



# The Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook

## Club Bulletin

Volume 25

Issue No. 16, 14 November 2011

### Monday 14 November

Guest Speaker - Dominic Perrottet - State Member for Castle Hill

### Monday 21 November

Guest Speaker - David Chambers, Regional Controller SES.

### Monday 28 November

Schools Four Way Speaking Competition

### Duty Roster

Next Meeting Monday 14 November 2011		Following Meeting – 21 November	
<b>Chairman</b>	Rob Hamer	<b>Chairman</b>	Colin McGowan
<b>Night Reporter</b>	Tim Bowland	<b>Night Reporter</b>	John Russell
<b>Front Desk</b>	Graham Evans	<b>Front Desk</b>	Larry Jacka
<b>Front Desk</b>	Michael Moroney	<b>Front Desk</b>	Michael Moroney
<b>Steward</b>	Tony Makin	<b>Steward</b>	Rod Crossweller
<b>Steward</b>	Graham Cuthbertson	<b>Steward</b>	Sandy Burrage
<b>Photographers</b>	Ross Ballinger/Steve Baker	<b>Photographers</b>	Ross Ballinger/Steve Baker

### Inside This Issue

President's Report	Notice of AGM	"Getting To Know You"
Notes from Last Meeting	RYDA	Youth Exchange Xmas Party
District Annual Conference March 2012	Birthdays, Anniversaries and Humour	Family of the Week and Club Programs

### Upcoming Events

#### Saturday 26 November

Bunnings BBQ  
Organizer: Barry Lambert

#### Monday 5 December

Annual General Meeting

#### Sunday 27 November

Christmas lunch - Castle Hill Country Club

#### Friday 16 December

Youth Exchange Xmas Party – Hunters Hill Sailing Club

### Meetings

Monday 6.30pm for 7.00pm – Springfield House – 245 New Line Road, Dural

<http://www.wphcrotary.org>

Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Inc. PO Box 103 West Pennant Hills 2125 Australia

**APOLOGIES:** If you are unable to attend or are bringing a guest (even if they are your partner) you must book them in.

Phone **9439 1422** or email [dturnbull@lhogroup.com.au](mailto:dturnbull@lhogroup.com.au) **before 11am** on the day of the meeting.

## President's Report – 7 November 2011



What a great night we had at our Youth Night with around 50 members, partners and guests attending.

A special thank you to the Partners who came to listen to Louise's presentation. Youth and Youth Exchange is one of the cornerstones of the Club. Well done to our Youth Director, Rosemary Clarke.

Most of the members were dressed in red and white as requested by Louise. Alison Bowland added the finishing touches with red and white flower decorations on each table. The meal was Danish meatballs with brown gravy and vegetables.

It was good to see prospective members John Fletcher and Ian Roberts haven't been frightened away yet. Ian was accompanied by his wife Jeanette. I understand he is having a shoulder reconstruction done later this month. We wish him well for that. No doubt plenty of TLC from Jeanette will

speed up recovery.

Doug Lam was "picked on" at random to give a 5 minute presentation on himself and his family. Doug is the third one I have "picked on" now (Channa and Max previously). See this very interesting expose' later in this Bulletin.

Our keynote speaker was our own Louise who gave a very interesting and informative presentation on her family and life back home in Denmark. Our Night Reporter has covered it well in his report.

Caitlin Gilchrest, our Outbound Student to Spain addressed us again. She will do us proud. We will be presenting Caitlin with her Blazer at our December 12 Meeting. Peter Rugg, our Year 11 National Youth and Science Forum candidate is heading to ANU in January for the 12 day program and he told us of his excitement about that. We look forward to hearing what he has to say on his return visit.

We are currently asking for Nominations for Directors for the 2012-13 Board so they can be presented to the AGM on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those existing Directors who have offered themselves for re election. Please speak to me if you are interested or to Bob Davison our President Elect. Bob will be back on deck next week. Club Secretary Barry Lambert has Nomination Forms if you would like one.

It is important that every member, if he can, offers himself for a Directors role in the Club at some point in time. We all need to share that responsibility. Boards need a combination of experience and fresh talent to be effective. Please step up to the plate with this challenge.

