

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 11-3-25
Volume 86 No 32

Stephanie A. Urchick
2024-25 President
Rotary International



Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



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

Board of Directors

President:
Bob Miller
President Elect:
Robbie Allen
Directors:
Trevor Fair - Treasurer
Leigh Robinson - Secretary
Don Graham – Immediate PP
Rod Aistrop
Robbie Allen
Will Eddowes
Rosemary Kelly
Tim Bowland

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
15-16 March	Annesley	Mental Health Training	NA	NA
18 March	Bowral Bowling Club	Steve Escott – member talk	Will Eddowes Edit: Trevor	Steve Hallis
23 Mar	Bundanoon	WSC planting BBQ	N/A	N/A
25 March	Bowral Bowling Club		Denise Coad Edit: Will	Rosemary Kelly
1 April	Mittagong RSL	Mayor-Jesse Fitzpatrick	Trevor Fair Edit:Ian L	Allan Falvey
8 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Tina Tziallas	Barbara Humphries	David Rees
15 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Judy Hannon MP Wollondilly	Ian Langford	Don Graham
24 May	WSC	Model United Nations	N/A	N/A
25-26-27 May	Mittagong RSL	S&E Challenge & Discovery Day	N/A	N/A
1 July	?	Club Changeover		
Late Sept	Corbet Gardens	Tulip Times		
29 Sept	Corbet Gardens	Food & Wine Festival		
19 Oct	Bowral	Bowral Cycle Classic		

21 Nov	Bong Bong	Bong Bong Races		
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NB The journalist and International Toast Roster may have changed. Check for your name.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOWRAL- MITTAGONG TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

Weekly Meeting held at Bowral Bowling Club on March 13, 2025

Journalist – David Patton

Sergeant Lynton opened the meeting and welcomed guests Patrick (Mary Crummond), Fabia (Louie's niece) Jim Gasson (honorary member), and Richard Ernst and partner Jane Symon.

President Bob made a special welcome to our guest speaker for the evening Lucy Hopgood Brown who was accompanied by Cynthia Nadai. Lucy is an active member of Rotary and was named one of six Global Women of Action by Rotary International at the United Nations in 2015. She is the Founding Director of Clay International Partners and has experience living in nine countries, working in international social development, and is also co-founder and president of Hand Up Congo, a non-profit organisation that facilitates sustainable community driven business, education, social and health initiatives in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



The invocation and Rotary Grace was presented by **David Stranger** who chose Hobart Tasmania District 9830 – the Sunrise Club of Salamanca which commenced with 24 members in 1923 with equal numbers of men and women. Ten years later the club had 40 members and is still active today with 40 members.



President Bob spoke for many members who attended the funeral service for Robyn Liberale to offer support and comfort to Louie and his family. Bob said all were touched by the family's beautiful tributes to Robyn, the lovely lady that she was and, to borrow a regular saying of Louie's, "a beautiful day enjoyed with wonderful people".

Rod Aistrop noted the sudden passing of John Macpherson overnight, aged 87. He was former President and Secretary of the Berrima Rotary Club and noting he was a long serving and dedicated Rotarian. Funeral arrangements to be advised.



President Bob announced the following in General Business and Chair Announcements:

- Monthly Meeting of the Board held yesterday.
- Following requests, all members will now receive a copy of the minutes of the proceedings
- A \$2000 donation will be made to the Braille Music Camp in support of their concert to be held on 4th July at Frensham School.
- At short notice we have been advised that Annesley, our monthly Club meeting venue is no longer available due to a withdrawal of the catering contractor. Trevor Fair email meeting update:
 - **18 March Bowral Bowling Club**
 - **25 March Bowral Bowling Club**
 - **1 April Mittagong RSL**

