



**Rotary**  
District 9685



## CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING  
APOLOGIES &  
GUESTS:

**9294 2107**

**before Noon on**

**Monday**



## THIS WEEK'S NEWS

**This is an extract from the District Governor's E Newsletter of April 2. It was a good delivery of information about rotary in our district but naturally dominated by the effects of COVID-19 on our activities and programs. I thought this was worth repeating here. The editor**

### A FINAL WORD

Please stay safe and well over coming weeks. You are the lifeblood of everything that Rotary is about. Your health and safety are centric to our great future. And stay in touch with each other. Those who have dipped their toes into the world of Zoom love it and find it far easier than you might think. So do not hold back as it is quite exciting! There is nothing truer out there at the moment than our current theme – **Rotary Connects the World.**

To put a final smile on your dial, a little nostalgia, adapted from the Sound of Music – turn your sound up, click and enjoy!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMBh-eo3tvE>

Yours in Rotary

**Kalma McLellan**

Governor, RI District 9685, 2019-20



*Last Sunday was Ian Huckel's birthday and he received a surprise - a birthday box from fellow member Kaye, complete with a couple of toilet rolls! Well done Kaye, and we trust you had a happy birthday Ian, although alone, and nice to see you looking so well.*

## TRIVIA FOR THIS WEEK provided by Kaye Carter

Answers to last weeks questions

1. Scientist **Michelle Simmons** was the 2018 Australian of the Year
2. Trick question - **Frida Kahlo** had plans of going to medical school, but due to a bus accident, became an artist instead

This week's questions

1. **Who was the first woman to win the Archibald Prize and who did she paint?**
2. **Approximately how long was Nova Peris a senator for the Northern Territory?**

## The President's Ponderings for Wednesday 8th April, 2020

Hello,

Just a reminder about our catch up on Wednesday at 7pm using Zoom. After a few minutes it feels as if you are all in the same room.

You can do it a couple of ways, on a mobile phone using the Zoom App, or on a computer using [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and clicking on join a meeting using the meeting id 910575116.

If you don't want to use your computer you can dial in by calling 02 8015 6011 and entering in the id 910575116 then press # and then press # again when they ask for your participant ID.

Hope to speak then. Give me a call if you have any questions,

Regards

Jim Fraser

Ph: 0412 679 710



### URGENT APPEAL

Today, we are facing a severe funding shortfall, placing essential community services like Meals Plus under threat.

The effects of this shortfall will hit the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community the hardest.

**Meals Plus continues to operate during the current COVID-19 pandemic, as we are an essential service. In fact, our work has never been more vital as more people in the community face increased hardship.**

**We are committed to keeping our doors open to provide takeaway meals, food parcels and welfare to those who are homeless or facing hardship during the current crisis. With so many people losing their income we fear the numbers will continue to increase and we need your help now more than ever.**

The Meals Plus service receives no government funding, so is entirely reliant on the kindness of supporters like you. In recent months, rising costs and a dramatic increase in the demand for our services, has left us facing a funding deficit of \$199,793.

We never know the moment when someone will reach out for help. It's why we have worked tirelessly to keep Meals Plus open 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year. And every day almost 200 people come to us for a filling meal.

***If you would like to make a donation to Parramatta Mission - as a club we support them at Christmas through the Tree of Joy - go to [www.parramattamission.org.au](http://www.parramattamission.org.au)***

## The Origin of the Naming of Pennant Hills

Recently we enjoyed celebrating sixty years of Rotary in Pennant Hills. Copies of the Charter function held in 1960 were circulated and included a page for the Early History of Pennant Hills. Broadly, the explanation of naming the locality came from the method of signalling information from Government House in Sydney to Government House in Parramatta. A system of signal flags and pennants would be raised in Sydney and observed by a detachment of soldiers at present day Thompsons Corner, then relayed on to Government House in Parramatta. A pennant is a tapered flag and is also spelt pendant.

