

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 19-3-2024

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RI President:

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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
22/24 Mar	Cootamundra RSL	PETS Training	
26 Mar	Bowral Bowling Club	Marisol Santos Flamingo Dancer	David McCosh
2 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Member Talk, Ian Law	Pamela Brown
9 April	Bowral Bowling Club	John Askew & Denise Ogden."Kids in Care"	Bob Miller
16 April	Annesley	Honorary members night	Will Eddowes
23 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Member Talk	Trevor Fair
30 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Ian Mander brain tumour survivor	Ian Langford
7 May	Bowral Bowling Club	Lucy Earl, Uniting Church.	David McCosh
17 May	Imperial Hotel	Birthday Pizza gathering	Denise Coad
24/25 May	Wingecarribee Shire Council	Model United Nations	
27 May	Mittagong RSL	Science & Engineering Challenge (High School)	
28 May	Mittagong RSL	Science & Engineering Discovery Day (Primary Schools)	
2 July	TBA	Club Changeover Function	
25-27 Oct	Mittagong RSL	District 9705 Conference	

22 Nov	Bong Bong	BB Races BBQ & Car Parking	Don
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MEMBERS, CAN I HAVE DATES FOR THE CALENDAR PLEASE. Tim

The Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong Meeting held Tuesday 19th March 2024.

Venue: Annesley.

Journalist: Ian Langford.

Sergeant Lynton Kettle called the meeting to order and welcomed the guests and members. Guests were Sue Law, Robyn Liberale and Luciano Liberale had brought three guests from Cividale del Friuli who are visiting Australia. They were Caterina, Massimo and Lucca and Luciano had been showing them the Blue Mountains and they were getting ready to visit the Snowy Mountains.

Sergeant Lynton Kettle invited **Rosemary Kelly** to recite the invocation, followed by the International Toast. The toast was especially personal for Rosemary who with her late husband Frank would always proudly celebrate St Patrick's Day each year.

International Toast.

Sunday was St Patrick's Day. **Céad Míle Fáilte** (which literally means "one hundred thousand welcomes". In Ireland this is the expressive way by which the Irish greet each other and visitors to the green isle.)

You are never fully aware of how many hues of green there are until you attend a St Patrick's Day function, as some were seen to do this Sunday, just gone.

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland), the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and, by extension, celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish in general.

This Sunday pulled a few of my heart strings, it being the second in the absence of my Frank. Of course, the name "Kelly" is as synonymous to Ireland as one can get.

Consequently, we as a family, treated the day as the ultimate feast and celebration of all things Irish.

It takes me back to one of our return visits to Ireland and a visit that Frank and I made to a dinner meeting with the Rotary Club of Waterford based in Waterford City, the home of Waterford Crystal and formerly a Viking stronghold. It was their arrival and occupation that led Waterford to be Ireland's first city. Also the village Frank comes from is called Helvick which is also a Viking name.



Helvick Head, County Waterford.

We were a little surprised, but not taken aback, that on arrival at the meeting we found everyone dressed in dinner suits.

The Club is led by President Brian Tynan and today comprises 33 members having been chartered on 15th July 1968.

The Club's major fundraiser and success is the Rotary Memorial (Christmas) Tree appeal which is in its 27th year this year. The Club has raised in that time over €500,000 which is used to support Waterford Hospice and Solas Cancer Support Centre.



Supporters write a bow on the tree, in memory of family or friends who have passed away, and also make a donation. However, Club members and supporters also man the Rotary Christmas Hut over six weekends at various shopping malls or centres around the city to maximise exposure to the community.

Please be upstanding and toast President Brian and the members of the Rotary Club of Waterford.

Sergeant Lynton then welcomed **President Don Graham** to the microphone.

President Don also welcomed the guests and then proposed a toast to past member **Frank Kelly** who sadly passed away in June 2022.

President Don announced that on the 16th April there would be an Honorary Members' night for those past members who still readily help out at the various Club projects.

President Don then thanked **Rosemary Kelly** and **Will Eddowes** for coming up with the idea and organising the visit to the Joadja mining village and distillery and said that **Bob Miller** would be talking about the visit later in the meeting.

