



Special Presidents Report

Changeover Dinner, 'The Epping Club', 24 June 2011.

We have decided to put out this special edition of the Bulletin to record the Changeover Dinner held last Friday. We have done this because the Bulletin for our last regular meeting of the 20th June will be a full one, being cram packed with photographs of the Art Show Competition night.

It was wonderful to see such a good turnout for our Changeover Dinner at the Epping Club last Friday, with 85 guests and 42 of our 48 members attending.

We hope everybody enjoyed the night. We tried 'The Epping Club' venue for a "change" and the feedback to date has mostly been positive. Everyone we spoke to were pleased that we tried something different. Parking was a bit of an issue but afterwards we heard that the carpark under the Coles supermarket (it operates 24/7) was virtually empty. That's good to know because we have our Spring Dance (featuring the Beatnix) coming up at 'The Epping Club' on Sat August 27. One of the highlights of the night was President's Graham's Awards.

Both Dick Bushell and Mark Doran were worthy winners of the Allyn Day Award and Trevor Turner Awards respectively. These two Awards are both made for outstanding service given to the Club with the Allyn Day Award representing all members and the Trevor Turner Award new members. The fact that they were presented by Bev Day and Ann Turner made it an extra special occasion as well.

President's Graham's 'Paul Harris Fellowship' recognitions were very well deserved in Tim Bowland and Clive Denmark. Both are tireless workers behind the scenes and what made it extra special for everyone was that all four awardees, Dick, Mark, Clive and Tim, were moved by the occasion.

The other 'PHF' recognition was given to solicitor Malcolm Cameron, for the generous donation of his time and expertise in finalising our fidelity insurance claim last year. Our honorary guest for the night was his father 'PDG' John Cameron and mother Margaret and there were another 5 family members there as well to share in his recognition. Great stuff.

David Turnbull and Jim Simpson did a good duo act at the end of the evening that was priceless.

Carol advises our Raffle took over \$800 which was astounding. This really helps our Admin Account which operates pretty close to the wire. President Colin forgot to mention on the night that Tim and Alison and Victor and Katena will be the Club Counsellors for our inbound and outbound students respectively (i.e. Louise Lastein and Catilin Gilchrest). Stan will be the Club's Protection Officer as well as the Clubs new Welfare Officer. Congratulations and thank you all.

Our next Meeting is the 4th July and we have Michael Sluis from the Black Dog Institute talking to us.



The following Mondays' meeting (11th July) is set down as a Club Forum night. The purpose is to assist with the direction to the Club and to provide input to its office bearers. President Colin would like to hear from members of on any matter they may like to be workshopped on the night.

We were all saddened to hear of Anne Sharpe's mother's sudden passing away. Our Club extends its condolences to Colin, Anne and family.

Colin McGowan
President 2011-12

Graham Cuthbertson
Past President 2010-11

For the record, below is a repeat of incoming President Colin McGowan's Inaugural speech at 'The Epping Club' on 24th June 2011 and photos taken during the evening!

- Hon Guest and Past District Governor John and Margaret Cameron
- Past District Governor -Larry and Miriam Jacka
- Immediate Past President -Graham & Judy
- Past Presidents, Rotarians, Partners and Guests

First of all I would like to welcome you all to the 2011/12 Rotary Year. The RI theme for this year is "Reach Within to embrace Humanity"- I will talk about that briefly later.

A special thank you to PP Graham for the great job you have done leading us through a very busy year. I hope that I can continue the high standard you have set and don't muck it up. Thank you Judy for your role in supporting Graham and for organising the Partners nights. The year promises to be an exciting one as we move into our 26th year. The strength of the Club has always been in the willingness of its members (and not least their spouses) to stand up when it's counted and make the hard yards. There is no hiding from the fact sometimes it is a challenge to get motivated and volunteer to help out, but once we do, we always manage to have fun. But I don't want to shy away from the point that it isn't always easy. It isn't always easy committing to Rotary obligations on weeknights, weekdays and weekends, when we have a lot of other stuff also going on in our lives. But that's what distinguishes a true Rotarian, a person who "talks the talk and walks the walk".

Looking in the rear view mirror for a minute, we have been very fortunate to have had Rotary Champions like the Turnbull's who have run the Garage Sale for years. Whilst standing down this year from the primary management of it, they are both, David and Jill, still 100% committed to the event, as they are to every other activity in the Club. Words can't say thank you enough you for what you have done for the Club, year in year out.

Similarly with Dick Bushell who is moving on to a life without Rotary. Like the Turnbull's, with Dick it wasn't just being there on the day, but being there leading up to the day. We have witnessed this many times. Thank you so much Dick. You have been an invaluable Rotarian. There are other names who are also great Champions of the Club but I am conscious that if I name them, it could be a precursor to them stepping aside –and I don't want to inflict that on myself.



Looking forward now, these member movements have made us refocus on resetting a more solid, a more durable and a more equitable platform for how we run the major activities in the Club.

And this forms one of the two major objectives I would like to achieve this year.

It's not rocket science but this objective (or Grand Plan if you like), is to develop a platform where we have more than one Champion for each Major Project that we embark upon- particularly in the lead up stage. This will be a more durable structure and will share the responsibility more equally than previously. As they say, many hands make light work.

