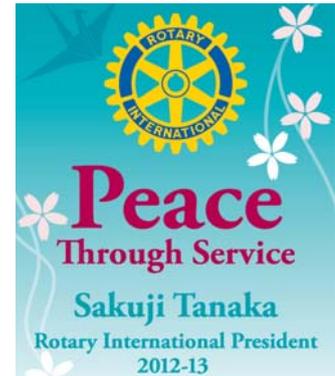


ARUNTA

29 August 2012



Rotary Club of Alice Springs - Meeting #2,548.
Thursday 30 August - Desert Lantern Restaurant. 18.30 for 19.00 Start

Directors – 2012-13

President: Andrew Lelliott **Vice president:** Neil Ross **Secretary:** Bruce Clough **Treasurer:** Catherine Maughan
President Elect: Mike Smith **Club Administration:** Mike Smith **IPP:** Eli Melky **Membership:** Jill Jansons
International service: Dennis Bielby **Sergeant:** J D Belanger **New generation:** Miranda Daniels **Community services:** Greg Teakle. **Foundation:** Zaphod Beeblebrox

PRESIDENTS WORD

Question? – Why is 73 a lovely number. Answer – because that was the percentage attendance at our most recent club dinner meeting. What a great night and our hosts were quickly able to accommodate the extra numbers.

First of all we congratulated our victorious Viking team who once again did us proud at this year's HoT. Dennis held the HoT cup high above his head, and this prompted the loud chant of 'GO VIKINGS', which we continued to hear at strategic times throughout the meeting.

Virginia Price was our guest speaker and she shared with us some of her personal experiences during the recent Japanese earthquake - some quite sobering and helps us put some of our own problems in perspective. I think what impressed me in particular was how the Japanese people, with their culture, managed the aftermath of the tragedy in what seemed quite an orderly way under the circumstances.

Now there's nothing like working with a professional that is good at his job. I dislike selling raffle tickets but I had quite a pleasant experience selling tickets at the Gillen Club with Greg Teakle who knows how to work his customers. In less than 30 minutes we made \$100 for the club and I enjoyed some tongue in cheek banter with the patrons.

And a big reminder that this week is Next week is our combined Rotary Clubs meeting on Thursday 30th August at the Red Lantern Restaurant. For this one you need to book with Secretary Bruce to ensure your spot. It is a mixed meeting and I am sure that this will be a great night of fellowship with our two sister Rotary Clubs.

YIR

Andrew Lelliott

President

CLUB ROSTER

Duties	This Week	Next Week	Week After
	30 August 12	5 September 12	12 September 12
Corporal	? combined meeting	Craig Johnson	Wilma Gibson
Introductions	? combined meeting	Coralie Boyd	Peter Schaefer
International toast	? combined meeting	Pieter Conradie	Vaughan Price
Chairperson	? combined meeting	Nancy Towner	Erwan Hebert
Greeter	? combined meeting	Damian Ryan	John Capper
Attendance	? combined meeting	Albert Wong	Albert Wong
Guest speaker	? combined meeting	Grant Gordino and Interact	TBA

If you are on the roster and cannot attend, please arrange with another member to fill in for you.

If you have any special topic you would like to hear a talk on, or you can assist by arranging an interesting speaker, please contact Dalton Dupuy or Peter Schaeffer or Wilma Gibson.

LAST WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

GUESTS

David Letheby, Lily and Amy Price (with Virginia Price, not with Vaughan).

Chris Dickson a Rotarian from Katherine

? a Rotarian from Freemantle.

ATTENDANCE

36 out of 49 = 73%.

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Mary Bielby had trouble reading the tiny print but managed to toast the Rotary Club of Dallas in Texas. It was started in 1911 and must have a lot of members as it has 17 board members. The president is Ben Casey. They meet at the Sheraton at lunch time on a Wednesday.

LAST WEEK'S RAFFLE

D Beilby

LAST WEEK'S HEADS AND TAILS

R Sellar

LAST WEEK IN PHOTOS.....



Guest speaker Virginia Price



3 happy little vegemites
Well, 2 little ones and one big one.

GUEST SPEAKER

Virginia Price was once a Rotary exchange student and now teaches Japanese at St Philips. She told us of her life in Sendai, Japan during the time of the Tsunami.

At ten to three on the eleventh of March 2011 a magnitude 9 earthquake struck. There were many aftershocks and despite it being the end of summer, it snowed. Virginia had a slide show which contrasted the minimal damage to earthquake proofed buildings to the total destruction of non earthquake proofed buildings.

