

Bulletin # 6, 2nd August 2018



District Governor Brian Coffey and Carol joined us on this evening for the DG's Official visit. Along with Brian and Carol were Assistant Governor Phil Gorton and Ruth.

The initial part of a DG's visit is to discuss the Club Plan that has been prepared by the new Board.

Full of praise for our Club's record of achievements over previous years, DG Brian commented that he really didn't need to see the plan because he knew that whatever our plan Nelson Bay would succeed again. He also acknowledged that Nelson Bay was the only Club in the District to achieve the RI President's Citation last year. He did challenge the Club to go one better this year by achieving **Rotary Citation With Presidential Distinction**. (a new award).

Merger. Despite the rejection by District 9650 to a merger, RI have directed that we and 9650 talk. This is happening. At the same time, we have been approached District 9710 to consider a merger of some form. DG Brian's preference is to continue on our own if possible, BUT we would have to grow our membership considerably.

Membership is uppermost on DG Brian's agenda and a to assist there are plans afoot to more vigorously promote Rotary. DG Brian s keen to see Clubs work together on projects, to share/lend equipment to other Clubs and provide manpower for other Club's projects.

Carol Coffey presented her Partner's Project for **"Lift The Lid"** with some concerning facts: In any one year 1 in 5 people will suffer mental illness and 1 in 2 in their lifetime. With parents, siblings and friends taken into account, 4 out of 5 people are involved. The aim of "Lift The Lid" is to raise awareness and provide funds for research (through Australian Rotary Health) into mental illness.



In this Bulletin:

Pg 2: New PHF, New Immortal, Dry July Donation

Pg 3: Peter's off on his trek. Drought relief.

Pg 4: Just a thought. Please read.

Birthdays this coming week: 2 – 9 Aug

Aug 2 Liz Friend
Aug 3 Doug Bairstow
Aug 9 Gordon Treble

Anniversaries:

Nil this week.

Heads and Tails:

Tony Todd

Member Duties

2nd August

Door: Tony Todd/John Stumchke

Meet/Greet: John Sully/Richard Turner

Loyal Toast: Gordon Treble

Grace: Milton Williams

Intro Guest speaker: Doug Bairstow

Thank Guest Speaker: Chris Bartlett

Bulletin: Dieter Greiter

Photos: Henk Tobbe

Binoculars: David Clarke /Andrew Downey

Next meeting – Club Night + Behind the Badge - David Clarke

Apologies/Extras to John Crump by noon on Wednesday!

Ph 0401 450 239



Carol Coffey presents President Kathy with an ARH Teddy Bear.



Some of the Australian Rotary Health promotional material. Available to members.



Getting down to business: DG Brian meets with the Board to discuss Nelson Bays Plans for the coming year.

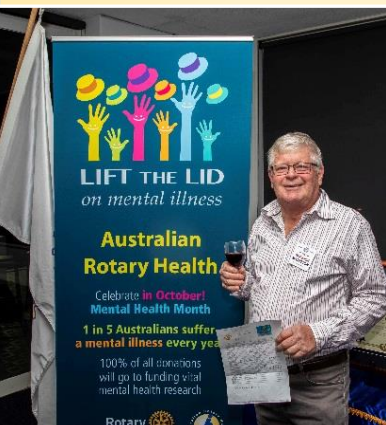


Meanwhile members' wives get together with the DG's and AG's wives Carol Coffey and Ruth Gorton.



A contributor to The Rotary Foundation over many years David Clark was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his long term support. David a member of Nelson Bay Rotary for just over 12 months, was previously a member at Young and from the start has shown his willingness to put up his hand. Congratulations David Clark PHF.

John Sully has been saving his pennies (literally) and tonight presented International Director Chelsea Illul with a \$100 donation to the Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund in recognition of which John will become our latest "Immortal".



Sergeant Warwick Mathieson raises a glass to Australian Rotary Health after completing a "Dry July". Warwick raised around \$680 from donations and has pledged to make the donation up to \$1000. (reckons he's still ahead financially!!)



