

Meeting Report 26 March, 2019 Volume: 80 No: 34 Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong District 9710 Charter Date 26 March 1940 President: Lynton Kettle Secretary: Tony Glenn

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Over the next month we have an array of interesting speakers.

Commencing next week with Part 2 of Member Talks, then A Dentist, an Author, a Retired Colonel and much more. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

Next Meetings	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2019 5:30 for 6:30 pm	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 5:30 for 6:30 pm
Location	Highland Golf Club	Highland Golf Club
Program	Dentistry	RAMS
Speaker	Peter Tyas	John McPherson
Intro / Vote of Thanks	Victor Hugo	Trevor Fair
Dinner Fee Duty	Tony Glenn	Graham Hicks
Journalist	Denise Coad	Trevor Fair
Regalia Duty	Trevor Fair	Don Graham
If you are unable to do duty, please find a replacement and advise Trevor Fair by email: trevorf@oxleypartners.com.au		



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

2<sup>nd</sup> April - Ex Rotarian Peter Tyas will be giving a humorous insight into Dentistry

9<sup>th</sup> April - Rotarian John McPherson - the next Rotary Challenge, malaria and RAMS

30<sup>th</sup> April - author Steve Matthews - "The Skinny Girl" - is a thought-provoking story about a victim of emotional domestic abuse.

7<sup>th</sup> May - Nicole Blaik - SH Community Centre - an update on current issues in the Highlands.





## Journalist: Trevor Fair

## Welcome

**President Lynton** welcomed Members and guests including Paul (& son) Graham Stevens-King, as well as Charlie Johns.

A special welcome back to Ray Williams and Les Vickerman.



Invocation - Brian Elliott

## **International Toast - Don Graham**

The Greeks chose the day of the start of their war of independence against the Ottoman Empire on 25th March, 1821 as their National Day. It took until 1832 but they finally won and they celebrated the **Independence Day of Greece** yesterday.

We know that Greece was the cradle of democracy thousands of years ago and then as now politicians knew that promising large infrastructure projects gets votes.

There are many examples in Greece such as the big temples on the hills in Athens.

Transport projects then as now were also a winner, a classic being the Canal of Corinth which was first promised by a tyrant named Periander in the 7th Century BC so it could cut days off travel around the Peloponnese for ships and commuters.

In 300 BC surveyors miscalculated and reckoned it wouldn't work because the sea levels were different at each end. Julius Caesar and Caligula promised it too but Caligula used Egyptian engineers who also calculated that the sea level at each end was different and the nearby islands would flood.

Emperor Nero did actually make a start by personally turning the first sod with 4000 Jewish POWs doing the heavy lifting but gave it up when he was assassinated 67 AD.

Just like now the canal was announced many times over the next 1800 years until construction was seriously commenced in 1882 by the French firm that went bankrupt trying to dig the Panama Canal and it wasn't completed until 1893. Sound familiar? In an eerie similarity with our own experiences with trains the canal was built for the shipping of the day but is too narrow for today's ships and is now only a novelty.

The City of Corinth at the north end of the Canal is built on the site of the ancient city and has a population of 38 000.

The Rotary Club of Korinthos was Chartered in District 2470 in 2016 and has 11 Members led by President Ioanna Kosma.



Announcements

#### **Robert de Jongh - District Assembly**

- a reminder that the District Assembly / PETS is on this weekend Melrose HS, Marr St, Pearce ACT

#### Ian Johnson - RAWCS Trip

- is in discussions with travel agents concerning flight costs and T&C. Currently working on the first 2 weeks of Sept, prior to Tulip Time.

# lan Langford - Science & Engineering Challenge

- seeking volunteers for this event 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> June

#### Mary Ramsay - Bowral Bike Classic

- have been allocated the BBQ as well as marshalling this year so will need all hands on deck this weekend 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

#### Special Member Talk - Ray Williams



"A beautiful day ruined"

Firstly, a big thank you to everyone for their well wishes.

Imagine you are driving along, on a clear day, in a good vehicle and a new caravan. Travelling on a bitumen road with plenty of sealed road on either side.

