
**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Once again we were treated to an excellent talk by our guest speaker, Jessica Taylor, daughter of David Ward and intimately involved with the Warracknabeal Herald and the new Horsham Times. She gave a fascinating description of her 9 years in the ADF, from basic army training (once a soldier always a soldier!) to sophisticated control of UAVs with of course extensive and intensive training on all manner of subjects/issues in between. And RYLA was the catalyst that set her on a course that set her up for life. Although she lamented her poor public speaking skills we, as the audience, clearly thought she had excelled with her presentation.

Coronavirus will be with us for some months yet and the question arises as to whether we even bother with Rotary and just go into recess for the foreseeable future. I think this would be a backward step and am determined to (a) continue to keep looking after each other and others in our wider Rotary family, and (b) do what we can to make life easier for those less fortunate than us in our community.

I think we can best do these things by continuing to meet, even if only by Zoom; the idea of having a monthly brainstorming exercise (2nd Wednesday in the month) contributes to this. The Bulletin is essential in maintaining contact with everyone, both inside and outside Rotary. I would be keen to hear views on this.

Yours in Rotary,

Tony

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**COMING DATES**

Christmas (thankfully has not been cancelled)  Dec 25 2020

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**Club Meets:**

Wednesday evenings

Currently the details for each week are decided on a week by week basis.

Contact Christine Gunn to confirm venue & time.

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**What has been cancelled?**

So much has been and will continue to be, for some time, cancelled – sports events, concerts, parties, live theatre, worship services, rallies, travel, meetings, classes, family gatherings and so much more.

However,

Love has not been cancelled,

Appreciation has not been cancelled,

Kindness has not been cancelled,

Conversations have not been cancelled,

Music, poetry and creativity have not been cancelled,

Exercise has not been cancelled,

Prayer and contemplation have not been cancelled,

Hope has not been cancelled.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUTIES</th>
<th>Wednesday 19th August 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 26th August 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 2nd September 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td>Reception/Visitors</td>
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<td>Chairman</td>
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<td>Program</td>
<td>Ian Penny</td>
<td>Kelsea Wall</td>
<td>Kerrie Baxter &amp; Lucy Lavery</td>
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<td>Cambodian - A Lif Changing Experience</td>
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<td>Vote of Thanks</td>
<td>John Aitken</td>
<td>Jack Daniel</td>
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**Next week- BOARD meeting - Wed. 19th August**

Tony Gregson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Rotary Zoom Board Meeting
Time: Aug 19, 2020 07:30 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85100232151](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85100232151)

Meeting ID: 851 0023 2151
Wednesday 12th August 2020

Sixteen RCW Rotarians logged into the zoom meeting, with apologies from Kelsea, Ian and Ben. A visitor on the night was Jenni Uliandio who joined via Zoom from Gippsland.

REPORTS:

President Tony Gregson

Tony recently proposed the idea of a new structure for Rotary meetings over the month, to maintain engagement in Rotary meetings and Rotary service. Please contact Tony if you have any comments prior to a Board decision this coming week.

Week 1 - zoom meeting - all members

Week 2 - Committees ‘meet’ to brainstorm and plan activities/projects

Week 3 - zoom Board meeting

Week 4 - zoom meeting - all members

Week 5- (Sep, Dec) - no Rotary

Community Service - David Drage

I am currently looking into the demand for, and logistics of, Rotary acquiring a small number of iPads to enable those who don’t have electronic devices to communicate in isolation. With extended lockdown there are a number of people in town at risk of social isolation, especially elderly and disconnected people. The Shire is interested in assisting with this project. If you have any ideas on how we can make this work please contact me or let me know before the Board meeting. We are also in touch with the Shire & RNH re playing a role in helping with donations/distributions of free face masks to vulnerable locals.

Public Awareness - Wendy Hewitt

I will do a Herald column after the Board meeting, when I have an idea of our planned and current service projects.

Fines from the floor:

- To all farmers, a fine of merit for the good rains they’ve organised. Glad to pay!

