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Rotary Club of Trans Amadi,
Nigeria.

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Michele Ellery
Rotary Club of Lower
Blue Mountains

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FROM PRESIDENT GEOFF

The meeting on 10 September had good attendance. Our guest for the evening was District Governor, Michele Ellery. I asked PP Nev to present to the District Governor his President's Report for this year's Changeover. I felt that this would be a good guide to the DG on what The Rotary Club of Gosford is all about! It was great to see the delight of the DG when she was made aware of all of our good works for the 2025/26 Presidential year!

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Following Rotary Grace, the International Toast was to The Rotary Club of Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii, USA. This was because an East Honolulu high school student discovered a fungus in coconut husks that can clean up plastics and sunscreen from the ocean—and has won multiple awards at the Hawai'i State Science & Engineering Fair. Vera Wang, a senior at Kaiser High School, won in multiple categories after conducting experiments in the Anthony Amend laboratory at the University of Hawai'i. She qualified for the International Science & Engineering Fair taking place next May in Arizona. Her science fair success, including the discovery that the fungi may be a previously uncharacterized species, all began during her sophomore year. Ms. Wang designed and built an ocean filter that removed sunscreen and microplastics from the

surface water which was inspired by traditional Polynesian weaving while incorporating modern environmental science. It was not only scientifically effective, but was sustainably made entirely from coconut byproduct waste. Soon, Wang realized that removing the pollutants from water is only part of the problem. The next challenge she considered was how to dispose of them responsibly—and again found success. Ms Wang discovered that fungi found naturally on coconut husks can biodegrade (decompose) sunscreen and plastic, and that a tannin compound can be used to identify sunscreen- and plastic-degrading fungi. The tannins present in the fibers encourages the growth of these complex degraders.

FUN TIMES

Heads & Tails was won by DG Michele Ellery (no set up, I promise). The Card Draw was won by PHF Graham Lindsay, who drew the 10 of Spades.

SERGEANTS SESSION

PHF Graham Lindsay provided a Sergeants Session which was based upon a general knowledge theme. This session was a very testing one, as most Members had an idea of the answers to most questions, but only correctly answered a few! PHF Graham definitely remains on his education phase at the moment, & one can only trust that his best

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BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS CELEBRATED IN SEPTEMBER 2026

	<u>MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS</u> 20 SEPTEMBER Jack Hayhurst Peter Moore 27 SEPTEMBER Sean Devlin	<u>PARTNERS BIRTHDAYS</u> 5 SEPTEMBER Jenny Allen 28 SEPTEMBER Barbara Hayhurst 29 SEPTEMBER Wendy Marquet	<u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES</u>	<u>ROTARY INDUCTIONS</u> 11 SEPTEMBER Jack Hayhurst 27 SEPTEMBER Chris Foster 28 SEPTEMBER Sean Devlin

efforts don't obtain results less positive than PHF Graham would expect. We shall do our best over the coming weeks to show that we have listened & learned.....something!

A Cross Fine was provided by Don Wiseman!

GUEST SPEAKER

Guest Speaker District Governor Michele Ellery thanked Members for their continued good works in our community, & reminded us that we punch "well above our weight" when compared to clubs with 3 times the number of members that we have! DG Michele then delivered a powerful & passionate presentation regarding the "important things" that need to be continued & perhaps in some cases, commenced, to ensure membership growth over the coming years. She then advised of the many ways in which The District could assist in regard to membership, ideas for better ongoing camaraderie, social functions etc. DG Michele then spoke at length of the upcoming District Conference at Mudgee. She shared with us some of the interesting special events that have been planned & the activities that stood out to her to be of great value for networking at the Conference!

A Vote of Thanks was provided by PP Lester Marquet.



DG Michele, PP Lester & President Geoff

UPCOMING EVENTS

17 SEPTEMBER 2026

RYPEN Students - Coco, Jessica & Erin

24 SEPTEMBER 2026

Club Assembly

1 OCTOBER 2026

Don Wiseman - European River Cruise

NEXT BOARDS

12 OCTOBER 2026

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.