



Bulletin 31 – 23 February 2023

PHILL'S LAST MEETING

A sad occasion for our club as we farewelled Phill and Christine Smith at their last meeting prior to their move to Queensland next week. Phill gave a wonderful overview of his experiences as a member of the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay.



Below is a resume of Phill's contribution and on page two a summary of his talk.

- Phill joined our Rotary club in 2001 and during the past 21 years has been an outstanding Rotarian who with the support of wife Christine has been involved actively in every aspect of club service.
- Phill served as District Treasurer during my year as Governor in 2005-6.
- Together with Henk Tobbe, he has been our club & D9670 photographer.
- He served on my District conference committee in 2005-6 and again on PDG Helen's conference committee in 2017-18.
- Phill was President of our club in 2006-7 when his major project was the purchase of a bus for the Community Transport Group.
- Phill has served in almost all director positions including treasurer.
- Phill's knowledge of protocol and governance has been an asset to our Board's decision making and his knowledge of insurance matters and risk management has facilitated club project management.
- He has been the driving force behind our club's bulletin which has been published on a weekly basis through the years. This continued to keep members informed even during lockdown of the COVID pandemic.
- Christine has been a wonderful support to Phill and has been a regular member at the Dinner Ladies Group.
- She has participated in club service, Australia Day, Bunnings events, hosting of GSE, Friendship Exchange and Youth Exchange Programs.
- Phill and Christine will be sadly missed by our club as they both epitomise every ideal of an outstanding Rotarian and actively demonstrate Service Above Self.
- On behalf of our club, I extend our best wishes to Phill and Christine as they move to Queensland to be nearer their children and their families.
- Phill was presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship sapphire pin at our Christmas party in recognition of his outstanding service to our club.

COMING EVENTS.

28 Feb at 5pm: Meeting Garden Committee at Bowling Club.

2 March: Vocational visit to Tomaree Museum Society presentation at Bobs Farm Hall

4 March: Bunnings BBQ's

9 March: Special meeting (Constitution & Bylaws)

WINNERS.

H/T: Geoff Robinson
Raffle: Christine Smith (John Stuhmcke - three Minute talk)

BIRTHDAYS.

28 Feb: Jenny Craike
2 Mar: Christine Smith
MEMBER DUTIES.

Next Week:

BBQ Delivery & Return: Don Whatham
BBQ supply purchase: Warwick Mathieson, Ella Clarke.

Cooks: Ian Brigden, Richard Turner.

Introduce & Thank Speaker: Geoff Diemar.

Bulletin: Dieter Greiter
Photos: Don Whatham

Binoculars: Geoff Diemar.

BRING: Own drinks, cutlery, plate.

ARRIVE at 6pm for 6.30pm.

HALL LOCATION: Marsh Road (Nelson Bay end)

COST: \$25.

PARTNERS WELCOME
Advise Warwick

Phill and Christine moved to Nelson Bay with their family to purchase Rod's Supermarket in the Seabreeze Centre.

Phill's first involvement with Nelson Bay Rotary was a Port Bottling Night at the fire station around 1988.

Phill joined Rotary in the 2020-21 Rotary year during the presidency of Warwick Mathieson. Members at time who are still with the club are John Stumchke, Don Whatham, Peter Page, Jim Booth, Geoff Diemar, John Copley, Doug Bairstow, Henk Tobbe, Ella Clarke, Richard Turner, Ian Brigden, Bill Michel, Ian Rolfe. Alf Braye was District Governor and Phill remembers Alf's wife Shirley for her wonderful smile. Other members at the time of Phill's induction to our club were Ron Lovett, D'Arcy Redmond, Terry Fitzsimons, Norm Costello, Gavin Hoey, Neville York, Alan MacTacket, Clive Robinson, Paul Mather, Geoff Mclelland, Helen Ryan, Norm McLeod, Greg Flux, Lou Fagan, John Sprague, Peter Cowling, Ian Faulkner, Ed Downing and John Way who was the Bulletin Editor.