- We will be represented by Mary Crammond, Robbie and Leigh at the handing over of 10 shelter bags purchased by the Interact Club of Bowral High School for use in our local community. The short ceremony will take place at 1.50pm at the School.
- The Board approved the Club donating \$1000 to the purchase of shelterbags for distribution to those with the need within our community.
- A reminder that The Rotary Club of Bowral- Mittagong will, on the 26th of this month of March, be in a position to celebrate its 85th Birthday. Our ladies are working on plans to commemorate the day.
- Last week's meeting guest speaker, Adam Ismail, the director of Capernray Torchbearers Australia, has sent us a nice email thanking us for his time with us adding that we are invited to pay a visit to the Christian College at Burradoo to gather an understanding of the good work being done in support of youth worldwide.
- The Southern Highlands MUNA 2025 has established a body of committee members drawn from Rotary Bowral Mittagong, Moss Vale and e-Club of Brindabella. Judges for this year's event include High Commissioners for Pakistan and the Republic of Fiji and Georgia Smith (Master of International Relations ANU) and Joseph Brake. Robert de Jongh has been organising the event and has applied for a grant to assist in covering the cost. Mary Ramsay has again volunteered to coordinate catering.
- The meeting endorsed a recommendation, at regular meetings at the Bowling Club, to adhere to ordering single course meals at the cost of \$25 per head. Guest speakers' meals will be paid for out of Club funds. Guests of members meal costs will not be covered unless that guest is a potential member. Detail in Board minutes.
- Reminding candidates who may wish to be included in the Mental Health First Aid Training on 15 and 16 March at Annesley. Leigh has confirmed the times for sessions and has extended an invitation to Rotary Clubs in Moss Vale and Goulburn.
- 'Adopt a Greyhound' event held last Saturday at Bong Bong course proved a success but fell well short of expectations in BBQ sales due to a shortfall in customer numbers expected by the organisers Greyhounds NSW. Thank you to Robbie, Rosemary, Mary, David, Steve, Dennis, Graham, Will and Leigh for their commitment and support.
- Our proposal and costing has been accepted by WSC to conduct a BBQ at the Bundanoon tree planting festival on Sunday 23rd March with the organisers now providing a site access plan with instructions where we strategically locate our BBQ. Bob asked for a team leader and volunteers to assist Graham with the transport of facilities to and from site. This event should occupy no more than 4 hours of members time. Bob is not available for this event or our meeting on the 25th March. Accordingly he is seeking a volunteer to select a team and coordinate the project.

Special Guest Presentation: Lucy Hopgood Brown



Ian Johnson introduced Lucy Hobgood-Brown, who grew up in the DRC and established a small NGO called HandUp Congo in 2005. She is a member of the Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney (District 9685) and facilitates two Rotary Australia World Community Service projects in the vast nation of 115 million people, ranging from emergency medicine education to microfinance, entrepreneurship and food security. The emergency medicine education project has a national focus, while the capacity building initiatives are focused on the village of Lotumbe, where her father was born. Lucy is the daughter and granddaughter of American missionaries. After living and working in 9

