**President:**  
**Neil Hookey**  
(H) 9882 2648  
(E): [nmhooks@bigpond.com](mailto:nmhooks@bigpond.com)

**Secretary:**  
**Ron Lear**  
(H) 9882 8539  
(M): 0417 544 316  
(E): [ronlear@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ronlear@bigpond.net.au)

**Treasurer:**  
**Frank Leigh**  
(H) 9889 7742  
(M): 0408 876 001  
(E): [frankleigh@bigpond.com](mailto:frankleigh@bigpond.com)

**Bulletin Editor:**  
**Mike Pavey**  
(H) 9898 3206  
(M): 0418 990 815  
(E): [m.pavey1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:m.pavey1@optusnet.com.au)

**District Governor:**  
**Jim Studebaker**  
R.C. of North Balwyn  
(E): [dg@rotarydistrict9800.org](mailto:dg@rotarydistrict9800.org)

**ADG: Keith Ryall**  
[kfryall@alphalink.com.au](mailto:kfryall@alphalink.com.au)



**Last Meeting's Guests, Apologies, Etc**

**Guests**

Tony Wood—Mark Hassed  
Roger Madigan—David Baker  
Lili Foo—Karen Nolan

**Visiting Rotarians:**

None

**Apologies:**

Brown, Connell, Carra, Cox, Dance, Feder, Gray, Heil, Hope, Hookey, Jago, Kreigler, Leigh, Lorenzini, Maxwell, McLaren, Munro, O' Hara, Phillips, Steven

**Make Ups:**

Gordon Duxbury—Surfers Sunrise

**Raffle Winner**

Gino Gnoato

**Welcome Back:**

Gino Gnoato, David Baker

**Farewell**

None



**Quote Of The Week**

*“DISCRETION IS KNOWING HOW TO  
HIDE THAT WHICH WE CANNOT  
REMEDY”*

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Etc.

**Birthdays**

Sue Hope 23rd January

**Wedding Anniversaries**

John & Diana Phillips	21st Jan	42 Yrs
Mike & Helen Pavey	22nd Jan	43 Yrs
Ron & Judy Lear	23rd Jan	44 Yrs

**Club Anniversaries**

Jon Oppy	27th January	29 Yrs
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**Almoners Report**

An update on Aub McLaren, he is currently in a rehabilitation hospital and doing quite well. He is vastly improved from a week ago in all respects

**Directory Changes**

None

