

Bulletin 44 – 27th May 2021

John Evans on Stockton Dunes & Tin City



John gave us a passionate presentation about Stockton Beach & Tin City. Like most of us few have ever been on a Stockton Beach Tour with sand-boarding, Quadbiking or Camel riding. John has been conducting these tours for a number of years and has been a regular visitor to the Tin City. There are no roads to Tin City no power, water or sewer connections, truly off the grid, solar & wind generator power the ‘luxury’ items such as TV, radio and internet/phone items. Refrigeration is by gas-powered fridges.

Water is pumped from a spear point; a long tube stuck down through the sand into the aquifer just a few meters below. The sheds are constructed from scraps of corrugated iron and tee-trees cut from the woods behind the dunes. Floor covering is from old conveyor belts from the coalmines, but accommodate all modern amenities

Apart from one permanent resident the shacks are mainly used for holidaying by their owners and can only be passed on within the family, cannot be sold. It is the largest legal squatter settlement of 11 shacks and is (to date) still tolerated by N/Parks on this Worimi land. It’s establishment remains a bit unclear but could be traced back to the depression years in the early 1900s. The homes are neatly kept and are well worth a visit, Alwyn Garland is always happy for a chat. The beach and the sand dunes are teeming with wildlife and fishing is the main food source.

Contrary to some reports that some scenes of the hit Mal Gibson 1979 Mad Max movie were filmed here, which of course is untrue.

John suggested that we should make this a must do item for the bucket list and he would be too happy with the organisation of such a social club event.



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Birthdays this week:

- 1st June R. Turner
- 10th June H.Tobbe

Anniversaries:

none

Heads & Tails:

Brian Cromley

Raffle:

Peter P

Member Duties 3rd June

Door:

R. Turner

Meet/Greet:

M. Williams

Grace:

David Clark

Intro Guest speaker:

P. McBean

Thank Guest Speaker:

H. Ryan

Bulletin:

Chris Bartlett

Photos:

P Chris Bartlett

Binos:

J. Stuhmke/C. Bartlett

Dinner Menu next meeting: Pie

Apologies/Extras to Club Phone by noon on Wednesday Ph.: 0401 450 239

Guests this week were:

- Brian Cromley
- Craig Paroissien (new member)
- Erin Brinkley (new member)

Guest speaker next meeting:

Louise Simpson

Louise is our scholarship recipient as counsellor at the Yacaaba Centre Family & Community Services providing early intervention support & counselling services to assist vulnerable people who are at imminent risk of homelessness



The tree planting has been completed this week with in excess of 100 trees and shrubs planted at the Tom O'Dwyer Oval adjacent to the PCYC hall.

Under the careful supervision of ex-farmer David Clark 'koala food friendly' trees were planted around the circumference of the oval after our members had previously removed a ton of Bitou-Bush and the Lantana weed.

Vale John Crump PHF

Members of Nelson Bay Rotary Club were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of popular member John Crump last Friday May 21, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

John joined Rotary on 25th June 2015 and quickly volunteered for numerous activities, being actively involved in community activities. He was regarded as a great BBQ cook, at the many community events and Bunning's BBQs the Club supported.

John was the Club's contact for attendance for a number of years, organising the numbers for our evening meals at the Bowling Club and other events, doing this important, frustrating task with good-natured skill.

John would have been more involved in Club activities, however regular treatment made it difficult for John to participate at times during his Rotary service.



As members will know John was a highly respected Qantas 747 flight captain for many years. John loved flying. He sold fruit at Cessnock to help pay for flying lessons, before flying a variety of aircraft in Australia, and then joining QANTAS and flying the 747's on overseas routes. He was actively involved in training younger pilots. Unfortunately he was diagnosed with cancer after a flight to Los Angeles, which ended his career.

John was a reserved quiet person, who helped many in the local community and overseas. He assisted his partner Val at the Anglican Op shop in Nelson Bay, helped at All Saints Anglican church and carried out other acts of kindness to many.

John and his friends from Qantas also funded a school in South Africa, and up until Covid struck made regular visits to South Africa to help the school in numerous ways.

He was awarded Rotary's highest honour, a Paul Harris Fellowship, in 2020.

John loved travelling, especially overseas, however Covid restrictions caused his travel plans to be curtailed.

He indicated recently to some of his friends that his time with us would be cut short, however his passing still came as a shock. He was taken far too young.

Nelson Bay Rotary Club held a minute silence at their meeting on Thursday night in memory of John.

To partner Val and her family and John's family to whom club members send their heart felt condolences.

John's funeral will be held at All Saints Church Nelson Bay on Monday 31st May at 2pm.

Secretary PDG Don Whatham will speak at the service and members are asked to form a Guard of Honour at the conclusion of the service.

Family and friends have been invited to the Nelson Bay Golf Club to share their memories of John.



