



In this issue

- Club Calendar
 - Rosters
 - This Week
 - Last Week
 - John Aiken Page 1 and
 - India Update from Emyr Pages 1,2 and 4
- Highlights from President Rogers Changeover Address—Page 7

Back Pages

- Guest Speakers
- Market Roster
- Door Team
- Happy Days

Meeting Apology

Please use the club website before 3 pm on meeting day to apologise or add a guest, or you will be required to reimburse the club for your meal cost.

<http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au>

This week

Think Tank, Open Forum, Brainstorming Session, call it what you will, it's your opportunity to have a say in the future of Kuring-Gai Rotary Club.

Last Week

Roger opened his first meeting as Club President and exclaimed that as a newcomer he was working from a run-sheet, however despite being a newbie, he did an excellent job of chairing his fist meeting. Adelle told us of her success in finally selling her Hi-Fi business and how it had been a three moth ordeal and she was so pleased it was finally over, and the sale was now settled.

Last weeks Speaker.—John Aiken I can recall many saying that the most enjoyable speakers we enjoy are invariably our own Members. Not a truer word could be said about John Aiken, what a simply wonderful story of amazing vision, courage, determination and now success. Our Sergeant described John as a quiet achiever and there was never a truer statement John's story is extraordinary!

John was born in Tumut, went to school at Hornsby and then worked at the Colonial Sugar Refinery. Then to cut a long story short, began as a farmer and grazier at Young, which didn't seem to be the highlight of John's working life? John then managed to sell his rural property and started work with Amcor in the packaging industry making crown larger boxes. John was then retrenched from Amcor and as they say **"every adversity seeds greater success"**.

It was at this time that John started his relationship with Formit Pty Ltd. This was where the real story began a story which is still very much in full flight.



INDIA UPDATE FROM EMYR

One or two friends have asked me how I spend my days working in the place and so I thought I'd provide you with a few reflections.

I'm currently in Coimbatore in the state of Tamil Nadu where I'll stay until I leave for home in two weeks. Unaccustomed as I am to getting up at 7am I do get up at that time here. I look at emails and BBC World News and catch up and I'm breakfast soon after 7.30 and am picked up by a driver at 8.15. The hotel here is five star and obviously very comfortable and even at breakfast it's difficult not to eat bacon and eggs but maybe at the weekend enjoy some excellent masala dosa. *(continued Page three)*



India Update from Emyr

My driver has been described to me as an excellent one who's been driving for the organisation for five years. To me his driving felt like kamikaze! After the first day I



had to admit to my representative that if the driver continued to drive as he did the first day, challenging all those bumps and

crevices, I'd succumb to vomiting and restrict it to the driving seat area, because as some know I suffer mildly from motion

sickness. The driver also has a problem with blowing his horn at the slightest anxiety appearing on the road. By today I've



banned him successfully from the horn blowing and he understands that there is little to worry about on the road if he doesn't do so! As a result there's been a transformation in driving style of which he's proud and however much he's been itching to press his horn button he's resisted the chance to do so.

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Continued

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What might be more interesting to recount than that is the nature of the journey. Now I've never considered myself a fading violet when it



comes to driving but I have to tell you that I would not fancy driving in Coimbatore or I



suppose any other city in India. The majority of traffic is made up of scooters and motorbikes and few cars which are

mainly joint venture Maruti/Suzuki.



2012-2013 Kuring-Gai Rotary Calendar

2012/13

Calendar

July

- 2 BM. **John Aitken speaker.**
- 9 Club Forum Night on 2012.13 goals and activities.
- 16 Speaker. John Terry . Angelflight
- 23 Foundation . Greg Newling
- 30 **Michael Midlam speaker**

August

- 6(8th) BM. **(Wed 8th. St Ives Rotary combined meeting at Pymble Golf Club)**
- 13 **Wed.22nd. District Governor's Meeting. Hornsby RSL.**
- 20. (22nd) **This replaces our Monday 20th meeting**
- 27 **Rotary Awareness Night. School for Life Speaker**

September

- 3 BM
- Tues 11th. Debate with Turramurra at their meeting. Replaces our Monday 10th meeting**
- 10 (11th)
- 17 3x 10 on me
- 24 Restaurant evening

October

- 1 Labour Day public holiday
- 8 BM
- 15
- 22 Club Forum Night
- 29 Carers Night

November

- 5 BM
- 12
- 19 **Rotary Awareness Night**
- 26

December

- 3 BM. AGM
- 10
- 17 Christmas Party
- 24 Christmas Break
- 31 Christmas Break

January

- 7 Christmas Break
- 14 BM. Bowling Night
- 21 Club Forum Night
- 28 Theatre Night

You might find a (pedal) bike or two but of course lots of pedestrians. No-one entering the main road from a side looks to see if it's possible to do so without incurring any collision and the traffic just filters its way through, which for the uninitiated like me is a nightmare.



What we would find difficult would be the continuous harassment by any vehicle which has a horn telling you for safety reason that they're there, or more to the point GET OUT of the way! The way that bus drivers charge is a sight to behold! Any spaces are soon filled with motorbikes and scooters. The condition of the roads is appalling and one must take more than care especially if you're in an area where there are cows, goats, horses and dogs clogging up the road.

Furthermore there are no rules about who owns the road and you're as likely to be moving with cars, motorbikes scooters coming towards you or overtaking you on all sides. Who has ever seriously worried about the road behaviour of the traffic in Kota Kinabalu, Sydney or Caernarfon or Craig y Don?

I have a drive of some 35-40 minutes to the examination centre where during the course of the day I examine predominantly candidates in guitar, electronic keyboards and drum kits. And you can imagine the strain on my throbbing ears when I've done a day's worth of drum kits!

