



**IMAGINE  
ROTARY**

**RI President:  
Jennifer Jones**

**Club Meetings:**

Weekly on Tuesdays, 6.00pm for 6.30pm at various Southern Highlands venues. (See below)

**Meeting Apologies by Sunday for the following Tuesday. Please TXT Sec. Trevor.**

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Next 4 Weeks	Meeting Venues	Speaker/ Topic	Journalist
06 Sep	Kookabar	Laurence Mooney/ The funny side of being a comedian	Pamela Brown
13 Sep	Bowral Bowling Club	Jill Snow/ Diabetes in the Southern Highlands	Ian Langford
20 Sep	Kookabar	Anatoly Rosenfeld/ Chernobyl	Trevor Fair
27 Sep	Bowral Bowling Club	Libby Henderson/ Big Purple Phone	David McCosh

**Board of Directors**

**President:**  
Leigh Robinson

**Directors:**  
Secretary: Trevor Fair  
Treasurer: Jo Chalmers

Carolina Torregrosa  
Ian Law  
Will Eddowes  
Carsten Prien

Bowral-Mittagong  
**Rotary**

District 9705  
Chartered 26 March 1940



Email : [rotarybm@acenet.com.au](mailto:rotarybm@acenet.com.au)  
[www.bowralmittagongrotary.com](http://www.bowralmittagongrotary.com)

**International Toast** – given by Pamela Brown

Today is the **National Day of Turks and Caicos**, a British overseas territory in the northern West Indies. It consists of two groups of low rock islands northeast of Cuba and southeast of the Bahamas.

These islands were inhabited by native peoples from larger nearby islands and first settled from Europe by the Spanish in 1512, then French and finally the British. As the other Caribbean nations took their independence from Europe the Turks and Caicos opted to remain a Crown Colony but is now an autonomous territory of Britain.

The adoption of its own constitution on 30th August 1976 is celebrated as **Constitution Day** by the 50 000 citizens. The capital is Cockburn Town on Grand Turk with a population of 8 000.

The economy is driven by Tourism on the beautiful tropical islands and sensitive financial services.

**Rotary District 7020** covers 88 Clubs in eleven island nations of the northern Caribbean including Turks and Caicos which has two of them.

They are served by the **Rotary Club of Grand Turk** which was Chartered in 2005 and has 20 very enthusiastic members led by **President Abigail Ambritton**



Recent projects include a major beach clean-up and awareness campaign, providing books and Christmas presents to school children and painting classes and workshops as a community project and fund raiser.

**In recognition of Constitution Day in Turks and Caicos would you please make our International Toast to the President and Members of the Rotary Club of Grand Turk.**

**Journalist:** Tim Bowland

**Welcome:**

**Sergeant Lynton Kettle** welcomed guests **Andy & Josephine Buttfield, Barbara Humphries** and **Allan Falvey**.

**President Leigh** gave the acknowledgement of Country, welcomed all to the meeting and read the apologies.

**Invocation:** Given by all followed by the International Toast.

**President Leighs report:**

**Uniting Church basket** Pres Leigh reminded us to bring in non-perishable foods each meeting to fill the basket. There is a large need in our area for food parcels.

**Nurses Award Night**

Pres Leigh spoke about the Nurses Award Program and invited members to join Rosemary Kelly on the committee.

**Rotary Regionalisation Program**

Pres Leigh advised that the Club will vote on the Regionalisation proposal in about 3 weeks. He advised that he did not think it would be of any great consequence to adopt the proposal, but it would allow for some tweaking of how we operate in our region. Trevor will distribute some voting instructions shortly.

**Club donation to Windsor Flood Relief.**



Pres Leigh advised he had received an email from Winsor thanking us for our donation to the Flood Relief efforts. Elaine & Greg Ebonise have been flooded three times. We also received a thankyou from the Governor of District 9685.

**Red Cross bushfire study.**

The Red Cross is forming a committee to see what needs to be done for our community regarding bushfires etc. The Red Cross is inviting interested persons to join the committee.

