

THORNIE WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PO Box 84, THORNIE WA 6988

Meeting: 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm Tuesday at the Gosnells Golf Club,
Warton Road Thornie –

Apologies to Mike Raspa 9452 0158 by 10 am Tuesday

Pres. Mike Raspa (H) 9452 0158
 Pres Elect. Andy Hopper (M) 0409 099 941 (H) 9459 1627
 Secretary. Doug Parker (W) 9486 2122 (M) 0419909179

2006 – 2007

12th June 2007

<http://www.thornie-rotary.com>

Next Week 19th June	<p>The meeting opened with our usual eisteddfod of song. Bolstered by Ron Bradborns' return to the chorus we again have singing in "rounds". The beer barrel polka sounded like we had already drunk it.</p> <p>President Mike discovered penultimate and then quickly lost it again. He had no announcements and passed around the changeover attendance list. Chairman Geoff Wiltshire then welcomed our guest speaker Peter Birch.</p> <p>Ron Sloan addressed the meeting and at the outset confirmed that the subject and substance of his announcements has been confirmed. Ron noted that Rotary International has mandated that a District must have 30 clubs or 1000 members. Our district 9470 currently has around 800 members and the other two districts just over 1000 each.</p> <p>The two other districts had proposed that if by the 30th June 2007 any district had not reached 1000 members then that district should be absorbed into the two remaining districts. The ruling from Rotary International made it very clear that the 31st December 2007 is in fact the final date for achievement of the membership target and that this date should be adhered to.</p> <p>President Mike thanked Ron for his efforts on behalf of the club.</p> <p>Pres Mike was feeling lost and lonely as he had no correspondence.</p>	Week After 26th June
<p>Attendance Bevan Baskerville Craig Jennings</p> <p>Fellowship Ron Bradborn</p> <p>Property Ron Bradock Colin Waters</p> <p>Chairman Ted Evans</p> <p>Response Frank Keays</p> <p>Bring-N-Buy 17th June Ron & Yvonne Bradock Ross Evans John Mitchell Ted Evans</p> <p>Bulletin Editor John Stockbridge</p>	<p>Meeting Cancelled</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Fellowship</p> <p>Property</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Bring-N-Buy 24th June Lew & Wendy Doug & Anet John Stockbridge</p> <p>Bulletin Editor John Stockbridge</p>	
<p>This Coming Weeks Guest Speaker</p>	<p>Fairholme Disability Support Group Bevan Dellar & Loraine Notley</p>	

Doug Parker broke his run of ducks by actually having an announcement, which he had to preface by reminding the club that the eagles lost. Doug spent last Tuesday night down at Donneybrook with Ian and Lorraine Archibald. Ian has not apparently lost any of his red wine quaffing skills and Lorraine and Ian both send all members of the club their best regards.

Pres Mike announced that we had our changeover Board Meeting on Monday night, which was well attended. Despite the amount of alcohol available some work was actually done. The food was excellent and the Vale Chinese restaurant is highly recommended.

International Frank had some bad news in that his replacement for next year is on leave until August, so he will still be looking after International. Is that bad news for you or for us Frank??? Frank is still keen on the club collecting stamps.

Community Ron had nothing.

Vocational Ted was also bereft.

New Generations Ron announced that the club is sponsoring two students from Yale Primary to attend the Crocfest in Alice Springs.

Pres Elect Andy announced the Bring n Buy result for last week as \$1745. John Mitchell has fixed the toilet (something to do with spring rising). Andy also said that we should be watching the Bring n Buyers and the bays they use as the space they are taking up is encroaching onto the driving areas.

Members should note that with the new caterers (and the excellent food) members **will have to pay for meals** that have been ordered where members fail to advise the President Elect that they won't be in attendance.

Sgt Lew and Lance Corporal Vin ran the fines session on:

- Ray Smith for the song.
- Anyone not wearing a tie (not a good move fining the bulletin editor. Next weeks edition will be totally devoted to Lew)
- Bernie O'Dea was deemed to be personally responsible for Paris Hilton
- Wayne Brower for buying a new telephone
- Craig Jennings for attending his first meeting as a Rotarian
- All those who went to the joint Board Meeting at the Vale restaurant
- John Mitchell for unauthorized modification of the rope at Bring n Buy
- Doug Parker as the Space Station has docked with the Shuttle and Doug can't even organize name badges
- Doug Parker for now supporting the Kookaburras (rescuing a trapped Kookaburra on Ian
- Vic Rich for drinking squash and only having one sweet.
- Ron Bradborne for visiting Cue
- President Mike for criticizing 4 wheel drives

Wayne Brouwer fined the Sergeant because he has to now buy his own phone, car, fuel, insurance. Welcome to the real world Sergeant.

