

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 02 May 2023

Volume 84 No 38



Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



Board of Directors

President:

Leigh Robinson

Directors:

Sec/Treasurer:

Trevor Fair

Ian Law

Will Eddowes

Jo Chalmers

Don Graham

RI President:

Jennifer Jones

Club Meetings:

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

Meeting apologies by Sunday for the following Tuesday. Please text Trevor Fair.

Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
09 May	Bowral Bowling Club	Skin Cancer Foundation/Jay Allen	Pamela Brown
16 May	Café Annesley Partners night	Member Story/Lynton Kettle	Will Eddowes
23 May	Bowral Bowling Club	'The Media'	Colin McLennan
30 May	Kookabar	Member Story	TBA

International Toast: Rod Aistrope

Yesterday was **May Day** which celebrates the nominal first day of summer in the northern hemisphere. It is roughly midway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice.

It was celebrated in the Roman Republic of the 2nd Century BC on the Kalends of May as Floralia, the Festival of Flora the Goddess of Flowers.

Since the 14th Century over much of Europe May Day has been marked by the raising of May Poles.

The first written record in England was in 1448.

The festivities included men in funny white shirts and trousers with ribbons and bells on dancing about, banging sticks and occasionally hitting each other. They used black face paint as a mask for disguise and became known as Moorish Dancers, evolving to Morris Dancers over time.

In 1600 William Kemp, one of William Shakespeare's actors, Morris Danced all the way from London to Norwich, about 100km northeast. (It was probably on a dare and may have involved drinking - not sure).

And here we are 423 years later just after the end of Queen Elizabeth the Second's reign and on the eve of the Coronation of Charles III and they are out there again, Morris Dancing for May Day and the new King of England.



Norwich was a small Cathedral town back then but is a city of around 215 000 now. It was nominated as one of the best places to live in the UK by the Sunday Times in 2018, 19 and 20.

The Rotary Club of Norwich looks like a happy and busy Club. They have a project in Ghana, West Africa fund raising and supporting the development of an all-inclusive primary school which also caters for children with disabilities who can't usually get an education.

The Club is in District 1080 and was Chartered in 1922 - 101 years ago.

Its 24 Members are led by **President Miles Neville**.

In celebration of May Day and recognition of a new English King would you please rise and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Norwich.

Venue: Kookabar

Journalist: Trevor Fair

Welcome by Sergeant Lynton. A special night with a talk from Tim Bowland.

Apologies

Robbie, Tony, Don, Carsten, Leigh, Bruce.

Welcome to guests **Mary Crammond, Graham Castle**, partners **Alison Bowland, Bev Donges**.

Welcome **PP Will Eddowes** in the absence of P Leigh.

Acknowledgement of Country.

Announcements:

Leigh is in a bit of pain after a cancer removal from his leg. Will be out of action for 2 weeks.

Leigh attended the ANZAC Day service at the Cenotaph and presented a wreath on behalf of Rotary.



President Leigh at the Bowral Cenotaph on ANZAC Day

Rotary Inspirational Women's Award

The Club is looking for a woman who has made a significant contribution to the community. Please nominate your thoughts to Leigh for submission.

2024 Charity Dinner

Club voting for the charity of choice was strongly in favour of the Children's Cancer Institute .

District Grant applications will close 31 May. Please submit any projects to the Club for consideration and lodgement.

Science & Engineering Challenge



Less than three weeks to go. We have 8 high schools and a full complement of primary schools participating over the two days. Any volunteer who does not have a valid Working-With Children accreditation please apply or update. The Challenge and Discovery Days are held at Mittagong RSL on the 22nd & 23 May.

FAIM - Fiji trip



Accommodation is now to be situated in town. Cost will be approximately \$2300 pp. The date is 6th August to 20th August. We will be building houses in Koripita, the village for disadvantaged families.

MUNA - Saturday 12th May - WSC Chambers



MUNA. Cont....

Tri Booking site will be set up to allow parents and friends to book to assist with catering. Any member not who has not experienced this amazing event is more than welcome to attend as an observer. If you would like catering, please ensure you book through Tri Booking.

Club Meeting Venues. – The calendar is now booked up until September. Please look on Tulip Times for upcoming events, especially the following:

- 16 May Annesley - Chestnut night
- 13 June Annesley -Trivia Night
- 27 June Annesley – Changeover

Trivia Night - questions will not be focused on Rotary and is guaranteed to be a fun evening.

Firewood - Trailer for \$300 - see Lynton and/or Robert.

Golf Day - 21st May.



Due to circumstances Louie will not be able to co-ordinate as normal. Breakfast of bacon and eggs done by Rotary and everything else will be catered for by the Highlands Golf Club.

Guest Speaker - Tim Bowland – Member Talk



Born 23rd September 1950 in Nowra.

I have two brothers who are 12 and 14 years my senior.

My Parents separated in 1953 and we moved to Talong to live with my Grandparents on my Mothers side.

In my younger years I moved around NSW, QLD and VIC with my mother and stepfather.

In 1960 age 10 we settled in Griffith NSW where we had a tyre service and cleaning supplies business. And I did primary and High School there. At the time GHS was the largest public HS in the state.