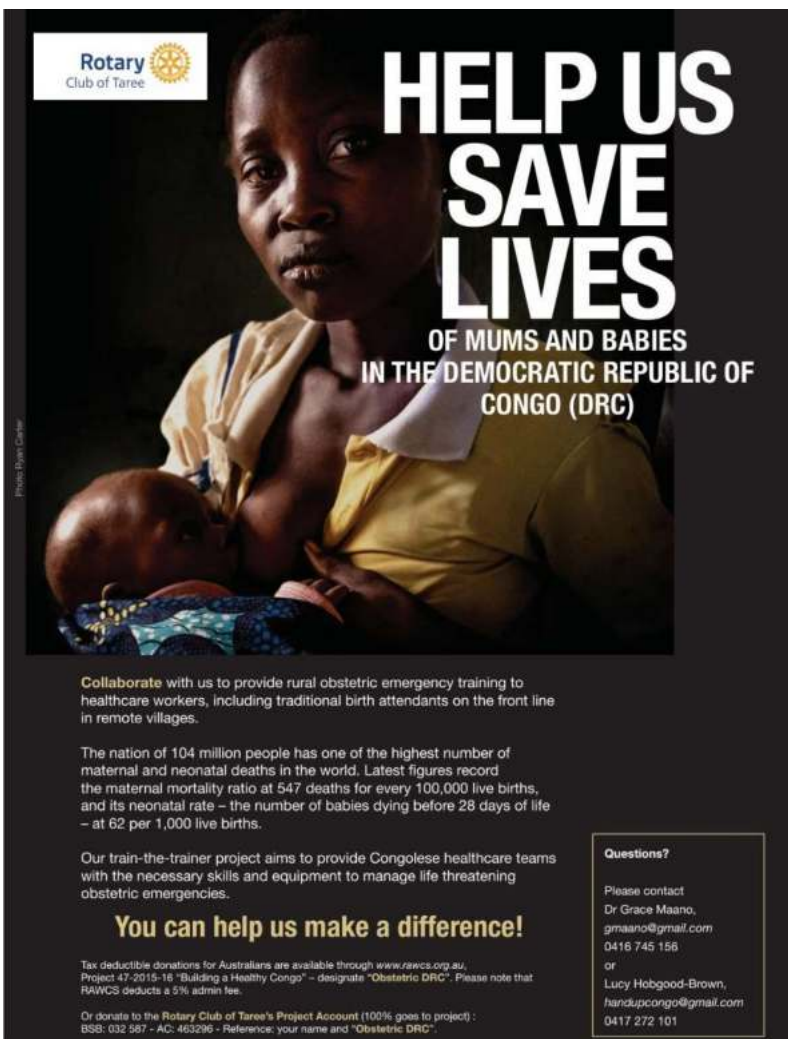
countries, Lucy now calls Australia home. In 2015 she was named “a woman of action” by Rotary International at the United Nations.

The DRC is not an easy country to work in, Lucy told us, given its poor infrastructure and frequent crises like the current escalating conflict in northeast Congo. This began on 26 January, when rebels from the Rwandan government-backed March 23 movement (known as M23) swept into the city of Goma, closing the airport, banks and schools. More than 700,000 people have been displaced exacerbating an already catastrophic humanitarian situation, with other towns in the region being taken over. Lucy noted that the Congolese people are resilient and that with the help of many Rotarians – including the 25 Rotary clubs in the DRC – leading change is possible. Lucy regularly takes volunteer teams to the DRC.

For information about the current conflict go to www.handupcongo.org and have a listen to a webinar held on February 25: Care in the midst of Congo <https://www.handupcongo.org/news-events>.

Lucy also invites our members to consider holding a fundraiser to help purchase medicines for the current Mpox epidemic in Lotumbe or books for village’s first library. If members plan to attend the Calgary Rotary International convention in June, be sure to look for the breakout session on HandUp Congo’s obstetric emergency training-of-trainers program in the DRC, to be led by Rtn Dr Grace Maano (see attached flyer). For details, please contact Lucy on handupcongo@gmail.com. Tax deductibility is available: www.rawcs.org.au, Project 20-2013-14, Lotumbe Community Development.

David Patton thanked Lucy for her inspiring presentation that invoked much interest from members.



Rotary
Club of Taree

HELP US SAVE LIVES

OF MUMS AND BABIES
IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Collaborate with us to provide rural obstetric emergency training to healthcare workers, including traditional birth attendants on the front line in remote villages.

The nation of 104 million people has one of the highest number of maternal and neonatal deaths in the world. Latest figures record the maternal mortality ratio at 547 deaths for every 100,000 live births, and its neonatal rate – the number of babies dying before 28 days of life – at 62 per 1,000 live births.

Our train-the-trainer project aims to provide Congolese healthcare teams with the necessary skills and equipment to manage life threatening obstetric emergencies.

You can help us make a difference!

Tax deductible donations for Australians are available through www.rawcs.org.au, Project 47-2015-16 "Building a Healthy Congo" – designate "Obstetric DRC". Please note that RAWCS deducts a 5% admin fee.

Or donate to the Rotary Club of Taree's Project Account (100% goes to project):
BSB: 032 587 - AC: 463296 - Reference: your name and "Obstetric DRC".

