



# SPOKES



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Pennant Hills  
**Rotary**  
Club



### CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING APOLOGIES & GUESTS:  
Text to 0451 265 122 or  
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before noon on Monday



**Rotary**  
District 9685



We have the following sister clubs:  
Rotary Club of Newcastle  
Enterprise District 9670  
Rotary Club of Delhi Ridge  
District 3011

### THE PROGRAM THIS WEEK

## NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM 2022

**Speaker: Paige Newton**

**Chairman: President Kaye Carter**

**Reporter: Pam Hudson**

**This meeting is at Café Mecca Infusion, West Pennant Hills**

### President's Corner

Hi everyone

Last Wednesday, we were spoiled with a stimulating talk from Jose Lara Herrera on his Rotary exchange experience when he travelled from Venezuela to the USA. The relationships and emotional bonds that he still has with the families who hosted him and the families who his family also hosted are still alive and strong. What an amazing experience for a young person!



This Wednesday, we will meet at Café Mecca Fusion at West Pennant Hills at 6.30pm. Our guest speaker will be Paige Newton to talk about her experience with the National Youth Science Forum.

On Wednesday 20 April, we will hold a Special General Meeting and we need a quorum to vote on the proposals for the future of our club. So, please attend this most important meeting; a zoom link will also be available. We will canvas members' thoughts on meeting every second Wednesday, without a meal from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. This proposal may be more inviting for a member to put up their hand for the presidency from July this year. We are still looking for a venue.

It's time to start thinking about nominations for our prestigious Pride of Workmanship awards. Diary date: Wednesday, 18th May at the Pennant Hills Golf Club.

Happy Easter and stay safe.

**President Kaye**

**The week's meeting will not be on Zoom**

## MEETING REPORT - 6th April

Sergeant Ida Shi opened this meeting with a Acknowledgement of Country, then Jack Reid let us know that Ahmadul Ameen and Jason Terry haven't been well. Ida reminded us of some anniversaries of our members then handed the baton to President Kaye Carter who thanked Spokes Editor, David Firth, for his recent excellent edition. As Jason Terry is taking leave, President Kaye asked Anoop Sud to take on Jason's Environment role. She then launched her new idea for Five Minute talks suggesting these should be based on a colour rather than one's exciting childhood or such. The program for our next meeting was covered - we will receive the Mecca menu and go through the Poppy sales program. The meeting on 20 April will be at the Pennant Hills Hotel. This special meeting will discuss the Club's future. She then covered our program through to June. Her Five Minutes was based on her favourite colour, Pink, a colour with many shades. Some shades represent love, kindness, romance and femininity. Pink inspires warmth and hope and it is also associated with Breast Cancer awareness. We were then treated to the Pink Song, Kaye's favourite. She reviewed our recent Board meeting where our meeting format was discussed. Should we meet each fortnight? Do we need a venue that offers a meal with a meeting or can we meet without a meal? The Club is to make a donation to Days for Girls. Because we haven't had a Golf Day our funds are low and Kaye proposed that we consider a Bunning's sausage sizzle. From the dates suggested, 25 April seemed to be popular. Pam Hudson then displayed examples of posters she has been developing - some to thank local business for recent donations to our door prizes and some to go out for Easter. She has designed a revised Spokes as part of our connecting with local businesses.

