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CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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TO NOTIFY MEETING APOLOGIES & GUESTS:
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on Monday before the meeting



We have the following sister clubs:

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

This Week

SUMMER RYPEN 2024

Speakers:

Maya Kulatunga

Jethro Penn

Chairman: John Ellis

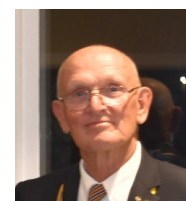
Reporter: Jim Fraser

This week we have our 2 RYPEN attendees coming to tell us about their experience at the recent weekend camp at Narrabeen.

President's Corner

Since our last regular meeting - read Ida's report on the next page, we have been involved in several activities.

Pam and I attended the inaugural meeting of the Rotary Community Group 1 (RCG1) which our club was assigned to under the Regionalisation Pilot Project. It turned out to be more of an information session with no specific outcomes. However, the next step is the election of the RCG1 leader. Elsewhere in this issue are links to a position description and a nomination form for anyone interested.



Last Wednesday evening we had a chance to see the new home of Pam & Peter Hudson while we packed over 300 bags of mini Easter eggs to be distributed to local retirement villages. And not to forget our club history, for supper we had a birthday cake to celebrate our 64th birthday.

David Firth

Meeting Report

President David opened the meeting around 7pm, extending a warm welcome to all attendees, with a special mention of Jim's return from skiing in the States and the official induction of Amanda as our new club member. The following announcements and updates were provided:

The funeral for Marg Ebb will be held on Tuesday 12th March at noon at the White Lady Funeral Home in Pennant Hills.

Seven members participated in the "Clean Up Australia Day" event on 3 March, as per previous years, picking up garbage from three car parks and surrounding streets near Pennant Hills Market Place.

Four members (David, John, Phil and Ida) participated in the Bicycle Network's Super Tuesday bicycle-counting activity on 5 March, each earning \$70 for the club, with a total of \$280 expected to arrive in our club project account in 6 weeks.

Easter Eggs packing and club's 64th birthday celebration will be held at Pam's residence on Wednesday, March 13th at 7:30PM.

Members interested in attending the 2024 District Conference were reminded to register.

Plans for the Mother's Day Fundraising activity at Pennant Hills Market Place and another sausage sizzle activity at Thornleigh Bunnings were discussed.

Moving on to the agenda, President David formally inducted Amanda Woods as a new member.

Members of the Rotary of Pennant Hills WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER AMANDA WOODS to the Club!!!

This was followed by John's presentation on his trips to Antarctica.

John shared insights and experiences from his journey, covering visits to various landmarks and historical sites.

John's interest in Antarctica developed as he read and learned about the expeditions seeking the South Pole as their goal. In February 2005, John joined the *Kapitan Khlebnikov*, a Russian icebreaker, with about 85 other tourists to sail from Hobart for the Ross Sea.

Their first port of call was Macquarie Island, administered by Tasmania's National Parks and Wildlife. The island abounds in wildlife and the research staff there oversee the safety of the penguins, seals and other wildlife. For about 80 years until the 1920s, the island was used by men hunting whales and seals for their oil. Goats and rabbits were introduced as a food source, making a mess of the local grasses. Macquarie Island staff have eradicated the goats and continue to chase the rabbits. Ashore we saw several types of penguins, seals and sea lions. Then south to Cape Adaire on the Antarctic mainland.

Across the Southern Ocean, they encountered pack ice and frazzle then further south, tabular icebergs that originate from the continent and calve as they proceed into the sea. At Cape Adaire, they landed to inspect Borchgrevink's hut built in 1899 for the first party to winter over on the Antarctic mainland.

Further south they landed at the Italian research station in Terra Nova Bay then on to McMurdo Sound to visit the Discovery hut built for Scott's expedition in 1902. In this part of McMurdo Sound, the ice is about a metre thick and only an icebreaker can proceed through it. The Discovery hut is next to McMurdo Station, the US base. Over the hill, they visited Scott Base, the New Zealand base.

Heading north they were helicoptered into the Taylor Valley, one of the two dry valleys

Continued over ➡



where there has been no snow or other precipitation for two million years. They were taken to a seal that had become stranded about 400 years ago – well preserved in the cold and dry air.

Heading north, they anchored off Cape Royds where Shackleton built the Nimrod Hut in 1907. He included two Australians in his team, Edegeworth David and Douglas Mawson and both were in the party that climbed Mount Erebus, an active volcano. Then on to Cape Evans to the Discovery Hut built for Scott's expedition in 1910. The huts are administered by the Antarctic Historic Huts Trust, based in New Zealand. The huts were used by the relevant expeditioners and later by a party of 12 stranded from 1914 to 1916. The huts were not visited again until 1949 by which time they were filled with ice, formed as powder snow made its way in through spaces in the weatherboard walls that were reduced in the cold, dry conditions. All huts had been cleared of this ice to allow us to see where the famous expeditioners tried to stay warm, leaving their dirty socks, blankets and pillows and some food supplies behind. The weak point of all huts was the roof and all have been replaced, however walls are original.

