

Meeting Report 19 May, 2020, Volume: 81 No: 40

Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong



District 9710 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Robert de Jongh Secretary: Trevor Fair

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Position Vacant: Guest Speaker – Tuesday

If anyone is able to present, or knows someone willing to present, please contact me ASAP. If not you will get either Robert or myself again.

Zoom Meeting ID: 969 683 2299

Note: New time for meeting 5:30 pm

Tulip Times Bulletin



Welcome

Welcome:

A warm welcome to DG Peter Ford, as well as new subscribers John Hoelle, Ray Coulton, Louie Liberale.

Invocation – Rod Aistrope

International Toast - Les Vickerman

Sunday was the **National Day of Norway** commemorating the declaration of the Constitution in 1814 which maintained the independence of Norway from Sweden after the defeat of Napoleon the first time around.

Norway was the land of the Vikings for a thousand years of the middle ages and by the 14th Century AD was united with Sweden, Denmark and part of Finland in various combinations of kingdoms. After 1814 Norway maintained its separate identity under one King with Sweden.

Constitution Day is celebrated across the Country and is marked as **Russ Day** by graduating high school students with street marches and general naughtiness.

Norway has a population of 5.4 million and borders Sweden along its eastern frontier and Finland and Russia in the far north.

It was quick to introduce social restrictions when the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the country. To date they have limited the number of cases to 8 260 and 233 deaths.

By contrast, Sweden due to its constitutional arrangements has been unable to go to a lock down but has had to rely on recommendations and social responsibility. The result is, with its population of 10.3 million it has recorded 30 000 cases and 3 677 deaths.

The **Rotary Club of Oslo West** was chartered in 1987 in District 2310. Its 48 Members are led by **President Tor Gulbrandsen**. Like us it is meeting by Zoom and not doing too much at the moment. In normal times it does have a hands on involvement in supporting a school for blind children in Kenya. They currently have a youth exchange student from Australia sharing the virus experience with them.

Announcements:

DG Peter Ford

Peter addressed the attendees and stated that he has been actively attempting to join online club meetings. He thanked our Club for their efforts during the year.

Peter remined all that the District Changeover is to be virtually held on 1 July. The logistics are still being worked out. Also if our Club is proceeding with a Changeover, please send an invitation to Peter and he will allocate an "attendee".

The District Bushfire Committee is now receiving funds and has commenced the process of allocation to Clubs. PDG Phil Armstrong is the Chair of this Committee.

Rotaract - Technical support to members and/or the community

Below is a response from Rotaract concerning an offer of support

"Thank you so much for your response regarding our project and I apologise for the late response. We would also love to help with any technological side of the club and our Rotaract President William will shortly be in touch with you to discuss any suggestions from us.

We would like to start the project with Rotary members. As discussed, we understand that not all members are comfortable with using the technology to connect with us. In this regards we are flexible with how we can talk to the members. If a landline call or on mobile phone suites the members, we are happy to do so.

Even corresponding by letters is more interactive for some members that is fine too.

We though this difficult time may be a good opportunity to get to know the members from Rotary and Rotaract whilst keeping everyone in the community connected. Thus, we also welcome any Rotary's members and their friends who would just like to have a conversation with us.

There are 7 of us Rotaract members and each one of us is more than happy to talk to numerous members from your club. If you could provide me with the name, contact and preferred way of connecting us, I can match them with one of our members and start conducting their meetings. I also attached a questionnaire sheet to fill in their name, contact details and few questions about themselves. I thought using this sheet will make it easier for you to collect the information from your member, but if there is another means you prefer, you do not have to use the sheet.

Thank you so much for supporting our project and even after the COVID-19 situation is under control, we still hope to maintain contact with your members to bring us all closer together.

Regards Ema

Will Eddowes – Mouse House visit has been officially cancelled.

Ken Adams – past member Trevor Bensley recently passed away. Trevor was an active member and past member. His passions included bushwalking where he was instrumental in developing walking tracks on Mt Alexandria.

Robert de Jongh

With the implementation of the new District, D9705 two votes are required being;

- 1. Acceptance of a Constitution, and
- 2. Acceptance of the 2020-2021 Budget

Please refer to separate email which contains the documentation in detail. Any queries / concerns please make contact with Robert.



<u>A Rotary Youth Exchange in Finland</u> - Kasarni Small kasarnismall.wordpress.com

Above is a comprehensive journal written by a RYE student on exchange in Finland.

An interesting read.

Speaker – TED Talk Bill & Melinda Gates

"Why giving away our wealth has been the most satisfying thing we've done"



During a trip to Africa Bill & Melinda Gates decided that there was a need for aid in under developed countries.



Both Melinda and Bill decided their area of focus. Not surprisingly Melinda chose women's

health and in particular contraception. \$2.6B has been allocated for contraception.



Bill's focus was on child mortality. The key to arresting children's deaths is vaccinations.



The challenge in delivering aid is to ensure that the ground to aspirational levels match as well as the top down view. There is no point in planning a program if there is no practical way of delivering it. One example was the development of a vaccine which required a 10 day program. This is impossible to deliver in remote areas.

With education the secret is not small or well resourced classes, it is inspirational teachers. Even remote villagers realise that education is the key to economic success.

A windfall occurred when Warren Buffett, who had set up a process for his wife to distribute their wealth on his death, outlived his wife. Being a good delegator, Warren gave 80% of his fortune to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Bill & Melinda are aiming to donate 95% of their wealth to the Foundation. They are also

encouraging other billionaires to give half their wealth to philanthropy.

They both agreed that this is the most fulfilling thing they have ever done. As one cannot take money with you and their children do not need it.



The Fun Section

The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert.

After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep.

Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says,

'Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?' 'The Lone Ranger replies, 'I see millions of stars.'

'What that tell you?' asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, 'Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, the Lord is allpowerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.

What's it tell you, Tonto?'

'You dumber than buffalo. It means someone stole the tent'

Rotary Club of Bowral – Mittagong







Charity Golf Day in memory of Antony David Liberale

Jibraltar HOTEL BOWRAL







To be held at: Highlands Golf Club Old Hume Highway, Mittagong Sunday 31st May

> 9.30 am assembly for 10.00am Shotgun start

2 ball Ambrose Competition

(For Single entrants, - teams set up on the day)

\$70 per player includes prize giving, bacon and eggs on arrival with coffee

On-course panini and wine Finger food at presentation

Bookings (including carts) : Email : Louie Liberale :

Club Proshop (02) 4871 3274 mitchharrygolf@gmail.com 0438 711 670