

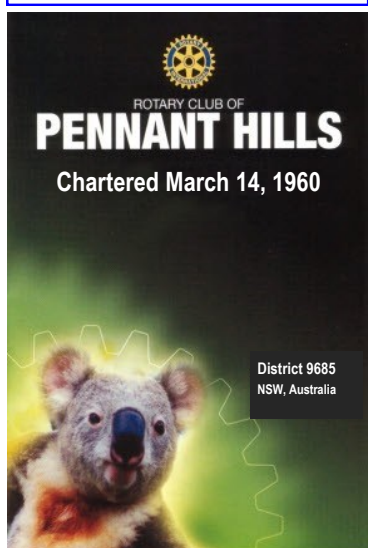


SPOKES

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Rotary
District 9685



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before Noon on

Saturday



OUR PROGRAM THIS WEEK

'MY TIME IN UGANDA'

Guest Speaker: Karen Long

Chairman: President Alex

Reporter: Ian Chappel

Tonight we welcome Karen Long, daughter of Pat and Sandra Parker. Karen is a physiotherapist at the Sydney Adventist Hospital. She recently visited Uganda to work at an orphanage there. Tonight she will tell us of her experiences there.

We also welcome our partners to our meeting.



**Cancer
Council**

**Daffodil
Day**

Next Friday, 25th August is Daffodil Day. As usual, we are selling/collecting at Pennant Hills Railway Station between 6 and 9am. We need 6 people if possible.

The items for sale will be delivered to the station manager (I remember when it was the station master). Afterwards, we will need to deposit the takings in a National Australia Bank.

This is another opportunity to be seen in the community so we need members to wear club shirts if possible and Rotary aprons will be available.

NEXT WEEK'S MEETING

"Reflections on my time as Senior NSW Police Chaplain"

Guest Speaker: Rev Alan Lowe

CHAIRMAN: David Firth REPORTER: Adrian Bell

MEETING REPORT - 14th August 2017

Your reporter is writing his report under some difficulty, having lost his notes of the evening. Luckily his young agile mind is capable of remembering about a third of the evening, so it is that third on which he will report!

At precisely 7pm the Sergeant called the meeting to order in the usual manner by welcoming our President, who in turn welcomed his colleague, our guest speaker Reverend David Reichardt – the Uniting Church minister at Normanhurst.

A special welcome home to IPP Pam Hudson who has been exploring the “outback” outback with husband Pete for the last six weeks. Dingoes, wild boars and widgety grubs!

It is not every day that a toast for a member’s 54th Induction Anniversary can be celebrated with a special toast! Congratulations PP Jack Reid!

Reports –

Pat Parker - reported on our upcoming RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) commitment for Mount St Benedicts students at St Ives

Phil Stanton - Golf Day: reported on preparations for October 17th – flyers available – help needed to source raffle prizes etc. and most importantly golfers on the day. Proceeds from the day will go to PKU Research to continue our support over recent years.

Our own 14km “Marathon Man” Ian Chappell reported on his City2Surf involvement last Sunday to support the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund. His efforts raised over \$1000. His time of 1hr 49 mins 21 secs represents 7.8007142 mins on average for each kilometre, or 46.804284 seconds for each 100 metres. Usain Bolt can rest easy!

Your humble and retiring Sergeant then investigated the cash position of members pockets and found that a surplus existed. It was then time for an easy and painless coin extraction. Our historian John Ellis answered only one of the three special history questions posed to him. Consequently a double fund resulted.

Pres Alex then introduced our guest speaker Rev David Reichardt with his topic – “Bike Ride for Peace in India”. David is an accomplished musician and has made many trips to India in association with the Uniting Church. Apart from other qualifications, “Ecotheological Consultant to the Amritsar Diocese church in Northern India” caught the attention of this reporter. David has also been involved with lay education and eco-tourism. The bike ride lasted 4 weeks travelling in total some 3000kms and had over 40 riders from diverse backgrounds linking with communities, regardless of religion, and promoting shared values and in particular – peace. They started in Amritsar, Punjab State, and finished in Leh, Jammu and Kashmir State. The reception they received along the way in communities with different religions, demonstrated that the message and the values they espoused were common to all.

Leh is a city that David had wished to visit during his earlier time in India and the Bike ride meant he could achieve this. Perhaps the major highlight there was the Shanti Stupa, which is a Buddhist stupa built in 1991. It was built to promote world peace and prosperity and to commemorate 2500 years of Buddhism (see photo).

David’s fondness for India and its people, and his motivation for undertaking the work he does was obvious to all.

After questions, President Alex thanked our Guest Speaker and closed the meeting in the normal manner.

Reporter: Theo Glockemann



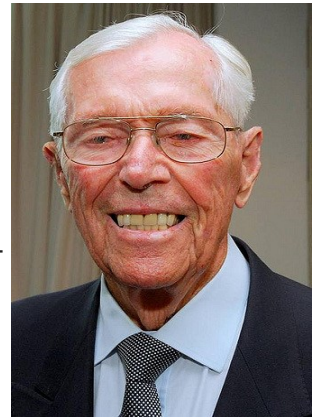
VALE PDG LES WHITCROFT AM - DEATH OF A POLIOPLUS HERO

PDG Leslie Whitcroft AM, the man who 'kick started' serious fund raising for Rotary International's PolioPlus program in 1986, passed away at his home in Turramurra, Sydney, on August 12 aged 97 years.

