



# The Waratah

May 2018



**The Rotary Club of Waratah meets on Mondays at 6:15pm Memories Function Centre**  
**3 Charles Street Wallsend NSW 2287 Australia**  
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Website: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/10174>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwaratah](http://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwaratah)  
Rotary International Website: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**Thought for the Month “Don’t knock the weather: most people couldn’t start a conversation if it didn’t change once in a while.”**

## **What’s been happening at Waratah Rotary?**

### **Tuesday 1 May 2018 – Leadership and Community Service Training Callaghan College Waratah Campus**

President Madeleine commenced a four-week program with a select group of year 7 and 8 students from Waratah Campus to enhance their skills on leadership and learn more about community service. The students are part of the Student Representative Council and “MAD” grade teams at school who have been identified for their leadership qualities.

The first session was getting to know each other and learning about the work of Rotary locally, nationally and internationally. The students were given the opportunity to speak about their own strengths and interests. A most rewarding experience for the participants and “teacher” alike.



### **Monday 7 April 2018 – Fellowship and Video Night**

We had a few members away this week but again it was a relaxed friendly night. AG Chris updated us on Project Pied Piper and our Mothers’ Day roster with East Maitland Club.

After a delightful meal we enjoyed the PowerPoint from Chloe Bachelard that didn’t work on 28 April and President Madeleine reminded us of Chloe’s positive comments on her experience so far in Australia.

We also enjoyed a few slides on Brian and Madeleine’s recent trip to the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast.



### **2017-2018 Executive**

**President: Madeleine Atkins**  
**Mobile: 0447 523 221**  
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**President-Elect: Howard Mole**  
**Secretary: Bob Main**  
**Treasurer: Chris McGrath**  
**Public Officer and WWC: David Winkelmann**  
**Sergeant-at-Arms: Allan Pettigrew**

**Directors:**  
**Club Service: Fred Neal**  
**Community Service: Grant Pettigrew**  
**Youth Services: Michael Grant**  
**Vocational Service: Bob Cherry**  
**International Service: Gerry Davies**

We acknowledge every member of our Club is committed to our programs with full involvement whenever possible.

**Truly “Service Above Self”**

## **Tuesday 8 May 2018 – Leadership and Community Service Training Callaghan College Waratah Campus**

This week's session was very surprising and interesting with the interaction from students. We spoke about the importance of time management and responsibilities once a commitment was made.



President Madeleine spoke to the students about forming a team and what skills were required, and then lead the students with a leadership scenario. It was based on finding out a school friend was being dishonest and what would the students do and what are the consequences of their decision. It stimulated a great deal of discussion.

Another scenario was "being connection", an exercise in the difference to hearing someone speak and actually listening to what they say. This was also every well received by the students.

To conclude the session, we touched on where to start when thinking about a community service project. Thank you to teacher Anne Grieve for organising the students and an available classroom.

## **Monday 14 May 2018 – Board Meeting and Club Assembly**

For a small club we seemed to have a lot to discuss at the Board meeting this month. With the upcoming end of Rotary year and the changeover dinner to organised, there were several items outstanding.

A long discussion was required with the Treasurer's advice on how to spend any surplus funds available to the Board. The Board will make these decisions via email over the coming few weeks. President Madeleine thanked the members who covered the Mothers' Day stalls roster on behalf of the club.

## **Tuesday 15 May 2018 – Leadership and Community Service Training Callaghan College Waratah Campus**

This week we concentrated on public speaking.

Each student was asked to present an off-the-cuff one-minute presentation on a subject given to them on the day. This meant no preparation and learning the skill on how to "think on your feet". It was also every interesting to see how much or how little of the one minute allotted was used by each student. After two presentations each, the students then spoke on a topic of their own choice which meant a much stronger and confident presentation.



## **Monday 21 May 2018 – Guest Speaker Jason Scriven and Annette Gebhardt from Hunter Multicultural Communities**

What an enlightening evening we had with Jason and Annette from the Hunter Multicultural Communities (HMC) Centre. We had so much to talk about, we went well over time and Allan Pettigrew now has the opportunity of fining the President – BIG TIME!

The Ethnic Community Council has been operating in Newcastle for over 40 years and has now become HMC. The organisation was set up for advocacy and support. In the late 1940's many of the emigrants were housed at a camp in Greta and they will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary shortly. HMC is looking at the history of residents, with so many untold stories to share.



Both Jason and Annette commented that HMC was very much like Rotary in our commitment to the local community. They do a lot of work with health and wellness for the aged and find as their friends become older they revert to their native language. They have the support of several multi-lingual people to call on for assistance. HMC is now keen to investigate more support for young people. They are aware of men's health issues and are very fortunate to have the Waratah Men's Shed on

site to address this issue. **They have a special "Spanner in the Works" day planned for June 16, and everyone is invited.**

On a personal note, Jason and Annette have know each other over many years with Jason coming to Australia last December and Annette returning home in September 2017. Both spent many years in England, but that is another story for another night. Annette is the Executive Officer and Jason is using his special skills on a volunteer basis at present.

