



It is the Australia Day weekend, so in the spirit of fellowship we share the weeks ahead...

	Jan 29	Feb 5	Feb Coming up	Feb 26
Speaker	Ashley Rosshandler	David Nettelbeck	Cemetery Tour	Joint Cluster GSE WELCOME DINNER
Topic	Karma Currency	Out Of Africa	Brighton Cemetery	Brighton area
Chair	Sue Aarons	Keith Faiman	Approx \$15	Details following
Toast to Club	Joseph Aarons	Marilyn Faiman	More details following	All Clubs in our Cluster are participating
Toast to Australia	Marian Faiman	Larry Blode		
Job Talk / Committee	BOARD MEETING			
Cashier	Jan Hill	Sam Binstock		

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Please latest
12pm Tuesday

THE GEN

Bulletin

Rotary Club of Glen Eira

29th January, 2008 - Week 31

www.rotarygleneira.org.au — Meets at: London Tavern,
414 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield TUESDAYS @ 6.45pm



"Rotary Does Good in the World."

INSIDE:

- In love with Polar Bears?
- Some facts and some fun



- Karma currency details
- Still time to conference
- New badges and Rotary convention

TONIGHT

Ashley Rosshandler

karma currency

Do you have unwanted gifts? Vouchers?

The charity that explains all this

The **karma currency foundation** is a national, independent, charitable non-for-profit that seeks to revitalize the philanthropic landscape in Australia. karma currency is a registered charity that has deductible gift recipient status and income tax exempt status approved by the Australian Tax Office.

our vision

Our vision is to change the world! Well... maybe not the whole world. But certainly some of it! Through connecting people with the charities and causes that are closest to their hearts (whether it be starving children in Africa or a soup kitchen down the street) we hope to make charitable acts part of our everyday lives. **what we do.** Instead of giving platters, socks, photo frames and other useless gifts our initiative allows companies and individuals to give the gift of Charity Gift Vouchers. This Charitable voucher can be sent to families or friends, customers or colleagues, empowering them to give the donation to the charities they care about most. In short; our aim is to make karma currency the most soulful, meaningful, environmentally friendly and enjoyable gift you can give. The gift that 'spreads the love'. Karma currency's board sets policy and strategic goals that guide karma currency's operations.

Ashley Rosshandler - Founder and Director

Working in advertising and selling 2-minute-noodles left Ashley feeling a little low on good karma. But one day, when invited to an engagement party, Ashley and his wife wondered if it would be nice to give the happy couple a 'goat' in Africa. But what if they weren't into goats? Maybe they were into saving forests, or rescuing animals, or finding cures or education or the arts or any number of worthwhile causes? That's when the idea dawned on them for Charity Gift Vouchers. And they haven't looked back since! In his spare time Ashley sits on the board of DepressioNet, studies for an MBA at Monash and can be seen kicking and screaming whilst being dragged to gym by his wife at 6am.

Phillip Aarons - Secretary

Philip Aarons graduated from Monash University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Economics (including a major in Accounting). Since graduating he has concentrated his career in the Financial Services industry working for Arthur Andersen Consulting followed by ANZ. Philip is currently employed by NAB (nabCapital) after joining the organisation in 1998. Whilst qualified in Accounting, Philip has focused on Information Technology. Philip is a qualified CPA, Centre of Excellence in Information Technology. He is also a registered Tax Agent. Philip is in his very early forties, is married with two children and lives in Melbourne and sometimes out on Port Philip Bay on his jet ski our philosophy

We believe that "what goes around comes around". If we look after our staff - they will look after us. If we support other charities - they will support us. If we hero our Corporate Sponsors - they will hero us. It's really that simple.our inspiration

Each year over \$1 billion is wasted on unwanted gifts that end up in the closet, in storage and ultimately in landfill. But imagine a gift that could save a child, protect a forest, find a cure, educate a mind, aid the arts, spur on spirituality or perform countless other wonderful acts. Well we have come up with such a gift and it's called Karma Currency - Australia's first Charity Gift Certificate. See website with further details www.karmacurrency.com.au.

Rotarians are encouraged to use **THE GEN** as a means of sharing information about Rotary, coming events and news. Your item can be emailed to the editor: david.heuberger@anz.com Preferred deadline Friday 5pm.

THE POLAR BEAR

The polar bear's Latin name, **Ursus maritimus**, literally means "sea bear" and refers to the animal's close association with the Arctic waters. The polar bear, which spends as much time in the ocean as it does on land, is considered to be a marine mammal. Polar bears are excellent swimmers, and whilst the limit of their endurance has not been tested, they have been known to swim non-stop for up to 60 miles and reach speeds up to 6 miles per hour. To assist them with this aquatic feat, the polar bear has large partially webbed forepaws measuring up to 30 cm in diameter. These paws are as remarkable on land as they are in the water, for the soles contain specialised vacuoles, known as papillae, which act similarly to suction cups and enable the bear to move upon the surface of an ice flow without slipping. When the ice is particularly thin, these bears crawl on their bellies, evenly distributing their weight, and hence avoid falling through the ice. **Distribution, Population and Range:** The current global population of polar bears is estimated between 22 - 27 000 bears, residing in 19 discrete populations across Alaska, Canada, Russia, Greenland and Norway. Generally believed to be a nomadic species, averaging over 6000 km a year, research has shown that polar bears do in fact have a describable home range. Far greater than the range of any other species of bear, it is believed that it may extend to an area twice the size of Iceland! The size of this range is dependent upon the availability of food, with overlapping ranges occurring in seal abundant regions. Once weaned, sub-adult bears have been noted to travel up to 1000 km away from their mother in order to establish an independent home range.

Physical Characteristics: Despite appearing to be white in actual fact the polar bear's fur is not. Each hair shaft is pigment-free and transparent with a hollow core. Polar bears look white because the hollow core scatters and reflects visible light, in a similar manner to ice and snow. Polar bears often appear to turn a yellowish hue as they age and some have even been noted to turn green. When the hairs are examined closely microscopic algae have been identified as growing inside the hair shaft. When photographed with film sensitive to ultraviolet light, they appear black. *(The Editor likes Polar Bears and wanted to share the fun!)*

New Name Badges and Rotary Convention

As you may be aware our Club will be replacing existing name badges with a new up to date look. As such the Board has discussed and agreed to abide by Rotary convention with regards to how names are placed on these badges. As per convention, titles (eg Dr. Prof etc) and honorifics (Australian honours) will not be placed on name badges. Rotary has the intrinsic belief that all members are equal and as such the Board has decided that we continue with this practice.

Our Club is very proud of the various occupations held by our members and their exemplary service to our community at large. We love "Service Above Self."

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Pumping iron for Rotary. Looking good, getting fit, having fun. But this is **NOT** the Editor!

CLUB FORUM:

Last week we had our Forum. The main focus will be to ensure our Club begins planning to run 3 major projects each year. We look forward to the active participation as we contribute to our community.