



Report for Mar 22, 2022; Volume 83, No: 33 Rotary Club  
of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Will Eddowes Secretary: Trevor Fair



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Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's theme for 2021-22,

### ***Serve to change lives,***

is urging members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving other is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

## **Future Events**

March 25 – Beyond Blue Car Rally @ Bong Bong Racecourse

March 29 - Bowral Bowling Club – Brian Speed (W/Council Road Safety)

March 31 – Empire Cinema Premier of “The Duke”

April 5 - Venue to be confirmed

April 12 - Bowral Bowling Club - Guest Speaker - Peter Gibson - Angel Flight

April 20 - Dormie House, Moss Vale - Joint Meeting Rotary Club of Moss Vale

April 26 - Bowral Bowling Club - Ian Law & Leigh Robinson - Rotary Environmental Initiative

April 29 - April Birthdays Pizza Lunch - Imperial Hotel

May 3 – Kookabar Café, Bowral

May 10 - Bowral Bowling Club - Appreciation Night - 10 Guests

**\*\*\*Please Confirm by Sunday for Tuesday Night**

**Venue:** Kookabar Cafe, Bowral

**Journalist:** Ian Langford

Pascal and his staff made us welcome and he had cooked his “signature” dish of chicken pies with some lovely fresh vegetables and a tasty green salad.



**Welcome:** Sergeant Lynton Kettle welcomed all members and guests. Tonight’s guests were Robert de Jongh’s wife Mara and her sister Frances Larkin.

Lynton then introduced **President Elect Leigh Robinson** who was standing in for President Will Eddowes who had nipped off to Noosa just as it got warm and sunny in the Southern Highlands.

**President Elect Leigh** ran a tight ship with everything going smoothly to time and he invited Jim Gasson to recite the Invocation.

**International Toast:** In honour of France winning the Six Nations Rugby Championship over the weekend, Chef Pascal was invited to join in the International Toast which was proposed by **Ian Law**,

Those who follow the game they play in heaven, even those who don’t support the ACT Brumbies, will know that on the weekend in Paris, France beat England 25 - 13 to win the Six Nations Rugby Championship.



It was the first time for 12 years that they have won it, winning 5 from 5 also against Italy, Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

Some of you might also have guessed that our host tonight was barracking for France.

Our Chef Pascal grew up in a village of about 3 400 called Échiré, 350km south west of Paris in Nouvelle-Aquitaine along the west coast. It is still known for its dairy industry and cheese making.



*Échiré & its famous butter.*

Échiré doesn’t have a Rotary Club but it is only 8km from Niort Sèvre which is a city of 60 000 and it has the Rotary Club of Niort-Sèvre which was Chartered in District 1510 in 1990.

President Aline Audfray leads 46 Members who are also very proud of their Rugby team, Les Blues and very happy.

One of the Club’s recent projects is the Prevention of Lyme Disease which is spread by tick bites. They have funded and taken part in education and community awareness programs to help overcome this debilitating disease.

In celebration of Pascal’s victory in the Six Nations Rugby Championship members raised their glasses and made the International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Niort-Sèvre.



*Niort Sèvre*

The International toast seemed to set members off reminiscing about tales of rugby or Lyme disease. PE Leigh told us about his time as a 20 year old trainee manager in Coogee Millers Hotel when the Easter Show Girls and the French rugby team were enjoying a few drinks together with one poor guy carted off to hospital having drunk 17 pints of beer.



#### **Notices:**

PE Leigh reminded us about the RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) national flood relief appeal. If you wish to make a tax free donation to the Flood Appeal you can find the web site at <http://directory.rawcs.com.au/47-2021-22> .

He also reminded us that Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March will be the 82<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of our Club's charter in 1940.

Some Ukrainian refugees have arrived in the area. Applications for tourist visas were made on Saturday and were received on Sunday! They are being looked after but what they need is English tuition.

Ian Law handed out some very interesting leaflets about the Rotary Adopt-A-Tree project. See [www.rotaryadoptatree.org.au](http://www.rotaryadoptatree.org.au) District 9705 is also supporting this project.

**The Beyond Blue – Bitumen Fundraiser.** Brian Ritson gave an update on the preparations for the car rally breakfast we are providing this Friday (March 25<sup>th</sup>) from 7:00am to 9:00am at the Bong Bong Picnic Racecourse. We will be catering for an estimated 200 people by providing Breakfast, Bacon and Egg Rolls, Cereals etc. The weather forecast is not good and so the barbecue will probably be outside under the large shelter but the food served inside. Brian seems to have access to whatever is needed at the racecourse and the Committee have been very generous and flexible with the Rotary Club.

**Club Shed.** Brian Ritson also reported that the rats have returned to the Shed and the blackberry bushes are taking over. It needs a proper full day working bee to get everything in proper order which he will organise soon.

