

| Date | 20th March | 27th March | 3rd April | 10th April |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Speaker | David Heuberger | Dave Dafonte | Informal Dinner downstairs at the London Tavern | The Revd Ray McInnes |
| Topic | My Asian Experience | Stamps Bring your collectables! | Passover | All about Easter |
| Chair | Marilyn Faiman | Sue Aarons | N/A | Berndt Nolle |
| Toast to Australia | Ros Michelson | PP David Nettelbeck | N/A | Robert Alford |
| Toast to Club | Keith Faiman | PP Max Sherlock | N/A | PP Max Sherlock |
| 3 Minute Talk | New Generations | Community | N/A | Vocational |
| Cashier \$\$\$ | PP Max Sherlock | Joe Aarons | N/A | PP David Nettelbeck |
| Other meetings | Breakfast Review | Board | | |

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 24th April: GSE Farewell Dinner at Kooyong Tennis Club. Tickets available soon. Cost \$45. Our normal club meeting is moved there for this night.

Movie Nights are back! A date will be confirmed shortly for our club's popular movie night's at Elsternwick's Classic Cinema.



Featuring Melbourne's sexiest Rotary etiquette column

The Glen Eira Bulletin

Issue 31
20th March 2007



What a breakfast!

Group leaves for Ogaki-West

Youth Exchange 8 years on

Rotary
Club of
Glen Eira

March is Rotary
World Literacy
Month

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EDITOR'S CORNER

Send articles, photos, information to the Editor at adrian@nelsonbros.com.au. Deadline is Sunday night for Tuesday publication.



We're on the web! Go to rotarygleneira.org.au

Editorial.

On Sunday, some adventurous Rotarians from our club left for Japan to celebrate the 45th anniversary of our sister club, the Rotary Club of Ogaki-West. Last week's breakfast was another big hit. Usually controversial Andrew Bolt seemed to have a sympathetic audience for once; a reflection of the radical views of Rotarians perhaps? Over the next month, members of our club will respect some religious holidays, including Passover and Easter. With other members overseas as well, all members should try to come as much as they can within these constraints. For members of different faiths, it is an excellent opportunity to learn more about each other.

Rotary etiquette: Your questions answered**Q: Dear Auntie, my wife has to leave the chooks at home whilst we're in Japan. How should we look after them? GA**

A: Dear GA, cats go to a cattery, can chooks go to a chookery? I'm sure you can find a friendly neighbour who would love to cosy up to one of your pets in your absence. Just avoid the Colonel next door and his seven secret herbs and spices.

E-mail your Rotary etiquette questions to the editor to pass onto Auntie Etiquette.

Businessperson's Breakfast

Well done to Max Sherlock and the breakfast team for last Friday's successful breakfast with Andrew Bolt! Nearly 200 attendees began to understand the difference between good and evil. Who will be next year's guest speaker?



DG Bernie Walshe & Andrew Bolt

Our club's past exchange student Paul Oliphant speaks at District Conference

Rotarians, Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for having me here today. I have never been to Canberra before, so it's a privilege to be asked.

My name is Paul Oliphant. I am 26 years old and I live in Melbourne with my wife, Kenia

In 1998 I applied, and was selected to spend a year in Brazil as a Rotary Exchange student. That changed my life forever.

You see, at that time in 1998, life was a lot tougher for me than it is now.

I came from a single parent family of seven kids. My family lived in a housing commission home and my mother relied on a government pension to support us. So, financially, it was just not feasible for me to go overseas.

However When I went to the Rotary Club of Glen Eira, things started to happen. Funny thing is I remember it like yesterday. I was the last person to be interviewed. I came by myself and I was dressed in torn jeans and an old T-shirt. The Rotarians could see that I was on a financial 'mission impossible', but nevertheless must have seen something and finally chose me to represent their club. That meant the world to me They believed in me enough to take a really big chance on me.

The next 6 months were frantic. I attended Glen Eira Rotary meetings and I worked two jobs ... as a chemist delivery boy and as a dishwasher. This was done in order to contribute to the cost of sending me overseas and, together with Rotary's help, I managed to achieve my dream.

In 1999 I spent a year at Luz, a small country town in Brazil. I had three great host families, made lifelong friends and felt that I could achieve anything. I guess all you need sometimes in life is for someone to believe in you.

Arriving back in Melbourne, I was really focused ... finished secondary school with better-than-expected marks and got into university with a scholarship. I studied International Trade and, on graduating in 2003, joined the Toll Group. After three years with Toll I joined Pacific National as a Train Controller, which involves the overall planning for train movements. Since 1999 I have returned to Brazil 7 times. In 2004 I met Kenia over there and we married. In 2005, after completing visa formalities Kenia arrived ... firstly, as my beautiful wife ... and secondly, as living proof of how Youth Exchange can change lives ... forever.

I guess my role here is to hammer home a few points to an important audience. Youth Exchange is a great Rotary program. Let's talk real ... sometimes you can get a bad apple and you feel that it is not worth the effort. Persevere ... the rewards are fantastic, the relationships long-lasting. This is not an 'instant gratification Rotary program', it requires real commitment. It changes lives and I'm just one example. I will never forget where I came from. My roots are important because they define who I am. But I will also never forget Rotary Youth Exchange and somehow, some way I'm going to return the favour to Rotary. Thank you so much for listening to my story