The Salvation Army has invited the Club to assist with its Red Shield Appeal. There will be a collecting point at the MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) event on the 25th May. Also in April sometime we will explore the possibility of having a collection outside Bunnings Warehouse.

Luciano Liberale once again called for volunteers to help at Brigadoon on the 6th April for a few hours for which the Club will be paid. Please contact Louie if you can help.



President Don said that Anil and Praz from Nepal (who visited our Club late last year a few times) have written to Don to encourage members and families to attend the screening of the Nepali film **Mahajatra** which is screening next Monday March 25th at 6:30pm at the Empire Cinema. The Nepali movie Mahajatra has English subtitles. Friends with a troubled past are pushed into hiding illegal money, leading them on a turbulent journey that tests their friendship, family connections, and moral values. Stars: Hari Bansha Acharya, Bipin Karki, Barsha Raut, Rabindra Singh Baniya, Ravindra Jha, Raja Ram Poudel, Suman Karki, Divya Dev and Gaumaya Gurung.

Tickets are on sale now for \$30. Ticket link –

<https://www.movietkts.com.au/selectsession.php?siteCode=BOWRAL&movieCode=MAHAJATRA>



Bob Miller then gave a short talk about the recent visit to the historic Joadja mining town site and the Joadja Distillery. Bob was very impressed with the owners, Valero and Elisa Jimenez who after a cup of coffee gave a summary of the history and the background to township.

The town of Joadja was established in the late 1870's by the Australian Kerosene Oil and Mineral Co. Hundreds of Scottish oil shale miners and their families were brought out to Australia and they brought with them their skills in the mining and retorting technique.....and the stilling and brewing of "sly grog"!



The Scottish heritage in the valley and the history of "sly grog" has inspired the Jimenez family who currently own and manage Joadja Town, to establish the Joadja Distillery in 2014.

The township was mainly self-sufficient growing their own food and having a good water supply they managed to avoid the pitfalls of pubs, gambling and other vices that typically affected other mining areas of Australia. Also their isolation meant they avoided epidemics that were around in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Overall the visit was a great success and enjoyed by those attending. Bob recommended that anyone who missed the visit should try and join one of the tours later in the year.

David Rees gave a very clever and hilarious talk about the lunacy in the English language which makes it so confusing to non-English speakers trying to learn the language. He started with an aside about why in death the eyes die last (because they dilate!) and then had everyone in fits as he reeled off many of the anomalies in the way English is spoken. Well done David.

President Don then slipped in one of his “Country Lawyer” funny anecdotes concerning “res ipsa loquitur” which is a Latin phrase that translates to “the thing that speaks for itself.” It involved Don managing to puncture some pompous high flying lawyer by when asked whether a country community would understand the saying, he said that they speak it all the time.

Ian Donges then had one of his “Who am I?” quizzes which almost on the first clue was guessed by Barbara Humphries although some thought Rod Aistrophe was also as quick. Apparently the prize of a packet of Tim Tams can’t be divided into two because there are 11 biscuits in a packet.

Rosemary Kelly announced that a poetry evening at Robbie Allen’s would be arranged for one evening in May.

Guest Speaker: Don Graham.

After dinner, which from the almost 100% clean plates seemed to have been enjoyed by all, it was time for the guest speaker. He needed no introduction as it was our own **President Don Graham!**



Don gave a very interesting talk on his career and how he ended up not where he was aiming but in a rural law practice that was fulfilling and turned out for the better for him. The talk was interspersed with amusing anecdotes and some hilarious cases that had members in fits of laughter. In the thousands of cases he was involved with in his 30 years of practice only two involved murder and only one of those was he defending an accused murderer. Not like court cases are usually portrayed on TV law dramas. Sheep stealing or wives “jumping the fence” were more likely to be at the core of his country cases.

Don’s family originally came from Bowral so it’s not surprising that he has ended up back in Bowral. He has eight siblings (or he was one of eight siblings?). When he qualified his plan was to have a short stint in the country and then to end up in Sydney with the big boys. After a short time in Forbes he somehow ended up doing a Master’s degree at London University. His boss from Forbes also ended up in London but was ill and persuaded Don to return to Wellington to help out at the practice while his boss was ill. However after only two months the boss left due to ill health and at a very young age, Don was in charge of the practice and stayed there nearly 30 years! The ill ex-boss still lived on another 25 years.

