

# 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. 2nd March 2006

**Chair:** President of the RC Maffra, Jean Mawhinney

### PRESIDENTS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the invocation and toast to Rotary and Australia, Chairman Jean welcomed all present and in particular the Club Presidents from Sale (Alan Lewis), Sale Central (Gary Gray) and Heyfield (Tom Reid), as well as special guests Katy Holt, the Canadian exchange student with the Maffra Club and the teacher from Japan staying with Shane Chilcott. Two other guests were also introduced as Peter and Don.

Presidents took turns to make their announcements. Tom started and said that a special meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 March to farewell Leo Schoenmaker who is moving to Melbourne for medical and family reasons. Tommy indicated that everyone is welcome (including partners). The meeting is at 6:30 for 7 and will cost \$16 per head.

Alan announced that work will commence on Monday for the Sale Heritage Trail. He thanked Sale Central for their very substantial support.

Gary informed all present that the District Conference had been great and that the Conference next year will be held at Phillip Island.

Jean announced that the Maffra Rotary Club will have a presence in the Mardi Gras march.

**Guest Speaker:** Bob Pitman, Dr Rob Melville

The documentary about the work of Interplast in Galle, Sri Lanka, was briefly introduced by Bob Pitman, the film's producer. Bob said that Interplast is an initiative of the Royal College of Australasian Surgeons and Rotary and has operated since 1983. Funding for the work is through Rotary and the government with the average cost of sending a team being \$40,000. For each project, the medical team provide their time and expertise free of charge. All the medical equipment and drugs required are taken along and left at the hospital where the work is carried out. The aim of the project is to restore to normality through plastic surgery, the lives of people who have incapacitating injuries and congenital abnormalities. At the same time local surgeons are trained to perform such operations.



One of the beautiful beaches in Galle

The funding for the trip was supplied by the Rotary Clubs of Maffra, Heyfield, Sale, Sale Central and Yarram. Dr Rob Melville from Maffra, paid his own way and went along to serve as Bob's mentor.

Galle is a large village and fishing port with a population of 100,000 on the southern tip of Sri Lanka, a country the size of Tasmania but with a population equal to the whole of Australia. The film showed various aspects of life in Galle where the main industry is growing crops, fishing and tourism. The evidence of the Boxing Day tsunami were still evident on the beautiful beaches. The level of prosperity of the region described by Bob is low.

The Interplast team was comprised of two plastic surgeons, Dr Allesandra Cerval and Dr Marie Rostek, an anaesthetist and two nurses. They worked in a large teaching hospital in collaboration with the consultant surgeon, Dr Lalith Pasera. The intention was to see and select suitable patients on the first day and plan their operations for the remaining 9 days of the program. Eighty five patients sought help on that day and more followed. An interpreter was needed for these consultations. Twenty seven people were treated tumours, burns injuries,

cleft pallets and congenital hand defects

This was the first trip to Galle by an Interplast team although other parts of Sri Lanka had been visited before. The local microsurgeons treat many more people in any one day but did not have the skills required for the type of operations carried out by the Interplast surgeons. Many of the operations done are for treating lower limb injuries resulting from motorbike accidents.

As well as sending teams to south east Asian and Pacific islands, Interplast has brought to Australia 48 patients for more complex surgery and a number of surgeons for further training

At the conclusion of the film, Mike asked Rob Melville about the boxes of equipment that they had brought with them to Galle. Rob explained that the equipment is all left in Sri Lanka for use by the local surgeons.

Alan put it to Rob that more resources should be made available to train the surgeons but Rob replied that he believed the training, surgery and donation of equipment was a good mix.

There were no further questions but Bob was congratulated on the professionalism of his film. Bob responded to this by saying that Interplast had asked him to produce 100 copies as well as a number of 3 minute versions.