That year the Club initiated the "Drive Alive Past 25" program the forerunner of what is now Roadwhyz. Major projects for the year included raising funds for a severely handicapped girl Gabby Lavender to purchase a special wheelchair. Some years later we raised additional funds to provide a special bed for her.

Phill was appointed to the job as Sergeant during his first year and he continued to enjoy the role for several years. He has served in several board positions including president in 2006-7.

Phill recalled some of the events he had been privileged to be involved in with the club.

- Many Australia Day events - initially including the Billy Cart races.
- CPR training at the High School
- U Turn the wheel / RYDA/Roadwhyz
- Painting the scout hall
- Purchase of a 7-seater people mover for Community Transport Port Stephens by raffling a Hyundai Getz
- Raising Money for Tsunami victims of Aceh
- Bush Fire fund raising
- Pride in Workmanship
- Re-vamping Gan Gan lookout
- RAWCS trip to Vanuatu to move kitchen. 12 tradesmen electricians, plumbers, carpenters 2 of us were actually qualified.
- Group study exchanges
- Friendship exchanges
- Youth Exchanges - Balder from Sweden, Astrid from Germany, Sissi from Argentina, Izumi from Japan, Olga from Poland, Agate from France, Cilla from Denmark, Bailee from USA, Johanna from Germany, Jakob from Sweden,
- St Dominiques Day – a day on the water hosting deaf children from St Dominiques Special School at Mayfield.
- Project Neighbour
- Bunnings BBQ's
- Construction of Nelson Bay Exercise Trail

International nights:

- Italian at Marcos Shoal Bay
- Argentinian night at Bowling Club. Ron Lovett and Brenda.
- Mexican night at Evivva
- Visit by Japanese Consul General following Bart Richardson's reconciliation with the Japanese who imprisoned him at Changi during WW11.

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A special highlight was the Environmental weekends at the Myall Lakes. Phill demonstrated his photographic skills by playing two short videos of the weekend activities. Phill has provided copies which will be placed on USB for members to borrow.

Phill and Christine have made the generous donation of the purchase of a ShelterBox. This will be purchased through the club as soon as possible. ShelterBoxes are providing emergency shelter for the thousands of families who have been made homeless and dispossessed of all possessions by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

CLUB NEWS.

TOMAREE HOSPITAL GARDEN: The project continues and much has been accomplished with plans complete, some materials purchased, some quotes obtained and sponsorship being sought. Phill Smith has prepared the insurance documents to submit to Rotary District insurance. The committee of Doug, Warwick and Geoff D together with Don, Chris and Geoff R will meet at Nelson Bay Bowling Club on Tuesday at 5.00pm to bring everyone up to date and discuss our next goals. Of particular importance is community and corporate sponsorship. Publicity and promotion of the project as a community event will also be on the agenda.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE: Lesley Freeman and Chris Bartlett have volunteered to work as volunteer assistants at the University of Newcastle during the week commencing Monday 6 March 2023. Our club has been asked to discuss its willingness to assist with the proposed Science Discovery Day which is under planning at Tomaree High for the local primary schools. Our club managed previous local Discovery Days prior to COVID and it is hoped we can recommence our involvement this year.

ROTARY CLUB OF NEWCASTLE CENTENARY CELEBRATION.

The Rotary Club of Newcastle turns 100 in May. The club was chartered in 1923 and was the second chartered in NSW. The Rotary Club of Sydney is the oldest in NSW and was chartered on 1 May 2021. Rotary began in Australia with the charter of the Rotary Club of Melbourne on 21 April 2021. Over the past 100 years the Rotary Club of Newcastle has provided outstanding Rotary service and has been directly or indirectly responsible for the charter of the majority of our Hunter and Newcastle clubs. It would be wonderful if our members would join in this outstanding achievement.

BUNNINGS BARBEQUE ROSTER FOR 4 March 2023

Sat 4 Mar am	D Whatham	D Clark	E Clarke	C Bartlett	D Greiter	
Sat 4 Mar pm		D Craike	I Brigden	(10am - 2pm)	L Freeman	D Whatham