



Quote

“Change is the law of life. Those who look only to the past and present are certain to miss the future.” JFK.

Bruce’s Banter

Last Monday.

22 members, partners and friends, had a lovely few hours at the North Epping Bowling Club. Rain prevented bowling, but no one was upset as we chatted, had a delivery pizzas and a drink or two. Thanks John Royer for organising this evening which had a great feel.

It was great to see PP Chris O’Brien and Sue, plus Susie back from Adelaide and Stephanie who was our pizza delivery lady.



RYLA.

We have two wonderful young men in Gian Gill and Danielle De Andrade as our RYLA representatives. I was lucky enough to drive them to their weeklong “camp” at Knox and then attend the RYLA dinner on January 17, attended by 170. It was a terrific night.

Thanks to Anne who picked them up on the Saturday.

We’ll be having a special Youth Night, most likely on February 6, where they’ll be an important part of the evening.



Members Dues

I wish to thank most members for their punctuality in paying their recent dues. 28 of our 41 members have paid. John and I are chasing up the remainder but please try and pay before the call. If someone has financial difficulties, please contact John or I.

Monday Program.

In surveys and feedback, members have been very positive about the quality of speakers and activities on Mondays.

If any member has an idea, or a suggestion for a guest speaker on a Monday night, please contact me.

Next Monday. Youth Night.

Below is a photo of our two RYLA students, Daniel and Gian, two impressive young men. Daniel will be accompanied by his fiancé and Gian by his parents and brother.

Anne will introduce two students from Cheltenham Girls High who recently participated in the Santos Science Experience at Sydney University. They will be accompanied by their Dads.

Narelle, who is a facilitator at RYDA, will introduce John Elliot from RYDA, who will provide an update on the program.

Robert Phillips, Chair of Epping Community Bank, will also be a guest as they have sponsored most of our Youth Programs.

District Conference at Cowra. March 17-19

These are great events and I urge you to attend. Come and chat to me about the weekend in March and see the flyer below.

Bruce

Club Calendar

Date	Speaker/Topic Mondays	Venue
6 February	Youth Night (Bruce & Anne)	Brasserie.
13 February	Robotics. Rex Di Bona	Epping Club

20 February	Justin Wikkinsin - Caving	Epping Club
27 February	George Souris OAM. Ex leader NSW National Party, Board of Racing NSW, President NSW State Library	Epping Club
26 June	Changeover	Epping Club
Date	Other Events	Venue
17 March	District Conference	Cowra
27 May	Rotary International Conference	Melbourne

“Exploring Hidden Sydney” is a Winner!

While we were all relaxing over the Christmas New Year holidays our esteemed and published author, Trevor McAlister, has been busy, speaking to groups and Rotary Clubs about his beautiful and informative book, “Exploring Hidden Sydney”. He and Ellen even ventured south to Cronulla Rotary where a small club was so keen that 12 books were purchased!

Trevor has many bookings in the next few weeks to speak to Rotary clubs, PROBUS groups and other miscellaneous groups all keen to see his photos and hear the fascinating anecdotes he relates.

To date, Trevor has sold approximately 230 books with \$4,000 plus going to the Rotary Foundation. In addition he has received \$80 in donations while his publisher Woodslane Press has just forwarded to our club a cheque for \$1,000 representing royalties for books purchased through bookstores. This represents \$5,080 to TRF to date.

Congratulations Trevor and thank you for your generosity towards The Rotary Foundation.

Monica Saville
Rotary Foundation Director

District 9685 Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Course, 24th to 26th February by Zoom



Next program: February 24/25/26 by Zoom

Who: Current and incoming Board members, club members – who do YOU know who would love to attend

Why: To expand your Rotary knowledge and leadership skills

Cost: \$30pp

Register: www.rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au

Full details: as follows:

I am standing in for RLI Convenor and DGE Christine Owen while she attends the DGE Training in Orlando during January. The next online Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) course is scheduled for 24/25/26 February via Zoom. Join in from home! Only \$30! Great value! The course is conducted by RLI facilitators and consists of 3 parts:

- Day 1 – Friday 24 February – 6-7pm

- Day 2 – Saturday 25 February 8am- 4pm – 3 x 2hr sessions with breaks
- Day 3 – Sunday 26 February 8am-4pm – as above

This course is designed for Rotarians with at least 12 months Rotary membership and graduates have said: *“the best Rotary learning I have done”* and *“RLI opened my eyes to a much broader Rotary experience beyond my club”*. See RLI brochure attached. This course is ideal for Presidents-Elect, new or existing Board members and anyone interested in furthering their Rotary knowledge, skills and leadership potential.

