



Report for Oct 12, 2021; Volume 83, No: 12 Rotary Club

of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Will Eddowes Secretary: Trevor Fair



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Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's theme for 2021-22,

***Serve to change lives,***

is urging members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving other is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

**Future Events**

- Oct 19 Fundraising Meeting at the Hermitage - ***Remember your Hat and raffle money***
- Oct 26 At the Hermitage with a Guest Speaker
- Nov 2 Melbourne Cup Day – is to be confirmed.
- Nov 9 Will be Club Assembly.
- (TBC) Dr Subhasis Talapatra - Skin Cancer & Prevention @ Hermitage 6PM
- (TBC) Tina McPherson - ODI Record 2nd Best Bowling Figures @ Hermitage 6pm
- (TBC) Wendy Lotter – Aboriginal Education & Walks @ Hermitage 6pm
- (TBC) Lucille Ellem - Dingo Sanctuary Bargo @ Hermitage
- (TBC) Tony Glenn - Caravan Trip - Mackay and Pinnacle @ Hermitage 6.00pm
- (TBC) Sharelle Quinn - Last Qantas 747 Kangaroo Flight @ Hermitage 6pm

**Please Note: Apologise by Friday noon, attendance is the default position**

**Venue:** Zoom meeting held this week due to NSW statewide Lockdown – 18 members online

**Journalist:** Denise Coad

**Welcome:** President Will welcomed Members.

The Meeting started with everyone saying “Hello” and catching up. Ian Johnson will be “coming along” to this Zoom Meeting.

**Our Guest Speaker:** Mark Balla will be joining us at 5.45 pm

**Invocation:** John Hoelle

**International Toast:** David McCosh – Rotary Club of Ping Chen Chung Feng

Sunday was the anniversary of the revolution in 1911 which overthrew the last Emperor of the Qing Dynasty of China and saw the establishment of the Republic of China.



***Puyi, China's Last Emperor***

Han Chinese settled in Formosa in the 17th Century under a Dutch Colony and the Qing annexed the island in 1683. They ceded the island to Japan in 1895 and the Republic of China took it back after the Second World War.

When the Republic lost the civil war to the communists in 1949 they retreated to Formosa and established Taiwan which grew as an economic miracle to be the wealthy democracy it is today. They still celebrate 10th October as their National Day and claim to be the legitimate rulers of the whole of China.

Their neighbours disagree so they currently live a very precarious existence.

Taiwan has a population of 23½ million and its capital is Taipei on the north coast. 40km to the west is Taoyuan City, a manufacturing and electronics centre home to 2½ million people.



Taoyuan means Peach Garden, a reference to the peach orchards which used to grow there.

The city is served by **The Rotary Club Ping Chen Chung Feng** Chartered in District 3501 in 2007. It has 41 Members led by **President Hsin-Hsiang Chen**.

Like us their activities have been limited lately but they usually support the Global Youth Exchange Program and conduct a community marathon event as a fund raiser.



**In recognition of the National Day of Taiwan would you please raise a glass and make our international Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club Ping Chen Chung Feng.**

## Board Meeting report:

At the Board Meeting last night it was agreed that we need to have a Register to record Member Covid-19 Vaccinations. It will be set up like our Working with Children Register.

**All Members are to submit proof of their Double Vaccinations to Trevor Fair.**

Our next Meeting on October 19 will be a "Hat Day" Meeting to raise money for Mental Health. We will have a bigger Raffle, which will be a Hamper, which Gwenda will organise. There will be also be a prize for the best Hat.



*Inspiration from some young hat designers!!*

**So wear a Hat and bring your cash with you!!  
Tickets \$5 each instead of 6 for \$5.**



*Sample Basket only – Not Actual prize*

David Rees is donating Red Wine to this Hamper, and also 6 bottles for our Christmas Raffle. Leigh Robinson would like to add a bottle of Dom Benedictine to the Prize.

Louie and Will have registered for a Zoom Membership Meeting next Saturday or Sunday

## Welfare report:

Welcome back to Ian Johnson. 😊

Jo Chalmers has hurt her back.

Geoff McLean from the Rotary Club of Moss Vale, and the Rotary E-Club Brindabella passed away last Friday aged 77. He was a past Assistant Governor, and involved with the Rotary Foundation Centurion Program.

Rose sent out a card of behalf of Members to Dom and Fay on their Engagement.

## Other projects:

Will reported on:

The new Pop-In shed is being installed, and the old shed has gone.

Many thanks to Kate Fair, Vicki and the Pop-In volunteers.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> October a new Demountable will be installed for childcare, and a play area for the kids.

RYPEN has been postponed.

Duncan Hill Project has been postponed.

