President Report

Thursday 24th July

Almost a month has passed in the new Rotary year as we approach our first and important Board meeting. Directors will present their Aims and Objectives for adoption and this will set the tone for our year as we strive to make a real difference to the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.

Tonight we welcomed back Rtn Suren, who became a Grandfather for the first time after his daughter Giselle gave birth to a beautiful girl, Gia in !Melbourne. Congratulations Suren from your fellow Rotarians.

We were also introduced to our Inbound Youth Exchange Student, Lison Cowez, who attended the first meeting of her exchange. Counsellor Mark gave a brief intro and remarked how bright and cheery Lison appeared after a stressful flight schedule that involved two cancellations and a long connection from Brussels to London to L.A. and Melbourne to Devonport.

Lison hails from Charleroi, Hainaut in Belgium and will turn 18 on the 2nd of October this year.

Her sponsor Rotary Club is Courcelles 2000 and her native language is French but also speaks Dutch, English and Spanish. We look forward to learning more about Lison as the year progresses and I thank the member families who have volunteered to host Lison or her exchange with our Club.

It is often remarked that the best Guest Speakers are often from our very own members, this week was no exception with an Autobiography by Rtn Julian O’Brien. Julian counts himself fortunate to be born at all as he recalls his conception wasn’t planned. The youngest of seven children born in Penguin, Julian has certainly made the most of his good fortune and has taken on many challenges in his journalist career with the Advocate Newspaper. He spoke passionately about the influences in his life and the support he has received from mentors as he accepted the challenging positions as Chief of Staff and Editor of the Advocate.

He is a great supporter of local issues and was a driving force in the campaign to highlight employment opportunities with local businesses and the “Our Patch” theme to bring local news items to the fore. Most of us admit that we are batting out of our league when it comes to our partners and Julian spoke of his chance meeting at the Advocate with his future wife Kelli. He is very proud of his family and his two lively daughters certainly keep him occupied when he comes home from work.

Julian remarked that his motivation when joining Rotary was to put something back in to the community and his role as Community Service Director will provide him with the opportunity to achieve his ambition.

We wish Rtns Richard Quinn and John Phillips happy travels to warmer climates and a safe return later in August

I look forward to reporting on our first Board Meeting next week and presenting a number of new projects for our club to implement.

Yours in Rotary

President Mike

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week | 5 | 6 | | 7 |
| Date Calculator | 31-Jul-14 | 07-Aug-14 | | 14-Aug-14 |
| **Date** | **31-Jul-14** | **07-Aug-14** | | **14-Aug-14** |
| **Speaker** | No Guest Speaker | GSE Presentation | | Steve Daley |
| **Subject** | Board Meeting | Partners Night | | Devonfield Services and Forensic Disability |
| **Chairman** | Gavin Bull | Bobby Gray | |  |
| **Presidents** | Alan Patterson | Richard Barnard | | Rick Campbell |
| **Table** | Glen O'Halloran | Peter Colgrave | | Gavin Bull |
| **Reception** | Scott Walker | Glen O'Halloran | | Brian Chandler |
|  | Herbie Waltran | Allan Pattison | | Peter Colgrave |
| **Rotary Info** | Bernt Gennsen | Bruce Buxton | | Lance Cox |
| **(Job Talk)** |  |  | |  |
| **Meetings** |  |  | | Sub Committees |
| **Birthdays** | Bobby Gray 04Aug (3) | Sally Chandler 08Aug | | Esley Dunham 15Aug |
|  | Bruce Buxton 06Aug |  | | Leon Peck 15Aug |
|  | Libby 01Aug |  | | Elaine Banard 21Aug |
|  |  |  | | Gwynneth Dunham 14 Aug |
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|  |  |  | |  |
| **Rotary** | Rod Owers 04Aug (31) |  | | John O'Donnell 15Aug (23) |
| **Anniversary** | Bobby Gray 04Aug (3) | Steve Rockliff 12Aug (4) | |  |
|  | Peter Colgrave 05Aug (21) | Max McCormack 13Aug (33) | |  |
|  | Buz Green 05Aug (21) | Glenn O'Halloran 14Aug (17) | |  |
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| 24-Jul-14 | | |
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| 28 Members | | |
| John van der Woude (Group 7 Forum), | | |
| Peter Colgrave (Dinner Frank & Carmel Rice) | | |
| Peter Colgrave, Seelan Nair, Mark Nugent, John O'Donnell | | |
| Scott Poke, James Roberts-Thompson, Ross Stewart | | |
| John van der Woude | | |
| Peter Chalk, John Cook, Mike Doyle, John Phillips | | |
| Paul Crabtree, Bob Farr, Bruce Gowans, Ian Hutchinson | | |
| Leon Peck, Mac Russell, Leigh Titmus, Leon Wootton | | |
| Julian O’Brien | | |
| Lison Cowez | | |
|  | | |
| (Before 11am Wednesday) Contact Attendance Officer | | |
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| www.rotarydevnorth.org.au | | |
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