Les was an outstanding Rotarian, businessman and family man – and pursued a lifetime of community service.

With his friend Harry Tyrell, he founded National Can Australia in Fitzroy, Victoria in 1954. He was the driving force behind the success of the company in Australia, New Zealand, Asia and Oceania over the next 60 years. He retired from the Company in 1981 to focus on Rotary and community service.

A generous and caring man, Les with his wife Shirley, established The Whitcroft Foundation to benefit many charitable organisations around Australia – including long term sponsorship of the 'Bridging the Gap' youth mentoring organisation in Blacktown, NSW.



Les enjoyed an amazing Rotary career and was the inspiration behind many outstanding projects –

- Past President and member of the Rotary Club of Ryde for 43 years.
- Past Governor of District 9685.
- Founding Director of Australian Rotary Health.
- Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee for the Rotary Wing at Westmead Childrens Hospital.

Past Chairman, long serving Director and benefactor of Rotary Down Under Incorporated. Les provided an interest free of \$730k over three years to fund the purchase of the original Rotary Down Under House in Argyle Street, Parramatta, in 1985. The debt was repaid by the Rotarians and Rotary Clubs and Districts of Australia and New Zealand – and the building changed the course of Rotary in Australia by providing a solid base for administration of many programs over the next decade.

However, it was his service as National Chairman of the Australian PolioPlus Committee in the late 1980s that Les made an extraordinary contribution. Rotary International set a fund raising goal of \$125 million in 1986 and early progress was slow until Les and Shirley Whitcroft made a donation of US\$250k to then RI President MAT Caparas at a Pacific Regional Conference in Adelaide. This single act provided great leadership to Rotarians and corporates around the world and donations began to flow in great numbers and amounts. Shirley Whitcroft was a key figure in the campaign – inspiring everyone by way of her own battle with polio. Shirley contracted the dreaded virus after she and Les were married and her youngest child was just 18 months old.

Les Whitcroft's lifetime of service was suitably recognised when he was honoured with an AM (Member of the Order of Australia) in 1989.

Les was also one of the prime movers in the development of the Pride of Workmanship program. Perhaps his most significant contribution to that program was to provide 250,000 tinplate blue and yellow "Do it Once - Do it Well" plaque. This enabled the project to be promoted nation wide with a minimum of cost. Les continued his encouragement for our awards project which subsequently also went nation wide.

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at Christ Church St Ives, 1 Cowan Road, St Ives on Monday 21 August 2017 at 1pm.

The 80th Birthday of David Hopping

Several club members and wives were invited to the celebration of David's 80th birthday yesterday (Sunday) at his property at Central McDonald out beyond Wiseman's Ferry. For those who had been to his earlier property at Leets Vale, it was amazing how similar the 2 properties were. With a large number of friends and family present, a great party was put on in a marquee down near the river bank - the McDonald River - with the whole thing professionally catered, leaving the guest of honour and his lovely wife, Heather, able to spend all their time circulating with the guests.

For those who don't know him, David as a member of our club, was the prime mover of the establishment of the Pride of Workmanship Awards program. He maintains his interest in its results to this day. David is always looking for challenges and ideas. He designed a dart board for the blind children at North Rocks School for the Blind, which was a continuation of 2 other club projects there. One was a special playground designed for the children, and the other was a tactile cubby house built at the school.

DLF

THE FORWARD PROGRAM

| DATE | PROGRAM | SPEAKER | CHAIRMAN | REPORTER |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Aug 25th | DAFFODIL DAY | AT PENNANT HILLS | STATION | 6.00 to 9.00am |
| Aug 28th | 'Reflections on my time as Senior NSW Police Chaplain' | Rev Alan Lowe (Past club member) | David Firth | Adrian Bell |
| Sept 4th | Iodine Deficiency - An Update | Prof. Cres Eastman | Phil Stanton | David Firth |
| Sept 11th | ROTARY INTERNATIONAL TODAY | John Hewko RI General Secretary | President Mark Anderson | Pat Parker |
| JOINT MEETING WITH BEECROFT AND OTHER ZONE CLUBS | | | | |
| Sept 15th | Volunteer at RYDA at | Sydney Olympic Park | Mount St Benedict High School | 6 volunteers Required 8.30am to 2pm |
| Oct 17th | CLUB CHARITY GOLF | DAY at PENNANT HILLS | GOLF CLUB | Details to be advised |

ATTENDANCE AT LAST WEEKS MEETING

Member Attendance: 81.25%
Apologies: Michael Bradley
Guest Speaker: Rev David Reichardt
Visitors: Nil
Visiting Rotarians: Nil
Leave of Absence: Claude Rigney

MEMBER NEWS

BIRTHDAYS

David Hopping - August 23rd

ANNIVERSARIES

Nil

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Nil



ROTARY CONVENTION
 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA
 23-27 JUNE 2018



riconvention.org

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'Example is not the main thing in influencing others' said Albert Schweitzer.
 'It is the only thing.'