Beyond Bitumen is still planned for March.

Bong Bong Races has been deferred.

Australian First Responders Foundation Retreat at the Glen Estate will be in 2 weeks. Over to Brian Ritson who is doing a fantastic job.

## **Brian Ritson:**

The AFRF Retreat is on the following weekends:

Friday November 5 – Sunday November 7

Friday November 12 – Sunday November 14

It will be at Sylvan Glen in Penrose with is a 33 Minute Drive.

It will be a big commitment from our Club Members. Members will recall Louise Murphy speaking at our Club. There will be long shifts.

### **Here is the Menu:**

#### **Friday Dinner 6.30pm**

Steak/Salmon Pattie – Salad – Boiled potatoes sour cream

Apple pie With Ice Cream

#### **Saturday Breakfast 8.30pm**

Bacon – Vegetarian Sausages - Eggs - Grilled Tomatoes – Baked Beans - Toast

Corn Flakes – Muesli – Bananas - Strawberries

#### **Saturday Morning Tea 10.30am**

Scones – Jam – Cream/Gluten Free Cake

#### **Saturday Lunch 12.30pm**

**Beef or Vegetarian Lasagne – Salad**

#### **Saturday A/Noon Tea 3.00pm**

Banana Bread – Lamingtons

#### **Saturday Dinner 6.30pm**

Main: Chicken Maryland -Baked Potatoes – Pumpkin – Peas – Corn on cob

Desert: Cherry/Apple Blackberry Pie Fresh Cream

## **MENU Continued...**

#### **Sunday Breakfast 8.30 am**

Bacon – Eggs – Mushrooms – Veg Sausages -Toast

Aust. Bushfood cereal – Muesli – Bananas - Strawberries

#### **Sunday Morning Tea 10.30**

Anzac Biscuits – Chocolate Cookies

Gluten Free Cake

#### **Sunday Lunch 1pm**

Mixed Pizza's –Meat/Gluten Free/Vegetarian

Fruit Platter

#### **Roster:**

Friday: 2 people 3.30pm – 8pm

Saturday: 4 people 6.30am – 10.30am 4 people 10.30am – 4.30pm 4 people 4.30pm – 8.30pm

Sunday: 4 people 6.30am – 3.30pm

#### **Brian Ritson: (cont'd)**

The Food and Wine Festival is on November 26-27 for 4,000 people

at Moss Vale Showground. We are looking at a BBQ and Poffertjes.

(It has now been confirmed that the Festival has been deferred until February 2022)

## Guest Speaker: Mark Balla – the Toilet Warrior

**Rose Conley** introduced Mark. Thank you Rose for referring Mark as a Guest Speaker.

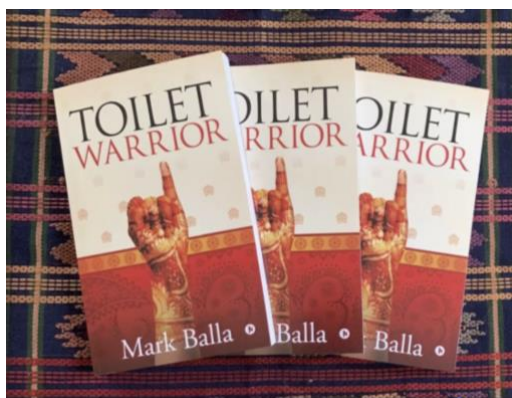
Here is Mark's Bio:

Mark Balla is the Immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central and an Assistant Governor under DG Daryl Moran. He is also Vice Chair of the WASH Rotary Action Group (formerly known as WASRAG) and a member of the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors.

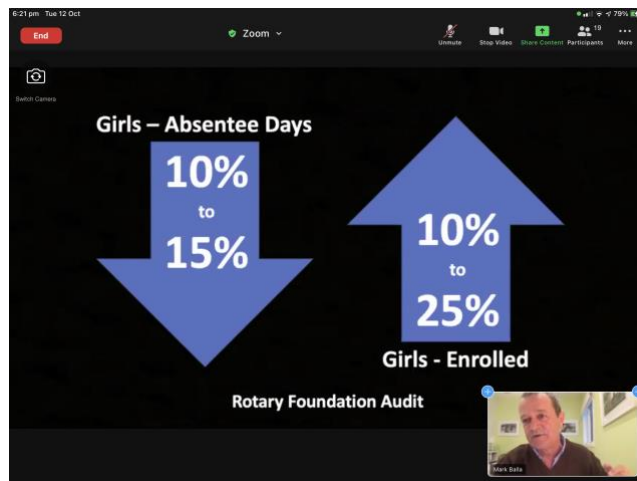
He joined Box Hill Central in March 2014 bringing a small but significant project with him. Mark will tell us about this project and others that have developed since.

