

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

RI President:

Gordon R McInally

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Email : rotarybm@acenet.com.au www.bowralmittagongrotary.com Board of Directors President: Don Graham President Elect: Bob Miller Directors: Trevor Fair - Secretary Paul Leotta - Treasurer Rod Aistrope Robbie Allen Denise Coad Rosemary Kelly Tim Bowland Allan Falvey 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: <u>trevorfair5@bigpond.com</u> Please be considerate and respond. Unannounced members and guests may miss out on a meal.



Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
2 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Member Talk, Ian Law	Pamela Brown
8 April	Board Meeting		
9 April	Bowral Bowling Club	John Askew & Denise Ogden."Kids in Care"	Bob Miller
16 April	Annesley	Honorary members night	Will Eddowes
23 April	Bowral Bowling Club	Club Assembly	Trevor Fair
30 April	Bowral Bowling Club	lan Mander brain tumour survivor	Ian Langford
7 May	Bowral Bowling Club	Lucy Earl, Uniting Church.	David McCosh
14 May	Bowral Bowling Club	Member Talk David Patton	Pamela Brown
17 May	Imperial Hotel	Birthday Pizza gathering	Denise Coad
21 May	Robbie's house	Poetry night	Bob Miller
24/25 May	Wingecarribee Shire Council	Model United Nations	
27 May	Mittagong RSL	Science & Engineering Challenge (High School)	
28 May	Mittagong RSL	Science & Engineering Discovery Day (Primary Schools)	

28 May	Bowral Bowling Club	Tandom Speakers	Will Eddowes
2 July	ТВА	Club Changeover Function	Trevor Fair
13 Sept- 30 Sept	Tulip Time Festival	Roster members on gates	lan Langford
25-27 Oct	Mittagong RSL	District 9705 Conference	
22 Nov	Bong Bong	BB Races BBQ & Car Parking	Don

MEMBERS, CAN I HAVE DATES FOR THE CALENDAR PLEASE. Tim

The Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong Meeting held Tuesday 26th March 2024.

Journalist. David McCosh

Sargent Lynton opened the mee/ng with the customary welcome to members and our two guests, - tonight's speaker Marisol Santos, and Bev Donges. He then welcomed President Don Graham to the microphone.

President Don.

Don reminded us that today was the 84th anniversary of this Clubs Charter, - 26th March 1940.

He then spoke of his aMendance at the Nepalese community screening of the film Mahajatra, to which we were invited by Anil and Praz. At their request, Don represen/ng our Club, was asked to make an impromptu speech on the work of our Club.

In Louie's absence, Don asked for those who were volunteering to help at Brigadoon. (Later in the mee/ng Ian Law volunteered to co-ordinate our support, contact Louie and communicate with Helene Jessep, - the Brigadoon organiser.)

Don encouraged those who had not read the 21st March email from District Governor Andrea Grosvenor calling for nominations for our (Group 7) **Rotary Community Group**, to read it, - reminding the Club that **Leigh Robinson** is our Rotary Community Leader in the new organisation.

The Tulip Festival in Corbett Gardens opens on the 13th September and runs for two weeks. Don asked all members to keep this in mind when making forward arrangements. As it is our major fund-raiser, - \$16,000 last year, - we would like once again to fill all the roster shifts with members and friends of our own Club, without having to ask elsewhere.

Don then called for any Directors notices.

Ian Langford – Science and Engineering Challenge and Discovery Day

Ian distributed the list for volunteers on the two days, - 27th and 28th May when, with Newcastle University and Engineers Australia, we will be running our 15th annual S&E Challenge at the Mittagong RSL. Over the years this has been a hugely successful event. Adult volunteers are required to assist and supervise projects, so please consider giving one or both days volunteering. It is an 8am to 3pm event each day.

Tim Bowland – See item later in bulletin.

Robbie Allen – Youth Exchange

Robbie reported on our incoming Youth Exchange student Yuma Uemura. The Rotary D9705 Youth Exchange Committee has asked Robbie to please convey their thanks to our Club for supporting what they think is one of Rotary's best programs. Christine Roberts, Principal of Bowral High School has said that she will be delighted to host Yuma at the school for the 12 months that she will be here.

Rosemary Kelly and Robbie Allen – Poetry Night

Robbie and Rosemary will host a Poetry night at Robbie's home on Kangaloon Road on Tuesday 21st May. (A special weekly Rotary meeting). Bring a plate to share and your own drinks. By a show of hands there were plenty of volunteers to contribute a reading!

Rod Aistrope – RAWCS project in Vanuatu.

Rod gave a brief update and asked members interested to let him know. The choice of a building project has been narrowed down to two, - watch this space! The project will be for two weeks in mid-August.

Ian Donges – Quiz

Ian ran one of his popular quizzes – "Where am I"? The answer was Hay in NSW. First with the answer was Robbie Allen. Don called for a show of appreciation for Ian and the effort he makes each time, - loud applause!

Don then remembered that we had not had the Invocation and International Toast, and David Rees let him know, before delivering both!!

International Toast.

The partition of India in 1947 was a change in political borders that accompanied the dissolution of the British Raj in the Indian subcontinent.

