

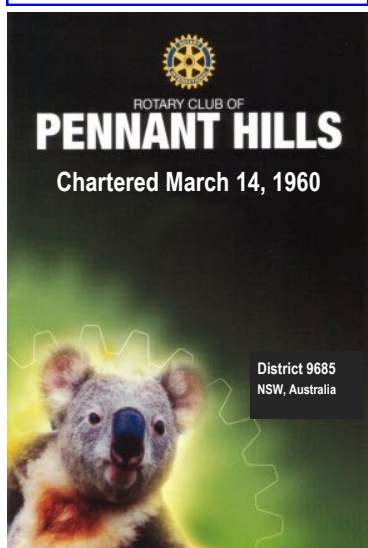


SPOKES

VOLUME 59 No. 01

26th June, 2017

EDITOR: DAVID FIRTH



Rotary
District 9685



OUR PROGRAM THIS WEEK

PLANS FOR THE NEW ROTARY YEAR

CHAIRMAN: PRESIDENT ALEX THOMAS

REPORTER: DAVID FIRTH

This is an opportunity for directors and members to discuss the programs and projects which the club usually conducts, and to talk about any new programs/projects we should consider.

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE ENQUIRIES:

9484 4889

EMAIL:

[rotaryclubpennant
hills@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclubpennant
hills@gmail.com)

TO NOTIFY MEETING
APOLOGIES &
GUESTS:

9294 2107

before Noon on

Saturday



THIS WEDNESDAY, 28th JUNE

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE - 'Meals From the Heart'

Redbank Road, Westmead, NSW 2145

The arrangements are that we are commencing preparations and cooking the BBQ from 5.30pm. We have been advised that no parking will be available in their 'gated' parking area so park in Redbank Road. We expect to be catering for a full house of about 70 people. If you haven't been before, come along - you'll enjoy the evening!

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

To be advised

Chairman: Ian Chappel

Reporter: Ian Huckel

Report of the 57th Changeover Meeting

There was a good attendance for the final meeting of the club's year. Our special guests were DG Bruce Lakin, PDG David Rands and his wife Anne, Sue Robards and Harry Hyland, Dawn Callaway, Bev Young, and a number of our partners.

Following a time of fellowship, MC Phil Stanton called the assembled gathering to order and President Pam welcomed the guests and invited Sergeant-at-arms Terry Pankhurst to lead us in Rotary Grace which he did with his usual aplomb. Secretary John Ellis then led us in a Loyal Toast.

Our Foundation and International Director, Theo Glockemann proposed a toast to Rotary International, reflecting on the great depth of Rotary and highlighting the work not only of the clubs but also of the Rotary Foundation. He highlighted the amazingly successful PolioPlus campaign with total eradication so very close. DG Bruce responded to the toast, commenting on our club's achievements and in turn proposing a toast to our club which was warmly supported.

An excellent dinner followed with the golf club exceeding expectations despite not having a head chef at present. Our man of extraordinary written and verbal talents proposed the toast to our partners - the Rotaryannes and Peter Hudson. This was responded to by Susan Wilson who gave a report on the activities of the Rotaryannes in which she remarked on the success of their high tea which raised \$1,850. This was later donated to 'Fitted for Work', a charity providing support for women re-entering the workforce.

Following a comfort break, President Pam presented her report in which she covered the activities throughout the year and thanked various members for their contribution to the success of our year. She then, with the aid of Director Theo, presented a cheque for \$2,500 to David Rands, who accepted on behalf of the Rotary Foundation. Immediate Past President Ian Chappel was then surprised to be invited to the front to receive a Paul Harris Fellow award in recognition of his contribution to Rotary and our club. For once, Ian was virtually lost for words.

Then followed a very special award to a very special Rotarian, Jack Reid. President Pam detailed just some of his Rotary activity in recent times - part of an almost 54 year involvement with our club. She then presented him with a 'John Young Service Above Self' award. Jack was undoubtedly very surprised but responded in his usual very humble way.

The investiture of incoming President Alex Thomas ensued with Alex reciprocating by presenting a Past President badge and award to Pam. President Alex then gave an interesting talk in which he highlighted how he was introduced to Rotary, paying credit to his wife and her father in particular. He recounted some of his experiences in a lengthy Rotary career, highlighting the District 9685 Rotary Learning Institute program he completed last year. As for his vision for the new Rotary year, President Alex concentrated on people and membership with a plan to add at least 4 new members this year. He is pleased to essentially continue the program's we have at present. And is happy for planning to develop with the involvement of all members.



The incoming Board members were then introduced with a notable exception being the lack of a treasurer. It looks like being a very interesting year for the club but this vacancy needs to be filled as soon as possible.

The meeting concluded with the National Anthem - note that PP Pam Hudson has gifted an Australian flag to the club so that it can be displayed each week.

Reporter: David Firth



Some photos taken during a time of fellowship before the meeting last week

DID YOU KNOW?

THE ORIGIN OF THE MARATHON RACE

The marathon is one of the most popular distances run all over the world, and hundreds of races are organised each year. But whoever decided that it would be a good idea to compete in running exactly 42.195 km, or 26 miles and 385 yards?

