



SPOKES



Rotary Opens Opportunities

THIS WEEK

Hornsby Hospital

Lee Gregory

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With the rapid approach of Christmas, we are well into finalizing two of our major projects, namely the Trees of Joy and the Christmas Trailer Raffle. Late last week saw Pat Parker take a carload of gifts from the Pennant Hills Tree of Joy out to Stewart House at Curl Curl. He had to phone the General Manager, Graeme Philpotts, so he could open up to receive the presents – some 60 odd for the group of children who were about to return home the next day having spent 2 weeks at the idyllic seaside venue. As ever, Graeme was very appreciative of our support. On the same day, Thursday, I took a good load of presents – around 50 or so – to the Smith Family warehouse down at a Showground pavilion at Homebush. These were also just children's gifts and again, I received a very warm reception and they ensured a proper record was made of the organization responsible for the gifts. Then on Friday, Pam Hudson arranged for me to take the gifts we had received for Hornsby Meals on Wheels clients, particularly those without close family and/or who would not have anyone with them at Christmas. In all there were sufficient for 70 to 80 clients and the ladies receiving the gifts at their office & warehouse were absolutely delighted with the response and particularly with the effort of Pam. Later this week we will deliver the remainder of the gifts to Parramatta Mission.



Saturday saw us at Thornleigh Marketplace for our return visit this year. Again we received a very good response – indeed an almost identical response to our first visit in October. So we are now virtually assured of topping \$10,000 this year, a figure we haven't matched since 2012. Don't forget if you have a book of tickets, we need it back sold or unsold on Wednesday or Saturday at Pennant Hills Market Place at the latest, as we are drawing the winner on Sunday next at 1pm at the Golf Club. Come along if you would like to be there for the draw.

So this week we start on the updating of our club appearance. We have new member badges and partner badges, all of which have magnet attachment rather than pins or clips. My hope is that we can then move on to new club shirts and perhaps caps. Let's see how we go.

Finally, it's all systems go for our Christmas Party meeting at Jim and Esther's home on Wednesday next week, 23rd December, at 6.00pm. Theo has organized the spit-roast catering and all you need to bring is your partner and drinks and \$35 a head. We would like numbers this week please.

Cheers,

President David Firth

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE ENQUIRIES:
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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>



President David opened the meeting and spoke about the Trailer Raffle and the upcoming Christmas Function. The Christmas function is being hosted by Jim and Esther Fraser. The caterers were tested out at Lutanda, Theo vouches for their good food and the way they conducted themselves. All attendees need to bring are their drinks.

Theo then spoke a little on the RYPEN conducted in East Timor. This year it was run solely by the East Timorese. Theo also said the government has introduced conscription for those between 18 and 26 years old. Theo hopes that a Global Grant may be possible next time which is in addition to the District grant that has been successfully used by the Rotary Club of Pennant Hills.

John Ellis reported on the Young Endeavor program, the organisers are yet to approve the restart date for the program since it ceased in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 outbreak. John as always tries to slot successful applicant into the January time frame to avoid any conflict with Year 12 exams. John will be interviewing some year 11 applicants soon.

Pat Parker asked if anyone else wanted to be part of the 11 am delivery of Christmas presents from the Tree of Joy to Stewart House at Curl Curl on Thursday 10th Dec 2020. Pat did say that Stewart House were very grateful for the presents as COVID has prevented many charity organisations from supplying presents. Other Tree of Joy presents will be going to the Parramatta Mission soon. There is the ongoing Tree of Joy at the Pennant Hills Market Place and recently a second started at Thornleigh Shopping Centre. The presents from the Thornleigh tree will be distributed to Meals-On-Wheels recipients and the Smith Family.

Kaye Carter hopes to invite the Bunnings' manager to the club when the cheque from the Trailer Raffle is presented to the representative from St. Lucy's School.

Jim Fraser the Sargeant asked Adrian what special day it was? It was Pastry Day, everyone else knew that one of course. Adrian had a complaint about spelling in Spokes, how could his name be misspelt.

President David Firth is not immune from the club's 5 minute talk edict and spoke about the three Prime Ministers he met and admired. The first was William McMahon who was an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Burwood. David's father was a member there, David was not a Rotarian then. The second was Malcolm Fraser and David met him at the family printing company. Unfortunately politics reared its ugly head and very few of the printing employees attended the visit. David met the third Prime Minister John Howard at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The Chairman Jim Fraser introduced the guest speaker Esther Fraser. Esther gave a very good talk providing insight in how the travel industry has been impacted by COVID, how the travel agents have adapted to stay in business and how the Australian public have selected holidays in the face of COVID restrictions and the risks associated with interstate travel even when it was allowed.

