



# SPOKES

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ROTARY CLUB OF  
**PENNANT HILLS**

Chartered March 14, 1960



District 9685  
NSW, Australia

**Rotary**

District 9685



## **CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION**

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TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES &

GUESTS:

**9294 2107**

before Noon on

Monday



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## **THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM**

YOUNG ENDEAVOUR  YOUTH SCHEME  
EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

### *My Voyage on the 'Young Endeavour'*

Guest Speaker: Jessica Dargan

Chairman: John Ellis

Reporter: Adrian Bell



**NEXT MEETING - FEBRUARY 26th**

### **"THE BEN HALL LEGACY"**

Guest Speaker: John Donohoe

Chairman: David Firth Reporter: John Ellis

## Meeting Report - 12th February

The meeting opened in the traditional manner that included the President welcoming our visitors and then the Club joining in the saying of Rotary Grace.

There were a few announcements including mention by John Ellis of last weekends RYPEN session at Narrabeen Sports Centre; comment by Pres Jim on the level of business activity experienced on a recent visit (down by 50 to 80%) to Mudgee as a consequence of the fires; and a brief update by David Firth on the health of Theo.

Pat Parker also reported on correspondence sent to Ronald McDonald House which followed advice from the House of changes to arrangements that they have introduced to volunteer groups (such as our Club) assisting with the Meals from the Heart program.

John Ellis introduced our guest speakers for the evening, namely Emily Sykes and James Alexander, students from Pennant Hills High who were present to report on the National Youth Science Forum that they had recently attended for which our Club provided their sponsorship.



In their case the forum was held as a 10 day camp at Emmanuel College in association with the University of Queensland. (In this they were fortunate in that a number of partner programmes at other Universities had to be cancelled, affecting some 400 students as a consequence of the bush fires).

Emily and James shared the delivery of the report, Emily noting her interest in matters chemical and James his interest in engineering and production. Both however mentioned that their fields of interest turned out to have a much broader scope than that which they had anticipated. Emily reported on advanced imaging including doing an MRI on a pineapple. Similarly, James reported on material testing including a 'look' at liquid nitrogen. Both were involved in a number of visits where they were able to see how things worked in the real world and were able to discuss the process with those passionate staff involved in this research. Emily and James both commented on the expansion of their vision; the networking opportunities that they have been able to establish, and as a consequence, regarded the experience as life changing.

It was a very good evening and a delight to know the Club's involvement enables young people to have their perspectives broadened.

**Reporter: Phillip Stanton**



What was not made clear at the meeting was that Emily and James are the School Captains this year.

# International delegation of Rotary leaders visits Pakistan in support of polio eradication

**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan. (February 6, 2020)** – A delegation of Rotary International leaders from around the world traveled to Pakistan this week to meet with government leaders including Prime Minister Imran Khan, Minister of Health Dr. Zafar Mirza, Army Chief of Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa and Dr. Rana Safdar, head of Pakistan's Polio National Emergency Operations Centre.

The Rotary delegation included Holger Knaack, Rotary International President 2020-21; K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, Trustee Chair of the Rotary Foundation 2020-21; and Michael K. McGovern, Chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. The group was accompanied by incoming Rotary Foundation Trustee Aziz Memon, who leads efforts for Rotary's Pakistan PolioPlus program.

The government leaders praised Rotary for its prominent role in polio eradication and for providing vital financial support to Pakistan and other polio-threatened countries. Rotary members have contributed more than \$2.1 billion dollars and countless volunteer hours to ending polio.

Rotary is the organization credited with initiating the global effort to eradicate polio. When Rotary formed the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988, there were more than 350,000 cases of polio annually around the world. Today, due to the efforts of Rotary, its partners and world governments, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent.

In this week's meetings, the Prime Minister acknowledged recent challenges in the effort to rid Pakistan of polio, and confirmed that Pakistan considers polio eradication among its highest priorities. The Government of Pakistan has already taken a series of highly effective organizational steps to manage the polio vaccination program and provide much-needed resources to ensure the resurgence of polio in Pakistan is put to an end. General Bajwa assured the Rotary delegation of the unwavering support and cooperation of both the Army and the civil forces to ensure that every child in every community throughout Pakistan is reached with the lifesaving polio vaccine.

Dr. Zafar Mirza, Minister of Health of Pakistan confirmed the country's improved efforts to eradicate polio, noting that during the last round of national polio immunizations, approximately 40 million children were vaccinated.

Mr. Holger Knaack expressed his satisfaction with the visit and efforts by the Government of Pakistan to eliminate polio, stating, "We are grateful to have had the opportunity to meet with key leaders in Pakistan to learn about renewed efforts to eradicate the disease once and for all. We're confident that with the support of the government and the Army, that Pakistan will get the job done."

Mr. KR "Ravi" Ravindran agreed, stating, "Polio eradication is a massive effort that will require all elements of society to band together and work towards our ultimate goal of ensuring no child ever again is paralyzed by polio."

During their visit, the Rotary delegation met with local Rotary leaders from Pakistan, which is home to more than 230 Rotary clubs and nearly 3400 Rotary members. They engaged with some of the major donors of the GPEI, and visited the National Emergency Operations Centre, where a high-tech data collection system monitored progress in real time.

While only Afghanistan and Pakistan continue to report cases of wild poliovirus, the remaining challenges to global eradication - such as difficulty reaching children amid insecurity and conflict and weak health systems - have proven to be the most difficult. In order to meet these roadblocks head on and ensure the continuation of program efforts, funding and support from donors and world governments is imperative.



If the name and photo of the Prime Minister of Pakistan look somewhat familiar, that's because he was a very successful fast bowler for their national cricket team between 1971 & 1992

## OUR FORWARD PROGRAM

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter
FEBRUARY 26th	"THE BEN HALL LEGACY"	John Donohoe	David Firth	John Ellis
20-22nd MARCH	'REASONS' COMBINED DISTRICT CONFERENCE	VARIOUS	AT WOLLONGONG ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE	PRESIDENT JIM
APRIL 1st	Home Modification & My Aged Care	Jenny Ryan & Madeline Yan	Phil Stanton	David Firth
MAY 20th	PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AWARDS	TBA	TBA	TBA

District 9675 & 9685 Conference 2020

**20-22 MARCH**

# Reasons CONFERENCE 2020 Wollongong

Why are we Rotarians?  
What keeps us serving in our communities?

**Wollongong Entertainment Centre**

Speakers incl. Turia Pitt, Kaye Green, Rebecca Tolstoy  
& Rob Edwards

**Roaring 20s ~ Saturday Night Theme**

Registration ~ \$240 before 31 Dec 2019, \$280 before  
29 Feb 2020 + a variety of other packages incl. for New Rotarians,  
Rotaractors & those who can't attend all weekend

**Register at [bit.ly/reasonsconference2020](http://bit.ly/reasonsconference2020)**

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

Graeme Ashdown - February 28

#### ANNIVERSARIES

David & Heather Firth - February 5th

#### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Fraser - February 1st

Ian Huckel - February 10th

### ATTENDANCE AT OUR LAST MEETING

**Member Attendance : 56.25%**

**Apologies:** A Ameen, K Carter, I Chappel,  
T Glockemann, I Huckel, T Pankhurst, C Rigney

#### **Guest Speakers:**

Emily Sykes and James Alexander

#### **Visitors:**

Tracey Sykes,  
Karen Alexander and Mark Alexander

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built,  
and tolerance is the element which holds it together."

— Paul P Harris 'My Road to Rotary'