



District Governor
Brian Atkins

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NEWSLETTER: 12th December 2013



ROTARY CLUB OF CESSNOCK DISTRICT 9670 SPOKE

PRESIDENTS REPORT

There are few greater privileges for a Rotary Club President than to welcome new members into the club. It was my great privilege last night on behalf of the members to welcome Alison and Stephen Crane into our club. We look forward to many times of fellowship and community activity with them. I must also acknowledge the role of Director Robyn Drayton and now President Nominee, in introducing these new members to our club. That Robyn only met Alison and Stephen around three months ago and introduced them to our club speaks highly of Robyn's Rotary testament within the community. Thank you Robyn. It also speaks highly of our club and its members, as having attended a number of meetings Alison and Stephen saw something of which they wanted to be part. So members feel good. I sometimes wonder if what we are doing is working but when those who have little knowledge of Rotary or of us, see within us that of which they want to be part, we must be doing something significant. So members feel good.

Next week again will be a special night when we have a testimonial to a greatly loved and respected Rotarian in Don Perkins. Please come along and make Don's night another great Rotarian experience for him. President David.



President David and Robyn Drayton are indeed proud to introduce our two new members. Steve and Alison were not only our newest members but they were also the two newest Members of the Rotary International family, well at least for a short amount of time anyway. There are probably a few more who have joined since. We as a club welcome both of you as members of the Rotary Club of Cessnock and trust that both of you will have a long and enjoyable time for many years to come, as Rotarians. Alison is already nominated as next years treasurer, now that most certainly is how to start off on the right foot.



The Rotary International Toast was done by our esteemed Rotarian Graham Lidbury. It was to the Rotary Club of Talouse in France and to the three members who started that club. From memory it was a butcher, a chicken farmer and a restaurant owner or chef. The story went along the lines that they didn't know what to do with all the left over chicken livers, so they started a Rotary club where they were able to use up the produce as pate for the entre. It proved so popular that they ended up with many members who wanted to become Rotarians and hence a successful Rotary Club was born. No wonder Graham was our Membership Director, having such insight to how some clubs get their members. Graham even brought along some of their pate. Well Graham your down to do the International Toast again, don't forget to bring some more of the pate.

THANKS FROM VICKI

President Elect Vicki Steep thanked all of us for a wonderful effort at the Hunter Valley Lights Spectacular. It was a real great effort by a lot of our members to volunteer to supervise the many people who visit the gardens at this time every year. Vicki would also like to remind us that she needs volunteers for the 10th - 26th January 2014 to do the same. Vicki has also started the Bunnings BarBQ's and its another chance to volunteer on the 15th December 2013 from a 9.30 start to about 2pm. Let Vicki know next meeting.



ROSTER 12th December

INTERNATIONAL TOAST	Graham Lidbury
TELLER:	Maley/S Jackson
WELCOME TO GUESTS:	John Jowett
INTRODUCE SPEAKER:	Don's Friends
GUEST SPEAKER	Don Perkins
VOTE OF THANKS:	Greg Bevan
FINE SESSION:	Peter Carver
STEWARDS:	All members

19th December

Christmas Party

Peter Carver
All members

FUTURE EVENTS

12th Dec - Don Perkins Tribute.
19th Dec - Christmas Party

Meeting time is 6 for 6.33pm

Apologies to Graham Lidbury by 11am on Thursday on phone **0419 682 573**

or Email: lids@westnet.com.au

REMEMBER: you will be charged for your meal if you are absent and do not apologize.

THE END OF AN EPIC JOURNEY



Our Past 9670 District Governor, Greg Bevan is ending his 14 years involvement with the District 9670 Youth Exchange Committee. Greg and Lorraine have been there to support both Inbound and Outbound students in all those years. It will be a time of sadness next Rotary Changeover to see Greg and Lorraine leave the committee. Greg has just completed the last Debriefing weekend for the 2014 Outbound students and I noticed a tear in Greg's eye as he said farewell and best wishes to everyone involved. Denise Parkes (pictured with Greg) will be taking over the role as Chairman. I asked Greg to sum up his involvement and this is Greg's response:

"It all started at the District Conference in Mudgee 2000, on the Saturday evening when I struck up a conversation with the then District Youth Exchange Chairman John Lamb. We developed a great friendship which continues to this day. I took an outbound student to Tocal in July 2000 and I was asked could I stay for a few minutes as DG Garry Foster wished to speak to me. It was an invitation to join the District Youth Exchange Committee.

