

# ROTARY CLUB OF SALE INC.

Club President

Alan Lewis

Secretary

Neil Ross

**CHARTERED 1928**



**SERVICE Above Self**

R.I President

Carl-Wilhelm

Stenhammar.

District Governor

Ray Stewart

## WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SALE. 27th February 2006

Chair: Tanya Jones

### PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Alan presented our newest Rotarian with her induction certificate and congratulated Brian for his role in appointing the new Bishop of Gippsland. He then went on to announce that he and a member of Wellington Council had marked out a path for the Heritage Walk. Alan remarked that he was amazed at the interest from the community in the trail and that the pressure is on to complete the project. He expressed the hope that the trail meets all the expectations.

Alan next informed the Club that the hay for the garden at the Sale Specialist School is ready to be laid and work with the students will commence sometime in the next week. He reminded members of the combined meeting at the Princeton on Thursday, 6:30 for 7:00pm, when Bob Pitman will show the movie he made in the Pacific islands about the work of the Interplast team sponsored by District 9820. The cost for the evening is \$25 per head.

Alan repeated the request he made at last week's meeting for a Rotary team to take part in the Walk to D-Feet MND around Lake Guthridge. This event is to take place on Sunday 2 April from 10am and finish at approximately 11:45 with entertainment, sausage sizzle and prizes commencing at 12 noon. Entry is \$20 for adults or \$40 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children and includes a t-shirt. Another money-raising function is a sleep-out organised for Friday 31 March. This is in aid of Lifeline Gippsland. Those without the energy to walk around the lake could participate in this event.

Daniel then addressed the Club about arrangements for the dinner auction to be held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Daniel indicated that a form was being passed around on which members could nominate how they will assist in organising and running the dinner auction. If you missed out putting your name down you have another opportunity at Thursday's meeting. Otherwise you will be given a task that may not suit you.

Neil made an announcement regarding the Epilepsy Foundation which is looking for Rotary Clubs to distribute Epilepsy Awareness kits to schools. Sale Rotary Club will distribute the kits to local schools.

### Guest Speaker: Harry Hua

Chairman Tanya, briefly introduced tonight's speaker, Harry Hua, local restaurateur, Esso engineer and our own Club member.

Harry was born in Saigon, South Vietnam in 1955 and is the eldest son in a family of 11 children. His father was a taxi driver and mother worked in the catering industry. Harry grew up during a time of war but was saved from being drafted into the army because of his success at school. Through extreme sacrifice, his parents let him continue on to university where he became part of the student movement that protested against the war.

Following the capitulation of South Vietnam in 1975, Harry lived under the Communist regime. His father lost his job and Harry became the breadwinner for his family. He also became disillusioned with Communism and took the opportunity to escape from Vietnam in 1976 by sailing to Malaysia in a fishing boat with a close friend.

What followed was seven months as a refugee, moving back and forth between Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. In 1977 Harry was accepted by Australia as a refugee and returned to university in 1978 to resume his engineering degree. Whilst studying in Adelaide, Harry met Anne who was to become his wife. He also worked to assist three of his brothers and one sister to escape from Vietnam.

In 1981 Harry arrived in Sale to commence work with Esso. Initially he worked two jobs in order to support his family in Vietnam. Then in 1984 Harry and his wife started a restaurant in Sale so that they could sponsor his family to come to Australia and provide them with employment. It took a lot of time and effort to persuade the authorities to allow Harry's family into Australia and he made a trip to Canberra at the very time Anne was giving birth to their first son, Alex.

Harry concluded his talk by saying that he is very lucky. Australia is like heaven to him but many people trying to escape from Vietnam died because they starved, drowned or were killed by pirates. Harry is very proud to be Australian. He was naturalised many years ago and although his accent gives away the fact that he was not born here, the true marks of his nationality are the thongs on his feet and the stubby in his hand.

Harry also passed around photos of his family who now mostly live in Sale, including one of himself and son, Alex, after Alex was presented with an Olympic medal for mathematics.

