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NEWSLETTER: 26th March 2015



ROTARY CLUB OF CESSNOCK
DISTRICT 9670
SPOKE

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Our Board meeting this week was followed by general discussion, fellowship and another quiz by Graham Lidbury.

Items from the Board meeting included the Effie O'Neil debate which will be held on the 4th June this year. David Clark will collect and distribute the Bowelscan kits to chemists for those who want to take part in this worthwhile scheme.

Mt View has sent an application for club sponsorship for the 2015 MUNA weekend. An invitation has been extended to club members to attend the Girl Guides AGM on Tuesday 31st March at 6.30pm, any members wishing to attend this function please RSVP to Kylie Gray on 0410323627 at cessnockguides@bigpond.com. All other correspondence submitted has been forwarded to Janette Jackson to members for their information and comment.

David Clark, George Koncz and Alison Crane interviewed applicants for the Mayoral Academic, presentations will be made on Tuesday 21st April, please advise David if you are attending the awards.

We welcomed Graham, who was introduced to our meeting by Louise. We hope you enjoyed the meeting and hop to see you again next week.

Iver was absent from our meeting this week due to all the exchange students travelling to Forster to take part in the District 9670 Conference.

As reported to the meeting, we had a busy week with the GSE team visiting from Germany. Vocational visits were followed with winery visits, a picnic in the grounds of Hunter Valley Gardens picnic area and a home visit to David and Val's for a game of golf and croquet with a BBQ dinner for which members provided very appetising dishes, even one of the team contributed a cake drizzled with chocolate for desert. Sunday saw us sailing around Nelson Bay while being plied with prawns, oysters and champagne followed by a BBQ lunch.



Graham from the Wine Country Motor Inn was a guest of Louis's and he is surrounded by a few friendly members.

FORSTER CONFERENCE



What a wonderful District 9670 Conference at Forster. DG Gerrard McMillan and his team put on a very entertaining, informative and definitely a fun conference. The guest speakers were outstanding and the night functions were very casual and really enjoyed by Rotarians, guests and students alike.

The conclusion to the end of a great conference was the introduction of our new District team of leaders. Adrian Roach is the incoming DG with DG Elect Steve Jackson and DG Nominee Helen Ryan following. Next years Conference will be held in Mudgee which will no doubt prove to be yet another great conference.

ROSTER 26th March 2015

INTERNATIONAL TOAST TELLER: Robyn Drayton
WELCOME TO GUESTS: Margaret Maley
INTRODUCE SPEAKER: Louise Selmes
GUEST SPEAKER: David Lennon
VOTE OF THANKS: Peter McCloy
FINE SESSION: David Clark
STEWARDS: Graham Lidbury
All members

2nd April

David Clark
Margaret Maley
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
Graham Lidbury
All members

FUTURE EVENTS

25th March - Kurri TAFE Dinner
26th March- Peter McCloy
9th April - Maryka Gibson Project Officer-
Community Visitors Centre
11th April - Bunnings BarBQ

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.

YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS AT THE CONFERENCE



Our exchange student Iver was in his element as you can see. He was a major part in the skit put on by the exchange students and all of the students put on a fantastic performance which was quite entertaining at Forster in the District 9670 Conference. Unfortunately the Bridge Walk was cancelled due to the rain but that didn't dampen the enthusiasm by all present.

DISTRICT 9670 CONFERENCE



President Vicki at the Conference & we received an Award.



The Inbound German GSE team did a nice presentation and we were introduced to the Outbound GSE team.

One of the most moving speeches was by RI President Gary C.K. Huang's Representative, PDG Kamal Sanghvi of the Rotary Club of Dhandbad India. What a passionate, moving presentation on the avenues of Rotary and in particular Polio Plus and the huge importance of family in your membership drive.





CAPRICORN RAMBLE HAS STARTED



They are off on the Capricorn Ramble which is the highlight of nearly every exchange student around the world. It certainly is in District 9670. Our district is combined with two other districts this year, which means there are more friends to be made. I think that our club is going to miss Iver's weekly rambles, but we will probably get a big dose after the trip of a lifetime. Have fun Iver, which goes without saying.



ShelterBox is mobilising aid and a Response Team from Australia and New Zealand as the Pacific paradise of Vanuatu counts the awful cost of Cyclone Pam

We, as a club have agreed to support this most devastating disaster with a donation to Shelter Box, At the District Conference this weekend, it was announced by Shelter Box Australia that the most needed items for Vanuatu is the “repair kit” in lieu of a shelter box. This kit includes equipment to help rebuild rather than rehouse in temporary shelter, the kit contains a hammer, spade, nails, tarps and other equipment to assist in rebuilding structures and shelters.



March is Literacy Month

Basic education and literacy is one of the Foundations six areas of Focus. Everyone has the right to learn to read, write and enjoy the power, pleasures and independence of being literate.

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Combating illiteracy has been a major focus of Rotary International since 1986 – and for good reason. UNESCO estimates there are over 800 million illiterate adults in the world and about two-thirds of them are women. Millions more are functionally illiterate, without the reading and writing skills necessary for everyday life.

“Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right.... It is the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential.” Kofi Annan Secretary-General of the United Nations 1997-2006 –

Literacy is something most of us take for granted, but, for others it is the journey is hard work and in some cases unattainable. Is there something we as a club can do to help in this area, it can be as simple as attend a local school or preschool and give a couple of hours to a reading class, or giving reading packs.

World Water Day - 16 to 22 March 2015



768 million people lack access to water sources.
2.5 billion people have no improved sanitation.
Drop by drop, we can help make a difference for people in Bangladesh, Kenya, and Ethiopia. Glass by glass, you can raise awareness and funds to provide clean water.

Don't forget we have a social function on Wednesday night with the dinner at Kurri Kurri TAFE and our meeting of Thursday with guest speaker Peter McCloy.

Your President, Vicki



THE END