A few minutes turned into 14 years. Lorraine and I were made to feel very much a part of the scene and in a short period I was Chairman for South Africa (as they called it in those days).

We had some excellent young local people go to SA and some outstanding students come from South Africa. This was successful until 2004 when Sarah Farrell was placed in a tragic situation on her exchange to SA and the committee felt that we should cease exchange with that country for duty of care reasons.

From this point I was asked to be YEO for Austria and Switzerland and have maintained those contacts since. Two very cooperative Chairs in those countries have made it very enjoyable dealing with those two Ladies, Ursula Gurvasi and Doris Weidenholzer.

I was asked to be District 9670 YEP Chairman in 2010-11 but declined and took up the role in 2011-12. I will complete the role in June 2014. An amazing privilege which all started from an innocent conversation at a District Conference."

FINAL BRIEFING SESSION AT Tocal FOR 2014 OUTBOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS



A great weekend at Tocal before our Outbounds fly out in January for a wonderful year that will probably change their lives. It will definitely change their views on the world after living in another culture away from family and friends, which they have grown up with. But its time to spread their wings for a journey that may become the best year in their lives. They will meet and live with a new family and they will have to adjust to a new school plus make new friendships all over again. It's not for everyone but for the brave at heart. We won't see them for a whole year, but look forward to a debriefing session upon their arrival back home. That's when we will see the difference in each student, when we judge the more confident person compared to the one we farewelled for a new lifestyle on the other side of the world. All the best to everyone of you.



Both the Inbound and Outbounds lined up inside the Chapel at Tocal College. The briefing weekend was a great Success in preparation for all our Outbounds. They were given their final destinations and some have already been able to correspond with their first host parents, which will be an added bonus upon their arrival in January. They will be leaving a pretty hot Australia to a place which will be a very cool place of destination. Sometimes it could be as cold as minus 20 - 30 degrees, in some destinations. Just another thing to adjust to.

The District 9670 Youth Exchange Committee are known for their commitment in preparing the new exchange students as well as is possible. Anne Burnett (our past exchange student from Canada) has been recently part of our team and she involved the students in a number of sessions during the weekend. Chairman Greg and all other committee members are very proud to be sending out a very enthusiastic group of students. There is no doubt that they will be fantastic Ambassadors both for Rotary and for Australia. The committee wish you a great year ahead.

NEW YEARS EVE



ALL INVITED TO MEG & JOHN JOWETTS AT PINDIMAR

CELEBRATE NEW YEARS EVE.....ALSO HELP OUR EXCHANGE STUDENT MATT CELEBRATE HIS 17th BIRTHDAY IN FINE STYLE

ARRIVE MID TO LATE AFTERNOON, BRING OWN BBQ OR PICNIC, DRINKS & CHAIRS. YOU ARE WELCOME TO SWIM OR FISH IN THE DAM.....BRING GEAR. PLEASE WEAR SHOES AND SOCKS NOT THONGS AND SANDALS.

FIREWORKS ACROSS THE BAY AT 9.00PM AND MIDNIGHT

LIMITED ACCOMODATION (CONTACT MEG AND JOHN) OR BRING OWN VAN IF INTENDING TO STAY OVER NIGHT

Yesterday, scientists in the United States revealed that beer contains small traces of female hormones. To prove their theory, they fed one hundred men twelve pints of beer and observed that 100% of them started talking nonsense and couldn't drive.

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year. - Victor Borge



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DECEMBER ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

JOINED ROTARY:

Jack Grant - 7/12/1978

BIRTHDAYS:

Wesley Steep - 29th December

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: No November ceremonies ANN



DISTRICT
9670



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