Harry answered questions from Keith, Alan, Brenda, Mike, Bob and Neil before Alan thanked him for his talk. Alan pointed out that Alan is a real success story and that he not only achieved the personal goals in the story he outlined tonight but that he has also been generous with his time in making significant contributions to the community, in particular the hospital.

Tanya then thanked Harry, closed the meeting and invited members to stay on for fellowship.

**Sergeant at Arms:** Leo O'Brien

- Sergeant Leo, as is his wont, started his session by fining the President for allowing his hearing aid battery to go flat.
- Peter paid because he did no public speaking at all today.
- PP Colin stumbled over the invocation and paid the price.
- Daniel paid up for bringing a bottle of wine to share and taking it home unopened.
- Laurie must have given Leo a hard time in his youth and now it's payback time.
- Adrian coughed up because he always has his head down during every sergeant's session.
- Leo fined Rod *in absentia* for making him late for the meeting.
- Brian was overlooked as Bishop of Gippsland.
- All the ladies were fined for sitting together when they could have been adding colour to other conversational groups. When Chris protested because she was sitting with a group of men, Leo fined her because she could not be identified as she was not wearing her name badge.
- David fined Keith from the floor for his appreciation of the cartoon featuring a cricket team full of John Howard look-alikes.
- To finish up, Keith also had a fine from the floor on Wilma, for being posted to Wagga Wagga only 2 months after being inducted into the RC of Sale.

**Keep Smiling**

Sherlock Holmes and Watson were camping in the desert, set up their tent and went to sleep.

Some hours later, Holmes woke his faithful friend. "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

Watson replied, "I see millions of stars."

"What does that tell you?" asked Holmes.

Watson ponders for a minute. "Astronomically speaking, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Chronologically, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three.

Theologically, it's evident the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, Holmes?"

Holmes is silent for a moment, then speaks: "Watson, you idiot, someone has stolen our tent."

**NEXT MEETING Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

☆☆☆☆ Combined meeting at the Princeton in lieu of the meeting on Mon 6<sup>th</sup> March. Interplast Movie presented by Bob Pitman. ☆☆☆☆

**Attendance:** Noel Langley

**Venue:** Princeton

**Meeting Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Mar – Working Bee**  
Ashleigh House

**Chair:**

**Sergeant:**

**Attendance:** Noel Langley

**Venue:** Ashleigh House

**ON THE RADAR**

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar – Partner's night at Leo's

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr – Trivia and partner's night

Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Apr – Gary Silgar

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Apr – Group Captain Sawadi

Mon 1 May – Tanya Jones

Mon 26 Jun – Change over night

**Relish Contact Details**

Hosts: Tania Jones & Robert Wood

Phone/Fax: (03) 5144 5044

E-mail: [relish8@westnet.com.au](mailto:relish8@westnet.com.au)

Rotarians, please remember to notify Relish if you'll be absent by 12:00 midday on the Monday of the meeting.

**NOTICES**

**Attendance:** 21 Rotarians

**Visiting Rotarians:** None

**Guests:** Anne Hua

**Make – Ups:** None reported

**Raffle:** Brian's turn to win the wine

If you are away from home you will find friends at all Rotary Clubs. You can make up for missed meetings of the Sale Club with any of the following local Clubs:

Bairnsdale: Tuesday 6:00pm Bairnsdale Club

Bairnsdale Sunrise: Friday 6:45am Main Hotel

Heyfield: Monday 6:30 Railway Hotel

Lakes Entrance: Wednesday 6:00pm Bellevue Motel

Maffra: Thursday 6:00pm Duart Receptions Mitchell

River: Monday 5:45pm Italian Club

Sale Central: Tuesday 6:00pm Princeton

Traralgon: Tuesday 6:00pm Traralgon Golf Club

Traralgon Central: Monday 6:00pm Latrobe

Convention Centre

Yarram: Wednesday 6:00pm Yarram Club