

# Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 9-1-2024

Volume 85 No 26



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**

## RI President:

Gordon R McNally

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



Email : [rotarybm@acenet.com.au](mailto:rotarybm@acenet.com.au)  
[www.bowralmittagongrotary.com](http://www.bowralmittagongrotary.com)

## Board of Directors

### President:

Don Graham

### Directors:

Trevor Fair - Secretary  
Paul Leotta - Treasurer  
Rod Aistrop  
Robbie Allen  
Denise Coad  
Rosemary Kelly  
Tim Bowland  
Allan Falvey  
Leigh Robinson

## Club Meetings:

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

If you are an apology please text or phone Denise Coad 0416009395 or email [denisecoad@bigpond.com](mailto:denisecoad@bigpond.com) by 5.00pm Friday before the Tuesday meeting. By default, it will be assumed that members are attending.

# "What's On?"

Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
<b>2024</b>			
16 Jan	Bowral Bowling Club	Chris Benton Lawn Bowls meeting Partners and friends welcome <b>Bowling 5pm-6pm. Meeting 6pm for 6.30pm Partners and Friends welcome</b>	Tim Bowland
23 Jan	No Meeting	Transferred to the 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	N/A
26 Jan	Ian & Bev Donges	Australia Day gathering 85 McCallum Road, Colo Vale.	
30 Jan	Bowral Bowling Club		Ian Langford
6 Feb	Café Annesley	Club Assembly	Trevor Fair
13 Feb	Bowral Bowling Club	Steve Pettaras – Alkaline Waterford Still	Pamela Brown
20 Feb			Will Eddowes
24/25 May	Wingecarribee Shire Council	Model United Nations	
27 Feb			

Report on the Club meeting at Southern Highlands Winery on Tuesday 9 Jan 2024.

**Journalist.** David McCosh

Tonight's meeting was the first Club meeting in 2024 and it was held in the comfortable and spacious venue of the Southern Highlands Winery. **Sargent Lynton** opened the meeting with New Year greetings before welcoming our President Don Graham. There were 29 members and guests.

**Don individually welcomed our guests, - (Member from Terrigal), Youth Exchange students Asher Aylett and Yuzana (student from Japan), guests of Jeff Mann - Meri Took, Brett Parker, & Tara Ebbes, - and Robyn Liberale.**



Don then thanked **Mary Crammond** and **Asher Aylett** for the efforts in raising \$968 towards the acquisition of Shelterbags for the homeless in NSW. Don called the two of them to the microphone to describe how Asher's busking in Bowral and a dollar-for-dollar commitment by our Club had helped to raise this money.

Mary asked for assistance in storing the Shelterbags prior to distribution. It was decided that there is sufficient space to store them in the Rotary Shed prior to distribution.

**Membership Update.** Tim Bowland

**What have we done in the past 6 months?**

When we started thinking about it it was surprising the effort that has been made to promote the club and attract new members. So much so that I have summarised it in a Membership Minute at the end of this Bulletin.

However, the most powerful tool we have to attract new members is you talking about Rotary to people and inviting them to check us out.

**What's coming up?**

We will be writing a letter to all new home owners welcoming them to the area and including a club brochure. Allan has helped to facilitate this, thanks Allan.

We hope to get this going asap now we are back. And we will be asking you to assist with their distribution.

**Also, there is a Survey coming up.**

Before our next club assembly you will receive an email with a link that will take you to an online survey. The answers are all collated automatically and anonymously.

The aim of the survey is to find out if you are happy. To find out if there is anything you are unhappy with. And to see how you think we could improve.

Now, the survey questions have not been finalised so if there is a question you would like to get the members feedback on please let me know asap so we can make the survey more relevant.

This is a great opportunity to prepare for the club assembly on the 6<sup>th</sup> February.

**International Toast.** Written and delivered by Rod Aistrope

Most every week for the past 12 years our Club has made a toast to another Rotary Club somewhere in the world as a way of expanding our knowledge of the rest of the world and Rotary's part in it. We make our toast known to the recipient Club and extend our best wishes to them.

Rotary started in 1905 from a weekly lunch between four friends in Chicago which they rotated between their offices. They decided that they could do something useful for their community with their meetings and their first project, the first Rotary project was a public toilet block. Others became interested in joining and here we are 119 years later with 1.4 million Members in over 40 000 Rotary Clubs in about 200 countries and territories all trying to make our communities and our world a better place.

