



VOLUME 58 No. 26
EDITOR: DAVID FIRTH

SPOKES

OUR PROGRAM THIS WEEK - January 23rd



Chairman: PHIL STANTON Reporter: ADRIAN BELL

Welcome to our visitors this week and to members of Beecroft Rotary Club

NEXT WEEK - January 30th

CLUB FORUM

Chairman: President Pam Reporter: John Ellis

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION



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Australian Flag Poem



Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night
In our southern sky of blue
And that little old flag in the corner
That's part of our heritage too,
It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish
Who were sent to the end of the earth
The rogues and the schemers and dreamers
Who gave our Australia its birth.

And you who are shouting to change it
You don't seem to understand
It's the flag of our laws and language
Not the flag of a far away land
There are plenty of people who'll tell you
How when Europe was plunged into night
The little old flag in the corner
Was their symbol of freedom and light.

It don't mean we owe our allegiance
To a forgotten imperial dream
We've the stars to show where we're going
And the old flag to show where we've been
It's only an old piece of bunting
It's only an old coloured rag
But there are thousands who died for its honour
And fell in defence of our flag.

Written by an anonymous Australian

2017-18 RI President Ian H.S. Riseley announces his presidential theme, '*Rotary: Making a Difference*'

Rotary International President-elect Ian H.S. Riseley made the case on Monday that protecting the environment and curbing climate change are essential to Rotary's goal of sustainable service.

Riseley, a member of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia, unveiled the 2017-18 presidential theme, *Rotary: Making a Difference*, to incoming district governors at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

Environmental degradation and global climate change are serious threats to everyone, Riseley said. "They are having a disproportionate impact on those who are most vulnerable, those to whom Rotary has the greatest responsibility. Yet environmental issues rarely register on the Rotary agenda," he said.

"Environmental degradation is one of the major threats listed by the UN's High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change.

Riseley added, "The time is long past when environmental sustainability can be dismissed as not Rotary's concern. It is, and must be, everyone's concern."

The president-elect challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members between the start of the Rotary year on 1 July and Earth Day on 22 April 2018. Trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming.

"It is my hope that the result of that effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit that those 1.2 million new trees will bring," Riseley said. "I believe the greater result will be a Rotary that recognizes our responsibility not only to the people on our planet, but to the planet itself."



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Report on the club Meeting on 16th January, 2017

President Pam opened the meeting at 7 pm. The theme of the meeting was planning for Australia Day Merit Award.

Youth Report

John Ellis provided a summary of Youth activities involving the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) and the Young Endeavour sailors. Our club sponsored two young people for RYLA training, 1 male (manager of an IGA store) and one female (a soprano singer from Slovakia). The training completed recently and the two candidates will be invited to a club meeting to share their experiences.

Two young males have been sponsored for the NYSF conducted in Canberra. (Since 1984, Rotary Clubs have selected 10,000 young people for the NYSF).

John Ellis also advised that the Young Endeavour candidate sponsored by our club is sailing from Adelaide to Stanley in Tasmania as a crew member.

Community Report

Theo Glockemann reported on the opening of the new Ray White office in the Pennant Hills shopping village (This was the old National Australia Bank office). The principal of the Ray White Office wanted to contribute something to Rotary and be part of the opening of their new office. Ray White provided a sausage sizzle for all interested visitors who were then asked to provide a gold coin donation which was given to our club (\$160.00 was collected). Dion the Ray White principal, was happy for our club to use this event as a recruitment forum for our club. Two new prospective members are expected to be guests at our Australia Day Merit Award meeting next week. In the Pennant Hills Village, Ray White staff were handing out balloons inviting shoppers to the opening of the Ray White Office for a BBQed sausage.

Dion expects that the opening of the new office will be reported in the local paper. Dion has existing offices in Thornleigh and West Pennant Hills.

Pam was advised that Ray White has chosen Rotary as their charity of choice. Ian Huckel had met Dion a few weeks before the opening of the new Ray White Office and was advised of the intent to involve the local Rotary Club on opening day.

Pam has proposed that four times a year the RC of Pennant Hills conduct a sausage sizzle at the Pennant Hills Village to raise our profile in the local community and to recruit new members. Pam expects to work closely with the Ray White PR person for this to happen. Pam hopes that Ray White may be interested in other club projects, possibly becoming sponsors and/or volunteers for the Golf Day.

Australia Day Merit Award Meeting Planning

For the Australia Day Merit Awards meeting Pam has asked everyone to act as ambassadors for the club, making everyone welcome especially the potential new members and guests.

Phil Stanton advised that the local Federal and State politicians and the deputy mayor of Hornsby will be attending our Australia Day Merit Award night.

Ian Chappel will be arriving at 6 pm to help setup the room for the meeting along with several other members.

Sergeant Session

The Sergeant session was very lively (if you ask me the sergeant seems to be very cranky lately). Claude, who had arrived early, was still at the bar when the meeting opened at 7 pm! Do you think the sergeant missed this opportunity? Those with Anniversaries were hit hard and there were a long list of names in Spokes last week. The sergeant wanted to challenge everyone's little grey cells by asking why a certain religion advised its followers to eat fish on Fridays? Everyone tried to answer this one, those that gave a wrong answer were fined, those that had no answer were also fined.

Claude offered up an information gem that there was only one English Pope in the history of the Roman Church. Claude was fined for his powers of recall; the rest of us just shut up. In an act of compassion (or was it desperation), Alex gave the sergeant absolution for raising the issue of dietary selection for Fridays (maybe I got this mixed up here, but all I can say is, it was a very long fine session followed by an equally long cross fine session).

Timor Visit – September, volunteers welcome

Theo reported that in September he will be going to Timor again and invited anyone from the club to accompany the team. Theo advised that Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) runs first and the leaders that emerge then go out into the villages conducting seminars. With the gap after RYLA before the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) commences, there is opportunity for any club members to help with seminars in the villages, including Entrepreneurship, Project Management, Writing Project Proposals, Days for Girls, Sustainable Projects, Accounting and Record Keeping. Theo said it would cost around \$3000.00 per person to go to Timor and stay for 2 weeks.

The Rotary meeting was concluded at 8:25 pm and the Australia Day Merit Award sub-committee re-convened to finalise planning.

Reporter: PP Ian Chappel

THE FORWARD PROGRAM

DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN	REPORTER
Jan 30	CLUB FORUM	ALL MEMBERS	PRESIDENT PAM	JOHN ELLIS
Feb 6	'COPS ARE TOPS' JOINT MEETING WITH	SHANE CARN BEECROFT CLUB	PHIL STANTON	JIM FRASER
Feb 13	PRESENTATION OF TRAILER RAFFLE PROCEEDS	TBA	PAT PARKER	DAVID FIRTH
Feb 20	'FITTED FOR WORK'	ELIZABETH TREWHELLA	PRESIDENT PAM	THEO GLOCKEMANN
Saturday March 11	DISTRICT 9685 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - at PENRITH PANTHERS CONVENTION CENTRE Register now at www.conference2017.rotarydistrict9685.org.au			



MEMBER NEWS

BIRTHDAYS

John Ellis - January 30th

Jack Reid - January 30th

ANNIVERSARIES

George & Dorothy Green - January 17th

Peter & Susan Wilson - January 22nd

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Pam Hudson - January 20th

ATTENDANCE AT OUR LAST MEETING

Member attendance 72.2%

Apologies: David Walsh, David Firth, Pat Parker, Michael Bradley

Guests: nil

Leave of Absence: Graeme Ashdown

Thought for the Week

"Australia is an outdoor country. People only go inside to use the toilet. And that's only a recent development."
- Barry Humphries