**Club Donation**

Pres Leigh reported that he had received a call from a Diabetic nurse who had a patient who needed an

Insulin device which cost \$8000, The Lions club donated \$2000, and Pres Leigh organised another

\$6000 via the Highland Hospice centre which had unspent funds from a previous Club donation. All up a great result.

**OTHER REPORTS**

**BHS Interact Club report**

**Robbie Allen** advised that the Interact Club made a donation to Shelter Box.

They have also nominated two people to go to RYPEN which will be held in Wagga. The two girls will require transport to Wagga on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. Please contact Robbie if you can assist. The Interact club require funding to purchase some blazers. The Interact Club is running the breakfast program and one or two Rotarians are needed to supervise.

**Upcoming Meetings.**

**Denise Coad** advised that the next meeting will be at Kookabar and at present we will be at the Bowling Club every second week until we eventually make the Bowling Club our full-time venue.

**Bowral Cycle Classic – 16 Oct**

**Mary Ramsey** spoke about the Bowral Classic Cycle event and passed around the roster looking for volunteers for the 16<sup>th</sup> October. Pres Leigh advised we will be running a BBQ also on that day.

**Food and Wine Festival – 29 & 30 Oct**

**Ian Langford** reminded us about the Food & Wine Festival is on the 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> October in the showground and that we have been asked to manage the carparking.

**Dream Cricket – 28 Oct**

**Tony Glenn** spoke about Dream Cricket, there will be an email coming out and he needs 40 to 60 volunteers.

**Moss Vale School vegetable patch**

**Ian Law** said that he and Pres Leigh attended a meeting with Moss Vale public school. The school has applied for a grant to refurbish the veggie garden and they want our Rotary Club to organise it. The refurbishment will also include a chook pen.

**Adopt-a-Tree plantings 5 & 6 Nov**

Ian reminded members of the tree planting on High Range Rd and Joadja Rd. on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November. (see 26<sup>th</sup> July bulletin)

**Annual St Vinnies Sleep-out.**

**Jo Charmers** thanked everyone who supported her during the St Vinnies sleep out. She raised \$740 and in total \$24,000 was raised.



**Pres Leigh** introduced our guest speaker **Andy Butterfield** with a detailed life bio.

Born in 1940, Andy's early life was in Adelaide and on rural properties. He graduated with a Bachelor of Technology degree in Electrical Engineering at the SA School of Mines, an affiliate of the Adelaide University. As soon as he completed his studies, he headed to Laverton Air Force base between Melbourne and Geelong to complete his service with the Adelaide University Squadron.

He received the very best training in precision engineering overhauling Rolls Royce Avon gas turbines for the RAAF Canberra bombers and Sabre fighters. On occasions he was a co-pilot flight-testing the overhauled engines. He managed to hitch a ride to UK on an RAF Comet 4 transport aircraft. 18 months later an Australian engineering company hired him in the UK and arranged specialist training in air pollution control engineering in the UK and USA.

Based in Sydney, for the next 10 years, he was involved in construction and commissioning of many coal-fired power stations, cement-manufacturing plants, bauxite refining plants, aluminium smelters and iron ore processing plants in Australia and USA. An exciting, busy and challenging time that ran out of puff early in the 1970's.

He returned to Adelaide, married Josephine, who is with us this evening, and spent three years running a large sheltered workshop. He stood as a Senate candidate for the free enterprise political party, the Workers Party, in the 1975 elections that saw the end of Goff Whitlam as PM. He then returned to the Sydney and worked for the next 20 years with several large engineering companies involved in power station engineering, including solar power for remote communities in Queensland, Torres Straits, Indonesia and PNG.

By mid-1995, aged 55, he pulled out of PNG and was retrenched as Westinghouse Electric Corporation, with 100,000+ employees worldwide, was in the process of going broke because of some spectacularly poor board and management decisions relating to 2nd mortgage financing of real estate in the USA. Westinghouse's knowledge was in electrical engineering, not financing.

