

Bulletin # 9 from 27th of August 2020

Suzanne Callaghan
National Parks and
Wildlife ranger.

**Management of
Broughton Island**



Suzanne is both an expert and an enthusiast on Broughton Island. It has been an association of 15 years and she feels lucky to have had this area as her office. Suzanne asked our members how many had visited, the island and it was clear that a number have not. This ecological jewel is but a 45 to 60 minute boat trip from Nelson Bay. The Broughton Island group is a cluster of individual islands roughly in a T shape with a length of 2km by 1.5 km wide. It totals 114 hectares. Some parts of the island are quite inaccessible but in general the opportunity is available to visit the island and even camp there.

Middens and stone grinding sites indicate that the island was used by the Aboriginal people, possibly they inhabited the island or perhaps they came as visitors. Fresh water is generally available there. Huts have been present since the 1920s used by fisherman at Esmerelda beach. All of this history is part of the islands management. The natural heritage on the island is very rich with over 130 species of plants, skinks, snakes, frogs and of course the bird life for which the island is renowned. Suzanne discussed the eradication of rabbits, rats and mice from the island from 2009. Rabbits were introduced in 1900s by scientists doing testing, and rats made it to the island by 1930s and had a devastating effect on the whole ecology. In 2011 sniffer dogs and monitoring devices proved that none of the pests remained. Wedge tailed shearwater shown below has been studied and as these birds pair with the same partner and return to the same burrow each year their flight patterns can be assessed with tracking devices. Amazingly they fly to the Phillipines and Northern hemisphere islands before returning to breed at Broughton Island. Gould's petrels have been breeding on other islands nearby like Cabbage Tree island. Seven nesting boxes were established on Broughton and after 3 years of waiting a chick was successfully raised on the island. Many other birds visit the island including a wayward Pycroft's Petrel never before seen in Australia but normally from N.Z.



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Rotary virtual conference

Birthdays

None this week

Anniversaries

**Ian and Pam Rolfe on the
5th Of September**

Winners this week

H& T: Ian Brigden
Raffle: Arja Levonpera

Next weeks Guest Speaker **PDG Brian Coffey via Zoom**

**Topic: RAWCS and the
Benevolent Society of
Rotary**
Door Duty:
Lesley Freeman
Dieter Greiter

Grace: Chelsea Ellul

Thank Speaker
John Cropley

Bulletin : Dieter Greiter
**Binoculars Roster: John
Crump and Valerie**

Meeting at the Bowling Club Next week. Option also to attend in a virtual sense via Zoom if you prefer. Phil Smith has attendees recorded unless a change is necessary then please advise him. Rotary Phone 0401 450239

Memories of Norm Costello



Our membership was saddened to hear the news of the passing of Norm Costello during the past week.

The information provided is a summary of the notes from the meeting. We have a couple of pictures as well which we hope will bring back a few fond memories.

Norm was born in 1935 in the Eastern suburbs of Sydney and grew up in this area. He was married to Judith who passed away several years ago. They have 2 sons Stephen and Matthew. In the 1960s he moved to the central coast and started a successful air-conditioning business. Norm was involved with Rotary in this area from 1974 initially at North Gosford and then the Gosford club of which he was president in 1980-1981. Norm was involved with the establishment of the Central Coast Christian School and The Gosford Art exhibition. In 1997 Norm retired from business and moved to the Pt Stephens area. He transferred his Rotary membership to our club and served on the board a number of times in various roles. The club awarded him the honour of a Paul Harris Fellowship in June 2000.

Norm retired from Active membership in 2017 and was offered Honorary membership which he retained until now.

Norm was described by many as a true gentleman and always made an effort to introduce himself to visitors at Rotary meetings. Norm was never short of few words when asked to speak. Norm and Judith were excellent hosts. They enjoyed community work over many years.

