



Meeting Report 14 July, 2020, Volume: 82 No: 3

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9710 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Rod Aistrope Secretary: Trevor Fair

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For the immediate future, the style of meeting is a bit uncertain.  
It depends on how many people are coming.

Please bear with Rod and Trevor for now. Some meetings may be via Zoom.

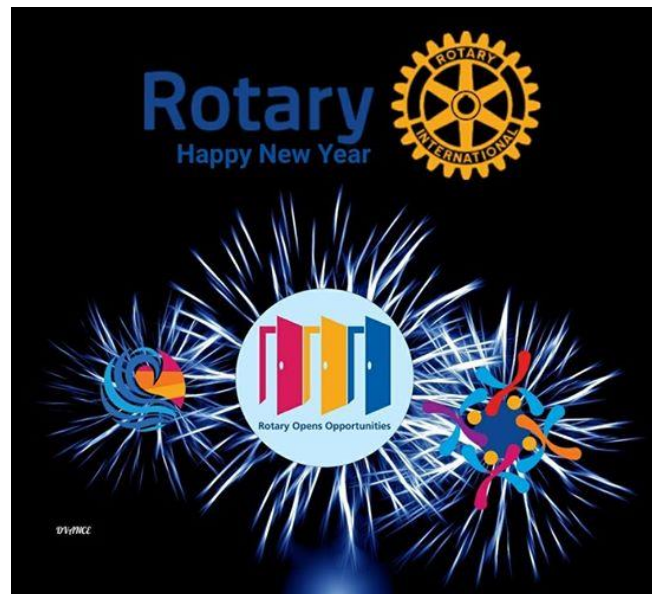
We need 20 members to have a face to face meeting at SHW, otherwise we Zoom.

**NEXT MEETING: 21 JULY, 2020**

**\*\* Stand by for word from Secretary Trevor \*\***

If you are coming to a face to face meeting, you **MUST RSVP by Monday 10 am** or you will not be fed!  
**EFT to General Account (account ends 636) – no cash please.**

**Subscriptions are also due.**



Rotary International President Holger Knaack's theme for 2020-21, ***Rotary Opens Opportunities***, asks Rotarians to create opportunities that strengthen their leadership, help put service ideas into action, and improve the lives of those in need.

## **“ZOOMING ABOUT” WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOWRAL-MITTAGONG**

14 July 2020

14 attendees Zoomed in for the first meeting of the new Rotary Year.

President Rod welcomed all.

Invocation: Brian Elliott

International Toast: Rose Conley

On 14th July, 1789 the citizens of Paris stormed the Bastille fortress prison and the French Revolution began. Today the people of France again celebrate **Bastille Day** and so we honour that celebration tonight.

Since 2013 we have made our International Toast to Rotary Clubs in France on 9 occasions. This will be the sixth time we acknowledge Bastille Day.

The French National Anthem, was written in 1792 in Strasbourg after the declaration of war by France against Austria and sung to raise the spirits of their troops.

It was given the nickname **La Marseillaise** after it was sung by volunteers from **Marseille** marching into Paris. It was adopted as the National Anthem in 1795.

The hometown of those volunteers was the major French Mediterranean port with a reputation as a rough dangerous place. Nowadays it has been civilised by the presence of 16 Rotary Clubs and a population of 1.8 million in metropolitan Marseille.

**The Rotary Club of Marseille Saint-Michel** is one of those. It was **Chartered in 1974 in District 1760** and has 25 Members led by new **President Jacques Salmona**.

The virus has prevented them meeting and like us their activities are limited at the moment.

**In recognition of Bastille Day would you please grasp a full glass of whatever you choose and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Marseille Saint Michel.**

### *Announcements:*

Meetings – The Highlands Hotel, Mittagong (formerly Lion Rampant) is to be tested for potential meetings. A small committee have dined there and inspected the premises. Licensees Brett & Mya Tomlinson? Are exploring ways of making a partitioned area suitable to our needs.

OzHarvest/Food Pantry – The Uniting Church is to confirm size of freezer before deciding. With other donations the Club may be able to provide \$700 towards a suitable freezer.

Childrens' Cancer Institute – Ian Langford and Louie have finalised donations reconciliation and expect to be able to donate in excess of \$10k from the recent Golf Day.

