



Report for Mar 8, 2022; Volume 83, No: 31 Rotary Club  
of Bowral-Mittagong

District 9705 Charter Date 26 March 1940

President: Will Eddowes Secretary: Trevor Fair



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Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's theme for 2021-22,

### ***Serve to change lives,***

is urging members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving other is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

## **Future Events**

March 15 – Bowling Club, 40 Shepherd St, Bowral. 6.00pm for 6.30pm \*\*\*

March 22 – Kookabar Café, Bowral

March 25 – Beyond Blue Car Rally @ Bong Bong Racecourse

March 29 - Bowral Bowling Club - Guest Speaker to be advised

March 31 – Empire Cinema Premier of “The Duke”

**\*\*\*Numbers required by Friday & Confirm by Sunday for Tuesday Night**

**Venue:** Southern Highlands Winery, Sutton Forest

**Journalist:** Trevor Fair

**Welcome:** President Will opened the meeting and welcomed all the regular and irregular visitors. Welcome to guests Frank's brother Tomas. Carolina's guest Ian Gatt, Leigh's guest Pamela Brown, Bruce & Tamoi Sutton, and partners

Special welcome back to Dom & Faye.



**Invocation:** Rose Conley ❤️

And what a loud and clear voice you have Rose, thank you. Just to mention Rose was the first female member to this club. Legend!

**International Toast:** Trevor Fair

The movement for the recognition of women's rights and equality began during the 19th century with women in the Isle of Mann being the first to gain voting rights. New Zealand followed in 1893 and South Australia recognised the right of women to vote and stand for election in 1894.

It was because South Australia already had these rights in place that the Commonwealth adopted them for the whole of the Federation from its beginning in 1901.

It was the 8th of March, 1914 when Emily Pankhurst's daughter Sylvia was arrested on her way to a suffragette rally in Trafalgar Square that marks the date of **International Women's Day** today.



(Photo from Twitter.com – Sylvia's arrest)

Three years later the start of the Russian Revolution came from a police attack on a march of striking women textile workers in Saint Petersburg on that same day. Not a lot has changed in Russia in 105 years.

In 1977 the United Nations designated the 8th of March as International Women's Day as a day recognising women's rights and world peace but meaning much more on the path to respect and economic, political and social equality.

Our own club has over 30% of women Members, something which was unlikely 15 years ago and we are the better for it. Rotary around the world is so much better and stronger for inclusion of women since 1989.

For the Rotary Year 2022/23 we will have the first woman President of Rotary International Jennifer Jones of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario which we have toasted before. Our District Governor will be Geraldine Rurenga of Brindabella e-Club and in two years our very Rob Uhl will be chief.



(Photo from rotary-ribi.org – Jennifer Jones)

Won't it be good, in a few years when having women leaders of our organisation and more generally will be so commonplace and accepted that it won't attract a reference to gender at all.

## Announcements:

**International Womens' Day breakfast**, which was scheduled for today was cancelled due to the flooding around Gibraltar Hotel.

*Editor note: For those of us who joined the Zoom meeting, it was worth hearing the new story that Mark Balla added to his last presentation. It was inspiring...the effect of 1 young girl dying due to contaminated water and how this tragedy transformed the village of Piplantri in Rajasthan. – [See more at end](#)*



Brian also donated a statue of Don Bradman to be auctioned off to raise more funds for the Toilet Warrior's projects. – Statue below



**Car Rally** - Brian Ritson - BBQ on 25th Thursday night. BBQ breakfast bacon & egg rolls, fruit, toasties, plus a bit of parking. Still need some more volunteers.

**Shed** needs a tidy up due to rodents, flooding has also occurred which requires a clean up.

**District Conference** - 18th 20th March - Temora.

**Film Night** - The Duke 31st March Empire Cinema.

**Welfare Check** - Ian Langford

David McCosh - Now has a pacemaker and renovated bladder. Ian collected David and Ria today, had a tricky journey up however the trip home was a lot better.

**Tony Glenn** - Infamy of our Club. There were a significant number of influential members who strongly resisted the introduction of women into the Club. Much of our current energy comes from our female members.

**Denise** - Program

Next week hopefully Bowral Bowling Club - Watch out for announcements.

Kookabar, and Hermitage are still on the agenda, just juggling venues at present.

**Pop In Centre** - Work has been completed. There is still some surplus and are in discussions regarding other projects there.

**Leigh** - PETS (President Elects Training Seminar) - Humanity in Action book presented to the Club.

**Louie** - Welcome to SHW - On behalf of Eddie Rossi thank you for coming. Thank you Marco and Eddie for the food and hospitality.





**Photo guessing competition** – Tony circulated an old photo of himself, Lynton and their wives. What year and month? \$5 guess. Apparently there is a date on the back of the photo.

**Rod Aistrophe Flood story** - Trying to get from Bowral to Mittagong. All roads out of Bowral were shut. Went to Moss Vale instead. Found the paper and printed the flyers. As soon as it was printed news came through that the breakfast was cancelled.

**Will's flood advice.** The rule is to not live at the bottom of the hill. Better to live on the ridge.

Dom was fined for attending the SH symphony orchestra wearing a dazzling jacket.

Joke of the Day. Robert de Jongh – one of his better ones, “apparently”!

**Raffle:** Carolina with Ian Gatt's luck.

Next Week – Bowral Bowling Club.

**REMINDER: Birthday Lunch March 18 –  
Pizza Bar – Imperial Hotel, Bowral**

**Tony Glenn 1/3**

**Luciano Liberale 22/3 (Special Birthday)**



## **Piplantri: The Village of Eco-Feminism**

*Piplantri is a village located in Rajsamand district in Rajasthan State, India. The villagers of Piplantri plant 111 trees every time a girl child is born and the community ensures these trees survive, attaining fruition as the girls grow up. To ensure financial security, after the birth of a girl child, the villagers contribute Rs 21,000 collectively and take Rs 10,000 from the parents and puts it in a fixed deposit, which can be broken when she turns 20. To make sure that girl child receives proper education, the villagers make the parents sign an affidavit which also restricts them from marrying her off, before she attains the legal age for marriage.*

*Sh Shyam Sundar Paliwal, the former sarpanch (village head) started this initiative in the memory of his daughter Kiran, who died a few years ago.*



(Photo: piplantri.com)

*The community ensures that the trees survive, attaining fruition as the girl grows up.*

*The initiative has also helped the town's economy. To keep termites away from the trees, many of which bear fruit, the village has planted more than 2.5 million Aloe vera plants around them. Gradually, the villagers realized that Aloe vera could be processed and marketed in a variety of ways. So the community now produces and markets aloe-based products like juice and gel, among other things.*

*In a country that still favours the birth of a son, Piplantri village in Rajasthan not only embraces daughters but has created a tradition that benefits both the local people and the planet. This endearing village makes a conscious effort to save girl children and the green cover at the same time, by planting 111 trees every time a girl is born. A brilliant exercise in eco-feminism, this should inspire India and the rest of the world.*

Source- <https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Piplantri.pdf>