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| UBMS NEWSLETTER  *From the editor:*  *This is my first newsletter, so please be kind and let me know if there are other things you would like to see each month. This is a bumper issue with a number of last year’s activities included in way of a catch up. If anyone has information or photos about any of our projects and activities please try and get them to me by the middle of each month.* | | | February |
| UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS   * 20/2/24: Robert Bredin, District Club Visioning Chair. * 5/3/24: Heather Shepherd from the 'Older Women's Network'. * 12/3/24: Bethany Merciera (RYLA), * 9/4/24: Paul Rogers talking 'Ethics'.   UPCOMING EVENTS   * Social week outing Sunday 25/2/24, drinks and nibblies at Piercarlo’s * DCaf every 1st and 3rd Tuesday * Vanuatu visit will be in early April * Woollies BBQ 9/3/24 * Rotary District Conference, Central Coast, 15th &16th March   *Photos kindly provided by Michael Small and Jennifer Hartnett* | AMAROO EQUINE VISIT  UBMS and Katoomba rotary were welcomed to Amaroo by Belinda Muiser and Kristy Southers and their team who offer equine assisted learning, psychotherapy, coaching, and counselling.  After an introduction about their work, we did a short workshop on the importance of connections and awareness to wellbeing. After this we had the opportunity to meet and interact with their amazing horses.  A delicious morning tea was then enjoyed by all, before many of us headed off to have lunch at the Megalong Tea Rooms. | | |
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| 2  UBMS NEWSLETTER February | |  | |
| RIDE THE TRAIN TO END POLIO: 24TH OCTOBER  Members from several Rotary Clubs participated in this train ride. Many travelled into town, collecting donations on the way, while some just travelled to the base of the mountains at Emu Plains.  UBMS Rotary donate $1 000 and were represented on the day by Jennifer Hartnett, Peter Shehadi, and Sandra de Gruchy.  Jennifer Hartnett said that they all had a great day out and were pleased to help out for such an important program as The International Rotary Program to End Polio as it has been such a great success to date.  These happy photos were taken at Emu Plains Station. | | | |
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| *Photos kindly provided by Jennifer Hartnett* | | |

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| 3  UBMS NEWSLETTER February | | |  | |
| SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE  This is a nation-wide challenge run by the University of Newcastle with the assistance of Rotary and other sponsors. Each State/Territory runs challenge days with the final winner competing in the National Final, held this year at Sydney Olympic Park on 27/10/23. The teams are randomly allocated secret activities to complete. Two examples of this year’s activities are:  **The bridge**: students build a lightweight strong model bridge that must carry a buggy of gold ingots from one side to the other. The lighter the bridge the more points earned.  **Return to mars**: students are given recyclable flat chasses, wheels and axles, Meccano like rods and rubber bands to build a buggy that can carry a load over an undulating Martian like terrain as quickly as possible.  Joan and David Hart attended the Final, supervising the Return to Mars activity, and can attest to the value of helping at this activity. They enjoyed the fun with liquid nitrogen demonstrations after the introductions were done, and thought the day was a fantastic experience. They especially enjoyed seeing all the students having fun, while demonstrating both their teamwork and problem-solving skills. | | | | |
| David and Joan | Negotiating the Mars like terrain | | | Fun with liquid nitrogen |
|  | | *Photos and info kindly provided by David Hart* | | |

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| 4  UBMS NEWSLETTER February | | | | | |  | | |
| UBMS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023  Ann and Les opened their wonderful home up for a great Christmas celebration. The weather was kind, the venue relaxing and the company was happy and jovial. The food was also excellent and plentiful, with Bob and many others serving the many platters of hors d’oeuvres to the hungry. A good time was had by all, especially during Pat’s very enthusiastic singalong! | | | | | | | | |
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| AUSTRALIA DAY 2024  Though the weather was hot and windy, and we were only able to give away about half of our sausages, those that did participate had a good celebration. | | | | | | | | |
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|  | |  | | | *Photos and info kindly provided by David Wallace and Phill Isaacs* | | | |
| 5  UBMS NEWSLETTER February | | | | | |  | | |
| AIRPORT VISIT: 28/11/23  This was an interesting day out that David Hart organised for us. First a look at the vastness of the new airport, then an informative talk about the building process, its functionality and future additions. There were also lots of multimedia activities to engage with.  We then went off to have lunch at the Luddenham Village Café. Despite the weather they accommodated us very well and the service was very good. I must say the size of the serves were truck stop in size. My steak sandwich, which while good quality and tasty, took two extra people to eat the huge amount of chips, plus half the steak sandwich had to go home for my dogs! | | | | | | | | |
| *Runway and building plans for all stages*  *Photos kindly provided by David Hart* | | | | *A considerable amount of the building is nearing completion* | | | | |
| *ABCD UPDATE*  Below is an extract from the ABC inc. President’s update, as you can see work is coming along, Phill reports they are hopeful of getting to lock up stage in March. | | | | | | | | |
| *DCAF UPDATE*  As Liz has already informed us the DCaf group was a recipient of Westfund’s 2023 Community Grants.  DCaf and Liz are featured in Westfund’s publicity for this year’s grants, as you can see with screen shots retrieved from Facebook to the right. | | |  | | | |  | |
| 6  UBMS NEWSLETTER February | | | | | |  | | |
| BACKPAGE   * Under the new regionalisation our club is in the Penrith/Nepean/Blue Mts RCG 3 with 2 clubs from D9675, St Marys and Mt Druitt, also being included in this RCG. * Piercarlo, Phill, David Wallace and 6 other volunteers (mostly from TAFE or Rotary) are off to Vanuattu from 31/3/24 to 6/4/24 * Pride of Workmanship – Don Mackenzie (Blackheath) is chair. We have a meeting to get the ball rolling on19/2/24.      * Birthday wishes for a happy, healthy year ahead go out to our Jan and Feb children: John Curry, John Rankin, and Michael Small. | | | | | | | | |
| COMPETION 1: to find a good name for our newsletter  I have some home-made jams for the person who emails me a great name for our monthly newsletter that every likes | | | | | | | | |
| COMPETITION 2: word and number puzzles  A jar of blackberry jam to the first non- board member to email me the correct   1. word in the anagram: hypnotist shoes 2. use of **all** of the following numbers: 100, 25, 3, 8, 1, and 50; to arrive at a solution of 449. *(each number can be used only once, processes can involve any combinations of basic math:* ***x****,* ***/****,* ***+****,* ***-****)* | | | | | | | | |
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