Next week Rob Hamer has arranged for the MP for the Hills, Dominic Perrottet to address us. Dominic took over the seat from Bruce Richardson who held it for 17 years. Dominic was a lawyer with Henry Davis York before entering Parliament last year. He makes Doug Lams siblings look modest (at 10 brothers and sisters) because he is one of 13 children.

Carol Russell is finalising numbers for our Christmas lunch at the Castle Hill Country Club on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November so please contact her if you are attending. This is usually one of our two biggest turnouts of the year.

## Night Report

The evening was a designated Youth Night. President Colin introduced our guests which included:

- Peter Rugg, our candidate for the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) and his parents Nick & Julie.
- Our outbound exchange student Caitlyn who was accompanied by her parents & brother ( Mark, Megan & Liam )
- Our current inbound exchange student Louise Lastein (pronounced as in “shine” rather than “keen”, though both terms fit her well!)
- Paul Wynn, the current District Chairman of “New Generations”
- Sue & Ray Rice who are Louise’s country co-ordinators
- Prospective members Ian Roberts (& his wife Jeanette) & John Fletcher & a number of partners.

President Colin then asked Douglas Lam to give a short talk about himself.

Douglas has nine siblings and spent much of his early life in Hong Kong before finishing his education in London, where he met his Finnish wife Kia. He has a son who works in IT & a daughter who works in a media role with the NSW government. His passions are Wine & Coffee.

He spoke to the club about coffee a few months ago and opened many of our eyes to some of the secrets of making and telling good coffee. (His nose for wine is remarkable. He gives us his opinion of the wines we sell to members each year).

Paul Wynn was then introduced and said that support from Clubs like ourselves kept the District Youth Exchange program strong – this program sees approx 25 outbound & 25 inbound students each year go to & come from a wide range of countries, & includes the various youth programs such as RYPEN, RYLA & NYSF. He observed that clubs that heavily supported Youth were, in the main, livelier & more buoyant – so it was a beneficial two way process.

Rob Hamer then gave a brief report as Club Service Director. He reminded members that the District Convention next year was “Going for Gold at the Gong”.

He has block-booked a number of rooms but has only had confirmations from 3 couples. The club normally musters 20 to 30 members & partners & has the main fancy dress prize to defend after our stirring effort as “Kenny” last year.

He also indicated that he would be putting Order forms in the Bulletin next week to follow up last week’s wine tasting. The wine sale is an important source of funds for running the club and support from members is really appreciated. A range of 5 optional labels are available with illustrations from this year’s Schools Art Competition.

Caitlyn Gilchrist then spoke about how excited she is to be going on exchange to Spain. Apparently it is the first time a student from our district has been sent to Spain.

Caitlyn indicated she is going to Trescantos ( “three trees”) which is some 20km north of Madrid. She has already been in contact with her first host family whose daughter is already on exchange & whose son will be in her class at school. As is the way these days she has already been in contact with the family through the social media. Caitlyn again thanked the club for their support. Caitlyn was our RYPEN candidate 3 years ago.

Peter, our candidate for NYSF, told us that it is held in Canberra over a two week period in January. It is organised through the local universities & includes a wide range of visits & workshops. From talking to

past attendees he believes it will be extremely helpful in helping him to choose future educational & career paths. His interest is in biological science. It has been arranged for him to billet 2 other candidates & take them to Canberra. Peter also thanked the club for their support.

Both Caitlyn & Peter have already been involved in various activities of community service.

Rosemary Clarke, our Youth (New Generations) Director then told us that Tom, whom we all know well from his work at Springfield, had reluctantly withdrawn as our candidate for the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) as he had been accepted by the Defence Force Academy. Rosemary said the club wished him well in his chosen career & said we had another potential candidate for RYLA.

She mentioned that Brittany Bickford, our outbound student, was going well in Denmark & that her October report would be posted on the club website shortly.

Finally she reminded members who had volunteered that the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness was coming up on 1st & 2nd December.

Rosemary then introduced Louise Lastein (pronounced as in "shine" or "wine").

Louise has settled into the club well & has already picked up a lot of 'Australianisms' but we have been much slower to even get the pronouncement of her name right!

