



BULLETIN 36 – 1 APRIL 2021

A very pleasant but small in number meeting of members enjoyed gathering on Easter eve. We were pleased to welcome Erin Brinkley, guest of Helen Ryan to our meeting. Erin a local physiotherapist enjoyed meeting our members and hearing about our most recent club projects.



The meeting allowed much discussion and fellowship to take place. Reports of our current activities were dispersed through the meeting. Helen provided an update of the **Centenary of Rotary** in Australia and New Zealand which our club is presently celebrating. Sales of raffle tickets raising funds for the “End Trachoma Now” project are booming. Tickets were sold over two days in Nelson Bay Town Centre and for the past four days at the Salamander Shopping Centre. Our club is most appreciative that Charter Hall operators of Salamander

Bay Square Shopping Centre have provided facilities for the ticket sales. Helen thanked members for their excellent response. My observation was that selling tickets has been very easy. Immediately members of the public see the Rotary signage they willingly purchase tickets and engage in friendly conversation about the great work Rotary does. Most are not really interested in the prize, they were happy to discuss the end trachoma project and how it will improve the life outcomes and general health of many people.



Helen has gained approval to sell tickets in the raffle at Bunnings on Easter Saturday. Richard and Helen have volunteered for the 9-12 noon session and Ella and Phill for the 12 - 3pm session. The raffle will be drawn at the **Combined Rotary Club Centenary Celebration Luncheon** to be held at Murray’s Brewery commencing at 12 noon on Saturday 10 April. Members of Salamander Bay, Williamtown and Raymond Terrace will share the celebration with members of

our club. On the day we will order our own lunch and drinks to suit requirements. Please advise Warwick that you are attending so that he can ensure sufficient accommodation is reserved for us.

Our club also thanks Charter Hall for allowing us to set up the **Men’s Health Education Rotary (MHERV)** at the centre earlier in the month. During the two days over 100 men (and women) paid a visit. A number were identified with health symptoms such as elevated blood pressure and cholesterol, raised blood sugar level and other issues worthy of further investigation by the family GP.

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Helen also reported on progress of our other Centenary project, **Planting 100 Trees**. The area to plant the trees either side of Tom O’Dwyer Memorial Oval is currently being prepared for planting. Yesterday Geoff and David assisted by PSC environmental officer Elise began the task of clearing lantana and bitou bush from the site. Another working bee is planned for next Tuesday 6 April from 1 to 3pm. Volunteers to date are Richard, Don, Chris, Geoff, Phill, Helen and David. Others are needed. Safety footwear, protective clothing and gloves should be worn. Please bring along shears, brush saw, clearing tools and water. The trees to be donated by Port Stephens Council will be planted by primary school children from local schools.



This Saturday our members will be assisting the **Port Stephens Koala Sanctuary** to raise funds at its

Bunnings Barbeque. We will provide our Rotary trailer, order and deliver supplies and provide two members to supervise (one at each session). Chris, Milton and Leslie will deliver and collect the trailer and assist on the day.

Our golf day convenor Arja advised that entry numbers for our postponed **Charity Golf Day** continue to be received and that the golf club has increased the field size to 140 players. Please advise Arja if you know any prospective golfers. Sadly, Kelvin Kong’s team has been forced to withdraw due to previously scheduled

operations on our rescheduled day of Friday 23 April. Kelvin continues to gain publicity for his work and research in the treatment of ear disease in remote indigenous communities. The ability to undertake much of the initial examination and treatment of ear disorders remotely using tele health and digital resources means that patients need only travel to a major hospital for the final interventional treatment. Proceeds from the golf day will complete our club’s commitment to this wonderful project.

With regular heads and tails operator absent the duties fell to the next in line oldest member present, Robert. Here he is seen manipulating the raffle barrel. He was able to determine a H&T



winner, Lesley Freeman and raffle winner, John Cropley.

A great story revealed by two members during the fine session was the happy fine where two members dressed in their Rotary shirts approached the club bar and ordered a drink each. A young lady observed them and said, “You are Rotarians, you do wonderful work in the community”. She insisted that she pay for their drinks and despite protests from the two Rotarians paid the barman for the drinks. Th two Rotarians happily deposited the cost of their drinks in the fine jar. **TRUE STORY.**

CELEBRATIONS.

BIRTHDAYS: 2 Apr – Ian Brigden, 20 Apr – Andrew Downey, 14 Apr – Josh Rimmer, 15 Apr – Denise Diemar.
ANNIVERSARIES: 5 Apr – Bill & Mary Michel, 13 Apr – Milton & Sue Williams.

COMING EVENTS.

Thursday 8 April - NSW Fire Brigade and Ladies dinner (BISTRO). Please contact Fiona 0414 955 296.

DUTIES: Door - David Clark, Meet/Greet – Helen Ryan, Grace – Ella Clarke, Intro speaker – John Stuhmcke, Thank Speaker – Doug Bairstow, Photos Phill Smith, Bulletin – Don Whatham, Binoculars – John Stuhmcke.

Saturday 10 April – Centenary Lunch 12 Noon - Murrays Brewery – Please notify Warwick

Wednesday 18 April – Board meeting.

Thursday 15 April - vocational visit to Tomaree Museum display at Bobs Farm Hall followed by BBQ.

Thursday 22 April – no meeting as golf day follows next day **Friday 23 April**

Thursday 29 April – Tamara Sloper-Harding OAM - PTSD – Tamara served in East Timor peace keeping to 1999.