

SPOKES

VOLUME 61 No. 34

Date: 18th March, 2020 EDITOR: DAVID FIRTH

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM



'THE RYPEN 2020 EXPERIENCE'

Guest Speakers: Ashlin Upton & Zac Dunlop

Chairman: John Ellis

Reporter: Phil Stanton







These are photos taken by John Ellis during his visit to RYPEN 2020

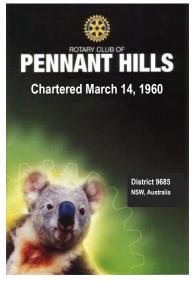
NEXT MEETING - MARCH 25th

PARTNERS NIGHT

'Policing, East Timor and Coffee Roasting'

Guest Speaker: Libby Bleakley Chairman: Phil Stanton

Reporter: Pat Parker







CLUB CONTACT
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before Noon on Monday

Find us on facebook

Rotary Meeting Report - March 11th

There was a smaller turnout for our meeting last Wednesday with just 10 in attendance. It had been posted as a Club Forum in Spokes as we had no guest speaker lined up and we also had the 60th birthday celebrations imminent.

President Jim was in the chair and he allowed the meeting, following Grace, to continue in fellowship while the dinner was served and consumed. As an observation, I feel that we have been well catered for since our return to the golf club. The standard of the meals has been very good.

Following the dinner, Jim reported on a meeting held the previous night with Jason Terry from Rotaract and representatives from Beecroft and West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook clubs. The purpose was to discuss the proposed new Rotaract club in this area. Jim advised that Epping club was no longer involved. The need is to identify and contact as many likely members as possible and get them to attend an interest meeting set down for Monday April 27th. It was agreed that we provide some funds to cover the cost of the interest meeting.

There was a general discussion about various programs and projects. The proposed computer training session for Lutanda residents was raised. With President Jim having suitable contacts, it was decided that at an appropriate time in the future, (given the current coronavirus concerns, particularly with the elderly), we should organise this with the Lutanda management.

The question of when we will have our changeover this year was prompted by David Firth announcing that he would be spending Saturday at PETS (President Elect Training) or rather the new name PELD (President Elect Learning & Development). Who spends time thinking these names up? In any event, it was decided that July 1 would be our changeover.

David, in the absence of the treasurer, said that we had sufficient funds for current commitments but we should check before committing to any major new items.

With regard to Sunday's 60th Birthday Celebrations, David reported that we had been very fortunate in being able to move the function to the golf club at relative short notice and at no financial penalty. Our club is funding the function with the exception of drinks. We then viewed the powerpoint presentation which had been prepared for the function. Following this, a few other items relating to Sunday's happenings were discussed, and then President Jim brought the meeting to a close in the usual way.

Reporter: the editor

PE David Firth's Report on the PELD Session on Saturday 14th March

It is 15 years since I attended one of these training sessions for incoming presidents. There had been some late uncertainty as to whether it would go ahead due to the health concerns, however, with technology available, we proceeded on the basis that if you didn't choose to go, you could watch on live streaming in your home. I think that option would have put me to sleep!

I won't bore you with an account of the various elements in the sessions. However, the use of technology was foremost. We all were asked to bring our laptop or tablet - some opted for their phones! As we had been given work to do before hand, right after the start we had a quiz. But this was run on a program called Kahoot. It only took about 30 minutes for everyone to get online with Kahoot so we could commence! There were other technology wonders revealed during the day.

So what did I learn from this session?

I now realise what a great amount of information, training tools, and assistance is available online through **rotary.org** and the various elements available there. There were other very interesting items presented during the day.

In case you don't know, the District Conference has been cancelled as it would certainly have exceeded the 500 person limit for public assemblies. Similarly, DG Elect David Clark advised that the District Assembly set down for Sunday 19th April is in serious doubt. More information will be forthcoming. And to cap it all, the District Conference for next year, which was scheduled to be a cruise on March 12 to 15th, 2021, has also been cancelled and may also be live streamed over that weekend! More about that later.

THE 60th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION REPORT

What a grand celebration it was all round to recognise the Diamond Anniversary of the Pennant Hills Rotary Club. 60 years since the club was chartered was celebrated by many current and past members and their partners.

