

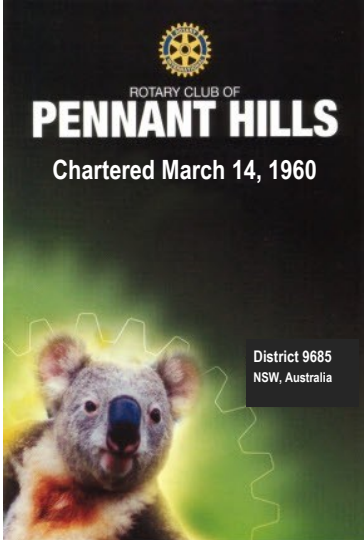


# SPOKES

VOLUME 59 No. 15

9th October, 2017

EDITOR: DAVID FIRTH



## OUR PROGRAM THIS WEEK

# PLANNING FOR THE ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY

*and some organising of the start of the  
Christmas Trailer Raffle next Saturday*

**Chairman: Phil Stanton**

**Reporter: Pat Parker**

**Rotary**  
District 9685



### CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE ENQUIRIES:

**9484 4889**

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[rotaryclubpennant  
hills@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclubpennant<br/>hills@gmail.com)

TO NOTIFY MEETING

APOLOGIES &

GUESTS:

**9294 2107**

before Noon on

Saturday



*Where: Pennant Hills Golf Club  
Date: Tuesday 17th October 2017  
Cost: \$125 per player  
Includes, Golf, Breakfast and Lunch  
Registration 7.30am,  
Breakfast 7.00 - 8.15am  
Shot-gun start 8.30am*



**Individual & 2BBB Stableford Competition  
Prizes, Auction and Raffles**

**Sponsorship opportunities available**

Contact: Terry Pankhurst  
0418 418 952  
[terrypankhurst@hotmail.com](mailto:terrypankhurst@hotmail.com)

Phillip Stanton  
0411 488 777  
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## OUR NEXT MEETING

**WILL BE THE ANNUAL GOLF DAY**

**TUESDAY, 17th OCTOBER**

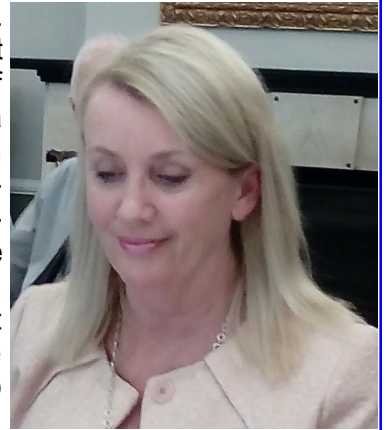
**CHAIRMAN: Phil Stanton REPORTER: David Firth**

## Rotary Meeting – Monday 25th September, 2017

The meeting was opened by President Alex Thomas with his welcome to our guests, Colleen Kerr, Sean O'Brien, Amy Jennings and Karen Paton. Karen, who lives in Ashford in Kent, has been visiting her Mum, Sue Huckel, over the past few weeks. She returns home this coming weekend. Resulting from his contributions to the Rotary Foundation John Ellis received a Paul Harris Fellow Recognition. Pat Parker brought us all up-to-date with the Christmas trailer raffle schedule – all Saturdays from 10 October are now confirmed for us to set up the trailer in nearby shopping centres. Phillip Stanton gave a briefing on the forthcoming golf day, 18 October, with 18 groups set to hit off. Ian Chappel lifted the lid on mental health forecasting that he will address the meeting on this important topic on 30 October. Members who fail to arrive in a peculiar hat will be persecuted. Terry Pankhurst, our soldier (or is it sailor) for PKU advised us that a niece, now living in Brisbane, has commenced training to swim the English Channel to raise funds for PKU. There were whispers indicating Terry will swim with her in case she gets puffed and needs a rest.

Our Sergeant is currently with the Glockemann troops in Timor, however his Corporal Bell was eminently vindictive in his place.

