



Bulletin 16 – 19 October 2023

RHYS WESTBURY – THE CASE FOR NO WIND FARMS



Tonight's speaker Rhys Westbury moved from Tamworth with his parents at 3 years of age and now resides in Boat Harbour. Rhys was educated locally and is currently employed as an actor and in the tourism industry. He has recently taken a leadership role in local opposition to the proposed offshore wind farm involving hundreds of wind turbines over 1800sq km just 20 km off the coastline between Port Stephens and Swansea.

Rhys expressed concerns about the environmental impact of such a project. He and others are seriously worried about the negative impacts of the windfarm. These include the visual impact of 100's of turbines up to 250m tall just 20km away from the coastline. He has concern for the impact this will have on the \$699M tourism industry, the effect on the 40,000 whales who pass the area on their annual migration, the effect on porpoises and seals and the fishing industry. Rhys expressed concern that wind turbines would negatively impact seabirds many of which breed on the coastal islands (Cabbage Tree and Broughton) off Port Stephens. Most significant are the Wedge-tailed shearwater, the threatened Gould's Petrel and the Short-tailed shearwater.

Wind turbines generate large volumes of underwater noise. There is considerable noise and vibration generated by the rotating blades. Pile driving and other noise generated during the construction phase will have a negative impact on the breeding of juvenile fish species.

Newcastle is one of Australia's busiest ports with many cargo ships already traversing the waters off the Port Stephens coastline. Concern is held that this new industry will add to the stress already present in this busy corridor.

There is a belief that more research on the renewable energy industry is necessary. The impact of renewables on our pristine environment, wildlife and the potential impact to our local economy must be balanced.

In thanking Rhys for his presentation, Richard Turner congratulated Rhys for his public spirit and the non-emotive and non-political presentation of the risks as he saw them.



COMING EVENTS.

- 26 Oct:** – International Night at Hawkers Inn
- 2 Nov:** – Special tribute meeting for Richard Turner on completing 50 years of Rotary Service. Special guest DG Alyn Miranda (**PARTNERS NIGHT**)
- 4 Nov:** Bunnings BBQ
- 8 Nov:** Board meeting
- 9 Nov:** Club assembly
- 16 Nov:** Ruth Wilson – Above the clouds.
- 27 Nov:** Camp Quality BBQ
- 30 Nov:** Emery Kertez – Wittenoom,
- 7 Dec:** – AGM
- 14 Dec:** Christmas Party
- BIRTHDAYS:**
- 22 Oct:** Fiona Whatham & Marianne McBean
- 28 Oct:** Mary Michel
- ANNIVERSARIES:**
- 23 Oct:** Ian & Debbie Brigden
- WINNERS:**
- H/T:** Jim Booth
- RAFFLE:** Dieter Greiter
- Three Minute Talk:** Dieter Greiter
- MEMBER DUTIES –**
- Bulletin:** Dieter Greiter
- Photos:** John Cropley
- Binoculars:** Geoff Diemar

COMING EVENT THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER

Dining away from the Club at the Hawker Inn, Nelson Bay. Address 3/47 Donald Street, Nelson Bay. Up a ramp to restaurant. Banquet \$36 with seafood & corkage has been decided.



LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Camp Quality brings positivity, fun and laughter back into the lives of kids facing cancer.

Our programs and services help families build optimism and resilience through community, education and fun. We are there for kids (0-15) dealing with their own cancer diagnosis, or the diagnosis of a sibling, parent, or carer, every step of the way.

We're proud to have improved the quality of life for kids impacted by cancer, and their families, for almost 40 years.

Our Club has agreed to cater for this event using Clive's Cooker. We will require 4 volunteers from 11am to 2.30pm on the day.

Date: Sunday, 27th November 2022

Venue: Tomaree Aquatic Centre

Times: Lunch served between 12.00pm - 2.00pm

Attendees: Approx 120 (Family ages 0 - young at heart)