Louise gave an interesting and very accomplished presentation. The first section covered Denmark. To get its size & population compared with Australia into context, a couple of things struck home. That in area Denmark is half the size of Tasmania. In population numbers they have 5.5million vs. our 22million but, if our densities were comparable, then either Denmark would have a population of 120,000 or we would have a population of a staggering 983m!!!

The weather may not be quite as cold as Northern Scandinavia but it still has plenty of snow & temperatures of -10 degrees & a 'hottish' summer day is low to mid 20s. Denmark has an ancient history. It once covered half of Sweden and much of Norway as well as some of Northern Germany and was home to the Vikings, a ferocious seafaring people who raided far and wide & colonised Greenland, which is still part of Denmark today. They also have the oldest monarchy in the world.

Louise has a largish family with five brothers & sisters. She is the second oldest child & daughter. Her Dad is a pilot but it was her mother whose determination came across in the talk. She trained as a helicopter pilot, gave lessons to build up her hours and graduated to larger helicopters. After losing her first small helicopter she then worked for another company before starting her own company. Squeezed out of that company by her partners, she returned to paid flying then started up her own company again and has built up a fleet of 6 helicopters. Obviously a very determined woman! Her dad, who flies 737's, is also entrepreneurial & is starting his own company.

Louise's schooling has been quite varied. After attending a local school for the earlier part of her education in Helstad she attended a boarding school last year. It appeared to be what we would call "a Sports High" and she played handball 5 to 6 times per week. There appeared to be a strict fitness routine with a 2km run every morning at 6.00 am rain, snow or shine. They were also involved in doing 20 performances a year which appeared to be a mixture of gymnastics, tumbling and dancing. Louise also has a cocker spaniel called Lady.

The fact that she played good quality handball in that type of sports regime makes it easy to understand why she was picked up so quickly by NSW. In Australia handball is a small & fairly new sport, whilst in Northern Europe it is a major sport. Having someone of Louise's background would help lift the standard of the whole squad.

When she goes back to Denmark she is moving to another school at Aarhus with her elder sister & will take exams including maths, which is her strongest subject. Given the way that she has fitted into the Australian way of life & given the level of enthusiasm & determination she puts in to everything I'm sure she will fit smoothly in to her new school & be successful at whatever she puts her mind to. Good on you Louise!

Sergeant Jim shared with us his latest "paraprosdokian" (I'll probably be fined for that spelling!). He also came up with the fact that people born on the same day as David Turnbull are "dense and need to be more transparent" & fined Keith for asking Louise if "Hagar the horrible" was a countryman (which undoubtedly, as a Viking, he is or rather would have been if they had lived in the same era!)

The raffle was won by Max & "heads & tails" was won by one of our visitors, Peter's Dad Nick. A very lively evening ended with the singing of the National anthem.

Night Reporter: Clive Denmark

### Photos from the Last Meeting

Louise Lastein and Peter Rugg



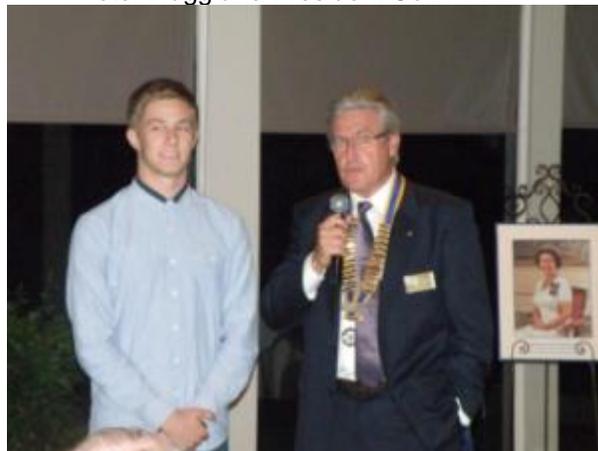
Caitlyn Gilchrest and Louise



'Getting to Know' Douglas Lam



Peter Rugg and President Colin



### Annual District Conference – 16-18 March 2012

For those Rotarians who've not been to a Conference you can be assured of a fabulous weekend and I encourage you to join us.

We also need to start lots of creative thinking to come up with our theme for the Saturday night's Masked Ball where the invitation states "Come themed as a club or express your own individuality".

