

Bulletin No 44-May 25 2017

CELEBRATION NIGHT- BOOK LAUNCH- BIRTHDAY BASH- BART REMEMBERED



Two of Club's Honourary members, PP Ian Rolfe and Terry Fitzsimon catch up on "old times"



Thursday night's meeting was a triple celebration, known as the 3B night. Some 48 members, partners and guests were present to celebrate the launch of the latest edition of the Club's History Book- Three Score Years. This was followed by the cutting of a large birthday cake to celebrate the Club's 61st birthday. To round off a memorable evening, we remembered our much loved member Bart Richardson who passed away in March aged 97. Bart was toasted with a glass of fine Port to conclude this special night for the Club. See Page 2 for future information.

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More 3B news, photos, fun, and more....

Birthdays this coming week: June 01 Richard Turner

Anniversaries May 27 Hugh & Ann Randall

May 28 Dieter & Helga Grieter

Heads and Tails: No Tossing this week

Raffle Hon member PP Ian Rolfe

Member Duties June 01 2017

Door Ian McIver/ Bob Mitchell

Meet/Greet: Peter Page

Loyal Toast: Trisha Parnell

Grace: Ed Parker

Intro Guest speaker: Judi Priestley

Thank Guest Speaker: Helen Ryan

Bulletin: Don Whatham

Photographer Henk Tobbe

Guest Speaker- Sally Colombo- Courageous Conversations

A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION CONTINUED.....

THREE SCORE YEARS

Club Historian, Richard Turner worked tirelessly alongside Club Photographer Henk Tobbe to produce the latest edition of the Club's History.



HENK TOBBE

In compiling and printing the current book and as is often the case there are behind the scenes contributors and in mentioning this it provides me with the opportunity to tell another short story.

Towards the completion of the book I approached Henk Tobbe for a quantity of photos from which I could make a selection for inclusion in the book. Henk in fact supplied some four hundred photos for me to choose from. With a lack of knowledge as to how to correctly place the selected photos in the book I approached Henk for his assistance. In providing a draft of the book to Henk to enable this process he pointed out that the format in which I had written the book being basically letter style was not really suitable for such a publication. Henk suggested the book should be presented with straight column sides, in other words it should look like a book.

Approaching potential printers, it was pointed out the process of re-formatting the book involved considerable time and cost.

Fortunately, and unbeknown to me Henk took on the laborious task of re-formatting the book which in fact involved tens of man hours. In re-formatting the book more space became available for the inclusion of more photos which Henk then selected and inserted. Henks contribution through his photos, knowledge and expertise have greatly enhanced the book for which we are most grateful. P

THE BOOK

Also throughout the book in an endeavour to make the book a useful as a research document I have highlighted major achievements of both the board and committees. So as to provide ongoing records for the club I have also now included yearly lists of positions held and awards presented to members. This includes New Members admitted during each year, Honorary Members made each year, PHF made during the year along with members of the club serving on District Committees. Also, to enable quick reference as to when members joined and or departed the club during this decade I have included a list of members at the end of each Rotary year. There are a few other additions to the book all of which I hope are of benefit. From 2009 where I picked after Bill I have changed format by providing each year's information under a dozen or so headings including the five avenues of service.

The production of the book for me being computer illiterate was a combination of frustration, anger and rage the brunt of which Jenny has had to weather. So, thank you to Jenny. Thanks also to Helen Ryan and Mike Mobbs who proof read drafts of the book and all those who assisted in getting the book up to being published by the Tomaree High School.

I mention on collecting the books from the printers I drove straight around and provided the first copy of the book to Bart who was quite chuffed that I had done so. This was three days before he passed away.

Bill Brown's story will be published in next week's edition after he attends out meeting next week.

BILL BROWN

fact talking about Bill Brown.

Along with Bill I am extremely disappointed he and wife Beryl could not be with us here tonight, but he has a fair enough reason. Today is Bill and Beryl's sixtieth wedding anniversary a result of which their family are providing a gala event in Sydney tonight to celebrate the event.

Bill and Beryl will be in attendance at next week's ordinary meeting to enable us to formally present him with a copy of 'Three Score Years' which represents the culmination of twenty-two years as the club's historian.

A NIGHT OF CELEBRATIONS CONTINUED.....



REMEMBERING BART

PDG Don Whatham completed our night of celebrations with a wonderfully compiled history of Bart's life, including his military service, his working career, his Rotary story, and many other facets. Published are some of the highlights of Bart's remarkable life. Our picture left shows Bart and our long serving Sergeant Warwick Mathieson enjoying Rotary on a Thursday night & PDG Don after his presentation.



