



## Bulletin 28 - 28 January 2021

### WENDY STEIN OAM – SPACIM PIKININI.

Our club was honoured to hear and see a wonderful presentation by an outstanding Rotarian Wendy Stein from the Rotary Club of Salamander Bay. Wendy has devoted most of the past 20 years of her life helping to improve the life opportunities of those from our closest neighbour Papua New Guinea.

Wendy's service to the people of PNG began in 2005 when she visited Mando Village in the Eastern Highlands. She organised volunteers to provide school buildings and facilities to remote communities. She also managed and worked with volunteer groups of Rotarians to provide access to drinking water for residents of these remote villages. She quickly saw the need to make a change to the conditions women and girls were facing in PNG. In 2015 Wendy and husband Brian set up Spacim Pikinini with the goal of establishing health and hygiene facilities for women and young girls in remote areas of PNG. When a small boat used to deliver supplies sank whilst delivering medical supplies, Wendy took possession of an old rundown boat located in Australia. After restoration, the partial wreck was renamed Kula Spirit and Wendy and Brian sailed it from Nelson Bay to PNG.

Kula Spirit is registered as a medical clinic and provides medical services in remote rural communities. In addition to primary health care, eye care testing and provision of glasses as well as the provision of disability services is undertaken. Training of local health care workers is also an important aspect of Wendy's work with over 400 health care workers receiving training. Family planning and counselling prevent unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths. Contraceptive implants placed in the arm providing 5 years contraception have allowed many young women to pursue employment and better quality of life. The project provides underwear, sanitary products and Rotary birthing packs, all materials necessary, for a happy healthy lifestyle and clean safe childbirth.

Kula Spirit is currently berthed in Port Moresby and Wendy's project is experiencing a lack of funding due to COVID-19. To compensate the shortfall Wendy is promoting sales of the book Rona Stole our Relief.

Wendy is a truly remarkable Rotarian and the most deserving recipient of an Order of Australia medal and being named Rotarian of the Year 2018-19 for Rotary Zone 8 which includes Australia and New Zealand.



### THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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### WEEKLY WINNERS.

Raffle: Wendy Stein.  
H & T: Doug Bairstow.  
Visitor: Ivan Hooper (Vic)

### CONGRATULATIONS. BIRTHDAYS:

7 Feb: Helga Greiter.

### ANNIVERSARIES.

2 Feb: Doug & Margaret Bairstow.

2 Feb: Warwick & Christine Mathieson.

### NEXT MEETING 4 FEB.

### GUEST SPEAKER:

Brooke Vitnell – Abuse in the Community

### DINNER LADIES: All

partners welcome. Bistro at 6.00pm. Please contact Fiona: 0414955296.

### ROSTER.

**Door:** Lesley Freeman, Doug Bairstow.

**Meet/Greet:** Peter McBean.

**Toast:** Warwick Mathieson.

**Welcome Speaker:** Doug Melhuish.

**Thank Speaker:** Narelle Melhuish.

**Bulletin:** Dieter Greiter.

**Photos:** Phill Smith.

**Binoculars:** David Clark.

Next meeting – Brooke Vitnell and Dinner Ladies

Apologies/Extras to noon on Wednesday!

Ph 0401 450 239

## **AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS.**



Dan Howard (pictured with Club Youth Director & PCYC Club Liaison Officer, Lesley Freeman) was announced Port Stephens Young Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day awards ceremony on Tuesday. Dan has been a basketball coach and mentor with Nelson Bay PCYC for the past nine years. In April last year he launched Coach Dan Skills on YouTube and Facebook. This initiative has attracted more than 400 followers and helped to motivate local teenagers to keep fit during lockdown.

In 2014 Dan was awarded a Rotary Club of Nelson Bay Centenary Scholarship to assist his completion of his advanced studies for Certificates III and IV in Fitness Coaching. Congratulations and well deserved, Dan. It is significant that two recipients of major awards by our club have been named Citizen of the Year simultaneously. Dan in Port Stephens and Kelvin Kong in Newcastle.

Congratulations also to former member Geoffrey Bassar who was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the 2021

Australia Day honours for his service to the community of Port Stephens.



The Bunnings barbeque scheduled for Saturday 6 February 2021 has been postponed till Saturday 13 February 2021. The rostered members will remain as per the original list. If you are not available please contact Chris or Milton.

### **AM SHIFT 8.30 TO 12.15**

Milton Williams(transport), Chelsea Ellul, Lesley Freeman, Phill Smith and Jim Booth.

