

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 1-10-2024

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2024-25 President
Rotary International



Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



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Club Meetings: Attendance & Apologies

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

Contact: TREVOR FAIR of your attendance or apologies

Deadline is 5pm Friday. T: 02 4861 6917 M: 0403 176 958 email: trevorfair5@bigpond.com

Please be considerate and respond. Unannounced members and guests may miss out on a meal.

“What's On?”

Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist	Invocation & International Toast
8 Oct	Bowral Bowling Club	Chris Coates, Parachuting	Denise Coad	David Stranger
15 Oct	Bowral Bowling Club	Club Assembly	Ian Law	David Patton
04 Oct- 07 Oct	Southern Highlands Garden Party	Roster members on gates	N/A	N/A
19 Oct- 20 Oct	Bowral Classic	Organiser Mary Ramsay	N/A	N/A
22 Oct	Annesley	Lucy Hobgood Brown, Congo	Graham Castle	Rosemary Kelly
25 Oct- 27 Oct	Mittagong RSL	District 9705 Conference	N/A	N/A
29 Oct	Bowral Bowling Club	Andrea Natalie, Heart Disease research	Mary Cramond	Steve Hallis
5 Nov	Bowral Bowling Club	TBA	Janine Brundle	Mary Cramond
12 Nov	Bowral Bowling Club	TBA	Steve Hallis	Robbie Allen
15 Nov	Imperial Hotel	Birthday Lunch. Come and celebrate.	N/A	N/A
19 Nov	NO Meeting		NA	NA
22 Nov	Bong Bong Racetrack	BB Races BBQ & Car Parking Organiser Don Graham	David Patton	Ian Law

NB The journalist and International Toast Roster may have changed. Check for your name.

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong Tulip Times Bulletin 1st October 2024

Journalist: Will Eddowes

Venue: Bowral Bowling Club



Sergeant Ian Donges opened the meeting and welcomed our speaker, Rachel (RA) Spratt, Steve Hallis, Dennis Coysh, Robyn Liberale

Ian went on to 'what happened on the 1st October' including the invention of CDs, start of the Republic of China under Mao, launch of Model T Ford but, in particular, today is the International Day of Older Persons!!

He then introduced **President Bob Miller**.

No health report on members except Janine was away with a stomach pain. He then introduced **Brian Pattinson** who said the Rotary Grace followed by the International Toast:



Rotary Club of Mount Isa

The magic of Rotary is that it allows ordinary people to achieve the most extraordinary things.

In my year as DG in 1996-97 I worked together with the 22 other DGs across Australia and NZ. One special relationship I was happy to find was with DG Laurie Evans from District 9560. After he had been elected to become DG Laurie had a severe brain tumour removed resulting in a partial paralysis that greatly restricted his movements. He was unable to drive or do many of the things we all take for granted.

Despite his disability Laurie insisted that he should continue with his role as DG and with a pilot and a driver provided by his club in Mt. Isa he performed his role with distinction in one of the largest Districts in Australia. Not only did he take on this significantly heavy work load but he continued to be the Chairman of the Mt. Isa Rodeo conducted by his club, a position he had held for some years. I have always been interested to learn something of this special Rotary Club.

District 9560 covers 3/4 of Qld, that's all of Queensland north of Maryborough and 2/3 of the NT, that's all of the Northern Territory north of the 21st parallel, as well as all of Timor-Leste. In total that is an area of 2.1 million square kilometres.

Each year for the past 59 years the two Rotary Clubs in Mount Isa have collaborated to host the Mount Isa Rotary Rodeo, the biggest Rodeo in the Southern Hemisphere. Over 700 volunteers from the local community and Rotarians from all over Queensland help run the event each year. With over \$6m dollars raised over the years, the rodeo is definitely worth visiting if you are up that way. As a Rotarian you might even be called upon to lend a hand!!

The latest report I have, advised that at a presentation in June 2022 the Rotary Club of Mount Isa donated over a quarter of a million dollars to local community organisations.

The club made a request for submissions from local sporting and community organisations that were doing it tough due to COVID restrictions hampering their fundraising activities.

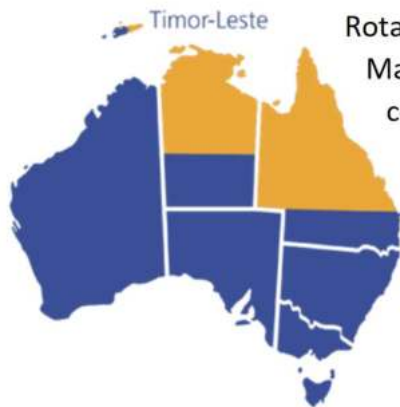
The Rotary Club of Mount Isa thanked the sporting and community organisations that allowed them to make a difference in the lives of the people of the community.

