



**WET WEATHER CAUSES HAVOC IN THE BAY-
CHARITY GOLF DAY POSTPONED**

Following the cancellation of the Golf a hastily organised meeting has held on Thursday night, with members enjoying good conversation and discussion. The weather had its effect, with roads closed and blocked, trees down, and cancellation of events including the Golf day. Also called off was our community bbq to assist the SES, who were otherwise engaged doing a terrific job in assisting those affected by storm damage. It is hoped we can re-scheduled this event. Lily Hill Road leading to Gan Gan lookout was closed till Thursday morning and then only partially reopened (see picture opposite).

At the meeting there was discussion regarding Neil Carroll Rotary Park in Nelson Bay (See pages 2 & 3) for all the latest. Apart from all the centenary events on, we have a community bbq for PS Koalas on Easter Saturday, with volunteers already organised.



This week's Issue
Page 2 Rotary centenary activities ladies dinner night change Up coming events

Page 3 Wet weather report, photos

Page 4 ARH and Shelterbox news

Birthdays

Mar 29 Vicki Clark

Mar 31 Jim Booth

Apr 2 Ian Brigden

Anniversaries

Mar 28 John & Marie Cropley 28 years



Vice president PDG Helen and Club President Liz, with the 100 year Centenary banner on Thursday night. A number of events have been planned with volunteers still needed. Please see information on Page 2 and 3 in this week's Bulletin. Port Stephens Council provided the funding for the banner.

GOLF DAY RESCHEDULED

Our Charity Golf Day has been rescheduled until Friday 23. The Nelson Bay Golf was closed following the 670 mls of rain received in the last week, forcing the moving of the day until April. The 2020 event was rescheduled due to Covid 19. Golf Day chair Arja and partner Laurie Wilson have done an outstanding job in the organising of this popular day, with a full field of players and excellent sponsorship gained to make the day the success it deserves. The golf committee met on Monday where Arja presented the alternate arrangements. Please put the new date in your diaries Pictured below a deserted Golf course on Thursday afternoon.



Heads & Tails

Secretary Don

Raffle Doug

Bairstow

Duties

Door David Clark

Meet & Greet Jim Booth

Grace Lesley

Freeman

Welcome Speaker

N/A

Thank Guest

Speaker N/A

Bulletin Editor

Don Whatham

Photos Phill Smith

Binos Dieter G

Guest Speaker – Pre

Easter Club Social

night

Next meeting – Thursday April 1 Pre Easter Social night

Apologies/Extras to by noon on Wednesday!

Ph 0401 450 239

COMING EVENTS

Mon March 29 – April 1 Jan Rotary Australia Centenary Raffle at Salamander Bay Shopping complex

Thurs April 1 Club pre Easter social night Meeting

Sat April 3 Community BBQ – Port Stephens Koalas

Thurs April 8 Meeting, also Ladies dinner night

Wed Apr 14 Board meeting

Thurs April 15 Club night Directors reports.

Sun April 20 Centenary lunch at Murrays Brewery

Fri Apr 23 Charity Golf day. **Hopefully all club members will be available to assist, and the sun shines down**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CENTENARY RAFFLE SALES

The celebration of 100 years of Rotary in Australia is underway. Rotary's Australian leaders have requested that the celebration of this event assist the eradication of trachoma in Australia. Trachoma is a treatable eye disease affecting many but especially members of the indigenous community. Our Rotary leaders have asked that events conducted by our club have a fund raising component to assist this cause. Our club originally planned a Centenary Walk which could not proceed due to COVID regulations. Instead we will conduct a raffle and plant 100 trees in our community.

Our club committee led by PDG Helen has planned events in conjunction with other local Rotary Clubs. Port Stephens Council has donated banners to help celebrate the event. Helen is coordinating the raffle and has secured a wheelbarrow of goods worth \$3000 to raffle. She has also secured selling stations at Salamander Square and Nelson Bay. She now seeks the support of all members to assist with the sale of tickets. Several members have already volunteered to help but more are required. This is a task where every member could assist. Below is Helen's specific request.

"Help is urgently needed for selling Raffle tickets at the Salamander Bay Shopping Centre next week; the vacancies that exist are as follows

Monday March 29	12noon-3:00 p.m and 3:00 p.m -5:00 p.m
Tuesday March 30	12 noon-3:00 p.m
Wednesday March 31	12noon -3:00 p.m
Thursday April 1	9:00 am- 12 noon and 12noon -3:00 p.m

If you can help please contact Helen Ryan on **0409 842 455**. Please return your raffle books and money to Thursday's meeting. The raffle will be drawn at the centenary at Murray's Brewery on Sunday April 20. See Warwick to book.

