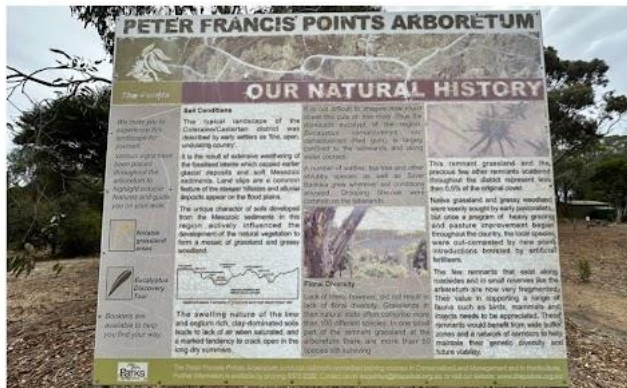


Members and guests from our club and Casterton Rotary gathered at the Peter Francis Points Arboretum in Coleraine for our joint meeting.

Toni Thiel president of Casterton introduced **Howard Templeton** who is now chairing the committee for the arboretum. He gave a short history of the place and an update as to what is happening about managing the area. The shire teamed its engineer Joe Wright with local plant enthusiast Mary Hope and a group of dedicated volunteers and in 1966, the arboretum was created. Retired bridge builder Peter Francis joined with fellow botanic lovers to collect seeds from across Australia to turn the once barren wasteland into a thing of beauty. In 1997, control of the arboretum was handed over to the state government due to an increasing amount of work required to maintain the site. However, volunteers feared not enough was being done. "Under Parks [Victoria] you're not really allowed to do anything at all," So, over the last three years the park has been gradually handed back to the local community group. We all went for a short walk around the bush.



BOARD MEMBERS

- President
[Noel Howard](#)
- Vice President
[Brian Jenkins](#)
- Secretary
[Lyn Christie](#)
- Treasurer
[Robert \(Bob\) Cadden](#)
- Community
[James Dishon](#)
- Environment
[Marg Moffatt](#)
- Bulletin Editor
[Lorraine Wilson](#)
- Vocational Services
[James Dunn](#)
- International Service
[Jenni Barke](#)
- Youth
[Leo Cummins](#)
- Rotary Foundation
[Simon Wilson](#)
- Immediate Past President
[Noel Howard](#)
- Public Relations
[Lorraine Wilson](#)
- Membership
[Brian Jenkins](#)
- Catering
[Bruce Warburton](#)
- District Governor
[Lesley Shedden](#)

Birthdays

- Ainsley Wilson 26/02
- Helen Garfoot 27/07

Wedding Anniversaries

- Glenda and Bob Cadden 25/02

Induction Anniversaries



Coming club events

2025

5 March DV project update and club night

12 March TBA

16 March Friday Black Dog Ride.

19 March Geetha Yoga TBC

24 March (Monday) Combined meeting with the RC Portland Visit to SW Fibre at Myamyn and dinner at the Geen Hills Hotel.

26 March No meeting

2 April Dianna Lawrence Carriage Driving

9 April Home Hosting TBC

Weekly social events

Bike Riders: meet each Thursday morning, 09:00 at the Ansett Museum, finishing for coffee at Tosca Browns, around 09:35

Friday Coffee: meet each Friday Morning, 10:30 at the Roxburgh, all welcome

February - World Understanding Month

The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, now designated as the World Understanding and Peace Day.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROTARY
120 YEARS**



**February is
peace month
in Rotary**

After our visit to the arboretum everyone adjourned to the National Hotel for a delicious meal.

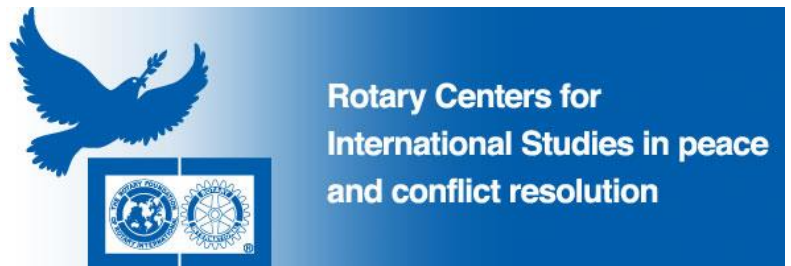
Toni and Noel gave some club reports, and we were serenaded by Shane Gill with a rendition of "Galway Bay"

Club reports

- TICKETS FOR the DG's partner RAFFLE are still available. \$10.00 each. Prized is a super dooper rocking horse. Proceeds to RAM
- Bob Cadden has nominated for President 2025-26

District Notices

- District Conference Mar. 21, 2025 - Mar. 23, 2025
<https://rotary9780.org/sitepage/district-conference-2025/>



The eighth and most recent Peace Center has been established at the **Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul**, where the Presidential Peace Conference was held in February 2025. TRF allocates a budget of \$15 million for a peace centre.

The other seven are in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA, Tokyo, Japan, Bradford, England, Brisbane, Australia, Uppsala, Sweden Bangkok, Thailand and Kampala, Uganda

The curriculum at each peace center has been carefully crafted to address specific aspects of the peacebuilding process — and train the next generation of global change-makers.

<https://www.rotary.org/en/seven-centers-peace>

Why does February have 28 days?

February has 28 days because in the ancient Roman calendar, where the month was associated with purification rituals and considered unlucky, even numbers were seen as unlucky, so February was left with 28 days to maintain an even number of days in the month while other months had 29 or 31 days; this pattern remained even after later calendar adjustments by Julius Caesar and the Gregorian calendar