



Rotary
District 9685



CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES &

GUESTS:

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before Noon on

Monday



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Planning our 60th Birthday Function

Chairman: President Jim

Reporter: David Firth



AN INVITATION TO
**THE 60th BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION**
OF THE CHARTERING OF
THE ROTARY CLUB OF PENNANT HILLS.
WE ARE HAVING
AN AFTERNOON TEA
WITH A CHANCE TO MEET UP WITH
OLD FRIENDS, PAST MEMBERS,
CURRENT MEMBERS
PARTNERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CLUB.

**IT WILL BE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT
LUTANDA MANOR,
14 VICTORIA ROAD,
PENNANT HILLS
ON SUNDAY 15th MARCH
AT 2.00PM TILL 4.30PM**

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN US FOR A
TIME OF CELEBRATION AND ROTARY FELLOWSHIP**

RSVP TO davefirth@bigpond.com
OR PHONE 0407 805 487

*Are you coming and have you replied yet?
We're hoping you will join our celebration.*

NEXT MEETING - MARCH 11th

TBA

Chairman: President Jim

Reporter: Kaye Carter

Rotary Meeting Report - February 26th

President Jim Fraser opened the meeting with a warm welcome to guest speaker, Rotarian John Donohoe. Jim then covered his recent Presidents' meeting at El Rancho. \$1.1 million has been raised by our District for bushfire relief. Clubs were reminded to follow up insurance cover. Polio Plus reported 148 new cases in Pakistan and Afghanistan where two volunteers had been killed. The presidents were reminded that RI remains on the prowl for slackers who continue to use out of date Rotary brand images. District will hold a barbecue in Fagan Park on 29 March to recognize the work of the RFS in recent months. Jim mentioned that our DG has been given 500,000 face masks possibly suited to smokey situations but of no use for coronavirus. David Firth promoted the forthcoming function at Lutanda on 15 March to recognize the 60th anniversary of our Club's establishment. He expects we should have about 50 attending and appealed to us for further invitations. Also we need to renew our pull-up poster so we comply with RI's new Rotary wheel. A revised Pride of Workmanship booklet is also in hand. John Ellis reported on a donation of \$200 from Mr and Mrs Irving expressing their appreciation for the benefits gained by their daughter, Amanda, at RYLA last month.



David Firth then introduced John Donohoe, who lives with bushrangers in his imaginary life. He introduced his theme of Ben Hall's life that developed after reading about Ned Kelly's meagre 20 robberies. Somehow he was aware that Ben Hall had been much busier. John believes that Ben Hall was involved in at least 600 robberies and hence surely must have had a more interesting bushranging career. As he researched he began to wonder what Ben might have done with all the loot. Police records reveal he took about 2,000 pieces of jewellery. Research found that Ben Hall sought to leave something for his son. Rather than deposit stolen goods with the bank, he buried them. Ben Hall started life on the land with cattle and became an accomplished horseman. He married Bridget Walsh and they had a son, Henry. In 1862 Biddy shot through with one James Taylor, taking Henry with them. Ben went off the rails. He met up with Frank Gardiner who had already been in gaol and began squiring the sheilas in and around Grenfell. Gardiner convinced Ben and six others that the easiest way to get gold during the gold rush was to hold up the gold escort rather than pick up a pick. Ben joined the hold up of the gold escort at Eugowra in June 1862. They made off with

85 kg of gold and £3,700 in cash, about \$8 million today. What shall we do next week? Hall returned home to find someone had duffed his cattle. He now had a chip on his shoulder and from early 1863 turned to bushranging full time. With various accomplices Hall covered the central west from Parkes to Gundagai and Collector and from Forbes to Bathurst. All they did was rob and annoy people until November 1864 when John Gilbert shot Sergeant Parry near Jugiong. Now Hall was associated with a murderer. He sought comfort from the Carcoar priest, the Rev Tim McCarthy, wondering if contrition and surrender might help. Otherwise he kept up with his daytime job of bushranging until May 1865 when police and blacktrackers watched him set up camp about 15 km north of Forbes and shot him dead in the morning. Hall's well attended grave is now a tourist attraction in the Forbes cemetery. By coincidence Kate Foster, a sister of Ned Kelly, was buried nearby. Following Hall's death, accomplice John Dunn then busied himself looking for buried loot. All he found was a bag of banknotes. Annoyingly these were half notes, the outcome of the practice of cutting notes in half to transport one half of the cash to the bank today then send the matching half next week. John Donohoe has been out there as well. Ben Hall's stash must be somewhere. Recently he met a farmer near Binalong who had found the remains of several pocket watches all at the same time. John has associated this find with a bushranger's stash. Ben's thoughtfulness for Henry failed to materialize as Henry Hall died penniless in Tamworth in 1917. John appealed to our members – if you have any further clues, please let me know. The most likely source of helpful advice would be Ian Huckel whose Grenfell forebears probably watched as Ben Hall buried some of the loot. John Donohoe closed this fascinating account with the mention that he has been guest speaker in a few cruise ships, thus ensuring that Terry Pankhurst will know all about Ben Hall. John's books on Hall's last days were available.