We have a very long tradition to maintain so let's hear your suggestions/ideas. Remember it's an Olympic Games year next year. I thought about 30 or so Gophers sporting Gold medals turning up en masse...."Gopher Gold at the Gong! Over to you folks..... send them in no matter how silly or far fetched you might think they are!

Rob Hamer, our Club Service Director **needs to confirm our rooms early in December**, so it's **now important for those planning to attend to confirm with him**. At this stage confirmations are: The Turnbulls, McGowans and Davisons.

As Conference Chair, Rob has made a block booking at The Chifley Wollongong.

The Chifley (view their website [here](#)) is ideally situated in Harbour Street on Wollongong's foreshore, adjacent to WIN Sports and Entertainment Centre (The Conference venue) and a short walk to Wollongong City Beach, vibrant restaurants and cafes, and fabulous shopping at Wollongong Central and Crown St Mall.

The hotel features 168 guest rooms and suites which feature high-speed broadband internet, in-room safe, 40 inch flat screen TV, free to air digital TV, and high definition movies, sport and news. Executive rooms also boast a private balcony or terrace.

Rob has booked 20 rooms - 10 Deluxe and 10 Executive Balcony rooms.

The Deluxe rooms are \$169/night and the Executive Balcony rooms are \$189/night.

**Members should attend to their own Conference Registration by going to the website [here](#).**

**Please confirm with Rob that you have registered and your accommodation requirement so he can hold a room for you.**

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

Members are advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Inc. will be held at Springfield Function Centre, New Line Road Dural on December 5th 2011

Business to be conducted includes acceptance of minutes from previous AGM, presentation and acceptance of the annual financial statements for 2010/2011, confirmation of auditor for 2011/12 and election of office bearers for 2011/12.

Persons wishing to nominate for board positions should contact Secretary Barry Lambert or President Colin McGowan for nomination forms or information.

Barry Lambert – Secretary

## R.Y.D.A

Our local school, Cherrybrook Technology High is booked to attend the RYDA Program on THURSDAY 1st and FRIDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2011, at HART (Honda Australia Roadcraft Training) Centre, 451 Mona Vale Road St. Ives, from approximately 9.15 am to 2.30 pm.

The RYDA Program is a road safety education course aimed at equipping young people aged 16 to 17 years old (generally Year 11 students) with the knowledge to stay safe on Australian roads. RYDA focuses on attitude and awareness of young people as drivers and passengers, with the theme My Life – My Choices. RYDA is now conducted in seventeen Rotary Districts across Australia and is established as one of the most successful and strongly supported Rotary youth programs in Australia.

RYDA is a one day program held at an out of school venue and includes six sessions that are designed to be interactive and cover a broad range of topics including hazard perception, stopping distances, alcohol, drugs, fatigue and driving, plus buying and maintaining a safe vehicle - all aimed at influencing the attitude of young people before they get behind the wheel of a car. Presenters are all experts in their field including Driving Instructors, Crash Survivors and Police Officers.

Students are divided into groups and are assigned a Rotary volunteer to guide them through the RYDA sessions. Morning tea and lunch will be provided – there is a section on the form to also advise of any special food requirements to assist us in our catering arrangements.

As per Rotary protocol, volunteers are required to sign a Child Protection Form on the day.

Our club requires a minimum of 3 volunteers for each day.

If you are able to assist or require additional information please contact Max Henderson 9237 9339 (Wk) or 9871 3462 (Hm) or max.henderson@nab.com.au

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Anniversaries

*None this week*

### Birthdays

*Margaret Evans – 13 November*

*Dianne Wright– 16 November*

## Humour

Two police officers knocked on the man's door.

When he open it one of them said, "Your wife looks like she has been hit by a bus."

Yes I know the man replied, but she's a lovely person and a great cook."

## Food for Thought

Italian Proverb,

"Once the game is over the King and the Pawn go back into the same box"

## Sergeant Jim Simpson's 'Paraprosdokian'

To answer the question, "Who to notify in case of an emergency?" when filling out a medical form, put "a Doctor"

## Youth Exchange Xmas Party

As our Inbound Exchange Students prepare for their first Australian Christmas, and our 'Outbounds' arrange to head off to adventures around-the-world, we will be celebrating with a night of fun & friendship - an Aussie Spot Roast and Bush dance

It will held at the Hunters Hill Sailing Club on Friday 16 December @ 7.00pm.

