

# CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

**RI President:** 

Gordon R McInally

## **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 <u>denisecoad@bigpond.com</u> by 5.00pm Friday before the Tuesday meeting. By default, it will be assumed that members are attending.



Date	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
1 Dec	Corbet Plaza	Family & Domestic Violence Information stand with the Police 11am to 1pm	N/A
2 Dec	Bong Bong St & Corbet Gardens	Angels in our Town March Incl. F&DV marchers with Police	N/A
5 Dec	Bowral Bowling Club	Huw Lawford visiting from UK "Mandela Revolution	Ian Langford
8,9,10 Dec	Corbet Gardens	Food & Wine Festival	N/A
12 Dec	Bowral Golf Club	Christmas Party	Will Eddowes
	1	2024	
9 Jan	Southern Highlands Winery		David McCosh
16 Jan	Bowral Bowling Club	Chris Benton Lawn Bowls meeting Partners and friends welcome	Pam Brown
23 Jan	Café Annesley		Trevor Fair
26 Jan	Ian & Bev Donges	Australia Day gathering	
30 Jan			Ian Langford



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**Board of Directors President:** Don Graham

### **Directors:**

Trevor Fair - Secretary Paul Leotta - Treasurer Rod Aistrope Robbie Allen Denise Coad Rosemary Kelly Tim Bowland Allan Falvey Leigh Robinson Welcome: Sergeant Lynton welcomed all to one of our big nights of the year.

Visitors: Nawa Raj Khatiwada and his local Nepalese friends Anil & Asish as well as Vanessa Aylett and Beverley Coffey.

Partners: Theresa Leotta, Robyn Liberale,

President Don welcomed everyone especially our Nepalese visitors.



PP Nawa addressed the meeting and thanked the Club for accepting his request to attend.

Nawa is a Past President of RC of Patan South, Kathmandu, District 3292 which covers Nepal and Bhutan. 140 clubs. Many Australian clubs have worked with Nepalese clubs on international projects.

Nawa welcomed all to Nepal. He understands that Australians love mountains. Nepal has plenty of mountains. Nepal has as many people as Australia in a much smaller area.

### Presidents exchanged Club Banners.



Interactors Report: Bowral High School Interact Club made a presentation

**Christine Sands:** 



Spoke to us about Oscar who was in a serious car accident and is currently in RNSH in a coma. Any of the Breakfast Club please record your message and send to Christine.

Alistair, Jackson, Chloe & Meg represented the Interact Club and proceeded to sell raffle tickets for a load of firewood in a raffle.



Polishman DV cake stall at the Referendum -Netted \$1200 which was matched by a donor.

Environment Committee – Has established a Battery bin at the school office. Also installed bins at the school to allow sorting of rubbish.

Interactors are looking for a weeding/tree planting day. Also looking for a cleaning day where an area is identified and the school and community can benefit

**Robbie Allen** spoke about Christine Sands and her student achievements.



"What can I say about Christine, not only is she a dedicated and special teacher at Bowral High School, but she has been mentoring Interact students for at least 10 years. She has had so many students pass through the Interact Club who have gone out into the world with a wide range of skills to equip them for life as good citizens. Christine has been very encouraging and helped the students develop many and varied projects at Interact. Environmental projects, Domestic Violence awareness, making bags for those suffering from domestic violence. Christmas boxes for the needy, helping at Tulip Time, Red Cross and Legacy and Breakfast Club to name but a few. Christine is well respected by all students but particularly by our Interact Group. We could not have a better mentor for our students and we hope you will be around longer to encourage them further in their journey. Christine was also a Youth Exchange student, Interactor, Rotorator and an attendee at RYLA".

President Don then presented Christine with her PHF.



Christine responded and acknowledged the importance of this award. Christine was a RYE student and then joined RYLA. Was not able to join Rotary in those days. Instead encouraged students to join Interact. Encouraged students to focus on community service.

#### **International Toast: Ian Johnson**

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania celebrates its Independence Day on **November 28** which commemorates the country's independence from France in 1960.

Despite independence in 1960 it did not become a democratic society until 2007 at which time the ownership of slaves was criminalised.

The west coast of Mauritania is on the Atlantic Ocean and is known as a desert nation with a land area of 1,003km<sup>2</sup>, with two-thirds of its land located in the Sahara desert and only 100km<sup>2</sup> being fertile arable land.