- To David Drage, because Narelle broke Bernie’s Bomber Money Box. (right) He’s still crying, but note there’s not much in it!

- To Ian Penny, for his thoughtful gift to Chris Gunn of a face mask. (right) A special Collingwood mask, complete with a big smiling mouth with hardly any teeth. :)

Coming Weeks

Two minute talks and Induction anniversaries will again be included in the bulletin, so could you please send your personal reflections to the bulletin address, by the date listed. Photos would be great too.

29 Aug: Two min talk - Ian Penny  No induction anniversaries

5 Sep: Two min talk - Kelsea Wall  Induction anniversary - David Drage 4/9/19 (1 year)
Joining the Australian Army wasn’t something I had ever thought I would do in my life, but I am so glad I had the opportunity to serve. I joined up thinking I was only going to do the minimum requirement of four years but I ended up staying for nine years full time, and I remain a part of the Army as a reservist with 128 transport troop in Horsham.

I think it was actually going through the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) experience is what gave me the courage to explore the opportunities that Defence provides and I’ll be forever grateful for that. The camp taught me to take opportunities as they present themselves and that’s what I did.

The drawcard for me was that the Army pays you to learn your job, and the huge range of careers in defence was appealing to me.

I arrived at Kapooka on July 27, 2010 as a recruit heading to the Intelligence Corps. Each day was a challenge in so many ways from getting ready with beds made in 15 minutes, to learning to operate the Austyer and minimi, even just being taught to show aggression during the bayonette assault course. Not to mention the Field phase where we went a week without washing and spent a lot of time laying in the dirt.

After marching out of Kapooka I was flown to Canungra for job training. The training was intense and involved long hours preparing powerpoint presentations and briefs. Although I did enjoy the training, I struggled with a fear of public speaking. I left the course early as public speaking was a key skill that I needed for the position because it involved briefing officers and commanders on important information. I decided to take another direction. I went to Puckapunyal to start training in my new career path as an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle operator, based in the Artillery Corp. As a UAV operator I undertook the two weeks of weapons training that all members in artillery do before further job training. We then conducted Artillery meteorology and survey training before being posted to 20th Surveillance Targeting and Acquisition Regiment at Enoggera Barracks in Brisbane. Before finishing the final component of training which was in America I was sent out field to Woomera range for the maiden flight of the Shadow 200 in Australia. The qualified fliers at the time were there to practise their skills before heading over to Afghanistan for the first Australian Shadow 200 deployment. The camp was visited during this time by many VIPs of the military world including chief of defence, politicians and generals who wanted to see the application of the new drone in the Army. Following the six weeks spent at Woomera, we returned back to Brisbane and it was our turn to conduct Shadow 200 training.

I was required to attend two and a half months of training on the Shadow 200 at the American training school at Fort Huachuca In Sierra Vista, Arizona. This course was run by the American Army and involved a class of about 30 students, eight of us from Australia and the rest made up of American Army and Marines. The Shadow is an autonomous system which is launched from a trailer mounted catapult and guided by a Ground Control Station or GCS. The GCS is operated by two personnel, a flier and a payload operator who is responsible for control of the camera. The aircraft is recovered on a runway by an arresting gear system, similar to jets on an aircraft carrier.
The Shadow 200 system which the Army still currently uses can fly for a maximum of nine hours and operates between about 5,000 - 15,000 feet. An operator is in control of the aircraft and supported by a payload operator, also qualified to fly the aircraft. The two often work together to find the best position of the aircraft to gain the best picture. The camera itself is the most expensive and important component of the aircraft and if the aircraft suffers a malfunction, the flier will release the parachute which pops out from underneath the aircraft, flipping it upside down. This saves the camera from being damaged on impact.

Although I was qualified as an operator, most of my work experiences were spent as an Imagery Analyst. The analyst observes the near real time footage which is being sent back to the equipment on the ground. This involved closely monitoring the footage for all sorts of requests depending on the mission. We would then use Powerpoint to create snapshots and analyse what we had seen to send to the client who had requested the information. This would allow that unit to make the best decisions for their missions.