Don, gave an excellent presentation of Bart's life, however we have concentrated on his Rotary and Volunteering life since 1964 for this issue. If members would like access to Don's full presentation I am sure Don will be able to provide it on request.

In 1964 Bart joined the Rotary Club of Newcastle and was their Treasurer for twelve of the fifteen years he was a member there. In 1976 his service was acknowledged with a Paul Harris Fellow – the first in the history of that club.

- Bart joined the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay in 1979.
- He served as club secretary from 1980 to 1983 and was president in 1984-85. He was club bulletin Editor in 93/94 and 94/95, Club attendance officer from 1990 to 2006 and club historian and photographer for several years
- He served on many District committees including Youth Exchange, Foundation,
- He served as District Training officer and District and prepared the District handbook. Attendance officer
- I recall working with him on the District NYSF committee. My first official Rotary District role. He mentored me as we worked together for several years on this committee which I later chaired with Bart as one of my keenest committee members.
- He was chair of Rotary D9670 Probus committee.
- He has been a member of Nelson Bay Probus since 1986.
- He also spent a period of time on the Board of Probus South Pacific including a period as Chairman.
- During this time he helped form all Probus clubs in the Port Stephens area and many of the forty clubs in Rotary district 9670.
- Bart was Rotary District 9670 District Governor in 1986-87.
- This was a most memorable occasion for this club as we organized the D9670 conference in Nelson Bay at the PCYC under the chairmanship of Ian Brigden who later chaired my conference in 2006 and will co-chair Helen Ryan's conference next year.

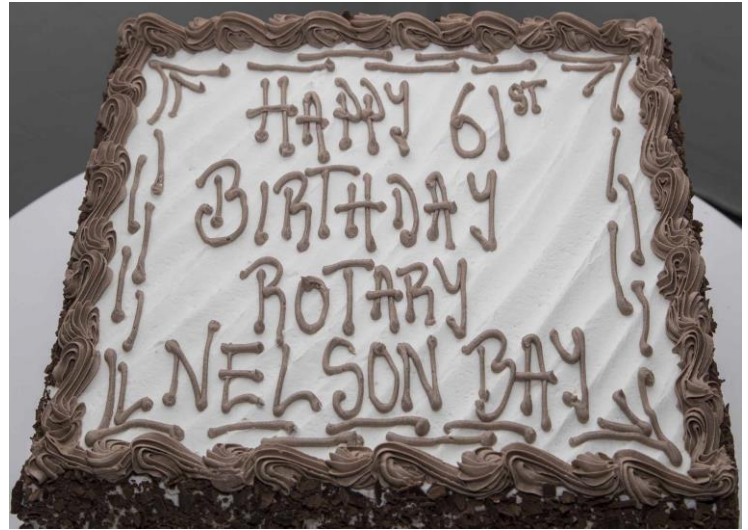
- Bart has truly lived his life according to Rotary's motto of Service Above Self.
- Bart was committed to legacy for 63 years. He had a strong belief that you need to look after the families of fallen mates.
- In 1999 Bart and June moved into a villa at Harbourside Haven.
- In the same year he was invested with a Medal of the Order of Australia, the citation reading "for service to lawn bowls through the Newcastle District Bowling Association and to the community through service groups and as a fundraiser for welfare organisations and for projects at the University of Newcastle".
- In 1994 the University of Newcastle named their international residential accommodation building "Richardson House" in honour of Bart because of his involvement in its development.
- Bart was a true Rotarian in every sense.
- He was so proud on a Saturday night in February this year, when Rotary Club of Nelson Bay sang happy birthday to acknowledge he'd turned 97 and gave him a fourth PHF Sapphire. This was the night before his first fall.
- Up until recently he was still volunteering to help others.
- He had just retired after four years visiting Shoal Bay Primary School each week, helping children with their reading.
- At 97 he was a regular host at Project Neighbour driving elderly residents for their monthly outing.
- Bart was a remarkable man; in his later life he
- Wrote a book about his life in the army
- In 2011, Bart visited Japan on a trip hosted by the Japanese Government.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BART REMEMBERED CONTINUED

He returned reconciled to Japan and the Japanese, realising that the Japanese of today are a friendly peace loving people, and nothing like the masters who dished out such harsh treatment during the war years.