### **PM SHIFT 12.00 NOON TO 4PM**

Dieter Greiter, Arja Levonpera, Chris Bartlett, Richard Turner, Peter Page. Transport Don or Milton  
Supplies: Doug Barstow.

We will be assisting the Tomaree Museum Association with their barbeque on Sunday 7 February 2021. We will provide our trailer with all equipment, supplies and a Rotary member (supervisor & transport) both AM and PM. We will deduct 40% of the day's takings to cover the cost of supplies. Don Whatham will assist the AM shift and Chris Bartlett the PM shift. Our club does not profit from this exercise but provides the service to a fellow community volunteer group as part of our community service program.

**COMING EVENTS**

Tuesday 2 February: Working bee at Gan Gan Lookout at 9am.

Thursday 4 February: Club meeting

Sunday 7 February: Donating service of club trailer, equipment, supplies and supervisors to Museum Group.

Wednesday 10 February: Board meeting

Thursday 11 February: Club night with Directors reports.

Saturday 20 March: Donating service of club trailer, equipment, supplies and supervisors to SES.

Friday 26 March: Rotary Golf Day with proceeds to Kelvin Kong Project.

**VACANT POSITIONS.**

**Club Representative District Management Committee.**

Nominations are now called for the position of Club Representatives on the Rotary District 9670 Management Committee for the Rotary year 2021-2022.

**District Governor for 2023-24**

Applications are open for the position of the next District Governor for the new District 9660, after Neville Parsons. Are you interested in leading the new District? To learn more about the position and how to become the second Governor of District 9660 please check Weekly Natter issue 27. Applications close on 31 March 2021.

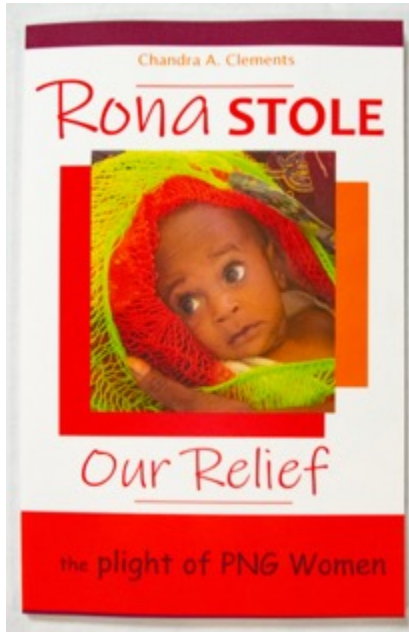
If you require further information about the above positions please see Secretary Don.

**GOLF DAY MEETING REPORT.**

Golf Chair Arja reported that Port Stephens Toyota has agreed to donate \$2000 and Port Stephens Council was finalising a \$2400 donation for our golf day. Holiday World is sponsoring the Hole in One event. Hole sponsors already committed number 13 and many prizes and auction items have been collected. Moses Golf will donate a golf bag. Arja is updating the posters and entry forms prior to printing which is to be managed by Kathy. Arja appealed for the support of all members to assist in obtaining golf players and volunteering their services before and on the day of the event.

**CENTENARY OF ROTARY CELEBRATION.**

The convenor of our club's centenary celebration VP Helen reported that our plan to conduct a community walk had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 regulations. The event will be replaced by a raffle. Port Stephens Council has agreed to donate 100 trees for members to plant to commemorate 100 Years of Rotary in Australia.



Kula Spirit is a solid 44' fishing trawler owned by Australian Wendy Stein. She is setting up an outreach floating clinic to visit remote villages without access to adequate medical services.

Wendy started off in this area with a project called Spacim Pikinini – literally “spread out your children” – which provides subcutaneous contraceptive implants for women in remote areas. Spacim Pikinini is a charity and Wendy’s focus has been on teaching nurses, medical students and young doctors to insert the implants. Under her supervision some 60,000 of these devices have now been used in PNG. They are Jadelle double implants, which ensure contraception for almost 5 years, and fertility returns promptly when the inserts are removed. Her project, which is staffed by volunteers, has the support of the PNG government, the O&G department at UPNG, Rotary International and the Australian-based DAK Foundation.

But Spacim Pikinini now does much more than that. Dedicated, tireless and enthusiastic, Wendy has expanded its activities and she now enables free provision of disability support services, new medical equipment to clinics and hospitals, hearing aids and spectacles for all those in need. Indeed this week her son was held up by PNG customs on arrival here and had a merry time explaining away the 500 pairs of reading glasses in his kit bag!