



Report for Dec 14, 2021; Volume 83, No: 22 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

January 11 - Samuel Gees Pies and Pastries

January 18 - Kookabar Restaurant

January 25 - The Hermitage PLUS Guest Speaker

February 1 - To be confirmed

February 8 - The Hermitage plus Guest Speaker

February 15 - Club Assembly

January 26 - Brian Ritson's home - Australia Day Lunch for Members & Partners

Please Note: Apologise by Friday noon, attendance is the default position

Venue: The Hermitage, Mittagong

Journalist: Trevor Fair

Sergeant Lynton struggled to gain control of this special meeting!

Welcome: President Will Eddowes welcomed all to our Christmas celebration. A big thank you to Mary, Denise and Rosemary for their efforts in planning and executing the evening.

Invocation: Brian Elliott

International Toast: Robbie Allen

It has been our custom to make our International Toast at this time of year to one of the Rotary Clubs in the central Finland city of **Rovaniemi** since it is the home town of Father Christmas - he even lives and works in the **Father Christmas Village** at the edge of town. The Arctic Circle passes right through the middle of the village.



This year, to continue the tradition we are going to toast the **Rotary Club of Rovaniemi Santa Claus** which of course meets at the **Father Christmas Hotel** in the Village.

The City of Rovaniemi has a population of 64 000 and its economy revolves around breeding and training reindeer especially for long distance flying, making presents, and building small but very expensive houses for the elf work force.



It is also home to the Peter Jackson Drama School for Elves. Many of the school's graduates have starred in the Kiwi film industry, most notably the *Lord of the Rings* and *Hobbit* movies. Even Kate Blanchet studied there for her role as Galadrial, the Elf Queen.



Given the current international tensions Santa's trip to Australia this year will have to take the even greater circle route from Finland avoiding Russian and Chinese air space. The reindeers are training for mid-flight refuelling but are having trouble getting their mouths around the filler tube while flying behind the tanker plane.

The Rotary Club of Rovaniemi Santa Claus is one of 57 in District 1385. It was Chartered in 1983. Its 64 elven Members are led by President Dina Solatie.

Would you please charge your glasses and in the spirit of Christmas goodwill, be upstanding and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Rovaniemi Santa Claus.



Christmas Dinner menu

Prawn and avocado cocktail, or
Caramelised beetroot and onion tart

Glazed ham & stuffed turkey breast

Pavlova with seasoned fruit, or
Christmas pudding and custard

Announcements

Mary - Thank you to all who have donated to the Uniting Church gift drive

•Bowral Classic thank you to everyone who assisted. The organisers were very pleased and have asked the club to help next year.

•Thank you Mary and Brian for the marshalling and BBQ.

Will - Renwick BBQ next Sunday
Thank you to Mary and Denise and team for co-ordinating tonight.

Thank you to Jim Gasson for his generous contribution of table wines for all.

Lucky Door Prize - Brian Ritson
Lucky Door Prize pt2 - Bill Lockley



Will thanked Br Bill & Jodie and the kitchen staff for such a delicious meal. Ken Adams has decided now is the time to resign from Rotary. Thank you Ken for your many years of contribution to Rotary. Ken gave a reply.

After 54 years with Bowral-Mittagong with the many changes Tony Glenn spoke of his history. Ken, after Tony left Apex, sponsored Tony into Rotary. Tony said that Ken was an exceptional Rotarian and human being. Louie also thanked Ken, who had encouraged Louie to become President in 2005.

Brian Pattinson also had some kind words to say about Ken. They met at church and Ken encouraged Brian to join Bowral-Mittagong Rotary. In 2008 Brian and Ken helped get Dream Cricket up and running in Bowral. Ken also was keenly involved with S&E Challenge.

Raffle - random ticket winners. Jo Chalmers advised the Editor that the Club made \$565 on the Raffle – Congratulations on such a fantastic effort!

Presentation of PHF to Bill Lockley

Bill joined Bowral-Mittagong Rotary in 1999, and has been Secretary for Bob Barrett and Chris Benton, also Youth Director among other things.

Bill is a trained engineer, and has many years of experience in mining. Is currently Chief Electrical Engineer at Boral. Bill grew up in the Highlands, went to school in Berrima, Mittagong and Chev

Bill has been an active member of RFS and sustained severe injuries in the 2019 fire. President Will presented Bill with a well deserved PHF.



Bill was very honoured, spoke a bit about the fires leading up to the 19th December 2019 fires when he was injured, suffering severe burns to the face, legs etc. It was a scene of chaos, with unprepared residents attempting to fight the huge front with garden hoses while dressed in singlets and thongs. Even with all the protective clothing Bill suffered burns. Once the fire truck arrived back at the Bargo headquarters, a local lady, bathed Bill's burns with water, keeping him hydrated until he was transported to Concord Hospital.

Luciano led the congregation in singing Silent Night, followed by an Italian carol.



Rosemary Kelly then followed up with an Italian version of a Christmas carol.



Will closed the celebration by wishing everyone a safe and relaxing Christmas.

The last 2 pages shows all the lovely photos sent in to the Editor – thank you kindly !!

Addition re previous TT Bulletin:

Dear Paul,

Please accept my apologies for not including your photo for last week's International Toast. Thank you for your involvement so far and I hope you are enjoying being a member in our club.

Regards

Carolina (TT Editor)







In case you don't recognise him....this is Ian Langford at Anglesea, Victoria



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
ROTARY CLUB
OF BOWRAL-
MITTAGONG**