



SPOKES

Rotary

Club of Pennant Hills



Rotary Opens Opportunities

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING APOLOGIES & GUESTS:
9294 2107
before Noon on Monday

Join us on Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/9886604775>

THIS WEEK

Cancer Council
Angelina Belluomo

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Those of you who came to the meeting last week either in person or via zoom, will appreciate that technical problems do arise in this digital age, even to the best of us. Regardless of that, what a great meeting it was and how privileged we were to be able to experience through Caitlin and Theo's eyes and camera, what Lebanon is like today. It surely is a country of great contrasts and, to us, it seems amazing that life goes on when the fabric of government and law and order appear to be almost non-existent. We can only wait and see what will be the future for Lebanon.



My reason for raising the technical problems last Wednesday, was to advise that another gremlin struck on Saturday evening when the District Presidents' Meeting was held. The promised RI President's appearance did not occur due to a problem with suitable internet availability in the town in Germany where he was. We did however have a video from him in which he emphasized the need for clubs to ensure they are attractive to new comers of all ages. He suggested we review everything about our club, its meetings, where it meets, when it meets, and how it presents itself to others. The other emphasis by Holger was to keep supporting the End Polio Now campaign. Following the video, we had a series of projects highlighted together with a number of District Adviser announcements. To note just a couple of those – RYPEN will be online next February and they are looking for nominations; the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is continuing online and the sessions are over 2 weekends. All members are encouraged to enroll; not that it affects us, but the Youth Exchange Program is suspended and the earliest they might restart is January 2022. On Wednesday I'll talk about 1 or 2 other items which came up.

Elsewhere you will see in Spokes my report on the Trailer Raffle which started on Saturday and very successfully! Can I just add that it was so good to have Ida helping in the afternoon. She certainly is a 'terrier' when selling tickets and is so enthusiastic. The other interesting item was that Jason Terry got an introduction to another potential Rotaract member – the grandson of Joy & Ian Turner. I have sent members a link to the Rotaract Club's zoom meeting on Tuesday evening. Jason was keen to have us all invited as DG David Clark is joining the meeting.

President David Firth

Rotary
District 9685



Meeting opened at 6:45 due to tech issues with speaker

Trailer raffle starts this Saturday at Pennant Hills Market place and Pat Parker announced that Bunnings have donated about \$600 worth of material as well as a \$50 voucher. Terry has donated the trailer worth about \$1000 so it is a great start to this event.

Theo advised that RYLA in Timor has completed with great success with 100 people taking part and Woodside is thinking of offering funding for a second event due to the success. With over 900 people applying they see the value in continuing the program. Much to Theo's dismay Ramos Horta attended and gave an address. It is only going to get bigger and better with this type of attention. Adrian advised there is about 1000 RYLA Alumni in Timor after it started in 2008 thanks to Catlin Bell.

John Ellis advised a candidate has been selected for the National Youth Science forum, but the briefing sessions are yet to be organized. The Young Endeavour program is still not planned as the Navy has not approved the sailing. RYPEN is still planned to be held in February.

Phil commented that the Golf Day is due to be held on the 27th of October and so far, we have 12 holes covered so it would be good to get a few more.

Ian Chappel gave his 5-minute chat Australian Rotary Health. Australian Rotary Health was started with a program in Tasmania investigating cot death. Nurses made some adjustments in how the babies slept and there was a significant reduction in the death rate. Their new focus is on Mental Health and using PHD students on a scholarship program to carry out the research. The cost of a research program is \$33,000 which is funding by the club and Rotary Health. Anyone can donate to these programs or clubs are encouraged to have an event or get involved in Hat Day to raise funds for one of these programs.

Adrian introduced Catlin as his primary billing is Catlin's Dad when introduced which suggests she is the star of the show and with the way the presentation went this is correct.

Catlin began to teach us all how to be Lebanese after her experience living there as the Australian Deputy Ambassador for 2 years. Her husband Theo took on the very important role of pushing the arrow button to move the slides along, but he really stepped up so now Adrian is 3rd tier. The presentation started off with greetings, some embracing/elbow taps and a hearty greeting of Ha Bee Bee as a way of welcome.



She described the well-respected tradition of having lunch and wine tasting which both her and Theo become well educated in throughout their travels. She had some pictures of memories from home where residents have brought street signs with them, so Parramatta Road is also in Beirut and likely as slow and congested as it is here. She went on to outline a range of historical facts about the country which took place over many years.



There has been lots of change which has created a wonderful culture. Family is very important to Lebanon and the role of mother is top. The area was a key location for the trade routes to Asia so lots of interactions with other nationalities. Many countries have been involved in the development of Lebanon with some significant names from history including Gilgamesh, Lawrence of Arabia and the Queen of Sheba. The country is full of remnants from different rulers, nations and cultures. There was one picture of a mosque, a church and some roman ruins that she really liked as it represented some the changes that have taken place in Lebanon. Some of the remnants are very old such as temple complex which iso significant size and is believed to be 9000 years old. They have travelled extensively around Lebanon taking many pictures that showed how very beautiful the country is with some areas that look like Australia.

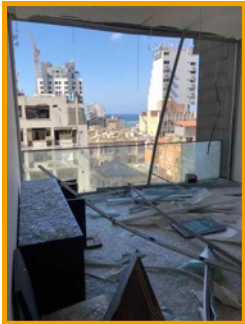
The buildings are very colorful with mosaic tiles on the floor and beautiful curved ceilings so you can look up or look down and be amazed. She spoke of different education like Madrasa Schools were Men go for 3 days a week and women go for the other 3 days so there is one day of rest for the school. And you can find good coffee there as there is a strong coffee culture.

