

Rotary
District 9685



CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES &

GUESTS:

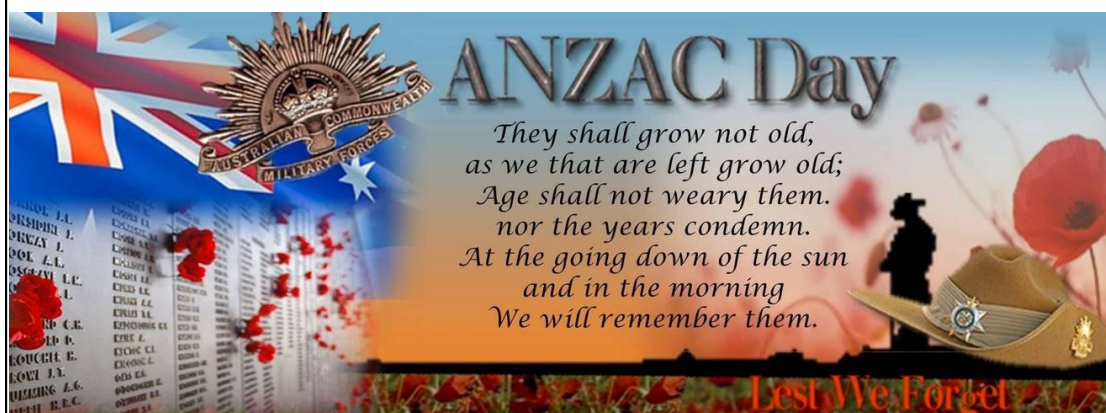
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before Noon on

Monday



THIS WEEK



As we approach April 25th on Saturday, we are coming to grips with the fact that this will be a very different Anzac Day from what we are used to. The regular dawn services are not being held. Similarly, the Anzac Day march will not take place. However we are being encouraged, at least in some circles, to be out front of our homes at 6 am to observe a minute's silence. In some streets there may even be someone who can play the Last Post as well. Let's hope that, in spite of the lack of the usual observances, the significance of the day is not lost.



THE DISTRICT 9685 ASSEMBLY ONLINE

This was the first time our district had tried anything as 'adventurous' as this, a ZOOM meeting for potentially 450 people scattered across an area from Blackheath to Manly and Ryde to The Entrance. The way it was achieved was to have the presenters and the district team on ZOOM, while those who came to learn were connected through a YouTube link. This meant that we did not have a chance to ask questions or comment directly, but we could use live chat or email to send questions during a presentation and these were answered live at the end of the presentation.

Some presentations included videos and most had powerpoint presentations on screen for all to see. All in all, I thought it worked fairly well, and as is usual, some presenters were better than others. A couple of highlights I would like to share -

Incoming RI President Holger Knaack from Germany has 4 areas he is concentrating on; 1. Persuading new club models; 2. Asking every club to hold a Strategic Meeting where the future club direction is discussed; 3. He suggests that new club members are carefully selected to ensure a good fit with the club; 4. To ensure we continue the End Polio Now campaign.

The other item which I thought was worth sharing, not because of its Rotary content, but for the clever use of a classic TV series was -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5CNHDeF2xA>

The editor

The President's Ponderings for Wednesday 22nd April, 2020

Hello,

You are invited to the Rotary Weekly Meeting tomorrow night (Wednesday 22nd April) at 7.00 pm.

The link details are <https://zoom.us/j/92718447341>

The meeting ID: 927 1844 7341

Regards

Jim Fraser

Ph: 0412 679 710

For those interested, Theo Glockemann is hosting an online Trivia Night on Thursday 23rd April at 7.30 pm

For more details and the link to the session, contact Theo at theogeo@bigpond.net.au

He is even offering a prize for the winner!



