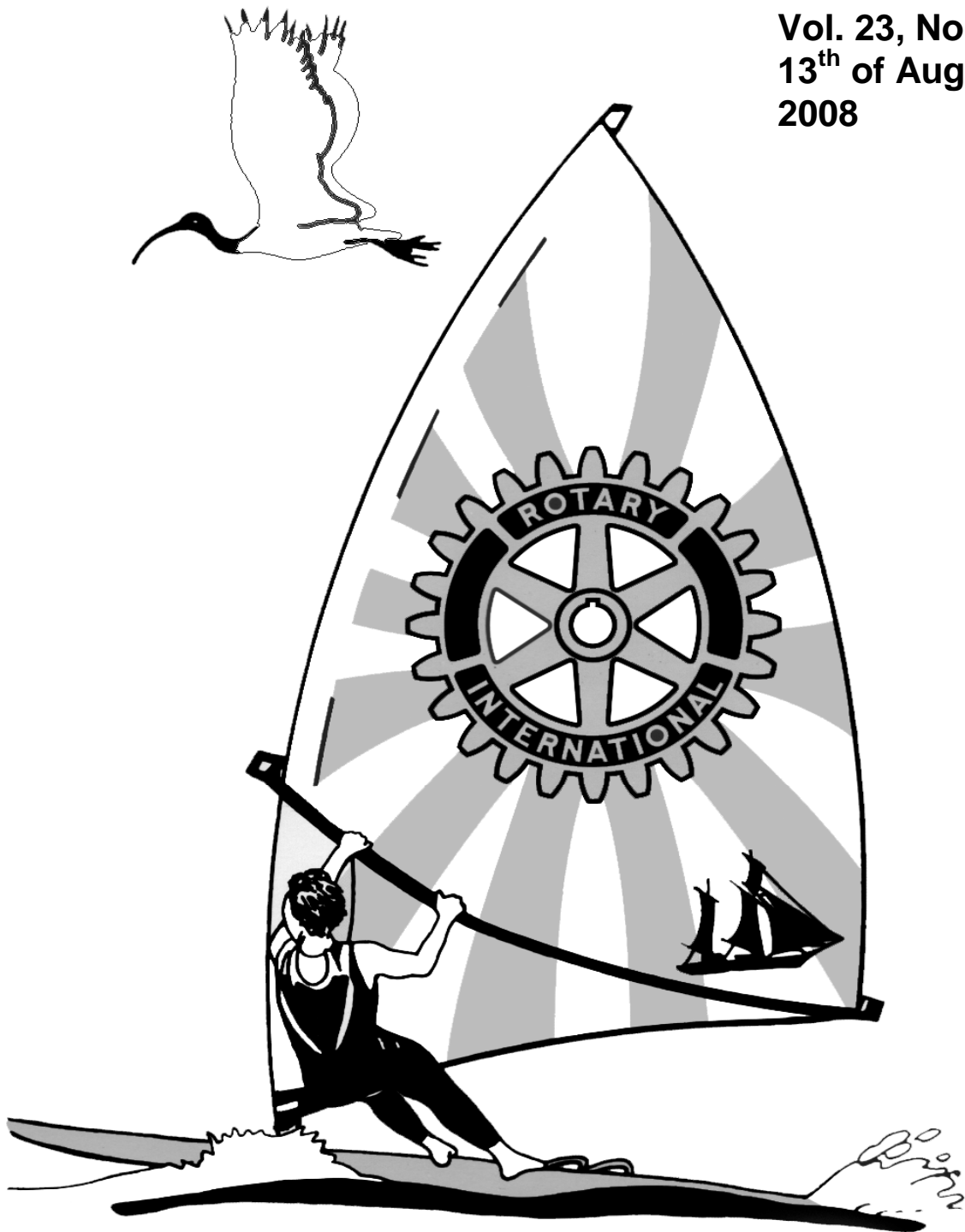


THE BULLETIN

Vol. 23, No. 7
13th of August
2008



Rotary Club of

INVERLOCH

Victoria Australia

District 9820 Chartered 29/4/1986

ROTARY CLUB OF INVERLOCH Inc.

ABN 86 935 404 313 - INCORP NO. A0015634B

DISTRICT 9820 - CLUB NO. 23672.

P.O. BOX 49, INVERLOCH, 3996. TELEPHONE 5674 2591

MEETS AT THE INLET HOTEL, WEDNESDAY 6.30 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS 2008/09

Club President: Ross Wise.
President Elect: TBA.
Immediate Past President: Ian Monro.
Secretary: Marcus Hall.
Treasurer: Ian Blackwell.
Directors: Patrick Barry, Marilyn Warren, Robin Warren.