In 1968 I did my HSC and started working a few days later for a Commercial Builder in Griffith. The owner was a Rotarian. I worked as a Draftsman and Estimator and studied a Clerk of Works Course at Tech. The highlight of my time there was winning a contract for a Distillery and going to Adelaide to sign the contract.

1971 I moved to Canberra to pursue my Architectural Drafting studies. I worked for a Consulting Engineering company, then in 1972 I joined A V Jennings as a draftsman. In 1974 I was promoted to Design Manager and Product Development Manager for the ACT. During my years at AVJ in Canberra I also looked after advertising and the purchasing of land for our housing program and stood in as State Manager when he was away.

1974 I Married Alison, a schoolteacher.

In 1983 I sold my house in Canberra and was about to build a new house when the company transferred me to Houston Texas to run the Design and Product Development Department of their Housing operations in the US.

So, we packed our cases and headed off with 3 young children. The youngest being just 8 months old.

In Texas we were building homes in Houston and Dallas. By the way I quickly learnt that Texans did not understand Australian, so that was an adjustment I had to make.

It was a great experience in Texas as housing was quite different to what I had experienced in Australia, and the way we went about setting up sales offices. Decorating the display homes was more professional than I had experienced in Australia. Our decorators came from Los Angeles and San Francisco. So, I had the opportunity to spend some time visiting those cities.

In late 1985 I returned to Australia settling in Sydney and continuing my role as Product Development Manager for the NSW operation of AVJ. The role involved producing a new range of homes each year and building 30+ display homes. We operated from Newcastle down to Wollongong and out to Bowral.

During my career I have planned and opened approx. 750+ display homes.

In 1994 I turned my hand to Project Managing Integrated Housing Developments in Sydney with AVJ.

In 1996 the company was sold to a competitor after getting into financial difficulties. The new owner was only interested in the land stocks and made all the senior management redundant so they could introduce their own spec home culture into the business.

So, after 23 years with AVJ I was looking for a job.... But the day after leaving Jennings I received a phone call from a property developer from Melbourne who offered me a job looking for development sites around Sydney.

I started my own Architectural Design & Drafting business "Absolute Design Solutions", at that time in case I needed to work for myself at some stage.

In 1997 I moved to Alstonville in Northern NSW and worked for a private home builder as Design

Manager, the company started franchising their business and we did the design & drafting work for most of the Franchisees who were located in QLD, NSW and Tasmania.

In 2003 I decided to move back to Sydney and took up a position with Clarendon Homes as Product Development Manager.

In 2005 I moved to Wincrest Homes as Product Development Manager.

And In 2008 I was invited to join Binet Homes, a custom home builder in Sydney. I worked for them for 10 years until I retired.

Now, after retiring, I still operate the ADS business, and most of my work is in the Northern Rivers of NSW where I service a couple of small local builders. I also do Design and Drafting jobs for anyone who wants something designed. My projects have been geographically spread out, Sydney, Central Coast, Country NSW and one new home in Brisbane.

Some of the projects I have done, included, a New Hotel and Motel at Uki, just below Mt Warning, extensions to a Hotel in Casino, a new bottle shop, Bar and units at Pottsville, and a Veterinary Hospital in Gosford. Also numerous homes and duplexes in the Northern Rivers area. I have designed a new Men's' Shed at Copacabana which has opened recently. While on the Central Coast I developed a relationship with the local fireies and have done many small design jobs for them at much reduced rates. All of my current work is repeat work or word of mouth.

My Rotary Service

I joined the Rotary Club of Alstonville in 1998, after two of my daughters went on Rotary exchange, - one to Germany and one to Denmark. Over the years we have hosted 13 exchange students in our home. I joined the District YE committee while in Alstonville and Alison and I have been involved in the YE program as country co-ordinators most of our time in Rotary.

At the time of leaving Alstonville, to return to Sydney, I was President Elect.

I joined the RC of West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook on my return to Sydney and was President in 08-09. The highlight of the year was an increase in membership of 6.

After moving to the Central Coast, I was President at Kincumber RC in 14-15 and once again the highlight of my year was a 50% increase in membership. (From 20-30)

I was to take up a position of AG in 17-18 but had to give it up due to a heart health issue.

I have been awarded two Paul Harris Fellow Citations for my contributions over the years.

My wife Alison, served as District Secretary of the Youth Exchange Committee in District 9685 for six years and was awarded a PHF for her services.

And now I am here.

Rotary has given me and my family so much over the years. Friendships all over the world, Comradery and the opportunity to help others.... Thank you, Rotary.

Past President Will thanked Tim for his informative talk. It is beneficial to know more about all our members, especially the newer ones.

Louie would like some assistance with chestnut cutting and preparation on Sunday 14th May, followed by pasta and grappa if required.

Food Bank - Cake Soap and Milk is in short supply if possible. Quantity rather than quality please.

Segeant Lynton ran a brief fine session with many of the usual suspects contributing to the Rotary coffers.

Joker Raffle - Rosemary Kelly - Kookabar Gift Voucher - 9 Hearts

Next Week- Bowral Bowling Club – Jay Allen – Australian Skin Cancer Foundation. If Jay's bio is any indication will be another interesting talk.