



Bulletin 34 – 16 March 2023

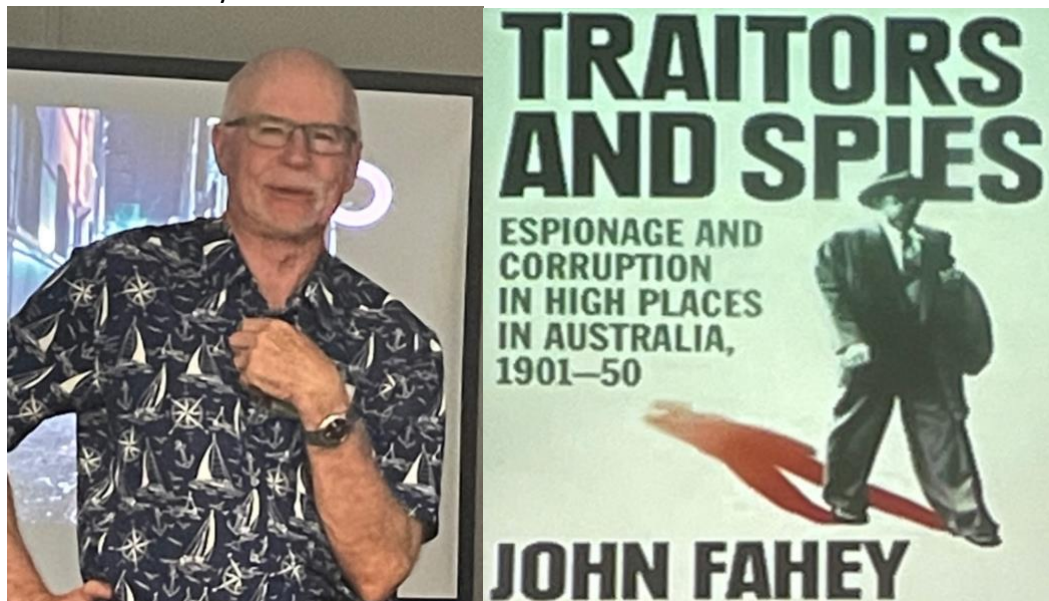
CHRIS PETERS HISTORIAN – WALLY THE RUSSIAN SPY.

Chris Peters, Historian with the Tomaree Museum Association gave a most interesting presentation on the life and cold war exploits of Port Stephen's notorious spy, Wally Clayton.

Clayton's spying for the USSR happened from 1948 to around 1954. It was so effective that Clayton's actions caused a blackout of Australia's intelligence sharing with the USA and the UK. Australia was forced to set up ASIO to restore trust with its intelligence partners.

Clayton was a spymaster who recruited and managed a spy network which operated in the Foreign Affairs department and other federal agencies. In 1954 he was shut down by the communist party as a spy because the authorities had exposed him through the major US intelligence Project Venona.

Wally spent the rest of his days as a fisherman in Port Stephens where he died in 1997 at age 91. Several of our members remembered the time when Wally resided in our area and on Broughton Island. Geoff Diemar was able to identify Wally's homes in the Bay.



Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27JpF9GtfzY>

Note there are several episodes relating to this programme.

Refer also SBS on Demand programme: Persons of Interest, a fascinating series on Australia's secret history. Stories of ASIO's investigations on individuals.

<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/watch/99545155992>

Anyone who is interested in the subject and may have anything interesting to discuss is welcome to contact Chris.

WELFARE.

John and Yvonne paid a visit to Bill and Mary Michel who now reside at the Uniting Care Home at Elemore Vale. Bill and Mary are well and would welcome a visit.

COMING EVENTS.

24 March: Brett Latham

30 March: Club Meeting

30 March: Bunnings Family Night (Chris Bartlett – convenor)

1 April: Bunnings BBQ's

6 April: Club meeting & Dinner Ladies (Club Bistro)

6 Apr at 5pm: Meeting Garden Committee at Bowling Club.

WINNERS.

H/T: Warwick Mathieson

Raffle: Peter Page (Three Minute talk)

BIRTHDAYS.

21 Mar: Maggie Jenkins

26 Mar: Sheila Sully

29 Mar: Vicki Clark

ANNIVERSARIES:

29 Mar: John & Maree Cropley

MEMBER DUTIES.

Next Week:

Door: Geoff Diemar

Toast: Ian Brigden

Grace: Doug Craike,

Introduce Speaker: Peter Page

Thank Speaker: John Stuhmcke

Bulletin: John Cropley

Photos: Don Whatham

Binoculars: Geoff Diemar.

THIS WEEK'S

MEETING: Brett Latham is an expert on vehicle safety, from tyres to all facets of modern safety equipment on today's vehicles

CLUB NEWS.

TOMAREE HOSPITAL GARDEN: The committee of Doug, Warwick and Geoff D, Don, Chris and Geoff R met at Nelson Bay Bowling Club tonight prior to our meeting. A full report of this meeting together with the work schedule and budget has been sent separately to all members. A highlight of the report is that we have been invited to submit a full application for the Commonwealth Stronger Communities Round 8 Grant.

SHELTERBOX: Our club has made a \$1000 donation to purchase a ShelterBox. This will accompany the earlier donation by Phill and Christine Smith who donated a ShelterBox during their farewell meeting at our club.

CHILD PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS: To satisfy the conditions of our club insurance it is mandatory for each member to complete the Child Protection training Module. This is a simple task involving viewing a Powerpoint of ten slides and reading the accompanying notes and documentation. I will email this presentation to members to observe at their leisure on their personal computer. Club Administration Directors Ella and Warwick will schedule a club meeting where we can work through the presentation.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS: The annual fee is the responsibility of the combined boards at the June Board meeting. However, Treasurer Geoff and Director Warwick are undertaking a preliminary study to see if this fee can be minimised. It is felt by some that the fee can act as a deterrent to gaining new members.

CLUB PRESIDENT: Ella Clarke is our president elect for 2024-25. The position of President for 2025-6 remained vacant at our AGM and the position is now to be filled by Board appointment. The board seeks expressions of interest.

CLUB CHANGEOVER: The changeover date is the last Thursday in June Thursday 29 June 2023.

CENTENARY SCHOLARSHIP: The board is concerned that this has been in abeyance for the last two years. Admittedly COVID was a consideration, but it is time now to proceed with this important club project. Notice was given at our meeting that we must work on allocating future scholarships as a matter of urgency. Member input is sought as to how we should proceed.

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. PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING

BUNNINGS BARBEQUE ROSTER FOR 1 April 2023 (MANAGER - GEOFF DIEMAR)

Sat 1 Apr am	G Diemar	L Freeman	E Clarke	G Robinson	H Tobbe	
Sat 1 Apr pm		I Brigden	J Cropley	J Priestley	D Greiter	G Diemar

BUNNINGS FAMILY NIGHT 30 March 2023.

Commencing at 5.00pm at Bunnings Taylors Beach. Co-ordinator is Chris Bartlett. Lesley Freeman and assistant volunteers: Denise Diemar and Fiona Whatham.