Kaye then introduced our Guest Speaker, José Herrera, whom she has come to know at Macquarie University where he is involved in curriculum development related to his Master's degree in applied linguistics. He has a great interest in flying, however isn't yet licenced to do so. It was his experience as a Rotary Youth Exchange student that led Kaye to invite him to join us. José told us that this was his first Rotary meeting for many years and that his presentation would cover himself, his family, his Rotary Exchange experience and the benefits of that experience. He was born in Venezuela of Colombian parents and has spent four years in Australia as a student. For the past 12 years he has been on the staff at Macquarie University utilizing his linguistic skills. His degree in industrial engineering from Venezuela has remained in his bottom drawer during those years. He works as a translator, meaning that he works with a written text, pointing out that an interpreter works with the spoken word. He has lived in six countries and has visited 54. One example was - go to live in Germany then duck across to Denmark, Norway and Sweden. His interest in Rotary Youth exchange arose in 1990 when his older sister went to Canada from Venezuela as an exchange student. In return, his parents hosted an exchange student from the USA. Two years later another sister went on exchange to Northern Ireland and his family hosted a lass from the Netherlands. In 1994 his family hosted a girl from Brazil and two years later they hosted a girl from Sri Lanka. Then in 1996 things were looking up for José and he expressed his interest in going to Australia. It seems that the cost led to further options and he went to Urbana, a small town in Illinois, USA. He lived with three host families during the year and attended the local school. José then provided a brief outline of his host families - how many adults, children and dogs. The Sharpe family was comprised of Mother, two daughters, a son and one dog. The Gibsons were next - a mother and a father, two sons and a dog. The Andersons also had a mother and a father, a daughter and a son but NO DOG. José referred to the children of these host families as brothers and sisters. When he returned home from the Andersons, the Anderson brother accompanied him. One difficulty he had to face in Urbana was the winter weather. He claimed it went down to -40° C in winter, a shade cooler than Venezuela, illustrated with his snowman and being well rugged up. He explained that an outgoing exchange student is provided with a blazer. As the exchange year progresses the student is offered badges so that by the year's end it would appear that he was totally covered with badges. He was allowed to keep this treasure for about ten years however eventually Mother declared it would have to go. When feeling gloomy he can still go to the photos of the blazer, on issue then progressively covered by badges. His year in Urbana included a three week bus tour that took him to California and Colorado. Of course, Disneyland was included. Over that year José struck up many friendships and has kept in touch with many of them ever since. He mentioned that his sister and brother have married. For him the benefits of the exchange program have included his skill in a new language, the new cultures and learning to appreciate his own family and his own country. He has made life long friendships and he has gained maturity and self confidence. He also sees benefits for a host family as they can share his culture and appreciate their own. Having an exchange student can inspire their own children and broaden their horizons. Questions followed and David Firth asked if he attended Rotary meetings when on exchange. Yes, he did. In response to which of the 54 countries he



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prefers, he nominated Nepal and Norway. José's background on Zoom included shelves of model aircraft, showing that interest. David Firth recalled a business trip to Caracas, Venezuela in 1985.

President Kaye thanked José for his time and address. She reminded us that Theo and Georgia Glockemann will be in East Timor from 2 to 6 May attending to arrangements for RYLA in October. David Firth attended a Pride of Workmanship meeting at the Epping Club on 4th April where he was guest speaker. Kaye advised that our Clean Up Australia plans would be shelved for the time being, because of weather and also Jason Terry's absence. She then closed the meeting.

Reporter: John Ellis

# COWRA BREAKOUT



Japanese Garden



Full moon over Wyangala Dam



The region is renowned for its boutique wineries



Australian World Peace Bell



Vast fields of canola

**District 9685 Annual Conference**  
**17-19 March 2023**

[www.rotarydistrict9685annualconference2023.com.au](http://www.rotarydistrict9685annualconference2023.com.au)

**Relax.**  
**Refresh.**  
**Refocus.**





It is my pleasure to advise that PP Niranjn Deodhar of the Rotary Club of Beecroft has been selected by D9685 Governor Nominating Committee as nominee for Governor 2024-25.

Any club that proposed a candidate may challenge this nomination within 14 days of today 10 April 2022.

If no challenge is received, then PP Niranjn Deodhar will be declared on 25 April 2022 as District Governor Nominee (Designate) to become District Governor Nominee on 1 July 2022.

Thank you to the candidates and the Selection Committee chaired by PDG Kalma McLellan.

Yours in Rotary

**Lindsay May OAM**

*Rotary Club of Lane Cove*

***The following is a summary of the findings of a recent survey conducted in Australia.***

### **Australians' thoughts about climate change**

In recent times, across all our States, Australians have experienced extremes of weather, with raging bushfires followed by 'unprecedented' flooding events that continue to set new records. Is this cycle of natural disaster part of a natural variation or is climate change happening? What do Australians believe?

As part of our 2021 Australian Community Survey (2021 ACS) we asked a group of Australians: *"Which of the following statements best describes your thoughts about climate change?"*

Only one in ten (11%) said that they did not think climate change is happening, while another 11% had no idea whether climate change is happening or not.

However, most Australians (79%) think climate change is happening. Of these, 52% think humans are largely causing the change and the other 26% attribute it to a natural fluctuation in Earth's temperatures. ***More of this survey next week.***

### **No more single-use plastics**

From **1 June 2022**, the supply of **lightweight plastic shopping bags will be banned** in NSW. From **1 November 2022**, the bans will also include:

- **single-use plastic** straws, stirrers, cutlery, bowls, and plates – some exemptions will apply for providing a plastic straw for people with a disability or medical need
- **expanded polystyrene (EPS) takeaway food containers**
- **single-use plastic cotton buds and rinse-off personal care products** containing plastic microbeads.

The ban applies to all commercial businesses, including retail, hospitality, manufacturers, distributors and wholesalers – and charitable, sporting, education and community groups.

