



Report for March 16, 2021; Volume 82 No:33

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Rod Aistrop

Secretary: Trevor Fair

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**And the next meeting – 23rd March,
back at the Highlands Hotel**

We'll get reports from the District Conference.

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“Down the track”, news from Vicki

We are planning a trip to the Thirlmere Rail Museum followed by lunch - so stay tuned for details

Rotary International President Holger Knaack's theme for 2020-21,

Rotary Opens Opportunities,

asks Rotarians to create opportunities that

**strengthen their leadership,
help put service ideas into action
and
improve the lives of those in need.**

16 March, 2021

***Annd now. "Live" at our favourite
Pie and Pastry Shop....Samuel Gee, 4
Old Hume Hwy, Balacava***

Heeeeer's Rod! (Drum Roll.....)

Journo: **Denise Coad** (thankyou D)

President Rod welcomed all, especially **Michael Guilty** and **Leigh & Stephanie Robinson**, Peter Worner who is hopefully returning, **Mike Guilty**, **Frank Kelly**, **Beryl Adams**, **Robyn Libérale**, **Ria McCosh** and **Eric Conley**

Invocation – **Brian Elliott**

International Toast

The island of **Mauritius** is located about 2 000km east of Africa in the Indian Ocean. It was uninhabited when the Portuguese established the first European settlement in 1507.

It was subsequently colonised by the Dutch in 1638 then the French and was finally taken over by Britain in 1810.

Slaves were imported from west Africa and Madagascar to establish and run the sugar plantations until slavery was abolished in 1835. After that, as in Fiji, the British brought in indentured labour from India to replace the slaves.

The country established its own constitution and self government on 12th March, 1968 and the Republic of Mauritius celebrated its Independence Day on 12th March 1992. It is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Today it is a nation of 1¼ million people with a rich mix of history and ethnic heritage with English, French and Mauritian Creole the official languages. Sugar and tourism underpin the economy.

The **Rotary Club of Riviere-Noire** or Black River meets at Big Willy's

Restaurant in Tamarin on the south west coast about 50km south of the capital Port Louis.

It was Chartered in 1991 in District 9220 which covers island states in the West Indian Ocean and its 15 Members are led by **President Ajagakumaren Ramsamy**.

In recognition of the Independence Day of the Republic of Mauritius would you please be upstanding and toast the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Black River.

Brian Ritson met Members at the door and took down their pie orders.

Des Rudolf (our Host along with his wife **Neridah**) had put out bottles of wine, glasses and ice.

The tables and booths were all set for Members to create a welcoming Venue.

President Rod thanked Des and Neridah for our Venue, and setting up for us on such short notice. Also how good it was to see Ken Adams back for our Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Our first venture for Poffertjes was on Saturday at Corbett Plaza. We will look at Shows, Markets, etc. in the future. Thanks to Des, Brian and Neridah for putting this all together.

Brian Ritson thanked Denise, Jo, Robert, Will and Leigh for volunteering. We made a big loss after taking into account the hours worked. In the future we will train people, and have bigger venues. Maybe Mary could talk to Tulip Times and Bong Bong Races on our behalf. We also need to update our equipment.

President Rod looking for Volunteers to assist Moss Vale Rotary for the Moss Vale Show this weekend. A lot of Members will be at the District Conference and not available.

Science and Engineering Challenge Meeting was held Monday. Any Members wishing to get involved please see Rod, Ian or Robert.

10 Members are attending the District Conference. Registration has now closed.

Don Graham looking at another Blazeaid on May 2 – May 18. Last year we contributed \$20,000 of work hours. We are looking at Cobargo, but finding it difficult with accommodation. Also looking at Tumburumba.

Members put forward suggestions for accommodation.

President Rod Working with Children Approvals needs to be current for all Members.

Sergeant Lynton Fine Session:

Samuel Gee Sign

Rose and Eric Conley are everywhere

Robert deJongh – looking to lose 10 kilos – 12 to go

Peter Worner – returning to our Club

Cross Fines:

Don Graham – Bike Riders

Rosemary Kelly – Mary for being fined for over 2 hours at Coles

Louis Liberale – Irish Joke for St Patrick's Day

Robert deJongh – Leprechaun giving 3 wishes

Guest Speaker – our Hostess Neridah - Samuel Gee Pie and Pastries

Samuel Gee opened in September 2019. Brian Ritson and Will Eddowes came into the Shop to buy Pies for the Firefighters. This was their introduction to Rotary and Des becoming a Member.

Neridah and Des donated Pies and Cakes to the Firefighters sometimes staying open until Midnight. They raised \$30,000 through many projects they held.



The name Samuel Gee is their Labrador. With 6 Children between them they could not pick a name for their business without upsetting their Children. Samuel Gee was sitting by the fire so they decided he was "the Name".

They are so happy with the support they have had from the Southern Highlands being a new Local Business. They were finding it difficult to find Customers so they put information on Facebook. They received 1800 Likes and 972 Calls, and it took off from there. They start at 5.00am seven days a week. Michael Guilty is one of their Cooks, and is now coming to Rotary Meetings.

Neridah is a 7th Generation Baker. Her Family being the oldest Bakers in Australia. Her Nan was the best Wedding Cake Baker in Australia. Neridah's goal is to have 100 Flavours overall.



President Rod closed the meeting and thanked Des and Neridah for their wonderful hospitality and Brian Ritson for his support.

March Birthdays:

Tony Glenn 1/3
Luciano Liberale 22/3

April Birthdays:

Don Graham 9/4
Vicki Kelley 13/4
Brian Elliott 18/4