Please see the flyer and RSVP form included with the Bulletin for more details. Numbers need to be confirmed by 30 November

**“Getting To Know You” – Douglas Lam**

**President Colin recently introduced this new initiative so we can get know each other a little better**

**At our last meeting, Douglas Lam was ‘invited’ to talk about his background and life experiences.**

**Q1 Tell us about YOU and YOUR WIFE’s parents-** (still living, where lived, occupation etc) **1/2 minute**

My father passed away when I was 12 and my mum lives in Hong Kong with one of my brothers. Kaija’s parents have both passed away.

**Q2 Tell us about YOU and YOUR WIFE’s brothers and sisters** (eg how many, where do they live, what do they do etc) - **1/2 minute**

I have 3 brothers and 5 sisters. I am the second eldest. They are spread all over the world. I have 1 brother, a Computer Engineer, who normally resides in Montreal but working in China now; 1 brother, another Computer Engineer who normally resides in UK and is working in HK now; 1 sister, a hair-dresser living in Washington State, US; 3 sisters here in Oz, 1 retired, 1 works for St. George and another Computer Engineer working for Telco. 1 brother, a pharmacist, and a sister – a housewife in Hong Kong.

**Q3 Tell us about YOUR Children** - if you have any (ie number ages, school/ work, married, occupation) -**1 minute**

I have a daughter, single, working for NSW government in Media Recruitment, (whatever that means!) and a younger son, single, working for Westpac in IT support.

**Q4 Tell us about YOUR Wife-** (eg where she was born, how and where you met, if she has any brothers and sisters, and what do they do, does she still work,)- **1 minute**

I met my wife, Kaija, who is a beauty therapist in 1972 when I was studying in London. She is Finnish and have one elder retired brother and one younger sister who work for the Welfare Department in Finland. She now works part-time for King of Knives.

**Q5 Tell us about YOURSELF ,** where you were born, where you went to school , where you have worked and what are your interests outside Rotary– **1 minute**

I was born in HK, graduated in London in Electronic Engineering and working in Broadcast and Television Industry for 35 years, 10 of those for the government run Radio Television Hong Kong – equivalent to the ABC of Australia. I migrated to Australia in 1986 and have been working at Channel 7 for 10 years before becoming a Contract Consultant specialising in major sporting events such as the Olympics and Asian Games, etc. My hobbies include acquiring knowledge in wine and coffee and roast my own coffee.

**Q6 Give us a smile or tell us a short joke – 1/2 minute**



## Family of the Week Program

Louise Lastein - Denmark 2011-2012			
Week Ending Sunday	Host Family	Planned Activities	Louise with You
6th NOVEMBER	Hamer		
13th	Hamer	Hamer Family function Sat 12th	Hamers
19th	Hamer	Outbounds briefing	
20th - 27th	Hamer	Janet and Rob taking Louise to the Gold Coast to watch the Rugby World 7's	Hamers
	Hamer		
4th DECEMBER	Hamer		
11th	Bickford		
18th	Bickford	16th - Xmas party	Gladesville
25th	Bickford		
JANUARY 2nd	Bickford		
8th	Bickford		
15th	Bickford		
22nd	Bickford		
29th	Bickford		
5th FEBRUARY	Bickford		
12th	Hamer	Welcome Home Dinner - Friday 10th	District
17th - 19th	Hamer	Kosciusko Weekend	
26th	Hamer	Umina Beach weekend (Fri- Sun)	Umina
4th MARCH	Hamer		
11th	Hamer		
16TH - 18th	Hamer	Conference - Wollongong (Fri- Sun)	Club
25th	Hamer		
1st APRIL	Gilchrist		
8th	Gilchrist		
15th	Gilchrist		
22nd	Gilchrist		
29th	Gilchrist		
6th MAY	Gilchrist		
13th May – 2nd JUNE	Gilchrist	SAFARI (13May - 2nd June)	District
	Gilchrist		
	Gilchrist		
3rd JUNE	Gilchrist		
10th	Gilchrist		
17th	Gilchrist		
24th	Gilchrist		
1st JULY	Gilchrist		
8th	Gilchrist		

