# **VOLUME 65 No. 13**

# 20th December, 2023

**SPOKES** 

**Editor: David Firth** 



Pennant Hills

Rotary

Club

**CLUB CONTACT** INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES & GUESTS: Text to 0451 265 122 or Email ida1701@gmail.com on Monday before the meeting

Find us on:



This Week

Our Christmas Party

<sup>at</sup> Lutanda Manor Starting at 6.00 for 6.30pm Food provided-BYO drinks Cost is \$25 each



### **President's Corner**

We are just about at the end of the first half of this Rotary year. These last couple of months have been busy as is always the case I guess. But it is encouraging to see how successful we have been despite our small numbers. I hasten to say that this has been in no small part due to the support from our 'friends of Rotary'.

So we now look forward to the second half of the year with its regular major events - our Australia Day celebration on January 24th being the first. Make sure you have this in your diaries!

May I just conclude by thanking you all for your efforts so far, and have a happy Christmas and new Year with your family and friends. David Firth





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

### **OUR CHRISTMAS TRAILER RAFFLE - David Firth**

This year we made a conscious decision to reduce the number of selling weeks to six due to the restricted numbers available to sell on Saturdays. We chose the 4 shopping centres where we have traditionally done best - Pennant Hills, Thornleigh, Westleigh and Cherrybrook, with the first two being visited twice as usual. The result was so much better certainly than I expected. On only one day did we not easily exceed sales at those locations last year. And throughout the 6 weeks, Daisy Huang has used her charm and persuasion to again sell a fantastic number of tickets - over 660!

In all, we sold 2743 tickets and total takings were \$9,738.50. The generosity of so many in the community is amazing - and having St Lucy's School was a significant help also. On Sunday, a small group gathered at the Pennant Hills Market Place, near to our Tree of Joy, for the drawing of the winning ticket. Phil Stanton was able to bring the tumbler barrel so the tickets were mixed and Kelly Tam from the Banna Group did the honours of drawing the winning ticket - No.1688 with the name 'ANNETTE'. As it transpired, Daisy had sold the ticket to one of her clients. We contacted her - she was absolutely overcome with the win. She lives in Thornleigh but was not home at the time so we delivered the trailer to her brother who lives close by in Thornleigh. We have been assured that it has gone to a very deserving lady who has not had an easy time recently.











### The 'TREES OF JOY' 2023

Again this year, we had 2 trees, one in each of the shopping centres at Pennant Hills and Thornleigh. At Pennant Hills we receive excellent support from the centre and we were able to secure gifts in the vacant shop adjacent to the tree. This was a great assistance to both us and their security guard who oversaw the storing of the gifts.

At Thornleigh we were again able to have the gifts secured in the AMS Hair Salon which is also very close to the tree. In all



we produced just over 600 cards which denoted the age range and gender of the recipients. As in previous years, the trees have operated from mid November through to now. To date we have received just over 500 gifts for distribution.

Last Thursday, Phil Stanton and I delivered 80 gifts for boys and girls aged from 7 to 14 at Stewart House. These were for the last group for the year. We were welcomed by Murray O'Donnell, the Chief of Operations there. He told us that the children were from Bourke, Broken Hill, Sunraysia and from the Upper Hunter Valley - so all from country areas, and would be thrilled to be taking a gift home with them.

Then, on Friday, Jim Fraser and I prepared to take 2 carloads of gifts to Parramatta Mission, which was going to mean atleast another 2 carloads after the weekend. However, Jim bumped in to a neighbour, Peter, as he was getting ready to load the car. Peter straight away offered to help by providing a station wagon to take another load. It was so great to have such an enthusiastic helper and the result was a great delivery to the mission with Paul Moussa and Jenny so appreciative of the gifts.



We have provided small numbers of gifts to three other places. Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter were pleased to come and collect 10 gifts for their current residents. Anoop Sud has delivered 12 gifts for women and children at the United Against Domestic Violence centre where Ms Ebru Husnu was delighted to receive them.

And Pam Hudson is delivering a small number of gifts to residents of the Cherrybrook Christian Care Nursing Home who have no close family at this time.



All in all, a wonderful result from a very generous community! It was great to see how many people didn't take just one card - some took several! **David Firth** 





## WHAT'S ON

Date	Program	Speaker	Chair	Reporter	
20th Dec	Club Christmas Party	at Lutanda Manor	From 6.00pm	BYO drinks	\$25 each
10th Jan	Planning for Australia Day meeting	David Firth/ Phil Stanton	David Firth	lda Shi	
24th Jan	Australia Day Meeting At PH Golf Club 6.30 for 7.00pm	Kristen Bindley OAM	Phil Stanton	John Ellis	\$50 each
25th Jan	Morning Tea with	Lamingtons	At Cherrybrook Christian Care Nursing Home	10.30am	
1st Feb	RYLA 2024 (TBC)	Natasha Lette	John Ellis	Phil Stanton	

Last Meeting - 6.12.2023 Attendance: 72.7% Apologies: A Bell, R Huh, A Sud Guests: Nil

### DECEMBER

#### Birthdays:

Neeru Sud - Dec 1 Ida Shi - Dec 5 Michael Huh - Dec 15 George Green - Dec 17 David Firth - Dec 19 Adrian Bell - Dec 25 Jim Fraser - Dec 30 Theo Glockemann - Dec 30

Anniversaries: Herbert & Bronia Chan - Dec 17

Club Induction Anniversary: David Firth - Dec 16



2024 Conference dates: Friday 15th March 2024 to Saturday 16th March 2024



Phil Stanton with Jenny & Paul at Parramatta Mission today on the last delivery.

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year." *Ebenezer Scrouge - <u>'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens</u>*