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Bowral-Mittagong Rotary District 9705 Chartered 26 March 1940

> Email : rotarybm@acenet.com.au www.bowralmittagongrotary.com

Board of Directors President: Leigh Robinson

Directors: Sec/Treasurer: Trevor Fair

Ian Law Will Eddowes Jo Chalmers Don Graham

RI President: Jennifer Jones

ROTARY

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 txt Trevor Fair.

Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
11 Apr	Bowral Bowling Club	Club Assembly	Trevor Fair
18 Apr	Annesley	Wobatised/Tanya Clancy	Pamela Brown
25 Apr	Bowral Bowling Club	ANZAC Day	Ian Langford
02 May	Kookabar	Member Story/Tim Bowland	Trevor Fair

International Toast: Tony Glenn

On 4 April 1958 (65 years ago), the modern peace sign (commonly called "ban the bomb"), designed by Gerald Holtom for the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, first made a public appearance in a march from London to Aldermaston (near Reading) in the UK to protest at the site of the Atomic Weapons Establishment. Of significance currently with on-going nuclear threats from Russia and North Korea. By coincidence there was some focus on Rotary's

focus area of Peace and conflict

prevention/resolution at the District Learning and Development Seminar this last weekend. In this focus area Rotary grants approximately 130 fully funded scholarships (to the tune of \$80,000 each per year) to undertake a Master's Degree at Rotary Peace Centres to facilitate peace fellows to become effective catalysts for peace through careers in government, education, and international organizations.

Interestingly, our District with Canberra at its centre has not provided any students for a very long time. As Reading is close to the events in 1958 I have ventured to the Reading Rotary Club which has a website in English. Club President is Roger Butler lording over 32 members. The Club was chartered in 1922.



The original poster.....

.....and Rosemary was there!!

On 10 March this year the Club held its annual International Dinner to raise funds for **their** ongoing projects in Uganda, Tanzania, India and Ukraine. At their meeting on 7 January the Club hosted Rotarian Monika Nakiwala Chittendon of the Muyenga Kampala Club in Uganda to discuss the Clubs ongoing project at Orum Primary School in the North East of her country.

The promotion of Peace comes in many ways and the Reading RC is assisting in many arenas in the world. Please be upstanding and toast the **President and Members of the Rotary Club of Reading.** Journalist : Will Eddowes Venue :







Sergeant Lynton Kettle opened the meeting and welcomed the guests: Chris Sands, BHS Interact Coordinator, Meg Pavour, BHS RYPEN student, Tayla Bass, BHS RYPEN student, Chris Sands' sister and Mara De Jongh.

President Leigh gave the acknowledgement to Country and reported apologies from Tim Bowland, Ian Donges, Ian Johnson, and Bruce Sutton.

International Toast and Invocation were given by Tony Glenn (see page 1)

Next week - Club Assembly

Members are encouraged to raise any concerns, suggestions, gripes etc at the Assembly next week – please forward to Trevor.

Robbie Allen introduced Meg and Tayla, the Interact students who had been sponsored by the club to attend RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) in Wagga.



Robbie Allen with Tayla Bass and Meg Pavour

Together, with a great deal of confidence, they delivered their report to the Club. (See following page).

2024 Charity Dinner

A long list of possible sponsors for the charity dinner next year was circulated. Further suggestions and possible recipients will be welcome.

MUNA

Robert De Jongh's work on the organisation of MUNA from Indonesia was praised.

District Conference

Leigh, Don, Ian Langford, Allan Falvey, Tony and Will attended t District Conference in Orange at the weekend (above average compared to other clubs). Don Graham reported that membership decline was a major concern. The District had about 2100 members in 2020 and now has only about 1800. There were talks on leadership, conflict resolution etc and possible projects with a view to gaining membership. Don outlined the membership fee structure and will propose some changes at the Assembly.

Membership

Leigh asked Tim to speak about his work for the club on Facebook.

Facebook normally targets a younger age group, but we can get the age profile of viewers of our site. Tim has put up 'Why I joined Rotary' and outline of the five avenues of service. Trevor has started to receive responses.

Raffle:

The raffle was drawn by Mara and won by David McCosh. An additional prize of Ferrero Rocher was won by Paul Leotta. The joker was missed by one card!

Sergeant Lynton fined the following:

All non-badge wearers, Tony Glenn for having Jim Gasson as his demo, Robbie Allen as the house next door was sold "because of the neighbours", Robert for helping overseas miners to complete against Australia, Louie and Robin for arriving late, Rod as

Our Interact Speakers - Tayla Bass and Meg Pavour



Tayla and Meg tell us of their RYPEN experience.

Meg: Following attendance at a Rotary meeting last October, we attended Rypen in Wagga Wagga with around 60 other kids. We stayed at the Bombala Sport and Rec Camp where we had Rotarians and past RYPEN students as leaders and camp coordinators.

Tayla: It was jam-packed with fun activities. We were put into groups with people we had never met before. We had teambuilding exercises and talks about kindness, leadership, first impressions, community engagement and safety. It included a drama workshop and meeting Miss Wagga Wagga entrants.

Meg: My personal experience was to gain communication skills. I got a lot out of listening to other people of different backgrounds and learnt about communicating beyond just small talk. I feel I would be better at it in future. My favourite part was the drama workshop. We had games and had to create performances in small groups off a prompt. Then each group performed. It was a great time.

Tayla: The main thing that I got out of the weekend was confidence building strategies that I continue to use. RYPEN forced me out of my comfort zone while still having a good time. We got to work in small groups where someone had to take the lead. I was inspired to help out running our drama group. The part that stood out most for me was a talk from a

Labor didn't win the local electorate. Rosemary gave some background about her experience with the march including her father's disapproval! Lynton, Jeanetta, Louie and Robyn attended the Clown Doctors fundraiser at the weekend. A trailer load of firewood from Lynton sold for \$350. Pascal also donated to the auction.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

local business owner. He talked about the importance of first impressions and things to do when meeting new people, especially in job interviews. I still think of this today when meeting people.

Meg: Recently in Interact we have been very busy. We have had multiple cake stall fundraisers to raise money for survival boxes for those affected by the earthquake in eastern Europe. Boxes include a tent, sleeping bags, an electric stovetop, food and more. They cost \$1000 each and we have raised money for three, added to another two in the last six months. We had another cake stall in March for the State election, raising money for domestic violence runaway bags. Unfortunately, our last lot were flood affected so we had to throw out a lot of the contents. We hope to complete this early next term. We would like to thank the Rotarians who joined us at the Cherry Tree walk. We had a successful afternoon and hope to continue assisting Ian Law's environmental project. Lastly, we have these brand-new blazers that we are modelling for you tonight.

Tayla: Our participation in our recent initiatives had a lot to do with going to RYPEN. We are starting to come forward to take more responsibility as most of the club in year 12 begin to leave. Lastly, we want to say thank you for giving us this opportunity to grow. Also, a special shout out to Robbie who was so kind to chaperone us to Canberra to catch a bus to Wagga and then back again. She has been so amazing coming to all our meetings as well, so thank you. Good night and we hope to see you soon.

Don Graham asked if it had helped inspire volunteering to which Meg said 'yes' and that they have 9 or 10 new members.

Tony Glenn asked if they participated in 'Angels in our Town'. Apparently, most Rotary marchers were Interactors. Meg also pointed out that 10 out of 12 prefects are Interactors.

President Leigh thanked the speakers, and our appreciation was shown by enthusiastic applause. He also thanked **Chris Sands** for her vital contribution to Interact.