



SPOKES

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Rotary
District 9685



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TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES &

GUESTS:

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before Noon on

Monday



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Well, as all members already know, we have suspended our meetings at least until April 15th. No doubt there will be a re-evaluation of this prior to that date, with the likelihood of a much longer cessation of meetings. The Partners Night we had planned for this week has been cancelled - of course now the Golf Club function area is closed - but our speaker, Libby Bleakley has said she will come in the future when normal operations are resumed.

However, I plan to continue to produce Spokes each week in an effort to maintain our connections as a club. To do that I am looking for members to provide items for inclusion. It will also provide an opportunity to learn more about Rotary and its various facets.

So keep looking for the regular Spokes email and don't forget to send articles, items, photos that you think would be of interest to our members and the large number of 'Friends of Rotary' who receive Spokes each week.

Cheers and keep safe,

David Firth

TRIVIA FOR THIS WEEK

Kaye Carter provided the following -

I have 2 trivia questions (of which the focus is women) to tantalise our members for what is in store for them at one of our next meetings in the future.

1. Which of Henry VIII's wives was the mother of Queen Elizabeth?
2. Following the Salem witches trials in 1692, 24 women died? How?

The answers will be in the next edition of Spokes.

NEXT MEETING - MARCH 25th

PARTNERS NIGHT

'Policing, East Timor, and the Art of Listening'

Guest Speaker: Libby Bleakley

Chairman: Phil Stanton

Reporter: Pat Parker

CANCELLED

Meeting Report - Wednesday 18th March 2020

Guest Speakers

Ashlin Upton & Zac Dunlop 'The RIPEN Experience'

Guests

Nicole – Zac's mum; Andrew – Ashlin's dad

The meeting was called to order at 6.35 by **President Jim**. His main points were:

Positive feedback from the Club's 60th birthday gathering on Sunday at the Pennant Hills Golf Club - a letter of thanks will be written to the Golf Club.

Future joint meeting with West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook (April 6th)

Jim will advise members if future meetings are cancelled.

The North Connex Open Meeting on April 15th was discussed – the point of discussion was the invitation to golf club members – whether they will come for dinner or just the talk – it was decided that golf club members could decide for themselves – no further plans were made as it depended on whether the meeting would be cancelled due to the coronavirus.

David Firth

Graeme Ashdown passed away – there will be a private funeral next week and a celebration of his life later in the year when times are safer

Dawn Callaway sent a 60th birthday card for the club's birthday

Robert Rutishauser from Port Macquarie sent his best wishes also

Ken Cole's remembrance of Pennant Hills in the early days – David has copies if you'd like one

David reiterated that the Club birthday was a great day on Sunday thanks to the Golf Club who assisted in providing us with a venue at very short notice

Peter Waite gave a \$20 donation towards the club account in honour of the club birthday

David found the long-lost President's suitcase in his garage – it's a mystery how it got there – Did Theo put it there? How about "I'm innocent" Adrian who mentioned that David's garage is often open? Does anyone know?

Members were then flabbergasted with **the President's** trivial pursuit questions. Our guests were treated to a raucous answering session (we really should behave with a bit more decorum when we have visitors!!). There was a tie between Adrian (who has yet to cough up with his \$2.00 for the last two years), David and Theo. The winner was – Theo. Yay Theo.

Lucky door prize winner was **Phil Stanton** - not John Ellis for a change.

John Ellis then introduced the two RIPEN speakers who gave an hour by hour recount of their weekend leadership experience in the pouring rain. These two young people are Year 10 students at Pennant Hills High School. They attended the weekend to gain leadership skills.

They recounted many teamwork activities where they gained/were challenged on some of the following skills:

- to be confident
- not to be judgemental
- to trust in the leader
- to be patient
- to be an effective communicator
- to listen to each other and work together
- to stay positive and do mindboggling teamwork activities whilst drenched (editor's thoughts)
- to make a raft in the pouring rain and then fall into the water because the raft collapsed (oh to be young again!!)

Ashlin and Zac's final words were that they learned heaps of things especially about themselves and about working as a team. The pair were inundated with questions from the audience and answered them admirably (our money was well spent - thanks John for looking after them).

President Jim thanked the guest speakers and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

Reporter: Kaye Carter



VALE GRAEME ASHDOWN PHF

In Spokes last week I was only able to notify of Graeme's passing due to the shortness of time before our meeting. So I have prepared a larger tribute to a man who made such a contribution to our club. In fact, this is the recognition we gave to him on the occasion of his induction as an Honorary Member in February 2017 when he was no longer physically able to attend meetings.

Graeme joined Rotary in July 1986, joining the Rotary Club of Leichhardt which was close to where his business was. After 19 years in that club, he joined our club on 7th April, 2005, having sold his business. As is often the case when an experienced Rotarian joins us, we wanted to ease him into our club. So in July that year we gave him just 3 jobs - Floor Manager (responsible for ensuring the meeting begins on time and everyone is catered for), Ronald McDonald House Chairman, and POW Awards Night Chairman. We didn't want to give him too much to do! The following year he was Community Service Director and also became involved in the POW Project producing the trophies we sell. This latter job he continued to do until 2016. In addition, he and Margaret provided storage for much of the POW stock in their garage area during that period. In 2007/8 he was Vocational Service Director. Then in 2012/13 he was Treasurer for two years.



This was the evening that we made a presentation to Graeme and inducted him as an Honorary Member

So you can see what a commitment Graeme had to Rotary, our club, and in particular, to the Pride of Workmanship Project. As I reported last week, he passed away on Monday 17th March, just a few days after his 80th birthday. Margaret has advised that they have had a private funeral, given the current conditions regarding large gatherings, however there will be a celebration of his life later in the year when it is safe to hold it.

David Firth



These are a couple of photos from Kaye Carter taken at our 60th birthday

OUR FORWARD PROGRAM

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter
APRIL 15th	THE NORTH CONNEX OPENING PLANS AN OPEN MEETING -	TO BE CONFIRMED BRING ANYONE WHO	Phil Stanton IS INTERESTED	Adrian Bell
THIS MEETING IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION IN EARLY APRIL				

NEWS OF ABSENT MEMBERS

I phoned Pam Hudson late last week. She has been in self isolation for 3 weeks and, as her immunity is compromised, will not be returning for the foreseeable future. However she told me that her husband, Peter, suffered a stroke the previous Monday. He was admitted to the SAN and after treatment has been moved to Mt Wilga for rehabilitation. He was fortunate that he has not been badly affected however he will need to stay there for a while yet. Naturally it is difficult for Pam to maintain contact with him - she is visiting every second day. She would no doubt like to get a phone call from any of our members.

I was also talking to Ian Chappel who has not been well. He told me that he had some sort of flu like symptoms but is satisfied that it was not COVID-19. He also had a gastric bug to follow up but is now free of that too. He was certainly in agreement with our decision to suspend meetings.



Can anyone, apart from Jack Reid, remember the building in the background which was part of the Pen-nant Hills history for many years?

The answer in next week's edition of Spokes.

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

Guest Speakers:
 Nil

Visitors:
 Nil

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.'

- [Ralph Waldo Emerson](#)