

# The Club Bulletin: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Volume 84 No 4



Bowral-Mittagong  
**Rotary**  
District 9705  
Chartered 26 March 1940



## Board of Directors

### President:

Leigh Robinson

### Directors:

Secretary: Trevor Fair

Treasurer: Jo Chalmers

Carolina Torregrosa

Ian Law

Will Eddowes

Carsten Prien

### RI President:

Jennifer Jones

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### Club Meetings:

Weekly on Tuesdays, 6.00pm for 6.30pm at various Southern Highlands venues. (See below)

**Meeting Apologies to be submitted by Sunday for the following Tuesday. Please TXT Sec. Trevor.**

| Next 4 Weeks | Meeting Venues      | Speaker/ Topic  | Journalist   |
|--------------|---------------------|---|--------------|
| 2 Aug        | Bowral Bowling Club | **Club Assembly**   | Ian Langford |
| 9 Aug        | Kookabar            | Viv May, WSC Administrator<br>Wingecarribee Shire Council | Trevor Fair  |
| 16 Aug       | Bowral Bowling Club | Geoff Prichard<br>Australia's most famous Spy             | David McCosh |
| 23 Aug       | Scottish Arms Hotel | Social Evening  | Will Eddowes |

## International Toast – given by Tim Bowland

Spain invaded and conquered much of South and Central America in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Revolutionary wars led by General Simon Bolivar defeated the Spanish Empire and six countries including those now known as Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Panama and Colombia which we toasted last week, all achieved their freedom.

Thursday is the Independence Day of the other one - Peru. The Peruvians declared independence in 1821 and finally drove the Spanish out in 1824.

Today there are 34 million Peruvians who, after many years of internal struggles enjoy a stable working peaceful democracy, good standard of living and rising wealth.

The largest city in the Peruvian Amazon is Iquitos with a population of 500 000 located on the Amazon some 3 600km from the sea but only 106 metres above it. There is no road connection to Iquitos only the river and the air. The Rotary Club of Iquitos was Chartered in 1932 in District 4465 which covers the east of Peru.

The Club has 23 Members led by President Carlos Gomez.



One of its projects is supporting the Peruvian version of Operation Cleft called Operacion Sonrisa or Smile. They actively support it with fundraising and logistics when teams visit their area and repair cleft palates and other facial deformities.

In recognition of the Independence Day of Peru would you please raise a make our International Toast to the **President and Members of the Rotary Club of Iquitos.**

**Welcome:**

Sergeant Don Graham welcomed everyone including Pres Leigh. Also welcomed guests, Terrese Leotta, Eric Conley and Nathaniel Smith MP.

President Leigh announced apologies.

**Invocation:** Jim Gasson

**International Toast:** Tim Bowland

**Announcements:**

Pres Leigh reminded us,

- to make ourselves aware of the Regionalisation issues facing our Rotary area as we will have to vote on it.
- the Club Assembly next week. If you have any issues you would like addressed email the Board in advance.

**The Sleep Out for Homeless fundraiser.**

Due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> August. Ian Law volunteered to sleep out. This event will help to raise our profile in the area. Who is going to join him?



<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/southern-highlands-vinnies-community-sleepout>

**Bong Bong races** will be held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. We will prepare and man the two public carparks, run the BBQ and attend to dinner on the Saturday night.

**Cupboard contents at Highlands Golf**

Pres Leigh cleaned out some cupboards at the Golf Club. He is proposing that the banners are photographed. Ian Langford volunteered to take charge of Emergency Medical Books.

**Rotary ADOPT-A-TREE program**

Pres Leigh drew attention to the Camden Club's ambitious tree planting project. Read about it at <https://rotaryadoptatree.org.au>.

\$5 buys a tree and you have the opportunity to plant it. Two plantings are planned to take place in our area, - Joadja Road 5<sup>th</sup> November (750 trees) and High Range 6<sup>th</sup> November (500 trees). He encouraged us to get involved. There will be Rotarians there from many NSW clubs.

**Food Donations.**

Don't forget to bring non-perishable goods in for the Uniting Church food basket each meeting.

**First Responders Retreat. 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> August**

Will Eddowes was delighted with the response to the roster; however, one shift has become vacant. Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 6.30am – 11am?

**August 19<sup>th</sup> - Birthday Pizza Lunch  
Imperial Hotel, Bowral. 12pm**

Celebrating July and August Birthdays!

Mary Ramsay 10/7

Gwenda Webb 21/7

Domonic Williams 31/7

Ray Coulton 6/8

Carsten Prien 13/8

**Guest Speaker: Nathaniel Smith MP**

Introduced by Carolina Torregrosa



Nathaniel Gerard Smith is an Australian politician. He has been a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly since 2019, representing Wollondilly for the Liberal Party. Son of former NSW Attorney General Greg Smith, Nathaniel worked as plumber for several years before he was forced to make a career change following a workplace accident. He gained an MA in Communication and served as an advisor to a federal senator prior to becoming a minister with the NSW government. He was appointed Government Whip in 2022, and has chaired the Parliament Valuer Generals Committee. He sits on the Electoral Matters, Environmental Planning, Children and Young People, and Stay Safe Parliamentary Committees.

Nathaniel spoke about his career path, leaving school at 16 after year 11 and pursuing a

TAFE course in plumbing. He started his own plumbing business in Castle Hill which he ran for 6 years. Nathaniel spoke briefly of his father Greg Smith who was a NSW public prosecutor and later a senior counsel in the Supreme Court, whom Nathaniel encouraged into becoming a politician.

Since becoming the member for Wollondilly Nathaniel has face some challenging times with droughts, bush fires, floods, the pandemic, and cyclones. Nathan said that 40% of Wollondilly’s population was in our area so it is very important to him that we are looked after. He gave us an insight to many aspects of his life as a MP and talked about many local issues faced in the electorate and the many projects for which he obtained funding. The \$14.6 million funding to open the Thirroul to Colo Vale train line, due to be opened in 2023, will be a boost to the local towns because of the tourist dollars it will attract.

Nathaniel then took questions from the floor. Carolina asked about grants and Nathaniel said he has an annual fund of \$400k that is used for small grants of \$10k – \$20k which can be applied for thru his office.

Will asked about State and local roads. Nathaniel said one major problem is large trucks that do the major damage.

A vote of thanks was given by Bruce Sutton.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Raffle:**

Was won by David McCosh.

Pres Leigh thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8pm.

**Next Meeting: Club Assembly at the Bowral Bowling Club**