As they cleared the Ross Sea, they lifted by helicopter atop an iceberg with a surface area similar to the Australian Capital Territory. Their next stop was in the Auckland Islands to the south of New Zealand where we could admire more of the flora and fauna before returning to Hobart.

In 2012 three voyages from Hobart to Mawson's Hut were arranged to recognise the centenary of his expedition to Commonwealth Bay. In January 2012, John sailed in the second voyage with sixty travellers in the *Akademik Shekoulski*, a Russian ice strengthened ship. They visited the Auckland Islands on our way south then found that an ice tongue had broken off and grounded off Commonwealth Bay, thus restricting summer currents that usually saw that coast ice free. They found some 12 km of ice between them in the ship and Mawson's hut. The ship, not being an ice breaker, could not reach the hut. They heard all about it from lecturers. They sailed west to Adelie Land and visited to French research station before returning to Hobart via Macquarie Island. When visiting Hobart later, John was able to visit a replica of Mawson's hut, erected opposite Constitution Dock.

The meeting concluded around 8:30pm, with appreciation extended to John for his informative and interesting presentation.

Reporter: Ida Shi

THE EASTER EGG PACKING

What a great time was had last Wednesday evening at Pam & Peter Hudson's new home in Pennant Hills. We started with a conducted tour including the self contained separate building out the back. (Peter, that is the finest garden tool shed I have seen!)

We then got down to the business of the night. Those present were Jim F, Ida S, Daisy H, and she had brought her nephew William to help, our newest member Amanda W, Phil S, Georgia G, with Theo not well enough to come, John E, David F, and of course, Pam and Peter H. We had some 3,000 mini eggs to pack 8 to a cellophane bag, while others folder the 300 + cards which had to be stapled to the top of the bags. Pam had the relevant numbers to be delivered to the 4 retirement villages so she supervised the packing of the finished items for delivery to each place. I think I can say that there were few, if any, eggs failing to reach the packs!

We then rounded off the evening with supper and the club's birthday cake. The anniversary of our charter was actually the following day.

The editor



The production line in full swing



Our Champion card Folder



The finished product

WHAT'S ON

Date	Program	Speaker	Chair	Reporter	
20th March	Summer RYPEN 2024	Maya Kulatunga Jethro Penn	John Ellis	Jim Fraser	
27th March	Board Meeting via Zoom	7.30pm	David Firth		
3rd April	TBA	TBA	David Firth	Pam Hudson	
17th April	TBA	TBA	David Firth	John Ellis	

Last Meeting - 6.03.2024

Attendance: 66.7%

Apologies: A Bell, T Glockemann, R Huh, A Sud

Guest Speaker: John Ellis

Guests: Nil



As we start to prepare for our Pride of Workmanship Awards Night on May 15, we are looking for names of potential awardees. They might be people who you do business with; those in shops; or people you hear about that are providing a service which is of a high standard. Our Awards Night will be at Pennant Hills Golf Club.

MARCH

Birthdays:

Georgia Glockemann - March 4

Jeanette Rigney - March 14

Heather Firth - March 24

Bronia Tam - March 30

Anniversaries:

Ida Shi and Eddy Li - March 5

Claude and Jeanette Rigney - March 9

Jim and Esther Fraser - March 11

Club Induction Anniversary:

Nil

A Brief Report on the District 9685 Conference

The conference was held last Friday and Saturday. The venue for the plenary sessions on Saturday was the EV Church at Erina which provided very good facilities.

The 3 sessions on Saturday were attended by some 350 to 400. The standard of presentations was very good. I felt that the ones that impressed me most were one by Greg Page and his Heart of the Nation project to get AEDs more accessible everywhere; and Dr Andrew Browning AM who runs the Barbara May Foundation based in Ethiopia providing safer childbirths for women in that country and in other African countries. This was a wonderful story.

There was a Showcase of Club projects which included our Pride of Workmanship Awards project. I was encouraged by the amount of interest shown and the indication of clubs planning presentations before June 30.

If you are interested in the Rotary Community Group 1 leadership, the following are links to information that will help in determining if this is what you are interested in.

<https://creatingtomorrowrotary.org/latest-updates/community-group-leaders>

<https://www.rotaryzone8.org/page/rotary-regionalisation-project>