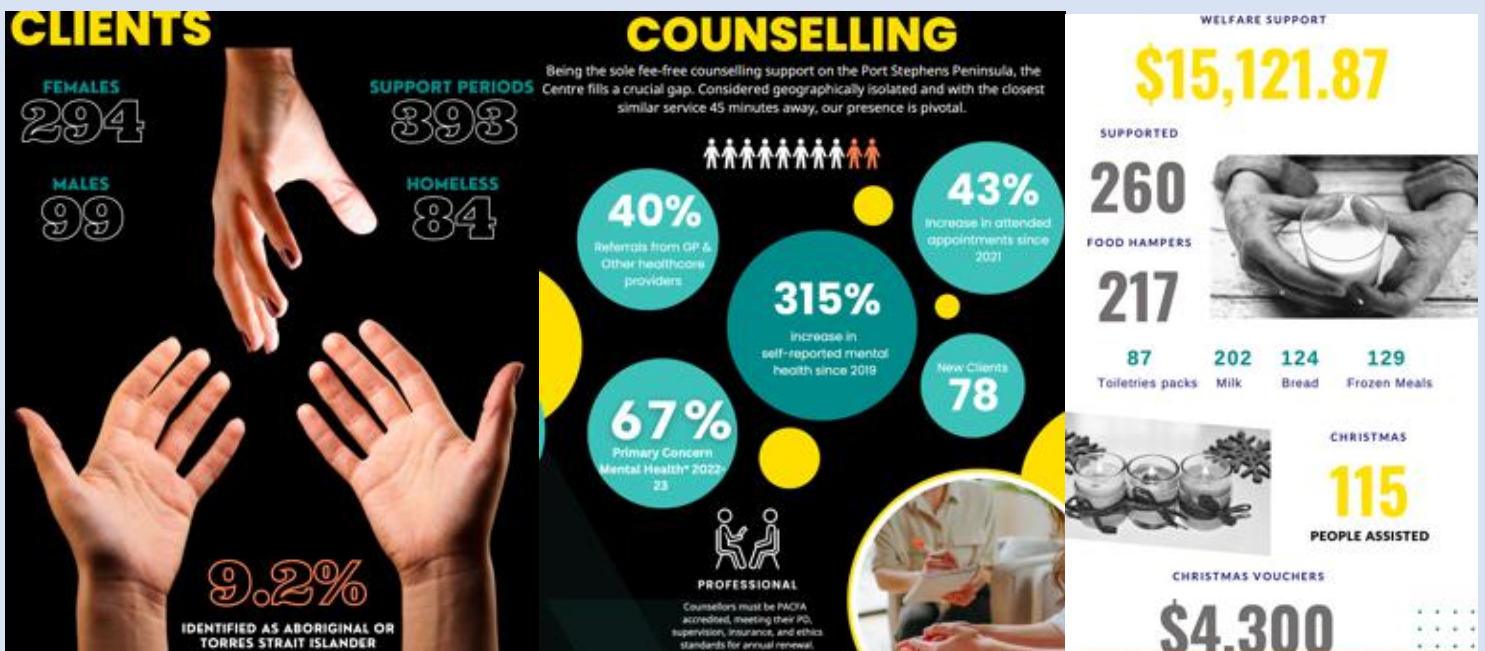
Lunch: Camp Quality would provide sausages, hot dog rolls & bread, sauces, serviettes, poppas, cans & waters

YACAABA CENTRE

During the past years our club has provided considerable support to the Yacaaba Centre. The centre provides support to many disadvantaged residents of our area. Assistance is provided to victims of domestic violence, the homeless and anyone in need of financial, medical or temporary shelter. Our club helps the centre with a donation of \$600 each month as well as assistance with maintenance, repairs and property management. Rotarian Chris Bartlett has co-ordinated the men's sausage sizzle each Friday for the past year.

Christmas is a time of special need. In response to an appeal from the centre manager Rotarians are invited to consider a personal donation towards the Christmas Hamper appeal. If you would like to contribute, please pass on your donation to Treasurer Geoff. This will be forwarded to the Centre in time to prepare the hampers.

The slides below are taken from the annual report and indicate the outstanding work undertaken at the centre:



THREE MINUTE TALK.

John Sully described a wonderful Rotary experience when his former English club celebrating 75 years of Rotary hosted a vision impaired Rotary group on a week's outing. John was introduced to a man, Ivor who had lost his sight overnight and was unable to continue his current employment. Despite every effort Ivor was not able to obtain another job and was devastated. John at the time was involved with several enterprises including his farm. He took Ivor to his farm and had him feed newly born calves. Ivor was not interested in payment but dearly loved to work. He started with 1-2 hours and gradually increased this to full time employment in many different farm labouring capacities. Over years John and Ivor developed a special relationship and were great friends and acquaintances. Their relationship was a wonderful success story and Ivor enjoyed many years at John's farm. Another example of the joy of Rotary.



TREK4KIDZ

Supporting
Starlight Children's Foundation

NELSON BAY ROTARY CLUB

Father & Son duo – Peter & Michael Page from Car #24

THANK YOU for your generous donation & support

This year the Trekkers have raised an amazing
\$228,000.00

which will be donated to the Starlight Room at John Hunter
Hospital Newcastle



PETER PAGE TREK FOR KIDS.

For several years Peter and son Michael have participated in the annual TREK 4 KIDZ rally raising funds for the Starlight Room at John Hunter Hospital. This year the rally raised an amazing \$228,000 with Peter and Michael the second highest fund raisers. Peter presented the club with the certificate and thanked members for their donations.



VALE MARGARET BAIRSTOW.

Our Rotary family was saddened to hear that Margaret, wife of our long term and oldest member Doug had passed away on Monday night. Margaret had been a resident of the Uniting Care Nursing Home for some years after moving from her residence in Montevideo Street Nelson Bay which she shared with Doug for many years. Margaret was born in Narrabri and lived in Nelson Bay and Tamworth prior to moving permanently back to Nelson Bay on Doug's retirement. She was a wonderful worker in the community and contributed greatly to many Rotary events and projects. During retirement Doug and Margaret travelled extensively and enjoyed many trips away in their caravan with Rotary friends. Margaret was a talented painter. Some of her works are on display at the Uniting Nursing Home.