Several questions followed then President Jim closed the meeting with the National Anthem.

Reporter: John Ellis

Further to the talk last week on the story of Ben Hall

John Ellis has a few connections with the story – Pat Ellis's great grandfather, John Clements, owned Eugowra station in 1862. His brother, Hanbury, was managing the station. Later four suspects were brought to Bathurst before the police magistrate, William Palmer, John Clements' father-in-law. Charles Clements, another brother, was raided by Hall and accomplices at Coobong station near Parkes in June 1864. In April 1863 Hall and accomplices raided John Barnes's store in Cootamundry, now Cootamundra and later shot and killed Barnes. Three of Barnes' grandchildren married into the Davison family of John Ellis's mother. One of the gold escort gang, Henry Manns, was hanged at Darlinghurst in March 1863. In 1895 his niece, Rosetta Manns, married Sydney Roberts, a cousin of John's grandfather, Arthur Davison.

Have you registered for the District Conference yet? You can do it online at bit.ly/reasonsconference2020 - remembering that our club will feature on the Saturday in the Vocational Excellence Awards segment and it would be good to have a good representation from the club in support of President Jim and our nominee.



How your club can partner with Toastmasters

To help you achieve your personal and professional goals, Rotary International is working with Toastmasters International to provide opportunities to grow your networks, your leadership and communication skills, and your impact within the community.

This alliance with Toastmasters is different from Rotary International's relationships with other organizations: It enhances your membership experience through professional development opportunities and making connections beyond your club.

What is Toastmasters?

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit, educational organization with more than 16,800 clubs in 143 countries. Since 1924, it has helped its members become more effective speakers, communicators, and leaders through a worldwide network of clubs, much like Rotary.

How can you and your club get involved?

It's easy for Rotarians and Rotaractors to engage:

- Find a Toastmasters club near you and arrange a visit.
- Welcome Toastmasters members to your club so they can learn more about Rotary and Rotaract.
- Invite a Toastmasters member to be a guest speaker at your meeting or to participate in an upcoming service project.
- Explore ways to work with your local Toastmasters club.
- Raise awareness about this alliance by sharing the news with your club and Toastmaster clubs that may not be aware that we are working together.

OUR FORWARD PROGRAM

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter
MARCH 18th	Our RYPEN students Report To be confirmed	Ashlin Upton Zac Dunlop	John Ellis	Pam Hudson
20-22nd MARCH	'REASONS' COMBINED DISTRICT CONFERENCE	VARIOUS	AT WOLLONGONG ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE	PRESIDENT JIM
MARCH 25th	Policing, East Timor and Coffee Roasting PARTNERS NIGHT	Libby Bleakley	Phil Stanton	Pat Parker
APRIL 1st	Home Modification & My Aged Care	Jenny Ryan & Madeline Yan	Phil Stanton	David Firth

The picture at right, something doing the rounds on social media, is perhaps amusingly indicative of the reaction in our local community to the coronavirus problem.

Try to buy toilet paper, pasta, canned food, etc. in our local supermarkets. If you haven't tried yet, GOOD LUCK!

Meanwhile, Inside the fridge



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Ian Chappel - March 3rd
Georgia Glockemann - March 4th
Jeanette Rigney - March 14th
Heather Firth - March 24th

ANNIVERSARIES

Claude & Jeanette Rigney - March 9th
Jim & Esther Fraser - March 11th
David & Heather Hopping - March 25th

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Ian Chappel - March 10th

ATTENDANCE AT OUR LAST MEETING

Member Attendance :
62.5%

Apologies:

A Ameen, K Carter, T Glockemann,
T Pankhurst, P Parker, D Walsh

Guest Speakers:

John Donohoe

Visitors:

Nil

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please.

- Mark Twain