

The Waratah

February 2019



Rotary's Peace and Conflict Prevention, Resolution Month

Our club is embracing this theme by attending The Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise joint Meeting on 4 April to hear guest speaker and Peace Scholar Stephanie Woollard.



Our Webmaster AG Chris McGrath has posted links on our website about Rotary's Peace Fellowships and Promoting Peace – check out our website!

Monday 4 February 2019 – Board Meeting and Club Assembly

The Board meeting, as always, was well attended with our Rotary business being conducted in a very professional manner. Secretary Bob shared all relevant information with the members at the club assembly that followed.



Deborah gave us an update on our visit to the Shortland Wetlands on 4 March together with her recent visit to the Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise when they presented a representative from "Shine for Kids" with a generous donation from their Christmas raffle. Deborah will keep us up to date on the opportunity of assisting "Shine".

Brian Atkins was given a standing ovation from his fellow Rotarians upon his arrival at the meeting to congratulate him on his recent OAM.

Ros, Chris and Neville took home the gifts from our fellowship draw, with Ros also drawing the Jolly Joker (without success). Good donations came from Fred's fining session.

Madeleine briefed the members on the draft plans for our 50th Charter Celebration night on 17 June and called for volunteers to join the committee. Plenty of assistance is now available, Chris and Helen taking the "lion's share" having the historical records at their home.

Our club received the Shirley Stanley Trophy for our work with youth and young adults from Greenhills Maitland Club as joint recipients 2017-2018. The trophy has been engraved and will be returned to the District Governor in preparation for the upcoming District Conference.



A reminder to all members and their families that the Friday Chill **FREE** concerts being held every Friday night at 6:30pm-8:30pm in Pacific Park will continue through February/March.

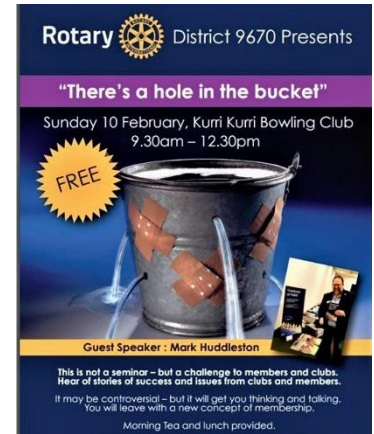


Please contact President Howard for more information

Sunday 10 February 2019 – District Membership Seminar

The District held a free Membership Seminar at Kurri Kurri Bowling Club which was attended by over 80 District leaders and members from our Rotary clubs. Our club was represented by Chris and Helen McGrath, Clarice Hamling and Madeleine Atkins.

The keynote presenters were PDG Tim Moore from Melbourne and Mark Huddleston from Adelaide. Both Rotarians offered much advice and inspired all those present to think outside the box when it comes to encouraging new prospective members and engaging with current members to retain their involvement. A very worthwhile seminar.



Monday 11 February 2019 – Fellowship Night

In President Howard's absence, Madeleine chaired the meeting. We had a stunning meal enjoyed by all. Clarice shared her thoughts on the District Membership Seminar she attended with Chris and Helen McGrath and Madeleine Atkins on Sunday 10 February at Kurri Kurri. We have several notes of interest to discuss with the Board over the coming months.

Fred was in charge of the Jolly Joker, Fellowship and the fining session, so the Treasurer had plenty of money to bank this week. All fines were inspirational.



The members did an impressive job of trying to answer ten questions from the Australian Citizenship Application "test" form.

This activity was attempted with the friends of Zara's House in mind, just how difficult the task would be with English as a second language, and that the applicants only have 10 seconds to answer each on-line question. Our members were given 20 seconds, and some members could have done with more time!

Our final fun game for the night was "what's in my pocket". Teams of two had a list of twenty items and had three minutes to lay them on the table (everything from a \$100 note to a band aid). Of course, the ladies' team with their large handbags won the game!

Thanks everyone for participating in such a fun manner. A great night of fellowship.

Monday 18 February 2019 – Guest Speaker Dennis Overton

Dennis Overton, a representative of Colour Blind Awareness and Support Group Australia, gave an enthralling presentation that should be heard by many more Rotarians as it affects 10% of the male population and 5% of females.

The presentation was comprehensive and information, and I am glad I collected his brochure to be able to refer to the details. Here is a short summary:-

- A list of "famous" people who are colour blind – including Rod Stewart (singer/performer), Bill Clinton (Ex US President) and our very own Vet and Television Presenter Dr Chris Brown.
- Colour blindness is mainly hereditary, with 10% of men and 5% of females affected. 20% females are carriers



- Colour blindness takes many forms, some people see no colours, others grey, outlines, blue only, or red and green.
- Dennis believes the laboratory tests given to evaluate the problem should be a “job test” as this is a very large issue in the workforce
- 1 million Australians are affected including 187,000 children. We have two million female carriers
- Colour blindness can be also acquired through accident, diabetes, medicines etc or inherited.
- Colour awareness comes from our brain, not our eyes and we each need “rods” and red, green and blue “cones” for perfect colour sight. 50% of our brain is used for colour vision.
- Women have better colour vision than men



Dennis went on to show some extremely interesting slides on what a colour blind person would see. The difference between “normal” vision and defective vision was a surprise with the lack of red and green hues the most common issue.

