

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 21-1-25
Volume 86 No 26

Stephanie A. Urchick
2024-25 President
Rotary International



Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary
District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940



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Tim Bowland
Leigh Robinson

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	Invocation & International Toast
24 Jan	Imperial Hotel	Pizza Birthday Lunch	NA	NA
26 Jan	The Donges	Australia Day Celebration	NA	NA
28 Jan	No Meeting			
4 Feb	Bowral Bowling Club	Club Assembly	Trevor Fair	Robert de Jongh
11 Feb	Bowral Bowling Club	TBA	David Patton	Will Eddowes
18 Feb	Annesley	TBA	Denise Coad	Tony Glenn
Feb 22/23	Annesley	Mental Health Training	NA	NA
25 FEB	Bowral Bowling Club	TBA	David McCosh	Ian Johnson
1 July	Annesley	Club Changeover	TBA	TBA

NB The journalist and International Toast Roster may have changed. Check for your name.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOWRAL MITTAGONG TULIP TIMES BULLETIN for 21st January, 2025

Venue Annesley

Journalist Will Eddowes (Tim Bowland for Scouts report)

Sergeant Rod Aistrop opened the meeting and welcomed guests Cecelia McKenzie (tonight’s speaker), Sue Campbell and honorary past members, Mary Ramsay and Jim Gasson.

Sergeant Rod gave the Invocation, followed by the International Toast:



Over the past few weeks, 7th January, Los Angeles has consumed by bush fires on a scale never seen before. It is the middle of winter but extreme temperatures and prolonged very dry weather have driven fires not only through the steep



starting on a scale never seen before. Their winter winds and have driven canyons with

the big views, big names and high prices but through the suburbs where the ordinary people live in ordinary houses.

Whilst we have seen and heard plenty about the loss of fabulous houses owned by the rich and famous - even on famous streets like Mulholland Drive - far more destruction and total loss has occurred in cities like Pasadena and one of its suburban areas, Eaton.

27 lives and 12 400 homes and other buildings have been lost and the fires are not out yet. The Eaton fire, the largest of 31 fires is still burning.

We had our own prolonged and widespread bushfires very close to us back in 2019/20 which caused quite a lot of damage but it was largely through areas of low population density. These fires have swept through densely developed suburban streets and most of the people affected are not wealthy. They have much less ability to recover, many without insurance.

Pasadena is one of the cities within the Los Angeles metropolitan area. It is about 20km north of the city centre and has about 150 000 of the 18.3 million residents of greater LA.

It's largest employer is the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory which was a big part of the US space program.

Pasadena and its suburbs are served by the Rotary Club of Pasadena which was Chartered in 1920 in what is now District 5300.

The Club has 166 Members led by President Stephen Smith.

It raises considerable funds from running the Rose Bowl Parade before the big American College Football game on New Year's Day each year.

Not surprisingly the Club's attention has been on more pressing personal and community needs and its web site and facebook pages are a little out of date but we can be sure that this very active Club is responding to the crisis.

In sympathy and concern for the well being of all those affected by these disasters would you all please rise and make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Pasadena.

Sergeant Rod introduced **President Bob Miller**

Mary Ramsay reported that **Robbie Allen** is still in the USA following her brother's death.

President Bob reported on the BBQ we provided for the 300 Scouts who were returning from a jamboree in Queensland to Canberra. The stop at Mittagong was designed to break the journey and provide lunch. Apart from their late arrival – 3.15pm instead of the original 12.30 – it was very successful and much appreciated by the Scouts and their support team.

President Bob reminded us about the pizza lunch on this Friday 24th and also the Australia Day meeting at the Donges' home, 85 McCallum Rd Colo Vale. **Please let Denise Coad know ASAP** if you wish to attend and have not already done so. **Please take a chair if you want to sit down!**

We have been asked to assist with parking at the **Waratahs vs Brumbies** game on February 1st. They have agreed to our hourly rate and they expect 3000 people to attend. Shuttle buses will be available from Chevalier.

There will be a club assembly on the 4th February to focus on the outcome of the Future Proofing exercise and also our regular meeting location

Sadly, it has been decided not to proceed with the Car Boot Sale scheduled for the 9th March. Uncertainty about the requirements for a DA and questions about the beneficiary are the main reasons. It is important to replace it with another local fund-raising activity.

