

Bulletin # 19 – 2nd November 2017

No meeting this week but still a hectic week with Community Service and a Social night bringing members together.

Thursday through to Sunday saw 60 members partners and friends involved over four days providing traffic control and of course food for contestants and spectators of the Women's Surf League World Qualifying final round at Birubi Beach.

On Saturday night members and friends of the late Larry McGrath gathered at The Nelson Bay Bowling Club to celebrate his life with a fifties themed gathering. A member of Raymond Terrace, Williamtown and Nelson Bay Larry had been in Rotary for 40 years and according to his good friend John Sully attended meetings at around 250 Rotary Clubs around the world. Larry was often the centre of the conversation entertaining with his stories of his life experiences. Most members would know that the cyclone "Larry" was named after him (following his many years as a meteorologist) and most would agree it most appropriate.



Neither sleet nor snow nor lack of customomers.....



Carnival photos courtesy Henk Tobbe.

Camel photos (not an ugly one amongst them) anonymous

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Birthdays this coming week:

Nov 1 Jenny Shaw

Nov 4 Lynne Booth

Nov 9 Warwick

Mathieson

Nov 11 Judith Mitchell

Nov 11 Judith Mitchell

Anniversaries:

None this week

Member Duties 10th August 2017

Door:

John Crump/eoff

Diemar

Meet/Greet:

Andrew

Downey/Chelsea Ellul

Loyal Toast:

Greg Flux

Grace:

Liz Friend

Intro Guest speaker:

Dieter Grieter

Thank Guest Speaker:

Richard arris

Bulletin:

Dieter Grieter

Apologies/Extras to John Crump by noon on Wednesday!

Ph 0401 450 239



A night for Larry - and his friends





Warwick has entered the 2017 Variety Club Postie Bike Dash through northern New South Wales which started in Newcastle on the Saturday. He'll be riding for six days including many dirt roads and visiting primary schools in remote areas.

The ride is to raise money for these outback schools and awarding cheques for much needed facilities at the schools.

My aim is to raise \$3000 for Variety on my ride, along with about thirty other entrants. He purchased a postie bike and set off in the rain on Saturday.

By way of sponsorship he is asking friends and work colleagues to assist with donations that can be made through his Variety supporter page, Donations are tax deductible.

<http://2017postiedash.everydayhero.com/au/one4theroad>

Not sure who got the wettest - Warwick or the guys on traffic control at the surf carnival.

They had reached Northhaven south of Port Macquarie by Sunday. (obviously it is not a race).

Coming up:

9 November - Immortals Night

17 November - Bunnings BBQ

30 November – Christmas Party

7 December - Annual General Meeting

Nominations for board positions signed by the nominator and nominee should be lodged with the secretary prior to the meeting.

No matter how great or deserving each project deserves careful consideration...A report by Ed Parker Past Nelson Bay International Service Director

Lessons learned when one is successful.

We often think of learning from our mistakes, and that is as it should be. But stop and reflect for a moment, there are also very many things to learn when one has been successful. Nelson Bay Rotary Club has had one of those experiences. Here are some of the details. About five years ago we took on the task of supporting Fatima Sufa Nono from Oecusse, Timor Leste to train in Dili at Crystal University to become a trained nurse. Well, she has just received the good news that she will graduate on 24th November 2017. At this point we, the members of the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay, congratulate her on this wonderful successful achievement.

Now for some of the sub-text: we were told by one of our Rotary members that it would be a three-year course and that the most it would cost us would be about \$3500. Five years later we have paid out \$11,300, and this has led to the successful completion of her educational training (four years theoretical and one year practical). We do not begrudge one of those dollars that have contributed to her success, but we are hopefully wiser than when we entered into this agreement.

What are some of the lessons that we have learned:

- 1/ There needs to be adequate research into what we plan, it is not enough to just be a good idea, and a worthwhile project. A well-presented speech to convince the club Board does not come under the terms of due diligence. Appropriate documentation is needed.
- 2/ We should have worked through Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS), and that would have enabled a much better and more transparent approach.
- 3/ The Nelson Bay Rotary Board passed through some anguished moments in the process of fixing what had taken place. It could fairly be said that we lost at least two members over the issue.
- 4/ Yet, it is not only bad news. Some really good things came out of these experiences. The club has learned that appropriate research is always needed. For example, Nelson Bay Rotary has been involved in the development of an exercise trail around the waterfront of Port Stephens. It was not something that was rushed into. Planning, education, budgets and commitment all became part of the deal. The Fatima incident has in fact done the club a service. Nelson Bay Rotary has learned to be more careful, to be adequately informed, and much more diligent in planning what they do.

After all education should be both enabling and satisfying – it has happened for Fatima (Fatie), and it has certainly happened in our club's approach to tasks and projects.