

TULIP TIMES



Next Meetings	Tuesday 1 st May, 2018	Tuesday 8 th May, 2018
Location	Highlands Golf Club	Highlands Golf Club
Program	Antarctica	Fortnightly meeting discussion
Speaker	Gwenda Webb	David McCosh
Intro / Vote of Thanks	David McCosh	
Dinner Fee Duty	Don Graham	Graham Hicks
Journalist		
Regalia Duty	Tony Glenn	John Hoelle
If you are unable to do duty, please find a replacement and advise Trevor Fair by email: trevorf@oxleypartneres.com.au		

Welcome

President David welcomed Mark Wallace, Rob Uhl, Matt Froome, Val Vickerman, Beth Stranglan, Kate & Claudia Fair.

Invocation – Brian Elliott

International Toast – Jo Chalmers

Sunday was the anniversary of the award of the George Cross to the Island of Malta during the Second World War. My Father fought under British command for the Maltese Army against the German and Italian armed forces. My Mother endured tremendous hardship and witnessed horrific scenes as well as the loss of her Mother and Sister during the assault on the island.

In early 1942 Hitler ordered Malta to be neutralized in preparation for a German invasion. The Luftwaffe carried out hundreds of air raids on the island and from January to July 1942 there was only one 24 hour period when no bombs fell on the island.

Malta holds the record for suffering the heaviest sustained bombing attack of WW2, 154 days and nights and 6,700 tons of bombs. During the entire time, the islands population of 270,000 were positive in their refusal to submit.

Food was in extremely short supply and the people of Malta were on the brink of starvation. They spent much of their time in underground shelters and as a result of this health standards declined and malnutrition and sickness became widespread. Medical supplies were also scarce.

In May 1942 Germany prematurely declared that Malta had been neutralized and diverted the Luftwaffe elsewhere. In the brief lull that followed, over 60 RAF Spitfires arrived on the island together with other reinforcements.

The war left the island devastated with over 10,000 buildings damaged or destroyed and the docks at Valletta heavily damaged. Thousands were injured and it took several decades to rebuild the economy.

The George Cross was awarded to the island of Malta on 15 April 1942 by King George VI in recognition of their continuing and heroic struggle against repeated and continuous attacks during World War 2. In his message addressed to the Island's Governor General Sir William Dobbie, King George VI wrote :

"To honor her brave people I award the George Cross to the Island Fortress of Malta to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history"

In recognition of the anniversary of the George Cross Medal awarded to Malta on 15 April 1942 at Valletta, I would like to acknowledge the Rotary Club of La Vallette

and its President, Bryan Sullivan, which was Chartered in April 2002, has 54 members and meets at the Intercontinental Hotel in St Georges Bay, St Juliane. This is one of three Rotary Clubs on the Islands of Malta under District 2110 which also covers the southern part of Italy.

Reference: 'This month in history – Malta's George Cross'

Published by The Gazette – Official Public Record.



Announcements

Mary Ramsay - Trivia Night now 16th June Saturday 6 - 8 persons to table.

Brian Ritson - Grand daughter represented Aus in under 17's Rugby 7's. Has been offered a scholarship.

Ray Coulton –

- Gerry Kroon is currently in hospital. An WhatsApp has been established for communication purposes. Please contact Nicole for an invitation.
- RDU magazine overlooked giving any recognition to RCBM's efforts in Timor Leste. Extremely disappointed about the lack of coverage.
- BBQ & lemonade stand on 5th May in Corbett Plaza. Need 2 dozen lemons a

Rod Aistrophe - RAWCS trip to Fiji this year. Please see Rod ASAP if you would like to attend.

Louie - Chestnut night is being planned

- 27th May - Antony Liberale Golf Day Gibraltar Golf Day to recognise 25th anniversary. If you can play or assist please see Louie.

Ian Langford - Science & Engineering Challenge - 28th & 29th May. Still seeking assistance.

David McCosh - end of year donations. Please give serious consideration concerning possible recipients, including Dream Cricket.

- please read the District and Foundation newsletters.

Guest Speaker Mark Wallace introduced by Rod Aistrop



Mark has been a Rotarian for 22 years and Editor of RDU for 8 years.

Mark felt he could make a positive contribution and sought to instigate the Dan Vickerman PhD Scholarship through Australian Rotary Health.

Dan was not only an exceptional rugby player, he was also a smart scholar, studying at Sydney Uni and Cambridge.

After a reasonable time Mark explored the opportunities of creating a scholarship to research into mental illness. Sought permission to establish a fundraising program to raise the necessary \$40k. Through rugby connections funds were raised to assist the scholarship.

The fundraising program works on a 1:3 ratio where an extra \$2 are contributed by the raising of \$1 of public funds.



<https://australianrotaryhealth.org.au/research/current-research-opportunities/general-health-phd-scholarship-opportunities/>

Vote of thanks from Rod Aistrop who thanked Mark for initiating the fund raising efforts.

Joker Draw - Will Eddowes - 4 Hearts.

Next meeting - Gwenda will provide us with a glimpse of her trip to Antarctica.

The meeting closed with the Joker Draw – Ray Williams drew the 5 Spades.

ANZAC Day Bowral 2018



PE Lynton Kettle encourages all members, especially newer members to attend the District Assembly. Registrations are now open on the District website.

District Training Assembly 2018

District Assembly is an opportunity for **all Rotarians** to learn more about Rotary and the programs we run throughout our District.

This is essential for the incoming Board members, this will get you on track for your coming year. Even if you have done this role before there is always something new to learn.

We will have a showcase, with people ready to provide information on the various programs and answer any questions.

Breakout sessions on the various Avenues of Service, these will be at three different times to enable you to attend whatever you have an interest in pursuing.

There will be many opportunities for networking during the day and we will also have a dinner on the Saturday evening.

- **Date:** May 5 & 6
- **Time:** Commencing Saturday 1pm
- **Where:** Batemans Bay High School, Beach Road, BATEHAVEN