HMC can access 7 to 8 buses (8 to 22-seater) for their transport service, usually travelling from Port Stephens to the Central Coast.

The Hunter Multicultural Communities also boasts a very fine community garden where they grow produce and make preserves. This is a great project for newer emigrants. They also conduct around 16 hours each week teaching English. They pride themselves on no discrimination within their friendship groups.



HMC are working on being more self-sufficient regarding funding as grants are very difficult to obtain these days. They have limited funding from the Federal and State Governments. The Registered Clubs offer funding however they have \$170,000 to share among applications totally around 3.2 million dollars.

The Hunter Multicultural Communities called on local high schools, colleges and TAFE to design a new logo for their centre, receiving 60 nominations. The winner (from a TAFE entrant) will be announced on 28 May. Here is the new logo. Thank you, President Fred, for thanking our special guests and we look forward to seeing them both again at Waratah Rotary.



## **Tuesday 22 May 2018 – SRC Interact Meeting**

President Madeleine had a brief meeting with Sheena Roberts, the Callaghan Waratah teacher who is taking over the SRC group from Anne Grieve. Madeleine briefed Sheena on the update of the program, and due to mathematics exams, the students will be meeting next week for their final training session. A meeting has been made with Madeleine, Anne and Sheena to discuss the progress of the group into the future.

## **Monday 28 May 2018 – Dravuni Island Project**

Today we received the long-awaited photograph of the teacher and some of the students on Dravuni Island receiving the boxes of supplies we sent.

Although the boxes look a little worse for wear, the contents were very well packed. Congratulations everyone involved.



## **Monday 28 May 2018 – Merewether High School Teacher Lisa Burnett and Students Nevenya and Heyma**

We were delighted to welcome our sponsored Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) team from Merewether High to speak about their experience. MUNA was held in Muswellbrook on 25 and 26 May with teacher Lisa Burnett supporting the team. Lisa has been involved in MUNA teams 6 times over the past decade.



Our Merewether HS team was debating for the country Cuba this year with only four weeks to prepare their arguments. They dressed in the national costume of Cuba for extra effect. The Italian team had pizza costumes, with some wearing saris etc.

There were 17 teams this year participating, so Merewether HS did extremely well in receiving a "Highly Commended" from the panel of judges.



They debated a resolution on human rights which was of great interest to Nevenya and Heyma. They also debated a free zone and denuclearisation of Myanmar. The young ladies said the team from Russia agreed to the denuclearisation, except for themselves. They think China abstained from voting. Debates focused on the overall perspective, so not a great deal of details were discussed.

Nevenya and Heyma found the program most inspiring as it gave them an understanding on how countries can work together for peace, and it assisted them in their debating and research skills. They will be recommending MUNA to other students at Merewether High School. They appreciated being able to have a meeting with a student who had been successful at regional level and placed second at the National competition prior to attending the program.

The young ladies were introduced by David Winkelmann and thanked by Bob Cherry.

We also welcomed Paul Marshall and Alan Palmer to the club again and look forward to their next visit.

## **Tuesday 29 May 2018 – SRC Interact Meeting with students and teachers**

President Madeleine conducted the final session with the year 7 and 8 students. This week's session was information about the Interact Club, a round table discussion on a community service project and the students' evaluation of the four-week program.



Madeleine then had a meeting with teachers Anne Grieve and Sheena Roberts about the future of the SRC leadership program.

The school are keen for Waratah Rotary to continue working with the students on a community service project and monthly public speaking exercises. Dates for the meeting have been set for the remainder of the year.

### **FOOTNOTE:**

Thank you everyone for your contribution to our monthly newsletters over the year. I trust you have enjoyed the diversity of meetings of the Rotary Club of Waratah.

## Member's Duty Roster May and June 2018

Date	Rotary Grace	Fellowship	Introduce Speaker	Thank Speaker	Celebrate a Rotary Club
4 June	Fred Neal	Doug Tudor			Madeleine Atkins Rotary Club of Seoul South Korea
18 June	Neville Chant	Roster to be confirmed with official program			
25 June					

## Plans at the Rotary Club of Waratah in May 2018

4 June	Joint Board Meeting and Club Assembly
11 June	No Rotary – public holiday
18 June	Club Changeover Night
25 June	To be confirmed
Check our website for all details	

**Members of the Rotary Club of Waratah**  
**Giving Service Above Self .... And Making a Difference**

