

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

Volume 87 No.1
01-07-2025



Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong



District 9705, Chartered 26 March 1940.

Board of Directors

President:

Robbie Allen
Bob Miller (Immed. Past Pres)

Directors:

Leigh Robinson – Secretary
Trevor Fair - Treasurer
Steve Hallis
Ian Donges
Robert de Jongh
Rod Aistrophe
Rosemary Kelly

Club Meetings: Attendance & Apologies

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

Contact: LEIGH ROBINSON of your attendance or apologies

Deadline is 5pm Friday. M: 0418 400 090 email: leigh@lrcoach.com.au

Please be considerate and respond. Unannounced members and guests may miss out on a meal.

Calendar

| Date | Meeting Venues | Speaker/ Topic | Journalist | Invocation & International Toast |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 15 July | Bowral Bowling Club | | Catherine Laws | David Rees |
| 18 July | Imperial Hotel | Birthday Pizza June/July | | |
| 22 July | Annesley | | | |
| 27 July | Yass Golf Club | District Changeover | na | na |
| 16-17 Aug | TBA | MHFA Youth Course | Leigh | |
| 5 Sept | Imperial Hotel | Birthday Pizza Aug/Sept | | |
| 12 th to 30 th Sept | Corbet Gardens | Tulip Time Festival | | |
| 19 Oct | Bowral | Bowral Cycle Classic | | |
| 21 Nov | Bong Bong Picnic Racecourse | Bong Bong Picnic Races | | |
| 2 Dec | Bowral Bowling Club | AGM | Leigh Robinson | |

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

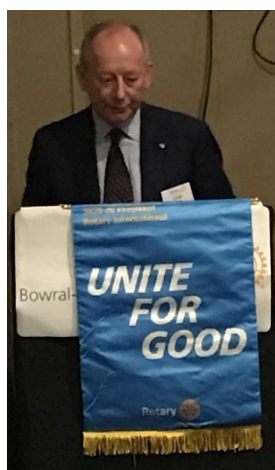
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|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| 21 Nov | Bong Bong Picnic Racecourse | Bong Bong Picnic Races | | |
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Rotary Meeting 8 July 2025

Journalist Will Eddowes

Sergeant Lynton Kettle opened the meeting and welcomed **Dr David Browning**, our speaker tonight, and his wife **Daphne**. Also welcome to **Jacinta Sheridan**, a former member of RCBM and her husband Luke also, **Catherine Laws**, soon to become our newest member and Dawn Simpson who is keen on joining the club. Honorary members, Jim Gasson and Mary Ramsay also welcome.

The **Invocation and International Toast** were delivered by **Steve Hallis**.



Amesbury is a town and civil parish in the county of Wiltshire England and is 70 miles south west of London. It is known for a number of prehistoric monuments and sites, including Stonehenge, I have a personal connection to the town as it is my birth place.

The town is claimed to be the oldest occupied settlement in Great Britain having first been settled in 8820bc. The parish includes a number of hamlets and part of Boscombe Down military airfield.

Amesbury is located in southern Wiltshire, 7 miles north nor east of Salisbury. It sits on the river Avon valley on the southern fringes of Salisbury Plain and has historically been considered an important river crossing area on the road to Exeter.

In 2002, at an Amesbury dig, the discovery of the richest Bronze Age burial site yet to be found in Britain, the remains of two men apparently of aristocratic rank were accompanied by over 100 objects including arrow heads, copper knives, and the earliest worked gold in the country, the occupant of the more richly furnished grave has become known as the Amesbury Archer.

Amesbury is a small town, the town centre boasts a hotel, restaurant and 4 pubs. Antrobus House is a venue for a number of community organisations to meet, including The Rotary club of Amesbury. The club was chartered in 1958, it is one of 1845 Rotary clubs in the UK and Ireland with over 57000 members. The club is in district 1110 along with 65 other clubs and cover an area of almost all of Hampshire, the eastern part of Dorset, the southern part of Wiltshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

In the past year the club has supported local and national charities including Children's Chance, Scouts, Stroke Foundation and Youth clubs. The President of the Club is Graham Browning, I wrote to Graham last week sending him greetings from President Robbie and our Club and further shared with him that at about 18.45 hrs on Tuesday 8th July the Rotary club of Bowral- Mittagong in the Southern Highlands of NSW would be toasting the Rotary Club of Amesbury Wiltshire, its members and their work.