COMMITTEES 2008/09

Community & Service: *Patrick Barry*, Ian Monro, Ivan Fell
Ian Blackwell, Ken Fisher, John
Peterson.
Foundation & Vocational: *Marilyn Warren*, Gerry Lonergan
Ray Peters, Graeme Robertson
Allan Mann.
Youth & International: *Robin Warren*, Ken Lehmann,
Robert Stone, Frank Bain, Marcus
Hall.
Membership: *Judy Robertson*, Paul Everitt,
Isabella McLean, Leanne Fisher.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AND DISTRICT

R.I. President 2008/09: Dong-Kurn Lee
District 9820 Governor: Ken McDonald
Governor's Assistant: Michael Malone



MAKE-UPS:

Monday:	6.15 for 6.30	Leongatha	Woorayl Golf Club.
Monday:	6.00 for 6.30	Phillip Is.S.R.	Cowes Golf Club.
Tuesday:	6.15 for 6.45	Korumburra	Austral Hotel.
Thursday:	6.00 for 6.15	Wonthaggi	Wonthaggi Club.

THE BULLETIN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF INVERLOCH Inc.

**VOLUME 23, NUMBER 7,
Wednesday 13th of August 2008.**

TONIGHT'S MEETING

Venue: Inlet Hotel

Chairman: Ross Wise

Sergeant @ Arms: Ken Fisher

Program: Club night followed by August Board Meeting

Fellowship: Be there at 6:15 for fellowship with the Inverloch Rotarians.

LOOKING AHEAD

DATE	PROGRAM	INVITE
Wed 13 th August	Club night & Board meeting Inlet Hotel, Inverloch	
Wed 20 th August	Robert Stone, Guest speaker	
Wed 27 th August	Guest Speaker Kate Rankin on Studies in Cambodia.	Partner's & Guests.
Wed 3 rd Sept	Club night and Board meeting, Inlet Hotel	1 week earlier
Wed 10 th Sept	District Governor's Visit Inlet Hotel	Partners and Guests

LAST MEETING: Tuesday 5th of August 2008

Venue: The Italian-Australian Club, Korumburra.

A combined meeting with Rotary Clubs of Korumburra, Koo-Wee-Rup Lang-Lang, Leongatha, Wonthaggi and Philip Island. The guest speaker was past Premier, Jeff Kennett speaking for "Beyond Blue" the national depression initiative.

Jeff introduced himself with some startling facts about "STRESS" and the results of long-term stress. Many of our "Road toll" fatalities are in fact successful suicides. The suicide rate among male Doctors is twice the Australian average. Bad enough, but the rate among female GP's is SIX times the female average suicide rate!! Farmers with financial problems from long term drought are also high on the suicide statistics. This is the result of CLINICAL DEPRESSION being unrecognised by family, friends, work colleagues, even their medical advisor, and therefore not being treated promptly.

Plain "emotional depression" from a loss or death of a family member we usually recover from after a grieving period. (days to weeks to a couple of months). Clinical depression is **long term** and we find no way out of the problem unless we seek help or are convinced by friend and family to seek professional help. Beyond Blue is about providing the information and education to all age groups but especially to those most at risk of **depressive illness**.

Jeff feels that since leaving politics this has been his most important and satisfying job. Beyond Blue is supported equally by both sides of the political spectrum. An example he gave was when the Federal Government offered a \$25 million grant to study and treat women suffering "post-natal depression" Jeff and Beyond Blue convinced them that more like \$85 million would be required. And the extra money was approved. The Beyond Blue web-site has been voted as one of the most professional medical self-help sites in the world. It supplies more information, more often than any other Australian public medical care site. Other countries now use it's methods and information brochures to educate about depression.

Apologies : Frank Bain, Ivan Fell, Ken Fisher, Ken Lehmann, Gerry Lonergan, Allan Mann, Ian Monro, Robin & Marilyn Warren.

Attendance : 12 out of 21 for 57% , Partners and guests brought the number to 21 who attended Beyond Blue dinner.

Congratulations: 24th. August will be Marcus & Pam Hall's thirty-fourth wedding Anniversary. Yes, you would get less for murder.

Ongoing Reminders: Operation "UPLIFT FIJI": All used brassieres can be dropped off at Stockdale & Leggo or at Wonthaggi Radio & TV.

Correspondence In:

✚ Several Market bookings for Ken Fisher.

✚ Newsletter from South Gippsland Active Citizens.

- ✚ NAB: July statement & Notice of maturing deposit.
- ✚ Portsea Lord Mayor's Camp are requesting volunteers for a "working bee" weekend on 10th to 12th of October. Meals and Accomodation provided.
- ✚ Inverloch SLSC: Invitation to their "Gala Ball" on 11th October at the Wonthaggi Club. (\$80 pp)
- ✚ Inverloch Community House: Invitation to their AGM on Monday 18th August, 7:30 pm.