Questions?
Please contact
Dr Grace Maano,
gmaano@gmail.com
0416 745 156
or
Lucy Hobgood-Brown,
handupcongo@gmail.com
0417 272 101



Further Chair Announcements from President Bob:

- Following an email from Raffaele Frisina of the NSW Police Youth Command inviting us to join them in a 'fit for life' program targeting high school age students and utilizing the facilities at Bowral High School.
- As a result of that contact a meeting of all parties (school, PCYC, police) has been scheduled for 10am Friday, 14th March to be held at Bowral High School. Robbie, Robert and Bob will be representing the Rotary Club of Bowral Mittagong.
- An invitation has been received from the organisers of Brigadoon Festival for 2025. The date has been set for Saturday 5th April and Helene Jessep is calling for volunteers to assist between the hours of 7am and 5pm with a range of activities suitable for both genders. Payment is for hours you work with proceeds going to a charity of our choice.
- There would be a pre-meeting with the Mayor prior to his presentation to members on 1 April.

Board Member Reports and Comments:

Ian Law gave an update from the fund-raising committee.

Raffle: Graham Castle

Drawn by Mary Curmmond (suggesting there is a correlation between level of volunteering and raffle winning).

Quiz: Ian Donges

There were two music quizzes. The first won by Lynton and the second going through to the keeper.

Future proof survey feedback

Members, thank you for all the great responses to the survey at the Annesley meeting recently. There were lots of valuable ideas for us to work on.

We just need to break it down into subjects that can be managed by an appropriate committee of members.

One item, from the survey was that members want to know what we do with the dollars we raise each year. There are four basic accounts that hold club money.

- **RAWCS Vanuatu** A sum of money has been put aside to pay for the construction of a facility in Vanuatu next year.
 - **Science & Engineering Challenge** A sum of money (donated by businesses) to cover the cost of running the S & E C.
 - **Equipment provisions.** There is sum of money put aside for things like the BBQ trailer maintenance, and other equipment that the club owns or needs to purchase.
 - **Project Account:** is the balance of funds the club has to use for projects or donate to worthy causes. The current balance of the account is \$46,597.18,
-

A question for the members is. Do you the members know of a project or an organization that needs our assistance. If you do put it to the board.

Cost of being a Rotarian also came up in the survey. FYI we have made progress over the last two years in reducing costs. Our annual fee has been reduced from \$350 to \$300 and more recently our dinner fee has been reduced from \$35 to \$25. Saving members approx. \$350 pa.

Between what we pay to Rotary International, Rotary Down Under and the Rotary magazine ads up to approx. \$11,400 pa. The \$300 we pay for membership puts us in a break even situation.

Public Relations

PR covers a broad range media

Currently I update our Face Book page approx. once a month or as something noteworthy comes my way.

I post on 7 local community group pages as something comes up that we can speak about.

Leigh is communicating with local radio stations and the press, so there is some good things happening there. We are about to promote the Shelterbags project to every Rotary Club in Australia & NZ.

I have been dealing with a web site creator who will create a **modern impressive web site** for us, But I need 3 members of the club to train on how to manage it. So it will be sustainable for the long run. If you would like to assist with this process please let me know.

With all the great responses to the survey we need your help to form committees/teams to manage the various bits, otherwise it won't happen. So anyone who would like to be more involved please put your hand up.

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Tim

The week that was

The BBQ team at "Greyhound Adoption Day" BBQ at Bong Bong



Birthdays

MARCH: Tony Glenn 1st, Vanessa Aylett 9th, Luciano 22nd, Bruce Sutton 24th.

Rouges Gallery



Quote of the week

*"Volunteers are not paid
-- not because they are
worthless, but because
they are priceless."*

The 4 Way Test

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do is a test used by Rotarians world-wide as a moral code for personal and business relationships. The test can be applied to almost any aspect of life.



Can you help out here?



• **Bring in your old laptops and phone (with Chargers) so they can be recycled to help our domestic violence campaign.**

Also, Bring in some items each week to add to the Uniting Church basket . Non Perishable food, Toiletries ETC