



Rotary E-Club of D9700

Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com



Next E-Club Meeting (Social)

Theme: MELBOURNE CUP

October 23rd, 2018

8.00 pm



Attendance: Marilyn, Debbie, John, Ruth, Cameron, Monica, Donna, Kate and our guest Richard Woodburn, ROMAC

Apology: Mal Dunnett.

Lovely to welcome Kate to the meeting and Ruth was also in attendance having returned from her holiday. Ruth informed us that she has already booked her next holiday. Egypt etc. Sounds great.



Cameron introduced our guest Richard who is the Eastern Region (NSW/ACT) Chair, ROMAC. A Rotary Districts' Program of Australia and New Zealand. Cameron did an excellent job in his research and has set a high standard.

Richard has been a Rotarian since 1979 and has been a member of 5 clubs in the districts of D9700 including Past President of Parkes and Wollundry, and Past President of Randwick D9675. Richard has been an Assistant Governor for D9700 and is currently Assistant Governor for D9675. Richard has been involved in many Rotary projects and committees. He is also on the Board of Management of Ronald McDonald House Randwick. Richard is a Civil Engineer, recently retired and was also a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserve and, among other senior positions, commanded the 21st Construction Regiment.



Rotary E-Club of D9700



Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com

Richard spoke to us regarding the work that ROMAC, Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children. This organization has been operating in Australia for many years. ROMAC was started by Rotarian Barry Cooper, Bendigo, back in the 1990's. You will most likely remember the story of the Bosin twins, who were born conjoined and flown to Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Barry was passionate in assisting the twins and since then many other children have received medical aid for serious conditions.

Now ROMAC is a National Rotary Committee and has developed an amazing network which can be called into action in a minute amount of time. A credit to the committee.

Richard told us that ROMAC and the organization INTERPLAST, a Medical Doctor based committee that source many patients and together ROMAC and INTERPLAST arrange for patients to receive the best treatment possible.

The most common surgery for patients is Open Heart Surgery, however, children suffering from burns and birth defects also make up the case numbers.

ROMAC also provides follow up and ongoing treatment if required. Richard spoke of a number of cases, and in particular mentioned that recently a case in Vanuatu, where a little boy had a serious accident and within the hours of the accident ROMAC had emergency treatment and transport organised for him in Australia. Simply amazing and an absolute credit to this Rotary committee.

ROMAC also provides education for the children while in Australia and this often helps the children improve their education level, particularly in reading and writing.

Respite has been arranged for some patients who are inbetween treatment and this is often provided by Rotary Club, who take great pride and enjoyment in supporting the families.

ROMAC raise their own funds and have a huge networking operation with sponsorship and donations in kind to enable them to support these children. Individual Rotary Clubs and Rotarians also support this organisation. Doctors and nurses often donate their time free of charge and if Private Hospitals are involved, they often donate their services. However, as Richard explained, most cases require specialist treatment and equipment which are only available at the public hospitals.



Rotary E-Club of D9700



Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com

I have attached to this newsletter the PowerPoint presentation that Richard was unable to present due to low signal. I also asked Richard for the answer to Kate's question.

Question:

As ROMAC has been operating for 20 years, how has ROMAC managed to continually manage to fund itself?

Answer:

ROMAC is primarily funded by the very generous donations from Rotary Clubs across Australia and New Zealand, together with personal donations. We have also been fortunate to benefit in recent years from a couple of Global Grants from the Rotary Foundation.

In terms of costs that we incur, our largest cost is that of hospital beds. As of necessity we primarily use the public hospital beds in our various Children's hospitals. They can't use public funds to support overseas patients - this cost can be significant, over \$2000 per day for a normal ward and \$5000 for an ICU bed, so the \$\$ add up quickly. The surgeons and other doctors generously waive their fees. If the case is suitable we sometimes manage to place a child in a private hospital and they often waive their fees, but unfortunately most of our cases require the more specialised facilities only available in the public children's hospitals. We also incur costs for travel, although we do have some arrangements for free fares in some instances. And then there are the costs of the care and support of the families whilst they are here - often they stay with people of their own cultural background who themselves are struggling with day to day costs of living, so we cover their costs, etc with a small living allowance.

Hope this helps,

All the best

Richard



Rotary E-Club of D9700

Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com



Below is the update of the Bosin twins that I found on the internet. Great to see the after story of these medical cases.



Twins Eaustina (left) and Eaustocia Bosin.

IDENTICAL TWINS Eaustina and Eaustocia Bosin always wondered why they were the only children in their village who went to school. Two weeks ago, they learned why -

they were born as conjoined twins.

In a hotel room in Sydney, the 15-year-old sisters watched a DVD that told the story of their birth, by emergency caesarean, in a hospital on a tiny tropical island near Bougainville. They arrived in a locked embrace, joined at the chest. Together, they weighed two kilograms.

