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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FROM PRESIDENT GEOFF

The meeting on July 30 had good attendance. As the meeting turned out to be a Club Assembly, President Geoff made a very good decision (as it turned out) to have a "Presidents Call" in asking all members if they could think of & tell the gathering details of a funny situation that occurred in their life. This resulted in a few hilarious situations! Some of the stories will appear below.

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Following Rotary Grace, the International Toast was to The Rotary Club of Nottingham UK. This was because nearly 5,000 miles from her home, somewhere in Cameroon's capital, Madias Ngake suspects that in a drawer which is not hers, lies an Olympic medal which is.

It was awarded to her seven years after the competition, as three weightlifters who finished above her at London 2012 were disqualified for doping offences. She has never held that medal, having never returned to her homeland in the 14 years since first landing in the UK.

Ngake, who is now based in Nottingham, had not planned to stay, but she had not anticipated needing to make a life-changing decision which she perceived to be her only

chance of "safety and freedom" from persecution.

During those Games, her sexuality as a lesbian became known. With homosexuality illegal in Cameroon, punishable by long term imprisonment, genuine "fear" for her life drove the then 20-year-old to disappear from the athletes' village.

While she would secure sanctuary, of sorts, by avoiding a return to the African nation, her experiences over the following months were a far cry from the "glamorous" fortnight she had spent at the Olympics.

With no friends, no home and no money, the following months were largely spent on the streets.

Now, 14 years after London 2012, Ngake made a remarkable return to a major multi-sport event when she competed at the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games for her adopted nation, England, and won the 86 KGs Class Silver Medal on Wednesday. She never gave up!

FUN TIMES

Heads & Tails was won by PP Bob Thomas. The Card Draw was also won by PP Bob Thomas, who drew the Nine of Spades. It simply has to be won soon! The Jackpot now stands at around \$206.

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BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS CELEBRATED IN AUGUST 2026

	<u>MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS</u> 09 AUGUST Warren Bolton 26 AUGUST Bob Thomas	<u>PARTNERS BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES</u> 14 AUGUST Barry & Anna Henwood	<u>ROTARY INDUCTIONS</u>
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SERGEANTS SESSION

PHF Graham Lindsay gave a sterling Sergeants Session brimming with "potentially answerable" questions. Some were very tricky whilst all that weren't answered correctly, proved to be of great interest to the group, & had enthusiastic if not correct answers from the floor. As usual, Graham provided a lot of thought into his list, & this was a most enjoyable presentation, delivered with tender understanding of the group's capacity!

A Cross Fine was provided by Don Wiseman!

PRESIDENT'S CALL

As mentioned above, this pick by President Geoff turned out to be a real "hoot" with several of the recalled stories bringing belly bouncing chuckles from those gathered. From a Member walking into a meeting with his wife's knickers "static electrically" stuck to the back of his polyester top from the clothes dryer. To a lady who became bitter about the "No Smoking" signs in a shop which sold cigarettes. She got most indignant & complained to the owner. The owner replied "well you can buy condoms in a chemist but you can't try them on in the shop"!

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE



UPCOMING EVENTS

6 AUGUST 2026

Club Assembly

13 AUGUST 2026

Chris Lord - Model Trains

20 AUGUST 2026

TBA

NEXT BOARDS

7 September 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.