

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 13-2-2024

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**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

RI President:

Gordon R McNally

Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



Email : rotarybm@acenet.com.au
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 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
20 Feb	Annesley may not be available. Look for later emails	Johanna Swift.(Retired Police Officer)	Pamela Brown
27 Feb	Bowral Bowling Club	Interact, RYPEN and Bob Miller member talk	David McCosh
5 March	Annesley		Will Eddowes
8-10/ Mar	Batemans Bay	PETS Training	
12 March	Bowral Bowling Club	Member's Talk	Trevor Fair
15 Mar	Imperial Hotel	Birthday Pizza Lunch	
22-24 Mar	Cootamundra RSL	PETS Training	
24/25 May	Wingecarribee Shire Council	Model United Nations	
25-27 Oct	Mittagong RSL	District 9705 Conference	

MEMBERS, CAN I HAVE DATES FOR THE CALENDAR PLEASE. Tim

Venue: Bowral Bowling Club. **Journalist:** Ian Langford.

President Don Graham called the meeting to order and welcomed the guests attending: Guest Speaker Steve Pettaras and his wife Rebecca Pettaras, Janine Brundle, Julie Alison and Robyn Liberale.

Don invited **Vanessa Aylett** to recite the **Invocation** and then deliver the **International Toast**.

International Toast.

The eleventh of February is the National Foundation Day of Japan. This holiday, based on Shinto mythology dating back to 660BC, had been an occasion for propagandizing the divine origin and superiority of the Japanese race with heavy emphasis on militarisation.

Consequently, at the surrender by the Japanese at the end of World War II, the chief of the occupation authorities' religious and cultural resources division recommended the abolition of the holiday to General Douglas MacArthur because of the issue of militarisation.

After the occupation by the Allies concluded there were several attempts to reinstate the National Foundation Day, and this occurred through legislation in 1966 to "Nourish a love for the country by commemorating the establishment of the country".

When you visit Japan today, mix with its people and stand in awe, admiring the beauty, the culture, the cleanliness, the creativity, the friendliness, the politeness, and the orderliness, you wonder how that country deteriorated as it did and its participation in World War II.

Kyoto is a city expressing each of those elements with its Temples and Shrines and of course the quaintly named Philosophers Path lined with cherry blossom trees, so magical in spring.

Kyoto is the home of the Rotary Club of Kyoto, chartered on 24th December 1925. It has a current membership of 194 and meets at the Kyoto Hotel.

In 1940 there were 48 Rotary Clubs in Japan and through political and right-wing pressure The Rotary Club of Kyoto was disbanded on 21 August 1940. However, the power of Rotary is strong and on 28 August 1940 there commenced the "Wednesday Club" meeting held at the Kyoto Hotel on what was the usual Club meeting night which enabled relationships and the Rotary ethos to be maintained.

Sir Angus Mitchell, the first Australian to be elected as the RI president in 1948-49, is credited with the re-establishment of Rotary in Japan after the end of World War II.

The first meeting of the Rotary Club of Kyoto was held on 23 March 1949 and the Rotary International charter was re-granted on 5 April 1949 with the same charter number as before, Number 2184.

Please be upstanding and toast the Rotary Club of Kyoto, its President Takahisa Takeda, and its membership of 194 Rotarians.



Don Graham reported that Rod Aistrope, Robbie Allen, and he had met Professors Hanneke Brouwers & Sietske van de Worp from Windesheim University of Applied Science in the Netherlands. They are planning to bring out a couple of students sometime between August 2024 and January 2025. We were asked whether we could help with involving them in any community work and if they might be accommodated with any members. Projects suggested were the Tulip Time Festival, Bowral Classic and the Bong Bong Picnic Races and tentative offers for help with accommodation came from Bob, Leigh, Don and Robbie among others. The students will be teaching at Oxley College.



Bob Miller encouraged members to consider going to the District 9705 President Elect Training (PETS) and Club Learning and Development Seminar 2024. All President Elects (PEs) are expected to attend President Elect training but all other Club members (both incoming Board members and non-board members) are very welcome at the Club Learning and Development Seminar. Last year a group of members went to Orange and had a great time wining and dining and supporting Don as the then President Elect.

This year, two events are offered to cater for those living across our large District area:

- 1) Batemans Bay Soldiers Club – Friday 8, Saturday 9, Sunday 10 March 2024
- 2) Cootamundra Ex- Servicemen's and Citizens' Memorial Club – Friday 22, Saturday 23, Sunday 24 March 2024

The Friday evenings are usually just casual social dinners getting to know others attending and the main Seminar starts Saturday morning and finishes at Sunday lunchtime. Registration and details can be found on the District 9705 web site <https://rotary9705.org.au/> P.E. Bob is likely to be attending the Cootamundra event. Talk to him if you would like to learn more about Rotary and the plans for 2024-25 at International and District levels.

Leigh Robinson reported on The Men's Health Education Rural Van (MHERV) which we manned on the 8th & 9th of February at the Bowral Swimming Pool carpark. <https://mherv.com.au/>

Although the site was perfect for setting up the van, unfortunately there was no passing trade so very few clients benefited from the facility. Thoughts on where would be a better site for the van next year were mentioned. Ideal would be if we could use the two Bong Bong Street parking spaces adjacent to Corbett Plaza but the steps and the tables would protrude into the main pavement flow of Bong Bong Street which might be unacceptable to the Council.

