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ROTARY CLUB OF CESSNOCK DISTRICT 9670 SPOKE

PRESIDENTS REPORT



I think I was hoping that some nice "Fairy" would magically do the report this week with all the activities on this week end, but no such luck so I will do my best to give an update of our week.

The Board meeting was followed by a good turn up of members to enjoy a night of good company and food. Greg and Lorraine are back from touring the southern parts of Victoria and along the Great Ocean Road, they are already planning there next escape. Ivor has returned from the ramble or safari, as this year's group have termed it. He only let us in to a small snippet of his adventures but

is planning a slide night when he collates all the photos he and others took. Graham Farish joined us again, looks like a regular booking, great to have you along. As I will be away in Perth for the next meeting, which is Anzac Week, I thought I would do a short speech on the meaning of Anzac and a couple of the traditions surrounding this day. The 'Poppy" which in Australia is traditionally worn in November on Rememberance Day was the flower growing wild in the fields of some of the biggest battles of the war, this year it is also being teamed with the "Rosemary" which is the emblem for remberence, it is also associated with improving memory since ancient times. Rosemary has a particular significance for Australians as it is found growing wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Then we had the Anzac biscuit, which during the first world war, the friends and families of soldiers and community groups sent as food parcels to the men overseas. The biscuit was first known as the Soldiers' Biscuit. The current name, Anzac Biscuit has as much to do with Australia's desire to recognise the Anzac tradition and the Anzac biscuit as part of the staple diet at Gallipoli. The Anzac biscuit is one of the few commodities that are able to be legally marketed in Australia using the work "Anzac" which is protected by Federal Legislation. This being the 100 year remembrance celebration the 25th April, it will be a day of reflection for not only those who lost their lives at Gallipoli, but all who have served to make this wonderful country of ours a safer and better place to live.

Our day at Bunnings last week proved very profitable, we raised just under \$1100, great effort to those who cooked, served and cleaned up. Just a reminder that the next one is scheduled for Sunday 28th June, so mark it in your diaries now.

Don't forget those who have booked in for the Morisset dinner on the 13th May you have to pay or your seat will be given to the first people who have their money in.

Thanks to all who added their name to the roster for the Lovedale Long Lunch on the 16th and 17th May (hope the weather improves form today). We now have 10 for the Saturday and 6 and one morning for the Sunday, please ask around your friends if they can spare even half a day on Sunday with possible 2 more for the Saturday, minimum requirement is 10 but 12 makes the load lighter and gives us all a chance to have a spell at regular intervals.

LAST ROTARY MEETING

Louise gave a great toast to all the Rotary Clubs of Iceland seeing as how this will be one of her stops during her round the world cruise only to be reminded by Graham Lidbury during the fine session that he too had toasted Iceland. The difference being Louise toasted ALL the clubs. Graham felt a bit unloved when everyone started putting fines on him especially for not attending the BBQ as he usually does, our fine jar was quite healthy by the end of the night. Never mind Graham, I guess you will come up with something next time to get us all back. Graham couldn't even win a bottle of wine this week with the winners being Ross Lidbury and Peter Carver. A great week we was had by all at Meg and John Jowett's, I will leave George to expand on that with his photos. Thanks Meg and John for your hospitality and everyone who attended, this made it a special week end for all the birthdays which were celebrated this week. That's it for now, see you on the 30th. President Vicki









Louise did the International Toast to a place she and hubby Paul will be visiting soon - Iceland.

Our Viking One Iver is back from the Ramble which he enjoyed a lot. We had a small snippet of it in his speech but Iver will give us a more lengthy presentation with lots of photos at a later date.

John Jowett brought along his gorgeous granddaughter Beatrice to the meeting and we were all very happy that Beatrice also did a small song for us, which was done to perfection and very appropriate choice after President Vicki's theme about the ANZACS.

ROSTER 23rd April

INTERNATIONAL TOAST George Koncz TELLER: Margaret Male

WELCOME TO GUESTS: INTRODUCE SPEAKER: GUEST SPEAKER VOTE OF THANKS:

FINE SESSION: STEWARDS:

George Koncz Margaret Maley George Koncz Steve Jackson Stephen Palummo Margaret Maley

Graham Lidbury Graham Lidbury All members All

30th April

Margaret Maley Margaret Maley

Graham Lidbury All members

FUTURE EVENTS

23rd April - Stephen Palummo

13th May - Morriset High School Dinner

14th May - Peter Lee (Cycling infrastructure)