**Film Premier Night.** Mary Ramsay reported on the preparations for the fundraising premier of the film "The Duke" starring Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March at 6:00 for 6:30pm. Ticket sales have been so disappointing that she thought it might have to be cancelled but the Cinema have told her that so long as there are at least 50 tickets sold then it's easier to go ahead than to cancel and try to reimburse everyone. Recently only 18 tickets had been sold but this has risen to 40. All members, unless they are away next week should be buying a ticket irrespective of whether it's a film they want to see or not and please try and get friends and family to come as well. They can use their NSW vouchers if they have one which means the film would only cost them \$3.

This is the fourth fundraising film that Mary has organised and we usually sell out and have to turn people away so it's very disappointing that we are in this position this time. There are 9 days left to turn it around.



**Science & Engineering Challenge and Discovery Days.** Ian Langford requested that all members indicate on the sheets provided on the tables whether they will be available to help and if their partners are able to help. The Science & Engineering Challenge is on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May and the Science & Engineering Discovery Day for primary students is on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May. Anyone who wishes to help by being on the committee should talk to Ian.

**Program.** Denise outlined the program for the next few weeks. Next week (March 29<sup>th</sup>) at the Bowral Bowling Club we have a guest speaker called Brian Speed who is an ex police officer and currently he is the Wingecarribee Shire Council Road Safety Officer. The following week (5<sup>th</sup> April) we will be in an Italian restaurant yet to be announced and then back to the Bowling Club (12<sup>th</sup> April) to hear Peter Gibson from Angel Flight speak.

**Story Cards.** Leigh Robinson produced a pack of cards from which he invited various members to pick a card that had a question on it about the day and then the person spoke on the topic for 2 minutes (I think?).

We heard how a work colleague turned Gwenda's rather frustrating day around by being particularly considerate to her. Frances described how she was filled with wonder with Robert and Mara in helping those around them. Mara was getting Robert ready for his trip to Indonesia and Robert was helping Frances to pay bills on line.

Trevor enjoyed being surprised by the different image you have of someone on the phone from what you discover later. He had a very nice lady from the ATO (yes they do exist) who helped him very efficiently. Later Trevor looked her up on "Linked-In" and saw that she had been a cheerleader, appeared to be of Indian background and Trevor found that from the voice he heard he expected a completely different appearance than was shown on line. Jo was asked what did she see that was lovely today and she described how she saw a husband and wife holding hands and obviously at ease in each other's company.

**The Big Birthday!** During dessert Pascal arrived with a slice of cake with a candle which he presented to **Luciano Liberale** as it was his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday today. All sang "Happy Birthday" and Luciano gave a lovely speech showing appreciation of the friends and family he has. He also recounted how Neil Mulveney (Honorary member of this Club but lives in Sydney now) had phoned to wish Louie well and he passed on his best wishes to the club.



*Luciano blowing out his candle*

Some of the longer serving members described Luciano's early days in the Club. Lynton owned up to the fact that he was the President who had inducted Louie, Jim described how the arrival of Louie usurped past member Michael Brown's position of being the Club smoothie with the women!

**Sergeant's Fines.** Sergeant Lynton Kettle then fined all and sundry including Rosemary for the recent visit of her brother in law who turned out to be the only Irish man who doesn't drink. Ian Law fined for something to do with a tree and Des for all his hospital visits. Louie fined for his birthday pizza lunch at the Imperial and Leigh for his time with Millers Hotels. Robert fined for finding an automatic lawn mower which avoids all the rocks in his garden. It's called a horse! Mary fined for her impressive perseverance with the movie tickets.



Lynton then asked members to consider if they would be interested if a RAWCS trip to Fiji was arranged in the future.

Tony inspired by the International toast recounted a couple of tales concerning potential Lyme disease and rugby. In 2007 Lynton bravely/foolishly went swimming in a filthy UK canal to rescue a hired bicycle which Bob Pigott (past member) managed to steer the long boat in such a way that the bike fell off the boat into the canal. Lynton didn't want to lose getting his deposit back but could have caught any number of diseases.

Tony also recounted the stress Julie and he endured when Josie an Argentinian exchange student they were hosting went off with Julie's younger daughter to a party in Canberra for the Argentinian Rugby team which was touring Australia at the time. Tony and Julie weren't allowed into the party but all ended well and the Argentine ambassador met them later and reassured them that they were all well behaved.

**Raffle:** The raffle was drawn by Robert's sister in law Frances and Rod Aistrop won the bottle of wine.

Meeting closed about 8:00pm.

*Hello Everyone*

*Just a gentle reminder to book your seats for our special screening of "The Duke" at The Empire Cinema Bowral, one week from today on 31/03/2022.*

*The cost is \$28 per ticket which includes a glass of wine or soft drink upon entry to the Cinema and a bag of goodies to enjoy during the screening.*

*You can book your tickets on line at [www.empirecinema.com.au](http://www.empirecinema.com.au), or collect them directly from the cinema ticket office. If you have any difficulty in arranging your tickets, please don't hesitate to contact me*

*Looking forward to your company on the night*

*Best regards*

*Mary Ramsay*

*Bowral-Mittagong Rotary Club*