He set up his own project management company in the lead up to the Olympic Games and built two schools in the Jindabyne region of southern NSW, and then constructed facilities on and off the Sydney Harbour Bridge for BridgeClimb in 1998.

In 1988 he became a charter member of the newly founded Rotary Club of Circular Quay. He was honoured in 2007 by a Rotary International award titled "Rotary Service Above Self" for his volunteer work in East Arnhem Land but was "sacked" in 2010.

At that time Dominic Williams came to his rescue and they volunteer-worked together in East Arnhem Land for the next 10 years. A story Dom has surely told you about.

Andy will discuss some of the engineering aspects of the Bridge Climb and other bridges in UK, NZ and particularly the USA that have been seriously looked at - but the 9/11 terrorist attack brought development to a halt.

## Guest Speaker : Andy Butterfield



### Dom, Andy and Leigh

**Paul Kay** developed the bridge climb idea in 1997 and Andy's role was the engineer to make it work. Andy distributed photographs to depict some of the bridges he studied.

The bridge climb opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1998 after a cost blow-out from 4 million to 10 million pounds.

Sydney harbour bridge was the first bridge in the world to be used for commercial purposes. There have been 4 million people climb the bridge since it opened.

Andy went to the UK after completing the bridge to check out some of the bridges there but the bridge in Edinburgh was not suitable because it was cold and wet and there was a lack of tourist facilities. Andy then headed off to New York to study other bridges and he said the Brooklyn bridge was a stand out - iconic like the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Andy had problems with the safety buckles on the SHB so went back to the UK to try and sort them out with the manufacturer. The response was 'we are spending far too much time on your problem'. Andy relayed the conversation that first happened with the manufacturer "We didn't actually want to buy the problems; you sold them to us." After that, things went better.

KODAK came to the party with digital photography. Bridge Climb became the single highest user of kodak photo paper in the world.

Andy, Paul Kay and Graham Ison then headed off to the UK to study bridges, then onto Brooklyn. Andy was commissioned to build a full-scale version of the last 60 feet of the Brooklyn bridge. He had to find out how to walk up a cable 15 inches diameter without falling off. Andy also went to San Francisco to look at the Golden Gate bridge. In 2000 he was able to walk all over the bridge with no security in sight. Two weeks later September 11 happened. During the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 workers got Caissons disease from working in a diving bell 100ft underwater. Caissons disease is now known as the Bends.

Sadly, September 11 brought all the thoughts of having a bridge climb in NY to an end. At the Golden Gate Bridge, Andy bought a detailed set of engineering plans for the bridge for a mere \$14 dollars, - amazing lack of security.

Andy also spoke of bridges in NZ, Brisbane and France.

**Lynton Kettle** gave the vote of thanks and **Leigh** closed the meeting at 8.10pm.



## Great recognition for the organisers and participants of MUNA, and for the incredible Southern Highlands students who participated .....

**Read this!** Starting with the email sent to Robert de Jongh by Oxley College English teacher Victoria Rintoul.

Dear Robert,

This is a quick note to let you know that Graham Kelly has written a very warm article about his experience working with Rotary and Oxley's MUNA team. I thought you and your fellow Rotarians might like to read this. You can find it on p6 of the Southern Highlands Express for this week.

Best wishes to you and our local Rotary community, and please let me know when it's time for the 4 Way Speaking Competition!

Kind regards,

**Victoria Rintoul**

Head of Monash House; English Teacher  
Oxley College

# Student achievements inspire hope for our future

Opinion by Graham Kelly



*Graham Kelly is a lawyer who started out at the Federal Attorney-General's Dept 1972-78. He served as Former Legal Attaché to United States based in Washington. Upon returning to Australia he became a Partner at law firm, Freehills and later took the helm as Managing Partner with responsibility for determining conflicts of interest. Graham has been a non-executive Director/Chairman of several ASX-listed companies and most recently was the Inspector of ICAC.*

Every now and then we come across uplifting experiences from our society and those who will come to lead it.

