

PRESIDENT: SECRETARY: BULLETIN EDITOR: GEORGE KONCZ

DAVID CLARK JANETTE JACKSON

P O Box 101 CESSNOCK NSW 2325 AUSTRALIA www.cessnockrotary.org.au **NEWSLETTER: 22nd August 2013**



ROTARY CLUB OF CESSNOCK DISTRICT 9670 SPOKE

PRESIDENTS REPORT



Last night was a Board meeting night followed by club assembly. The highlight was however, the reflections in the history of our club by our respected historian Brian Howe. Board meetings beginning at 9.00 pm and continuing until 2.00 am or until the food or lubrication run out must have been a fulfilling experience. What is interesting is that the outcomes of these Board meetings resulted in so much great club activity within the community and fellowship within the club. It may well be argued that a return to those halcyon days of extended Board meetings complete with food and nourishment may be the catalyst of renewed activity within our club. It would certainly test the stamina of Board members but would be a lot of fun. Who would be the Secretary to take the minutes? Indeed the great men and women of the present are the product of the great men and women of the past. Thanks Brian and we look forward to the next episode. We also had our exchange student Mat give a great overview of his first week at school and the various activities in which he was in-

volved. Mat seems to be enjoying his stay as do all exchange students and we look forward to hearing more of his viewpoints on our way of life of which he is for the next year, part. We have embarked on the process of analysing our club and preparing it for the future. I encourage all members to be part of this exercise and be part of the preparation for our clubs significant future. Even at this early stage of responses the most dominate response from members is that we need to improve our fellowship. Please give some thought to how we can do this effectively and share your thoughts with us all.



The photo of Brian and Lois Howe are out from our archives. I wonder if that was just before the Rotary meeting taking place. Maybe an explanation is warranted from Brian next week.

Our exchange student Mat is pictured with his current host parents, Steve and Janette. We all hope you have a wonderful year as an ambassador for Austria and as our youth exchange student in the Rotary Club of Cessnock.



Steve Jackson received the weekly Presidents Award in acknowledgement of the work that Steve put into the BlazeAid Project just after the bushfire season recently. Steve is pictured sitting down mending fences which required replacing on many country boundaries. It would have involved many exhausting hours by lots of volunteers. The Presidents Award is one of the questions in our current survey which has to be filled in by all members. I personally think that it's a great way for our president to highlight an achievement by a member of our club on a weekly basis.



REQUEST FROM TRISH DAVIES

I am setting up a small stall at the Cessnock Races this coming Tuesday and I need another one or two people on the day to: 1) Sit and record any sales plus sell raffle tickets.

2) Help me sell some small merchandise.

We do not anticipate a lot of sales, but a foot in the door is better than nothing. Proceeds from the day are designed to help our RAWCS project "Teachers Assist Kokoda". Helpers are needed from about 11.30 am at the Public Entry gates of Cessnock Racecourse. I am unsure of how long the day will be, but I think we get free entry to the races on the day.

If you can spare some hours on the day, could you please contact me on 0413 760 606 I would really value your assistance - Trish.

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FUTURE EVENTS 21st Aug - Morrisett Function 29th Aug - Muna Presentation which will be a PARTNERS NIGHT

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.



To the Rotarians of District 9670

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Our commitment to Rotary begins with the simple act of coming to our club meetings, putting on our name badges, and sitting down together with our fellow Rotarians. That's where it begins—but not where it ends.

Being a Rotarian is a commitment that extends into so many aspects of our lives: our work, our family, our interactions with others, and the values we hold dear. All of us came to Rotary to get involved, and to make a difference.

We were invited into our clubs because Rotary knew we were capable; we chose to join because we decided to rise to that challenge.

In Rotary service, as in just about everything else in life, the more you put into it, the more you get out of it. If you only put in a

token effort, you won't accomplish very much, and you won't find very much satisfaction in what you do accomplish. But when you make the decision to truly engage Rotary—to bring Rotary service and Rotary values into every day of your life—that is when you start to see the incredible impact that you can have. That's when you find the inspiration, the excitement, and the power to truly achieve.

In the 2013-2014 Rotary year, our theme, and my challenge to you, is Engage Rotary, Change Lives.

You've chosen to wear a Rotary pin. The rest is up to you. Ron D Burton RI President 2013-2014



With energy and enthusiasm, District 9670 is proud to report that the Rotaract Club of the Hunter is active once more. Marissa Patel, Charter Member of the Rotaract Club of the Hunter enlightens us all on the future direction of this new and vibrant club. Marissa was an Exchange student to Spain recently and her enthusiasm has helped to reform the Rotaract Club of the Hunter.









Kati Horvai was our student from Hungary. Claudia and I met up with her in Budapest where she has a unit right in the centre. We did a lot of walking around Budapest and Kati showed off why Budapest is one of the best destinations in Europe. We met her Mum and family who provided a fantastic lunch for us. Claudia managed to see some of the best patisseries in Hungary which was always her first destination.





We met up with Julia from Switzerland, but in Austria. We had two wonderful days with Julia in Innesbruck. We also travelled to Salzburg and other cities around Austria. Catching up with Julia was really special, she is just as delightful as when she was our exchange student. We learned a bit more about her family who has visited Australia a few years ago. The weather in Europe was extremely hot through the whole month of our tour.





I was sorry to have missed Fanny's farewell speech to our club, but we managed to meet her just days after her return to Szombathely. Fanny's family is an example of a wonderful Hungarian family. We were treated like old friends from the minute we arrived at their house. Hungarians drink a lot of Schnapps and I must say that I probably drank more in two weeks than I have in the past three years, and I make my own. We did a few tours with Fanny's family and Attila, her Dad flies model aeroplanes which he demonstrated for us. They also took us to a great restaurant where we had the most amazing Hungarian meals. Boy can the Hungarians eat, even I had to catch up to the pace and of course followed up by some more schnapps. We really enjoyed their company.





Anna from Austria was hosted by Kurri Kurri but I met her on the Ramble and we became friends. We stayed with her family who has a winery and they are the third generation owners. We were taken to the underground cellars where we sampled some wine and wrote our names in the soft underground rock face. We were treated to an evening dinner with some of their best wines. We were there just before they had an art and cultural festival, which took place after we left. Anna's family were very nice and we really enjoyed our stay with them. We then travelled to Vienna which was a big change of pace to the country life.