

BOORAGOON EXPRESS



31 AUGUST 2010

ROTARY CLUB OF BOORAGOON INC

(District 9465, Perth, Western Australia)

Phone: 0432 298 325

Email: info@rcbooragoon.com

Web: www.rcbooragoon.com

President:

Steve Coady

president@rcbooragoon.com

Secretary:

John Tuffin

secretary@rcbooragoon.com

Attendance Officer:

Ernie Littlely

attendance@rcbooragoon.com

Bulletin inquiries & contributions: pr@rcbooragoon.com

**Meetings: South of Perth Yacht Club, Coffee Point, Applecross; Tuesdays, 6 for 6.30pm.
Visiting Rotarians and guests are welcome. Please notify the Club on 0432 298 325**

CLUB NEWS

President's soapbox

September is New Generations Month in Rotary. In his monthly message published in Rotary magazines last year, PRI President John Kenny said: "The impressions of youth are strong, and they are lasting. There is never a second chance at them.

"We may grow and change as we get older, and we are surely changed by all of our experiences. But there is never another chance to build who we are. That happens only once: in our youth.

"Lord Byron said, 'The days of our youth truly are the days of our glory' – but through Rotary's youth programs, those days become the glory of all of Rotary."

Rotary has a wide variety of New Generations programs. Our club has been a strong supporter of most of these, including Youth Exchange, RYLA, RYPEN, Science Experience and others. We also have programs in which we have not previously been active such as Interact and Rotaract.

We have the products of some of our New Generations programs in our club. Maggie Duggan and Christine Feary are ambassadors of youth programs. They have returned to give something back through Rotary, making fine Rotarians one of the important achievements of our New Generations programs.

Youth Exchange, Interact, GSE teams, Ambassadorial Scholarships and all of our other programs are our windows to the world. They allow the world to see us and for us to see the world. I can only choose to emphasise the importance of New Generations programs through some examples.

One of my first experiences of the impact of Rotary was mentioning during a physiotherapy treatment as my family was preparing to move to Australia. The physio spoke warmly about her experience in Australia on Rotary Youth Exchange and her life-long bond with her host families. Rotary had changed her life and she spoke to people about her experiences many years later. There are many such ambassadors of Rotary from all of our programs throughout the world.

Last year we were forced to suspend our activity in incoming youth exchange. We are fortunate to still have an outgoing student as a result of past participation in youth exchange, but that will pass. With a limited number of members qualified and able to be host families, support for Youth Exchange in our club is becoming limited. Since Youth Exchange is one of the premier programs of Rotary throughout the world this will be a very sad loss with long term consequences for Rotary.

We must be conscious of this since Rotary cannot afford to lose its windows to the world. I suggest that now is the time to work even harder to develop policies and strategies that make it possible for us to maintain our involvement in this important program.



Last year I spoke about the importance of NYSF. Science is essential to solving many world problems – climate change, diseases and other health issues, productivity and engineering among them.

And they are the solutions required by Rotary 3H (Health, Hunger and Humanity) programs. At a time when many of our brightest young minds are avoiding science, we must not only encourage our young students into scientific endeavour but also open their minds to the wealth of opportunity offered by careers in science, technology, medicine and related fields. NYSF provides an opportunity for Rotary to influence our future scientists opening a window to that world.

Sadly, interviewing potential NYSF students was also a critical evaluation of Rotary's failure to capitalise through public relations on our successes of the past 105 years. The majority of young people interviewed, even though they were involved in a Rotary program, demonstrated very little knowledge or understanding of Rotary in terms of who we are or what we do. This demonstrates the importance of our windows and also ensuring that they are open.

One of our greatest opportunities to influence the future in this regard is to access New Generations early. The programs of Interact and Rotaract allow us to access youth earlier whilst those experiences have an impact on who they will become.

We can ensure that we make a difference in their lives and communicate the value of Rotary as a social networking and service organisation to the world. This makes our current goal of establishing an Interact Club important. Continuing the work started last to a successful conclusion is an important strategic goal for both our club and Rotary.