The event kicked off around 2pm as many arrived and was enhanced by dignitaries such as District Governor Kalma McLellan still hurting from just cancelling the district conference, Phillip Ruddock Mayor of Hornsby sad he had missed out on his trip to Bangladesh, and AG Bob Erskine walking much better after a knee replacement. The Pennant Hills Golf Club stepped up to offer us a venue after being ousted from Lutanda by the dreaded virus. The staff were extremely helpful throughout the day and the view out onto the golf course was beautiful and made for a great and welcoming setting enhanced by lots of memorabilia from the club's history.



President Jim welcomed people around 2:30 with a brief overview of the afternoon. The formal proceedings started at 3pm with a greeting from District Governor Kalma highlighting the disappointment of having to cancel the district conference after so much work had been put into it but spoke of how Rotary has contributed to communities over the years and congratulated Pennant Hills for its many programs over the 60 years. Next was Phillip Ruddock to talk about his long support of the Rotary program in the area and some of the plans for the Pennant Hills area to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety. He spoke of some of the issues that business in the area is facing with changes in the rail network reducing traffic greatly. AG Bob Erskine was next with a toast to Rotary with everyone standing and raising their glasses. It was then onto the big show where David Firth presented the slide presentation he had put together of some of the events over the past 60 years. Lots of names, pictures and events that people could reminisce about, and some of the people they had enjoyed sharing time with while being involved in different events that enhanced the local community. Jack Reid had a high profile in a lot of the pictures due to his photogenic appearance. Some of the construction done on the various Rotary programs are no longer around and Mr Ruddock had to suffer through some taunts that council had torn them down. There was a long list of projects started by Pennant Hills that have been taken up by many other clubs to continue and expand such as Pride of Workmanship and youth driver education. There was some time at the end where Theo and Terry outlined some of the elaborate pranks played at some of the club outings which included an electric toilet seat and an imitation police cruiser and uniforms to pull the hoax off. There was some significant laughter from many in remembering those. David had prepared a copy of the char-

ter night program which was shared around to remember the history and the formality of the evening with a toast to the queen and rotary grace which was sung by people at the time. To celebrate the event a cake was created with the correctly branded Rotary Logo on it by John Ellis. To enhance the pomp and ceremony, John brought his Naval Command sword in all its splendour and handed it to Jack Reid to cut the cake. Jack raised the sword in the direction of the flag and then gracefully lowered it with force to cut the cake to a round of applause in celebration of the day. The conversations continued on for some time in groups and the event was closed up just before 5pm with people having the opportunity to take home some of the remaining food.



VALE GRAEME ASHDOWN PHF

Graeme passed away on Monday evening after a long illness. He became an Honorary Member in 2017, having joined our club on 7th April, 2005. He came to us as an experienced Rotarian having been a member of Leichhardt Club for 19 years. Graeme was always ready to get involved in our projects and for a number of years was a very valuable member of the Pride of Workmanship project team.

Our condolences to Margaret and the family. Funeral arrangements should be available later in the week.



OUR FORWARD PROGRAM Speaker Chairman Date **Program** Reporter **Our RYPEN students MARCH Ashlin Upton** Report John Ellis **Pam Hudson** 18th **Zac Dunlop** To be confirmed **'REASONS' AT WOLLONGONG** 20-22nd CANCELLEDMENT COMBINED DISTRICT PRES DENT JIM **MARCH** CONFERENCE **Policing, East Timor and MARCH Coffee Roasting Libby Bleakley Phil Stanton** Pat Parker 25th **PARTNERS NIGHT APRIL Home Modification &** Jenny Ryan & **David Firth Phil Stanton** 1st My Aged Care **Madeline Yan** Vince & Nancy Cosgrove **Combined Meeting with APRIL At Springfield House** 'The Vietnam War West Pennant Hills & \$32 per head 6th 6.30 for 7.00pm Experience' Cherrybrook THIS IS AN OPTIONAL NIGHT AS WE HAVE A GUEST SPEAKER ON 8th APRIL **APRIL** THE NORTH FOUNDATION **NICKY JACOBS Pat Parker Phil Stanton** 8th & HORNSBY HOSPITAL THE NORTH CONNEX

TO BE CONFIRMED

BRING ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES BIRTHDAYS

OPENING PLANS

AN OPEN MEETING -

APRIL

15th

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

Phil Stanton

Member Attendance:

Adrian Bell

62.5%

Apologies:

K Carter, P Hudson, T Pankhurst, P Parker, P Stanton, D Walsh

Guest Speakers:

Nil

Visitors:

Nil

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A good wife laughs at her husband's jokes, not because they are clever, but because she is!"