Beneficiary:

Youth  
Mental  
Health



KOOLKIDS  
Centre for Emotional Health

MACQUARIE  
UNIVERSITY

Bronze Sponsors:

Community Bank  
North Ryde  
Bendigo Bank

macquarie university  
village

Mitronics  
THE TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

Sponsors/In-kind supports:

SSM  
GROUP  
SYDNEY SPORTS  
MANAGEMENT GROUP

VISION  
Personal Training

RoyWhite  
North Ryde | Macquarie Park

rebel  
SPORT IS CALLING



Be a Superhero!

Family FUN - JOG - RUN - WALK

at your own pace with unlimited challenge



Registration cost:  
\$25 Adults  
\$15 Students  
(13+)  
\$10 Children  
(3-12yrs)



Organised by:

Rotary  
Club of North Ryde



JOIN NOW

<https://rotarynorthrydeefunrun2022.raisely.com/>

Are U Ready?  
Virtual Run & Challenge

Have Fun

Good Health

Worthy Cause

*The Rotary Club of Melbourne is the oldest Rotary club in Australia*

## ROTARY CLUB OF MELBOURNE NEW MEMBER MENTORING PROGRAM

Four years ago, under the inspiration of Past President Mary Barry, our New Member Mentoring Program was initiated. Since then, over 30 new members have been allocated among 15 of the trained mentors. Typically, the mentor will maintain a close relationship with the mentee for the first six months of their membership.

New members are the lifeblood and the future of Rotary. Supporting them when they first join is crucial, as that is when they will be most motivated by their decision to become a member.

Maintaining a new member's level of enthusiasm, while helping them figure out how they can engage with the Club and contribute in ways that are meaningful for them, will ensure they feel part of Rotary Melbourne from the beginning, then develop their involvement over a period of time. The Program has been widely hailed by mentees as an outstanding success.

### Understanding Rotary members' needs — the key to engaged members

What do members want from their Rotary experience? And why do some members leave? Our research shows that members value local community service, friendship, and fellowship most. They cite time and cost, the club environment, and unmet expectations as reasons for leaving. The key to engaging members is providing an experience that meets their needs and expectations. Learn more in the newly revised presentation The State of Rotary Membership, which contains membership data and trends for the first half of the 2020-21 Rotary year. In it, you'll also find ways to address membership challenges so you can finish the year strongly. The 12-slide PowerPoint presentation can easily be customized to meet your region's needs. Consider showing it at your next meeting or event. Celebrate people of action with Rotary's Service Award.

## WHAT'S ON

Date	Program	Speaker	Chair	Reporter	5 - minute talk	Extra info
April 13	National Youth Science Forum <b>Venue Mecca Infusion</b> 6.30pm	Paige Newton	Pres Kaye	Pam Hudson	Ida Shi	<b>Organise to sell poppies</b>
April 20	Special Club Meeting <b>at Hotel Pennant Hills</b> 6 for 6.30pm		Pres Kaye	David Firth	Daisy Huang	
April 27	TBA <b>Venue Mecca Infusion</b> 6.30pm					<b>ANZAC Day</b> <b>April 25</b>
May 2	Board Meeting <b>Zoom</b>					
May 4	Zoom Meeting using Jim Fraser's Account					
May 11	Members' Night					
May 18	POW Awards Night Pennant Hills Golf Club	Richard Adams		Jim Fraser	NA	<b>2 course meal</b> <b>\$50/head</b>
May 25	We visit other clubs -	no meeting of our	club			

**Last Week's Meeting - 6.04. 2022**

**Attendance - 56.25%**

**Apologies: A Ameen, H Chan, T Glockemann, J Fraser, P Stanton, J Terry**

**Guest Speaker: Jose Herrera**

**Guests: Robert Erskine**

**LOA: T Pankhurst**

### **Anniversaries & Birthdays**

#### **Birthdays:**

**Pam Hudson - April 21**

**Peter Hudson - April 8**

**Dorothy Green - April 19**

**Leon Edema - April 24**

#### **Anniversaries:**

**Terry & Maureen Pankhurst - April 9**

**Pat & Sandra Parker - April 9**

#### **Inductions:**

**George Green - April 3**

## **PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AWARDS**



Our awards night is set for May 18th. We are looking for nominations for awards. Please suggest either organisations we can invite to nominate, or people you think are worthy of an award that you would like to nominate. Let David Firth know in the first instance so we can get an invitation sent out.

You may also like to invite anyone you think could be a potential new member of the club as the POW Awards night is a good showcase of our club and its projects in the community.