

Rotary Club of Mitcham

District 9810 Victoria Australia



Guest Speaker

*Geoff Limmer,
ROMAC.*

Bulletin

Tuesday 29th April, 2008

Geoff Limmer is the District 9810 Chairman for ROMAC. (You may recall that Les Marton came and spoke several months ago.) Geoff is a member of the Rotary Club of Boxhill Central



Rotary Club of Mitcham Newsletters for the current Rotary Year are viewable in the **NEWS** section of:
www.rotarymitcham.com



April 2008

David Murray 11th
Pamela Butler 11th
David Ayliffe 25th
Sue Temby 28th
Ron Frederick 29th



Wedding
Anniversaries

None

Rotary Grace

For good food, good fellowship and the opportunity of service through Rotary, we give thanks.

The Rotary Club of Mitcham needs you!

Helping Hands

The Rotary Club is looking for volunteer shop attendants to help assist in the continued running of our local op-shop.

Why not come and spend a few hours in our fun and happy environment and help support our community and have fun too!



Please call John Atkinson on **9873 3322** for more details!



PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

Presented by the Rotary Club of Mitcham

1979 Geoffrey Prior	1999 Chris & Ian McColl
1980 Dr John Munro	1999 John Varley
1983 Bruce McLaughlin	2000 John Cook
1986 Maxwell Bloom †	2000 Jean & Ray † Rose
1988 William Wood†	2000 Brian Bergin
1988 Alan Fraser	2001 Christine Ryan
1989 Tony Gibson	2001 Bill Mudford
1989 David Gawler	2001 John Atkinson
1991 Dr Peter Brown	2002 Wayne Lucas
1991 Robert McDowell	2002 Denis Bunn †
1991 Bruce Wainwright	2002 Michael Edney
1993 Ronald Slattery	2002 Peter McPhee
1994 Vic Dye	2003 Dawn & Graham Whiteside
1995 Fr Kevin Dillon	2003 Keith Nunn
1995 Kenneth Rose	2004 Brendan Tunstall
1997 David Murray	2004 Colin Spencer
1998 Ian Young	2005 Fred Wiffrie
1998 Ron Frederick	2006 Les Marton

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW SAPPHIRE AWARD

2002 Bruce Wainwright

2004 Tony Gibson

2004 John Atkinson

2007 Brian Bergin (Dec)

2007 Bill Mudford

2007 Colin Spencer

FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE AWARD

2000 John Atkinson

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH RESEARCH FUND COMPANIONS

1994 Roy Knudson † 1996 Dr Peter Brown 1999 David Murray

Officers for 2007/8

BOARD

President Sharon Partridge

IP President: Eva Anderson

Pres. Elect: David Ayliffe

Vice Pres : David Murray

Secretary: Jack Butler

Treasurer and Fundraising:
John Atkinson

Committee:

Philip Daw

David Murray

Bill Mudford

PORTFOLIOS

Membership All Members

New Generations Sharon Partridge

Communication/Marketing, Public
Relations and Photography:
Eva Anderson

International and on to Confer-
ence:

David Ayliffe

Vocational Service: Ivan Munoz

Fellowship: Bill Mudford

Attendance:

Foundation: Ron Frederick

Bulletin and Program:

Wayne Lucas, Philip Daw
and Colin Spencer

Sergeant and Community Service:

David Murray



Partridge Prose

What a great morning on Friday for ANZAC Day.

On behalf of our club I layed a wreath at the Mitcham Sentential. There were hundreds of people like myself paying respect. It was good to see Phil there as well. It was a bit dark to start off but it was 6 am after all.

Afterwards, the RSL served 450 breakfasts - a mighty effort. I did not stay for the two up. It did look like fun.

I have had to borrow so many cameras since becoming president to take the shots that go into the bulletin. A camera has now been bought since the Board approved it, so there's no excuse not to be able to supply Phil with the latest shots on what we have been doing.

Have A good Week.

Shaz

Quote:

Often you just have to rely on your intuition.

Bill Gates, Microsoft

Advance Australia Fair

*Australians all let us rejoice, for we are young and free
We've golden soil and wealth for toil, our home is girt by sea
Our land abounds in nature's gifts, of beauty rich and rare
In history's page let every stage, advance Australia fair
In joyful strains, then let us sing
Advance Australia fair*

This Week ...

Tuesday 29th April 2008

**President Sharon Partridge
Desk for April: John Atkinson
Chairman - John Atkinson**

PLEASE read this Australian Police Officer's story carefully. You can also verify the story at <http://www.snopes.com/toxins/dustoff.asp> Dust Off (or a variant of the product) is available everywhere there's a computer.

First I'm going to tell you a little about me and my family. My name is Geoff. I am a Police Officer for a city which is known nationwide for its crime rate (Brisbane). We have a lot of gangs and drugs. At one point we were # 2 in the nation in homicides per capita. I also have a police K-9 named Thor. He was certified in drugs and general duty. He retired at 3 years old because he was shot in the line of duty. He lives with us now and I still train with him because he likes it.

I always liked the fact that there was no way to bring drugs into my house. Thor wouldn't allow it. He would tell on you. The reason I say this is so you understand that I know about drugs. I have taught in schools about drugs. My wife asks all our kids at least once a week if they used any drugs. Makes them promise they won't.

I like building computers occasionally and started building a new one in February 2005. I also was working on some of my older computers. They were full of dust so on one of my trips to the computer store I bought a 3 pack of DUST OFF. Dust Off is a can of compressed air to blow dust off a computer. A few weeks later when I went to use one of them they were all used. I talked to my kids and my two sons both said they had used them on their computer and messing around with them. I yelled at them for wasting the 10 dollars I paid for them. On February 28 I went back to the computer store.

