



CHARTERED 16TH AUGUST 1928. CLUB NO. 18035, DISTRICT 9685.

(Please Note: No meeting on the last Thursday of each month). ISSUE NO 4047 Thursday 10th December 2020



President's Message:

Dear Rotarians,

Last meeting we finally inducted Elaine Newman into our club as Covid-19 had stalled Elaine in New Zealand. So a very big welcome Elaine!

I received a few suggestions to move the AGM to the 17th December as there were to be many absent members on the 10th and I wanted to have a quorum for this. So there is a normal meeting this week and we will have the AGM on the 17th where I hope all will be in attendance and to celebrate a little Christmas cheer.

I zoomed into the Presidents' meeting last Saturday at an early start at 8am. Many of us suggested that was not a good time for a meeting! Especially for me as I was recovering from a late night party hosted by my daughters in recognition of my OAM induction at Government House on the Friday.

What a significant, formal and classy act! Governor Margaret Beasley is a delightful friendly person and the ceremony was just so wonderful. I feel very grateful.

David, Toni & Rebecca at Government House



Acknowledgement of Country.

The Rotary Club of Nth Sydney acknowledges the Cammeraygal people on whose land we meet each week and continues to foster friendship and service to the community. We pay our respect to past and present elders.

www.facebook.com/rotarynorthsydney/



"For Good Food, Good Fellowship and the Opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks".



President's Message continued...

RG David Clarke has once again mentioned in his post that clubs need not to be stressed at the lack of fundraising and that the community needs to see Rotary clubs enjoying the experience of Rotary not just always asking for donations. I agree!

The five dollar per person for the Conference has been scrapped and clubs are requested to get on board with the video for the conference and to organize with other clubs some function/s to celebrate 100 years of Rotary in Australia. So thinking caps on please!

Please respond to the Christmas Lunch on Sunday 20th December hosted by the Lulic's. I can then organize items for everyone to bring.

The year is racing by now and we do need a President Elect for the AGM. I feel I haven't achieved much but let's hope the New Year will bring more inspiration!

Take care

Toni Field OAM



Medals and bows!

Elaine with President Toni Field and Past President Lily Clarke.



Arthur's blog on how life is in Belgium for our returned Belgium exchange student.

Hi everyone, I hope you all are doing good and your families are safe now.

David asked me to send you some news from the country of BELGIAN FRIES 🇧🇪.

The last year has not been the easiest for me, for none of us... I've been in lockdown for the last 8 months or so but hopefully, none of my related have been sick due to COVID-19. I've not seen my mates for weeks which is pretty tough because I used to see them everyday but it is necessary. Belgium is going through a lot right now and many people have died due to their behaviors but I'm still hoping for improvements. In the beginning of November, we reached the peak of 16.000 infected people a day but this number is going down everyday (today was 2.150). Anyway, I'm still doing lots of sport even though the gym is closed. I'm doing jiu-jitsu with my dad, running and doing lots of pushup. I've started my university courses in September. I'm now studying international trade in Liège (the city of waffles) and I really enjoy it which keeps me motivated during these hard times. I'm learning new languages such as Russian and Spanish and I'm still improving my English everyday. The weather up here is getting cold and the barbie's season is now finished. I had to put my sunnies and my thongs back in my closet...

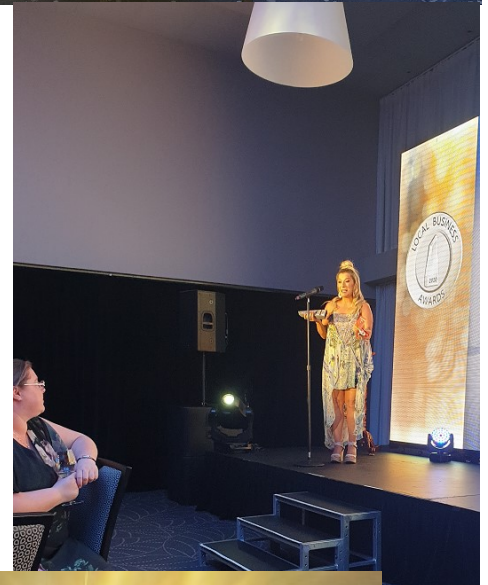
I really hope that you all are doing alright and still working hard to change the world.

I wish you a Merry Christmas in advance and hope that 2021 will be a better year than 2020.

Arthur

North Shore Local Business Awards whose Major Sponsor is Rotary North Sydney

A great night was enjoyed by all and representing our club was Jenny Thomas P.P. , David Field P.P. , Alacoque Welsh - Rotary E-Club of Sydney, May & Mal Sharpe.



