



Report for March 30, 2021; Volume 82, No: 35

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

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**And the next meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> April  
@ Highlands Hotel**

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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.

**30 March, 2021**

**Annd now. "Live" at the (Highlands) Local!**

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

(Thanks again to Trevor for notes 😊)

Welcome: **President Rod** welcomed **Jan Campbell** from Wingecarribee Shire Council

Invocation – **Brian Elliott**

International Toast: **Denise Coad**

*Last Friday was the **Independence Day of Bangladesh**. The nation evolved from the partition of India in 1947 and the formation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1956 made up of the large and dominant West Pakistan and 1 400 kilometres away, East Pakistan in Bengal.*

*When East Pakistan declared its independence from the West on 26th March 1971 the West waged a bloody civil war in which about 3 million people died. It ended when world opinion and Indian intervention confirmed Bangladesh in its Independence at the end of 1971.*

*The Country is located at the mouth of the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers covering the low lying delta at the head of the Bay of Bengal which is often struck by cyclones and flooding.*

*Chittagong is built on higher ground just outside the delta and was a major trading port city on the Silk Road for a thousand years. It was part of many empires and kingdoms including the Moghuls until at the start of the 18th Century was semi independent under its own Nawab of Bengal. It was eventually taken over by the British East India Company and Britain as a part of the Dominion of India.*

*Nowadays, Bangladesh is a Nation of 170 million with an improving standard of living and cricket team.*

*Its second city, Chittagong has a population of 9 million and 71 Rotary and Rotaract Clubs.*

*The **Rotary Club of Chittagong Rainbow** is the sponsor of the **Rotaract Club of Chittagong Rainbow** which proudly welcomes LGBTQI Members consistent with its Rainbow name. A brave expression of Rotary's inclusiveness in a devoutly Muslim nation.*

***The Club was Chartered in 2018 in District 3282** which has 345 Rotary and Rotaract Clubs. It currently has 20 Members led by **President Mirza Rahman**.*

***In recognition of the Independence Day of Bangladesh would you please be upstanding and toast the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Chittagong Rainbow.***

## **Announcements**

**Ian Langford** Science & Engineering Challenge - High Schools 31st May, 1st June Primary Schools. This year is restricted to 24 per day (3 per team).

**Don re BlazeAid** - booking will be made Thursday morning - so if you are attending please advise before Thursday so accommodation can be booked. Adelong Caravan Park - 3 persons per cabin \$43 pp. however if less per room will be a bit more. May 2 - May 14th.

**Robert de Jongh** Rotary Foundation - any donation made before end of May, as well as the tax deduction, the District will receive the credit for the next Rotary Year.

**Louie Liberale** 30 April (Friday) - KKKK Golf Day at Highlands Golf Club. Would like to assist with catering with breakfast and halfway house.

**Brian Ritson**

Shed review - seeking permission to erect an additional shed at Boronia St.

Guest Speaker:

**Vicki Kelley** introduced **Jan Campbell** - Economic Development Officer, WSC.

Jan's main experience in business was in Design. Has M Urban Planning. With Sydney Council her main task was to broker with businesses to foster enterprise.

With WSC needed to expand skills to include Primary Production, Equine, Wine etc.

"She was curious" would be Jan's preferred epitaph.

There was no Economic Strategy with WSC. Needed to develop the strategy. Currently works from the Tourism Centre in Mittagong. Partnership is one of the key aspects, so need to create links in all directions. Wingecarribee is on the edge of many of the activities. Whichever way, whether North, South, East or West there are regions that have synergy potential.

Four Pillars (is the basis of the Strategic Plan) People, Place, Prosperity & Partnerships

These pillars have 10 priority activities and 26 actions.

Live Work Learn Play Visit

Trying to challenge the State Government view that there needs to be one main centre. SH has the 3 towns which combine to make the whole serviceability.

Current focus is agribusiness and equine industries. Projects currently being worked on include;

- Produce Hub Feasibility Study
- Outdoor Events Toolkit
- Careers Advisor's Industry Tool
- Creative Industries Cluster – R&D

- Local Jobs Program
- Activating Bendooley Precinct
- SH Escape – a new annual destination publication
- Christmas in the Highlands
- Partnerships with various government and industry representatives

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