Rotary Clubs - across the country, in regional groups - organise for school kids to compete in pretend United Nations General Assembly debates as representatives of designated member states. The Express reported a month or so ago on the local regional competition won by "Germany", represented by Southern Highlands Christian School (SHCS).

From there, regional teams participated in the final in Canberra. A team from Oxley College won, comprising Mackenzie Kane, Liam O'Connell and India O'Brien, representing India. The other Oxley College team - Jennifer Allan, Liam Verity and Sophie Dunn - with the hard gig of representing Saudi Arabia, performed mightily, as did the SHCS team.

I have to disclose that Oxley's coach, Ms Victoria Rintoul, arranged with me to help with tips on UN representation, and speech-writing, experiences.

What a delight! Polite, caring young people (who even - concerned, on a wet and cold night - accompanied me back to my

vehicle). Even more, they made enormous effort to understand the United Nations, its origins, its early human-rights achievements, its structural failings, its politics. They ingested the attitude of their nations on a wide raft of current international issues, including freedom of navigation through the South China Sea.

Thus, they acquired an insight into the political and economical complexity of the world we inhabit; I dare say, beyond the understanding of many of us. A sheer pleasure to see how our teenagers represent the best chance we have to survive! Perhaps helping create a better one than one in which a permanent member of the Security Council attacks another member state, in clear breach of the Charter and other binding instruments to which it is a party.

The students digested recollections of personalities and events from the past. Those of us who are older sometimes despair that the younger generation doesn't care about history or our experiences; these young people were not only alert to it, but anxious to absorb it.

They were alert to Lincoln's "government of the people, by the people, for the people"; to

Kennedy's "ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country"; to Freudenberg's artistry as a speech-writer; to Rogan's training of Premier Fahey and young Nikki Webster to win the 2000 Olympic Games for "Sid-en-ney". That good speeches suck the audience in by logical, sometimes chronological, organisation.

Truly, I was amazed how well tutored they were by an obviously accomplished, truly dedicated, teacher in Ms Rintoul. She reminded me of the talented professional teachers I had. At high school: in maths, "Granny" Lockwood (who taught my mother before me, and encouraged me into law) and Les Harvey; in English, Una Edge (who demanded adherence - or deliberate disobedience - to grammar) and Bob Smith (who nurtured a love of the spoken word); at Law School, Les Zines in constitutional law (taught by the Harvard Casebook Method, no longer possible in megaclasses, partly delivered online) and Jack Richardson, the dean, who recruited me into legal teaching, and whose catch cry was that "you can't go through life with an insurance policy in your hip pocket".

My rambles are not the

point of this article; it is how good the local teams performed, up against the best from around the country. "India" winning should give us all pride, as should Oxley's other team's capacity to flat-foot competitors by so enthusiastically representing unpopular "Saudi Arabian" attitudes. So should the members of the Southern Highlands Christian School team.

That the final was in the House of Representatives chamber of old Parliament House (now the Museum of Democracy), which inspired, but didn't daunt, the teams, I'm sure they all picked up vibes from its past: great speeches; grandiose occasions; melancholy moments. The ghosts of orators past -- of Menzies, of Whitlam, of Killen, of Daley - perhaps rattling their chains to cheer.

Above all, I hope, they realised how lucky we are to live in a liberal democracy "of the people, by the people, for the people" in which governments come and go - without a shot being fired; our votes cast in secrecy; fairly and honestly counted. Beyond violent questioning afterwards, as even in Lincoln's country now.

Rotary is to be admired for

sponsoring this concept. Rotarians throughout Australia, who worked unselfishly to organise such an inspirational and educative concept, are to be applauded. As are all the teachers who supported entrants.

However, the kids who rose to the task are all to be congratulated, especially Ms Rintoul's "India" from Oxley. And we should thank them for showing that Australia has outstanding future leaders to whom we can aspire to shape a better world.