On grit and grass

by Chris Burbach *The Rotarian*

Rotarian John Lee Hoich. *Photo by Geoff Johnson.*

It is dusk, the cicadas are humming, and Rotarian John Lee Hoich is baring his soul in his driveway. "When I was little," he says, "my [stepfather] called me a no-good, rotten bastard who would never amount to anything."

It is a long driveway, lined with coffee trees, and it leads up to a sprawling home fronted by a towering, hand-carved marble fountain. Hoich continues his story as he shows a visitor the other trappings of his success – a stable of horses, a collection of exotic animals, an elaborate backyard with manmade waterfalls, and a pond where 150 koi swim beneath paddling geese.

It wasn't only verbal abuse, Hoich says. For years, his stepfather beat him every day. He beat his mother and his five younger siblings, too. One night, when Hoich was 10 years old, his stepfather "tried to kill all of us . . . in the kitchen, with a steak knife."

Hoich, now 49, a Major Donor and a member of the Rotary Club of Omaha-Suburban, Neb., USA, is as driven to tell this story as he was to move beyond the horrible reality of his early life. He tells it in speeches – more than 600 of them to date. And he published it in a book, *From the Ground Up: It's Not Just Business*, the proceeds of which he's donating to The Rotary Foundation and several Omaha charities.

It's the story of an abused child, orphaned at age 16 and left with little means, who used his meager inheritance – a lawnmower – to start a business that made him a millionaire by the age of 30, and a generous philanthropist in Omaha and beyond. Hoich has made a \$100,000 bequest to The Rotary Foundation, and recently made a \$250,000 gift of a fully paid, wholly owned life insurance policy. For a young man, Rotary was a refuge and a place to make friends, says Hoich, who joined his club when he was just 22. The organization soon became a favorite charity for a simple reason: "I believe in it."

"Service Above Self," Hoich says. "Anybody who knows me knows I've given until it hurt. And The Four-Way Test, that's not just a quote. For 27 years, I've lived by it."

Mowing for millions

Hoich's story could have turned out very differently. After the knife attack, he never again saw his stepfather, a professional wrestler and violent drunk, and his mother soon suffered a series of



nervous breakdowns. Over the next few years, he lived in four foster homes. In two of them, he says, the foster father tried to molest him. In 1974, when Hoich was 16, his mother died suddenly, at the age of 39.

The only things she left were a Sears Craftsman lawnmower and an inheritance of \$3,300 for each child when they turned 21. All of the children were sent to foster care. Around the same time, Hoich's stepfather died. The responsibility for keeping the family together rested on Hoich alone. He began building a mowing business, Green Star Lawn Care, while attending Westside High School in a suburb of Omaha. He had a partner named Joe Smith, a childhood buddy who would go on to become a hard-nosed county prosecutor. Smith had a pickup truck and a mower. Hoich had the gift of gab and the drive to succeed.

Hoich wasn't shy about approaching potential customers, and the business quickly grew. "Even back when we were kids, he was clear about where he wanted his life to go," says Smith, still Hoich's best friend. "He knew what he wanted to do and was willing to work hard to do it."

Hoich began investing in real estate while attending the University of Nebraska. He bought a \$6,500 house using \$1,500 of his inheritance money as a down payment, and then worked out a deal with his fraternity brothers: If they helped him renovate the house, they could use it for weekend parties. He sold the house two years later for \$13,500.

Hoich bought out Smith's share of the lawn service for about \$400 when Smith went to law school. He then built a duplex, renting out half and running his lawn care business out of the other half. At age 21, he launched Hoich Enterprises, a grounds maintenance and real estate company.

The lawn service sprouted big time for Hoich in 1991, when he and some partners founded a company called U.S. Grounds Maintenance and landed a groundskeeping contract at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue, near Omaha. That led to similar jobs at Air Force bases in Georgia, Mississippi, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Hoich worked 12- to 16-hour days. Fond of saying, "You have to circulate to percolate," he'd hand out 50 business cards a day. He dreamed up deals in the shower, then put together networks of people to make them happen.

Each deal led to something bigger. Hoich bought an ethanol plant in South Dakota, an assisted-living facility in Iowa, and a meatpacking plant in Kansas. When the Air Force privatized the residences at the Offutt base, he bought 2,400 units.

A lot of people say, "Shoulda, coulda, woulda," Hoich writes in his book. But he says, "Dida, dida, dida." No indecision. No second thoughts.

'Share what you can'

Even as he was making money, Hoich was giving a lot of it away. Along with a friend, he helped raise \$100,000 for Rotary club projects in 1985 by commissioning and selling pewter sculptures by Colorado artist Michael Anthony Ricker. Hoich is well known in his Rotary club, where he's active in meetings and events, often bringing guests. When the club needs anything – door prizes, a place to hold an outdoor fundraiser, mowing of donated land – Hoich steps up, says past club president Carma Scheafer. He's also the District 5650 Membership Development Committee chair and recently received a 29-year perfect-attendance pin.