20 STA, now renamed as 20th Royal Artillery Regiment is at the moment being utilised on Operation Resolute which is the ADF's contribution to the Whole-of-Government effort to protect Australia's borders and offshore maritime interests.

Although I was trained as a UAV operator and an imagery analyst, my role was first and foremost as any member of the army, is to be a soldier. It is every soldier’s duty to maintain fitness and skill at arms. Although no two days in the Army is the same, there is some routine to improve ourselves daily as a soldier. Most days would start at 7.30am with a parade and roll call. We would then conduct PT before morning tea and then the tasks for the day. These taskings could be anything from flight practice to equipment maintenance, lessons or even tidying up the grounds.

Field time is quite different. It means long days, often interrupted sleep, piquets, no running water, heavy physical tasks and responsibility for your rifle. We would often sleep on the ground under a tarp called a hootchie and didn’t get to shower for days!

UAV operators in the army are not required to be qualified pilots. Although we do conduct the same ground schooling, we are not required to conduct pilot training as UAV pilots in the Airforce do. It has taken 20 STA regiment many years to build trust in the manned airspace by due to potential safety implications around not always being aware of other aircraft around us. But the Unit’s close watch on fliers and the rules, regulations and stringent training has allowed the unit to develop as a well respected airspace user.

What is the future potential of drones in the armed forces? At the moment we are just scratching the surface as more people learn utilise the devices and stretch the capability to its full potential.

I am very proud to have served, even if I didn’t deploy overseas. I’ve gained so much valuable life experience and did things I would never have had the chance to experience anywhere else. The skills, discipline, experiences working in diverse teams and resilience building that the army has provided me has been valuable in my life and I'll be forever thankful for the friendships and memories I’ve made over the years.

Thank you again to Rotary for sending me to the RYLA camp as I feel I would never have stepped that far out of my comfort zone without that experience and training.
Two Minute Talk: John Tonkin

WHY I JOINED ROTARY

- As a Rotaractor I had no sense of Rotary being a logical next step.
- In 1985 several people (Ben Bentley and Graeme Addinsall) started asking questions like “Do you intend to remain in Warracknabeal for long?” and “Do you think you’ll move on to Melbourne?”
- I had no idea what was going on until Graeme nominated me in 1986.
- John Liersch and I were inducted on the same night in September 1986.
- My reason for joining was to give back to the Warracknabeal community and hopefully assist Youth through Rotary who I knew had a strong youth focus.

ROTARY HIGHLIGHT

My Rotary highlight was being a RYLA Parent with Susan and Julia (3yo) at Nhill in 1990. It was an amazing experience to see RYLA from the inside and to have its uniqueness reinforced. I’d never seen anything like it. It was intense, a pressure-cooker environment, with targeted objectives, but with the participants helping to frame them - and this involvement became very much a part of their own personal development. And this to me was its greatest strength. And for the first time I saw why RYLarians were sworn to secrecy about its content. I have seen a number of the 1990 attendees since; all of whom say that (in hindsight) RYLA (as we know to be the case) was transformative.

It was interesting that our guest speaker last Wednesday, Jessica Taylor, alluded to the impact RYLA had had on her outlook and sense of what she could achieve in life.

Here are some photos John has discovered in his Rotaract archives..... Who do you recognise?


Right: John Tonkin, Judith Pope (WHS English teacher and Rotaractor), Peter Martin. Circa early 80s.
About Rotary

This will be a new column in our weekly bulletin, explaining different aspects of Rotary to members and friends, both new and old.

Fees and finances explained.

Let’s getting money matters out of the way first. Members are asked to pay annual subs, due in June, but can be made in six monthly instalments. Those fees go into the General Account and cover the following:

Rotary International Subs (US $), District Fees, Clubrunner Fees (US $) and Rotary Down Under Magazine fees.

Members’ subs do not cover all expenses, so costs are absorbed by the club from other sources. This is to ensure our annual fee does not increase. In ‘normal’ times some of these costs are covered by the $2 meal fees and fines received each week. This amount and process is reviewed annually by the Board.

