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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FROM PRESIDENT GEOFF

The meeting on July 9 was down on numbers due to several members having other engagements to attend. However, the brave nine soldiered on, & a great evening of camaraderie & good humour was had. A very good special guest speaker topped the evening off with a most informative & well regarded presentation on The Kokoda Track.

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Following Rotary Grace, the International Toast was to The Rotary Club of Hampstead, London, England. This was because Ruth Ellis, the last woman to be executed in Great Britain, for the murder of her abusive lover outside a London pub more than 70 years ago, was conditionally pardoned this week, Deputy Prime Minister David Lammy said on Wednesday, 3rd July.

Ellis, a 28-year-old single mother and nightclub hostess, was hanged on July 13, 1955, for the murder of race-car driver David Blakely. She shot him outside the Magdala pub in Hampstead on April 10, 1955.

Blakely, who, knowing that Ellis was in the early stages of pregnancy with his child, had previously punched her in the stomach which resulted in miscarriage.

Her case is believed to have changed British law. At trial, she was not allowed to argue that she acted because of the emotional impact of abuse. Two years after the hanging, Parliament passed a law allowing a diminished responsibility defence.

FUN TIMES

Heads & Tails was won by Don Wiseman. (Don must have a very decent stash at home by now). The Card Draw was won by Nev Barrett, who drew the King of Spades. OH!

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BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS CELEBRATED IN JULY 2026

	<u>MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>PARTNERS BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES</u>	<u>ROTARY INDUCTIONS</u>
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Tough luck, old fellow! The Jackpot now stands at \$186.

SERGEANTS SESSION

Jack Hayhurst provided a most interesting mixed theme presentation, which had some very interesting questions. The writer smelt a "bad prawn" when the first question was easily answered by PP Lester. Following a couple of others that were quickly answered by PP Lester, it was obvious that the previous thoughts of a "Sergeants Conspiracy" is becoming closer to reality! We shall see in the coming weeks if these "fiends" make their intentions more clear. Stay on guard chaps.

GUEST SPEAKER

Peter Moore delivered a fantastic overall summary of the war in New Guinea & in particular, surrounding The Kokoda Track. He provided members with maps showing the attack sequence, strategically critical

points & planned routes of Papua New Guinea that the Japanese troops would take in their efforts to secure this land to the north of Australia. Peter made very clear the proposed strategy of the Japanese & the planned responses by the Australian Force Commanders thousands of miles away! A further presentation will take place this Thursday to study more in-depth the battles for Gona & Buna. This promises to be a very enlightening sequence of events, which will certainly be as interesting as the last one delivered by Peter!

UPCOMING EVENTS

16 JULY 2026

**Peter Moore - The Battle for
Gona & Buna**

23 JULY 2026

Club Assembly

30 JULY 2026

TBA

APOLOGIES to PETER MOORE before noon Tuesday to amoore@bigpond.net.au or phone **0408 079 761**
ANY BULLETIN INFORMATION to be emailed to **NEV BARRETT** at: nevchar@gmail.com

The Four-Way Test

(Of the things we think, say or do)

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?"



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ROTARY GRACE

Oh, Lord and Giver of all good,
 We thank thee for our daily food.
 May Rotary friends and Rotary ways,
 Help us to serve thee all our days.