Member Survey – as the President has only received about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of responses please complete ASAP so committees and tasks can be allocated

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Engineers Australia – Webinar 30<sup>th</sup> July – Electric Aircraft – some local connections.

Additional details to come.

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Travelling in the North West with a bunch of Rotarians is a wonderful experience. This makes me appreciate my membership even more. Thankyou, fellow travellers, for a great week 😊



We joined up at Trilby Station, near Louth on the Darling River and spent two nights there. Below, a self-guided tour that took us to a dam on Trilby Station, a million acre property.





Nearby was Dunlop Station which had the first mechanised shearing shed in Australia. This is the homestead,



and this is the shed. No sheep there now, goats are the primary stock now on this station – “if they’re on the road, they’re yours – at \$75 a head”.



The Darling River, once a thriving and wide water highway, looks sad and semi-empty up here.



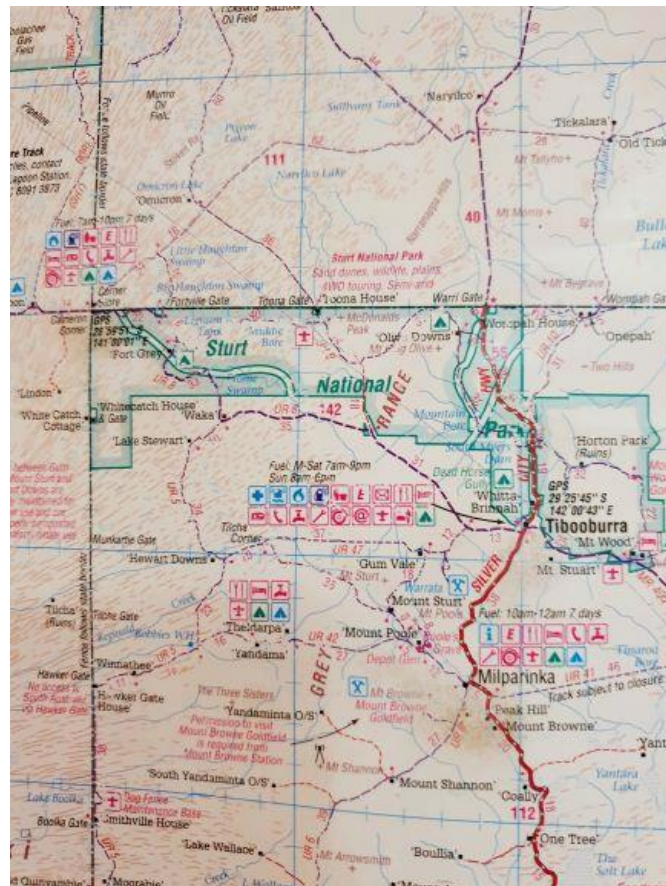
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Despite the roads being in pretty good condition, both Lynton and I got flat tyres and had to buy replacements.



Below is the road to Tibooburra, where we stayed in units in a caravan park full of Victorians in

camping trailers and caravans, waiting to enter Queensland.



Tibooburra was once a temporary camp for Captain Charles Sturt, who took a 29' whale boat along in case he found an inland sea. Here's a replica. Can you imagine attempting this?



Next, on to Milparinka, an old gold mining area that had a rush in the 1880s. There were 4 pubs here but little water, until a well was drilled in 1881 with water at 140 feet. Miners used air bellows to dust

off their diggings, called “dry blowing”. Below is the court house and government office.



Next, on to Broken Hill where there was lots to see and do. We shared a traditional yet very comfortable BH house for two nights, visiting art galleries, coffee shops and the top of the BHP mullock heap, which has a memorial to the miners who have died of awful industrial accidents over the years. Every flower tells a story.



Then to Menindee Lakes, a chain of water storage shallow lakes which have virtually no water. This one has a pumping station, with the pump sitting as low as it can. Sad.





On to the amazing Mungo National Park, once a large pastoral station and 60,000 years before that, the home of Mungo Man and Mungo Woman.



This was a very spiritual experience and is highly recommended to everyone. We had a tour of the LUNETTE where their remains were found and carbon dated. The Elders there have determined to let erosion discover other elements from the quarter of a million people who lived here in the very early days.



The sunsets were stunning.



We camped in basic huts there for two nights, met some characters and enjoyed a few drinks around a campfire. Last Tuesday I returned to Broken Hill, the others went home.

