

Tulip Times Club Bulletin: 26th Sept 2023
Volume 85 No 14



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

RI President:

Gordon R McInally



Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary



District 9705
Chartered 26 March 1940

Email : rotarybm@acenet.com.au

www.bowralmittagongrotary.com

Board of Directors

President:

Don Graham

Directors:

Trevor Fair - Secretary
Paul Leotta - Treasurer
Rod Aistrop
Robbie Allen
Denise Coad
Rosemary Kelly
Tim Bowland
Allan Falvey
Leigh Robinson

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.

| Date | Meeting Venues | Speaker/ Topic | Journalist |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 3 Oct | Kookabar | Interact and Assembly | Will Eddowes |
| 10 Oct | Bowral Bowling Club | Richard Krohn/Winzero | Pamela Brown |
| 17 Oct | Annesley | Gale Edward/Theatre Director | TBA |

Journalist: David McCosh

Venue: Bowral Bowling Club

Sergeant Lynton Kettle opened the meeting welcoming guests, - our speaker for the meeting **Mary Crammond, Beverley Coffee**, Exchange student **Daniel Aylett** and his mother **Vanessa**, and **Harley Harwood**. Lynton then asked the meeting to welcome **President Don Graham**.



Vanessa Aylett with her son, outward bound Exchange student Asher.

President Don started by reminding the Club that next week was an Assembly meeting at which the Club would vote on the Regionalisation issues. Trevor will distribute a questionnaire for members to complete and bring to Assembly next week.

He stated that the Club has a busy program for the remaining months of the year following the current commitment to the completion of Tulip Times.

Don reported on his radio interview with 2ST, commenting that he knew that at least two people listened because his father said he did!!

Invocation: given by Rod Aistrop

International Toast: Jeff Mann



On 26 September 1580 Sir Francis Drake completed his three-year circumnavigation of the world, sailing into the port of Plymouth aboard the 'Golden Hind'. Although primarily known as an explorer and naval tactician, Drake also served as the Mayor of Plymouth and as a Member of Parliament. His impact extended beyond exploration and politics to the realm of naval warfare, where he helped revolutionize naval combat during the Elizabethan era.

International Toast continued...

Plymouth was obviously a significant part of the life of Sir Francis Drake so we will visit the Rotary Club of Plymouth. The Club is led by Tony Gattward and comprises 22 members. The Club's service commitments are directed particularly to helping disadvantaged children and adults. They include, **Diana Challenge**, (sailing on Plymouth Sound), **Kids Out, Holidays for Children**, (both day trips for children) and

Special Olympics Plymouth & District, (enhancing lives of those with intellectual disability).

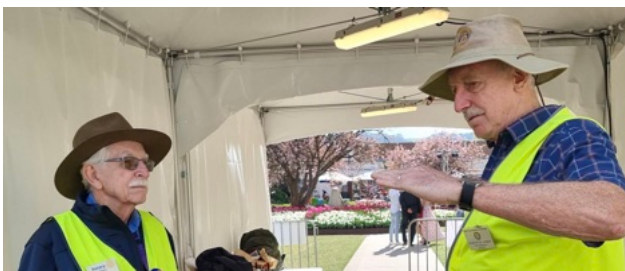
Internationally the Club is actively involved with two Rotary clubs in South Africa, **Hout Bay and Kromboom**, (both clubs have projects to improve the lives of those living in terrible conditions in local 'Townships'). A small Club, yet an active and involved Club at all levels.

Please be upstanding and toast President Tony and the members of the **Rotary Club of Plymouth**

Board Member Announcements

Denise Coad. The Bowral Bowling Club will shortly commence renovations which, over an estimated three weeks following commencement, cause some inconvenience to meeting arrangements. Denise asked that we bear with it, - we will be eating off paper plates.

Ian Langford. Tulip Time Report. Ian thanked all those who had done duty at the gates. There have been a few changes by members to the roster which is inevitable, so he will distribute a revised copy on return home from the meeting



Leigh having to listen to Robert's 75th joke of the shift!

Rosemary Kelly. A reminder to members to try and bring a toiletry or food item to each meeting for the Uniting Church basket and distribution to the needy. Two upcoming speakers to look out for, -

Richard Krohn on the organisation **Winzero** and its

work, and **Eleanor Sainsbury** on the **Adult Daycare Centre**. Then on 5th December, **Huw Lawford** will present from his book "**The Mandela Revolution**", a British soldier's inside view of Mandela's rise to power.

Mary Ramsay. Mary relayed comments from Corbett Gardens on how smart Rotarians on the gates looked in their Rotary apparel. "The uniforms looked great!"

Tony Glenn outlined the requirement for members at the **Bowral Classic BBQ**, which will operate over the three days. The roster was circulated showing shifts of 3 hours and asked everyone participate as best they could.

Ian Law



Ian Law reminded us all of the Bush Dance on Referendum Day.

October 14th,

..... if you did not know already!!

Asha Aylett's contribution to Shelterbag



Asha came forward to present to Rotary his takings from three days of busking around Bowral with his violin.

The \$267 he raised was donated towards the Shelterbag project.

Asher thanked Mary Crammond for her assistance in raising the funds by demonstrating Shelterbags. The funds raised represent the purchase of three shelterbags. A great effort!

Following dinner, Denise introduced our speaker, Mary Crammond.

“We have got to know Mary over the past few months so no introduction is really needed. Mary is here to talk about her passionate project, - Shelterbags. She is the Past President of Terrigal Rotary Club, 2017/18 and 2018/19 and a Paul Harris Fellow”.

Mary Crammond – “Shelterbags for the Homeless”.



Mary gave us an inspiring talk on how Shelterbags for the homeless in Australia grew out of a Rotary sister-club visit Mary made to Cape Town, where she witnessed a Rotary project manufacturing and distributing comfortable, waterproof, wearable (when rolled up) sleeping bags especially designed to offer protection, warmth, and dignity to the homeless. She explained how the original design had come from Holland, developed back in 2014 by a young Dutch designer Bas Timmer whose homeless father had died of hyperthermia. Later, visiting Cape Town he saw a need for a lighter weight bag for warmer climates, and by training unemployed and relatively inexpensive labour, commenced production.

On returning to Australia, Mary investigated the state of homelessness, and finding it far more prevalent than she had realised, decided through her club, the Terrigal Rotary Club, to import and test the sleeper bag for Australian conditions.

Mary commented that within Rotary, she found it easy to start the project. In that early COVID period, seeing in Gosford a growing number of homeless on the streets, she registered the project with RAWCS. Then through her club, imported more. TV, Radio and RDU interviews followed in 2020, as did demand, and at the year end with \$230,000 she ordered a container full of 2,900 bags. Distribution has been through the various outreach

organisations caring for the homeless, and it has been Country-wide. The cost of each bag is between \$78 and \$90.

Now the aim of Mary's project is to provide a Shelterbag to every person in Australia who needs one.

Questioned on the possibility of local manufacture, Mary said that had been investigated, however the cost of material and labour cost in Australia made local manufacture prohibitive. There was also discussion about homeless people sleeping on the streets of Bowral and the help being provided by local organisations, particularly the Uniting Church.

Bob Miller gave the vote of thanks.

Editor's note:

Listen to the Rotary Matters interview with Mary from the 20th July this year.)

<https://www.rotarymatters.org/episodes/keeping-the-homeless-warm-and-dry-mary-crammond>

Sergeant Session - Lynton fined the usual suspects.

Raffle Draw: Ian Donges

Next week: Annesley