The population is divided between the Arab-Berber and Black African population, which jointly number over 4.5 million citizens, of which one third reside in the capital city of Nouakchott. The country has a fascinating culture, and the majority of its people are Muslim but is seen as a multiethnic society.

French has been the official language since independence but culturally there are four native languages.

Suffering from insecurity, corruption, and a myriad of problems, including endemic poverty one may lose sight of the rich mineral resources which abound and the majestic, breathtaking landscapes.

The only Rotary Club in Mauritania is the Rotary Club of Nouakchott in District 9010 which includes the countries of Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia (accommodating 108 Rotary Clubs).

The Club was chartered on 31 January 1979 and only comprises 12 members. It does not have a website – it has a Facebook page but with little information.

The fact that three countries in District 9010 have a vigorous and healthy Rotary presence, but Mauritania has only one struggling Club probably has a harsh underlying story behind it.

In recognition that the limited numbers of the Rotary Club of Nouakchott are maintaining a Rotary presence in difficult circumstances, please be upstanding and toast the members of the Rotary Club of Nouakchott and wish them better days in the future.

#### AGM Meeting opened at 19:30

Nomination Forms have been received from:

Robbie Allen lan Law Leigh Robinson Denise Coad Will Eddowes Trevor Fair Rod Aistrope Bob Miller

PP Don Graham ex-officio

#### **General Business:**

As per Agenda

Leigh, Tony, Don and Nawa all spoke about the positives of being a President of a Club.

The AGM closed at 19:37.

#### Announcements.

Matt the new caterer was introduced to the Club. "IMPRESSIVE, DELICIOUS"



**Ian Langford: Food & Wine Festival Roster** - looking for one more shift to fill.

**Rosemary Kelly:** Bong Bong thank you on behalf of Will, Louie and myself.

Annesley: Thank you

Hugh Lawford: An interesting guest speaker talking about Mandela on the 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. Invite your friends to see him talk.

Angels in our Town: about 12-14 walking from 7pm from car park to Corbett Gardens.

Christmas Raffle: Please remember to contribute to the raffle hamper. Next week 5th Dec is the last week for acceptances.

Don thanked all those who assisted with parking etc over the week.

Will Eddowes: \$1405 net profit for the BBQ. bread rolls, eggs and other products were donated to the Uniting Church.

Denise Coad: Attendance; the default system is that if you have not apologised by Friday, you will be counted as attending. An invoice will be issued if you have not paid.

Australia Day - Please indicate attendance and "Bring A Plate" menu.

Leigh: Domestic Violence Action Day this Friday. Corbett Plaza. 11am to 2pm. Please attend in support if you can.

Kids in Care - backpacks for children who have been evacuated from DV issues. 14 Packs have been ordered and will be held by the Moss Vale Police for distribution.

#### **Board Meeting Announcements:**

Asher busking, the club will match Asher's amount raised up to \$1000.

Tim Bowland: Tim provided an update on Asher's departure from Canberra Airport on 20 January at 4.30pm. Asher has just returned from his final briefing weekend in held in Yass.



Three students are being sponsored to RYPEN in 2024.

**RYLA** - Tony Glenn spoke about the need to nominate attendees.

Raffle Allan Falvey no Joker.

Fine Session:

Corbet Plaza Friday between 11am and 2pm. Please attend and support this initiative.





## **December Birthdays**

Rose Conley 25/12 Barbara Humphries 19/12 Paul Leotta 19/12 Leigh Robinson 7/12

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER HUW LAWFORD WILL BE SPEAKING ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER



Huw Lawford joined the Army in 1978 as a university cadetship officer reading Economics and Politics at Hatfield College, Durham University from where he graduated in 1981. He was commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Artillery the following year. He served in Germany and the United Kingdom before attending the Army Staff College in Camberley. After commanding his battery, for the most part in the infantry role in Northern Ireland, he was selected to join the team being formed to deploy to South Africa on the election of President Mandela in 1994. Following his time in South Africa, he was an instructor at Sandhurst and then selected for promotion and command of his Regiment. He was fortunate to have further promotion, operational tours to Bosnia and Afghanistan, and staff and command postings to Istanbul, Accra, Rome and London before leaving the Army to set up his own consultancy company. He lives in Somerset with his wife Trisha and they have two daughters, Emma and Harriet.

