

August 17 2017 #198 We meet 5:45pm for 6:15pm the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at The Southport Golf Club. You're welcome to join us - if possible please advise Chawki m0410.002.403@Chawki@akgaz.net. Monthly meeting roster inside.



President's Report

Last week's meeting was held back in our normal room and was well attended with 25 Rotarians and several guests.

Dinner was sliced roasted ham, vegetables broccolini, carrots and gravy.

Our guest speaker was Jenni Maffey from Orange Sky Laundry. Orange Sky have 12 vans currently and expanding throughout the East Coast of Australia to a total of 14 vans and hope to launch a shower van. The organisation provides the homeless with washing facilities as a mobile support. Jenni Maffey volunteers her time and explains that she has taken a year off as a lecturer at Bond University.

John Lander gave the vote of thanks to our guest speaker.

I intend to visit each Rotary Club within the district and last Friday morning I was a guest at the Broad Water Southport Rotary Club meeting 7:00am. I enjoyed meeting the members and committee and explained that I would like to welcome them to our major events this year and to participate in our club ramble and black tie ball.

Sunday was our Birthday lunch get together at Hideaway café Broadbeach. It was a great day for many members of our club to catch up on a social basis and we enjoyed a banquet lunch of Sashimi, Wontons, Duck Bao, Wagyu beef skewers and some fine wine.

As a reminder, our club meets at the Southport Gold Club on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Events to mark in your diary include Presidents Breakfast in the Botanical Garden Sunday, August 27th, 2017 at 9:00am.



**Club President
Andy Csabi**

sales@paradisesecurity.com.au

2017 - 2018 Meeting Roster

Please make a notation of your roster dates in your diaries now. If you can't attend the meeting please ASAP swap with someone else. Please don't ask the Club Service Director (CSD) to do it for you - then inform CSD Chawki on 0410 002 403 or chawki@akgaz.net. Thank you.

Month	Welcome Guests	Front Desk	Meeting Chairperson	International Toast	Sergeant
August	Rob Ffrench	Phil Rosenberg	Mark Urquhart	Richard Flanagan	Kevin Stapleton
September	Lynda Hynes	Lyn McArthur	Rob Ffrench	Brian Pearson	Kevin Stapleton
October	Greg Bowler	Kathy Hogan	Viv Mallinson	Rowan Johnstone	Kevin Stapleton
November	Robin Gowland	Ras Manickan	Kathy Hogan	Jenny Bao	Kevin Stapleton
December	Kathy Hogan	Robin Gowland	John Lander	Sue Foscett	Kevin Stapleton
January	Viv Mallinson	Lyn McArthur	Greg Bowler	Rob Ffrench	Kevin Stapleton
February	Brian Pearson	Joe Kertesz	Sue Foscett	Phil Rosenberg	Kevin Stapleton
March	Sue Foscett	Yidan Xi	Robin Gowland	David Baguley	Kevin Stapleton
April	Robin Gowland	Jenny Bao	Rowan Johnstone	John Lander	Kevin Stapleton
May	Yidan Xi	Phil Rosenberg	Brian Pearson	Jill Ellis	Kevin Stapleton
June	Jenny Bao	Jennifer Bailey	Kate Kimmorley	Mark Urquhart	Kevin Stapleton

This month's....

....Birthdays Mark Urquhart 13th. Genik Saraswati 22nd. David Baguley 23rd. Andy Csabi 23rd. Sue Foscett 27th. Bruce Roddick 30th.

....Wedding Anniversaries 13th John & Tracy D'Anna 16 years. 13th Bruce & Coralie Roddick 17 years. 15th David & Rana Baguley 43 years. 18th Loo Yew-Chaye & Ruay 47 years.



When you have something you want everyone to know ... put it in your club bulletin.

- > Have an idea for the club?
Let everyone know.
 - > Enjoyed a club event?
Let everyone know.
 - > Enjoyed/didn't like a speaker's talk?
Let everyone know.
 - > Have a Directors update/report?
Let everyone know.
 - > Visited a Rotary club?
Let everyone know.
 - > Participated in a fund raiser?
Let everyone know when you put it in your club's bulletin.
- If you have photos please submit or Phil will most likely be able to find one for you. It's really that easy.*



Past President Chris Brand works the webcast computer during a recent meeting.

Why we changed our meeting format

I love my club, but I was concerned. When I joined in 2006, there were over 60 members. By July 2016, there were only 43. We were adding new members every year, but we were losing more. Looking at the average age of my club, I was more worried – over 30 percent of the club was over the age of 70. The future didn't look bright.

My goal as club president in 2016-17 was to make my club stronger. Membership was at the top of my agenda. The board and I identified two major issues: 1. We charged the second highest dues in our district and 2. Many members couldn't make a weekly meeting. We addressed dues first. We moved our meeting to a church hall and hired a caterer that charges far less than the country club. We presented the plan to our members, who enthusiastically supported reducing our dues from \$800 per person to \$380 annually. Our dues didn't include food or anything else, meals and Foundation donations were on top of this charge!

Dues had gotten out of control because the membership didn't want to conduct fundraisers, so they voted to assess themselves instead. It cost us members – both senior members who were retired and on a fixed income and potential new members who could join "cheaper" clubs within 20 miles of us. We now pay our annual dues in full on 1 July, and our quarterly bill includes the meals we have eaten and other assessments.

That was the easy part.



Margie Kersey, right, and Waylee George from Areta Media Associates

Going hybrid

To address the second problem, we became a hybrid club. Thanks to the Council on Legislation providing more flexibility and removing some of the distinctions between clubs that meet in person and E-clubs that meet online, we became both. We live stream our meeting every week using software. Members can log in to view and hear the meeting, as well as interact with other members and the speaker.

We purchased the equipment for \$400. It was small and easy to install. The camera fits in the palm of your hand and the microphone sits on top of the slide projector along with the laptop. Most people don't even notice the equipment.

Now, all our members are able to attend a meeting any way they wish. It has resulted in better attendance from our existing members and has generated a lot of excitement with potential new members. We have added six members so far, and we expect our club membership to continue to grow.

Our next step is adding membership types.

- Margie Kersey, Rotary Club of Stone Mountain, Georgia, USA