- Whilst in Japan Bart attended a special service at the Yokohama War Cemetery where many of his Battalion are buried.
- At the time he befriended the Japanese Consul General Dr Kohara and Diplomat Noriko.
- Bart and his daughter Vere were privileged to be invited to Dr Kohara's official farewell when he was transferred from Sydney. Noriko visited Bart several times at Port Stephens.
- Bart was in Singapore for the 70th Anniversary of the Fall of Singapore five years ago and attended the dawn service at Kranji War Cemetery, another place very special to Bart as so many of his Battalion are buried there.
- Last year, aged 96, he travelled to Sandakan, Borneo to pay his respects to others in his Battalion buried in war graves there.
- He was very disappointed, following his fall only a month before his death, that he could not attend the 75th Anniversary of the Fall of Singapore service in Ballarat for which he'd been chosen to attend by Veterans Affairs.
- He was proud at 97 to have had his driver's licence renewed.
- The members of our club, members of our community and all who were privileged to have known Bart during his 97 years of life have been touched by his courage, dedication and service.
- Bart was a truly remarkable human being.



To celebrate our 61st Birthday cake all those present enjoyed this wonderful Birthday cake for dessert. Among the guests for the evening were Past members PP Ian Rolfe and wife Pam, Terry Fitzsimons and Noeline and Bill Nicol and Lorraine. Among the Partners were Fiona Whatham, Paula Flux, Anges Tobbe and Jonathon Cincotta, all helped to make the evening memorable in many ways

**LUCKY ESCAPE FOR JIM...**

Jim Booth had a very narrow escape last week when his charter boat he was working on went up in flames at Nelson Bay Marina. Jim was doing some maintenance when the accident occurred and his quick actions by going overboard probably saved his life. We need you around for a few years more Jim and all members were happy to see you safe and well at Thursday night's celebrations.

LOCAL CLUB CHANGEOVERS

Monday June 26 Raymond Terrace
 Tuesday June 27 Salamander Bay
 Wednesday June 28 Williamtown
SATURDAY JULY 1

Nelson Bay and District 9670 at Nelson Bay Bowling Club..6.30 pm for 7pm start.

EARLY WARNING

Volunteers required for Bunnings BBQ on Saturday July 1st 2017, our first for the new Rotary year.

FOLLOWING IN MUM'S FOOTSTEPS.....

Our youthful Assistant Treasurer, Taylor Rimmer spent her Sunday morning helping Mum Kathy, check the proceeds from our very successful Bunnings BBQ last Saturday week. The net proceeds of \$1000 has enabled our Club to purchase a Shelterbox. Our last 2 Bunnings BBQ's (on consecutive Saturdays) grossed nearly \$2600, including \$60 in donations for a nett return of \$2000. Thank you to all the volunteers who have assisted, especially the ever reliable Doug Bairstow, our Procurement Officer. Taylor is always on the money by the way.....



CHUCKLE CORNER

**Growing old is
hard work...
The mind says
"yes" but, the
body says "what
the hell are you
thinking"**

My bed is a magical place
where I can suddenly
remember everything
I was supposed
to do.



**I finally realized it..
People are prisoners
of their phones
that's why they are
called Cell Phones.**



The next Couple of Weeks....

| Date | Speaker | Topic |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|
| May 31 | Combined Board Meeting at Nelson Bay Bowling Club at 5.30pm | |
| June 01 | Sally Colombo- | Courageous Conversations Leadership |
| June 08 | Neil Hansford | Deputy Commander Maritime Rescue |
| June 15 | | Club night |
| July 01 | | Bunnings BBQ |
| July 01 | Club & District Changeover – Nelson Bay Bowling Club | |

Dan Howard proudly shows the PCYC's Basketball shorts as part of the uniform sponsored by our Club in conjunction with Nelson Bay Bowling Club



For those who are having trouble reading the wording on the shorts it says "Proudly supported by Nelson Bay Rotary Club."



Member Tricia Parnell, PP President Ella Clarke and Tricia's partner Jonathon Cincotta certainly enjoyed selling members their copy of Three Score years on Thursday night. For those who missed this great night there are additional copies available at a highly subsidised cost of \$5.00 each.

Club Treasurer for 2017-18 and District Conference Co- Chair Ian Brigden showing his skill at Thursday night's Celebrations. An interesting snippet was revealed by PDG Don that the 2018 District Conference will be the 3rd that Ian has either chaired or co-chaired



Members Dieter Greiter and PP John Cropley toast our late remarkable member PDG Bart with a very fine port donated by President Elect Kathy Rimmer, after a recent Raffle win at Dubbo



PP GEOFF DIEMAR – WHY I ENJOY NELSON BAY ROTARY



Long standing member PP Geoff Diemar gave all those present on Thursday night a very eloquent talk on why he enjoys our Club so much. He highlighted some of the wonderful community activities we are involved in, our community connection, the friendship and the ability of all members to offer assistance to other members, and lastly the enjoyment of the Myall Lakes weekend...

