



# The Rotary Club of Richmond

Meeting 2005

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2008

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## Today's Meeting

**Topic:**

### GSE Students' Presentation

**Speakers:**

Judy Peschio (Team Leader)  
Aaron Babcock, Jen Jones,  
Matt Novak, Christine Billings



### Duty Roster

Meeting	Today	No Meeting	#2006	No Meeting	#2007
Date	3 March	10 March	17 March	24 March	31 March
Time	6.30 for 7.00	Labour Day Holiday	6.30 for 7.00	Easter Monday	12.30 for 1.00
Chair	Judy Nettleton		Brian List		Tim Baker
Greeter	David Langdon		John Nairn		Michael O'Sullivan
Head Table	Judy Nettleton		Judy Nettleton		Simon Marriott
Cashier	Mark Dwyer Sue Bolton		Mark Dwyer Sue Bolton		Kieran Moore Brian Irving

### Forthcoming Speakers and Topics

- 10 Mar Labour Day - No meeting
- 17 Mar What we did in Shepparton: Conference attendees' "Show and Tell"
- 24Mar Easter Monday - No meeting
- 31Mar Rotarian Behind The Badge: Colin Looker

## Celebrations

Birthdays	None
Partners' Birthdays	None
Wedding Anniversaries	Colin & Margaret Looker 4 <sup>th</sup>
Induction Anniversaries	None

### Quote for the day:

"Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future."

**Niels Bohr (1885 - 1962) Physicist**



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## The President's Message

This Sunday we kicked off an exceptional fortnight. By taking over the US GSE Team from our friends of RC Hawthorn/Kew on Yarra, our Foundation Director PDG Judy and her Committee have led us to be part of one of the most valuable RI program.

We welcome Matt, Jen, Christine, Aaron and their Team Leader Judy (are all Judys leaders? Seems to be!). Many thanks to all the members involved.

A few days after handing over the IOWA-NEBRASKA GSE Team to RC Essendon North, a group of Members will leave Richmond for Shepparton: ONTO District Conference Chair, Brian, and our President of Friends of RCR, Jenny, have prepared a "List" of

fellowship stops to enjoy company, scenery, birds watching, spa, wine tasting,...then after 3 days of leisure (with certainly a lot of Rotary dialogs and maybe a Board meeting) time to join the District Convention will foster Rotary Celebration and reflection.

International, District, Local: this starting fortnight will provide us with all the range of Rotary exposure, will help us to better manage the coming actions that are being prepared - crackerjack for East Timor kindy - kids day out for Heart Kids.

Let those involved live that exceptional fortnight fully, let's prepare the follow up for all members and have a great time.

### Last week's speaker: Colin Macfarlane AM – Operation Cleft

In 2002, Colin offered \$25,000 to ROMAC via Box Hill RC, for the cardiac surgery and hospitalization of an East Timor girl called Maria. Visiting Maria and her mother at the RCH he was hooked, realising what could be done for children in developing countries.

Previously he had set up The Glencoe Foundation to help disadvantaged people throughout the world. This year Colin was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his philanthropy.

In 2005, Colin joined Box Hill Central RC, and set up Operation Cleft, as an international project of this club - similar to Operation Smile run by American Rotarians.

He showed pictures of children from various countries. Because these children had disfiguring cleft lips and/or cleft palates, they would be hidden, unable to go to school or to live normal lives. He then showed us pictures of

the same children with the clefts repaired, looking virtually normal.

Operation Cleft raises money to pay local doctors to do this corrective surgery. A cleft lip repair is \$150, and this procedure gives the patient a normal life. Repairs to cleft palates, of course, cost more, but are still performed by local doctors.

All money raised goes to paying for these procedures and any admin costs are covered by the Glencoe Foundation. Colin explained that most of the donations he receives are from individual Rotarians, rather than Rotary Clubs which have various

other projects on the go. His very professional presentation worked and several individual Richmond Rotarians committed to funding at least a cleft lip repair. (Pictures: Arif before and after surgery)





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## **Club News**

**Boroondara Kindergarten AGM.** We have been invited to the AGM at the kindergarten on Wednesday 19th March at 5pm. The evening starts with music and dance and includes food. A great opportunity to see the kindergarten at work. *As our major community project, we should have a presence at this function.* Contact Barbara Woodberry if you (with/without a significant other) would like to attend.

**Lynda van Gaalen-Prentice** has been promoted to the rank of Major and is now the Chaplain for the Salvation Army Stores and their staff throughout the metropolitan area. Congratulations Lynda.

**Rotary Youth Arts Project (RYAP)** Report by Tim Baker. RYAP's target group for participants is disadvantaged young people with an average age of 15 years (a range from 12 to 17 years) who live in the high rise estates within the City of Yarra.

