

Date	15th May	22nd May	29th May	5th June
Speaker	David Spitteler	Brendan Gulliver	TBA	TBA
Topic	Asylum Seekers Resource Centre	Author Australian History	TBA	TBA
Chair	Marian Dimand	Joe Aarons	Jan Hill	PP John Leske
Toast to Australia	David Bendel	Marilyn Faiman	Sue Aarons	Veronika Martens
Toast to Club	Jack Dimand	Syd Travitz	Robert Alford	PP John Strong
3 Minute Talk	New Generations	Vocational	Community	
Cashier \$\$\$	Ros Michelson	PP Geoff Asher	PP John Strong	Robert Alford
Other meetings	Board			

Mark your Diaries

Changeover Night

Tuesday 26th June. President Elect David takes the chains of office. More information to follow closer to the date

Dinner with Rotary International President Bill Boyd

Saturday 2nd June. 6.30 for 7pm at Moonlight Receptions, 622 Nicholson Street, North Fitzroy. \$60 per person. For further information contact Jan Douglas, RC Altona City (see District Directory)

THE GEN

Issue 37

rotarygleneira.org.au

15th May 2007

District Conference Dutch Style



Inside this week: Behind a Rotarian

May is Australian Rotary Health Research Month

Rotary Club of Glen Eira



GLEN EIRA

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.

The GEN continues from Holland (please e-mail if you want something else to appear!). Our blog continues to be updated: www.d9800gse.blogspot.com/ This week the GSE team moved to a different region, visiting Europe's largest steel mill, a 13th century castle, the Franz Hals museum (for all you art fans) and the European Space Centre. The program has certainly been varied. District Conference was held on Saturday and yesterday we visited the Hague. I will have a new Dutch Rotary pin to bring back and show you all.

Rotary etiquette: Your questions answered**Q: Auntie, our District Conference was in Canberra this year. What is District Conference like in other parts of the world? DN**

A: Dear DN, surprisingly enough this week a District Conference was held for District 1580 in the Netherlands. Where our conference traditionally goes for 2 or 3 nights and is held outside of our District (either in country Victoria or interstate), the District Conference for District 1580 is substantially different. Starting at 9am sharp on Saturday morning, the conference was finished by lunchtime! Held at the Amsterdam Arena (a 52,000 seat stadium with a retractable roof—thing Telstra Dome), the conference was opened by the District Governor, followed by a short 10 minute video about a football program for intellectually disabled children. The GSE Team from District 9800 then presented on the field with the powerpoint presentation (including photos of Louise & Harry Nelson!) shown on the two giant video scoreboards. After coffee, there were 2 excellent guest speakers, trendspotters talking about the future, and the RI President's representative from the Ukraine. Then it was all over—much different to our District.

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

**Behind the Rotarian:
Jan Brabander**

We often apply lip service to what makes a good Rotarian. This week the editor is staying in the town of Hoofdorp with the winner of the Rotary Service Above Self Award, an award presented annually by the Rotary International President to a handful of Rotarians. This is the story of Jan Brabander.....

Jan has eight sisters and five brothers. In a family of 14 children, he married his wife Coby, a single child, 45 years ago. They now have six children and 10 grandchildren, with one of his youngest twins living in country NSW with his family. Aged 71, he was the manager of a number of nursing homes in the Amsterdam and west Holland region. Today he and Coby remain incredibly active.

This week, our editor/foreign correspondent is staying with Jan and Coby. Today is the newsletter editor of the Rotary Club of Zaandvort and the chauffeur for a week for the visiting Australian GSE team. They are leaders in their local church.

In the last ten years, his commitment to international projects has been extraordinary in Africa and South America. In the city of Damongo in the northwest of Ghana, he hand-built the Gonja hospital. Elsewhere in Ghana, he changed the life of a young disabled man, helping him create a factory making t-shirts. This factory gave the disabled man a career, 3 women a job, and altered their lives forever. He also assisted 30 blind people, giving them a farm with goats, chickens, sheep, fencing and a shed for the sheep. Over several trips to Ghana, he also made water pits and hosing to assist with drought.

In Argentina, his brother was a priest working in the north eastern part of the country in the town of Jujuy. In nearby Puerto Iguazu, Jan built a nursing home, a hospital kitchen and a launderette full with washing machines, irons and dryers. He provided the hospital with a lot of bandages, medicines, more than 55 wheelchairs, artificial limbs, and later on a motorized wheelchair for the local assistant in Iguazu who had no legs. Coby and Jan were both made honorary members of the village of Iguazu after this project. Needless to say, they are both Paul Harris Fellows (even though Coby is not a Rotarian) and Jan was recognized by the World President of Rotary International for his commitment to service above self. They are great Rotarians.

Belated thanks for the Film Night

Thanks to Marilyn Faiman and Sue Aarons who so much to set up a very pleasant film night for the club a couple of weeks ago. As always, it was a low key but happy time of fellowship and the service at Sinatra's seems to have marginally improved for those who took the risk. The profit was about \$250 which will go towards the garden project at Clarence Court.