



Report for Nov 23, 2021; Volume 83, No: 19 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**

Nov 30 Dr Subhasis Talapatra - Skin Cancer & Prevention

Dec 7 AGM

Dec 14 Rotary Christmas Party – Partners Night

**Please Note: Apologise by Friday noon, attendance is the default position**

**Venue:** The Hermitage, Mittagong

**Journalist:** David McCosh

## Sergeant's Welcome

Sargent Lynton welcomed members and guests Pamela Brown, Bruce Southern, Hans and Helen Moll and our speaker for the evening, Sharelle Quin, before handing the microphone to our President Will who called for the Invocation and International Toast.

**Invocation** – given by Rosemary Kelly

**International Toast** – Trevor Fair

Thursday is the National Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina commemorating the establishment by partisans of the Anti-Fascist Council for the Liberation of the country during the Second World War in 1943.



The State had become an entity in the 11th Century and was part of a variety of kingdoms and empires until it eventually broke away from Yugoslavia after Tito's death. It then faced its greatest trials during the Balkans War from 1991. Its Capital Sarajevo, established by the Ottomans in 1450 was a beautiful cultural centre for eastern Europe. It was multi-cultural with large Muslim, Orthodox and Catholic populations living in harmony and the only city in Europe with two Cathedrals and principal Mosque.

It became part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and was the location where Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand was shot in 1914 - the trigger for the First World War.

In 1984 it staged the Winter Olympics. During the Balkans War it was under siege for nearly 4 years with relentless Serb shelling and sniper fire. Now Bosnia and Sarajevo are free and peaceful and the city is the fastest growing city in the country now with a population of 550 000. It has been completely reconstructed and is once again a cultural centre for all of Europe, named as UNESCO's Creative City in 2019 and was nominated as one of Lonely Planet's 10 best cities to visit in 2009.



The Rotary Club of Sarajevo was originally Chartered in 1930 but like everywhere else Rotary was closed down when Yugoslavia was overrun by the Nazis and didn't return until the Club was re-Chartered in 1999 in District 1910. It has 25 Members led by President Benjamin Hedzic who conduct an ongoing Community Harmony Project aimed at healing the scars of the past. One of their early projects was to construct a Rotary Fountain in a public park to commemorate the Centenary of Rotary International.

In recognition of the National Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina this week would you please rise and make our International Toast to the President and members of the Rotary Club of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## Announcements

### **Bowral (Cycle) Classic – 11-12 Dec**

Mary Ramsay gave a brief status update. The Marshalling roster is almost complete.

Three 2\* hour shifts remain to be filled.

Please review the roster when it is distributed and diarise the **essential briefing** session to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December.

BBQ on both Saturday and Sunday – 5000 people expected at the event.

This is our big fund-raiser this year. Please give maximum effort for a successful meet.

### **Working Bee at Pop-In Centre – 28 Nov**

Will Eddowes needs a working party to finish the sandpit with sanding a painting in the “boat” starting at 9am. By show of hands, sufficient members volunteered.

### **Club AGM – 7<sup>th</sup> Dec**

Members were asked to seriously consider service on next year’s Board and put their names forward for election at the AGM.

### **Rotary Foundation Month – November (30<sup>th</sup> Nov celebration)**

Leigh Stewart reminded members that November is Rotary Foundation month and encouraged us to donate to our Foundation, - the charitable arm of Rotary International.

(Read this month’s Rotary Down Under magazine – “Our rock-solid FOUNDATION”)

### **Member Update**

Rose Conley reported Luciano’s recovery from pneumonia. He is definitely on the mend however not yet ready for a glass of wine!! He is to have his second vaccine if his next chest scan is OK.

### **Guest Speaker: Sharelle Quinn - Qantas 747 last flight**



*Sharelle in the Captain’s seat on the Flight Deck of 747*

Introduced by Leigh Stewart, Sharelle took us on the emotional journey leading up to, and flying, the last journey of the last Boeing 747, a flight from Sydney to the Mojave Desert in California, to be broken up in the aviation graveyard referred to as the “boneyard”.

Sharelle started the journey with a photo of the first Qantas 747 delivered in the distinctly Australian livery of “Wulnala Dreaming”, - red, blue, and green colours depicting Desert, Mountains and Kakadu respectively. Considered the most beautiful plane and dubbed “Queen of the Skies”, the plane was in Qantas service for 37 years.



*The 747 delivered in its Wulnala Dreaming livery*



*Cockpit of the Flight – Sharelle sat on Left seat and 1<sup>st</sup> Captain on Right Seat*



Sharelle took us on to the flight deck and gave us an over-simplified description of flying this 350,000 ton machine, and that for that flight there were 6 captain/pilots on board, with her being honoured to pilot the plane out of Sydney along the intricately designed flight path that would eventually take them away from the Australian coastline and across the Pacific to California.

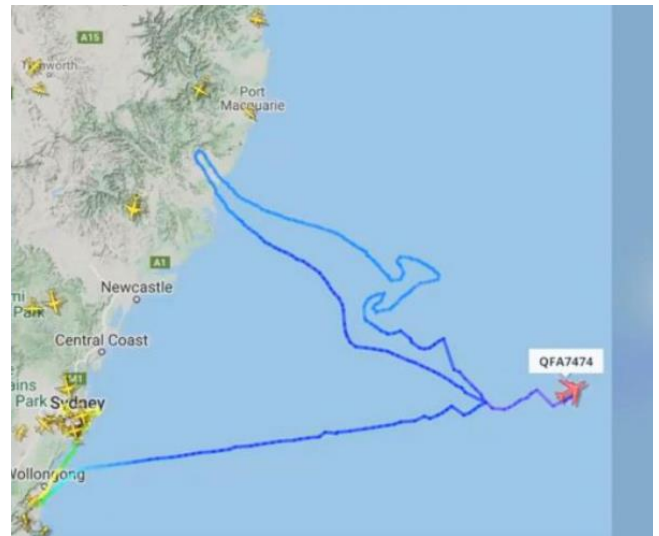


*Qantas CEO Alan Joyce and the QF7474 crew pose ahead of the historic flight (Sharelle 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left)*

The flight had been well planned and publicised, from the ceremony in the hanger, out onto the runway where water cannons from the fire trucks and a tug in the bay saluted its departure, and 747 circled round the airport at low level (1500ft), then over Maroubra to the City and Harbour, where crowds were waiting to witness the departure, before heading out east for the Flying Kangaroo manoeuvre. Practice for the flight required five days of simulator training by the pilots, and all went to plan except that, - as we are all familiar with, - there were three technical failures to be endured and the flight was delayed for three hours!!



Out over the Pacific a special Flying Kangaroo flight path was followed which took them up to Port Macquarie and back before heading out towards California and the final destination.



Sharelle ended by showing two videos of the flight and was warmly thanked by an appreciative audience, some showing signs of an emotional experience conveyed beautifully by our speaker.



President Will closed the meeting.