### Sergeants-at-Arms: Ted Mitchell, Alan Lewis, Ron Gregory

- The fines session, normally an orderly affair, well-controlled by the Sergeant-at-Arms, seemed to be a free for all where Club Sergeants, either nominated or self-appointed, tried to outdo each other to see who could collect the most fines. Sergeant Ted from the Maffra fined his Club President for losing her name badge and then finding it in her wardrobe. He also had a photo of Trevor Watt outside a bookshop. Trevor paid up to retrieve the incriminating evidence
- It was just as well that Ted got in early because at this point Sale Central hijacked the meeting with John Teychenne fining Ron Gregory for catering at the Hotham working bee and supplying pies for breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert. Ron retaliated with a string of fines starting with:
  - Les Jackson – getting lost in the bush;
  - John Teychenne – responsible for activating the smoke alarm;
  - Adrian Rys – providing all those pies;
  - A number of others including fines on David Hollands and Gary Gray.
  - Alan Lewis took his cue from Ron's performance and fined Adrian for getting the Bulletin out early;
- Mike for being the last to arrive at the meeting;
- Carmel because Lyndon was absent;
- Laurie because he is the incoming secretary;
- Wilma for getting herself posted to Wagga Wagga after only 2 months of membership;
- Other fined in Alan's list included Noel, Peter, Daniel, Grant, Keith, Rossy and Colin.
- At this point the fines started coming from the floor at random with Colin fining Noel for buying a new gold Ford with spoiler and mag wheels.
- Roger Malouf hung one on Bob Pitman for succeeding to film the Ride to Conference team when he was part of the team.
- Rob Noble fined the mild-mannered Richard McDowell who, as an Elvis look alike, was mobbed by 15 women.
- Bob Pitman spotted two Rotarians driving in from Maffra who were pulled over by a very unfriendly PC and extracted a fine from them too.
- Mike got a fine in on Roger Malouf for his role as a radio announcer
- The final fine was on Les Jackson for having his photo in the Sun Herald carrying the Queen's baton

### Keep Smiling

A Scotsman went to the dentist and asked how much it is for an extraction.

"\$85 for an extraction, sir" was the dentist's reply.

"Och huv ye not got unything cheaper?" asked the Scotsman.

"That's the normal charge for an extraction, sir" said the dentist.

"What about if ye dinae use uny anaesthetic?" asked the Scotsman hopefully.

"Well, it's highly unusual sir, but if that's what you want, I suppose I can do it for \$70" said the dentist.

"Hmmmmm, what about if ye used one of ye dentist trainees and still wi'oot anaesthetic?" asked the Scotsman again.

"That's possible but they are only training. I can't guarantee their level of professionalism and it'll be a lot more painful, but I suppose we can bring the price down to say \$40" said the dentist

"Och that's still a bit much." How about if ye make it a training session and have yon student do the extraction and the other students watchin and learnin" suggested the Scot hopefully.

"Hmmmmmm, well OK. It'll be good for the students I suppose. I'll charge you \$5 in that case" said the dentist.

"Wonderful! It's a deal" exclaimed the Scot. Can ye book the wife in for next Tuesday?"

**NEXT MEETING Monday 20th March**

**Working Bee:** Ashleigh House  
**Chair:** Keith Miller  
**Sergeant:**  
**Attendance:** Noel Langley  
**Venue:** Ashleigh House

**Meeting Monday 27th March**

Games night and BBQ at Leo O'Brien's. Partners welcome  
**Chair:** Leo  
**Sergeant:**  
**Attendance:** Noel Langley  
**Venue:** Ashleigh House

**ON THE RADAR**

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr – Trivia and partner's night  
 Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Apr – Gary Silgar (Esso)  
 Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Apr – Group Captain Sawade  
 Mon 1 May – Tanya Jones (Job Talk)  
 Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May - ☆☆Dinner Auction☆☆  
 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:** 15 Sale Rotarians and many Rotarians from Maffra, Heyfield and Sale Central  
**Guests:** Spouses, 1 exchange student from Canada, Katy Holt, 1 visiting Japanese teacher and two touring Rotarians, Peter and Don.  
**Make – Ups:** None reported  
**Raffle:** Two winners: Katy Holt and Dr Rob Melville

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