



Report for March 2, 2021; Volume 82, No: 31

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Rod Aistrope Secretary: Trevor Fair

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And the next meeting – 9th March @ The Highlands Hotel, Mittagong

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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.**

2 March, 2021

And now. "Live" at the (Highlands) Local!

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

President Rod welcomed Members and Guests: **Leigh Robertson** – Rotary Club of Wollongong and Michael from Samuel Gee Pies.

The Odd Couple stepped up tonight. **Brian Elliott** invoked us and **Jim Gasson** read the International Toast

Next Saturday the people of Ghana celebrate their Independence Day.

Until 1956 it was comprised of four British colonies, including Gold Coast and Togoland along the Gulf of Guinea coast and had been colonised by European countries right back to the 15th Century. On 6th March they amalgamated, gained their independence and became a Member of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Now there are 31 million people and the Capital is Accra with its population of 4.2 Million.

The Rotary Club of Accra was the first in Ghana Chartered in District 9102 in 1958. The District covers Benin, Niger and Togo and has 187 Clubs.

President Michael Frimpong leads 51 members who are still meeting by Zoom but this hasn't stopped them continuing their annual Peace Symposium which this year has been held as on line webinars last month emphasising keeping the peace within their local areas and within Ghana. They also promote face mask wearing and Covid health information.

In recognition of the Independence Day of Ghana would you please raise your glasses and make our International Toast to the President and members of the Rotary Club of

Accra.

Announcements:

News from the Board: Not much fundraising this year, so we have to expect less grants. We're still financially sound; the 3x3 and 3 x 4.6 tents need new canopies with signage. Will Is handling.

Members seem to be generally ok with the pub despite noise, at least for the time being. Management has tried hard to please us.

Berrima District is now an E-club.

Gwenda reports that Bowral Interact is under way again, meeting on Thursdays. She and Robbie went last week. Covid rules may delay the Brekkie Club getting under way for now. Bottle tops not required now but look at the attachment for what the Interactors are collecting for fundraising.

Des explained the margins available if we sold Poffertjes. They are substantial! More details coming soon.

Our Sergeant struck again, hitting various soft targets including:

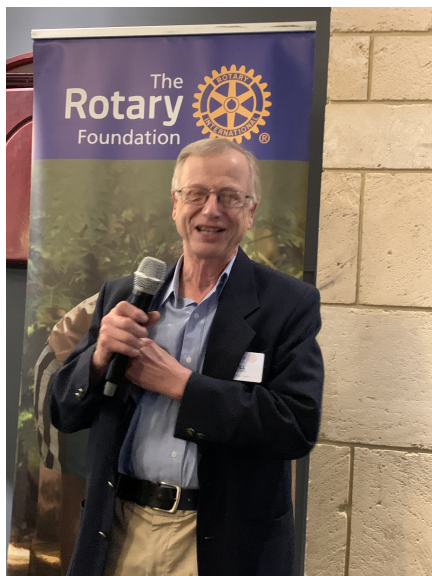
The guys who did the decking job, especially Will whose high engineering standards were not required for a bush carpentry job

Don for providing legal services relating to Liability and Risk Management

The Odd Couple who seem joined at the hip

Tony Glenn for the Big 70, attracting a party of 8 to look after him over the cycling weekend

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President Elect Will spoke about his recent PETS weekend at Temora (President Elect Training Session), which is a pre-requisite to being President of a Rotary Club.

Temora is right in the middle of our new, huge D.9705. He started with the bad bits: due to weather, he couldn't fly in, and he was woken at the Shamrock Hotel at 2am by a bunch of drunks.

PEs have to attend PETS or they're ineligible to lead a club. Despite this, less than half the clubs were represented. This probably means that clubs are recycling old Presidents. One new President has been in Rotary for just 3 months! Some new members have joined Rotary after seeing bushfire efforts last year.

Themes covered were the Rotary Constitution, club management, ClubRunner, Insurance and Risk Assessment and ways of keeping members informed and engaged.

Our program for the next Rotary year will depend to some extent on Covid19 rules but Will looks to form links with other parts of our whole community, helping with Service and hopefully inveigling people to look at Rotary in the same way as we do. Tapping into SH tourism might present opportunities.

Thanks Will, like the government, we are

here to help 😊

Message from Gwenda, Director of Youth.

"Can members save their recycling for Bowral High Interact. I will arrange collection."

See the collectables list attached.

Don't forget

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2021 Science & Engineering Challenge and Discovery Day.

Covid-19 allowing, the Discovery Day is on **May 31st** and the Science & Engineering Challenge is on **June 1st**. Please mark your diaries accordingly.

Fresh Committee members still needed. See Ian or Rod for an interesting and very worthwhile job. Help a young person think about STEM for the future!

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Announcements:

District Conference - Mary is arranging transport and accommodation, be quick to get a seat and bed.

James Bond movie - October release at this stage.

Ian Langford thanked Members for all the support and friendship he has received over the last few months. He really appreciated everything offered and received.

In closing, Rod noted that a local Probus Clubs with 80 members that we chartered was closing down.

And the DG next year is a 25 year old woman.

The times, they are a changing....

And finally:

