



Bulletin 18 - 26 October 2017

If it is too good to be true.....

... it generally is.", Sue Dean told us. Sue is Community Liaison Coordinator for the Hunter and Mid North Coast region for the Department of Fair Trading. She had a lot of stories to warn us off the numerous internet, phone and email scams that are around. Scammers would like us to believe - and amazingly some people do believe - that you can win 25 million euros in a lottery without buying a ticket. When you really go for that money you'll have to provide the scammer with a lot of personal details and start with paying an "administration fee" followed by "taxes" and the chance that they get access to your bank account.

Sue mentioned a lot of other ways scammers try to get into your wallet:

- phone calls about there being something wrong with your phone, modem or computer by people pretending to be Telstra, or another provider. They try to get access to your computer and then take over and install spy ware to get your internet banking password;
- emails with fake speeding fines or other traffic infringement notices. The police or RTA never sends these notices by email!
- phone calls about "your car accident in the last three years" promising compensation;
- "Nigerian" emails from "ministers" or "bank managers" promising you donations or an inheritance of millions of dollars.
- phone calls from the Australian Taxation Office threatening you with immediate arrest if you don't settle an outstanding tax debt by credit card;
- "computer ransom" - not so much a scam as a viral threat - after clicking on a link in an email. If you don't switch off immediately the scammer's software starts encrypting your files. The only way out is cleaning the hard disk and re-installing from a recent back up or paying the ransom - not recommended!



One of the more recent - and serious - scams is the "romance" scam: people on dating or social media sites that "groom" you until you are prepared to help them financially with unforeseen medical costs, the cost of travel from overseas to finally meet in person or things like that. As there is not only money but usually also a lot of emotion involved in these scams they are hitting the harder, both in the pocket and in the heart. The department of Fair Trading is there to protect consumers from all sorts of "unfair" behaviour by tradesmen, retailers and other businesses.

Sue also warned for travelling tradies - during the summer months - that ring at the door and try to sell you small repairs for a lot of money and sloppy workmanship. Don't do business with them: use properly licensed tradesmen and if necessary check the license at the Departments' register. Sue ended her interesting presentation with a warning about still undiscovered Samsung washing machines that present a fire danger. Details and serial numbers are on the [Dept. of Fair Trading website](#).

Smart Check List

Be well informed
Protect your identity.
Make decisions in your own time - Say NO.
Avoid upfront payments
Don't send money to anyone you don't trust.
Shop around
When in doubt ask official advice.

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Congratulations

Members birthdays

26 Oct. Terry Fitzsimons
28 Oct. Peter Buckley
25 Oct. Andrew Downey

Partners birthdays

28 Oct. Mary Michel
1 Nov. Jenny Shaw

Anniversaries

31 Oct. Bob & Judy Mitchell

Lady Luck

Head & Tails was won by
Tony Todd.
Congratulations.

Next Week

Thursday
2nd November

No Meeting

Saturday
4th November

Night For Larry

Bulletin editor
Phill Smith.

Port Stephens Toyota NSW Surf Pro

Port Stephens Toyota NSW Pro brings the best surfers across the world to the NSW coastline. The event will combine World Surf League elite surfers with Surfing NSW junior and open woman superstars.

After a gruelling year battling it out around the world, the World Surf League Qualifying Series will culminate at Birubi Beach for the 2017 Port Stephens Toyota NSW Pro. Some of the world's best surfers will be on hand trying to consolidate themselves a spot on the 2018 elite Championship Tour.

Our Rotary Club is going to participate in this event with catering and traffic control and members made a full commitment to do their job when they are rostered in.

This Thursday, coordinator Tony Todd made the last announcements - next week 2 November no meeting - and told us to keep an eye on our email inbox as details about "your" job and an operational document with details about transport and specific jobs will arrive shortly. Once you are on the roster there is no excuse for not turning up! It is going to be a huge effort which will only succeed with full commitment.



Immortals!



John Cropley is preparing for the "Immortal" night on Thursday, 9th November when we hope to present an immortal pin to a select number of deserving locals.

Each "immortal" pin adds \$100 to the immortal fund of the Rotary Foundation where contributions are added to the principal and only the return on investments is spent. DG Helen's husband Mike made this his "Partner Project" for the year.

However, this night John already had two pins to present to club members: Peter McBean and President Kathy Rimmer!



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

30th November | 6:00 PM for 6:30 PM Welcome Drink

Little Beach Boathouse

Cost: \$55 Per Person

Pay at a meeting via Cash, Cheque or Credit Card (Square)

or via EFT

BSB: 637000

Account: 781017418

Reference: Your Name

Dress: Smart Casual Beach or Xmas Wear

RSVP: 18th November to **Judi Priestley**

You're invited to
join the McGrath Family at

A Night for Larry

A night of Dancing to celebrate the life of
Larry McGrath

Hosted by Rotary Club of Nelson Bay

When: Saturday 4th November

Where: Nelson Bay Bowling Club

Stockton Rd, Nelson Bay

Time: 6:30 pm for 7pm Start till 11pm

Cost: \$25 per person

Includes Finger food

If you would like to have dinner at Tails Restaurant at Nelson Bay Bowling Club prior to the event you can book a table by calling (02) 4981 12 72

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/319427>

Please note Tickets available until 20th October

For further information call
Chelsea 0409 782650

50's, 60's, 70's Dress Up Optional!

No meeting Thu 2nd Nov.

Australia Day Discussion



2008

Secretary Don Whatham initiated a discussion about the Club's future involvement with Australia Day. He explained that over the years the workload gradually has been increasing while the average age of the members increased as well. When we started our presence at the Australia Day event it was just about running the Billycart Race, cooking some food and selling drinks. The last couple of years we have been far more involved and were responsible for the whole set up and operations of the Food Court - including contracting other providers, checking their insurance cover and collecting fees. In April this year the Board notified the Australia Day committee that we intended to scale back our involvement and reduce our activities to just selling food and drinks. It seems that a series of miscommunications troubled the waters and gave the Australia Day Committee the impression - or the Australia Day Committee gave the Club the impression that we wanted no participation resp. that they did would not need us any more....

Proper communication with the Australia Day committee has been restored and the upshot of the discussion - following Don's presentation and some clarifications by AD Committee member Warwick Mathieson is that our original proposal is on the table and seems to be accepted: just cooking food and selling drinks. That we can manage especially when some more members will be able to assist with the logistics: carrying stuff from providers and the shed to Fly Point and back. If you can assist and have a tow bar on your car, please contact Don Whatham.

2017



Tumultuous

Just before the official start of the meeting members rushed out to put their cars under a tree and others took their cameras to shoot the hail..



Andrew and Deb Downey



Thanks Kathy for the photo

Vale Don McWilliam



Recently our esteemed past member Don McWilliam passed away. Don's funeral will be held at the Uniting Church Salamander Bay on Monday 6 November 2017 at 2.30pm

Put this in you diary!!!

2 November - No Meeting

2 - 5 November - Surf Pro Weekend

4 November - Night for Larry

9 November - Immortals Night

17 November - Bunning BBQ - contact Chris Bartlett

30 November - Christmas Party

St. Dominics

Unfortunately the Moonshadow cruise with the St. Dominics (hearing impaired) children on Tuesday, 31 October had to be cancelled because of logistical issues. We hope to be able to rekindle this event early next year.

Pay your dues and special dinner fees by EFT:

Account name: Rotary Club of Nelson Bay Inc. - BSB: 637000 Account #: 781017418
(please, mention your name and what you are paying for.)