Focus – Chat with Mal Sharpe

1. Tell us about your childhood.

I was born in Perth as the 3rd child of a family of 3 brothers and 2 sisters just after the 2nd World War in 1951

My father came back from the war where he served in PNG and started working as a printer running rotary press's printing Docket Books that were used by business for invoice and payment books etc. Printers were paid under a Federal Award and so his income was very small and as a family it was a struggle to provide. When I was born we moved in a brand new house in a suburb called Coolbinia, which was very small due to building restrictions after the war.

To help as we grew up we would pack fruit for the neighbour across road and after school hawk it around the suburb to sell to people for extra income for family. I guess you could say we grew up on wrong side of track very poor.

My eldest brother started work with Main Roads Department on a Cadet Ship as at time couldn't afford for him not to work and so he studied Civil Engineering at night school. Second Brother went to University as things were better off.

I joined the PMG latter known as Telecom and now Telstra when I was 16 and had just finished Junior Certificate where I undertook a 7 year apprenticeship know as Technician in Training. This was a wonderful opportunity and during this period also studied at college in the evenings Electronic Engineering.

My parents belonged to a very strict religious group called Exclusive Brethren (Plymouth Brethren) which I was born into however at 16, I decided that I didn't belong and left home as a result. This made the next few year's really tough as there could be no going back and I was outcast from them.

2. What part of the workplace have you enjoyed the most?

While with Telecom for 24 years, I spent 4 years in North of WA and I must say this was a wonderful time. Not just the variety of work which included everything from fixing the exchanges. phone. telex machines, radio towers, satellite dishes, micro wave towers but also meeting such a variety of people from all walks of life. In the latter years of Telecom/Telstra I became very involved in Sales and helping to build the sales force going on to be Area Sales Manager in Corporate Division. I loved being involved in sales and meeting so many exciting people and the companies they worked for.

The last 20 years I have been working as a IT Project Manager for a small company where we specialize in hosting company phone systems in the cloud (Data Centre) along with their servers providing access to multiple sites. This has meant partnering with the likes of IBM and Microsoft etc. and keeping up learning on new technology and software. Extremely rewarding.

3. What leisure activities do you enjoy?

Sailing would be one of the things I enjoy the most along with flying. I love to visit new places and learn of the history associated with them.

4. When and why did you join Rotary ?

Joined Rotary in 2004 after being introduced by David Apps. David Field was President and seeing what Rotary was involved in and how it was helping so many people both locally and internationally and I wanted to contribute. I became the club International Director for 2 years in 2008 and 2009 and really enjoyed the projects that we funded which included a Safe Drinking Water Project in Andhra Pradesh India. A hand well costs about A\$650 and will service 250 people for up to 15 years. An open well is a bit more expensive but necessary when water table levels are not suitable for hand wells. This enabled us to provide 40 Hand Wells.



Also a Garbage Collection Project in the city of Guntur which was affected by the 2005 tsunami. The streets are so narrow that trucks can't be used and so the project provided 260 bicycles with large bin attached to collect rubbish.

5. Do you consider Rotary is relevant to today's society ?

Yes. I think it is becoming more relevant than ever before as we go thru these crisis both locally and internationally where the need for commitment to service and action can help make such a difference in both our local community and the world. I think the full impact of Rotary takes time to capture us.

“Rotary is a worldwide network of inspired individuals who translate their passions into relevant social causes to change lives in communities.”

Consider these additional points:

If you woke up this morning in good health, you have more luck than one million people, who won't live through the week.

If you have never experienced the horror of war, the solitude of prison, the pain of torture, were not close to death from starvation, then you are better off than 500 million people.

If you can go to your place of worship without fear that someone will assault or kill you, then you are luckier than 3 billion people.

Thanks Rotary....

Upcoming Events for your Diary

| Date | Speaker | Subject |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| 10th December | Henry Morgan exchange student | |
| 17th December | Annual General Meeting | |

Unless advised all meetings will be held at Norths.



| Date | Birthdays | Date | Anniversaries |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 15th December | Doug Garner | 29th December | Lilly and Chung-Hou Lee |

| Date | Front Desk & Room Set Up Attendance Required from 12:00pm |
|------|--|
| | Lily will do all other dates and will ask a member if she is going to be absent. |

Upcoming Events for your diary

AGM Meeting ... 17th December



You can now download the COVIDSafe App which has been designed to quickly trace outbreaks of the virus.

Downloading the App is completely voluntary. Check the website for full details



Visitors & Apologies for 26th November 2020

Visitors:

Wilfred Chee

Lily Chee

Alaquoque Welsh - Rotary E-Club of Sydney

Honorary Member:

Brendan Walsh

Leave of Absence:

Apologies:

Philip Brook

Lily Lee

Peter Lulic

We are grateful to: Rotary Club of North Sydney Supporters



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The People Who Care’**