Our biggest project so far has been the eradication of polio globally which started in 1985 in conjunction with the

World Health Organisation. Since then, Rotary members around the world have contributed over \$2 billion through the Rotary Foundation and Members have delivered and administered vaccines to billions of children and eliminated the disease from all but a very few cases in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

This Club has always had a keen interest in helping locally from public parks and facilities to things like medical equipment for our hospital, to prize giving and scholarships, running a breakfast club and supporting an Interact Club in the high school and taking part in clean up days. For 14 years we have run the Science and Engineering Challenge for our primary and high school students and extension programs for young people to develop their leadership abilities through to sending and hosting students on Global Youth Exchanges.

We also have a commitment to carrying out projects in the countries in our near neighbourhood which make an impact on improving the lives of people at a village level. Over many years Members have travelled in teams at their own expense to places as far away as Nepal, Papua New Guinea and beyond to provide and install equipment and make improvements in hospitals and schools.

Since 2010 we have concentrated our efforts on the Pacific and the archipelago across the north accepting that these are our responsibility. You could say that we are helping in Australia's efforts at soft diplomacy, but we do it because we can help people who need it but mostly we feel really good about it.

Since 2010 we have sent out 12 Teams of between 4 and 14 to places like Fiji 5 times working on building a village for homeless people - it now has 1100 residents and with the next stage underway will have 1600 in the next couple of years. We have refurbished a school in Tonga, built classrooms and toilet blocks in Vanuatu, repaired and improved facilities at a tuberculosis hospital in Timor Leste and built houses for workers for a malaria research project in Solomon Islands.

So we do get around.

One place we haven't visited yet is the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Whilst it is in the Pacific it is a bit far away and it is part of the United States with quite a few luxury resorts and golf courses and not too much hardship.

However, tomorrow is its Commonwealth Day.

Tinian and Saipan are the main islands not far from Guam all of which are known for the heavy battles fought by the Americans in 1945 to dislodge the Japanese and gain access to airfields close enough to reach Japan. For 400 years the Spanish controlled these islands as replenishing ports for their ships crossing the Pacific. They were ceded to Germany early last century after the Spanish American War and taken over by Japan



under a League of Nations Mandate in 1919. After World War 2 they were UN Trust Territories administered by the US and opted to become a US territory, like Guam in 1978.

The Rotary Club of Saipan was Chartered in 1968 in District 2750 which covers the northern Pacific and part of Tokyo. It has only 8 Members led by President Irene Holl but they do make an impact.

In December they ran a successful major Golf Day and, if you are in the area, on 20th January they have the End Polio Now Bicycle Challenge. Our travelling cyclist members would be silly to miss that event.

So, with all of that in mind I invite you all to celebrate the Commonwealth Day of the Northern Mariana Islands by rising and making our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Saipan.

#### **Rosemary Kelly.** Christmas wrap-up

Rosemary Kelly thanked everyone for their donations towards the Hamper Raffle. Over \$1,000 was raised for the United Church food bank. Following COVID, the Pantry is open again.

#### **Leigh Robinson.** mherv (Men's Health Education Rural Van)

Leigh gave advance notice of the return of the Rotary sponsored Men's Health van to Bowral. A new, larger van was acquired in the second half of last year. Dates will be announced later. Once again, we have been asked to provide accommodation for the team of two while in Bowral.

#### **Mobile Phones for Domestic violence victims.**

Leigh reminded us of the request for discarded mobile phones required for distribution to DV victims who have the need for a phone. The mobile phones are 'cleaned' of all residual data prior to distribution.

#### **Children's Cancer Institute Dinner Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February. Louie Liberale**

Southern Highlands Winery is hosting an information dinner for the Children's Cancer Institute on the 17<sup>th</sup> February. Professors' from the Institute will be talking on the advances that have most recently been made in the treatment of and recovery from Cancer. There is no entrance charge to this meeting, however numbers are limited, (60-70 max). Louie needs numbers as soon as possible.

#### **Guest Speaker. Graham Castle – Member Story**

Graham joined Rotary in June of last year. Tonight he introduced himself with a biographical summary of his working life.

Graham was born in Australia in 1951 to parents who had immigrated to NSW as £10 Poms and attended Trinity Grammar School in Summer Hill, Sydney.

Leaving School he joined Otis Elevators as an apprentice Elevator engineer where later he was named the most outstanding apprentice in NSW. (photo being awarded by NSW State Manager).

