

PRES. ELECT MIKE'S REPORT

Filling in for President Dave whilst he was working hard in Tennant Creek was an honour, and a chance for me to prepare for my future role in 2018-19.

The meeting got off to a good start with Jenni taking the reins as Sergeant and, I must say, she did a fabulous job. Mind you, she taxed our memories with the old Roman Numerals quiz. Well done, Jenni. It is great to see we have others in our team that can knock our quizzes for us to break the ice at the start of our meetings.



After sharing some fellowship and commencing our meals, we were provided with the pleasure of a self-written poem from our Guest Speaker, Grant Lock. Traditional Australian bush poetry is part of culture that is sadly not often heard. I am sure all of us appreciated not only hearing traditional poetry but to know that the person reciting it, wrote it, made it just that much more special.

After our meals, Grant took the floor and for those Rotarians who did not have the opportunity to attend the meeting, Grant is vision impaired, suffering from a genetic condition that has taken the majority of his sight. As he puts it, "Now I only see the trees but no longer see the birds". His past is checkered with providing service to the less fortunate in Pakistan and Afghanistan, spending 24 years of his life as a cattleman in these countries. Grant provided us with an insight into his life and times living in tribal areas of these countries, seeing the devastation of war, and just how freely arms were purchased out in the open. Grant has built schools, dug wells and helped to restore the eyesight of thousands of Afghans and with the help and support of his wife; many people of Afghanistan hold a special place in their hearts for Grant and his wife, Janna.

What was most compelling for me was to see how someone so committed to life prior to losing his sight, would not see his blindness as a handicap, but saw it simply as a challenge, one that he met with open arms. It prompted him to write two books, "Shoot Me First" and "I'd Rather Be Blind". His writing is so good it is in fact being used as part of the curriculum in some high schools in N.S.W.

Continued over.....

Reminders

Please advise Suellen (by email) if you hold a current Ochre Card. Please include in your email, the card number and expiry date. Many thanks.

'Rotary Downunder' magazines to Steve Peers, please.

Please give permission, via email to Suellen, to receive the Arunta through the website.

2017—2018 Board

President:

Dave Letheby

Secretary:

Nick Tyllis

Treasurer:

Bruce Clough

IPP, Public Relations:

Neil Ross

Club Admin:

Michael Potts

Membership:

Steve Peers

Service Projects:

Eli Melky

Rotary Foundation Grants:

Virginia Loy

Rotary International President:

Ian H S Riseley

Past District Governor:

Peter Schaeffer

Pres. Elect's Report cont.....

It was definitely a lucky night for our Honorary Rotarian, Trish, who not only won our raffle but also walked away with a fine bottle of white wine after successfully picking heads and tails.

Next week will be a break from our regular meeting due to Anzac Day, but I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

Michael
President-elect

PHOTOS FROM THE RECENT AGFR....



From Fay.....



GOLFING

The Rotary Club of Murray Bridge hosted the 40th annual Australian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians (AGFR) tournament 8 - 13 April 2018, to be held at the Murray Bridge Golf Club.

More than 120 visitors from every state in Australia arrived in Murray Bridge from the 7th April to participate in the week long tournament.

Monies raised during the tournament will support select organisations which include: the John Hood Memorial Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to fund a young greenkeeper on a 12 month sojourn in the United States.

Australian Rotary Health which provides funding into mental health research as well as a broad range of general health areas, including scholarships for rural medical and nursing students, and Indigenous health scholars.

headspace, Murray Bridge which provides a youth-friendly, community-based health service for young people and their families.

The Rotary Club would like to thank all its sponsors, including the Rural City of Murray Bridge and the Murray Bridge Golf Club for their ongoing support.

Contributed by Jenny Phillips

L.F: Rotary members prepare for a day on the green ahead of the tournament. Photo:

May we have your autograph please, Roger

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST MEETING.....

Visitors

Trish van Dijk
—Honorary Member

Grant Lock
—Guest Speaker

John Cleary
—Guest

Jim Stocking
—Guest of Mike P

*International Toast
by Mike P*
RC of Hendon,
England

*Sgt. 's Session with
Mike P*
Raffle AND Heads 'n
Tails won by Trish



| ROSTER | 25 April | 2 May | 9 May |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Corporal | NO | Peter Bartholomew | Virginia Loy |
| Greeter | CLUB | Erwin Chlanda | Eli Melky |
| Attendance Assistant | MEETING | Bruce Clough | Dominic Miller |
| Introductions | | Mardi Cotterill | Nicole Ogilvie |
| International Toast | | Fiona Hartnett | Neil Ross |
| Guest Host | | Fran Kilgariff | Suellen Schubert |

The Roster and what it means

For whatever reason, sometimes it is not possible to attend a meeting so here are the Roster guidelines:

Please Be Responsible - It is the responsibility of each of us to check the bulletin to see when we are on the Roster.

Please Find a Replacement - If you are rostered on for a duty and cannot attend on that night, then it is your responsibility to find a replacement.

Please Tell Secretary Nick or President Dave – You, or your replacement, need to let someone who is going to the meeting know.

Can't make it to a meeting?

PLEASE send an apology to Bruce at:
rbruceclo@bigpond.com or via our website:
www.alicespringsrotary.org before 9am day of meeting.



May Birthdays and Anniversaries

10 Judy and Roger Selleck

Coming Events - Woo hoo



| When | What | What do I need to do? |
|------------|---|---|
| Every Week | Fines Session | Bring a cross fine. That means - rat out your friends |
| 25 April | No Club Meeting due to Anzac Day | |
| 2 May | Club Meeting | |
| 7 May | Bangtail Muster | Let Eli know how you can help |
| 16 May | Visiting Exchange Students, social evening at the Old Telegraph Station | Watch this space |
| 2019 | Australian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians, here in Alice Springs | Put your hand up to help |
| | | |
| | | |



Rotary 4 Way Test

Of the things we think,
say or do:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all?

Rotary Grace

*For good food,
good fellowship,
and the opportunity to serve
through Rotary,
We give thanks.*

From Neil.....

Bangtail Muster note:

I will contact all members and ask their availability for the Bangtail Muster on the 7th May.

We are desperately short of volunteers, particularly to help with the traffic management.

Entries are rolling in, and time is running short. Please give your time to this iconic event, if you are able, on the morning of the 7th. It will be finished for most people by just after 11am, so there is plenty of time to help the RC of Mbantua at the races afterwards.

Many thanks to Mike, Neil and Fay for their contributions this week.....Ed

Surrounding Clubs - Websites/ Meetings

Mbantua - Alice Springs: Meets Monday mornings 7:00am, Oasis Hotel, Gap Road
<http://www.rotarymbantua.org>

Stuart: Meets Tuesday evening 6:15pm onwards, Todd Tavern, 1 Todd Street
<http://www.stuartrotary.org.au/home>

Tennant Creek: eClub, Contact - (08) 89622 322

ROTARY CLUB OF ALICE SPRINGS — Chartered 1961

Postal Address: PO Box 87, Alice Springs NT 0871

www.alicespringsrotary.org

Bulletin editor: Suellen Schubert - schubies@internode.on.net

Please forward all information no later than Sunday 3pm.