

## Bulletin # 8, 22 August 2019



Not the travelogue I expected, tonight's speaker John Mitchell-Adams spoke passionately about the plight of Rhinos, Elephants and other African wildlife - and the means of protecting and conserving the species.

The current African rhino poaching crisis began in 2008. The number of rhinos killed for their horns topped at 1349 in 2015.

Killings have decreased slightly since then, but the question is: Is this just because of decreasing numbers?

Huge prices are paid for rhino horns which have been used in Chinese medicine for more than 2,000 years to treat fever, rheumatism, gout, and other disorders.

From treating cancer and erectile dysfunction to managing hangovers, the horns of endangered wild rhinos are widely used as a cure-all in parts of Asia. One method of "conservation" is "trophy hunting". Hunters pay for the right to hunt and kill.

In many African countries the "big five" (lion, leopard, rhinoceros, elephant, and buffalo) are offered up for trophy hunting.

But, is trophy hunting good or bad?

Even conservationists can't agree. Many argue for more compassionate solutions, while others believe that trophy hunting can be a good thing. Hunters have an interest in keeping numbers high.

The revenue generated is enormous (US\$200 million per annum) – a fraction of the revenue from general tourism – but with a lower eco-footprint.

It is difficult to remove the emotion from the argument.

Is it OK to sacrifice a few for the benefit of the majority?

Is it OK to breed animals in captivity to be offered up to hunters?

Should culling be implemented to guarantee survival of a herd?

John's presentation posed more questions for me than answers, but I am now at least aware of some of the complexities of the argument.

This summary is just the tip of the debate. If you would like to be better informed, the internet is full of websites offering opinions on the subject.

John operates Destinations Africa from his Corlette home specialising in African Safari Tours. <https://www.destinationsafrica.com.au/>

### In this Bulletin:

**Pg 2:** Gan Gan, Coming up, Regular events.

**Pg 3:** DG's visit, More pics from meeting. New RI President Elect.

**Pg 4:** Polio Fundraiser

### Birthdays 23/8 to 5/9

23/8 Yvonne Stumchke

27/8 Margaret Bairstow

29/8 John Crump

4/9 Noaline Fitzsimmons

### Anniversaries:

28/8 Gordon & Lynne Treble

5/9 Ryan & Jessica Palmer

5/9 Ian & Pam Rolfe

### Heads and Tails:

Ian Mclver

### Raffle

Narelle Melhuish

### Member Duties 5/9

#### Door:

Lesley Freeman/Liz Friend

#### Meet/Greet:

Mike Jenkins

#### Loyal Toast:

Peter McBean

#### Grace:

Ian Mclver

#### Bulletin:

John Cropley

#### Photos:

Henk Tobbe?

**Next meeting – NO MEETING 29<sup>th</sup> Aug. Next meeting 5 Sep Club Assembly**

**Apologies/Extras to John Crump by noon on Wednesday!**

**Ph 0401 450 239**



This week I was due to attend the binoculars on Gan Gan and being a beautiful day took along my camera. I was pleased I did, because I was able to take this pic of the new travel direction signpost erected in memory of Rotarian Larry McGrath.

As you can see there were several tourists present and I was able to give them a little local knowledge including the bequest by one of our Project Neighbour guests that allowed the installation of the binoculars as well as some history of Nelson Bay Rotary and of Larry's background.

## **Coming up**

**Thurs 29 Aug**

**Bunnings family night BBQ  
(Judi Priestley, Liz Friend, John & Yvonne Stumchke,  
John Sully)**

**No Formal Meeting this week**

**Wed Sep 4**

**Schools Breakfast at Tomaree High**

**Thurs Sep 5**

**Club Assembly**

**"Dinner Ladies" meet in Bistro**

**Fri Sep 6**

**Bunnings BBQ**

**Thurs Sep 12**

**DG's Visit This will be a formal partners night.  
Partners attendance needs to be advised to John  
Crump – see page 3**

**Fri Sep 27**

**End Polio Now Fundraiser – see page 4**

## **Regular get-togethers:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month: Project Neighbour

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month: Honorary members get together (all welcome)  
10:00AM Evviva Café.



## **District Governor's Official Visit**



Members are reminded that our District Governor Graeme Hooper and Sue will be visiting the club on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September. In keeping with tradition members are asked to bring partners along and dress in a little more formal manner (perhaps a collar and jacket). It is imperative guests are registered for dinner.



Visiting tonight was Hillary Mitchell-Adams, wife of our guest speaker John.



2 out of 2. Steak last week, lamb shank this week. - The new caterers are certainly out to impress



With Sgt Warwick away Crpl Jim Booth stepped in, assisted by Spinner Doug Bairstow and Narelle Melhuish.



