



**Our Guest
Speaker: Ryan
Palmer**

**Topic: Fraud and how
to avoid being a victim.**

Ryan is a branch manager for the Greater Building Society at Nelson Bay and Salamander Bay. He was introduced by Cathy Rimmer, who knows Ryan well, having worked with him in the past.

Ryan explained that every day at the branch a client would report some kind of fraudulent activity on their accounts. The fraud team at the Greater, and most financial institutions, monitors accounts 24 hours a day given the high amount of fraudulent activity which occurs all the time. Ryan explained that giving advice about previous scams is like second hand news as there are new ways to scam being invented all the time. The main thing is to be very vigilant and to never put your personal details in a vulnerable position whatever the proposition being put to you at the time. The cost of fraud in Australia is estimated at \$8 billion annually. The cost is carried by both individuals and by companies.

Some discussions of hoax activities were discussed. As an example on E-Bay, Gumtree and Trading Post the suggestion is made payment has been already made via Pay Pal when it never has, or that \$100 has been overpaid and to refund the difference. The advice given for online purchases was not to pay by Western Union, as the tracking for money is difficult once it has been collected at the branch. Card skimming has been another way to gain peoples card information. People should not let their card out of sight. Never allow it to be scanned more than once. Never give your details on sites that you cannot verify. Never follow a link from an email.

There has been a spate of fraud calls, some seem very genuine but never give out information to them, and financial institutions never call asking for this kind of information. If the call is from a private number be suspicious. If the caller starts after a long delay this is already suspect. If people offer money from kings in far off countries, or for lotteries you have never entered then it is a hoax.

Order a credit report on yourself, particularly if you have never seen this report.

Always report suspicious transactions on your account. Fraudsters often go fishing with small transactions, e.g. 2 cents, before making a really big purchase. Online dating sites have also been used to trick people to make a payment to what seems a genuine friend.

The head table at which the guest speaker sat was able to provide a few stories of recent fraud and Richard Harris thanked the guest speaker.

Inside:
Page 2: Foundation Grant & St. Dominic's Day pictures
Page 3: Club News
Page 4: Details of next week's speaker

Congratulations
Member's or Partner's birthdays:
 Richard Turner Jun 01
 Larry Mc Grath Jun 02
 Henk Tobbe Jun 10

Wedding anniversaries:
 None this week
Lady Luck
Heads & Tails:
 Doug Craike
 4 heads in a row (really)
Raffle winner:
 John Cropley

Duties next Meeting
Door: Bart Richardson, Peter Mc Bean
Loyal Toast:
 Ken Arnett
Grace:
 Mike Mobbs
Meet and Greet:
 Helen Ryan, Kathy Rimmer
Bulletin:
Introduce Guest Speaker:
 Ian Faulkner
Thank Speaker:
 John Cropley

Apologies/Extras: to Ros Cribb by noon on Wednesday
Phone or Text to: 0401 450 239

\$7000 ROTARY FOUNDATION GRANT

Club President Chris was pleased to announce at Thursday night's meeting a District Rotary Foundation Grant application had been successful. The grant for \$7000 will be used for the purchase of exercise equipment for the first two stages of the proposed Nelson Bay Rotary Club Fitness Trail commencing at Corlette.

Club members will recall an amount of \$10,000 was allocated to this project following the April Board meeting. Port Stephens Council have committed \$15,000 to the project at this stage, which means the first two exercise stations can be completed.

The Club acknowledges Ian Faulkner who brought this concept to our Club nearly 18 months ago. Ian has worked behind the scenes to ensure a good working relationship with Council, Tomaree Parks Committees & our Club.

The next meeting with Council will be held on Thursday June 4 with Chris, Ian & President Elect Ann attending.

Chris highlighted on Thursday night that the successful grant application means that monies, we as members & as a Club contributed to the Rotary Foundation three years ago have now been returned to our Club for this wonderful local community project.

All Rotary Foundation funds with the exception of End Polio Now funds are retained in Australia & returned to Districts for use in District & Global Grants.

Thanks also to outgoing Community Services Director Warwick Mathieson who has agreed to assist in the management of the project with Ian & Chris.