Vanuatu Ravaged by Cyclone Harold

On April 6th Cyclone Harold made landfall in Vanuatu as a Category 5 cyclone, bringing devastation to the northern provinces. The provinces of Sanma, Malampa, Torba and Penama are most affected. It is estimated that up to **90% of buildings** and houses in Sanma are either damaged or destroyed. Communications are still down in most areas and, coupled with the remote nature of many communities, the full extent of the damage or casualties is still unclear. **160,000 people are thought to be affected.**



Vanuatu is mercifully COVID-19-free and the government would like to keep it that way. As such, we are unable to send in a Response Team. Our Operations team have been working tirelessly to find a way to assist the people of Vanuatu, working with the National Disaster Management Office and locally based NGO's

FACTS ABOUT CYCLONE HAROLD 🌀

- Cyclone Harold made landfall in Vanuatu as a Category 5
- There is a shortage of emergency shelter items in Vanuatu and in-country partners are turning to Shelter Cluster partners for assistance
- Although the COVID-19 pandemic is restricting direct SRT access, ShelterBox has identified a potential partner in **CARE Vanuatu**

Based on the needs assessment, we are looking at providing **IFRC spec Shelter Kits** (tarps, tools and fixings) plus additional IFRC spec tarps and rope; **solar lights**. The caseload would be **3000 households**

ANOTHER ROLE FOR THE NAVY

These days of home isolation, no unnecessary travel and wondering what the future might hold, cast me back to 1959. I returned home from Dartmouth in 1958, a brand new acting sub lieutenant with an appointment to join the flagship, HMAS *Melbourne*. In January 1959 she sailed from Garden Island for Port Phillip and Williamstown to become a backdrop for the filming of Nevil Shute's "On the Beach". This novel, published in 1957, portrays the world in gloom. A nuclear war in the northern hemisphere has resulted in the nuclear cloud covering the lands north of the equator and the only signs of life anywhere on Earth are to the south. His story is centred on Melbourne where people await a gloomy end as contaminated air masses gradually drift south across the convergent zone. Set long before oil reserves were located near Australia, Melburnians are making do with coal generated electricity and diminishing reserves of petroleum products. Australia's only aircraft carrier, HMAS *Sydney*, is in Melbourne. Commissioned as an oil burning steamer, she has been converted to coal. A nuclear powered submarine, USS *Scorpion*, is on a port visit to Australia and also in Port Phillip, stranded miles from her home base now blanketed with the nuclear fall out. A mysterious message in Morse code is received from Seattle and *Scorpion* is preparing to sail and investigate if, after all, it might be safe to return home. She is to be accompanied by an Australian naval liaison officer and a scientist.



As *Melbourne* steamed south to become *Sydney* for the film, scuttlebutt abounded with speculative stories of how the ship's company might become extras in a Hollywood film. Would Jack be issued with *Sydney* cap tallies? Would we get to meet the stars and get an autograph? *Melbourne* berthed alongside Gellibrand Pier at Williamstown and across the pier was HMS *Andrew*, one of the Royal Navy's 4th Submarine Squadron then based at Balmoral. *Andrew* would be disguised as *Scorpion* for the filming. Her fin number S63 became 623, that happened to be, at the time, the fin number for USS *Nathan Hale*. The main characters for the story were Commander Towers, USN, *Scorpion*'s skipper. With time to spare in Melbourne, he has made friends with a local girl, Moira Davidson. *Scorpion* is to sail and investigate with an Australian liaison officer, Lieutenant Commander Holmes and a Melbourne scientist, Dr Osborne. It was a time when Hollywood would not accept there might be any suitable talent and drawcards from non-American sources for roles in a feature film.

Gregory Peck played the part of Commander Towers and Ava Gardner, looking very glamorous in a bright red dress, became Moira Davidson. Fred Astaire became the non-dancing Dr Osborne who is fiddling with sugar cane to make fuel for his Ferrari. Anthony Perkins, later of "Psycho" fame, became Lieutenant Commander Holmes, RAN. *Melbourne* and *Andrew* were required for about five days for the cameras. Those in *Melbourne* would attend Colours at 0800 and across the pier, *Andrew* would hoist the Union Jack and White Ensign fore and aft. At about 0805, these flags were quickly replaced with the Stars and Stripes aft and the US Navy jack forward. For those following the number of stars on the United States' flags, there were, at the time, 49 stars as Alaska had just been accepted into the Union, however Hawaii was to be admitted later that year and before the film would be in circulation. We were told, and as acting subs, we believed it, that the flag at *Andrew*'s staff was the first occasion for the display of the future design with 50 stars.