Honorary Member Terry Fitzsimons made a guest appearance as spinner and made Tony Todd very happy throwing the pennies in his favour.



Club member Peter Page will set off shortly on his annual Starlight Foundation "Trek 4 Kidz". This year Peter will be in his own car with son Michael for the seven day fundraising. Commencing at Wauchope cars will go to Tamworth, Tenterfield, Toowoomba, Moree, Dubbo and finish in Goulburn. Over the last three years the Trek has raised an average of \$240,000 for the Starlight Foundation. Our own Club has given a \$1000 donation to help Peter and Michael on their way.



Last week President Kathy announced that Past Presidents John Stumchke and Peter McBean would be heading up a "thinktank" on ways to assist our drought-stricken farmers. Members would now be aware of the National Initiative by RAWCS in partnership with National Farmers and Chanel Nine's Today Show to raise funds. At this stage we are still investigating our local involvement. Because of the association with RAWCS donations through this avenue are tax-deductible. Donations can be made online at:

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/17-2018-19>

It's funny how sometimes you know a lot about something but when someone asks you a question you struggle to give an answer off the cuff. – Its happened to me.

Have you ever been asked what Rotary does and the best you can come up with is “well we have just about eradicated Polio” – a great achievement – but how much better would it be if you could rattle off half a dozen Rotary Programs and explain why Rotary is such a widely respected organisation.

With the amount of publicity we are about to receive via the Drought Relief partnership, you are likely to be asked about Rotary.

What if you could tell them that:

Rotary has six areas of focus:

- **Peace and conflict prevention/resolution:** Rotary has trained over 1000 in the last ten years and RC Nelson Bay sponsored a Peace Scholar two years ago.
- **Disease prevention and treatment:** We help combat diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, diabetes and of course Polio. Australian Rotary Health is one of the largest independent funders of mental health research in Australia.
- **Water and sanitation:** Remember Wendy Stein from RC Salamander Bay? She travelled to Goroka PNG to provide Clean water to its 7000 inhabitants.
- **Maternal and child health:** RC East Maitland have established a connection with the village of Nondugl PNG providing 30 hospital beds and 100 mother& baby packs.
- **Basic education and literacy:** RC Nelson Bay is responsible for the reading program in local schools that has dramatically improved reading ability of struggling students.
- **Economic and community development:** RC Nelson Bay have travelled to PNG and Vanuatu to assist with building work and of course locally all schools, the PCYC, Women's refuge and others have received and continue to receive assistance.

Perhaps you could tell them why Rotary Foundation is one of the world's most trusted Charitable organisations.

How Rotary Foundation has virtually no administrative fees.

How Rotary Foundation has received 10 consecutive 4-star (4 out of 4) ratings from “Charity Navigator” – a body that assesses charitable institutions.

Refer them to: <https://www.charitynavigator.org/>

Tell them RAWCS, the fund partnered in the Drought Relief Program, is part of Rotary Foundation.

Then there are projects like ROMAC. Everyone remembers **Safari** the Kenyan boy brought to Australia by Rotary for treatment to his burns (he now lives in Maitland by the way).

<https://www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/1557355/safaris-bravery-horrific-burns-and-18-operations/>

You might be less familiar with **Margaret Illukol**. As an eight-year-old Margaret was savaged by a Hyena in Uganda. Large parts of her face were torn off. At 16 Margaret was brought to Australia by Rotary and had over 70 operations. She remained here and eventually became a nurse. When she died in 2015 she left her estate to our Rotary District to establish a Trust for the 9670 community by way of community projects, Rotary endeavours and to aid individuals – this could include scholarships.

<https://www.theherald.com.au/story/4338318/in-death-she-repaid-the-gift-of-life/>

And don't forget YEP, INTERPLAST, RELAYID.....

Don't bore the pants off them but wouldn't it be good to be able to let them know we don't just cook sausages.

Phill Smith