The total amount of money given back into the community was \$281,500 with 20 groups in all receiving grants. The recipients were presented with grants ranging from \$500 to \$150,000

By using the powerful synergy of one person like Laurie Evans, people unite to achieve exceptional change.

Will you please join me in raising your glasses and drinking a toast to the Rotary Club of Rotary Mt. Isa.

Rotary District 9560 Northern Australia and Timor-Leste Rotary District 9560 Northern Australia and Timor-Leste encompasses Maryborough in the South to Bamaga in the North and Darwin in the West, covering some 2.1 million square kilometres.



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President Bob thanked everyone for their contribution to Tulip Time and the Garden Party next weekend. He especially thanked Ian Langford.

Ian Langford – who was in Corbett Gardens for nearly every one of the 242 shifts – gave credit to everyone else. The Garden Party entry is reduced from 3 to 2 volunteers so **please check the roster**.



President Bob gave some history of the Tulip Time – see later outline of the history.

He had thanked the Moss Vale club for hosting the joint meeting last week. **Mary Ramsay** said that, unfortunately, the Bowral Classic coincides with the Moss Vale Markets so no help for the Classic. However, only one shift of 3 hours still needs to be filled. **Louie Liberale** volunteered to fill this. **President Bob** will need people for the BBQ, set up Friday, serving on Saturday and Sunday. **David Rees** is the first volunteer.

President Bob thanked **Rosemary Kelly** and **Denise Coad** for organising tables at the District Conference dinner on Saturday night. Currently our club has 21 registrants.

There will be a **Club Assembly** on 15 October. This will include introduction of new members and also a short presentation from Bowral High students and teachers on a project to which we contributed. There will also be two members of Council to give and receive feedback about Tulip Time.

Crookwell Rotary Club has been sent 10 **Shelter Bags** – the last stock currently in Australia.

Mary Crammond gave an explanation of the Shelter Bag project for the homeless. There are currently 3000 bags in Australia and they are now in many other countries. The price has increased from \$75 to \$93 so considerable funds are required to buy more.

Tim Bowland gave a Directors report. He is preparing an advertorial to go into the District Newsletter centred on Tulip Time.

Ian Johnson informed us about the speakers he has lined up until Christmas following Rachel Spratt this evening:

- 8 Oct; **Chris Coates** on parachutes
 - 15 Oct; Club Assembly (see Bob's remarks above)
 - 22 Oct **Lucy Hobgood-Brown** on her work in the Congo
 - 29 Oct; speaker on Heart Research
 - 5 Nov; **Leigh Robinson** on Rotary Foundation
 - 12 Nov; **Peter Morris** on the Hospice Shop and Operation
 - 21 Nov; Bong Bong Race meeting, no speaker
 - 26 Nov; Social night
 - 3 Dec; TBA
 - 10 Dec; TBA
 - 17 Dec; Christmas Party
- Any further suggestions are welcomed.

Ian Donges then ran a quiz, "Who am I?" Monash was guessed by **Rachel Spratt** – on about the second clue.

Dinner: Prawns in tomato and rice.

Rachel Spratt was introduced by **Ian Johnson** to talk about **Bellringing**.



She started bellringing at the age of eight and progressed to become ring master of her tower and then became responsible for all of NSW by her mid twenties. Combined with meeting her husband and a full-time job it all got too much so she retired from bellringing for 10 years.

When the bells were installed in the Uniting Church in Bowral, Rachel was contacted as the only person in the area with the skills to train a group. For the past 10 years she has been running the bellringing at the Uniting Church, rehearsal every Friday and ringing on Sunday. They have 6 small bells up to 250Kg, 8 would be more common but this church doesn't have the space.

Adelaide Cathedral has bells weighing around 2 tonnes. She explained the different methods of mounting bells and used a bicycle wheel to

illustrate how the local bells are mounted. The 'Sally' is the striped woollen section on each rope. This enables the ringer to grab the moving rope without getting rope burns. Rachel talked about the difficulties of tolling the bells for funerals and various other anecdotes. She enthused about bellringing as a hobby and fielded many questions and much discussion.



Rose Conley thanked **Rachel** for a fascinating talk.

Mary Crammond updated the meeting on the accommodation of the two young women from the Netherlands. She is still looking for another 4 weeks before they finish on 20th December. Anyone with accommodation available, please contact Mary.

The raffle was drawn by **Rachel Spratt** and won by **Brian Patterson**. The joker didn't show his face!