Phillip Stanton then introduced Colleen Kerr, a speech pathologist, to present her theme – aphasia. She introduced us to the topic by asking who had heard of aphasia – virtually no one, although most were familiar with some other impediments arising from mental illnesses. Aphasia is an impairment of language, affecting the production or comprehension of speech and the ability to read or write. Aphasia is always due to injury to the brain, most commonly from a stroke, particularly in older people. She then introduced Sean and Amy whom she met some years ago as clients, however they are now her colleagues, assisting in the work she does with those experiencing aphasia. Colleen explained that aphasia was more common in Australia than Parkinson's disease. It affects people very differently – some lose the ability to communicate altogether whilst others, with therapy, make progress. Nevertheless, even though they know what it is they wish to say, the delivery is always difficult. Colleen told us that 8,600 acquire aphasia in Australia each year, even so it is a problem little known or understood by the general public. She introduced Sean who, early in his life was a Navy diver, a role that brought him to Australia from England. Following a stroke Sean experienced aphasia. With therapy he can now speak, however cannot hear what he is saying. For him a television programme requires sub texts to allow him to follow the theme. An aneurism in his brain caused the stroke; fortunately quick access to surgery saved him from a far worse result. He has difficulty with numbers and loud noises will increase his difficulties. Despite these problems, Sean uses an Ipad to assist with his communication with others. He has been a Rotarian since 2002 and through him Colleen has become aware of Rotary in Australia. Colleen then introduced Amy who is now aged 32. Having qualified as an accountant, Amy worked in a commercial office in Forster and was often under pressure to have accounts and projects finished on time. In 2013 her life changed when an arteriovenous malformation (AVM) in her brain ruptured creating a stroke. Surgeons at the John Hunter Hospital removed the AVM and rehabilitation at Rankin Park followed. For several months she was unable to walk and became very depressed. Nine months at Rankin Park included speech therapy and physiotherapy. Amy found that her intelligence has not been affected, however she has difficulty reading aloud and her speech is sometimes unreliable. Nevertheless she does enjoy assisting others with their aphasia problems. Her husband's work took them to Yass where she found winter temperatures somewhat lower than in Forster. Colleen then used powerpoint headings to highlight aphasia problems. Someone meeting an aphasia sufferer would need to accept that all are different in their ability to communicate. Thus one should speak slowly when introducing a topic, sit down with them in a relaxed situation and stick to a theme rather than jump from theme to theme. Many find an I-pad useful to get them out of a quick grey corner of their conversation. Colleen mentioned that she knew nothing of Rotary until she met Sean and now uses Rotary meetings as a way to spread the word on the problems of aphasia. At question time Sean was asked about his time as a Navy diver. With some difficulty he told us that he commenced his training in HMS *Vernon* in Portsmouth and that led to a transfer to HMAS *Penguin* at Balmoral, the Navy diving training centre in Australia. Amy has been assisting aphasia sufferers using Skype. Colleen closed with a reminder that aphasia arises from damage to a particular part of the brain and is not the same as brain damage arising from, say, a car collision. Although she first met Sean and Amy as clients, they now assist her with her provision of therapy.



President Alex thanked Colleen and her team and the meeting was closed with the National Anthem. **Reporter: J W Ellis**



John Ellis receives his Sapphire PHF



President Alex with our 3 speakers

*Fellows, many of you will remember Past President Robert Rutishauser who has come along to some of our special nights in recent times with his wife Josie. Robert and Josie have also been members of Probus locally, but recently moved to Port Macquarie. So, I was pleased to receive the following excerpt from the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie's weekly newsletter 'The Port Wheel' dated September 27th.*

## **New Member Inducted Tonight**



**Robert & Josie Rutishauser with President John**

Robert Rutishauser was born in Switzerland & started his working career as an apprentice chef. He later worked as a chef in both Switzerland & Greece.

In 1965 he travelled with his new wife, Josianne, to Australia for a few months and 52 years later they are still here! In Sydney, Robert worked as head chef at a number of well-known Sydney restaurants including at the Chevron & Wentworth Hotels & the Summit Restaurant.

After 4 years, Robert left cheffing and held a number of positions with food-related companies, at the same time lecturing to caterers in Australia & overseas. Several years later he formed his own company as consultants in the food & catering industries and then a company for the design & supply of business planning systems. In 1991 he started another company specialising in computerised business systems, which had among its clients the Reserve Bank & Woolworths.

Robert joined Rotary in 1984 at Pennant Hills, where he was president in 2000 and was awarded a PHF in 2007.

Robert certainly has some skills which will be of great benefit to our club so please give Robert & Josie a big welcome!

# THE FORWARD PROGRAM

DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN	REPORTER
Oct 17th	CLUB CHARITY GOLF	DAY at PENNANT HILLS	GOLF CLUB	From 7.00am Breakfast 8.30am shotgun start
THIS WILL ALSO BE OUR MEETING FOR THE WEEK				
Oct 23rd	Timor Report	Theo Glockemann	President Alex	Jim Fraser
Oct 30th	Australian Rotary Health 'HAT DAY'	Ian Chappel	President Alex	Phil Stanton



Volunteer

Nominate a Site

Promote the Day

For more information  
call 1300 665 310 or visit  
[graffitiremovalday.org.au](http://graffitiremovalday.org.au)

Follow us on      
#GRD17 #LoveWhereWeLive

## CHRISTMAS TRAILER RAFFLE

As we prepare for our annual Trailer Raffle selling effort, we have 10 Saturdays to cover. With 2 shifts each Saturday, and preferably 3 sellers each shift, we need each member to volunteer for at least 4 shifts, and we need there to be some flexibility so we can cover every venue & Saturday. If you have any other people who would like to help, they will be gratefully accepted.

As in past years, members will be given a book of tickets to sell privately amongst family, friends and work colleagues. Please sell as many as possible—more books are always available.

The morning shifts on Saturdays is from 8am to 11am, and the afternoon shift is from 11am to 2pm.

If you are able to help with towing the trailer to and from the venue, please let Pat Parker or David Firth know.

Let's make this a great fund raiser for the Hornsby Hospital and St Lucy's School and a great connection with the community!

### MEMBER NEWS

#### BIRTHDAYS

Alex Thomas - October 10th

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Nil

#### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Adrian Bell - October 9th

### ATTENDANCE AT LAST WEEK'S MEETING

**Member Attendance:** 73.3%

**Apologies:** Jim Fraser, Theo Glockemann, Pam Hudson,

**Guest Speakers:** Colleen Kerr, Amy Jennings, Sean O'Brien

**Visitors:** Karen Paton, guest of Ian Huckel;  
Ben & Jeanette Jennings

**Leave of Absence:** David Walsh

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.'

- Theodore Roosevelt