Ships' companies then attended to their regular ship routines, however at stand easy and lunch time *Melbourne*'s starboard sponsons were crammed with goofers. The filming we saw was mainly about Commander Towers and Moira on the pier as Towers introduced her to his submarine. Occasionally Holmes and Osborne joined them. The weather was typical summer – hot and humid and Ava Gardner famously quipped that Melbourne was an appropriate place for a film about the end of the world. Towards the end of the filming that required presence of the carrier and submarine, *Melbourne*'s XO, Commander Stevens, invited the stars into the Wardroom anteroom after the close of the working day. Only Gregory Peck and Anthony Perkins accepted and in the anteroom scrum of 135 officers the acting subs could only stand on tippy toe to catch a glimpse of the stars over the shoulders of their seniors. Anthony Perkins gave the impression that he was a film star and should be admired accordingly. Gregory Peck, aware that he was in our "home", graciously thanked us for the invitation into our home and came across as a most considerate chap. Years later that tallied with a television programme long after the Vietnam War to which he was much opposed, when he invited several US servicemen backstage with his son, a veteran, after the presentation.

Without further ado, *Melbourne*, now once more a real flagship, embarked the aircraft squadrons off Jervis Bay and the Admiral's staff in Sydney then sailed north for SEATO exercises.

JWE

It has often been claimed that Ava Gardner described Melbourne as "the perfect place to make a film about the end of the world." However, the purported quote was actually invented by journalist Neil Jillett, who was writing for The Sydney Morning Herald at the time. His original draft of a tongue-in-cheek piece about the making of the film said that he had not been able to confirm a third-party report that Ava Gardner had made this remark. The newspaper's sub-editor changed it to read as a direct quotation from Gardner. It was published in that form and entered Melbourne folklore very quickly.

OUR FORWARD PROGRAM

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter
APRIL 26th 26th	<u>DISTRICT 9685 ASSEMBLY</u> 'Foundation' session President, Secretary & Club Administration	COMMENCING AT 9.00 am 12.00 pm	For Phil Stanton David F, John Ellis, Kaye Carter	Registration: assembly.district9685.org.au
May 3rd 3rd	Treasurer Membership	9.00 am 12.00 pm	Terry Pankhurst Ian Chappel	

PHOTOS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The photo last week was of the induction of 5 new members to our club on the one night - 20th February, 1986.



The photo above is of PP Ian Chappel, the subject of the Autobiography revisited from past years. Ian has been and continues to be very active in Rotary in various ways.

Another Autobiography - PP Ian Chappel

Reprinted from Spokes Vol. 55 No. 40 5th May, 2014

Ian, as it turns out was a real Banana bender growing up on his family's banana plantation 60 km north west of Brisbane at a place called DÁguilar. He claimed his allegiance was now with NSW however as he was wearing a maroon tie, we can't be sure.

The farm was situated in hilly country overlooking the Glass-house Mountains and was not conducive to mechanisation so Ian remembers a lot of very hard physical work. His father was a Scout Master and Ian spent many happy hours hiking and camping.

When Ian finished school he realized that there was no future on the farm so enrolled in the University of Queensland and completed a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering. On completion of his degree he spent 12 months travelling overseas through Europe.

On his return he worked for the C.S.I.R.O. in their National Measurement Laboratory as an engineer at first gradually moving onto their first C.A.D. Computers. Ian was there for 13 years and moved on when he felt that he was not gaining any new knowledge. During this time Ian found the time to get married and have 2 daughters. While at CSIRO Ian was there he was encouraged to further his studies and so completed his PhD part time over 7 years.

Ian's next employment was with CSC in project management in developing software for the then new submarines being constructed in South Australia.

His current work is with the new air warfare destroyers being constructed for the Navy. He did say that these new ships would be extremely potent and not to be messed with.

Ian's talk was fascinating and led to many questions from a very interested audience again highlighting that our own club members have a wealth of knowledge to share.

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'Don't let schooling interfere with your education.'

- Mark Twain