



## Bulletin # 26 – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015



*Wishing all our Rotarians, Partners and friends a very happy and safe Christmas and a New Year full of exciting new opportunities.*

Our guest speaker for the first meeting next year (7 January) is Dr. Samuel Wills.



Sam is a young financial economist visiting family here for the holidays.

He has worked for the World Bank on resource policy in Iraq and Libya, and for the International Growth Centre on policy in Ghana.

He will speak on "**Avoiding the Resource Curse: The economics of managing natural resources**"

When countries discover natural resources like oil, coal or gold, many countries rejoice - as if they have won the lottery. However, natural resources are difficult to manage and can be a curse for countries that own them - much like winning the lottery. Dr Wills will offer some examples of countries that have suffered from the "natural resource curse", outline the most recent evidence on what causes it, and discuss how policy-makers should respond.

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Meeting at "The Shed"

**Pg 3:** Opening of Nelson Bay Exercise Trail

### Congratulations

#### Birthdays:

18 Dec	Chris Bartlett
20 Dec	Geoff Basser
22 Dec	John Clarke
22 Dec	Marion Page
26 Dec	Richard Harris
30 Dec	Paula Flux
3 Jan	Ed Parker
5 Jan	Helen Ryan

#### Anniversaries:

18 Dec	Trish Parnell & Scott Abrahams
2 Jan	Don & Fiona Whatham
3 Jan	Terry & Noeline Fitzsimons

### Member Duties 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016

#### Door:

Bart Richardson/ Ros Cribb

#### Meet/Greet:

Chris Bartlett/Richard Turner

#### Loyal Toast:

Arja Levonpera

#### Grace:

Bill Michel

#### Intro Guest speaker:

John deRidder

#### Thank Guest Speaker:

Richard Harris

#### Bulletin:

Don Whatham

**Next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> January – Samuel Wells - Financial economist**

**Apologies/Extras To Ros Cribb by noon on Wednesday!**

**Ph 0401 450 239**



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Around twenty five people enjoyed a Project Neighbour Christmas lunch at the Ocean View Restaurant at Fingal Bay Surf Life Saving Club last Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December



For anyone not aware Project Neighbour provides a monthly outing for elderly (mostly house bound) residents. Rotarians pick up and return them to their homes after providing a picnic style lunch. The project is funded by our Club.

Our last meeting for the year was held at “The Shed”. Guest speakers were many and interjections for once were welcomed. It wasn’t all gossip, beer and skittles however, with the a little work being performed also. A small gathering at unusual venue but nonetheless enjoyed by all those who attended.





Friday 18<sup>th</sup> saw the opening of the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the Nelson Bay exercise Trail at Bagnall Beach. The 1<sup>st</sup> stage has 4 “static sites” (no moving parts) but future sites will include machinery. The trail fulfils the vision of David Bird who first experienced them in Switzerland. Convinced of the community health (and tourism) benefits David mentioned his idea to Rotarian Ian Faulkner during a round of golf. The idea was brought to the Club and the wheels were set in motion. Funding came from our Club, The Rotary Foundation and Port Stephens Council. Around 100 people attended the opening performed by Mayor Bruce McKenzie and President Ann Evans.



President Ann Evans and Mayor Bruce McKenzie



Mayor Bruce McKenzie and David Bird



Joy Faulkner and Bob Mitchell couldn't help themselves



Dutchies Beach West



Bagnall Beach East



Bagnall Beach West



Conroy Park Corlette