

# **SPOKES**



**Editor: David Firth** 



### CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING APOLOGIES & GUESTS:

Text to 0451 265 122 or Email ida1701@gmail.com on Monday







We have the following sister clubs:

Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise District 9670 Rotary Club of Delhi Ridge District 3011

#### This week's meeting

THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S OFFICIAL VISIT

We welcome DG Mina Howard and also AG Stuart Armstrong.

Chairman: President Phil Stanton

Reporter: Jim Fraser

Please note that we are starting at 6.30pm with dinner organised by Daisy - the cost will be \$25 each and BYO if you wish.

#### THE CHRISTMAS TRAILER RAFFLE

Day 3 of our Saturday Trailer Raffle selling was at Westleigh Village where we have always enjoyed much co-operation from the centre management. This was the case again this year.

We were very well received by the community there, selling just over 300 tickets and takings of \$1,137. This was a big improvement compared with the same venue last year. Sales year-to-date are slightly ahead of last year.

The morning shift was Pam Hudson, John Ellis, Jim Fraser and Terry Pankhurst, so they were able to sell up near the café as well as at the carpark entrance. The afternoon shift was Elliott Newton and, for part of the time his daughter Abby, Heather and David Firth. So another good day for us.

One hazard selling raffle tickets locally is that you are bound to come across people who immediately say, "O, I've already bought tickets from Daisy!" Daisy is our champion ticket seller. To date she has sold 5 books and raised \$870.00! Keep going Daisy.



#### **Mina Howard, District Governor 2022-23**

#### **Rotary Club of Blackheath**

Mina joined the Blackheath Rotary Club in 2006 and became its first female president in 2011 serving a two-year term after three years as secretary. She was Assistant Governor for two terms, is a facilitator on the RLI team and 2020-21 District Vocational Chair. Mina is a Paul Harris Society member and is committed to supporting The Rotary Foundation. Early years were spent in the natural beauty of Warragamba Dam before her family moved to the western suburbs of Sydney. Mina attended Seven Hills High School

then won a scholarship to Bathurst Teachers College. She spent forty-three years as a Primary School teacher in the NSW State Education system. Along with her husband Larry, Mina joined the Australian Army Reserve in 1976 where she served for six years with the Royal Australian Engineers.

In 1991 Mina and Larry moved with their three children to the cooler climes of beautiful Blackheath and now reside in the equally beautiful Mount Victoria. They have three young grandchildren.

As a member of Blackheath/Mount Victoria RFS Brigade (where Larry is the longest serving Captain) and as the brigade's Community Engagement Officer, Mina began the HUFF (Heads Up For Fire) project, a grassroots neighbourhood strategy that encourages people to connect with and look out for each other, especially those who are more vulnerable. The project won a highly commended in the 2013 Resilient Australia Awards. It had its first real test in the recent Black Summer fires. Mina was state finalist in the 2017 RESCA (Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards) awards and a finalist in the 2019 Western Sydney Zest Awards. Mina served as president of the Mount Victoria Community Association for five years and was the convenor of the Mount Victoria Great Train Weekend event. She volunteers at the Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre and the Blackheath Rhododendron Gardens.

A love of world travel began in 1977 when Mina and Larry embarked on the 'hippy trail' travelling from Kathmandu to London overland, visiting countries such as India, Kashmir, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey. Fast forward to 2015 when travelling resumed with a trip to Cambodia to help build houses for the Tabitha Foundation and a subsequent trip with the Sustainable Cambodia project. They have travelled throughout Asia, attended the Bangkok Convention and have visited Turkey, Greece, Spain and Portugal declaring Istanbul their favourite city. Mina is also a Camino tragic having completed the Camino de Santiago Compostela in 2016 followed by the Aussie Camino, the Camino Portuguese and the Epiphany Pilgrimage, a local walk stretching from Emu Plains to Bell. Mina recently walked part of the Larapinta Trail near Alice Springs to raise money for ShelterBox.