I'm sending on to you some photos, some happy ones of a family always willing to have their photo taken, one of a country woman washing and rinsing her clothes in a small river, a normal mode of transport (and I saw yesterday one of a father with two of his young boys in front of him and two behind him on a scooter) and some of a Hindu temple.

Incidentally you might be interested to know that I was able to attend a Rotary Club meeting last Friday when Coimbatore West was the host club in Chartering a new Rotary Club of Coimbatore Icons. It was quite a stirring occasion with some impressive addresses from the current and incoming District Governors. The only confusion revolved around someone who should have known better starting his talk with 'Good evening Gentleman' when both Clubs had women members and then announcing that wives of Rotarian would of course be known as Anns and their daughters as annettes. But no name was offered for husbands of Rotarians or their sons! But that's India!

Good wishes

Emyr



Members welfare

Guests

Apologies & Guests

Members are booked in to attend every regular meeting of the Club, if you cannot attend a meeting or wish to book in a guest / partner please access the WEB at <http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au> before **3.00 pm** on the day of the meeting. An apology for future meetings may also be entered. If you do not apologise for non-attendance the Club must pay for your meal and you will be asked to reimburse the Club.

John Aiken 'The Quiet Achiever'—Continued



When John joined Formit the Company has 30 employees today it has 150 employees and five factories. The most significant step was the purchase of a Thermo former machine that John was instrumental in purchasing in the US for a seven figure amount.

Although Formit will almost certainly find other products for the thermo former to manufacture it's primary function is to produce the walls and the doors of their portable toilets which until the both the doors and the walls were outsourced.

Under John's supervision the thermo former took some six weeks to build which was recorded using time lapse photography proving a most entertaining way of watching the construction of this quite extraordinary piece of equipment. It requires 800 Amps per phase and takes just 15 –20 seconds to produce each section of the portable toilet. My Kenny would be impressed with this high tech super swish 'shitter'!

Thanks John, your talk was certainly one of the highlights of the year!

Market Roster

MARKET ROSTER	
BANNERS	Frank White
SIGNS	Graham Timms Geoff Hungerford
MORNING SET UP	Frank White
PR	
1ST SHIFT 8.00 to 10.30	Geoff Hungerford
2ND SHIFT 10.30 to 1.00	Caroline Jones Ross Lambert
3RD SHIFT 1.00 to 3.30	Malcolm Braid, David Forsythe

MARKET DUTIES: You must initiate changes & advise Geoff Hungerford. Third Shift returns signs & bins to St George Bank

Door Team

Duty	June
Greeter	Bob Ivey
Team	Chris Hoch
Team	Peter Tang

NOTE: The door team is responsible for welcoming visitors and guests, recording payments and issuing copies of the record to the President, Secretary and Bulletin Editor. Please arrange your own replacement.

Happy Days July 2012

Birthdays		
Margaret	Tang	6-Jul
Irene	Kennedy	11-Jul
John	Thompson	19-Jul
Susan	White	19-Jul
Peter	Kipps	25-Jul
Graham	Timms	26-Jul
Gwen	Ivey	27-Jul

Anniversaries			
Peter	Christine	Kipps	8-Jul
Irene	David	Kennedy	22-Jul
Peter	Margaret	Tang	23-Jul

Bank Details

From 1 July 2011 we have a new bank account at Westpac Turramurra.

Rotary Club of Ku ring gai **Project** account
BSB 032089
Account 253333

Rotary Club of Ku ring gai **General** account
BSB 032089
Account 253341

Claims must be presented with a completed remittance advice which you can download from the WEB.

All payments to you will be made electronically (I do not have a cheque book) so please include your BSB and account when you make a claim.

When you make a payment please ensure you include your name in the details

President Rogers Changeover Address



My priority as President will be to maintain the strengths of our club and build up our membership. However as President Elect Sakuji Tanaka stated in 2011 “Rotary is a good product and any good salesman can make the first sale “If the product does not adapt to changes though that salesman will not make the second sale.” Like Sakuji I believe we need to embrace some change and I will be looking to attract younger members and female members to our club.

President Roger and President Tanaka

I will also be looking for new ideas and innovation for Kuring-Gai Rotary. I will continue to work with our New Generations Team to further develop the links between Rotaract and our Club. We will be holding Rotary Awareness nights on a quarterly basis.

In turn this will raise our profile within the community and will attract new members. It is also very important to have lively meetings and have interesting topics and speakers. We will continue to hold social events and outings for Members their partners and friends inturn providing opportunities to again raise our Club’s profile and expanding the opportunities for friendship amongst our members.

On a macro level the overall focus of our Club will be the three priorities of the Rotary International Strategic Plan:

- To support and strengthen Clubs;
- To focus and increase humanitarian service; and
- To enhance the public image and increase awareness of Rotary;

The Club has a proud record of pursuing humanitarian causes both in our local community and internationally. In 2012—13 we will continue to work on projects which will provide revenue so that we can continue supporting local causes and Polio Plus and other international causes. We also need to promote ourselves and our achievements more widely in the community, and this will be a task for our Public Relations Committee.

This year will be The Rotary year of peace through service President Elect Sakuji Tanaka said “ peace in all of the ways we can understand it, is the real goal and a realistic goal for Rotary. Peace is something that is only achieved by treaties, by governments or through heroic struggles . It is something that we can find and we can achieve in many simple ways.

I will encourage our Club and it’s Members to commit to the Rotary Year of Peace through Service and hop that in same way our efforts can lead to a more peaceful world?

Roger Desmarchelier

**Club President
Kuring-Gai Rotary**

