

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 20-2-2024

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**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



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RI President:

Gordon R McNally

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www.bowralmittagongrotary.com

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
27 Feb	Bowral Bowling Club	Interact, RYPEN and Bob Miller member talk	David McCosh
5 March	TBA		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	
19 March	TBA		Ian Langford
22-24 Mar	Cootamundra RSL	PETS Training	
26 March	Bowral Bowling Club	84 th Birthday of RCBM	
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: Annesley **Journalist:** Pamela Brown

Menu: Lamb Shanks with Red wine Jus

Mashed potatoes and green beans

Profiterole pastry with custard, cream

Lynton Kettle opened the Meeting and introduced President Don Graham.

Guests: Beverley Coffey, Robyn Liberale, Janine Brundle and David Patten, Mary Ramsay and Mary Crammond who was back from Sri Lanka,

Invocation: Spoken by **Beverley Coffey**

International Toast: Was read by Beverley

On 23 February Brunei celebrates its independence from Britain in 1984.



As Asian countries go, Brunei is an anomaly. The country is ruled by the Sultan of Brunei who is the Head of State with full executive authority. He also serves as the state's prime minister, [finance minister](#) and [defence minister](#) and since the [Brunei Revolt](#) of 1962, his authority has included [emergency powers](#), which are renewed every two years, meaning that Brunei has



technically been under [martial law](#) since then.

The country has a coastline on the South China Sea and is actually in two parts as it is separated by the state of Sarawak, Malaysia.

A cursory read suggests everything is small – an area of only 5,765km² and a population of only about 455,000. Of that number 76% live in urban areas.

The soil is heavily leached and infertile and, as a consequence, 60% of its food is imported.

So, what does it have going for it? – crude oil and gas make up 90% of its GDP.

99% of electricity is generated from fossil fuels.

It is in the top ten wealthiest countries with significant overseas investments generating another income stream for the country.

With its wealth, the Government (read Sultan) pays for all health services, subsidises rice and housing.

The capital city is Bandar Seri Begawan and it is the home of the only Rotary Club in Brunei Rotary Club of Bandar Seri Begawan (also known as the Rotary Club of Brunei Town). The Club forms part of District 3310 which is predominantly made up of Malaysian and Singaporean Clubs.

It was chartered on 24 May 1965 and President Daniel Shoon is supported by 40 other members.

The Club sponsors a Rotaract Club and annually presents bursaries to students to assist them with their school and college education costs. Reading between the lines the Club's Website suggests that the Club has struggled to overcome the impact of Covid as its gallery has been quiet since 2020.

Please be upstanding and toast President Daniel and the members of the Rotary Club of Bandar Seri Begawan (Rotary Club of Brunei Town)

Guest Speaker: Ian Langford introduced **Johanna (Jo) Swift**, a retired Police officer.



Jo was a Police Officer for 24 years working in busy Metropolitan stations. She specialised crime units with up to 25 officers reporting to her until her realisation of suffering from PTSD which was affecting her marriage, health and relationship with her daughter. She was working 12hour shifts leading to sleep deficiency which compounded the impact on her health. It was time to leave the Force.

Upon retiring from the force she applied for a white card in the Construction industry (Zero Harm) and has risen up in this field also and is very content now.

Jo has received various recommendations and awards including

- Commissioner's Olympic Citation,
- National Police Service Medal
- National Medal
- Premier's Bushfire citation and Emergency Commendation

Dom Williams thanked Jo for her interesting talk and presented her with the Rotary Guest Speaker Recognition certificate.

Jim Gasson told an amusing police story about his grandson when a new recruit to the police. Sitting in an unmarked car, he was approached by a junkie to see if he had any drugs!.

Announcements:

- Regionalisation areas were discussed. Our club will be grouped with Moss Vale and virtually all clubs on the South Coast as far as Eden.
- Extra Rotarians were asked to accompany Bob Miller to the President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) on 22 March in Cootamundra or 8 March at Bateman's Bay
- Rosemary thanked contributors to the Pantry items for donation this week a good effort
- Hands were asked to be shown for interest in helping at the next Dinner/Dance to be held in either May or September. Funds raised will go to support the Children's Institute for Cancer of which Louie Liberale is an ongoing supporter.
- Robbie Allen made a request for more student accommodation for the Rotary Youth Exchange. One more host family was needed (Louie Liberale showed interest in helping out).
- Ian Law – Moona will run again this year on May 25. Robert De Jongh is in Indonesia but has already done a lot of the organisation.
- UN members were discussed and acknowledged those that are supporting this.
- Rod talked about Exchange students from Windesheim University. He thanked those who have offered accommodation and will inform us as the details become settled. There will be two undergraduates, mature students that are able to house sit etc while staying.
- Tony regaled the events of Southern Highlands winery last Saturday as the venue for Children's Institute for Cancer and attendees were thanked. It showcased their amazing efforts and success even internationally. Robyn and Luciano were acknowledged for the ongoing involvement and passion for this cause. Funds raised from the dinner dance coming up will be for support of further research. Louie asked that we do a visit to the Institute to see what remarkable work they do and to further support them.
- **Mary Ramsay** has volunteered to help out with the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) in May by organising the catering. Don thanked her for her ongoing commitment to this event.

Raffle winner was Rosemary Kelly

Joker draw - the joker was still in the pack.

Sergeant's Session: Conducted by Lynton

Jim for receiving two Man bags from online shopping.

Louie for being asked to help at Brigadoon.

Rod for his work at a local business and being paid in wine for his efforts (Lynton will issue a list later of all the bridges to avoid that Rod engineered while receiving wine in payment)

Mary Ramsay for her attendance querying it was in her anticipation of interest rates going down.

All the barristers and solicitors profiting on the ongoing Higgins case.

Mary Crammond for the airport mix up with Rose.

Janine for trying to work out how not to get fined.

Next Meeting to be held at Bowral Bowling Club on February 27 2024.