Another pastime in Lebanon is protesting, so you need to bring a snack and a friend. Bring some tires along that burn well and settle in to produce a lot of smoke. Protests also take the form of signs such as "Can we please put all the Smart People in Charge" or "Lebanon the only place with real houmous" She showed us a picture of 1 million protestors complaining about a new tax being imposed on WhatsApp. And it all then becomes a festival event as the DJ's start at 3am in the morning with very loud music and a song called Baby Shark which is far too repetitious.

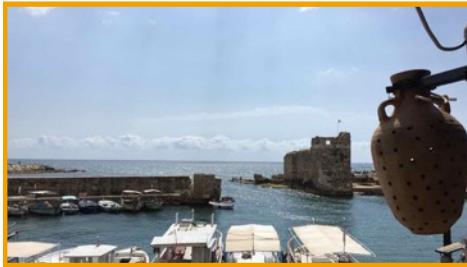
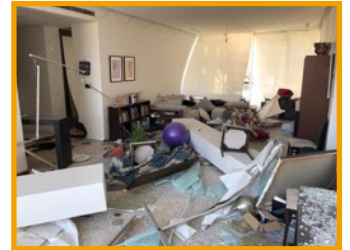


MEETING REPORT CONT.

Living in Lebanon can be a challenge financially as you must pay for things twice, once for the service and one for the bribe to get the service done. Theo took a long time to get insurance for the car because he did not want to pay the bribe. But Catlin is happy that she had insurance on her car and home as the blast from the shipping port destroyed everything. The inside of their apartment was blown apart with glass everywhere, luckily, they only had some slight injuries. In her office the 85kg window frame was completely blown out and destroyed her desk. Her office was 1.5km away from the blast site so there was a significant explosion.



They do have some concerns about the country long term as law and order is quite weak, but things just seem to work out. She said it has been a wonderful experience and is booked to go back when flights are available. In question time she was asked how Australians reputation is in Lebanon and they are well loved for their sense of adventure. She also responded that she has always felt very safe when living there and that women have a strong place in places of power.



Kaye Carter presented a gift of spices and some samples of our Poppy Program to be handed out upon her return to Lebanon. And to cap things off Catlin was the luck door prize winner as well.

David reminded everyone of the Cancer Council presentation at the next meeting and the meeting was closed at 8:33 with Advance Australia Fair led by John Ellis

TRAILER RAFFLE REPORT - DAY 1

We started on Saturday at Pennant Hills Market Place. This year we were unable to get the trailer inside the bollards and near the entrance doors, however we did park it in the closest parking bay which worked OK. We setup our selling table where the trailer used to be positioned and the morning shift started to sell using the 2 EFTPOS machines we have now. As we are now charging \$5 a ticket or 3 for \$10, we didn't expect to sell as many tickets, but hoped we would get as much money on the day compared with previous years. At 11.30 the second shift took over with a slight advantage having 5 people selling rather than 4. The impression I had on this shift was that the number of sales varied from time to time, but the number of multiple ticket sales was encouraging.



So at 2.30pm when we packed up, I was anxious to find out how well we had done. Well, surprise surprise! We sold 207 tickets and took \$782 compared with last year's tally of 165 tickets and \$282! This is a very encouraging start. One interesting thing was that despite the current popularity of 'Tap and Go', only \$175 was taken through EFTPOS. Thanks to the 2 teams, Terry P, Theo G, Adrian B, Jack R, Ida S, Amahdul A, Pat P, and Jason Terry our Rotaract President. And special thanks to Terry and Maureen for the trailer and the excellent packing and presentation of it. So it's on to Thornleigh Marketplace next Saturday. Let's see if we can continue our improved result.

David Firth

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter	Member 5 min talk
Oct 21	Cancer Council (by zoom) Poppy update/workshop	Angelina Belluomo	Pam Hudson (By Zoom) or David Firth	Phil Stanton	John Ellis
Oct 27	Golf day				
Oct 28	No Meeting				
Nov 4	Life as a parliamentarian's wife Social night (\$30 per head)	Heather Ruddock	Kaye Carter	Theo Glockemann	Ida Xiandi Shi
Nov 11	Drake's Handmade Jewellery	Scott Drake	Jack Reid	Pat Parker	Kaye Carter
Nov 18	My Life Since Afghanistan	Angela Gholamari	Theo Glockemann	Terry Pankhurst	Pam Hudson (by zoom)
Nov 25	Social Night Pennant Hills Golf Club	Cr Emma Heyde Hornsby Council	Kaye Carter	Phil Stanton	Theo Glockemann
Dec 2	Club AGM (by zoom)		David Firth	John Ellis	
Dec 9	Travel Bites	Esther Fraser	Jim Fraser	Ian Chappel (by zoom)	TBA
Dec 16	Hornsby Hospital	Lee Gregory General Manager	Adrian Bell	Pam Hudson (by zoom)	TBA

GUESTS

Caitlin Bell
Theo Ell
Wendy Bell

Ken Barnes
Heather Firth
Esther Fraser
Georgia Glockemann

Jeanette Rigney
Lyn Stanton
Jason Terry

BIRTHDAYS

3 October Terry Pankhurst
3 October Phillip Stanton
10 October Maureen Pankhurst
31 October Heather Hopping

ANNIVERSARIES

1 October Ruth & Jack Reid
24 September Beverley & Ian Chappel

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

9 October Adrian Bell
15 October Kaye Carter

ATTENDANCE

85%

APOLOGIES

Ian Huckel
Terry Pankhurst