CLUB UNHAPPY REGARDING MUSEUM CHAIR'S COMMENTS RE NEIL CARROLL ROTARY PARK MUSEUM SITE

Club members received the following letter from secretary Don this week and overwhelming supported this letter and the Board's stance. It appears the Museum Chair made comments in the local papers without the support of his committee, which has resulting in resignations of several committee members. The Club supports of the concept of a Tomaree Museum, however not at Neil Carroll Rotary Park.

This letter was sent originally to members of the board. The board feels that all members should be given the opportunity to provide an opinion and the letter is now being forwarded to all members.

"You may have seen the item in the Examiner a couple of weeks ago indicating that Neil Carrol Rotary Park is the preferred site for the permanent building for the Tomaree Museum.

This community facility (Neil Carroll Rotary Park) was donated and developed by Rotarian Neil Carrol for use by the residents of Nelson Bay for recreation and was planned to remain as a park for use by all. Placing a building occupying valuable open space is against the original purpose of the donation.

The museum building is an excellent plan for the museum group but Rotary Park is not the site for it. As a club we must express our opposition to this site. I am aware that some members of the board museum committee also oppose this site and plan to express their opposition publicly.

I believe we must put our objection to this site in writing.

Please respond ASAP indicating your support if you agree to expressing our objection in writing."

If there are no serious objections (by Thursday 25 March 2021) the secretary will draft a letter for board approval.

Kind regards

Don

PDG Don Whatham

Secretary

Open space needs protecting. I was only five years old when my grandfather (John) Neil Carroll passed away. Since then I have had many conversations with my Uncle Danny Carroll and my mother Eileen Carroll about how some things came about in the Bay. Eileen and Danny always maintained that Neil fought tooth and nail all the way to the High Court in Canberra to keep the Fly Point land from being developed because it should be maintained for the people, now and into the future. Development was rejected in lieu of open space for all and sundry to enjoy because once it's gone, it's gone. Fly Point is precious and any sort of structure or development should be rejected without consideration. The Tomaree Peninsular desperately needs a museum but it needs the open space at fly Point 100 per cent more. Greg Wilson, Nelson Bay. This response was published by Neil Carroll's grandson in this week's Examiner. Secretary Don has sent a letter to the Editor on behalf of the Club (See Page 3) The chair of the Museum has also received this letter.

EARLY NOTICE- LADIES DINNER NIGHT

The next ladies Dinner night will be held on Thursday March 8 at the Bowling Club Restaurant. This night would have been held this week, however it has been put back until after Easter. Any further information and advise of your attendance please contact Fiona Whatham on 0414955296 or email fionawhatham@gmail.com. These are good nights and all partners are welcome to attend

NEIL CARROLL ROTARY PARK UPDATE

(continued from Page 2)

Secretary Don has sent the following letter on behalf of the Club to the editor of Port Examiner and also the chair of the Museum Committee.

Dear Editor,

Members of the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay express strong opposition to the proposal to site the Tomaree Museum on land designated as Neil Carroll Rotary Park at Fly Point.

All members of the club were invited to respond to the proposal to locate the proposed museum here and the response was resounding in its opposition.

I quote from the booklet written by Denise Gaudion published by Port Stephens Historical Society which states, "The once planned Fly Point sub-division resurfaced in the 1950's, however, local opposition, led by Neil Carroll, a Nelson Bay Rotarian, managed to save the area as parkland. The park was first established as Rotary Park, then in 1963 the Council advised that the name of the park would be changed from "Rotary Park" to "Neil Carroll Rotary Park", in honour of the man who worked so tirelessly to protect the flora and fauna habitat and conserve the area as a special place for the community".

In the years since, the park has been used by the community in the manner planned by the visionary Rotarian Neil Carroll. The original earthworks to make the park suitable for community use was completed by the Carroll Family company. In following years much work has been undertaken by members of the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay to establish the facility as one of which the community can be very proud.

Its constant use by local residents and visitors as well as use by community groups for significant events such as Australia Day Celebrations and Annual Christmas Carols justifies maintaining the park in its original state.

As a club the Rotarians of Nelson Bay are most supportive of the concept of establishing a Museum locally in the Tomaree area. We are strongly opposed, however, to the building being placed on the public green space known as Neil Carroll Rotary Park located at Fly Point.

Continuing to pursue the plan to build a museum at Fly Point will cost the Tomaree Museum group community support. Green space in Nelson Bay is already limited. We cannot justify the reduction of this valuable amenity. In the words of Neil Carroll's grandson "Port Stephens Examiner 24 March 2021". "The Tomaree Peninsula needs a museum but it needs the open space at Fly Point 100 percent more".