Last year, he gave \$400,000 to an Omaha homeless shelter, the Stephen Center, to build a new home for its chemical dependency treatment programs. The donation came after Hoich noticed that the center would be built on the site of one of his stepfather's old drinking haunts, the First and Last Chance bar.

Despite the beatings he took after those drinking sessions, no matter how diminished he felt, Hoich never considered failure. "I just kept mowing and mowing," he says. "Then I came back all these years later and I gave back."

ROTARY CLUB of INVERLOCH INC.

RESPONSIBILITIES 2008/09

Sergeant at Arms:	Ken Fisher.
Assist. Sergeant at Arms:	Isabella McLean.
Bulletin Editor:	TBA. (Marcus temporarily)
Assist. Editors:	Allan Mann & Leanne Fisher.
Attendance:	Gerry Lonergan.
Social/Fellowship:	Graeme Robertson, Isabella McLean, Paul Everitt.
Historian:	Ken Lehmann.
District Conference:	Paul Everitt.
Markets:	Ken Fisher, Rob Stone, Marilyn Warren.
Dinner Auction:	Judy Robertson, Rob Stone, Isabella McLean.
Promotion:	Ian Monro.
Dinner Treasurer:	Ian Blackwell, Ray Peters.
Boat Raffle:	TBA
Evening in the Glade:	Paul Everitt.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

1988	Ivan Fell	1999	Kevin Bradley	2005	Ian Monro
1991	Rex Bowman	2001	Marcus Hall	2007	Ken Fisher
1994	Paul Everitt	2004	Gerald Banks	2008	Bruce Mitchell
1995	Norm Shaw	2005	Ken Lehmann	2008	Ian Blackwell

INVOCATION:

For good food, good
fellowship and the
privilege of giving
service through
Rotary, we give our
thanks.

RESPONSE: Amen

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.

CLUB MEMBERS 2008/09

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>PARTNER</u>	<u>HOME Ph.</u>	<u>MOBILE Ph.</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>
Frank Bain*	Lorraine	5674 1671.		Plumbing.
Patrick Barry	Susan	5672 2945	0418 124 100.	Real Estate Consult.
Ian Blackwell (P.P.)	Margaret	5674 2032	0429 429 849.	Printing.
Paul Everitt (P.P.)*	Heather	5674 2210	0408 242 210.	Sheetmetal.
Ivan Fell (P.O.)*	Fae	5674 1167		Pastrybaking.
Ken Fisher (P.P.)	Margaret	5663 5256		Grazier.
Leanne Fisher		BH5671 2500	0419 378 592	Finance.
Marcus Hall (P.P.)	Pam	5674 2591	0411 700 446.	Electronic Repairs.
Ken Lehmann (P.O.)*	Joan	5674 3400		Education.
Gerard Lonergan		5674 3931		Education Secondary
Allan Mann	Sharni	5674 6088	0409 855 753	Real Estate.
Isabella McLean	Ken	5674 1988	0407 505 152	Holiday Accommm.
Ian Monro (P.P.)	Mary	5674 2921	0423 926 005	Accountancy.
Ray Peters (P.P.)	Joan	5674 3010	0408 055 988	Dairy Farming.
John Peterson	Christine	9428 7696	0407 813 389	Home Maintenance.
Graeme Robertson	Judy	5674 3622	0413 806 543	Contracting.
Judy Robertson (P.P.)	Graeme	5674 3622	0412 548 165	Accommodation.
Robert Stone	Barbara	5674 3879		Industrial Chemistry.
Marilyn Warren	Robin	5674 1181	0429 696 450	Nursing.
Robin Warren	Marilyn	5674 1181	0448 533 021	Power Generation.
Ross Wise (Pres.)	Judy	5674 3090	0407 343 451	Bus Services.

*P.P.=Past President, this club P.O.= Past President of another club. *=Charter Member*

HONORARY MEMBERS: Kathy Everitt, Stan Stubbs, Fay Suckling, Hilda Barron.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE CLUB

1986/87	Dennis Ginn	1997/98	Ray Peters
1987/88	Jack Harrop	1998/99	Ken Fisher
1988/89	Kevin Bradley	1999/00	Ross Wise
1989/90	Norm Shaw	2000/01	Bill Aikins
1990/91	Michael Hall	2001/02	Ian Monro
1991/92	Mark Haines	2002/03	Ian Blackwell
1992/93	Paul Everitt	2003/04	Ken Fisher
1993/94	Brian Kewming	2004/05	Bruce Mitchell
1994/95	Marcus Hall	2005/06	Paul Everitt
1995/96	John Dunne	2006/07	Judy Robertson
1996/97	Don Wallace	2007/08	Ian Monro

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