Leigh Robinson reminded us that any old phones or laptops can be cleaned and reused for DV victims.

Following dinner, **Leigh Robinson** introduced **Cecelia McKenzie** for an interview session to discuss Domestic Violence. The summary below is a brief outline of the discussion. Leigh's questions in italics:

- *Why are you involved with domestic violence?*

I've worked in various related areas, Juvenile Violence, Drug & Alcohol etc. I was involved in a review of coercive control legislation as a victim of domestic violence. I experienced abuse over 20 years and I have young children. I have now started my own counselling business and I'm and am writing a book.

- *Are you aware of the NSW Police/ Rotary Memorandum of Understanding?*

I am now since you raised it! Any organisation that furthers knowledge and understanding is worthwhile.

- *Are you aware of the Statewide campaign by Rotary to Say NO to domestic violence?*

Yes I have and have been somewhat involved. Any communication and awareness campaign is valuable.

- *Ignoring press reports, how widespread do you think is the prevalence of domestic violence?*

Approx 30 % gets reported but much is not reported. It happens at all levels of society and often in same sex relationships. Coercive control is the 'toolbox' of domestic violence. 'Gaslighting' is process used by perpetrators. It's a way of making victims feel they are being watched and/or judged all the time resulting in a loss of self-confidence.

- *Where/when do you think the inclination to be a perpetrator of domestic violence begins?*

Hard to answer. There is normally no clear point. However, we must not demonise men – most men are good people but they may lack the tools to manage their emotions.

Bad family background can certainly be more likely to make children into perpetrators and a good father figure role model is very important. The aboriginal community has a culture of 'women's business' and 'men's business'. This can help to define roles without saying one is superior to the other – or that it always works.

- *What is your role in the fight against domestic violence?*

To raise awareness and advocate honesty and truth. I am writing a book which is really about my recovery and healing. It is hard but possible to recover.

- *What is the long term solution to domestic violence?*

I don't really want to answer that question, it's very difficult.

- *How would you approach someone whom you suspect is being subjected to domestic violence and is afraid of any repercussions if it becomes known?*

It's important to say "I believe you". Often victims are in a state of confusion and shame. Ask RUOK? Invite them to 'call me if you need me' or invite them to share a cup of tea. Don't prescribe what to do and don't go in too hard. It can be counter productive.

Ian Johnson asked whether feminism had an effect on DV from suffragettes to the present day. Has that been a challenge for some men?

I have given some thought to this issue and I think some men are not equipped to react to strong, vibrant women and they can feel threatened and try to control it.

Tony Glenn referred to insecurity in men leading to abuse and **Rosemary Kelly** thought the role of women in teaching boys was vital.

Ian Johnson gave a vote of thanks to **Cecelia**.

The raffle was drawn by Cecelia and Sue Campbell won.

Sergeant Rod conducted a brief sergeant's session. He thought Rosemary was responsible for the long table being left on the trailer – which he walked into. Checked shirts were also targeted.

The meeting was closed by **President Bob**.

Birthdays

JANUARY: Des Rudolph 10/1; Brian Ritson 5/1.

FEBRUARY: Denise Coad 9th, Allan Falvey 10th, Graham Castle 11th, John Hoelle 24th, Steven Hallis 27th.

MARCH: Tony Glenn 1st, Vanessa Aylett 9th, Luciano 22nd, Bruce Sutton 24th.

Youth Report



Asher and Yuna have been to the Pompeii exhibition at the National Museum of Australia.

(The peace sign, or V sign, is popular in Japan for a number of reasons, including the influence of celebrities, the anti-war movement, and the power of the media)

The week that was

Operation Feed-the-300: A Rotary BBQ Story



Bob got the call. It was big. *Really* big. Three hundred scouts were on the move, and they were hungry. No time for hesitation—this was a job for the Rotary BBQ Dream Team.

The Plan Comes Together

Bob quickly assembled the crew, Mission Impossible-style. Rosemary took charge of catering with military precision, barking orders like a seasoned field general. Mary, the sauce commander, laid down the law: "No scout gets more than two squeezes of sauce. Do *not* let them drown their food."

The boys rallied to move the BBQs into position, erecting a tent to protect against the inevitable rain. (Fun fact: assembling tents is apparently harder than rocket science, as evidenced by the engineers, who spent a good 20 minutes arguing about which side was up.)