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

Lynton then introduced **President Robbie Allen** who extended thanks to a number of people: I start by extending my gratitude to you all for assisting in making last week's Changeover a memorable event, where we recognised the contribution made by 2 of our Rotary members, who over a significant part of their lives have made a wonderful contribution to the Rotary cause. **Rose Conley and David Rees.**



It was such a wonderful evening, with so many Rotarians, partners and visitors including our **District Governor, Rob Uhl, Deputy Mayor Erin Foley and Judy Hannon's Chief of Staff Louise Edgecombe.** There were a few members who were not able to be there because of illness, I do hope they are feeling better.

A big thank you to **Rod Aistroke** for carrying off the MC duties with aplomb.

A big shout out to **Rosemary Kelly** and her team for the beautiful table decorations which were very classy. Thank you Rosemary.

A very special thanks to our immediate **Past President Bob Miller** for guiding our Club this past year maintaining very high standards, achieving goals and tackling a challenging workload.

I would like to re-introduce my Directors for 25/26-

Rod Aistroke: International Service

Rosemary Kelly: Community Service and Vocation

Robert de Jongh: Youth

Steve Hallis: Public Relations

Ian Donges: Club Service

Leigh Robinson: Secretary

Treasurer: Trevor Fair

Leigh Robinson told the meeting that he is now responsible for attendance. It will be assumed that you are attending a meeting unless you inform Leigh otherwise. Annesley will charge the club for all who have booked. **If you fail to attend and haven't notified Leigh, you will be invoiced.**

Trevor Fair is the Bulletin editor while Tim is away. He is looking for journalist volunteers to spread the load more widely.

Trevor also mentioned that his daughter had bumped into an old exchange student Veerle in Paris who had been staying with the Fair family. Rotary spans the world!

Mary Ramsay announced a film night has been arranged for August 28 at the Empire cinema. The film is 'Chariots of Fire' meeting at 6.00 for 6.30 start for \$30 including light refreshments. Everyone has five leaflets on the table. **Please distribute to friends** so that we can fill 190 seats.

Rod Aistroke reported on his recent visit to Vanuatu with his wife Min, looking at the possibilities of a RAWCS trip. Following the earthquake last December, many roads have disintegrated. However, materials are still available and there has been progress building the school rooms we are hoping to help build. Rod will hold a meeting shortly needing volunteers for a trip tentatively first and second week of October.

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

The Science and Engineering Challenge will be held in Goulburn on the first of August. A list is being circulated for volunteers. Please help if you can.

Bob Miller provided updates on our commitment to community barbecues:

Therese Bird, representing Glenquarry Public School has invited us to join them in their Variety Bash on Tuesday 12th August commencing BBQ food service at 7.30am for 250 guests. The event is designed to raise funds for the small school and community. We will get more detail once school returns.

WSC's David Woods Playground Opening Ceremony was scheduled for 11th July, however through delays in equipment delivery, this will not occur until the last week in August, and first week in September. Bob advised Liz Griffiths on Council we will not commit to this BBQ whilst we have responsibility to Tulip Times between 12th September and 9th October.

A telephone discussion with Julie Bird Rotary Club of Warners Bay identified we can hold a Bunnings BBQ in support of the MHERV outside the preferred September period given our commitment to Tulip Times. Bob has suggested October 10th through to 18th suits us better?.

A memorable evening was enjoyed by a number of us who attended the **Braille Music Concert** with a full house at Clubb Hall, Frensham School last Friday evening. This event was a culmination of a week-long Music Camp attended by talented blind student musicians from every state with one exception in Australia. Roma Dix our inspirational guest speaker earlier this year announced she will be transferring her role in the Music Camp.

President Robbie proceeded with the induction of **Catherine Laws** to RCBM



It is my great pleasure this evening to induct our new member Catherine Laws as the newest member of the Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong.

Catherine brings with her a wealth of compassion, experience and community spirit. Having recently retired from a distinguished career as a neonatal nurse in Sydney, Catherine has devoted her professional life to caring for the most vulnerable – giving tiny babies and their families the best possible start to life. That same spirit of service now brings her to Rotary.

Remarkably Catherine arrived in the Southern Highlands just ten weeks ago. Despite being new to the area, she wasted no time in reaching out to our Club. Her desire to give back to her new community and her recognition of Rotary as a place not only for service but also for friendship and connection speaks volumes about her values.

Catherine, we are delighted to have you join our Rotary family. You bring with you kindness, purpose, and a willingness to serve qualities that will enrich our club and the community we support.

Welcome to Rotary, and welcome to Bowral-Mittagong.