This version is incorrect for a few reasons. Firstly, there never were any soldiers stationed at Thompsons Corner and there never was a signal station on that prominence. The surveyor's mark near the present flag mast was once thought to define the site of the signal station. Also there is not a clear line of sight to Government House, then in Bridge Street or on to Old Government House in Parramatta. In the 1820s the actual line of signal and semaphore stations ran from South Head and broadly followed the line of the Parramatta River to Parramatta. Furthermore, it is 17.6 km as the crow flies from Thompsons Corner to the corner of Bridge and Phillip Streets and a soldier would need a good telescope to identify a pennant, say 3 m long, particularly if there was little wind.

The earliest reference to an area known as Pennant Hills is in a list of works authorised by Governor Hunter in 1800 for a stockyard in Pendant Hills in the Dundas district. The 1801 Muster records Ann Fay residing in Pennant Hills and in 1802 Governor King wrote to Joseph Banks mentioning the range of Pennant Hills. Those references do not specifically pinpoint where those Pennant Hills were.

In 1920 James Jervis, an historian, argued that the name is linked to Thomas Pennant (1726-98), a famous Welsh naturalist and mentor of Joseph Banks. Jervis highlighted that the then custom of geographical naming often remembered one's patrons. Banks' collection of flora and fauna from Botany Bay included a blue and red parrot he named the pennantian parrot. We know it as the crimson rosella. In 1789 Thomas Pennant was a subscriber to Governor Phillip's *The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay*. The prominent Pennant family were friends of the parents of Francis Grose, the Lieutenant Governor following the return of Governor Phillip to England in 1792. Lieutenant Governor Patterson and Governor Hunter also corresponded with Banks and were aware of his association with Pennant through the Royal Society. Although there is no official documentation of allocating the name Pennant Hills, Jervis records that the name was used for the range of hills north of the river between Ryde and Parramatta and surmises that either Phillip or Grose might have used the name thus. He also records that Patterson and Hunter made land grants in the Dundas area. Nevertheless these hills were known as Pennant Hills by 1800. Pennant Street linking Parramatta and Rydalmere with Dundas was gazetted in 1822.

Later, when post offices were established, Pennant Hills was allocated to present day West Pennant Hills. When the railway connected Strathfield with the Hawkesbury River in 1887 the naming of stations by the department caused some concern to residents. One was the present station at Pennant Hills, some distance from what was then known as Pennant Hills. Another was the present station of Hornsby, well to the north of the Hornsby of Constable Horne's grant in a locality then known as Jack's Island. Protests from residents only confirmed the Department of Railways to dig in and retain their names. In time the former localities became West Pennant Hills and Normanhurst.

This account is taken from *In Search of Pennant Hills* by Trevor Patrick, James Symes and Andrew Tink. Some of our newer members might not know that the flag mast and flag at Thompsons Corner were the gift of the late Rotarian Les Vagg, Club President in 1977-8 and proprietor of the Holden motor dealership we now know as Pennant Hills Holden and Hyundai.

**This item was provided by our resident historian, John Ellis.**

*Fellows, two of the authors referred to by John, Trevor Patrick and Andrew Tink AM, are past Australia Day awardees of ours. Trevor Patrick we honoured in 1995 along with another writer, Ralph Hawkins. Andrew Tink was the member for Epping in the NSW Parliament until 2007, and has written several fine historical books in recent years. We hon-*



## OUR FORWARD PROGRAM

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter
APRIL 19th	DISTRICT 9685 ASSEMBLY ONLINE	COMMENCING AT 9am	For all directors for next Rotary year	Registration: <a href="http://assembly.district9685.org.au">assembly.district9685.org.au</a>

### PHOTOS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Phil Stanton and Dave Hopping sing a duet in days gone by.  
We should have had a repeat performance at our 60th!



### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

Ian Huckel - April 5th  
Peter Hudson - April 8th  
Dorothy Green - April 19th  
Pam Hudson - April 21st  
Leon Edema - April 24th

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Terry & Maureen Pankhurst - April 9th  
Pat & Sandra Parker - April 9th

#### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

George Green - April 3rd  
Bill Woodman - April 6th



This is an example of the lengths we used to go to to raise money at our Annual Rotary Fair, held in Observatory Park originally, and then in Kenley Park, Normanhurst in later years until it became too much for our aging members to do all the work involved. I presume you recognise these two current members.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity.  
The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.**

Winston Churchill