Virginia was teaching at the time of the quake so she had to attend to her class before she could go and fetch her own children. Luckily their house was high on a hill and was unaffected by the tsunami. There was a power cut which caused further problems in that no one could get fuel for their cars or kerosene stoves or heaters.

Later on all school children in the affected area were issued with Geiger counters and had to stay indoors when readings were high. Sunflowers have been planted to try to absorb some of the radiation. Cotton has been planted to attempt to alleviate the excess soil salinity caused by the tsunami.

The slide show contained many scenes of devastation and showed that many Japanese are suffering many hardships. Virginia was unsure about the safety of the food due to radiation and this was her main reason for returning to Australia.

EDITORIAL

If you are like me you already have far too much reading to do – email, junk mail, magazines, papers, technical journals, real mail, Rotary Down Under, etc, etc. So what we put in the bulletin has to really justify another 5 minutes of your time. Your feedback might be helpful – would you prefer a 1 page bulletin (like Stuart Rotary Club)? Do you want more on what the board is doing? What do you want?

In the absence of any guidance (except no politics, religion, or anything that just might offend anyone) I ask where should our charitable efforts be concentrated?

Some say “charity begins at home” and “I prefer to give to a local cause”. Why would you prefer to give to help local people? Does it provide more satisfaction, does it seem as if less gets wasted or it is just selfishly wanting the town we live in to be better?

Some say give where the need is greatest. Who needs charity the most? First world people in Fukushima, flood victims in Bangladesh or civilians in Homs? A drunk? A leper? An orphan?

Some say give where it will do the most good. Where does your time or money do the most good? In education? peace studies? health care? the environment?

My choice is education, because I believe that knowledge and the ability to reason are necessary foundations for any person to be able to make their own way in the world. I will also suggest that a first world education will increase the chance that a person adopts what we might call civilised values eg acceptance that equality, democracy and the rule of law are good things. These are by no means universally accepted.

But if you choose a different charity, that is fine, you are still doing good and making the world a better place. If we all do a little, not even necessarily all that we can do, just a little bit more than nothing, then we have done good.

This article is probably being read by people who already give a lot more than just a bit of their time and money. What difference would it make if everyone else in the same financial, social and employment status as you, did as much for charity as you do?

I get more out of Rotary than I put in to it. Spread the word.

UPCOMING EVENTS

When	What	How
Every week	Send the Sergeant a fine at jdbelanger1@gmail.com or bring a witty cross fine	Think about it
16 September	Assante Sana require help with car parking at Ormiston	Contact Dalton
19 September	Membership drive night	Please bring a potential member
10 October	Vocational night at School of the Air	Come along

KNOW YOUR MEMBER

Each week we profile one member of the club. With over 40 members, we should have about a years' worth of "Know Your Member".

1. Name: Albert Wong
2. Nickname: Mr Wong
3. Occupation: Finance
4. How many children: 2
5. Why do you remain in Rotary: To quietly serve the community
6. Person you would most like to meet: My mother in Hong Kong
7. If you had to donate \$10,000 to charity, who would you give it to: Wold Vision
8. Place you would most like to visit: Korea (South)
9. Favourite book/author: Bible
10. Favourite drink: Ginger beer
11. Favourite meal: Korean food
12. Favourite movie: Autumn Tale
13. Favourite music: Christian
14. Sports team you support: Roger Federer (tennis)
15. Sell yourself to us in 20 words: Introvert to work systematically, analytically and attentively to get things done.

Do we have an aspiring cartoonist in the club? The reason that I ask, is that a caricature or a portrait of the relevant member, would be the perfect accompaniment to the "know your member" details.



Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned

ROTARY GRACE

For good food, good fellowship and the opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks, O Lord.

APOLOGIES

Please be aware that by not registering an apology you leave the club liable for extra dinner fees. Our attendance officers are required to provide Alice in the Territory with accurate figures of how many will be attending our meeting at 10 am on the morning of our meeting. Please extend your courtesy to our attendance officers by emailing an apology if you will not be in attendance.

Please do it via our website www.alicespringsrotary.org

Please do this before 9.00 am day of meeting.

Rotary Club of Alice Springs - District 9500 Awards:

Jack Turner Weekly Bulletin Award 2001

Colin Brideson History Award 2003

Bob Perryman RI Foundation Award 2005 & 2006

ARHRF Perpetual Trophy 2006

Merv Croxton Award for Best Overall Rotary Club 2006 & 2007

Roly Day Best Project Award 2009 (and we still have the trophy in 2012).