Two weeks later, they were on an operating table at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital, surrounded by an elite squadron of surgeons led by paediatric specialist Mr Alex Auldist.

Outside the hospital, television stations competed to tell their story: Channel Nine's *A Current Affair* believed they had an exclusive deal with Rotary and the family, but Channel Seven, a significant donor to the hospital, demanded exclusive access to the operation.

The tiny sisters became instant celebrities here and in Papua New Guinea, but their father, Henry Bosin, was determined his girls would grow up leading a normal life.

"I thought maybe they should grow up in an environment like a normal family," said Mr Bosin, who works with his village collective selling cophia. They could learn why they were special when they were older, he said.

Asked how she felt about being born a conjoined twin, Eaustina said she was happy, because the operation had gone so well. Eaustocia said: "I felt sad because I always ask myself questions. What makes us really special? A lot of people are always talking about us."

This week, Henry and his wife Magdalene returned to Melbourne with the twins to film a reunion special for *A Current Affair* (which aired last night).



Rotary E-Club of D9700



Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com

Along for the ride is their 11-year-old son, Barrie, named for Barrie Cooper, a Bendigo Rotarian who organised the girls' medical evacuation 15 years ago.

Mr Cooper, now 75, has remained a part of the family's lives, organising trips back to Australia for medical checks when the twins turned one and then two, organising food parcels for their village during a drought, and working with other Rotary members to raise funds to send the girls to a private school 30 kilometres away. His job now is to raise a final \$30,000 to cover the costs of senior school and university.



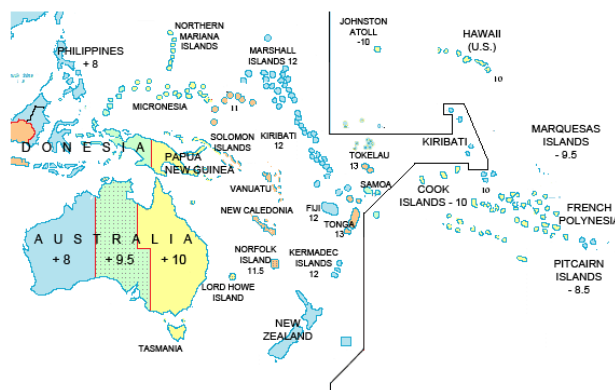
Eaustocia and Eaustina Bosin on the 26th of May, 1996.

Thankyou Richard, a remarkable Rotary Committee, well done to you and your committee.

CHANGE OF MEETING TIME

Please note that due to daylight saving time, we now have two time zones. To assist our QLD members we have changed the time to **8pm, NSW ESDT**

ie. . Qld 7pm, NSW 8pm. Kiribati 11pm. If the time proves a problem for you Tabao, let me know.





Rotary E-Club of D9700



Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com

Next Meeting: Melbourne Cup Races.

Debbie suggested the following idea for our social meeting and I think it's a great idea. Here is her explanation.

As a suggestion for our next social meeting which is to be a Melbourne Cup theme, I was thinking it might be an idea to ask each member to speak for 2 minutes on the **NAME** of a past Melbourne Cup winner.

It doesn't have to be anything related to horse racing. For example, the 1999 winner was Rogan Josh so you could talk for 2 minutes about Rogan Josh, as follows:

Rogan Josh

- is an aromatic lamb or goat meat dish of Persian or Kashmiri origin
- Type of dish: [Curry](#)
- Place of origin: [India](#)
- Region: [Jammu and Kashmir](#)
- Main ingredients: Lamb, Alkanet root
- Serving temperature: Hot
- Course: Main

The last 20 winners were:

Year	Winner
2017	Rekindling^[3]
2016	Almandin^[4]
2015	Prince of Penzance^[5]
2014	Protectionist^[6]
2013	Fiorente^[7]
2012	Green Moon^[8]
2011	Dunaden^[9]
2010	Americain^[10]
2009	Shocking^[11]
2008	Viewed^[12]
2007	Efficient^[13]
2006	Delta Blues^[14]





Rotary E-Club of D9700



Serving Humanity

rotaryclubofd9700.org.au

President: Marilyn Roberts

robwag2@bigpond.com

2005	Makybe Diva^[15]
2004	Makybe Diva^[16]
2003	Makybe Diva^[17]
2002	Media Puzzle^[18]
2001	Ethereal^[19]
2000	Brew^[20]
1999	Rogan Josh
1998	Jezabeel



However, you can choose any racehorse you wish. Doesn't have to be limited to the above list.

Ladies and Gentleman can wear racing hats if so desired. I have mine organised.

Here are some suggestions:



Take Care, Marilyn