Meanwhile, the cooks suited up, aprons on and spatulas in hand, ready for the carnage.

The Waiting Game



Then came the curveball: the buses were running on Queensland time. Delayed. All 300 scouts were now fashionably late, and the team stood around awkwardly, staring at the grill like it might offer answers.

Finally, the scouts arrived all at once, pouring out of the buses like a tidal wave of enthusiasm and appetite.

Panic Stations



The BBQ team kicked into gear. It was chaos, but *organized* chaos—like a well-oiled machine with just a few loose screws. Sausages sizzled, burgers flipped, and Mary stood guard over the sauce like a hawk.

Despite the odds, the 300 scouts were fed and watered in record time. Not a single scout left hungry (though one kid may have left slightly traumatized after asking for a third serving of sauce).



The Aftermath

With the scouts loaded back onto the buses and the dust settling, the girls called it a day, leaving the boys to handle the cleaning and packing up. Bob, ever the diplomat, graciously muttered, “Well done, girls,” before getting elbow-deep in greasy BBQ trays.

Mission Accomplished

So there it is—a tale of teamwork, triumph, and the eternal mystery of Queensland time. The Rotary BBQ team proved once again that no challenge is too big, no scout is too hungry, and no amount of sauce is ever enough for kids.

Well done, team. Until next time.



The above account was written by AI from half a doz bullet points provided by the editor. AI was asked to make it a Humorous account of events. A learning exercise about AI

Farewell Daphne and family

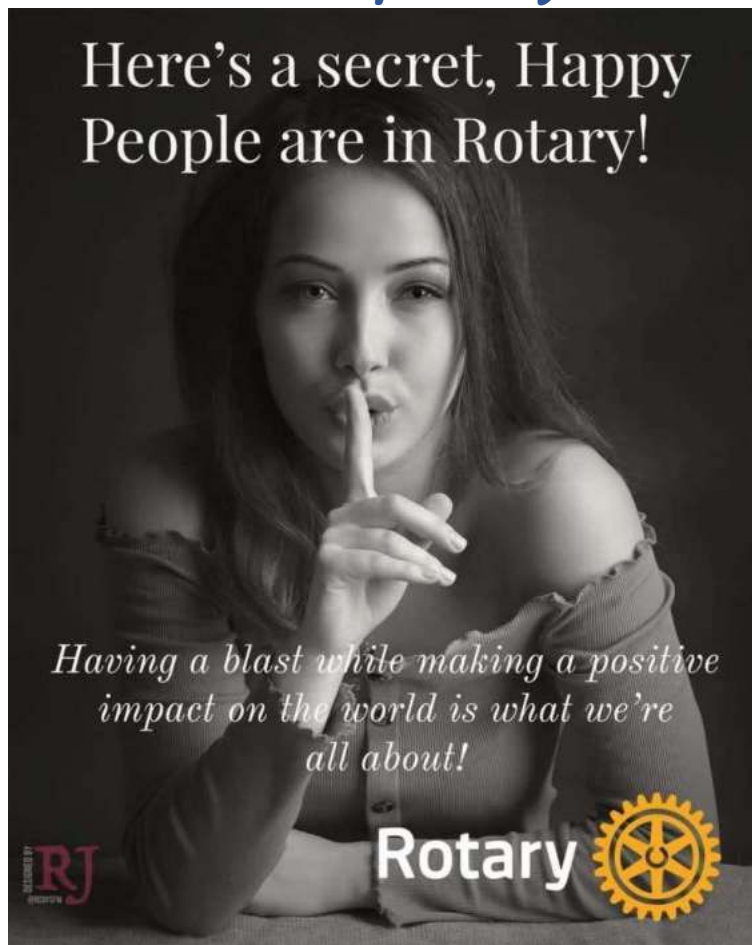
Daphne her mother Margaret and her two sisters Danielle & Mellanie came down to Bowral for the day just before they departed on their journey back the Netherlands.

The host families gathered at the Imperial Hotel for a Pizza lunch.

Don took the family for a quick trip around the sites of Bowral before putting them back on the train to Sydney. A good time was had by all despite the rain, hail and the pub courtyard flooding.



Quote of the day



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Bring in your old laptops and phone (with Chargers) so they can be recycled to help our domestic violence campaign.

Also, Bring in some items each week to add to the Uniting Church basket . Non Perishable food, Toiletries ETC