Leigh gave thanks to Will and Rosemary Eddowes for hosting Nurse Jennifer for two nights.



Leigh Robinson reported that it had been decided to run another Dinner Dance next Rotary year and asked for anyone who would like to help with the organisation of this to please see Leigh. The recipients of the funds raised are likely to be Angel Flight and Children's Cancer Institute Australia.

Ian Langford had been approached by Jill Dyson, the widow of the late Nick Padol who was a member of our Club to see if anyone was interested in buying his Rotary clothes. A brand new long padded coat went as did two shirts. There is one short sleeved shirt, size 2XL with our Club name and Rotary wheel embroidered on it still available. Talk to Ian if you are interested.

Ian Donges held one of his popular Tim Tam quizzes. The answer was Coonabarabran which was correctly answered by Jim Gasson.

Don Graham explained that as Dream Cricket is so vulnerable to the weather when we hold the Gala Day at the Bradman Oval it is proposed to hold separate sessions at each suitable local school. These would be schools with sports hall or undercover areas that could be utilised if it is raining or very cold. First a pilot session will be tried out at one of the schools to see

how successful the concept is. Due to weather (and Covid19 restrictions) it has meant we haven't had a proper Dream Cricket Gala Day for a few years.

Guest Speaker:

After Dinner, **Steve and Rebecca Pettaras** were formally introduced by **Allan Falvey**.

Steve thanked the Rotary Club for inviting him to present Alka Power. Steve stated that Alka Power is Australia's number 1 alkaline spring water brand, bottled at the source in the Southern Highlands where we draw natural spring water and infuse it with unique ocean minerals such as Oyster Shell and Coral. Alka Power has a unique clean, crisp refreshing taste that quenches your thirst.





Most people do not know that most bottled waters are on the acidic side of the pH scale. The pH scale starts from zero (acidic) to 14 (Alkaline); pH 7 is neutral (tap water). Our blood is slightly alkaline 7.32 and as Humans we need to be in an alkaline state.

Then Steve did his demonstration with three samples of water by dropping some drops (of something??) into the samples. The high alkaline (pH 9-10) sample turned blue, the acidic sample (pH 5) turned yellow and the very acidic sample turned white.

Back in 2012 when Rebecca and Steve started the journey with Alka Power, retailers as well as consumers didn't really understand about high pH 9-10 alkaline water.

At the beginning it was very hard to get the messaging across on the benefit of drinking Alka Power, so they came up with the idea to take it to the people. Seeing retail, buyers, the only way to get the message across was to do his wacky professor demonstration just like he did a moment ago. They went from delivering 2 to 5 boxes to stores to now on average 140 to 190 pallets per month.

Alka Power is now the exclusive hydration partner for Tough Mudder, Spartan (outdoor) obstacle races held in Picton and nationally as well as the Bowral Classic. They also sponsor local events such as Angels with Wings and Festival of Lights.



They are a proud partner of The National Breast Cancer Foundation and last year they donated over \$119,000 for cutting edge Breast Cancer Research.

Their carbon footprint is also something that they are so very proud of. As they draw spring water on site as well as blowing their own BPA free bottles in house. This is saving on unnecessary truck movements. Steve showed a sample "preform" which when expanded turns into a 1.5 litre bottle. A pallet of 9,000 preforms turns into 13 pallets of bottles.

See <https://www.alkapower.com.au/> for more information.

After a lively question and answer session, **David Rees** gave Steve and Rebecca a vote of thanks.

UNIQUE SELLING POINTS



POINT OF DIFFERENCE

- : Australia's only naturally raised HIGH pH9-10 alkaline spring water.
- : Only HIGH pH alkaline water, bottled at the source
- : Only stable HIGH pH alkaline spring water/ NOT tap water/ not artificial / Nothing added
- : Australian privately owned family business/ Australia's number 1 alkaline spring water
- : 100% recycled r-PET bottles produced in- house 1.5L
- : Clean crisp unique taste. No chalky/ metallic after taste

Raffle: Ian Law won the raffle but not the Joker.

Ian Donges and Leigh Robinson ran a joint fines session which snared Allan Falvey, Vanessa Aylett, Brian Pattinson, any members with “man bags”, Leigh Robinson for enjoying 6 hours of cruising on Sydney Harbour, Steve Pettaras for being a young 62yr old, Ian Law, Ian Donges, Jim Gasson and the late Charlie Krenkel!

Luciano Liberale asked that those coming to the Children's Cancer Institute Australia evening at the Southern Highlands Winery on Saturday 17th Feb should try and arrive before 6:00pm. Also any member who hasn't booked in can probably turn up and be allowed in.

President Don then reminded all members that they must contact **Denise Coad** and apologise if they are not coming to the meeting or if they are bringing a guest. This is even more important now as we are booking meals at the Annesley Café and members who don't apologise will be invoiced for the meal ordered as it is unfair that the Club has to use members' fees to cover any discrepancy. If in doubt, talk to Denise. Put a reminder on your phone for every Thursday or Friday morning to check whether you have apologised or have you paid for the following Tuesday's meeting.

President Don Graham then closed the meeting after thanking Steve and Rebecca Pettaras, Janine Brundle, Julie Alison and Robyn Liberale for coming.

PLEASE NOTE that Annesley is probably not be available for next week's meeting. Look out for emails.