Norm will be remembered by many for the social events he organised. We had a lot of fun with some of the skits, including the Nutcracker and Dance of the Sugar Plum fairies with some none too elegant dancers. Norm organised a choir to lead a sing along at Christmas time. I personally remember his musical knowledge never held him back from encouraging all to participate. He really enjoyed promoting club fellowship and having some fun with service.

Polio Update

The world has been focused on the eradication of another illness for much of 2020. The great news is that eradication of Polio has been continuing successfully. There have been no Polio infections in Nigeria now for 4 years. This effectively means the African continent can be officially declared Polio free. Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran are the countries which still have cases recorded or in the case of Iran can not be determined. (Supplied via Polio News)

Headlines:

- On 25 August, the Africa Regional Certification Commission certified the WHO African Region as wild polio-free after four years without a case. With this historic milestone, five of the six WHO regions – representing over 90% of the world's population – are now free of the wild poliovirus, moving the world closer to achieving global polio eradication.
- Following the certification of the WHO African Region as wild polio-free, Chair of the WHO's International Health Regulations Emergency Committee and of the AFRO Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group **Helen Rees explains the current cVDPV situation in Africa and its implications.**
- The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on polio eradication is an independent body charged with advising and making recommendations to the ministry of health and Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners on polio eradication programme policies, strategies and operations.
- Afghanistan No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases were reported this week.** There are 37 cases reported in 2020 so far while the total number of cases reported in 2019 remains 29.
 - Two cVDPV2 cases were reported in Nangahar province.
 - Six cVDPV2 positive environmental samples were reported; one each from Kunar and Hilmand and two each from Kandahar and Kabul provinces.
- Pakistan:**
 - No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases were reported this week.** There are 65 cases reported in 2020 so far while the total number of cases reported in 2019 cases remains 147.
 - 13 WPV1 positive environmental samples were reported; three in Sindh, four in Balochistan, five in Punjab and one in Khyber Pakhtoon.

Officially reported WPV1 and cVDPV cases as of 18 Aug 2020

Total global cases in 2020: 102 (compared with 71 for the same period in 2019)

Total global cases in 2019: 176

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) cases

Total global cVDPV cases in 2020: 321 (compared with 63 for the same period in 2019)

Total global cVDPV cases in 2019: 369

Polio this week as of 26 August 2020

Country or territory ²	Wild virus type 1 confirmed cases							
	Full year total					01 Jan - 25 Aug ¹		Date of most recent case
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020	
Pakistan	54	20	8	12	147	58	65	24-Jul-20
Afghanistan	20	13	14	21	29	13	37	20-Jul-20
Nigeria ³	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	21-Aug-16
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
Total (Type1)	74	37	22	33	176	71	102	
Tot. in endemic countries	74	37	22	33	176	71	102	
Tot. in non-end countries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No. of countries (infected)	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	
No. of countries (endemic)	3	2 ³	2 ³	3	3	3	2	
Total Female	30	13	7	18	72	34	45	
Total Male	44	24	15	15	104	37	57	

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BROUGHTON ISLAND EXCURSION

As requested by many, a Vocational/Social day has been organised for Sunday 20th September.

It will be an all-day event - 10:15AM to 5:00PM.

Cost is \$80 per head and includes lunch and guided walk.

Numbers are limited to 40 (due to Covid) so bookings are restricted to members and their partner or a friend.

Acceptances need to be finalised by next Friday 4th September.

The outing will be discussed at next week's meeting and names will be taken.

Think about it now so you know on Thursday if you are going or not.

Contact Phill Smith if you need further details. 0407291542

COPY: <https://hail.to/australia-new-zealand-rotary-conference/publication/aCy2ouY>
TO YOUR BROWSER TO SEE DETAILS AND REGISTER FOR THIS FREE EVENT.



Virtual Rotary International Conference.

September 19th and 20th.
1.5 hours per day from 12 noon. Easy to register and no charge.

Speakers include RI President Holger Knaack and RI President Nominee Jennifer Jones as well as many other great Rotary colleagues.