Sergeant Ian Dongers ran a Sergeant's Session. He called out some sports tragics, Bob, Rod and Jim to justify the Swans disaster etc. At Tulip Time **Bob** was asked for a cuddle by a visitor who was then despatched to the Exit Gate. It was supposed to be Brian Pattinson on duty but it was actually Louie. She may have got more than she bargained for!!

President Bob thanked Rachel again and closed the meeting.



If your planning on attending the conference and the Saturday night dinner you need to register on the official web site. The sooner the better.

Birthdays

October: Rosemary Kelly 31/10, Ian Law 7/10

November Robbie Allan 25/11: Ian Johnson 26/11, Ian Langford 23/11: David Patton 28/11
October/November Imperial Hotel Pizza Birthday Lunch November 15, 2024

Funnies ...Courtacy of Cowra RC

A blonde in a brand-new red sports car cut the driver of a big semi off causing traffic mayhem.. He pulled her over and walked back with a stick of chalk. He gave her a piece of his mind, told her to get out of the car and step into the circle he had drawn, not move out of the circle and say nothing! He cut up her leather seats and she had a grin on her face. Irate, he got a baseball bat and broke every window – she still laughed openly. He then slashed every tyre, poured petrol over the car and set it on fire. He turned around and she was laughing so hard she was almost falling over. “What’s so funny?” he asked the blonde. “Every time you turned your back, I stepped outside the circle”.

A young ventriloquist with his dummy on his knee was fully on with “blonde” jokes. A blonde in the fourth row stood on her chair and shouted – “How can you stereotype women that way – does hair colour dilute her value as a human being – people like you keep women from being respected at work, -we cannot reach our full potential as a person – your kind continue to perpetuate discrimination against not only blondes, but women in general all in the name of humor”!!!! The ventriloquist started to apologise when the blonde stood and at top voice yelled – “ YOU STAY OUT OF THIS, MISTER! I’M TALKING TO THAT LITTLE BUGGER ON YOUR KNEE!”

A past President of the local Rotary Club was waiting for a bus when a young man sat down. The kid had spiked hair cut in a mohawk style with five different colors. The youngster saw the PP was sneaking looks at him and the young buck finally plucked up nerve enough to ask. “What’s the matter old man? Ain’t you ever done anything wild or brash in your days?” The PP thought for a moment and replied “Got drunk once and had sex with a parrot and was wondering if you could be my son”

TULIP TIME IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS & ROTARY



The Tulip Festival at Corbett Gardens in Bowral has become an annual event since it was first organized by the Rotary Club of Mittagong in 1961. Now under the management of the Wingecarribee Shire Council, the festival continues to flourish, drawing thousands of visitors to the Southern Highlands each year.



cherished
Bowral-
drawing

Rotary's Vital Role



Figure 1 Ian Langford

This year, the Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong played an essential role in the festival's success, filling 242 shifts over 19 days. Rotarian Ian Langford coordinated the roster, dedicating countless hours to ensure everything ran smoothly. His selflessness and commitment exemplify the spirit of the club.

The festival not only showcases breathtaking tulip displays, both during the day and at night, but it also significantly boosts the local economy. Visitors arrive by car, bus, and train, contributing to the festival's status as the Rotary Club's major annual fundraiser. Managing the gates alone requires 890 hours of labour, rain or shine, highlighting the dedication of Ian Langford and all the Rotary club members. This year, Dutch and Japanese exchange students also lent their support, proving that the show must go on!

Origins of Tulip Time

The roots of the Tulip Time Festival trace back to 1958, when the community organized a floral festival featuring tulips and climate plants. By 1961, under the leadership of President Barcham, the Rotary Club of Bowral began raising funds planning the first dedicated tulip festival. A remarkable number of bulbs were planted by Bowral Council gardeners to ensure flowering during the October Labour Day weekend.



when the
other cool-
Keith
and
7,000
peak

With backing from the Council and promotion by the NSW Tourist Bureau, the inaugural Tulip Time Festival included private garden viewings and various fundraising events, drawing attendance that exceeded expectations. The festival officially opened on October 8, 1961, by Rotary District 275 Governor Sleath Lowery and Club President Norrie Stephens.



Since then, the Tulip Time Festival has grown each year, with proceeds funding future events and supporting local charities and town improvements. Initially organized by the Rotary Club, with assistance from Apex, Lions, and Soroptimist Clubs, the festival transitioned to a public committee in 1979. Despite this change, Rotary remains actively involved, continuing to provide crucial support, particularly in operating public access gates.

Today, the Wingecarribee Shire Council oversees the festival through the Tulip Time Working Group, which includes community representatives, ensuring that this vibrant tradition endures for years to come.

