

ROTARY CLUB OF SALE INC.

CHARTERED 1928



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Grant Ellers
Secretary
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R.I. President
William (Bill) Boyd
District Governor
Dennis Heslin

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SALE.

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February 2007 – World Understanding Month

Chairman: Neil Ross

PRESIDENTS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Computer Woes. I'm owing up to having had a bad crash with my computer whilst working on a few things last Sunday (do I feel a fine coming on Mike?) and have lost all recent emails and addresses. So bear with me if I don't forward things on as quickly as usual. I also had to rebuild my hard drive which took a few hours.

Relay for Life. Ben Lancaster is co-ordinating our Club's involvement in the Relay for Life which is on the 24/25 March (same weekend as the District Conference). Please talk to Ben about your involvement.

Heritage and Wetlands. Alan Lewis has proposed to the Board that we hold an official opening of (stage one) of the Wetlands and Heritage Trail. Proposed Date is Sunday 22 April. The weekend will be shared with the Wellington Cup Rowing Regatta which is on the Saturday. So having two local events together might actually be a good idea.

Australia Day celebrations. Alan also has suggested that he get together with the AD celebration helpers and start to formulate a plan for next year whilst some of the issues are still fresh in our minds. Contact Alan.

Running sheet. We now have a new running sheet, photocopied on both sides so hopefully it won't get thrown away like the last couple. Maybe someone could stick it to the lectern.

Web Site. Don Ripper updates the Club web site as soon as the Bulletin is available so if you don't have time to check your emails, then check out the web site instead, just kidding. Please, use the web site as a reference for any prospective members.

NYSF. Esther Lloyd, our National Youth Science Forum attendee for this year would like to come and talk to the Club about her experiences. A tentative date is 2 April.

Guest Speaker: Fred Sundermann – Low-Head Water Turbine

Chairman Neil introduced tonight's guest speaker, Fred Sundermann, as a farmer who was born and raised in Sale. He studied music, reared three children and later obtained a Diploma of Engineering. He is an inventor who first built one tractor from scratch and then another four. Fred commenced by stating that he has always had an interest in renewable energy and for his first invention he

designed a wind turbine which was 1 km long. When he was told by the CSIRO that it was too ugly for the Australian landscape he changed direction and tried to harness thermal energy. However, he turned his attention to water turbines when he realised that an 8 knot tidal current can generate as much energy as a 390km/hr wind and was a far more reliable source as tides depend on the

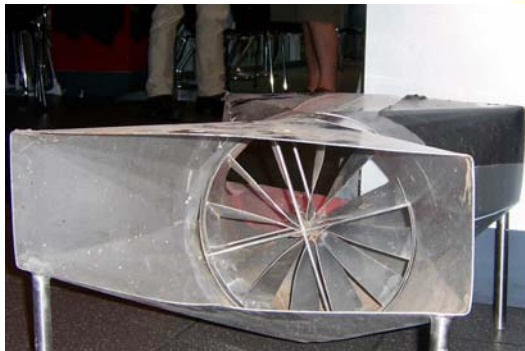
periodic motion of the moon.

Fred, after testing the design with Test Engineer, Don Walters and Test Manager, Jim Ferguson, has applied for a patent on a new water-driven, electricity-generating turbine. The basis of the patent for the Sundermann turbine is an improvement to the blade (paddle) configuration to minimize energy losses incurred in returning the blades to their starting positions where they are in a position to extract energy from the water flow.

The patent also covers the mechanism required to ensure the blades are aligned in the optimum position when extracting the energy from the water flow. This modification dramatically increases the output and



Chairman Neil Ross, Speaker Fred Sundermann and President Grant Ellers



A model of the Sundermann turbine.

efficiency of the current design of vertical shaft paddle type turbines. Provisional patents have been granted for the Sundermann design.

Fred said his turbine could be permanently fixed in waterways, rivers as well as farm irrigation channels, or in the ocean mounted on anchored floats. Test results have confirmed the forecasted operating characteristics (shaft rotational speed, torque and power output) The prototype unit, as currently designed, with a blade area of 0.5 sq. m., has shown itself capable of producing 1kW of power when placed in an irrigation channel with water flowing at a speed of 1.8 metres per second. This is significantly higher than the expected power output on any similar existing paddle type turbine.

However, he was very disappointed with the level of support he received from both the state and federal governments to bring his idea to fruition with the Victorian Government claiming that the design is unsuitable for Victorian rivers because of the harm it will cause to the fauna.

Following his talk Fred showed a short film made by Bob Pitman about how the Sundermann turbine worked during testing in an irrigation channel. He also referred the members to his web site (www.sundermann.com) and to a web site of the Canadian company which has also done a great deal of research into renewable energy (www.blueenergy.com).