Two countries were initially created based primarily on religious and language grounds, that of the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Also as part of that partition an area to the SE of India was also split into Punjab and Bengal. The majority Muslim district was awarded to Pakistan. The Bengal area was renamed East Pakistan with Dhaka as its legislative capital.

The period from about 1952 to 1970 saw the rise of Bengali nationalism and pro democracy movements. The refusal of the Pakistani military junta to transfer power to the Awami League led to the Bangladesh Liberation war in 1971. Aided by India, the Mukti Bahini waged a successful armed revolution. The new state of Bangladesh became the first constitutional secular state in 1972. Islam became its official religion in 1988

Today, Bangladesh is the second largest economy in SE Asia. Since 1971, poverty has been halved, primary enrolment is almost universal, women are a large part of the workforce with steady improvements in maternal and child health.

The RC of Dhaka was initially founded in 1937 but underwent decline and almost extinction during the 1971 crisis. Since that time, however, it has bounced back and has been instrumental in spreading Rotary across the country having sponsored and patronised some 50 new clubs. It can truly claim to be the MOTHER club. Bangladesh can boast over 5000 Rotarians spread across 350 clubs straddling 2 districts. Please rise and toast President Sheikh Nahar Mahmud and the Rotary club of Dhaka.

Following the Toast, Tony asked for volunteers to research, write, and deliver Toasts for future mee/ngs, and Bob Miller related an interes/ng and amusing anecdote about delivering coke to Bangladesh in a requested size that would create more rather than less jobs in Bangladesh!

Guest Speaker: Marisol Santos – Flaminco Dancer



Marisol opened her talk with a brief family history of their migra/on to Australia from Spain when she was four years old, the age at which she started to dance flamenco. It has been her passion all her life having returned to Spain in later years to develop further.

Marisol then delved into the history of Flamenco. The roots, though somewhat mysterious, seem to have come from the Roma migration from northwest India to Spain between the 9th and 14th centuries. These migrants brought with them musical instruments, such as tambourines, bells, and wooden castanets, together with an extensive repertoire of songs and dances. Its development in Spain was influenced by many cultures including Moorish culture and later Caribbean, La/n American and other European cultures. It appears that the name "Flamenco" for the dance style only evolved around 1830. However, it is more than a style as it weaves a story of the Spanish culture and history in its three main parts, - the guitar playing (toque), the dancing (baile), and the singing (cante). Guitars were however a later addition to the development of the dance.

In 2010 UNESCO included flamenco in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

With this introduction, Marisol then picked up her castanets and proceeded give us a performance that evoked from the meeting much handclapping and interjections of "Ole!

An initially reluctant President Don was dragged onto the floor to partner Marisol, and after a hesitant start, inspired a few 'Oles!' of his own from the appreciative crowd!!

Marisol took questions and explained that shouting "Ole!" and clapping during a performance is to cheer on or praise a performance. This dance is focused on communicating passion, love, sadness, despair, joy, and more.

David Patton expressed the Club's thanks for a very entertaining evening followed by more clapping and more of "Ole!".

Brigadoon – Ian Law

Late news: No more volunteers required. All slots have been filled.

Sargent's Session – Lynton Kettle

In a long, rambling, and hilarious Sargent's session, Graham, Jeff, Robert, Don, and Leigh received 'appropriate' fines.

Raffle

Paul Leotta won the raffle, then drew 7. The Joker is still hiding!

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

BIRTHDAYS

April: Don Graham 9/4, Janine Brundle 13/4, Pamela Brown 29/4. **May:** Rod Aistrope 3/5, Jim Gasson 22/5, Will Eddowes 26/5, Brian Pattinson 31/5.



Rear window sticker \$25. Place orders with Leigh Robinson.

The week that was.at PETS, L& D seminar.

This week Pres Elec Bob Miller, AG Leigh Robinson, District Treasurer (24-25) Bruce Sutton and Tim Bowland attended the President Elect Training and the Learning & Development seminar in Cootamundra NSW.

It was a very informative and provided attendees with the opportunity to meet and talk to other Rotarians from around the district. Picking up and sharing ideas that can help us all run our club. There was a casual dinner on Friday night where attendees got to know each other and then a more formal dinner on Saturday night with the seminar winding up at lunchtime Sunday.

Some notes taken from the weekend:

- Ask people to volunteer (Rather than join) and tell them where the funds are going to give them an incentive to volunteer. Once they agree to volunteer then they may want to become members of the club.
- One of the clubs said that they gained members by doing a community garden project. They could be seen to be doing something in the community. How are we seen?
- Focus on a positive club culture
- Inclusion not exclusion
- Rotary is a product that's never been sold. To promote Rotary we need to tell the public what we do.
- Idea for involving younger people.
 -Rotary club organises and manages a project and invites public to do the project.
 Friends of Rotary for volunteering.

Tim



The Gallery March 26.









Figure 1 Happy Fun times at BM Rotary meetings

Asher in Japan.

Visiting Kōyasan/高野山 mountain!!! This was a trip I partook with the Japanese Interact club of District 2640! We visited the famous temples and memorials that mark this mountain as a national heritage!!! Here are the amazing pictures I took

Ashers Facebook: Search "Asher Ay" if you would like to be his friend and see his posts.



The Funnies (courtesy of Bungendore RC)