ACTION: Register and pay [HERE NOW](#) or encourage someone else from your club to enrol today! Registrations close 17th February 2023.

District Conference Update

Hello fellow Rotarians!
District Conference 9685 Cowra Breakout beckons!

The programme has just been updated and it's looking even more exciting – take another look.

There's still accommodation available in Cowra – contact barry_taylor@optusnet.com.au for more information.

If you haven't booked already, don't miss out on this fabulous autumn rural weekend. Register here: <https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=1802df27-8875-402b-bae5-32f6c91bf56d>

Important Message No. 1

Is your club decorating a Hiking Stick for auction and competition at our upcoming conference?

- Blackheath Rotary will allocate each stick with a unique number in advance of its arrival.
- The hiking stick must have an allocated number to be entered into the competition and auction.
- To receive your allocated number(s) respond by email (lemon.mccoy@gmail.com) with the following information no later than 31 JANUARY 2023:

1. Club Name:
2. Club contact email address:
3. Number of hiking sticks:

All hiking sticks are to be delivered for display at Cowra Showground Pavilion on **Friday 17/3/23**.

Important Message No. 2

If your club was a musical band, which band would it be?
Is your club a little bit SSO? Def Leppard? Louisville Jug Band?

We all want to know. Tell us at the conference roll call.

Important Message No. 3

Don't forget to book your bus ticket to and from the Cowra Showground Pavilion online. Just \$10 return. Save yourself the worry and enjoy the festivities.

Important Message No. 4

RDU needs assistance to staff their RDU Merchandise Breakout Showcase stall at the Conference. If you can help with this you are entitled to a 10% discount from any purchases from RDU. (Unfortunately, there are two Rotary Conferences on at the same time.)

Best wishes,

Carol Lemon-McCoy

Rotary Club of Blackheath

Cowra Breakout District Conference Co-Chair

M:0400 663260

Jennifer Jones - President 2022-23



January 2023

Rotary recently surveyed our members and found something that should be unsurprising but still caused many of us in Rotary leadership to sit up and pay attention: The single most important factor in member satisfaction is the club experience. How at home you feel in your club, how rewarding club meetings are, and how engaged you feel in service projects.

I have seen this firsthand across the Rotary world this year. When members feel an emotional connection to their club, they cannot imagine leaving. And that connection is often forged in “Rotary moments,” when people feel that special connection to the people around them and the impact of their service. Our Imagine Impact Tour is all about shining a light on those Rotary moments and encouraging our members to tell their stories.

But there’s something else that makes an enormous difference in building and sustaining that connection. It’s the comfort and care of our members — both Rotarians and Rotaractors. As my Rotary friend Todd Jenkins says, “People can’t see how you think, but they sure can see your actions.”

We are in the relationship business, and if we take care of each other — genuinely show concern for each other — then we will make friends for life, and we will do anything to widen that circle of friendship.

The question is: How do we live with our eyes wide open and do the things that really matter? We do this by taking time for each other, actively listening to one another, and treating every Rotary member as equally valuable — no matter how long we have been a member or what position we hold.

People like me in Rotary leadership can offer all kinds of advice about how to make your club experience more valuable. But what’s most important is for everyone in every Rotary club to speak up and listen to one another. We should never be afraid to share with our fellow Rotary member what we expect to get out of our membership and have an open discussion about how to make that happen.

To lead a Rotary club is to invite such dialogue and to be willing to try new approaches. Good leadership is giving it away. Propping others up. Allowing others to feel the victory.

I have one last request for club leaders. We still need to do more worldwide to increase our female membership. It’s up a bit this year, but I know we can and must do better. Rotary is growing again. As I write this, we’re just a handful of members away from surpassing 1.2 million Rotarians again. So let’s redouble our efforts to bolster our clubs with great new members, then keep them for life by providing comfort and care.

RIM ARTICLES

Please send RIM articles to Alan at alan.baker.om@gmail.com or rob@tosswill.com

Articles should be submitted by Thursday afternoon

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