The first thing to know is that Marathon is a place. It is a town in Greece and the site of the famous Battle of Marathon in 490 BC, when the invading Persians were defeated by the Athenians. Legend has it that a messenger named Pheidippides was sent back to Athens with the news of their victory. He ran the entire distance without stopping and arrived to exclaim "We have won!" before collapsing and dying of exhaustion.

Whether this story is true is another matter (still debated by historians), but the road from Marathon to Athens is indeed about 40 kilometers long. It wasn't until the late 19th century, however, that the idea of creating a race of this distance came up.

The modern marathon is connected to ancient Greece in yet another way: the Olympics. Every four years, the Greeks would hold the Olympic Games, a festival of athletic competitions hosted in Olympia in honour of Zeus. Different legends exist about the origin of this tradition, but it was probably begun in the 8th century BC and continued for more than a thousand years.

The Olympic tradition was revived in Europe in the 19th century, and it was decided to include a long-distance running race: the marathon. The man credited with the idea was a French philologist called Michel Bréal, who pitched the idea to the founder of the International Olympic Committee, Pierre de Coubertin.

And so during the first modern Olympic Games, held in Greece in 1896, the first marathon race was run. Seventeen runners competed and only nine finished the race, which was won by the Greek Spyridon Louis. That race, by the way, had a length of 40 km. It took until 1921 for the marathon distance to be officially fixed at 42.195 km.

Some Ideas for Our Membership Plans

The 2016 Council on Legislation voted to give Rotary clubs more flexibility than they've ever had. The changes in policy affect when, where, and how clubs meet and the types of membership they offer.

5 ways to use the new flexibility

It's up to your club to decide how - and if - you want to use the new options. Start by reviewing the updated Standard Rotary Club Constitution to see which guidelines are flexible. Once you've decided what changes would benefit your club, edit your club bylaws to reflect them, and try them out. If you decide they aren't working, try something else.

Here are some examples of how your club can apply the new flexible options:

Change your meeting schedule. Your club can vary its meeting days, times, and frequency. For example, you could hold a traditional meeting on the first Tuesday of the month to discuss business and service projects and get together socially on the last Friday of the month. You just need to meet at least twice a month.

Vary your meeting format. Your club can meet in person, online, or a combination, including letting some members attend in-person meetings through the Internet.

Relax attendance requirements. Your club can ease attendance requirements and encourage members to participate in other ways, such as taking a leadership role, updating the club website regularly, running a meeting a few times a year, or planning an event. If your club is dynamic and offers a good experience for members, attendance won't be a problem.

Offer multiple membership types. Your club could offer family memberships to those who want to bring their families, junior memberships to young professionals with leadership potential, or corporate memberships to people whose employers want to be represented in the club. Each type of membership can have its own policies on dues, attendance, and service expectations. Rotary will count these people in your club membership and will consider them active members if they pay RI dues.

Invite Rotaractors to be members of your club. You can invite Rotaractors to join your club while remaining members of their Rotaract clubs. If your club chooses to, it can make special accommodations for these members, such as relaxed attendance requirements or reduced fees, as long as they are reflected in the club bylaws.

THE FORWARD PROGRAM

DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN	REPORTER
Wed. June 28th	RONALD McDONALD HOUSE	"Meals From The Heart"	at Redbank Road, Westmead	Commencing 5.30pm
Saturday July 1st	DISTRICT CHANGEVER	DG Bruce Lakin & DGE Peter Ward	at Hornsby RSL Club	6.00 for 6.30pm
July 3rd	To Be Advised	TBA	Ian Chappel	Ian Huckel

ATTENDANCE AT LAST WEEKS MEETING

Member Attendance: 100%

Apologies: Nil

Visitors: Dawn Callaway, Harry Hyland, Sue Robards, Bev Young. Anne Rands, Wendy Bell, Julia Bradley, Beverley Chappel, Heather Firth, Esther Fraser, Georgia Glockemann, Peter Hudson, Maureen Pankhurst, Sandra Parker, Ruth Reid, Jeanette Rigney, Lyn Stanton, Elizabeth Thomas, Priscilla Walsh, Sue Wilson

Visiting Rotarians: DG Bruce Lakin (Rotary Club of Pittwater), PDG David Rands (Rotary Club of Beecroft)

Leave of Absence: Nil

WELFARE & NEWS REPORT

Fellows, PP Ian Huckel has his wife, Sue, in hospital. She has been in the SAN for about 3 weeks following a fall at home. At this stage they are waiting for advice as to what the next move will be.

I have also learned that Honorary Member George Green and Dorothy have just moved in to their new apartment at The Oaks Retirement Resort at Dural following a frustrating delay caused by a problem in getting council occupancy approval for the new block. George and Dorothy are now on a 5 week trip to Queensland. We wish them well.

THIS WEEK'S WISDOM

Good things come to
those who Believe,
Better things come
to those who are
Patient and
the best Things come
to those who
Don't Give up.