Mina's goal for 2022-23 is to encourage clubs to look critically at their projects and practices and aim to make their club more diverse and welcoming whilst providing meaningful service opportunities for each member. Continued support of The Rotary Foundation, the End Polio campaign and other Rotary programs are also to be encouraged.

And, of course, fellowship and fun must be paramount.

Theatre Party on November 16th at the Pavillion Theatre, Castle Hill Showground at 7.30 for cheese & wine. The show starts at 8.00pm. Cost is \$30 each - payment by CASH on the night. Numbers to Pam Hudson by Thursday November 10th.





MAKING SURE YOU GET THE BEST DEAL TO REGISTER FOR THE RI MELBOURNE CONVEN-TION If you have not yet registered for the RI Convention in Melbourne in May 2023, here's how to get the lowest price possible:

- 1. Book as soon as possible and before 15 December, when the cost to register increases by US \$100
- 2. Make sure that you select the option when you come to pay with your credit card (preferred option) that you select AUD from the dropdown menu. This will ensure that you do not pay credit card fees, commissions or incur a poor exchange rate. You will be billed at the "Rotary" exchange rate for that month, which will be better than the rate offered by your credit card provider
- 3. In the circumstance that you do need to cancel your booking it will also ensure that you get the best exchange rate on your refund and avoid other costs
- 4. If you or your partner or other guest are under the age of 30, you can access a really great registration rate of only US \$125!
  - 5. Children are welcome too for a very nominal fee

If you are still uncertain about your payment, or if there seems to be no option to pay in AUD choose the payment option of "Pay Later" and then contact the Rotary Office in Sydney at risppo.finance@rotary.org, providing your registration ID so they can assist you to complete the registration.

How to register: Go to: Melbourne | Rotary Convention Please follow the step by step instructions below if you need assistance with the process to register. At the same link you can also reserve accommodation from a range of price options.

Other Conference Opportunities: To reserve a spot at Signature events and host hospitality events or to arrange a tour in conjunction with your visit to Melbourne please visit the Host Organisation Committee website at: Rotary International Convention, Melbourne 2023 (27-31 May) (rotarymelbourne 2023.org)

If you are interested ingoing to the convention in Melbourne next May, talk to David Firth as it would be preferrable to stay at the same accommodation if possible. The convention is an excellent way to broaden your knowledge of Rotary and the amazing things achieved around the world.

#### WHAT'S ON

Date	Program	Speaker	Chair	Reporter	
Nov 9	Official Visit of District Governor Meet at 6.30pm	DG Mina Howard	Phil Stanton	Jim Fraser	
Nov 12	Trailer Raffle Selling at Coonara Shops	AM J Ellis, J Fraser, T Glockemann	PM P Hudson, I Shi, P Stanton, E Newton		
Nov 16	Theatre Party at Pavillion Theatre, Castle Hill	with North Rocks Rotary Club	At 7.30pm		Plus Partners and friends
Nov 19	Trailer Raffle Selling at West Pymble	AM J Ellis, A & L Lowe, T Glockemann,	PM P Stanton, D Firth		
Nov 23	Pennant Hills Community Civic Trust	President M Rosettenstein	Phil Stanton	Pam Hudson	

Last Week's Meeting - 2.11.2022

Attendance: 46.2%

**Apologies:** A Bell, T Glockemann, J Terry, T Pankhurst, I Shi, P Stanton

Guest Speaker: Nil

Leave of Absence: A Ameen

## November Anniversaries & Birthdays Birthdays:

L Stanton - November 4

S Parker - November 7

J Terry - November 15

C Rigney - November 22

H Chan - November 23

**Anniversaries:** 

Nil

#### **Club Induction Anniversary:**

J Ellis - November 1

This week's Quote
Friendship was the rock on which Rotary was built
and tolerance is the element which holds it together.
Faul Harris