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

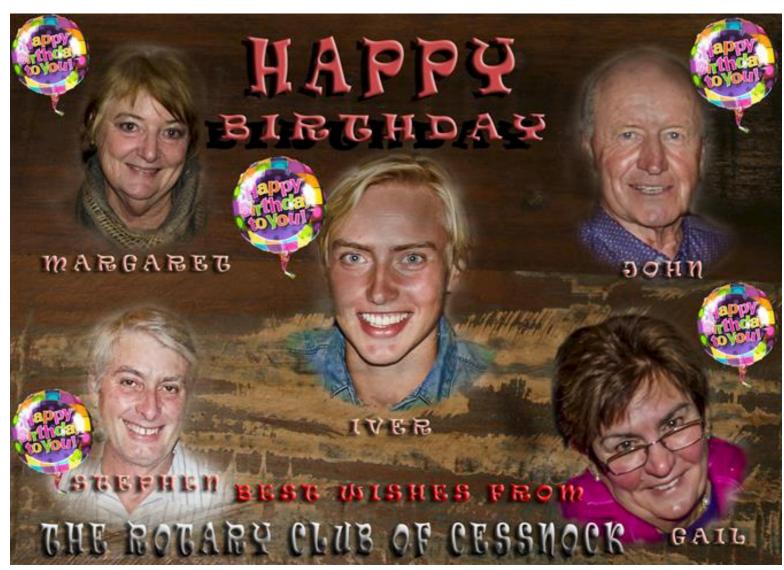
Capricorn Ramble is all over







Cool Dude Iver told me a fair bit about the Capricorn Ramble Safari. It is always such a great trip with just so much to see. The students make even more friends as this safari was a joint effort with three Rotary Districts. Iver also caught up with other Norwegian students when two different groups were in Central Australia at the same time. According to Iver there weren't any major problems on the trip and we are very glad to have him safely back. Group leaders are always in demand to do these trips and it quite often means the difference between a good trip or a great trip.







We celebrated six birthdays at John and Meg's property at Pindimar. I sincerely apologise to Val Calvey for missing her on the birthday card, especially since I actually send her a birthday wish on Facebook and then left her off the card. It is always a real adventure when we travel to Pindimar on any occasion but to have six reasons, made it extra special. Claudia made the birthday cakes but unfortunately she wasn't able to make it to the party due to work commitments. Iver did a great job of cutting and serving out the cakes.









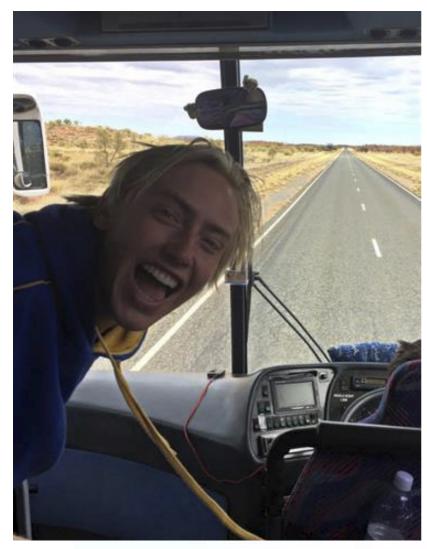








While some of us were down at John's dam, there were two very clever young ladies as you can see. Mara Vogel staying at Kurri Rotary did a perfect hand stand on John's surfboard. We all thought that was just outstanding and then Anne Burnett being one of our own past exchange students, didn't want to let our team down. So Anne went out very gingerly on the board and almost fell a few times just paddling out. Then she decided to try a hand stand which didn't work, but then did a head stand instead. Wow what talented exchange students. Iver was next but he declined the offer.







Happy Birthday again Iver, we all love you.

SMART ASS ANSWER #5

A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets. As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket and he opened his trench coat and flashed her.

Without missing a beat, she said, 'Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub.'

SMART ASS ANSWER #4

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, ' Do these turkeys get any bigger?'

The stock boy replied, 'No ma'am, they're dead...'

SMART ASS ANSWER #3

The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was topped for speeding rolled down his window. I've been waiting for you all day,' the officer said.

The kid replied, Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could.'

When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

Wally

A small boy named Wally lived in Punchbowl, a suburb in south-western Sydney.

None of his classmates liked him because of his stupidity, especially his teacher, who was always yelling at him, "You're driving me mad, Wally".

One day Wally's mum came to school to check on how he was doing.

The teacher told his mum honestly, her son is simply a disaster, getting very low marks and even she had never seen such a dumb boy in her entire teaching career.

The mum was shocked at the feedback and withdrew her son from the school, and even moved out of Sydney to north of Newcastle.

25 years later, the teacher was diagnosed with an incurable cardio disease.

All the doctors strongly advised her to have heart surgery, which only one surgeon could perform.

Left with no other options, the teacher decided to have the operation, which was successful.

When she opened her eyes after the surgery she saw a handsome doctor smiling down at her. She wanted to thank him, but couldn't talk.

Her face started to turn blue, she raised her hand, trying to tell him something, but eventually died.

The doctor was shocked and was trying to work out what went wrong, when he turned around he saw our friend Wally.

He was working as a cleaner in the hospital, and had unplugged the oxygen equipment to connect his vacuum!

Oh for God's sake. Don't tell me you thought Wally had become a heart-surgeon?