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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FROM PRESIDENT GEOFF

The meeting on July 16 was a "corker" due to the fact that we had every member attending. That in itself was a wonderful result, but, the dual Guest Speakers made for a fantastic overall evening of camaraderie, good humour & first rate informative & well regarded presentations on The Kokoda Track, Australia's war effort in PNG & finally, the influence that several of Gosford's Rotary Clubs had on the provision of vital services to the PNG people with the supply of Aid Posts, accommodation & even a Hospital.

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Following Rotary Grace, the International Toast was to The Rotary Club of Bideford Bridge, Devon, England. This was because British counter-terrorism police are now leading the investigation into the suspected murder of former UK lawmaker Ann Widdecombe following new information and evidence, UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood said on Monday. (Incidentally, Ann Widdecombe had multiple guest speaker engagements with several Rotary Clubs in Devon inc. the one we are toasting). The former lawmaker was found dead at her home in Haytor, Devon, in western England on Thursday. Police say they believe Widdecombe died the day before her body was

discovered. She had "sustained serious injuries," police said in a statement last week.

On Saturday, police arrested a 28-year-old man in South Yorkshire, England – hundreds of miles away – on suspicion of murder. This is now believed to be a terrorist activity.

FUN TIMES

Heads & Tails was won by Don Wiseman. (AGAIN). The Card Draw was won by Graham Lindsay, who drew the Four of Diamonds. It must go off soon! The Jackpot now stands at \$194.50.

SERGEANTS SESSION

Graham Lindsay provided a most interesting mixed theme Session, which had a wide ranging variety of questions. Forsooth, the writer cannot allay his concern for some of the easily answered questions put to the members. One had the feeling that there existed a specific purpose in the reticence of the acting Sergeant to ask all of the questions which he'd previously prepared. Instead, he chose to "pass over" questions by checking the list & quietly saying "no, that one's too hard", or words to that effect! It would indeed be spurious for one to avoid the iterations which could only be described as provocative! The plot, imagined or otherwise, thickens!

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BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS CELEBRATED IN JULY 2026

	MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS	PARTNERS BIRTHDAYS	WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES	ROTARY INDUCTIONS
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GUEST SPEAKERS

Peter Moore delivered an amazing final anatomy of the fighting of Australian Forces in Papua New Guinea during the eventual downfall of the Japanese attempts to secure the strategically important country. The battles of Gona & Buna were at the forefront, & Pete by his dialogue had us all totally engaged. There were many heroic efforts by both PNG Natives & Australian Troops, & Pete went into great detail describing those & the eventual outcome.

Immediately following Pete, Wayne Dean from Gosford North Rotary Club gave a presentation surrounding the work completed by Gosford Rotary & Gosford North Rotary Members in Papua New Guinea. In particular, special mention of Gosford Rotary Member PP PHF John Phillips OAM, who was the driving force behind the many crucial projects completed. From Aid Posts, Accommodation & also a Hospital, the work conducted by our Rotary Members in Papua New Guinea shall never be forgotten. Further, Wayne confirmed that a book was to be printed in honour & memory of the vital works. This will be available in hard copy & also in a download format!

These two sessions were fantastic!

PP Bob Thomas provided the Vote Of Thanks!



LtoR President Geoff, Peter Moore, Wayne Dean & Bob Thomas

UPCOMING EVENTS

23 JULY 2026

Club Assembly

30 JULY 2026

TBA

7 AUGUST 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.