



SPOKES



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Pennant Hills
Rotary
Club



CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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Text to 0451 265 122 or
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before noon on
Monday
when we are meeting face to face



Rotary
District 9685



THE PROGRAM THIS WEEK

About Valentines Day

Guest Speaker: Ida Shi
Chairman: Daisy Huang
Reporter: Theo Glockemann

President's Corner



Hi everyone

As I am writing this, it is Valentine's Day. And for the skeptics, the restaurant in Cherrybrook was full and the flowers in Woolies had all been sold. Yes, it is a day of total commercialism, but is also a day to celebrate romance. One could say that this aligns with the Rotary theme for

February which is Peace and conflict prevention/resolution. More romance, less fighting.

What an amazing volunteer story we were privileged to hear about last Wednesday when our AG Stuart Armstrong shared what his team accomplishes at Hornsby Connect. It is well worth a visit on a Wednesday morning in Hornsby if you are available.

I mentioned last week that we are planning to meet face to face again from our first meeting in March, but as yet, we haven't found a new permanent meeting place. This is what makes life so exciting and unpredictable.

Our combined 62nd Club birthday and Australia Day Merit Awards event (with our guest speaker Janelle Dodd from 'Days for Girls') is on Monday 14th March at the Golf Club. This will be a social night and a really amazing experience so please put this date in your diary.

Take care and stay safe. **President Kaye**

The zoom link each week is <https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/81944023881?pwd=ZkpEQ0hlNmNVakM4SDcwb1NiUjBldz09>

MEETING REPORT - 9th FEBRUARY, 2022

Ida Shi opened this meeting, zoomed to our outstations, with acknowledgement to country. She welcomed ADG Stuart Armstrong, our speaker, reported apologies, then asked Jack Reid for his welfare report. Jack let us know that Pam Hudson isn't well and, having spoken to Ian Huckel's daughter, learnt that it seems likely Ian will need full time care on leaving Westmead. After covering recent anniversaries Ida handed over to President Kaye Carter.

Kaye asked Daisy to put on her thinking cap for a five minute chat later as Terry Pankhurst had ducked off somewhere. David Firth then introduced our guest speaker, Stuart Armstrong, a man with several hats including being our ADG and President of Hornsby Connect, his theme for this evening. Hornsby Connect, established about five years ago, aims to support the disadvantaged in our community, meaning in Hornsby and Kuring Gai local government areas. Stuart opened with his role as ADG, a new role for him, and he is picking up new aspects from time to time. He sees himself here to assist Clubs with their work and relationship with District. In most cases a Rotarian knows where to go at District level to resolve a problem and get advice. When they don't, Stuart is there to help. He then moved to his real day job with Hornsby Connect. With video clips he introduced us to the lines of support for those in need. They could be those who have experienced a relationship breakdown, COVID problems, loss of employment, social isolation and similar. Hornsby Connect has a food bank for these people. In some instances meals and food hampers are available at no charge, for others there is a charge. Stuart has many volunteers to ensure the services are properly fulfilled. There were some 900 regular families last year seeking support in some way and sometimes up to 1,200. His volunteers covered about 10,000 km last year delivering various services around the shires. Before COVID restrictions about 8,000 hot meals were served weekly. With restrictions, volunteers now collect ingredients, prepare, cook and deliver meals. The need for such a service arose with the realisation that some were experiencing social isolation. Further social problems became evident once HC began to offer support. The idea of a low cost food service developed, allowing people the opportunity to meet and socialise. HC found some people are paranoid about some in their community. They see about 80 or 90 families a day and have the use of a public hall where food is delivered on Tuesdays and put into hampers for collection on Wednesdays for a nominal cost. There is a need for fund raising to cover hall rental, insurance and so on as well as operational costs. HC has the support of charities such as Foodbank, Salvos, Catholic Care, sports clubs and Rotary clubs. A call out could come in for a particular case from the Salvos or Catholic Care. HC will consider assisting anyone with a Commonwealth benefit card. Food left over is directed to The Dish and Fusion to provide for the homeless. HC sees families from St Lucy's and some NDIS cases. About 20 different background nationalities have been amongst those assisted and there are plans to service a wider area. At question time, Stuart gave further details. Their hall, owned by Hornsby Council, is near the Coles' entrance to Westfield at Hornsby. The hall is also a youth and family centre and many of their volunteers are Rotarians. Our local representatives, Mr Kean, Mr Leeser and Ms Heyde, follow their work and give public support and recognition. Stuart said that visitors would be welcomed to see them in action – come between 9:30 and 11:00 am on a Wednesday. Stuart was asked if such services were available in other parts of Sydney. He gave Ryde as one close to Hornsby. Ida called on us to thank Stuart for his presentation.