I call this objective Change for reasons that might become obvious later. I know we are already sharing the load a bit now but I would like to develop it further. We have started to implement this "Change" strategy in our Garage Sale Planning Meetings, but we haven't tested it fully with all our members yet. I hope it gets member support.

My other objective for the year is also not rocket science, but it is based on Continuity. Of having Continuity with the things that make our Club strong, but improving them where I can.

My eye is particularly focussed on:

- More New blood and succession planning
- An interesting and varied Speaker and Meeting Programme. We don't like mundane routine meetings.
- Action in the field. We like doing things. We like helping people less fortunate than ourselves, and we like developing talent. We like action.
- Fun. We like having fun and our Clubs social program has always been excellent thanks to some great organisers who run our fun factory side of things.

If I can accomplish those two broad objectives during my year of:

- Changing the way we manage our Big Events and
- Maintaining Continuity of the things that we do well and that make that make us strong but endeavouring to improve them where I can, then I know, at the end of next year, I will be able to hand over the outfit in good shape and hopefully even stronger, and therefore god willing, without having mucked it up for the incumbent, Mr Hamer.

I would now like to talk about money (but not money in the nasty sense like fees and things) but money in terms of what Charities will be the beneficiary of our fund raising activities this 2011-12 year.

One of the new Charities we are proposing to support is the 'Black Dog Institute'. The 'Black Dog Institute' works in the field of depression and bipolar disorders. The Institute is a not-for-profit, educational, research and clinical facility attached to the Prince of Wales Hospital here in Sydney. Bipolar depression in young people as well as the older generation for many reasons seems to be increasing, and is of great concern to us all. I would hazard a guess and say almost everyone in this room, has had some connectivity with it, either personally or through family or a friend.

You might ask why is it called the 'Black Dog Institute'? It's a euphemism that was used by Winston Churchill who suffered bipolar depression and he used it to conceal his mental illness. He called it "The Black Dog." He was also fond of saying that hard work kept it from the door.



In a similar vein Operation Hope is a great cause and we will also be supporting them again this year. It gives young people at risk the opportunity to gain self esteem and confidence and have goals to move forward in their life.

Lifeline, the charity often used by people as a last resort before self harm is also on our list, as is Warrah, the school and residential care facility at Dural for young and older citizens with mental and physical impairments.

Finally but not least of all The Rotary Foundation. It has always been an important part of our Clubs giving and we continue to support the international humanitarian work it does.

Before I ask the new Board to come up, I mentioned before the RI theme for 2011-12 is "REACH WITHIN TO EMBRACE HUMANITY".

This theme was set by our incoming RI President, Kalyan Banerjee from India. Banerjee believes that once Rotarians find their inner strength, they can accomplish great things in their communities and around the world.

He wants us this year to particularly focus on 3 things- Family, Continuity, and Change. Family, including the Rotary Family he advocates as being the starting point in serving others. This is the building block for everything else, and therefore it must be strong.

Banerjee's Continuity theme revolves around his desire that we don't take our eye off the ball with what we are doing well at present- such as polio eradication, humanitarian work and new generation work etc etc.

His third focus is on Change and it is probably best summed up by his citing of Mahatma Gandhi's call which was "be the change you wish to see in the world"

I have tried to weave Banerjee's themes into my objectives for the Club this year, I hope I can do it justice.

The new Board.

I would like to ask PDG's Larry and John to help me with presenting this year's Directors pins please. It is with great pleasure that I introduce the new board for 2010/11

Immediate Past president – Graham Cuthbertson
President Elect and Club Service Director – Rob Hamer
Secretary- Barry Lambert
Treasurer - Bob Davison
Community Service Director – Tony Makin
International Service Director – Clive Denmark
Membership Director- Carol Russell
Vocational Service Director – Peter Cleary
New Generations Director (Youth Service Director) – Rosemary Clarke
Foundation and Public Relations Director- PDG Larry Jacka

Could I ask all of the Rotarians and Guests to acknowledge the team that will lead this Club in 2011/12.

MC Ross Ballinger



'PDG' John Cameron



'PDG' Larry Jacka (below)



President Graham Cuthbertson with opening remarks





Margaret McGowan and Judy Cuthbertson



Ann Turner and Margaret McGowan



Barry Lambert and President Graham - David Turnbull handing over Sergeant's duties to Jim Simpson

Colin McGowan and Pres. Graham



David Turnbull with Pres. Graham



Carol Russel with Pres. Graham



Rob Hamer with Pres. Graham



Cawas Sahukar and Pres. Graham



Tim Bowland and Pres. Graham





Pres. Graham, Malcolm Cameron,
Colin McGowan

Pres. Graham and Clive Denmark



Ann Turner, Mark Doran, Pres. Graham

Dick Bushell, Bev Day, Pres. Graham



(below) P.P. Graham receiving a copy of the past years' Bulletins



(above) P.P. Graham, New President Colin McGowan, 'PDG' John Cameron



2010-2011 Outgoing Board Members



2011-2012 Incoming Board Members

