



SPOKES

Rotary

Club of Pennant Hills



Rotary Opens Opportunities

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE ENQUIRIES:
0444 565 780

EMAIL:
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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>

Rotary

District 9685



THIS WEEK

WELCOME

PATRICIA DEWEY *HISTORY PENNANTHILLS RD REPORTER*

TERRY PANKHURST

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I trust all those who joined us last Wednesday evening enjoyed the celebration of Australia Day as much as I did. Several people have said as much to me. I was so impressed with our keynote address and David's recounting of the trials and tribulations of running a special school and keeping it open despite the pandemic and the pressure from all around to 'shut up shop'. I know, and it was obvious, that he was completely taken by surprise at receiving the Australia Day Merit Award.



Can I remark that, due to the Covid restriction on singing, how impressive it was to have everyone stand and recite the two verses of the national anthem at the meeting conclusion. It really made me concentrate on, and think about the words – a great finale to the evening!

Elsewhere in Spokes you will find reference to a service of celebration for the life of Dr Dick Geeves, our club's charter president who passed away on July 18 last year aged 95. Those of us who knew him had great respect for him. Our speaker this week may well have a comment about him and his involvement in the Pennant Hills community.

Fellows, the virtual District 9685 Conference is fast approaching. It is on 13th & 14th March and it is now free to register and then participate via Zoom. I have registered – I must say I would have much preferred an in person conference as the social aspects of district conferences is a key element for me. Please join me in registering even if you can't be online for the whole time. The conference website is <https://www.district9685conference2021.com/>

As you may recall, the district governor invited clubs to submit a video displaying their activities/projects over the past year. This is a competition, with the finalists becoming part of the district conference. When I was considering who might be able to help with this project, our newest member came to mind. I asked Ida if she could help and she immediately said she would make the video if I could supply the photos, etc. At the meeting this week, you will see the amazing result! We have sent it to district on Sunday – the deadline, and will wait to see how we go, but my sincere thanks to Ida for a fantastic job. Cheers,

President David Firth

The meeting was opened with a call to order from MC Jim Fraser. Jim introduced Pres. David who provided an acknowledgement of country. The Hon. Phillip Ruddock then proposed a toast to Australia, PP Phillip Stanton proposed a toast to the Rotary International, a response to which was provided by D.G. David Clark.

The room had been appropriately festooned with flags of Australia which then enabled John Ellis to conduct his own “quick quizz” on the “order” of those flags.



Following dinner David Raphael was introduced as the guest speaker. David, as the Principal of St Lucy’s school decided that his talk would be in essence a report on how the school fared during the 2020 year of COVID 19. St Lucy’s is a school where the majority of students have special needs. Student isolation, remote schooling etc. was not regarded by the school as a viable option for their students and their families, so it was proposed that the school would remain open and not require remote teaching. This decision was made in order to ensure that the children were able to have a continuation of their normal program which in turn would mean the potential for an increasing in pressure on the home life of the families could be mitigated. While the decision was agreed and supported by staff, it was the case that learning from home programs did need to be developed and available to the school families. Interestingly and at the early stages of the pandemic, attendance dropped by 25% but by mid-term 2 was back at almost 100%.



In addition to the school and teaching status being maintained, there were many other causes for concern. These included normal supplies of nappies, wipes, medications etc. The school partnered with suppliers in their area, packaged them and delivered them to their school families. The School were able to assist a number of their families in this way who were potentially at high risk. Disruptions still occurred but were managed and David noted that challenges would continue. “It’s just the way things are”.

So, the 2021 year awaits. David’s advice?

- Be kind to yourself
- Cut yourself some slack

As far as the school is concerned, students return next Monday, including a new Year 9. This part of growth to being a K-12 school in 2024 with a population of 240 students.

President David presented David Raphael with a cheque for \$8000 dollars raised from this year’s Christmas Trailer Raffle.

There were a number of questions fielded by David and a vote of thanks was delivered by Kaye Carter.



MEETING REPORT CONT

President David then presented the background to our club's Australia Day Merit Awards which started 36 years ago. He then invited DG David Clark and David Raphael to join him for the presentation of the 2021 Award, remarking that you don't have to be a 'David' but it helps.



DG David then announced that a very surprised David Raphael was our awardee, the citation reading "for his exceptional service to education through leadership, and particularly to Inclusive Education."

This only left the raffle to be drawn. It falls to this scribe to advise that one, Mr John Ellis, was one winner, edging out his co-raffle winner, Jack Reid! The other winner was Maureen Pankhurst.



SERVICE TO CELEBRATE PP DR RICHARD GEEVES

Dr Richard ('Dick') Geeves OAM

A service to celebrate Dick's life will be conducted at 2.00pm on Wednesday 17th February, 2021 at the Baden-Powell Scout Centre in Pomona Street Pennant Hills.

To allow us to comply with COVID19 restrictions and to update you if requirements change, please RSVP by 10/2/21 to dicdocpenno@gmail.com or phone 0407 470 877.

If you are unable to attend in person but wish to view the service online please contact above for details.

CENTENARY STAMP



Australia Post has announced that we will have a special stamp in 2021 for our centenary. There will be several "products" including first day covers, stamp packs and inclusion in the annual collection.

Ideal for collections, gifts, thankyou's for speakers, Rotary archives, memorabilia and more.

2021	Program	Speaker	Chairperson	Reporter	Member 5 - minute interview
Feb 3	Self-Published book about history of Pennant Hills Rd	Patricia Dewey Books for sale \$30	Pat Parker	Terry Pankhurst	Ian Huckel
Feb 10	Market Place Newsagency	Adam Yao	Kaye Carter	Pam Hudson (by zoom)	Chinese New Year, 12 Feb
Feb 17	NYSF	Eleana Xu	John Ellis	Kaye Carter	Jack Reid
Feb 24	Hornsby/Kurungai Womens' Shelter TBC Social night	Louise McCann	Ida Xiandi Shi	Pat Parker	Ian Huckel
Mar 3	Baptist Care NSW & ACT	Robert Dunn	Pam Hudson (By Zoom)	Ian Huckel (by zoom)	Clean up Australia Day 7 March
Mar 10	RYPEN	Elke Saunders Daniel Vink	John Ellis	Adrian Bell	Ahmadul Ameen
Mar 17	R100 Celebration	TBA	David Firth	John Ellis	Club's 61 st birthday

GUESTS

Wendy Bell

Dawn Callaway

DG David Clarke

Leon Edena

Heather Firth

Georgia Glockemann

Colin Llewellyn

Rosie Llewellyn

Maureen Pankhurst

Sandra Parker

David Raphael

Ruth Reid

Jeanette Rigney

Sue Robards

Heather Ruddock

Hon. Phillip Ruddock

Ridhu Srikanth

Lyn Stanton

Jason Terry

Marelle Thornton

Stewart Thornton

BIRTHDAYS

NIL

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

1 February Jim Fraser 2016

10 February Ian Huckel 2005

ATTENDANCE

88%

APOLOGIES

Ian Chappel
Theo Glockemann