## **New RI President announced**

Holger Knaack, a member of the Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany, has been selected to serve as president of Rotary International in 2020-2021.

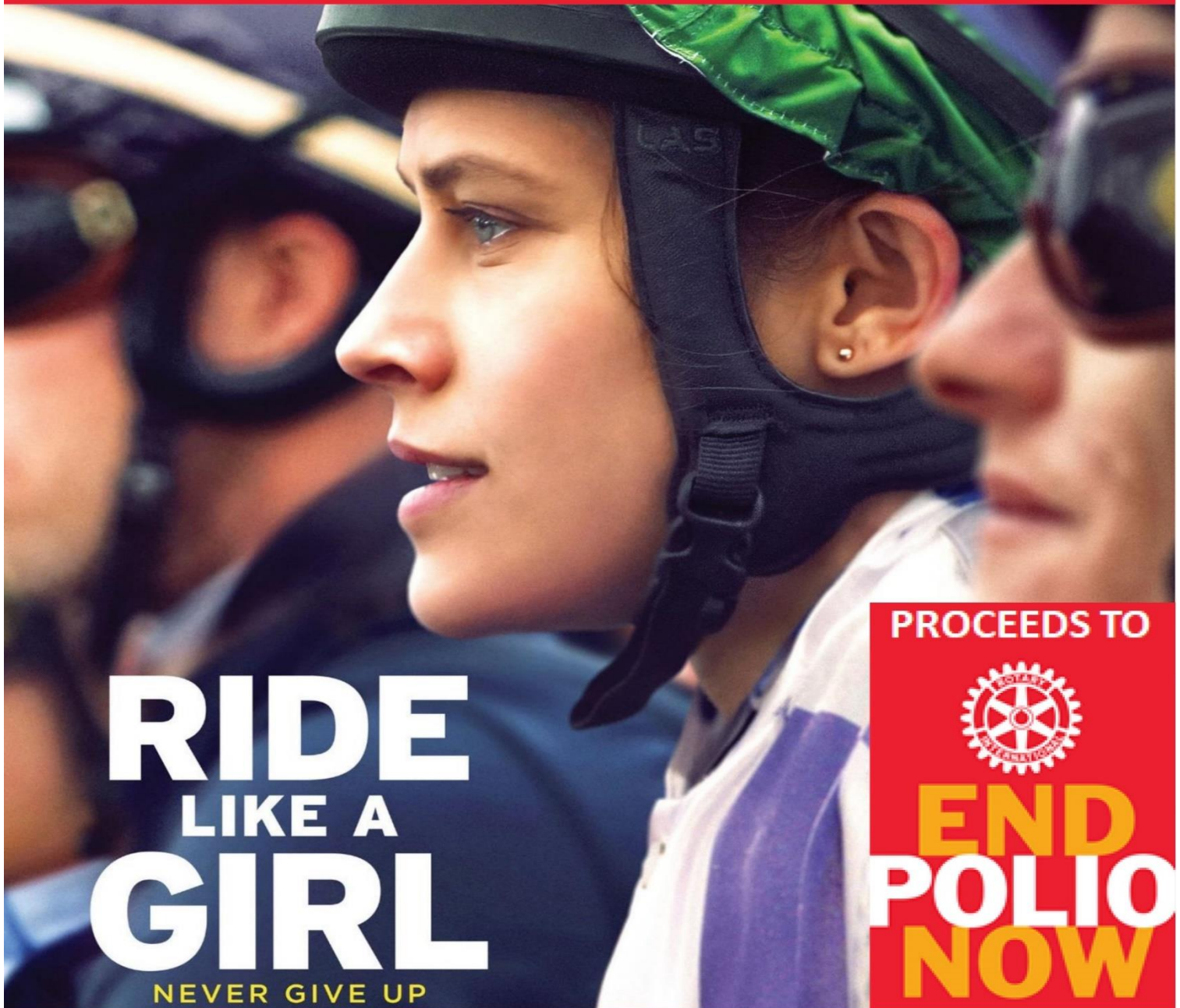
The Nominating Committee's decision follows the resignation in April of President-nominee Sushil Gupta due to health reasons.

Read his thoughts at:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/holger-knaack-selected-be-2020-21-rotary-international-president>



ROTARY CLUB OF NELSON BAY PRESENTS



Join us on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September** at Nelson Bay Cinema for the screening of

## **Ride Like a Girl**

The Inspirational True Story of Michelle Payne, the first female jockey to win the Melbourne Cup

**Tickets \$25** — includes movie, glass of champagne on arrival and a gift bag

Raffles available on the night with all proceeds of the event to End Polio Now

Tickets available from <https://www.trybooking.com/541957>