



**VOLUME 58 No. 29**  
EDITOR: DAVID FIRTH

# SPOKES

**OUR PROGRAM THIS WEEK - February 13th**

## The 'Young Endeavour' Program 2017

**GUEST SPEAKER: MICHAEL BLAIR**

**Chairman: John Ellis**

**Reporter: Pat Parker**



This youth program, which our club conducts annually at Pennant Hills High School, originated following a fire that devastated about a third of the school back in June 2001. Following discussions with the then Principal, Geoff Wing, this program was suggested as a way to inspire students who show leadership qualities and can benefit from this development program.

Tonight we also welcome Dion Verzeletti, Director of Ray White at Pennant Hills who is coming to present a cheque, the proceeds of their BBQ at the opening of their new office.

**NEXT WEEK - February 20th**

**"FITTED FOR WORK" Speaker: Elizabeth Trehwella**

**Chairman: President Pam Reporter: Theo Glockemann**

**THIS IS A PARTNERS NIGHT**  
**AS THIS IS A CHARITY SUPPORTED BY THE ROTARYANNES**

### CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Rotary Meeting Report February 6, 2017

The meeting was a joint meeting with the Beecroft Club and the plan was to have a presentation from guest speaker Shane Carne talking about 'Cops Are Tops' and crime prevention in the Ryde area. Unfortunately Shane was ill and President Pam was told on the day that he would not be attending.

The meeting was opened by President Pam who advised of the illness but as an alternative a trivia night had been organised at the last minute. The change resulted in combined club tables which allowed the two groups to find out more about the respective clubs. John Ellis provided grace on the night. The Beecroft club spoke first to highlight two anniversaries and the welcoming of a new child to one of their members. Theo spoke next and highlighted the Centurian Fundraising program of the Rotary Foundation where, for a donation of \$100, the member will receive a butterfly lapel pin. This fundraising would also contribute to a Global Grant which could be used for our Timor project. It was then up to the sergeant to run a game of 2 up to provide some entertainment. There was a bit of a challenge on the final rounds with the coins going astray but tails was the winner and Russell Zimmerman from Beecroft was the winner of a bottle of wine.

Then came the trivia night which included 20 questions and Theo was the host and quiz master. The questions ranged from travel destinations, to history, to the currency and postal habits of the Vatican, as well as the contribution of Bradfield to Sydney. Some questions appeared to be easy for some sea faring members but the contest was tight. Theo ruled the contest with an iron fist to ensure it was on time and the correct answers not challenged. He did relent to some of the pressure and added an extra question to ensure there was no ties. After all the answers were read out, naturally some were challenged as people had their own view of the correct answers. In the end there was a winner with a combined Beecroft/Pennant Hills table with about a 50/50 representation. To get the eventual winner on the table, more multiple choice questions were posed and the eventual winner was Adrian Bell who correctly guessed the number of dimples on a golf ball and was presented with a bottle of wine. The trivia was a great substitute for the unavailable speaker and all the tables seemed to enjoy the interaction for the night. President Pam closed the meeting about 8:20 with the National Anthem.

**Reporter: Jim Fraser**

## BAGPIPES

*I love this story.*

*Lay down what's bothering you, breath in the fresh air and LISTEN to this story.*

Time is like a river. You cannot touch the water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of life. As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Nova Scotia back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late.

I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played "Amazing Grace", the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head was hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say,

"I never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently, I'm still lost....it's a man thing.



# Bringing about reconciliation

Posted on [February 6, 2017](#) by [Rotary International](#)



A community reconciliation event in the Solomon Islands.

*By Nadia Mahmood, Rotary Peace Fellow, University of Queensland, Australia*

Over the past two and a half months, I have been working with Prison Fellowship Solomon Islands (PF), a grassroots peace-building organization which runs conflict resolution, restorative justice, and reconciliation programs and provides support for families of inmates.

It is honestly hard to put into words how inspiring and engaging it is to work with this team of local volunteers who exemplify everything that Rotary stands for. During my time here, I have had the opportunity to travel to different provinces to be part of restorative justice training in the prisons and help inmates write letters of apology to their victims.

**The Prison Fellowship team** delivers the letters to the victims' families and mediates and counsels them to see if they are open to engaging in reconciliation. As part of this, I have been able to support the team in mediating reconciliations between individuals, communities, as well as between groups of former combatants and between ex-combatants and their own communities.

We organized a Christmas program at three locations that allowed incarcerated parents to reconnect with their families and give gifts to their children. We have also expanded our programs for a growing number of incarcerated youth and women in prison. I assisted the team in developing and delivering programs and support services to the wives of inmates. One highly successful pilot recently trained the wives in simple income generating techniques such as making snacks and jewelry items to sell at the market, and will now be rolled out on a larger scale.

During a visit to the Rotary Club of Honiara, I shared with them my experiences and explained the Rotary Peace Fellowship program. We are now working together to develop a promotion and recruitment strategy to increase the number of applications to both the certificate and masters programs from the Solomon Islands.

**I will leave my field study** having definitely received much more than I have given. The people I have met poured out their warmth, hospitality, and patience upon my in teaching me the language, culture, customs, and grassroots peace-building methodologies. I return to Brisbane on 14 February to complete my final semester, with the hopes of finding a way to return to the Solomon Islands after that.

I have also found time to have plenty of fun at the beach and have spent time in my friends' villages in Savo Island and Lau Lagoon in Malaita.

I am thankful to all the Rotarians, especially my sponsoring Rotary Club of Charleswood, Winnipeg, Canada, and host Rotary Club of Brisbane Planetarium, Australia, for making this happen. I am also thankful for the amazing team of staff and professors at the University of Queensland for the excellent foundation and support they have provided me in preparing me for this experience. **My entire Peace Fellow class** has also blessed me with their friendship, support, and teamwork, and I look forward to reconnecting with them on my return.



Rotary Peace Fellow Nadia Mahmood (front center) during her applied field experience.



# THE FORWARD PROGRAM

DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN	REPORTER
Feb 20	'FITTED FOR WORK'	ELIZABETH TREWHELLA	PRESIDENT PAM	THEO GLOCKEMANN
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Feb 27	Golf Day Discussion	Phil Stanton & others	President Pam	David Firth
March 6	National Youth Science Forum 2017	Luke Harris Aryan Panchasara	John Ellis	Alex Thomas
Saturday March 11	DISTRICT 9685 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - at PENRITH PANTHERS CONVENTION CENTRE Register now at <a href="http://www.conference2017.rotarydistrict9685.org.au">www.conference2017.rotarydistrict9685.org.au</a>			
March 20	'Cops Are Tops' (rescheduled)	Shane Carne	Phillip Stanton	Michael Bradley

**SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2017**  
**10AM – 4PM**  
**ST IVES**  
**FOOD AND WINE**  
**FESTIVAL**

**St Ives Village Green**  
(next to St Ives Shops)

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20 Quality Wine Stalls  
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St Ives Rotary

St Ives food & wine festival

Room to Read  
"World Change Starts with Educated Children"

## ATTENDANCE AT OUR LAST MEETING

**Member attendance 77.8%**

**Apologies:** Michael Bradley, David Walsh, Alex Thomas

**Guest Speaker:** Nil

**Guest:** Nil

**Leave of Absence:** Graeme Ashdown

## MEMBER NEWS

### BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Thomas - February 15th

### ANNIVERSARIES

Nil

### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Ian Huckel - February 10th

## Thought for the Week

**PEACE is not something you wish for. It is something you make; something you are; something you do; and something you give away.**

*Robert Fulghum*