Then, a Kenworth prime-mover, with a large trailer and dog trailer attempts to overtake.Either the caravan was hit or the vortex pushed the vehicle towards a tree.

After the dust settled Ray realised he was not able to communicate with Jenny due to the state of the vehicle etc.

Ray was airlifted to hospital and was incubated in ICU suffering lung, pelvis, rib and lower back injuries.

Spent 1 week in ICU, then another in High Dependency ward and then 2 weeks in Rehab at Flinders Medical Centre.

After the funeral went back to Adelaide for more rehab.

There have been some challenges along the way, however the insurance claim is proceeding well.

Due to his age, and accident Ray's licence was cancelled, however he has regained this so another hurdle overcome.

#### Member Talk - Brian Elliott

"A story of growing up in war time"

Brian grew up in a modest house with fibro and iron cladding and slept on an open verandah.

Brian commenced school in 1942 and went straight to Yr 1. His father made arrangements for Mrs Emery to collect the children and take them to school in an old truck. As it was war time fuel vouchers were given to Mrs Emery for compensation. There are theories that excess vouchers were acquired??

Students from the "Reform School" at Renwicke were also picked up on the way.Students from St Michael's and Mittagong used to "war" with pine cones while waiting for transport to collect them on the way home. However, as soon as they were picked up all was forgotten.

School consisted of 6 classes with ages ranging from 6 to 16 yo.

The school had an Air-raid shelter which consisted of a hole in the ground, covered with saplings, old iron and dirt.

Sport for the boys was cricket, while the girls played vigoro.

[Vigoro is a team sport, played mainly by women in Australia, that originally combined elements of cricket and tennis, although in its current form it may be more similar to cricket and <u>baseball</u>. - wikipedea].

Every Monday there was a School Assembly with students standing in their house groups. The houses at Mittagong PS still have the same names. Students recited the School Code then sing the National Anthem.

Although there were rations during WWII living on a dairy had its benefits as there was always plenty of milk.

High school life also had its challenges as Brian rode his pushbike to Mittagong then caught the train to Bowral.

Was always in trouble for having dirty socks, however, as only 10% of the students had shoes, the others took theirs off as well.

## Joker Draw - Robert de Jongh - King Diamonds

#### March Birthdays

Tony Glenn 1/3 Luciano Liberale 22/3

April Birthdays:

Don Graham 9/4 Bob Rheinberger 9/4 Vicki Kelley 13/4 Brian Elliott 18/4

Keep an eye on the Bulletin for celebration date.

#### **EVENT DIARY**

	28 <sup>th</sup>	Bush Regeneration, Mt	
March		Alexandra, then lunch	
		Glass Coffee House	
		District Assembly	
	30 <sup>th</sup> -31st	Melrose HS,	
		Marr St, Pearce ACT.	
April	19 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday	
	25 <sup>th</sup>	ANZAC Day	
May	12 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Roasters with Altitude,	
		Blackheath	
	17 <sup>th</sup> -19th	RYPEN, need candidates	
	18 <sup>th</sup>	MUNA, WSC Chambers	
	26 <sup>th</sup>	Liberale Golf Day	
	ooth	Berrima RC - Wheres Wally	
	26 <sup>th</sup>	Fundraiser	
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4th	S&E Challenge		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4th	Discovery Day	
	15 <sup>th</sup>	Inner Wheel - Wedding	
		Fashion through the ages	
Sept	24-th to 7	Tulip Time Festival	
	Oct		
Oct	20 <sup>th</sup>	Bowral Cycle Classic	



#### SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Registration \$35/a & \$15/c +12yrs

https://www.trybooking.com/BBBZU

- Create a team with cars/bikes/buses
- Wear WW costume
- Sense of adventure
- Prizes, secret locations, treasures to find
- Lunch & refreshments provided BYO Drinks

RESCHEDULED SUNDAY 26TH MAY Sunday 26th May 9:00am @ New Berrima Oval 0418 451 298



Thank you for your Support!