

Trev's Tidings

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

Henry Adams

The Education of Henry Adams, 1907

This week, our guest speaker is Dan O'Carrigan, who taught for several years at Canterbury Boys' High School, including a period during which he was principal. I am looking forward to hearing of his adventures and to learn about some of the qualities required of a teacher-in-charge of a school in the Australian bush.

Last week we heard from Darion Akins, how he began his working life as a teacher then, having had experience with the Peace Corps, progressed to become manager of the United States Consulate General in Sydney. An enjoyable presentation from someone who really believes that what he and his country are doing is right.

On Friday, two weeks ago, we put on a barbecue for Homebush West Primary School. My thanks to Bradley Ayres for his excellent organizational skills, to IPP Peter Smith for setting up, and PP Rod McDougall for helping with the cooking. Also there were PP Peter and Margery Foss. Thank goodness for Margery as she was the one who sold everything. Peter was there mostly to tour the grounds and reminisce, as he was headmaster of the school during the 1990s.

Last Tuesday, a few of us enjoyed another restaurant night, this time at *La Piazza* at Bankstown. I would like to thank Peter Smith and PE Ray Wilson for organising it. The next one, and probably the final one for my year, will probably be at the *New Golden Rickshaw* in Homebush on Thursday, 3rd May, following the Infants' Home Golf Day.

Last week, a significant number of us attended the funeral of fellow Rotarian, Sal Tosto. He was one of our members who, one way or another, always made his presence felt, whether it was at a weekly meeting or a barbecue. He will be missed. Sadly, last Thursday we were also informed that Ron Thurgar had passed away that morning. Ron was a charter member of our club, was one of our first presidents, and was an Honorary Member for a number of years. Sal was 60 years old and Ron, nearly 90. It just goes to show how unpredictable life is and it is a timely reminder that all of us must continue to do what we can, while we have the chance, to make the world a better place to live in. It also reminds me that some of our newer members, including myself, may not fully appreciate how significant a contribution some of our longer-serving members have made to the club, and to the work of Rotary, and that it is up to us to take on the new challenges. So, if you have a little time available, why not speak to one of our directors, or committee chairpersons, and volunteer to help with the organization or running of one of our future events?

Remember

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity