

Bulletin 39 April 26 2018

CONFERENCE FLASHBACK

While our numbers were down this week, those present enjoyed an evening together, listening to an edited version of District Conference speaker Marcus Akuhata-Brown. His powerful presentation struck an accord with all members. All agreed it was a very thought provoking presentation. Club Director Dieter facilitated this part of the evening.

We had a number of guests with us including Laurie Wilson, partner of Arja and their grandkids Sterling and Ash, who assisted Sgt Warwick rake in the dollars. Zac and Taylor Rimmer rounded out our young visitors for the evening.

President Kathy recapped briefly to Anzac Day, where our Club presented books to a number of schools at the main service at Nelson Bay, on Wednesday



In this Bulletin:

Pages 2, 3, 4, 5 News, views, photos and other updates, including Gan Gan Lookout project

Birthdays coming up Only one for May

May 1 Greg Flux

Anniversaries

May 5 Bill & Beryl Brown

May 6 President Kathy & Josh Rimmer

Heads and Tails Our Tosser, Doug Bairstow (again)

Member Duties May 3 2018

Door Judi Priestley/Trisha Parnell

Meet/Greet: Phil Smith

Loyal Toast Richard Turner

Grace: Milton Williams

Intro Guest speaker: Doug Bairstow

Thank Guest Speaker: Milton Williams

Bulletin Editor: Don Whatham

Photographer Phil Smith

Guest Speaker The

Kelly's.... Member Tammy and her husband Greg will tell us about their businesses in Nelson Bay & Japan. Always good to hear from our members

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday May 3 Guest Speakers-Tammy & Greg Kelly

Wednesday May 9 Board Meeting

Thursday May 10 Club Night and Alicia Cameron, on her overseas experience in Africa.

Friday May 11 Roadwhyz at St Philips College

Friday May 18 Working Bee- Gan Gan Lookout

Sunday May 27 Community BBQ- Yacaaba St extension opening

Not too Far away

Thursday June 21 Club Changeover at Nelson Bay Bowling Club

Saturday July 7 District Changeover at Maitland Bowling Club



Our young visitors getting ready to enjoy a night at Rotary under the watchful eye of Director Arja and President Kathy. Partners, including kids and grandkids are always welcome at Nelson Bay Rotary. Club members are also reminded to put in their apologies as we had to pay for 6 extra meals this week!!!

GAN GAN LOOKOUT PROJECT COMMENCES

Liz, Don, Judi P and Peter McBean take a break from their labours as the Gan Gan Lookout project kicked off last Monday morning. All members are welcome to assist on this project



The remains of the rubbish pile after Port Stephens collected the first load of work at Gan Han on Monday.

Our Gan Gan Lookout Beautification Project commenced last Monday morning with 5 enthusiastic members under the guidance of project leader Liz Friend. Initial weed clearing and lantana removal was carried and some general tidying up completed. The next working bee on Friday morning May 18 will see long grass cleared and weeds and lantana sprayed with roundup. Some rocks will also be moved to make the edge for a garden area. There is much work to be done after this including planting gardens, bushes and small native plants, painting the railings and binoculars and repairing the signs, plus much more....



This picture was taken at 5.00pm on Thursday with many tourists gathered to enjoy the spectacular views. The binos return our Club over \$4,500 each for the past five years, the gift that keeps on giving.



Gan Gan lookout is the number one tourist attraction in Port Stephens and our Club has a long association with the lookout. All Club are encouraged to participate in this enjoyable project.



NEW LEADERS STEPPING UP

President Kathy had a special announcement at our meeting on Thursday night. As members are aware Kathy will commence her second term as President on July 1. She welcomed Liz Friend to the 2018/19 Board as Club Service/Administration and Vocational Service Director. She also announced our President Elect for 2018/19 with our Youth Director Arja Levonpera to lead us in 2019/20. We are certainly fortunate to have these two skilled and capable Rotarians on our leadership team.

**APOLOGIES & EXTRAS TO JOHN CRUMP BY NOON WEDNESDAY'S
PLEASE –PHONE OR SMS 0401 450 239- THANK YOU**

Little Joshua Taylor has had a rough start to life suffering from Cystic Fibrosis and needs a \$15,000 vest to help him breathe. Our Club, after being notified of the situation by Bunnings, have swung into action, and are assisting in fund raising highlighted in a letter sent to Bunnings on Friday



Little Joshua and family. Photo courtesy The Examiner-Sam Norris. Sam is member of the Rutherford Telarah Rotary Satellite Club.

President Kathy has written to Lauren Dennison at Bunnings outlining Nelson Bay Rotary's response to a request passed to Tony Todd after a recent Bunnings Family night BBQ.

Hi Lauren,

Thank you for your patience in reply to you regarding the local family in need. There is no problem supplying a letter, I will have this to you tomorrow. As a Club we want to thank you for alerting our Club and others regarding this opportunity to assist.

I am pleased to report that Nelson Bay Rotary Club have been able to do much more for the family in working with our members and local businesses, behind the scenes. We are, in effect, able to donate \$8500 toward the needed \$15,000 for the vest.

Progress regarding fund raising is as follows

Go Fund Page \$2,000

Nelson Bay Rotary Club \$1000 (proceeds from a Bunnings BBQ)

Proposed Raffle \$1000 (expected)

There will be a fundraiser at the Little Beach Boat House, owned by one of our Members Alicia Cameron, June 8 to assist raising the funds. Taylor's Beach business woman Anita Marshall, while not a Rotarian, is assisting our Club in this event. It is hoped that 100 people will attend and \$3,300 be raised on the night. If this is not enough we will look towards a fun Dragon Boat fundraising day.

In Rotary we have a benevolent "arm" called Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS).

By utilising this Fund, we can turn any funds raised and effectively have it doubled through the Dick Smith Charitable Trust. This situation fits the criteria.

We have set up a fund raising page to RABS, and I have attached the link. This alternative fundraising page reduces the admin cost from 7.5% to 2%. Plus this option will be tax deductible. A win/win.

Once we have raised \$7,500 we can get that matched by a Dick Smith Grant. Once the funds raised reaches the Dick Smith Trust, it takes around 5-10 working days to have the funds matched, and enable the life assisting vest to be purchased.

I ask are we able to seek your assistance in advertising the donation link and event. Is there something else you would like to be involved with?

In conclusion we appreciate your support of our Club and believe this a wonderful example of business and community volunteers working together to help those in need.

Kathy Rimmer

President

Rotary Club of Nelson Bay



Anita Marshall, Proprietor of Advanced Financial Solutions, Taylor's Beach is assisting our Club in organising Fund Raising events for 4 months old Josh Taylor. The \$15,000 vest is a one off cost, as the vest is replaced with a bigger one as Josh continues to grow.

Anita, is also an active member of the Koala Rescue Group and will be discussing an opportunity with our Club to assist through applying for Grants.

We hope to see Anita at a Club meeting in the near future.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



One of our newer and younger members, Chelsea Ellul has started her Rotary journey in a very positive way.

Her bubbly personality and organising skills have seen Chelsea making a valuable contribution to the Club.

Chelsea is working behind the scenes organising a signpost to be erected at Gan Gan Lookout in honour of Larry McGrath. She has taken a lead role, alongside Alicia Cameron in coordinating fund raising for Joshua Taylor and involved in several other Club projects. Well done Chelsea

ROTARY ON THE MOVE

Rotary
Zones 8 & 7B

Rotary Coordinators' Newsletter

April 2018

Volume 8 - Issue 9



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"ROTARY CLUBS – ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL!"

Article by Noel Trevaskis, RI Director 2016-2018



Some people would have you believe that the membership woes in Rotary in the western world are unique to Rotary.

This is not the case.

Organisations such as scouts, guides, golf clubs, bowling clubs and other service groups and sporting organisations are all going through challenges of membership. Probus, for so long held up as an example of growing membership, is now losing membership in significant numbers.

Then we have people saying that past members or leaders in Rotary are to blame for our current position of membership decline in the western world ...

Wrong. No specific group is to blame for where we are at with our membership. Lifestyles in the western world are changing and we need to accept that and move forward.

Some people have been adamant in saying our weekly meetings are causing people not to join or to leave Rotary. That is nonsense. Any Rotarian can attend Rotary as often as they like – weekly, fortnightly or monthly - it is up to the individual Rotarian. Yes, people want to do good in the world but do not blame weekly meetings for our drop off in membership. It is how we 'sell' conditions of membership to prospective members that has the greatest impact.

Two of the main reasons people join and leave Rotary are identical. People want to be involved in community service and they want to make new friends. What actually happens is that we aren't providing the members with sufficient service opportunities and we aren't taking due care to be inclusive at our club meetings.

"I go to Rotary to sit with and enjoy fellowship with my friends – not to babysit strangers" is a common response when members are requested to seek out different company each meeting.

Clubs have individual characteristics and are ALL completely autonomous.

- ☐ If clubs want to meet weekly, fortnightly or even on line, it is up to their members to make that decision - and no-one else.
- ☐ If Clubs want to have a sergeant's session - and they enjoy it, keep on doing it.
- ☐ If Clubs want to have an invocation that is also their decision. Such practice is a sign of respect and caring – and there are plenty of non-religious examples available.
- ☐ If clubs want to have a meal or not, make that decision. There are successful examples with both formats – and even options where the decision is left up to individual members.

We should not try and dictate to clubs how they conduct their meetings. During my service as your Rotary International Director, I have visited dozens of outstanding Rotary clubs operating under a myriad of different conditions and systems.

There are new clubs that have chartered with different functions and guidelines in direct contrast to older, established clubs and that is great, but it does not give them license to proclaim their new format for meetings is the best and only way in the future.

However, if clubs are in obvious decline and struggling, they do need to undergo a genuine program of self-appraisal.

The best way for a club to survive and prosper is to give members a voice in meeting procedure and project selection.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Members may have read the above article, written by Australia's RI Director Noel Trevakis, in a recent edition of Rotary on the Move. A number of Club members commented on the relevance of the article and I have taken the opportunity to publish it in our Bulletin, in case you missed it. Our Club under the leadership this year (and next) of President Kathy has lead the Club along the lines of Noel's last sentence. While the Club Board is comfortable making decisions on your behalf, it is always the intent to get Member feedback and final authorisation, particularly on new projects before making any commitments to proceed. With a number of new younger members joining, we as a Club, are embracing the challenges of making Rotary relevant to all age groups which we trust will lead to further new members joining in to continue to "Serve our Community".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Mrs PRESIDENT

President Kathy celebrated a birthday on Anzac Day with a small gathering of family, friends, business associates and the odd Rotarian popping in to wish her Happy Birthday. If you check the cake closely you will realise Kathy reaches a special milestone next Anzac Day. Husband Josh celebrated his 40th a few weeks ago and a wedding anniversary will be celebrated on May 6th.

Kathy is pictured here about to cut her birthday cake made by Chelsea Taylor and Zac are on hand to handle "quality control". Another Club member Andrew Downey showed hidden talents by baking a sensational Oreo cheesecake, very tasty.....



Kelvin Kong Update

Our Club's District Australian Rotary Health (ARH) Representative Chris Bartlett advised that ARH Director Brian Beesley, from the Gloucester Rotary Club, who attended our District Conference, was extremely impressed with Kelvin's presentation. The Gloucester Club are planning an outback tour with well known recording artists in 2019 highlighting indigenous mental health issues. Brian is very impressed with our Club's concept to work with Kelvin, providing an achievable, measurable and sustainable project suggested by Kelvin can be organised.

Some of our Club Directors will be hoping to have a meeting with Kelvin in the near future to start a conversation that will hopefully 'make a difference' to young indigenous children.

THIS WEEK'S SPEAKERS

This week's speakers will be Tammy and Greg Kelly. Tammy is a member of the club and with her husband Greg run Splash World in Nelson Bay and a Splash World in Japan. They also have a very successful tapas bar, Evviva in Nelson Bay. Please advise Dieter if you are bringing guests...



ROADWHYZ FAST APPROACHING

This year's RoadWhyz is fast approaching with some 150 students from Tomaree High School and St Philip's Christian College booked to attend this year's course on Friday May 11th at St Philip's. Last year's program was well received.

Our responsibility will be to provide morning tea for the students and teachers. President Kathy has suggested to any members who have not attended they might like to do so this year. The day starts at 9 am and finishes at 1pm. Volunteers will be approached to help out on the day.

MUNA AT MUSWELLBROOK

Club Youth Director Arja Levonpera has advised that St Philip's School would like to send 3 teams to the Model United Nations Assembly at Muswellbrook on the weekend of May 26/27 2018. We have sponsored two teams for the past two years and heard a firsthand report from the students who attended the 2017 MUNA at a Club meeting a few months ago.

We are asking the Salamander Bay Rotary Club if they would like to support the third team this year. MUNA is another of the great Rotary Youth programmes.

**EARLY WARNING- BOOK EARLY
OUR CLUB CHANGEOVER NIGHT
THURSDAY JUNE 21 2018
NELSON BAY BOWLING CLUB
PARTY NIGHT THEME
INVITE A FRIEND**

FOND MEMORIES You got your windscreen cleaned, oil checked and petrol served, without asking, all for free.



MEMBERS ARE AGAIN REMINDED TO GET THEIR APOLOGIES INTO JOHN CRUMP BY 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY'S BY PHONE OR SMS ON 0401 450 239. WE ARE CHARGED FOR ALL MEALS BASED ON THE NUMBERS SUBMITTED & THESE COSTS WILL BE PASSED ON