They didn't have the 3 pack which I had bought on sale so I bought a single jumbo can of Dust Off. I went home and set it down beside my computer.

On March 1st, I left for work at 10 PM. Just before midnight my wife went down and kissed Kyle goodnight. At 5:30 am the next morning Kathy went downstairs to wake Kyle up for school, before she left for work. He was propped up in bed with his legs crossed and his head leaning over. She called to him a few times to get up. He didn't move. He would sometimes tease her like this and pretend he fell back asleep. He was never easy toggged up. She went in and shook his arm. He fell over.

He was pale white and had the straw from the Dust Off can coming out of his mouth. He had the new can of Dust Off in his hands. Kyle was dead.

I am a police officer and I had never heard of this. My wife is a nurse and she had never heard of this. We later found out from the coroner, after the autopsy, that only the propellant from the can of Dust off was in his system. No other drugs. Kyle had died between midnight and 1AM I found out that using Dust Off is being done mostly by kids ages 9 through 15.

They even have a name for it. It's called dusting. A take off from the Dust Off name It gives them a slight high for about 10 seconds. It makes them dizzy. A boy who lives down the street from us showed Kyle how to do this about a month before. Kyle showed his best friend. Told him it was cool and it couldn't hurt you. Its just compressed air. His best friend said no.

Kyle was wrong. It's not just compressed air. It also contains a propellant called R2. Its a refrigerant like what is used in your refrigerator. It is a heavy gas. Heavier than air. When you inhale it, it fills your lungs and keeps the good air, with oxygen, out. That's why you feel dizzy, buzzed. It decreases the oxygen to your brain, to your heart. Kyle was right. It can't hurt you. IT KILLS YOU.

The horrible part about this is there is no warning. There is no level that kills you. It's not cumulative or an overdose; it can just go randomly, terribly wrong. Roll the dice and if your number comes up you die.

IT'S NOT AN OVERDOSE. It's Russian Roulette. You don't die later. Or not feel good and say I've had too much. You usually die as you're breathing it in. If not, you die within 2 seconds of finishing 'the hit.' That's why the straw was still in Kyle's mouth when he died. Why his eyes were still open.

The experts want to call this huffing. The kids don't believe it's huffing. As adults we tend to lump many things together. But it doesn't fit here. And that's why it's more accepted. There is no chemical reaction, no strong odour. It doesn't follow the huffing signals.

Kyle complained a few days before he died of his tongue hurting. It probably did. The propellant causes frostbite. If I had only known. It's easy to say hey, it's my life and I'll do what I want. But it isn't.

Others are always effected. This has forever changed our family's life.

I have a hole in my heart and soul that can never be fixed. The pain is so immense I can't describe it. There's nowhere to run from it. I cry all the time and I don't ever cry. I do what I'm supposed to do but I don't really care. My kids are messed up. One won't talk about it. The other will only sleep in our room at night. And my wife, I can't even describe how bad she is taking this. I thought we were safe because of Thor. I thought we were safe because we knew about drugs and talked to our kids about them.

After Kyle died another story came out. A Probation Officer went to the school system next to ours to speak with a student. While there he found a student using Dust Off in the bathroom. This student told him about another student who also had some in his locker.

This is a rather affluent school system. They will tell you they don't have a drug problem there. So rather than tell everyone about this 'new' way of getting high they found, they hid it.

The probation officer told the media after Kyle's death and they, the school, then admitted to it. I know that if they would have told the media and I had heard, it wouldn't have been in my house.

We need to get this out of our homes and school computer labs. Using Dust Off isn't new and some 'professionals' do know about. It just isn't talked about much, except by the kids. They all seem to know about it.

April 2nd was 1 month since Kyle died. April 5th would have been his 15th birthday. And every weekday I catch myself sitting on the living room couch at 2:30 in the afternoon and waiting to see him get off the bus. I know Kyle is in heaven but I can't help but wonder if I have died and gone to Hell.

(Name withheld)

Constable

Crime Prevention Unit

Queensland Police Service, Brisbane

Colin's Corner



A stranger was seated next to a little girl on the airplane when the stranger turned to her and said, 'Let's talk. I've heard that flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger.'

The little girl, who had just opened her book, closed it slowly and said to the stranger, 'What would you like to talk about?'

'Oh, I don't know,' said the stranger. 'How about nuclear power?' and he smiles.

'OK,' she said. 'That could be an interesting topic. But let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass. Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, and a horse produces clumps of dried grass. Why do you suppose that is?'

The stranger, visibly surprised by the little girl's intelligence, thinks about it and says, 'Hmmm, I have no idea.'

To which the little girl replies, 'Do you really feel qualified to discuss nuclear power when you don't know sh*t?'

Diary Dates

April 2008

Tuesday 29th ROMAC

May 2008

Tuesday 6th Club Forum, Business Matters, Members Profile

Tuesday 13th Nicole Osner, ARHRF

Tuesday 20th Brian McMaster, Owner McDonalds Doncaster

Tuesday 27th Carolyn Nicholson

June 2008

Tuesday 3rd Club Forum, Business Matters, Members Profile



... of the things we think, say or do.

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Description of Rotary

Rotary is an organisation of Business and Professional persons, united world wide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in all the world.

Next Tuesday 6th May
Club Forum, Business Matters, Members Profile

Why Men Die First!