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

Guest Speaker – Dr David Browning



PP Bob Miller introduced our guest speaker this evening:

Dr David Browning, was trained in obstetrics and gynaecology at Guy's Hospital in London prior to migrating to live in rural Australia in 1967. David set up practice in Bowral in 1974 and continued as the local specialist obstetrician and gynaecologist for well over 30 years. He is an active member of St Jude's Church, a pastoral worker in Bowral Public and Private Hospitals and a member of Kairos team in Goulburn Goal.

In 2009 David, with his son **Dr Andrew Browning** founded the **Barbara May Foundation** to raise funds to support the work of his sister Valerie Browning and son Andrew had already started building and running hospitals in Ethiopia.

David was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2004 for service to medicine, particularly as an obstetrician and gynaecologist, and significant contribution to the community of

Bowral and the surrounding district.

In the process of developing background on David, I happened to ask a number of locals what they knew about this David Browning. The most frequent and gratifying response being David delivered all our babies.

David, it is a privilege on this evening having you join us.

David and Daphne arrived in Australia in 1966 and moved to the tiny town of Guyra. While death in childbirth is extremely rare in Australia, it is very common in many parts of Africa

In 1959, Emperor Haille Selassie of Ethiopia advertised in the British Medical Journal for medical help with difficult births. He had lost a daughter through childbirth. Drs Reg and Catherine Hamlin answered the ad. In Addis Ababa they started training midwives and built a hospital. They discovered a huge problem with Fistula damage causing incontinence, bowel damage and resultant social rejection. Ethiopia is a large country with a population of over 100 million people and is extremely mountainous. David's sister, Valerie went to the country in 1973 and eventually stayed and is working in the plains area on the coast. She married Ismail and, between them, they get involved in fixing medical problems as well as engineering, veterinary problems etc. They have trained over 1000 people in midwifery etc.

David showed a video of the hospital built by the Barbara May Foundation showing the work they do helping pregnant women and training staff. Often patients arrived with serious complications making treatment much harder. They have since built a second hospital in the North of the country and a third is about to be opened.

David's son, **Dr Andrew Browning** started in Ethiopia with the Hamlins and has since moved to Tanzania where the same problems exist. He continues the work of the Barbara May Foundation as a fistula surgeon. They have trained many locals and he now has helped establishing medical support in many locations throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

Surgery can change the life of these women from social outcast back to a normal existence. Apart from physical repair, the psychological recovery is just as important. A number of questions followed.

Rosemary Kelly gave a vote of thanks to David for an inspiring presentation.

TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

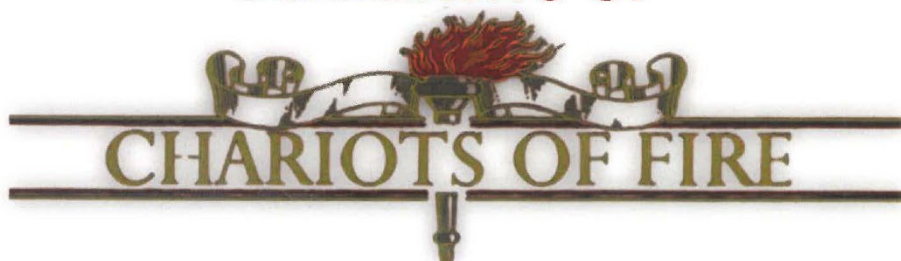
The Raffle was picked by David Browning and Steve Escott won.

Barbara Humphries ran a quiz for 'A historic House in the Southern Highlands'. The answer was Wandevan House in Mittagong once the home of Edmund Barton.

Sergeant Lynton reminded us about the Chariots of Fire movie and ran a short fine session. He also described his recent visit to Korea and the DMZ and speculated about the possibilities for Rotary of building a fence/tunnel across the Wingecarribee River.

The meeting was closed by President Robbie.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOWRAL-MITTAGONG PRESENTS A COMMUNITY SCREENING OF



THURSDAY AUGUST 28

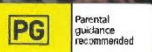
6:00 - 6:30PM

ALL TICKETS \$30

(includes light refreshments)

Available from Empire Cinema

Box-Office or Online



Parental
guidance
recommended

www.empirecinema.com.au



TULIP TIMES BULLETIN

Birthdays

July Birthdays:

10 July - Mary R

31 July – Dom W

Aug Birthdays:

6 Aug - Ray C

18 Aug – Ian D

23 Aug – ian Cropper

25 Aug – Michael Lendrum

Quote of the week

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

Thomas Edison

Gallery



Can you help out here?



Bring in your old laptops and phone (with Chargers) so they can be recycled to help our domestic violence campaign.

Also, Bring in some items each week to add to the Uniting Church basket

Non Perishable food, Toiletries ETC