Don Whatham
Secretary
Rotary Club of Nelson Bay.

WORKING BEE AT DWYER PARK CENTENARY TREE PLANTING CLEANUP

As part of the Club's 100 years centenary of Rotary in Australia, we will be planting 100 trees at Dwyer Park, with local schoolchildren assisting. Port Stephens's Council has recognised Rotary's contribution to the local community and are supplying the 100 trees, mulch and stakes for the project. Lantana and Biddu Bush needs to be removed from the site, under the supervision of a Council Officer. Project leader Richard Turner has done a great job liaising with Council on this project. Through a misunderstanding of correspondence it transpires that we are required for two only days out of the four nominated dates to help at Dwyer Park.

It has been decided that the two only dates are to be:-

Thursday 1st April at which the following are already offering to help Liz, Warwick, Phill, David.

and

Tuesday 6th April at which the following are already offering to help, Don, Geoff, Phill, Helen, Chris, David

As you were all available to help with the park on Tuesday 30th March may I suggest you divert your time to selling raffle tickets at the Salamander Centre. Helen (and the club) would appreciate your assistance in this area (Helen: 49820605 and 0409842455)

Alternately if you still want to do the park work on the 1st April or the 6th April then please contact David Clark (042733273)

SALAMANDER BAY HOTEL DONATE TO OUR CLUB

Club Service Director. Phill Smith picked up a pleasant surprise from the Salamander Bay Hotel after receiving a call from them. The tavern had a cheque for \$1,000, one of 6 donations made to local community groups recently. Phill presented the cheque to President Liz at Thursday night's meeting. Unfortunately due to a technical glitch we are unable to publish the photo. The money will be put to good use.



Attached is our Centenary Celebration Baton Relay poster for you to share with family and friends to invite them to join us on Sunday 11th April for the Baton Relay and celebrate Rotary's 100 years in Australia and New Zealand. The event will be held in Maitland, and members are welcome to attend

Chris Walmsley Area Governor



Some of the flood damage still very evident on Friday morning. Top is taken near the Nelson Fish Co-op and the bottom is Nelson Bay Road still flooded 3 days after the rain had stopped



ShelterBox is giving 4 lucky people the chance to race the Outback Marathon on 31st July 2021!

ShelterBox has been allocated 4 places in this incredible marathon and to help you get there, we'll pay your registration fees and travel package (including guaranteed race entry, accommodation within close proximity to the race event, transport, pre-race meals and more). All you need to do is hit your fundraising target with the support of your community!

The Australian Outback Marathon is a once in a lifetime experience. It's not every day marathoners get to take in the stunning views of Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) as the kilometres tick by.

This inspiring backdrop is perfect for runners of all experience levels who want to challenge themselves with the choice of completing the full marathon, half marathon, 11km and 6km courses.

Highlights

- ▶ Run Australia's Outback Marathon and witness the iconic landscapes that make up the heart of Australia
- ▶ Experience the breath-taking views of Uluru and Kata Tjuta and surrounds
- ▶ Help ShelterBox ensure no family goes without shelter following disaster or humanitarian crisis

We would love you to share this information with anyone in your network that would be keen to join us on this once in a lifetime adventure. Find out more in the attached flyer or [click on this link](#).

Australian Rotary Health Latest News

It's our birthday and after a year of COVID-19 restrictions that cancelled many of our plans, we want to celebrate!

40 years ago, [Australian Rotary Health \(ARH\)](#) was established as a charitable fund by Rotarian PP Ian Scott and the Rotary Club of Mornington, Victoria, to research the mystery of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Since those early days, our work has continued to expand and has made an impact not only across the country, but also internationally. With the support of Rotary Clubs and Districts in Australia, we are so proud to be a part of creating better health for all Australians. Research and advancements in knowledge funded by ARH provide both preventative and curative solutions for a broad range of health conditions.

Since 2000, our research focus has been ON mental health. In 2012, this focus narrowed to the Mental Health of Young Australians (Aged 0-25), and in 2013, projects focussing on the Prevention of Mental Illness were included.

Programs such as Cool Kids and Mental Health First Aid are just a couple of examples of our funding leading to positive outcomes.

Lift the Lid on Mental Illness is our national campaign for mental health research and awareness, and every year on World Mental Health Day (October 10) we celebrate [Hat Day](#) to raise funds for vital research into mental health. In just 40 years, we've achieved so much. We're inviting you to mark this milestone