St Dominic's Day



The St Dominic's Day for hearing impaired children was held on Tuesday 26th. It was a great success as usual with the transport being provided by the Tamboi Queen. The kids delighted in seeing plenty of dolphins and then having a BBQ catered for by Rotarians. There were 28 children on the boat with 7 carers. From the club Nadine, Judi and Henk went out on the boat as well. We are grateful to the Tamboi crew for their care on the day and their generosity in providing the trip at nominal cost.





Generous Gift - the subject of longest fine session in history at the Club.

The photos show workers at the site of the new road upgrade at Anna Bay. The Spanish company Ferrovial was the main contractor for the roadwork upgrade on Nelson Bay Road. They generously donated the water tanks and some excess office furniture and equipment from their construction office to the Adult Education Centre in Nelson Bay. Given the close association with Nelson Bay Rotary and the Adult Education Centre some of our members volunteered to transport the tanks from here to their new home.

It is a long story, but Geoff Diemar assures us it is definitely possible to have done the trip strapping tanks to his trailer. PDG Don is happy that his vehicle was not called upon to transport anything so tall. The workers made some anxious calls up the line, one boss to the next, and decided they might get a special tank delivery truck to do the job after all.

"Alls well that ends well", they say, and a great fine opportunity was had.

Club News

The Bunnings BBQ last week was one of biggest grossing ever, with \$1100 in takings. Thanks to all the volunteers and John Stuhmcke for organising these days. On the basis of this success we have negotiated a couple more Saturday slots with Bunnings for later in the year.

RYDA was a great success this year, but members are still invited to provide feedback on this day and on how it might be improved for next year.

JUNE 14th will be the Farewell Brunch for Nadine who returns home on the 20th. Venue at Neil Carroll Rotary Park. Salamander RC members will also attend.

Ken Arnett reported from the Police Citizens Youth Committee Board meeting. They have developed a strategic plan and Ken assures us that they have a professional approach to the future direction of the Club. On the 22nd of August they are holding 40th Birthday dinner. Tickets \$80 per head. Ken hopes to get a table together.

A couple of extra pictures. Guest speaker Ryan was accompanied by his wife Jess to the meeting and Sergeant Phil was back after a month off, and got straight back into telling a few stories.



Next Week's Speaker Leah Royle. Development officer for the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

Some information about this organization is included. It has a very worthwhile aim and will be a very interesting talk for members, partners, or guests who would wish to attend.



Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) is an independent non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of Australia's threatened wildlife and habitats.

Our strategies include:

- Establishing sanctuaries through acquisition and partnerships with other landholders;
- Implementing practical, on-ground action including fire management, weed and feral animal control and threatened species translocations;
- Carrying out strategic scientific research; and
- Hosting visitor programs at our sanctuaries for the purpose of public education.

What are the distinguishing features of AWC and our conservation model?

Australia has the worst mammal extinction rate in the world; most other indicators of the health of our natural capital demonstrate a steady decline. A new model for conservation is required if we are to arrest this decline, particularly the loss of native wildlife and habitats. Funded by tax deductible donations, AWC represents such a new model: one that is focused heavily on achieving measurable outcomes through the delivery of practical land management informed by strong science.

- 1. Scale:** AWC owns 23 properties covering more than 3 million hectares (7.4 million acres). This makes AWC the largest non-government organisation in Australia in terms of land managed for conservation.
- 2. Number of species protected:** More than 1,200 native animal species are protected on the AWC estate including:
 - 67% of all Australian mammal species; and
 - over 80% of all bird species.
- 3. Focus on active land management:** Around 80% of AWC's staff are based in the field, which is unique within the conservation sector. Over the last five years, 88% of AWC's total expenditure has been on conservation programs, with only 12% on fundraising and administration combined.
- 4. Investment in science:** AWC is unique in that around 25% of our staff team are field ecologists. Our scientists work closely with operational staff to design land management strategies and to measure the effectiveness of their implementation.
- 5. Feral animal control:** AWC is recognised as a leader in feral animal control. We manage more fox and cat-free land than any other organisation on mainland Australia. One of our sanctuaries, Flare Island, is the third largest island in the world from which cats have been eradicated.
- 6. Fire management:** in the Kimberley, AWC delivers prescribed burning across 14 properties covering around 4 million hectares including pastoral land and indigenous land. This is the largest fire management program delivered by any non-government conservation organisation in Australia.
- 7. Threatened species translocations:** AWC has conducted more than 60 translocations of threatened and declining mammal species involving more than 2,200 individual animals.