Invitation

Rotarians, Honorary Members & Friends
are invited to the
Rotary Club Change Over Dinner

Thursday 24th June 2021

6 pm for 6.30 pm

Nelson Bay Bowling Club Crows Nest Room

Stockton St, Nelson Bay NSW 2315

\$40.00 per person – incl. 2 course dinner

Bookings: PDG Helen Ryan

Mobile: 0409 842 455

Email: heryan738@gmail.com

Please advise Dietary Requirements

Payment can be made via Direct Deposit to

BSB 637000 A/C 781017418

(Please state Name & "Changeover")

EFTPOS, Cheque or Cash at regular meetings

RSVP: 10th June 2021



Rotary Opens Opportunities



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORT

Virtual District Conference May 22, 2021

by PDG Helen Ryan



Speaker 1: David & Margaret Connell 'Our Covid Journey'

Spoke about their personal Covid 19 journey, initially aboard ship and then in Italy, and how blessed we are to have such a good health system in Australia. The shipboard doctor recommended Margaret, who was the sickest, eat white rice!

Speaker 2: Gordon & Therese Hill Rotary Club of Cobar 'Drought Relief'

Spoke of the work that Cobar Rotary has done and still is doing for the folk in the area have been so badly affected by the drought. All in all, some \$800,000 raised; one of the main supporters and donors was the Rose Bay Sailing Club. The donations amounted to varying amounts of dollars; \$21,000 for water; \$41,000 in food packages; \$41,000 for fodder for dogs, mainly for working dogs; \$500,000 for hay. (Obviously there were other funds used for the community that were not mentioned.)

Speaker 3: Erica Henley 'Operation Hope'

Spoke of the work that Operation Hope does, starting in Greece in 2016 as a humanitarian and medical volunteer and then working with refugees in Iraq from 2017 until the present day. This was a very interesting talk and appreciated by all attending.

Speaker 4: Helen Fuller and Robyn Oakes 'Bush Fire Emergency'

Spoke about the devastation the fires caused physically and the mental anguish felt by all in the surrounding area and especially those folks who were directly affected by the bush fire. A journey, which I hope, none of us have to travel.

Speaker 5: Ben Johnson & Sue Hooper 'ISDA Partner Project'

Sue spoke of the appreciation she has for the Rotarians who have contributed to this project and especially to DG David and DGE Amanda for agreeing for this project to continue. To date \$28,000 has been raised with the target of \$30,000, as that is the cost of training a therapy dog. Ben Johnson, who is the spokesman for Integra Service Dogs, thanked Sue for the work she has done in promoting this very valuable resource and how much he has enjoyed working with Rotary.

Speaker 5: Libby Bleakley 'RAWCS Project Crime Prevention, East Timor'

Spoke about the time as a Police officer and through that, the work she did with crime prevention, sexual assault, domestic violence and many Indigenous issues. Her continuing interest led to International work and she joined the Australian Federal Police where she was deployed to East Timor in 2010-2011 with the United Nations and then through the Police Development programme in Dili in 2012-2014. She developed her own crime prevention initiative in Timor Leste and this is now registered as a RAWCS project.

Speaker 6: Shaun Stoneman & Jessie Lackey 'Provisional Passport Club of Newcastle Discovery'

Spoke about the formation of this club and the hope that it will be progressive but still have the Rotary values we understand to be Rotary. They are hoping for this Club to be chartered this year

Speaker 7: PDG Adrian Roach, Des Dowdy and Margaret Barnes 'Nondugl PNG Project'

Spoke about the Dental Project that is a Global Rotary Project in PNG and the work that has been done in acquiring medical equipment to go to PNG, all of which was donated. This was, as Margaret said, "a classical example of doing good and helping someone in need without raising funds to do so". The equipment was donated, storage of the equipment was donated and the cost of the transport was donated; very much appreciated.

Speaker 8: Brian & Lyn Ludwick 'Kerry Ridge and Rylstone Fires'

Spoke about the devastation of the Fires and how valuable the support of those in the area was, both physically and mentally. Again, a situation, which we do not want to recur.

Speaker 8: R.I. Director Elect Jessie Harman

Spoke about the nature of the changing face of volunteering and the importance of serious flexibility within the clubs; this flexibility does need to be meaningful and right for the members, both current and new. Jessie referred to the 'Changing Volunteering' in 5 areas; digital, skill based, work placed, cause based and episodic. How we volunteer does not necessarily have to be the same way we have done in the past but rather think about how each individual is best able to do that.

Speaker 9: DGE District 9660, Neville Parsons

Spoke about the amalgamation and the critical point which is that the amalgamation of the two districts will not affect the way in which the clubs operate. Changes will be at District level in the slightly different roles the District leaders will take on.

District 9670 Conference 2022

To be held in Newcastle at the Civic Hall on 17th – 20th March 2022.

With the donations of \$10 per head for the Virtual conference DG David reported that \$4000 had been raised for Polio; which translates to \$12,000 with the 2 for 1 match. A very good result.

All in all, an interesting District conference and the management team did a great job with the Virtual programme.