Colour blindness affects many day-to-day activities we don’t think about like viewing a sunset, seeing if fruit and vegetables are ripe, reading weather charts and webpages with coloured backgrounds, bus and train routes that are colour-coded and the traffic lights! It also affects job opportunities like Police, Fire, Train, Marine, Defence Forces, Commercial Pilots and Electricians and Chemical workers. People with colour blindness have excellent camouflage skills, excellent night vision and an acute sense of smell.

Dennis expressed his concern that children are not tested as they enter their school years as it affects their education. Help is always at hand with the support group and a computer program “Colour Blind Assist” for children that spells out a colour when the pointer is activated. We should look into the Healthy Kids Check as it does not include colour blindness.

Our evening was over too soon as we had much more to learn about this interesting area in our community’s well-being.

Friday 22 to Sunday 24 February 2019 – District Assistant Governors and Chairs of Committee Training weekend



Congratulations to Clarice Hamling for being invited to become an Assistant Governor under District Governor Graeme Hooper for the 2019-2020 Rotary year. Clarice attended the weekend training for AG’s at Warners Bay and was joined by partner Victor for the more social occasions.

District Leadership and Development Trainers Christine Walmsley and Pam Wellham did an amazing job with a richly diverse program.

Madeleine attended the District Chairs training on Sunday as the upcoming Interact Chair.

Monday 25 February 2019 – Social Night out with Partners and Friends



Another one of the classic social nights out with Waratah 13 club members, and six partners and friends. The hotel meal was huge, and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. It certainly gave everyone the opportunity to catch up for a chat!
We will take a rain-check from the members who didn't attend!



Request from Alan Palmer

A friendly reminder Alan and Judy are saving postage stamps for their church, so if you have any mail, please save your stamps for them. Stamps need to be intact.

Upcoming Meetings in March 2019

- 4 March (No Night Meeting)** 9:00am Guided Tour of Shortland Wetlands and 11:00am morning tea
- 11 March** Board Meeting and Club Assembly
- 14 March** Official Opening of Zara's House (numbers to President Howard please)
- 15-17 March (Friday to Sunday)** District Conference in Forster
- 18 March** Guest Speaker Annette Parkes-Considine (Hunter Diabetes Centre)
- 25 March** To be confirmed – Social night

What the District and other Clubs have on offer: (check the District website) March 2019

Sunday 3 March – Paddlefest

Friday 15-17 March – District Conference (see below)

Sunday 17 March – Loop The Lake

Sunday 24 March – Maitland Sunrise Golf Day and Race Meeting for The Rotary Foundation



DISTRICT 9670 CONFERENCE

If you haven't already booked
– it's not too late.

15 – 17 March 2019

Club Forster, Strand Street, Forster

All welcome

2018-2019 Executive

President: Howard Mole

Mobile: 0417 223 673

Email: howardm@live.com.au

President-Elect: Howard Mole

Secretary: Bob Main

Treasurer: Grant Pettigrew

Public Officer and WWC: David Winkelmann

Sergeant-at-Arms: Fred Neal

Club Service Director: Grant Pettigrew

Community Service Director: Kevin Goodwin

Youth Services Director: Howard Mole

Vocational Service Director: Michael Grant

International Service Director: Roslyn Parton

What other Rotary clubs have on offer for our consideration:

February 2019

The **Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise** invites our members to hear an inspiring guest speaker **Stephanie Woollard** – a Rotary Peace Scholar.

Her topic will be her outstanding work in Nepal.

This event is certainly worth our consideration at 6:30pm on **Thursday 4 April**.

We would need to car pool to Singleton.

Stephanie has been just acknowledged as an OAM in the Australia Day honours.

Dinner with Stephanie Woollard

Thursday April 4, 2019 6:30pm
Singleton Diggers

Tickets \$35
Available at the Club reception
Includes a two-course meal

Please note:
No tickets will be made available at the door.
Tickets can be purchased at the Club or over the phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling (02) 6572-2622.

Through motivation and leadership, Stephanie has moulded an organisation; Seven Women, that truly makes a difference to thousands of people. Awarded Rotary International Responsible Business Award at the United Nations in 2016, Woman of the Decade at the Women's Economic forum in 2017, and Masters in Peace and Conflict Research 2016 Nominee for Australian of the Year.
<https://sevenwomen.org/>

Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise

KEEP IN CONTACT

VISITORS WELCOME

Website: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/10174> Facebook: www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwaratah

Rotary International Website: www.rotary.org

Rotary Club of Waratah meets on Mondays 6:15pm Memories Function Centre

3 Charles Street Wallsend NSW 2287 Australia

For more information email

Webmaster AG Chris McGrath: cjm@internode.on.net

All correspondence to PO Box 57 Waratah 2298

