



Report for Apr 12, 2022; Volume 83, No: 36 Rotary Club
of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Will Eddowes Secretary: Trevor Fair



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Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's theme for 2021-22,

Serve to change lives,

is urging members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving other is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

Future Events

April 20 - Dormie House, Moss Vale - Joint Meeting Rotary Club of Moss Vale

April 26 - Bowral Bowling Club - Ian Law & Leigh Robinson - Rotary Environmental Initiative

April 29 - April Birthdays Pizza Lunch - Imperial Hotel

May 3 – Kookabar Café, Bowral

May 10 - Bowral Bowling Club - Appreciation Night - 10 Guests

May 17 - TBC

May 24 - Bowral Bowling Club - Club Assembly

May 31 - TBC

June 7 - The Hermitage

June 14 - Bowral Bowling Club

June 21 - TBC

June 28 - The Hermitage - Club Changeover - Partners and Guests

***** Confirm by SATURDAY for WEDNESDAY Night (Pay at Dormie House)**

Venue: Bowral Bowling Club

Journalist: Trevor Fair

Welcome: Sergeant Lynton welcomed all. Guest speaker Peter Gibson, Angel Flight, AG Adam De Totth, Lee Bourgeois – President Nattai Probus, guest and neighbour of Ian Law, Bruce Watson, and Carsten Prien, and Robyn Liberale.

President Will: Welcome all.

Invocation: Jim Gasson

International Toast: Robbie Allen

America Samoa lies just to the east of Samoa, a day ago across the International Dateline. It was settled between 1 000 and 3 000 years BC during the Polynesian Migration across the Pacific probably from Formosa.

After the European exploration of the world during the 17th and 18th Centuries the Samoan Islands were visited by the Dutch and French and colonised by the British, Germans and Americans who divided them up in 1899.



That didn't last long until Britain kept the west and America claimed the east islands in 1900.

The eastern islands have remained in the possession of the USA ever since and from 1960 they have their own representative government but the people are American Nationals but non-citizens.

That year they adopted their own flag which has a large white triangle with red edging on a blue background with a bald eagle with a war club in its claws.

There are 46 000 American Samoans and on Sunday, 17th April they will celebrate their own semi national Flag Day.

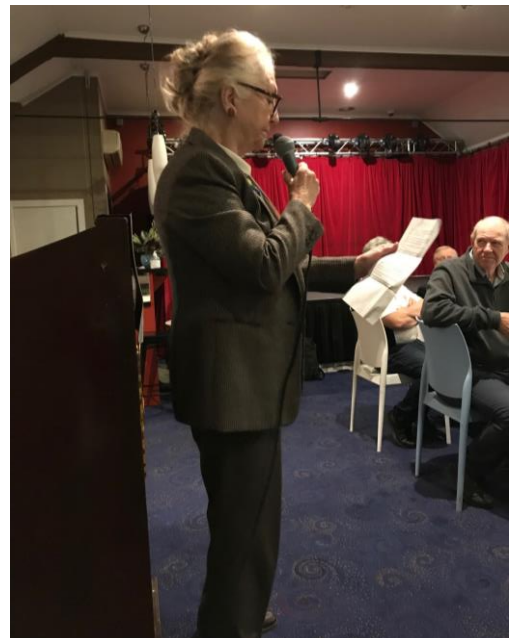


The **Rotary Club of Pago Pago** will be celebrating with them. The Club was Chartered in 1969 and has 42 Members led by **President David Buehler**.

They normally conduct a very successful Golf Day in February but this year it was cancelled due to Covid. We know that feeling well.

They continue to raise funds by donations for providing electricity connections to poor villagers on their islands.

In recognition of the Flag Day of American Samoa would you all please raise your glasses and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Pago Pago.



Announcements:

Beyond Bitumen: Fundraising breakfast raised sufficient funds to allow the Club to donate \$1,000 to Beyond Blue.



Facebook Training: Will and Leigh

MUNA: 28th May - Ian Law. Schools have their countries and resolutions. President Will has the flags however need storage until the event.

Science & Engineering Challenge: 30th & 31st May - Primary schools are fully booked, 4 of 8 High Schools have accepted. Catering is under control as is runners.

Marulan Race Track: Catering opportunity at race track.

Program: Next week we are meeting at Dormie House with a joint meeting with Moss Vale. President Margie Stuart will be talking about her father William Gillespie who served in WWII.

26th April – Ian Law and Leigh Robinson will make a presentation about Rotary Environment Program.

3 May – Kookabar

10 May – Supporter Appreciation Night – Bowling Club

17 May – Chestnut roasting night

Samoa: Louie spoke about a past trip to Samoa, where they met up with an Aust Government Fisheries Officer who was assisting Samoa with their fishing practices. Lynton added some funny antidotes regarding Louie and Ian McNamara.

Adam de Totth: Addressed the club concerning roles in Club. There is no single job in Rotary that is too hard. Numerous Clubs have vacancies in roles which is not ideal. Individual jobs are not onerous, seek help or guidance if you feel you need help.

Lee Bourgeois Nattai Probus Club: Nattai Probus was part of Mittagong Probus, however Mittagong could not fill their executive and Nattai split.. In 2000 Mittagong had 80 members with another 80 on the waiting list.

In 2003 Nattai started their own Club. Nattai is trying a new strategy of having apprenticeships for Executive positions.