Esther works for Mary Ross Travel which celebrated its 50th year in business in 2020. The company is well respected for organising luxury travel in Australia and overseas. Their office is in Neutral Bay but was previously in Lindfield. Esther summarised the year in travel, empty cities, empty airports, for accommodation providers, hand sanitizer everywhere, temperature checks and enhanced cleaning protocols.

So what has become popular, self drive holidays, active holidays such as walking in Australia. In places such as Tasmania, all hire cars are booked.

There are still luxury holidays, Lord Howe Island, Byron@ at Byron Bay, Flinders Ranges, Kangaroo Island, Barossa Valley SA.

There are places to experience, underwater at Sal Salis – Ningaloo Reef WA. El Questro NT, Uluru NT, Spice Peak Lodge Qld, Mount Mulligan Qld, Saffire Freycinet, Tasmania. Qld has islands, Lizard, Orpheus Cairns, Resort Quadia, Hamilton Island – adults only, Hayman Island.

Then there is Take a Safari at Home. Kimberley Coastal Group, Far North Qld Safari, Max Bulla River Station, 4WD Venture Walk, Bamurra Planes. Then there are the cruising trains such as The Ghan.

Esther said that international travel will not likely to restart until 2022.

Esther raised the question why use a travel advisor:-Save time, share the planning and the design of the trip, help in case of emergency. It will not cost you more.

Esther's talk is a story about the impact of COVID on the travel industry and was very interesting and informative.

Kay Carter spoke about a small group being involved in Cleanup Australia. Kaye also mentioned the poppy distribution for ANZAC may become a fundraiser for ourselves or another club.

President David closed the meeting at 8:35 pm.

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE 2021

In normal years, NYSF provides an introduction to a career in Science bring 600 candidates from around Australia each January. 200 go to the University of Queensland and 200 go in two batches to the Australian National university in Canberra. COVID restrictions this January will see a different arrangement.

Candidates will attend seminars, meetings and gatherings in clusters near where they live. Some on line seminars will be included. Our candidate, Eleana Xu, from Hornsby Girls High School, will attend at the University of NSW, Taronga Zoo and Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation at Lucas Heights. Presenters include Professors Lisa Harvey-Smith, Brian Schmidt, Tanya Monro, Barry Marshall, Carola de Vinuesa, Viena Sahajwalla and Dr Karl Kruszelnicki."

John E

TREE OF JOY DELIVERIES 2020



President David Firth delivered Tree of Joy of presents to The Smith Family and Hornsby Meals on Wheels this week.

While Pat Parker delivered 5 bags of gifts (about 50 gifts) to Graham Phillpots, General Manager of Stewart House. He was very pleased to receive the gifts and like every where else, it has been a tough year.



TRAILER RAFFLE REPORT – DAY 9



Another bumper sales day today at Thornleigh Marketplace. We sold 355 tickets and took \$1,332.20 with YTD sales at \$8757.

If you look back to sales at Thornleigh on 24th October this year, you will see we took \$1,332.00 – yes, that's correct, 20 cents less than today! How amazing is that!

Last year at this time at Thornleigh we took \$809 and the YTD figure was only \$6,227. So on we go to our last day next Saturday at Pennant Hills. Let's see if we can top \$10,000 in sales at the shopping centres.

David Firth Pres.

ROSTER SATURDAY 19 PENNANTHILLS MARKETPLACE

AM Adrian Bell

PM David Firth

PM Ida Shi

AM Terry Pankhurst

PM Ian Huckel

PM Jason Terry

Date	Program	Speaker	Chairman	Reporter	Member 5 min talk
Dec 23	Xmas function The Fraser's home 32 Hillcrest Road, Pennant Hills	Catered @ \$35 per head BYO Drinks			
Xmas break					
2021					Member 5 minute interview
Jan 13	Planning Night Welcome back		David Firth	Ida Xiandi Shi	
Jan 20	Human & Hope	Sally Hetherington OAM Products for sale	Kaye Carter		
Jan 27	Australia Day Partners night	David Raphael St Lucy's School	David Firth	Phil Stanton	
Feb 3	Self-Published book about history of Pennant Hills Rd	Patricia Dewey Books for sale \$30	Pat Parker		
Feb 10	Market Place Newsagency	Adam Yao	Kaye Carter		Chinese New Year, 12 Feb Valentine's Day, 14 Feb

GUESTS

Esther Fraser

Heather Firth

Jeanette Rigby

RTN Herbert Chan

BIRTHDAYS

19 December David Firth

25 December Adrian Bell

30 December Jim Fraser

30 December Theo Glockemann

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

16 December David Firth 1982

ATTENDANCE

88%

APOLOGIES

Ameen Ahmadul

Terry Pankhurst