Pres Mike then heaped praise on the current and next two Sergeants in Colin Waters and John Stockbridge. Sucking up to Sergeants won't save you Mike.

Host Chairman Geoff introduced Peter Birch who was the deputy director at the Perth Observatory for 20 years and specialises in solar system astronomy and in particular comets. Peter is also secretary of the Jayco caravan

club.

Peter reminded the club that he is an astronomer, not an astrologer. Peter then took us on a journey of getting up to date on astronomy. Astronomers really don't know how many stars there are in the universe which is huge and we don't really know how big it is.

Peter started our journey at the sun and showed us how the Earth moves into the gas from solar flares that are seen on Earth as auroras. Peter then showed us Mercury and moved out from there.

Radar technology has reached such sophistication that we can now map the surface of Venus.

The size of the moon can change in apparent size. Vic Rich has apparently seen the moon in several different sizes over the last 24 hours.

Peter talked about Mars and stated that it was the only planet in the solar system that the human race could go to if it had to. There are currently two robots rolling around on Mars. (R2D2 and R3PO)

Peter then highlighted the reasons that Pluto was demoted to a dwarf planet (Mickey Mouse was not impressed). There are other bodies in the same orbit as Pluto in the Kyper Belt that are the same size as Pluto.

Peter showed us some great photos of comets which are balls of frozen waster and dust. Peter had some amazing photos of Comet Halley in 1986. Peter showed us some photos of Nasa's project of crashing a spacecraft into a comet.

Peter closed his talk with an overview of the current astronomical facilities in Australia, the rest of the world and the space telescopes.

The members were enthused enough to ask questions on what was a very interesting talk.

Ross Evans gave the vote of thanks and mentioned that most Rotarians lie in bed at night and think about the things that affect them except for Peter who still thinks about the stars.

Ron Bradborn mentioned that he sees stars on a fairly regular basis if he is lucky enough to topple backwards after a night out instead of on his face.

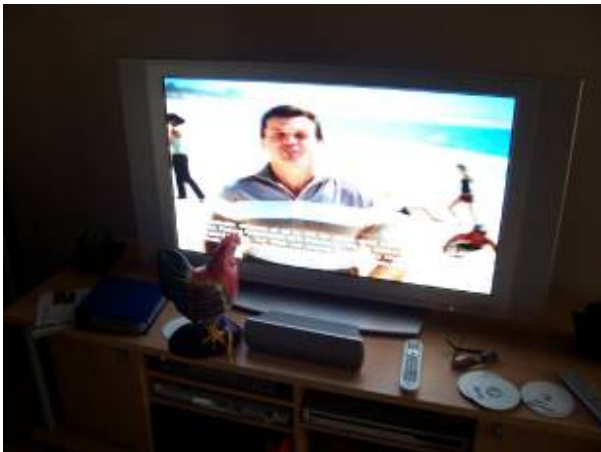
Pres Mike then thanked Peter on behalf of the club and closed the meeting.

The Chook

For those of us in the know, Sergeant Lew awarded your worthy bulletin editor custody of the chook for the month of June. Whilst some Rotarians seem to view this as some sort of penance, with no doubt the Chook hidden from view in some private part of the house, in the Stockbridge house, things are a little different.

As he is obviously a West Coast Eagles supporter, Chickie, as he has become affectionately known has quickly made himself at home as the following photos can attest.

Chickie likes nothing better than to watch some of his favourite TV. He gets up close and personal with the big screen.



Followed by a relaxing glass of red in the back garden. At least this time he knows he's not going to be the main attraction at dinner but one of the guests.



And then a sociable dinner for two with his new best friend "Rusty". Better watch out Rusty, Chickie will pounce if he gets the chance.



Chickie has confided in me that he wishes that he could stay with us forever, but he realises that like any good Rotarian he has to spread the love around.