September is a month to ask all members to reflect on the importance of New Generations programs. Please work to support the New Generations programs in progress or available and seize the opportunity to make a difference.

President Steve Coady

One night at Pauline's place

It's not often that we want to visit a funeral home. However, 13 Booragoon members and guests (President Steve, Tom, Kalyan, Christine, John T, Selwyn, Ernie and Wendy, Sue, Wendy C, Heather, Pauline and her daughter Cassandra) turned up last Tuesday night eager to see where Pauline Campbell toils.

We were warmly welcomed by boss Don Chipper, Pauline and staff members Nola, Jenny and Peter. We filled in a "family record of attendance" card, for the more pleasant than usual task of drawing the winner of a bottle of bubbly donated by Oakwood.

We then gathered in the waiting room and had drinks and a chat while waiting for the stragglers. Of course, Wendy Castles couldn't help herself, by making a few comments such as "I just saw a body out there" (referring to a Rotarian outside the window) and "I'm dead certain this is the right place". I found it annoying – she had pinched all the puns I was going to use. (In the end, however, I decided it was better that she got the blame for them, rather than me.)

Pauline took us on a tour of the home, starting with a display of some of the caskets and coffins. We learnt the difference – a casket is parallel-sided and a coffin is ... well, coffin-shaped.

There was a split-lid casket designed for viewing. It was padded and looked quite comfortable – that's probably a good thing, given the length of time the occupant will spend in it.

The coffins and caskets were interesting; it is now possible to order coffins with any sort of motif that is desired. There was even an Eagles coffin on the poster – attracting many unkind remarks about the high demand for them lately.

Next we saw the nerve centre, the office where each funeral is planned to ensure it has the necessary personnel, cars and the personal items of the correct deceased to place on the coffin .. all done on a wall chart rather than computer, it was good to note.

Pauline led us past an attractive indoor garden and pond to her office. Everyone ignored her instructions not to enter "because it was too untidy", but Don confided she had actually tidied it for our visit. It was interesting to note that as manager Pauline had an office larger than the nerve centre.

The cortege vehicles are housed in a huge garage – a dual cab hearse big enough to take 2-3 family members plus the coffin and a limousine able to carry nine mourners. Several boxes of tissues were thoughtfully placed around it.

The garage was also being used by Peter to cook our barbecue dinner. Fortunately, no-one was able to come up with puns about barbies and cremations.

Circuit completed, we filed into the chapel/viewing room where Pauline told us more about the business and her history and role in its operation. She also tried – unsuccessfully – to convince us this should take the place of the thumbnail sketch she has still not given at the club.

Pauline's presentation included a very interesting slide show of some noteworthy funerals conducted by the firm and its history. Don's family had a funeral home in Subiaco in the horse and buggy days and it has been a family business ever since.

After the drawing of the raffle (won by Heather) and an expression of thanks by Steve to Pauline, Don and the other Oakwood staff for looking after us so superbly, we sat down to the barbecue and sweets to die for (sorry!).

The evening was very interesting and highly enjoyable. I need to reiterate Steve's words in thanking Pauline, Don, Nola, Jenny and Peter for spending their own time, out of hours, to entertain and educate us; it was greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, I would like to share three observations shared by many of us: the efficient, compassionate and highly professional running of the firm; the passion for the job shown by all staff (Pauline's ambition to be an undertaker arose from her experiences when her mother died); and the staff's enjoyment of working as part of the "Oakwood Team". It was obvious they had great respect for each other and especially for Don. Many organisations, in the funeral industry and elsewhere, could learn a great deal from Oakwood Funeral Homes.

(The editor thanks John Tuffin for this report.)

Friendly fellows

Last Friday's club sundowner at Chez Feary proved to be a pleasant 2-3 hour interlude in a busy week for a baker's dozen of Booragoonian members and partners.

The host's inability to get the patio heater working (because, it turns out, it was out of gas!) meant everyone squeezed companionably around the kitchen table for a good natter and tasty range of BYO dishes.,

Friday Fellowship next month will be on 24 September. Willing hosts should notify President-Elect Wendy.