		<b>Club Program 2011-2012</b>			
<b>Nov-11</b>		<b>Rotary Foundation Month</b>			
Mon	14	Dominic Perrottet State Member for Castle Hill			Rob Hamer
Wed	16	Youth Committee Meeting @ Rosemary's – 7.30pm			Rosemary
Mon	21	Guest Speaker David Chambers, Regional Controller SES			CMcG
Sat	26	BBQ Bunnings Dural			Barry
Sun	27	Christmas lunch - Castle Hill Country Club (confirmed)		Yes	Social
Mon	28	Schools Four Way Speaking Competition		Yes	Pete Cleary
<b>Dec-11</b>		<b>Family Month</b>			
Mon	5	AGM		No	Barry L
Wed	7	Club Board Meeting - cancelled			CMcG
Mon	12	Christmas Meeting (Khris Kringle-gifts).		Yes	Social
Wed	14	Tree of Joy- Santa's Workshop at Turnbull's		Yes	Brian F
Mon	19	No Meeting			
Mon	26	No Meeting			
<b>Jan-12</b>		<b>Rotary Awareness Month</b>			
Mon	2	No Meeting (New Years Day)			
Sat	7	Presidents New Year lunch celebration at Geranium Cottage (5pm)		Yes	Carol
Mon	9	No Meeting			
Wed	11	Club Board Meeting -Cancelled			
Mon	16	Club Assembly			CMcG
Wed	18	1/5 Book Fair Meeting			Clive/Tony
Mon	23	Ken Peterson - Sydney Norwest Astronomy Group (confirmed 16/06)		Yes	Rob Hamer
Thurs	26	Australia Day - Pub Hol			
Mon	30	Barry Gobbe, first Ambo on site at the Granville Bridge Train Disaster.			Rob Hamer
<b>Feb-12</b>		<b>World Understanding Month</b>			
Mon	6	Guest Speaker David Ellyard- TV Compere-Science and Technology- Antarctica?			
Tues	7	2/5 Book Fair Meeting			Clive/Tony
Wed	8	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place			CMcG
Fri	10	Ronald McDonald House (confirmed )			
Mon	13	Speaker - David Cook, Freelance Journalist. 4 wheel driving/caravanning in the Oz outback.		Yes	Rob Hamer
Wed	15	3/5 Book Fair Meeting			Clive/Tony
F-Sun	17-	X'change student Kosciusko Walk. Date to be confirmed		Yes	Graham C
Mon	20	Invited Nigel McDonald Cherrybrook RFS 19/07			Rob Hamer
TUES	21	4/5 Book Fair Meeting			Clive/Tony
Sat	25	Working Bee- Guide Hall or Warrah. Date to be confirmed.			Tony Makin
Sun	26	NORDBY Retirement folks 10-5,Kokoda Memorial Walkway BBQ area		Yes	Tony Makin
Mon	27	Youth Night -RYPEN, RYLA, NYSF reports		Yes	Rosemary
Tues	28	5/5 Final Book Fair Meeting			Clive/Tony
<b>Mar-12</b>		<b>Literacy Month</b>			
Thurs	1	Moving of Books from garages and containers to Church carpark		All	
Fri	2	Book Fair (starts 12 noon, Uniting Church, NLRd, Cbrook)		All	
Sat	3	Book Fair 8-12 noon		All	

**DIRECTORS 2011-1012**  
**ROTARY CLUB OF WEST PENNANT HILLS AND CHERRYBROOK**

President	Colin McGowan	0438 810 773
Past President	Graham Cuthbertson	0419 277 704
President Elect and Club Service Director	Rob Hamer	0400 335 091
Secretary	Barry Lambert	0412 465 819
Act Secretary	Keith Ball	0401 895 333
Treasurer	Bob Davison	0413 008 574
Acting Treasurer	Carol Russell	0418 431 157
Membership	Carol Russell	0418 431 157
Youth Services	Rosemary Clarke	0439 819 965
Community Services	Tony Makin	0411 248 865
International	Clive Denmark	0400 425 210
Vocational	Peter Cleary	0419 499 827
Foundation and PR	PDG Larry Jacka	0458 123 722
Clubs Welfare Office (non executive)	Stan Basely	96 34 1084