

Bulletin 33, 24th March 2022



Guest Speaker: Mel Turner

This weeks guest speaker was Mel Turner president of Business Port Stephens. Mel has a close connection to our Rotary club as she is the eldest daughter of members Richard and Jenny Turner. Mel has previously held senior positions with the Peppers Group and more recently Moonshadow TCQ cruises and is now the marketing manager of Destination Port Stephens. Mel has a deep understanding of tourism and the local area, she is also a vibrant and energetic speaker.

Business Port Stephens is a not for profit group operating with the purpose to promote, encourage and support local business across the Port Stephens LGA. It works closely with its members and council to improve business opportunities. To achieve this the LGA is divided into 8 precincts each with its own committee that reports back to the chamber. It is likely that in the near future two more precincts will be added for Medowie and Karuah with both of these areas needing improved services to cope with their rapid population expansion.

Business Port Stephens provides a number of networking opportunities for its members to connect, discuss issues and find ways of working together. This also gives an opportunity for members to have a real say in Port Stephens with Business Port Stephens acting as a voice for the common interests of local business. Business Port Stephens can then advocate on members' behalf through established relationships with Local, State and Federal Government stakeholders.

During Covid lockdowns tourism was down 70-80%, and many of our local tourism businesses are still struggling to adapt and survive. Research shows the flow on affect has an impact on many other local businesses as each dollar spent by a tourist circulates 5.5 times through the local economy.

The other hot topic of Mels' speech was the extension to Williamtown airport runway. It is hoped that once this is completed an international airline can be attracted to provide services to bring international tourists directly into Port Stephens and the Hunter Valley region. For this to happen a number of LGA's will need to collaborate to upgrade services in and around the airport.

In this Bulletin:

Pg1:

Guest Speaker

Pg 2:

Flood Relief Appeal,
Vocational Visit

Heads and Tails:

Won in three rounds
by the spinner Doug
Bairstow

Raffle:

Henk Tobbe



Kathy introducing our
guest speaker.



President Doug about
to deliver this weeks
punchline.

Flood Relief Appeal

We have partnered with The Rotary club of Ballina to deliver much needed relief into the heavily flooded North Coast NSW region. With more rain and potential flooding expected this week the need for assistance is going to continue. So far we have raised over \$5,000, if you would like to donate the details are below:

Flood Relief Donations

Banks : Greater, BSB: 637 000, A/C Number: 781 017 418, Reference: Your surname (ie Craike)

Vocational visit 31st March

This weeks meeting is a vocational visit to Angophora Paddock. Set amongst tall trees with abundant bird life, Angophora Paddock is small burgeoning farm stay catering for those who want a beach holiday with space to escape the crowds.

Partners and children (grandchildren) are invited to join us for this visit to meet the goats, chickens, ducks and quail at the farms run by member Craig Paroissien and his partner Tanya Martin. You might want to get to the farm a little earlier to give yourselves the time to look around before it gets dark, you are welcome any time from 5.30.

The address is 186 Old Main Rd, Anna Bay

Usual cost of \$25 for adults – kids free.

As with last vocational visit, please bring your own drinks, plates, cutlery and chair