Some of the other costs that need to be covered are:

Audit fees, Rotary phone credit, Changeover costs (banners, badges etc), printing costs, P.O. fees, printing paper & ink, GWM rates, RCU (Rotary Catering Unit trailer) registration, member RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) attendance, PE (President Elect) training registrations, District Assembly member attendance, Rotaract assistance, guest speaker dinner fees, The Rotary Foundation annual contribution plus any cleaning materials needed for Rotary House.

(During COVID there are some fees that are reduced but there are also costs that are ongoing. We have not been meeting for meals, and fundraising opportunities have diminished considerably. The $10 monthly fee was passed at the Board Meeting in April 2020 during COVID19 lock down, discussed at Club level and mentioned in the bulletin. Every member would pay this monthly fee in lieu of their weekly meal cost and $2 admin fee. This was to maintain income in the General Account to assist with ongoing costs to the club and prevent a Club subscription increase. Thankfully there has not been an increase to these fees for about 5 years.)

The club also has a Project Account dedicated to our service and fundraising activities. These funds enable us to run functions and activities plus financially support worthy local, national and international projects - a major purpose of Rotary.

We also have an account, the Cerutty Account, dedicated to the support and development of youth projects. These funds have largely been from member bequeaths and donations. We are very fortunate to have these extra funds as they enable us to support many local young people each year, through participation in overseas Youth Exchange, RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award), RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment), Defy The Drift, Science Challenge etc.

If you have any concerns, questions or comments please get in touch with President Tony or write to the Secretary for discussion by the Board.
The Youngsters are now over 80 years old!

Formally founded on March 13, 1968, but the origins of Rotaract were much earlier. As early as 1935, Paul Harris encountered a youth organization based on Rotary principles in Australia. In the 1950's many youth clubs were sponsored by Rotary clubs under various names. These included the “Paul Harris Circles” in Europe and the “Rotors” clubs created in some American Universities. In 1965, these organizations experienced significant growth - in part due to the Interact program created by Rotary International in 1962.

Many Interactors, having reached the age limit of that program, were starting new types of clubs called “Senior Interact”. The new program’s name, Rotaract, was created by Rotary International as a combination of the words “Rotary” and “Action”.

The aim of the program was stated to be “to develop leadership and responsible citizenship through service to the community.” Many existing Rotary based youth clubs changed their names to become an official Rotaract club. In the 1990s, Rotaractors combined their organizations on an international level with the creation of Multi-District Organizations in Europe, Australia and South America. There are over 7,000 clubs in about 163 countries and geographical areas. Internationally, Rotaract is strong in Asia, Africa and South America as well as Europe, where Rotary membership may be exclusive or expensive.

And for our centenary, the party is just beginning!

http://www.rotary100downunder.com/resources/history-bites/8-rotaract-inspiring-today-and-tomorrow

GET TO KNOW OUR CURRENT ROTARACTORS...

Each week a Warracknabeal Rotaractor will be profiled here so we can get to know each other better. Thanks to our Rotaractors for sharing a bit of themselves with us

This week, meet ..... President Megan Watts

Original Charter Member
Age: 27
Years in Rotaract: 5
Current Position: President | Media Director
All positions held: Treasurer | President Elect | President | Past President | Secretary | Community Director
International Projects: Fiji 2012 (Rotary)
Cambodia Water Project (2018) |
Rotary Friendship Exchange Canada (2019)
Rotary Youth Project Involvement: RYPEN 2007 | RYLA 2016
Club Project Management: New Years Eve | Rotaract Does Dogs | Trivia Night
Personal Cause of Interest: Community based animal welfare and enrichment projects.

Rotaract means to me: An opportunity to meet with like-minded individuals to give back to the local community and be a positive role model to others, Rotaract provides a creative outlet and facilitates character development and leadership attributes.

Selling Point for Rotaract: Rotaract is downright fun to be involved in, we put emphasis on our members’ welfare and interests ensuring everyone is able to pursue projects of passion and engage in social club activities every month.

Personal Interests: Listening to Music, Video Editing, VR Gaming, Overseas Travel (volunteer trips)