In the seven and a bit years since joining Rotary, Mark has attended Rotary International Conventions in Brazil, South Korea, Canada and Germany and spoken at side events at all of these. He has also presented at 14 Rotary District Conferences in Australia, the USA and India.

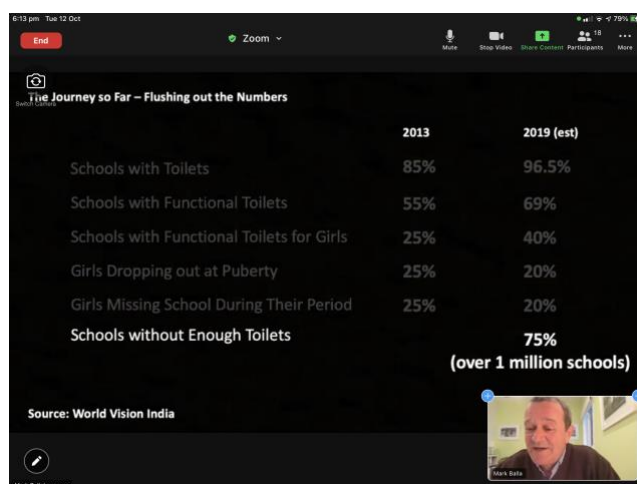
Mark is married to Annie who is chair of Box Hill Central's Satellite Club They have two adult children - daughter Paris and son Oscar who are both university students in Melbourne. Mark has a complicated relationship with his family cat and his golf handicap and during the pandemic has become seriously addicted to cycling, which he finds far less frustrating than golf.



*Mark Balla's book – available for sale*



*Statistics: Effect of toilets available at schools*



	2013	2019 (est)
Schools with Toilets	85%	96.5%
Schools with Functional Toilets	55%	69%
Schools with Functional Toilets for Girls	25%	40%
Girls Dropping out at Puberty	25%	20%
Girls Missing School During Their Period	25%	20%
Schools without Enough Toilets		75% (over 1 million schools)

Source: World Vision India

*Over 1 million schools in India without toilets*

During a business trip to India, Mark made an unexpected discovery, a discovery that was to turn his understanding of our world upside down. He was so shaken by what he learned that he felt unable to simply walk away.

There were no Toilets in Schools for Teenage Girls.

He met:

Jack Sim – Mr Toilet

Bindeshwar Pathak – Grand Old Man of the Toilet

The Poop Guy – Swapnil Chat

"We Can't Wait" was then established to put Toilets in Schools. For example some Schools with 800 Kids had 2 Toilets. Girls attending Schools dropped by 20-25%. Teachers would catch a Bus to work, and not go to the Toilet all day in the Indian Heat.

Mark showed us a Video of a Toilet Block in a School, which was heart breaking.

In 2019 the Rotary Foundation granted \$1,000,000 to "We can't wait".

If Students wanted to go to the Toilet they would raise a finger. The Foundation Grant has benefited 120,000 kids, and Girls have returned to learning.

Mark's talk was so inspirational, and we thank him so much for talking to, and meeting our Members. Many Members then asked questions, and thanked Mark.

Brian Ritson donated a Brass Statue of Don Bradman for Mark to take to India and raise funds. Also other items he has. He will talk to Mark off-line.

Rod Aistrope spoke about our Toilet Project in Vanuatu.

Leigh Robinson will contact Mark off-line regarding our Rotary Foundation Ball in early 2022.

Here is the link to Mark's You Tube Presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdKCzsBXy5s>



**President Will** closed the Meeting at 6:45.

Our next Meeting October 19 is at the Hermitage.

The Meeting October 26 is at the Hermitage, and we will have a Guest Speaker. We have some wonderful Guest Speakers to be booked in as they were deferred because of our Covid-19 Lock-Down.

The Meeting November 2 – Melbourne Cup Day – is to be confirmed.

The Meeting November 9 will be Club Assembly.

\*\*\*Please Refer again to the email from Trevor Fair on 12<sup>th</sup> October about RFA –

***Extracts below:***

***"A key audience we aim to influence through the site is corporations and wealthy individuals who may be interested in helping to fund large Rotary projects. If you have:***

- a great project that is in need of significant funding, or***
- contacts with a corporation or wealthy individual who may wish to support Rotary with a gift of A\$50,000 or more, please contact me at***

***[rfa@rotary.org](mailto:rfa@rotary.org).*"**

***Rotary Foundation Australia looks forward to supporting your endeavours by helping you to fund high-impact projects – it's by making an impact that Rotary thrives.***