Club program

This week	Red Kite Foundation: Cathy Gregory
7 Sep	TBA
14 Sep	WA's Next Offshore Gas Giants: Vance Valades
17 Sep (Fri)	Group 1 Clubs Sundowner, Piney Lakes (6-8.30pm). BYO drinks and plate
21 Sep	Footy Fever: The view from an AFL Umpire
5 Oct	Four Way Test Speech Contest
19 Oct	Endeavour Scholarships Presentation
2 Nov	Melbourne Cup Fellowship

If you cannot attend a meeting, or are bringing a guest, notify Attendance Officer Ernie Littlely by 6pm on Monday. In the event of a late change, please advise Ernie as early as possible.

Duty committee

August	International Service
September	Vocational Service
October	New Generations
November	Community Service

The duty committee nominates the meeting chairman (preferably a week in advance), selects a host to greet guests and visitors, sets up the meeting room by 6pm on the night and then returns the items to storage afterwards. Keys to the storage cabinet are held by committee directors and the Attendance Officer.

Meeting set-up items:

- + Attendance Officer's cash box
- + National flag and club banner
- + President's rostrum and chain
- + "Home of the DG" banner
- + Sergeant's bell and mallet
- + Collection box and contents
- + Coin toss prize bottle of wine
- + Song books/display box
- + Dinner badges case
- + Pull-up banner

Swapmart roster

Aug 29	John Tuffin and Glynis Armstrong	Nov 28	Christine Feary and John Feary (proposed club stall)
Sep 5	Vida Scott and Wendy Castles	Dec 5	John Feary and Ednamay Foston
Sep 12	Tom Pearson and Kasun Wijayamanna	Dec 12	Ednamay Foston and Tom Pearson
Sep 19	Kasun Wijayamanna and Di Roberts	Dec 19	Tom Pearson and Sue McKay
Sep 26	Di Roberts and Adrian Sumana	Dec 25	Christmas Break
Oct 3	Adrian Sumana and Heather Anderson	Jan 2	Sue McKay and Jean McKinnon (market opening TBC)
Oct 10	Heather Anderson and Selwyn Castles	Jan 9	Jean McKinnon and Adrian Sumana
Oct 17	Selwyn Castles and Ednamay Foston		
Oct 24	Ednamay Foston and Steve Coady		
Oct 31	Wendy Castles and Glynis Armstrong		
Nov 7	Steve Coady and Pauline Campbell		
Nov 14	Pauline Campbell and John Elsbury		
Nov 21	John Elsbury and Christine Feary		

Note: If you cannot make it for your rostered day and need to swap, arrange it at a weekly meeting with someone further down the roster. Any problems, contact Tom Pearson on 9414 8224 or parkform@swiftdsl.com.au

AND FINALLY

Tommy's lines

Tommy Cooper was one of the greatest of UK comedians of the 20th century. His act was built around deliberately clumsy magic tricks (he was in fact a brilliant magician) interspersed by an unceasing stream of one-liners. Tragically, Cooper literally died on stage during a performance in 1983, winning a round of applause from the unknowing audience.

A selection of Tommy Cooper one-liners:

I saw a man stealing a gate. I didn't say anything, in case he took offence.

I arrived home, my wife was very upset. She said, "The dog ate your dinner." "That's all right," I said. "I'll buy you a new dog."

I backed a horse at 20 to 1. It finished at 20 past four. It was so late it tip-toed back to the stable.

Two blondes walk into a building. You'd think one of them would have seen it.

A woman tells her doctor, "I've got a bad back." The doctor says, "It's old age." The woman says, "I want a second opinion." The doctor says: "Okay - you're ugly as well."

I went into a French restaurant and asked the waiter, "Have you got frog's legs?" He said, "Yes." So I said, "Well, hop into the kitchen and get me a cheese sandwich."

I rang up a local building firm. I said, "I want a skip outside my house." He said, "I'm not stopping you."

www.brainyquote.com