President Kaye then asked Daisy for her quickly prepared chat. Daisy said that with COVID her business has had many customers, calling on her to work into most evenings except Wednesdays. Daisy's daughter, Lilly, is now aged 25 and has been working in Japan for the past four years. There she has met Alex, a nice chap who grew up in Boston then moved to Colorado before going to Japan. Alex has worked in early childhood education. He is musical and can sing. We all know a song he could sing to Daisy. His parents arranged for their travel to USA for last Christmas and Daisy is expecting them to be back in Sydney at the end of this year.

President Kaye called for Club reports – she said that the Board had accepted the RC of Delhi Ridge as a sister Club and she will follow that connection. The Club's 62nd birthday will be on Monday 14th March and we plan to combine this meeting with our deferred Australia Day event. Although it is intended to have the meeting in the Pennant Hills Golf Club, Kaye has been advised by the Golf Club that they cannot continue to service our small numbers, hence we will be looking for a new venue for our weekly meetings. The recent Board meeting approved that \$8,000 from the recent trailer raffle will go to St Lucy's School. Jason Terry advised that the RYLA camp, deferred from last month, will now be held in January 2023. Jason has signed the Club up for Clean Up Australia on Sunday 6th March. David Firth reported that sales of Pride of Workmanship trophies was markedly slow over the past year but anticipated better results when face to face meetings become the regular. Following the National Anthem, President Kaye closed the meeting.

Reporter John Ellis

**hornsby
connect**
a hand up for people in need



A Rotary Environmental Project in the Philippines



Mangroves form an integral part of the coastal ecosystem of the Philippines. They serve as a source of medicines, alcohol, and timber; a haven for coral reef fish; and a buffer against typhoons. In a two-pronged effort to shore up the maritime trees and buttress a fishing village's ecotourism drive, in November the Rotary Club of Bacolod-Marapara teamed with the Rotary Club of Victorias, the Rotaract Club of Marapara, the Pasil Fisherfolks Association, and other local organizations. They planted some 1,000 mangrove seedlings and provided the fishers with bamboo to construct two cottages in the native style for rental to tourists. "Around the world, mangroves are threatened, but they are important," says Rolando Corona, president of the Bacolod-Marapara club. "Their protection and restoration should be a high priority."

Reprinted from February 2022 issue of [*Rotary*](#) magazine.

OUR MEETING ON MARCH 14

Due to the postponement of our Australia Day Celebration on January 19th, we are going to have it on Monday 14th March, the date for our club's 62nd birthday. Janelle Dodd will be our Keynote Speaker, and during the evening our Australia Day Merit Award for 2022 will be presented. Also on that night we will celebrate some of the achievements of our club over the past 62 years. We hope to take the opportunity to present our donation of \$8,000 to St Lucy's School, the proceeds of our Christmas Trailer Raffle. The school uses these funds to support the scholarship program benefitting families who are unable to afford the tuition fees at the school for their disabled children.

So this is a great opportunity for members to invite family and friends and specially potential new members to join us as this promises to be a great Rotary showcase!



On the night, Bees Wax wraps will be on sale at \$5 each - thanks to Ida Shi.

WHAT'S ON

Date	Program	Speaker	Chair	Reporter	5 - minute talk	Meal status + extra info
Feb 16	Presentation on Valentine's Day Via Zoom	Ida Shi & others	Daisy Huang	Theo Glockemann	Ahmadul Ameen	
Feb 23	Member's Night Via Zoom		John Ellis	Herbert Chan	Ida Shi	ROTARY'S BIRTHDAY
Mar 2	Members Night Return to Face to Face Meeting	Anoop's feedback from his RLI Training				
Mar 7	Board Meeting at 7.30pm					
Mar 9	RYPEN 2022	Nia Michelson & Scott Romanis	John Ellis			
Monday Mar 14	Club Anniversary & Australia Day Award Social Night	Janelle Dodd	Phil Stanton	John Ellis	nil	2 course meal
Mar 18 - 19	District 9685 Conference	At West HQ Rooty Hill RSL	Friday night dinner	and	All day Saturday	
Mar 23	Report on District Conference	Attendees	Pres Kaye	Jim Fraser		
Mar 30	Visit to Thornleigh Community Garden	at 6.30pm	Details	to be	advised	

Last Meeting - 9.2.2022

Attendance - 58.8%

Apologies: A Ameen, H Chan, T Glockemann, I Huckel, P Hudson, T Pankhurst

Guest Speaker: AG Stuart Armstrong

LOA: P Stanton

CLUB SEMI-ANNUAL DUES

Just a reminder to members that semi-annual dues are now due. The amount is \$225. Direct debit to the Club Account :

BSB: 032-087 ACCOUNT No. 334578

If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.

Desmond Tutu

Anniversaries & Birthdays

Birthdays:

Raymond Chan - February 11

Anniversaries:

David & Heather Firth - February 5

Inductions:

Jim Fraser - February 1

Ian Huckel - February 10

Herbert Chan - February 24