From Otis, Graham moved to TAFE St George, and from there worked for MASCON, and later G.A.C. mainly in the field of machinery safety guards in manufacturing and processing industries, particularly Chicken hatchery machinery.

In 1981 he married and has two 'children'.

Graham set up his own firm GH Electronics from where he worked in various industries designing and building electro-mechanical equipment for plant safety, tool making and other manufacturing problem solving. (He has a reputation for being the man to call when one has a problem! Expertise in the design and configuration of PLCs, - Programmable Digital Controllers used to control and monitor industrial equipment based on custom programming).

Graham's major hobby is automobiles. He bought his first car in 1971 and now has 8 Valliant's, and a 1977 Chrysler New Yorker with white leather interior and only 30,000 miles on the speedo.



Other hobbies include Stamp collecting and miniature model trains.

What his real “hobby” is – making broken machinery that does not work, - work!

Graham was thanked with Club applause and a mental note of where to go when something electro-mechanical does not want to work!!

**Raffle.** Won by Tim, but the Joker is still hiding!

### Closure

Don closed the meeting at 8pm but forgot to talk about the Car Rally. If you have read this far and not read the Rally commercial in the box, do so now with reference to your diary!!



## **Club Car Rally**

**Action urgently required.**

**21<sup>st</sup> Feb or 28<sup>th</sup> Feb**

### **Don needs to decide on the Car Rally!!**

He needs to know this week, - next meeting (Bowls) at the latest.

1. Do you want to participate?

If yes.....

2. Which of the two available dates can you participate? 21<sup>st</sup> Feb or 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.
3. Rally start is on a Wednesday, finish on Thursday, one night accommodation.
4. Accommodation \$185 per room with ensuite, breakfast \$25.
5. Dinner on Wednesday night - choice \$40 menu or \$80 menu.
6. Driving distance is less than 300km.
7. Guests welcome

Please email Don with your answers.

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

### Our Rotary Clubs awareness activity over the past 6 months

- We have a Club Plan to show prospective and new members that introduces them to what we do.
- We have posted messages on Facebook on a regular basis promoting our club and inviting interested parties to contact us.
- We have posted special messages via Facebook on local community noticeboards promoting our club.
- We have flown the Rotary Banners at community events and BBQ's.
- We have produced a Club Brochure that promotes what we do and who we are. It invites individuals to contact us.
- We have business cards that can be handed out with each members contact details hand written on them.
- We have had multiple interviews on radio in an effort to promote Rotary.
- We have reduced/subsidised the annual membership fees to make membership more affordable.
- We have produced a letter to be distributed, with a club brochure, to new residents who have moved to the Southern Highlands, inviting them to enquire about Rotary.  
This letter will be hand delivered by Rotary members to addresses near where they live. Or posted if necessary.

### Our Most Powerful Membership Tool



The most powerful tool we have is **YOU**. Talking face to face with potential members.

The proof is in the pudding: *Bob Miller, Beverly Coffey, Vanessa Aylett.*

So, please be vigilant, keep it in the front of your mind, and talk to people you meet.

*"Join us for just one meeting and see if you can find time for Rotary"*

### *Exchange Students*



*Figure 1 Asher Aylett & Yuzuna Koga from Mie, Japan*



*Figure 2 Yuzuna & Vanessa*

# The Week That was.

“Just before Christmas, Bowral-Mittagong Rotary Club handed over a number of sets of emergency care Go Bags to be held at the Southern Highlands (Moss Vale) Police Station. for issue through the domestic violence Officer. These Go Bags, with the assistance of Kids In Care ACT, are intended to be used as immediate support for children who have been taken from their homes due to domestic violence. The bags contain age and gender relative, fresh clothes, and include underwear, pyjamas, toiletries, a game, a toy and a book.

When domestic violence support staff from the Police and similar agencies, are called to an incident involving the removal of children from danger, they will be able to take Go Bags with them so that the distressed children immediately have their basic material needs satisfied. To support the further provision of these packs, which are generally available at no cost, the Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong has donated \$1,000 to Kids in Care who are the providers of the Packs.”



Pic – Hume Police Command’s Chief Inspector Brendan Bernie and Constable Patricia O’Brien as Leigh Robinson hands over the Packs.

## ROUGE’S GALLERY



Figure 3 Grahams passion

