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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

- 27 Jul Jackie Meyers, Editor of Southern Highlands News @ Hermitage 6pm
- 10 Aug Area Governor Visit - Adam de Toth @ Hermitage 6pm
- 17 Aug Dr Subhasis Talapatra - Skin Cancer & Prevention (Referred by Brian Ritson) @ Hermitage
- 21 Sep Sharelle Quinn - Last Qantas 747 Kangaroo Flight @ Hermitage 6pm

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

Venue: The Hermitage

Journalist: David McCosh

Welcome: Sergeant Lynton welcomed Rotarians and the 3 guests: Sue Hayward, Ian Law, and Luciano's guest Sadie from the UK,

Invocation: Des Rudolf

International Toast: Lynton Kettle

Colombia is located at the northwest corner of South America right next to the Isthmus of Panama bounded by the Caribbean Sea to the north, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, and the Pacific to the west. It was invaded, conquered and ruled by Spain in 1499 until the territories which are now Colombia, Panama, Venezuela and Ecuador declared independence on 20th July 1810.

It took another 9 years of internal struggle and resistance to reconquest by Spain before the legendary General Simon Bolivar led the revolution which finally established these territories as an independent federation. He led other uprisings against Spanish colonial rule in South America and was named President of Gran Colombia at a congress in Villa del Rosario in 1821.

Today, the people of Colombia celebrate their Independence Day. Now-a-days, despite many years of political instability and drug cartels Colombia has a relatively high standard of living, functioning democracy and fairly strong economy. Villa del Rosario is now a suburb of the north-east regional capital city of Cucuta near the Venezuela border with a population of around 1million.

The Rotary Club of Villa del Rosario was Chartered in 1985 in District 4271 and has 24 Members who have been taking an active role in assisting the local health services with organisation of testing and immunisation of the community against Covid-19.

The Club is led by President Hilda Cely. In celebration of the Independence Day of Colombia would you please be upstanding and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Villa del Rosario.

Welcome and Notices: President Will

Will welcomed the twenty-five members and guests with Bad News / Good News announcements.

1. Bad news – cancellations

- The re-start of the Bowral School Breakfast Club has been cancelled – COVID -19
- First Responders catering opportunity in Penrose in the first weekend in August has been postponed.

2. Good News – we need some of that!

- The new canopy equipment has arrived.
- The application for a District Grant submitted by Rod Aistrope for \$4,500 has been approved. The application was for the development of a kid's playground for the Pop-In Centre.

3. **Rose Conley** has taken on the position of Welfare Officer for the Club recognising that in these Covid- affected times it is important for us to look after one another. Rose proposed to announce birthdays at meetings with the expectation that the subjects will respond briefly with their Rotary history.

Will then called for notices from the floor....

Robert de Jong

- Letters had been sent to High Schools inviting nominations for students to attend RYPEN, due to be held in Wagg Wagga in November.
- Approval has been given for the Wood Trailer to be placed at the Mittagong Markets to promote wood sales.

Leigh Robinson

- Reminded the club that the Rotary Foundation is our charity and that we should review how each of us is supporting the charity. Next week he intends to discuss the Centurion Program.

Will Eddowes and Brian Ritson

- The proposed History Tours of our region will require a great deal of planning with a view to starting them next year. More ideas on good inclusions are required. A committee is being set up by Brian, Will and Rose. Contact has been made with Aboriginal leader Wendy Lotter.

Will closed this general discussion with congratulations to the chef for an excellent meal.

Guest Speaker :

Leigh Robinson introduced the guest speaker for the night, **PDG Sue Hayward** who addressed the Club on the subject of another Club's view on Membership, Recruiting, and the Rewards of contributing at District level with its wider Rotary insights and opportunities.

Sue gave us a brief description of her working life and her life in Rotary in which she has held many roles. Starting with her introduction by Doug Lang and including her experience forming a Club and Charter President, and possibly the first woman President of a Rotary Club, in the Southern Hemisphere.

She related how her Rotary involvement went up a level following a presentation by Max Walker on the work being done in the South Pacific by ROMAC. This led to roles at District level, - experience she considered to be a huge privilege.

In a second section of her address, she performed a scene play with Leigh demonstrating in role-play, how to attract new members to Rotary.

Luciano delivered the vote of thanks.



Sergeant Session:

Lynton delivered a short Sergeants' session: -

- Sue Hayward for not recognising the nostalgic qualities of the smell of Rotary clothes following BBQ duties.
- Luciano for bringing new guests each week
- Robert de Jong – something to do with trestles
- Les Vickerman for dragging himself out of bed to show us his new knee.
- Jo Chalmers for knowing that Max Walker is the patron of ROMAC.

President Will closed the meeting and everyone donned masks before departing into the winter cold!

Thank you for reading this Bulletin: Journalists and Editor appreciate your interest!