Current membership is 76 with a few in the wings to join.

Wendy Lotter: Indigenous Walks are on offer - 2-3 hrs in duration. More details to be provided. There is a general walk, and also a bush tucker walk. Looking at a Saturday in May.

Welfare:

Faye is still in hospital, slowly recovering, however looking at another 2-3 weeks before being released. No visitors at present.

David Rees - trying to bring his his father from Victoria to Harbison.

Bowel tests: For the under 74's they are free, however the 75's can buy a Rotary Kit for \$25.

Donations are open for flood victims, Ukraine victims, Fly from Everest (End Polio Now).

Angel Flight - Peter Gibson

Every mission is unique. Volunteer pilots and drivers. Eg flying young girl from Coffs Harbour to Brisbane. Another passenger had 400 flights to Brisbane from Chinchilla.

The real hero's are the pilots and drivers. Angel Flight is a free of charge service for financially and medically needy people who live in rural settings.

Angel Flight does not rely on Government funding, 85% of funds is spent on fuel with only 15% on admin of 6 staff members, who are based in Brisbane. There are 3000 pilots and another 3000 Earth Angels who volunteer their time.

Seemless travel is where the Angel Driver is allowed onto the airstrip to collect the passenger and take the passenger to hospital. Avoids the congestion of terminal etc. Any person with a car can become an Earth Angel. Mostly are pickups and deliveries from Bankstown Airport to city hospitals and specialist clinics.

Donations are used for:

- Angel Flight Support Centre has a staff of 4 coordinators and 2 admin staff with a bank of computers coordinating flights across the entire country.
- Fuel used in the conduct of Angel Flight missions. (Avgas around \$2.00 per litre)
- Discounted commercial flights where available when poor weather prevents light aircraft from flying.
- Angel Flight does not buy assets, such as office buildings or company cars.
- **Public donations and the extraordinary generosity of 6000 volunteer pilots and drivers allow this wonderful service to continue**

The Financials....

An exceptional charity

- **FIRSTLY...** I'm not here for money!!
- Angel Flight has a policy to never solicit donations, nor follow up donors
- Angel Flight is funded entirely by private donations from individuals, clubs and service clubs, companies large and small, deceased estates, fund raising functions etc.
- Angel Flight does not spend any funds fundraising, merchandising or marketing.
- 15% of revenue is spent on administrative overheads
- 85% is spent on actual coordination and delivery of service.

Angel Flight started in 2003, and there have been over 20,000 missions since then. An example of a mission was when Peter picked up a passenger from Louth 2 hr flight to treatment and return. A car takes 13 hrs one way. Flying allows the passenger to be home the same day and is a lot less tiring.

Peter has flown missions throughout NSW from covering towns from Merimbula to Lismore and from Walgett to the coast. He has flown over 275 missions so far.



Angel Flight Narrabri passenger

AG Adam de Toth gave the vote of thanks.

Raffle: Rose Conley. No luck on the jackpot.



How can you help?

If you are a pilot and aircraft owner who would like to be part of this worthy cause we would like to hear from you.* Or you may want to volunteer as a helper, or register as an interested medical professional.

You can register by going on-line to our web site www.angelflight.org.au

**To help off-set the pilots' operating costs Angel Flight Australia negotiates aviation fuel discounts and the waiver of landing fees at airports around the country. Also sponsorship and donations received are used to fully subsidise fuel purchases.*

Donations are tax deductible

Angel Flight Australia is a not for profit charity and is recognised by the ATO as a deductible gift recipient. All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible. Donations can be made on-line at our web site.



Help us help those who are often the ones overlooked by the system. As people who have contacted us for help have said, "you people are truly amazing, you have restored my faith in human nature."

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AngelTM
Flight

Help is never far away.



Flying financially needy passengers and compassionate carers free of charge to receive medical help.



Angel Flight was created to meet a real need.

Often those most wanting the speed and comfort of aircraft travel are those least able to afford it. Angel Flight Australia is a charity that co-ordinates non-emergency flights for financially and medically needy people. All flights are free and may involve passengers or compassionate carers travelling to or from medical facilities anywhere in Australia.

How is this all made possible?

All Angel Flight pilots are required to have credentials that exceed the standards of the government body CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority). Their aircraft must meet specified CASA and insurance minimums.

All flights are completely free for passengers and requesting agencies. Requests for Angel Flight missions come from social workers, doctors, hospitals and other specialist medical facilities.

When did it all start?

Angel Flight Australia was officially launched on April 8th, 2003. Since then many thousands of Angel Flight missions have been accomplished helping financially needy people with kidney and liver failures, cancer, rickets, aortic stenosis, cystic fibrosis, leukaemia and more. Angel Flight has well over 2000 pilots registered and can accept missions from and to anywhere within Australia.

Angel Flight and existing emergency services.

Angel Flight pilots do not carry aeromedical staff or medical equipment so do not act as an alternative to the Flying Doctor (RFDS) or Air Ambulance in that capacity.

Who do we help?

- Passengers of all ages needing scheduled treatment at destinations where other forms of transport are physically and emotionally taxing or unaffordable
- Carers for compassionate reasons
- Blood and blood products
- Medical drugs
- Anyone medically and financially disadvantaged.



**AngelTM
Flight**

Volunteer pilots in aircraft they own or rent, fly Angel Flight missions. They donate their flying skills and most of the expenses of each flight.