We set out in 2007 to have 50 young people complete a 20 week experience by participating in Dance, Circus and Photography. About 180 young people were initially involved in one of these three activities when they participated in the pre-project "taster sessions" conducted in five "alternative" schools throughout the City of Yarra. The "tasters" explained the project to the students and raised their interest so they would commit to the discipline of attending the 20 sessions. The young people came from a range of diverse cultures, including Somalia, Ivory Coast, China, Vietnam, Jamaica and of course Australia. Some had only recently arrived in our country and many have had frightening experiences and been economically deprived. More than 50 young people commenced the

project and 40 completed the 20 sessions. Many gained enough skill and confidence to perform before an audience or exhibit their photographic artwork.

Most of these young people have crystallized their interest in the chosen art form and are keen to continue in the 2008 project. A number of older students are keen to take a NEXT STEP and develop their careers in Dance, Photography and Business. This is the key objective of the project - the development of a sense of purpose.

**ROMAC Report** John Bengler passed on a series of reports from last Wednesday regarding Babu, a boy from Bangladesh, who is in Melbourne to have reconstructive surgery. The operation was last Wednesday and took 11 hours.

Babu had a benign tumour on his jaw that had eaten away part of the jaw bone. Because he is growing, the replacement jaw bone had to be growing tissue. Surgeon Prof Andrew Heggie firstly removed bone and tissue from other parts of Babu's body to create the new jaw, and then had to operate to correct the face that had previously had a large growth. Assisting in the operation was Asst Prof Biduel Alam from Bangladesh who is here with Babu and will take back to Bangladesh the expertise related to this operation. Babu and his father were escorted to the hospital by a new ROMAC Committee Member, David Gibbs, who waited at the RCH until Babu was back in the ICU.

By 7 pm Abu was in ICU and had progressed surprisingly well after such a huge operation. ICU staff expected that by later that evening (**cont p4**)



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**ROMAC (Cont)** Babu would be back in the ward. He was communicating verbally with his father - with some difficulty - but it meant so much to his dad. He even asked his father when were they going to take the bone off his hip, so that couldn't have been giving him too much trouble. On leaving, David wished him well: Babu raised his arm, giving David a high five. David reckons "this kid's got guts."

David Barnes, also of ROMAC, says we have a number of "before, during operation and after" shots that will later be edited for a story on TV. There was, he said, an amusing incident on Wednesday morning. The surgeon travelling with Babu, Biduel Alam, told him they couldn't get anything to eat for breakfast that morning, so they

went to 7/11 and bought some bread. Biduel said it was all in pieces: David thinks he had never bought sliced bread before.

David Barnes suggests it would be nice if we could have some ROMAC people and Rotary members to visit in next few days, if only for a few minutes, to let them know we care. "Please make an effort to see Babu," he says, "You will find it most rewarding."

## Change of date for District Changeover.

DGE Jim Studebaker has advised us that the District Changeover date has been changed to 11.30am Sunday, 29th June, 2008 for lunch at Leonda by the Yarra in Hawthorn.

The District Changeover host club, the Rotary Club of Balwyn will be sending invitations in early May.

## Forthcoming Events

DATE & DAY	TIME	SOCIAL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> March Thursday to Sunday		Rotary District 9800 Conference – to be held at Shepparton, Victoria
26 <sup>th</sup> March Tuesday	7.00pm for 7.30pm	GSE Farewell Dinner - farewell our GSE Team and Visiting Team – Grand Star Receptions, Grieve Parade, Altona. Cost: \$55 RSVP: PP Clara Westhorpe on 9398 2674 or John Bussey on 0412 068 848
20 <sup>th</sup> April <b>NEW DATE</b>	Sunday 2.45pm for 3.00pm start	'CRACKERJACK' Bowling, BBQ, a Band & the Movie at the Richmond Union B/Club, Gleadell Street, Richmond. Make up a team! \$45 per person. More details: Barbara Woodberry - 0413 057 079
1 <sup>st</sup> May Thursday	12.00pm to 5.00pm	RCR & Melb Girls College - MOCK JOB INTERVIEWS at MGC, Yarra Boulevard, Richmond – 84 Year 10 students. Contact: Tim Baker on 0412 568 531 Email: <a href="mailto:bakert@ozemail.com.au">bakert@ozemail.com.au</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> May <b>NOTE CHANGE OF DATE</b>	Sunday To be advised	Richmond Rotary's 'KIDS DAY OUT' – Featuring 'Wags the Dog' courtesy of Esprit. Collingwood Town Hall. Entertainment & stage performance fun for kids. Two sessions – a.m. and p.m. – times tba. Further details: Elissa Marriott: 9429 6033
29 <sup>th</sup> June Sunday	11.30 am	District Changeover. Leonda by the Yarra. Invitations will be issued in May

*History of Literature 101 by an unnamed American student: "Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained."*

## ROTARY DISTRICT 9800, R.I. & OTHER ROTARY LINKS

- Richmond Rotary website: [www.rotaryrichmond.org.au](http://www.rotaryrichmond.org.au)
- District 9800 Home page: [www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au)
- District E-Zine: [www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/Networker](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/Networker)
- DG's weekly message:  
<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/DistrictGovernor#DGMessage>
- Rotary International: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)
- RI President's Monthly Message  
<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIPresident/Pages/Messages.aspx>