We heard about death threats, some more rural court cases and the now famous tale of Don as kid hitch hiking to Sydney from the Southern Highlands because he’d lost his train fare in a game of cards in the 1960s.

Raffle: The raffle was drawn and won by Ian Langford but he was incapable of finding the Joker. At least the wine was a red and not another rosé.

Sergeant Lynton Kettle then held a fines session and captured Rosemary Kelly for the Long Bay connection after the lawyer talk, David Patton & Janine Brundle for their new dinner badges, Allan Falvey for replacing a lost badge, David Rees for his English language talk, all accountants for the RBA holding the interest rate steady, Robert de Jongh for drinking the distillery dry, Louie Liberale for bringing half of Cividale to Rotary, Paul Leotta for speaking Italian and all the Italians for not coming their usual last in the Six Nations Championship rugby tournament.



Luciano Liberale described the funeral of past member **John Griggs** that was held last week at St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Bowral and which was well attended. John had joined The Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong in 1993, was awarded a PHF and was secretary of the Club for many years.

John's legacy is one of unwavering commitment and service. He devoted 21 years of his life to the Australian Regular Army. His tenure as a Gun Position Officer of the 103rd Field Battery, where he provided direct support to D Company 6 RAR during the historic battle of Long Tan, held a special place in his heart. Additionally, his role as a Forward Observer for C Company 5 RAR was a pinnacle of his military career. A renowned Gunner throughout his service, John earned a reputation as a Gunner of distinction. His journey led him to the Long Gunnery Staff Course in the UK, where he honed his skills and expertise. Subsequently, he assumed command of 107 Field Battery.

In the early 1980s, John made the transition from military to civilian life. An opportunity arose for him to join the family business, the New Criterion Hotel in Narrandera. This venture was followed by stints at the Amaroo Hotel in Dubbo and, finally, the Grand Bar & Brasserie in Bowral. Despite leaving the Army, his dedication to service and community remained unwavering.

Don Graham closed the meeting and reminded all that next week's meeting is at the Bowral Bowling Club (\$35). Let Trevor Fair know if you are an apology.



Robbie Allen

New battery recycling at Bowral High School for students and community. If Rotarians can bring batteries in, I will see they go in the recycling bins. Robbie

BIRTHDAYS

March: Vanessa Aylett 9/3, Tony Glenn 1/3, Luciano Liberale 22/3, Bruce Sutton 24/3

April: Don Graham 9/4, Janine Brundle 13/4, Pamela Brown 29/4.

May: Rod Aistrophe 3/5, Jim Gasson 22/5, Will Eddowes 26/5, Brian Pattinson 31/5.

The week that was.- Joadja excursion



Centre Row left to right
The Gunslingers; Mr Happy; Pizza Ovens?

RYPEN NEWS



Figure 1 Jackson, Chloe, Josh

The three RYPEN students we sponsored from Bowral High School

RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) is a 3 day camp program for Year 9 high school students. The aim is to communicate to these young people a series of ideas, problems and social experiences which will assist them in forming their own values and moral standards, and also to broaden their horizons culturally, socially and academically.

RYPEN is all about getting the kids to step outside their comfort zone, meet new people and try new things. Students participate in a range of team building games and also hear from some amazing and inspiring speakers on a wide range of topics as well as an amazing drama/improvisation session on the Saturday night which is always a hit.

A core component of the camp is how we communicate with, speak to and treat each other and understanding how that affects everybody, as well as getting kids to understand and try/appreciate the benefits of helping others. It's not a leadership camp as such but we really try to open the door to the concepts of leading by serving and doing for others.

The Gallery March 19



Asher in Japan.

Performing the Japanese tea ceremony with traditional Japanese clothing (the kimonos the girls are wearing are so beautiful. My outfit is so cool!!!) We drank matcha tea and ate Japanese sweets! Can't wait to do the ceremony again soon in April.



The Funnies (courtesy of Bungendore RC)