Two engineers discuss the Sundermann turbine



Testing the Sundermann turbine in an irrigation channel

At the conclusion of the film, Fred answered questions from Harry and Carmel about the comparative cost and the danger to the fauna. Fred indicated that preliminary testing has shown the new turbine design can generate useful power from river or irrigation channel applications, significantly more cheaply than existing designs of paddle type turbines. For river applications, the estimated generation costs could be less than 18 cents per kWh, for installations of 10 kW or larger. He also said that features could be incorporated into the design such as bars or sonic devices that would prevent fish entering the turbines. He illustrated the difficulties he faces with the case of the Lions Village in Licola which could save many thousands of dollars spent on diesel for generating power each year but refused to go ahead with the project because it meant altering a short section of the river bed. President Grant then thanked Fred and Neil closed the meeting.

Sergeants-at-Arms: Mike Smith

- Sergeant Mike started with a two in one fine on Lyndon and Leo for cross-referencing each other. Sounds like they were both trying to avoid an issue.
- Daniel has known for nine months (give or take a few weeks) that this fine was coming. Hayden finally arrived.
- Ben being in the finance industry could well afford to pay for his fine with superannuation contributions hitting a record high in the December quarter.
- Grant also knew his fine was coming because he informed the sergeant of his computer crash.
- Neil's new number plate attracted the sergeant's attention and earned him a fine.
- As a novelty, Mike fined all those Rotarians who had not shaken hands with the guest speaker.
- Adrian copped another fine from Alan for the article in BRW.
- That started the ball rolling for fines from the floor with Bob hanging one on Leo for his front fence, Grant on Col for failing to read his car manual and Leo on Grant for being able to rebuild his hard drive.

NEXT MEETING Monday 26th Feb		Meeting Monday 5th Mar		ON THE RADAR	
Guest Speaker: Frank Norden - Tourism - Bushfire Relief	Chair: Graeme Dyer	Guest Speaker: Margaret Anderson – Mechanics Institute Briagolong	Chair: Daniel Smolenaars	Mon 12 th Mar - No meeting	Mon 19 th Mar – Ride to Conference Casual BBQ night at STAGGS
Sergeant: Rod Exton	Attendance: Noel Langley	Sergeant: Col Counsell	Attendance: Noel Langley	Mon 26 th Mar – Richard Crooke – Sale Show Organisation.	Mon 2 nd Apr - Daniel Smolenaars Dinner Auction Plans
Set up: Neil Ross	Venue: Relish	Set up: Neil Ross	Venue: Relish	Mon 9 th Apr – Sue Boulters – Work for Dole Projects	

Relish Contact Details

Hosts: Tania Jones & Robert Wood
 Phone/Fax: (03) 5144 5044
 E-mail: 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: 22 Rotarians.
 Visiting Rotarians: None
 Guests: None
 Make-Ups: None reported
 Raffle: Harry won the raffle again but spared Carmel a kiss.

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:	Maffra:	Thursday 6:00pm Duart Receptions
Bairnsdale: Tuesday 6:00pm Bairnsdale Club	Mitchell River:	Monday 5:45pm Italian Club
Bairnsdale Sunrise: Friday 6:45am Main Hotel	Sale Central:	Tuesday 6:00pm Princeton
Heyfield: Monday 6:30 Railway Hotel	Traralgon:	Tuesday 6:00pm Traralgon Golf Club
Lakes Entrance: Wednesday 6:00pm Bellevue Motel	Traralgon Central:	Monday 6:00pm Latrobe Convention Centre
	Yarram:	Wednesday 6:00pm Yarram Club

For more information about Rotary check the following websites

Rotary Club of Sale:	Rotary District 9820:	Rotary International:
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rcsale/	www.district9820.org	http://www.rotary.org

Just for Fun

A defendant in a lawsuit involving large sums of money was talking to his lawyer.
 "If I lose this case, I'll be ruined."
 "It's in the judge's hands now," said the lawyer.
 "Would it help if I sent the judge a box of cigars?"
 "Oh no! This judge is a stickler for ethical behaviour. A stunt like that would prejudice him against you. He might even hold you in contempt of court. In fact, you shouldn't even smile at the judge."
 In the course of time, the judge rendered a decision in favour of the defendant. As the defendant left the courthouse, he said to his lawyer, "Thanks for the tip about the cigars. It worked!"
 "I'm sure we would have lost the case if you'd sent them."
 "But, I did send them."
 "What? You did?" said the lawyer, incredulously.
 "Yes. That's how we won the case."
 "I don't understand," said the lawyer.
 "It's easy. I sent the cigars to the judge, but enclosed the plaintiff's business card."