



CAMBRIDGE COURIER

Information about our next Rotary Meeting (usually held at Cambridge Bowling Club, 7.10 for 7.30 am):

Wednesday 1st April 2026

Activity: Club Outing to the House of Honey followed by Lunch at Sittellas

On Duty: Club Host: n/a

Set up/Pack up: n/a

**Coming up soon
 Wednesday 8th April 2026**

Activity: Diana Blackie – Galup/Lake Monger Past, Present & Future

Club Host: Christine Tonkin
 Set up/pack up: Peter Pearse

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- *The Rutter Park Picnic was a great success. Thank you, Cate, for organising it*
- *It was suggested that we car-pool for 1st April outing*
- *The last day of the WDJCC season was a vibrant occasion, and thanks go to all involved, especially Jeremy & Jeanette*
- *Changeover will be on Wednesday 24th June*

NEWS ABOUT OUR CLUB MEETINGS, ROTARY GENERALLY, & OUR WORLD

Our latest meeting was a Club Forum – an in-house discussion of relevant matters of importance and interest to the Club and its Members.

Topics on the Agenda included:

- The Rotary Regionalisation programme
- A summary of our Club’s financial position
- Volunteers are needed in the future for front desk back-up and for assistance at the WDJCC on Friday evenings during the summer
- Our ongoing involvement with sending teachers to Surabaya to mentor staff at a local school
- Various other projects including the Four Way Speaking Competition; the Driver Training programme; collections on behalf of the RSL; Citizenship Ceremonies; ANZAC Day Ceremony
- Future Speaker possibilities



Q: Know any good rope jokes? A: I’m a frayed knot.

Birthdays: Peter Wagner (01 Apr)
Wedding anniversaries: none this time
Rotary anniversaries: none this time



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Information about our next Rotary Meeting (usually held at Cambridge Bowling Club, 7.10 for 7.30 am):

Wednesday 8th April 2026

Activity: Diana Blackie – Galup/Lake Monger: Past, Present & Future

On Duty: Club Host: Christine Tonkin

Set up/Pack up: Peter Pearse

Coming up soon
Wednesday 15th April 2026

Activity: Roy Stall – The History & Development of the Chinese Navy

Club Host: Peter Wagner

Set up/pack up: Jeremy Wood

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- Max Puddey and Don Holywell will be away for a while. Jeremy Wood will run the meetings in Max's absence
- Changeover will be on Wednesday 24th June

NEWS ABOUT OUR CLUB MEETINGS, ROTARY GENERALLY, & OUR WORLD

We didn't hold a 'normal' meeting this time; instead, those who could went on a lovely outing to the Swan Valley for the day.

The day started at the House of Honey on the Great Northern Highway between Herne Hill and Baskerville, and during the two hours or so that we were there, we were treated to a tour, tastings, watching the goings on in a glass sided hive, refreshments and, of course, shopping! The Queen bee lives for a few years, but the workers survive for only a few weeks and the drones for a couple of months. It was amazing to discover the wide range of flavours that the honey comes in, and also the selection of honey-based drinks that are available, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, including mead.

Our group then proceeded to the Sittella Winery at Herne Hill for a lovely lunch on the restaurant balcony overlooking the beautiful vineyards and breath-taking countryside. Our thanks go to Frank and Eileen for organising this wonderful day out.



The early bird catches the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese

Birthdays: Peter Wagner (01 Apr); Peter McSkimming (03 Apr)

Wedding anniversaries: Rod & Margaret Lane (03 Apr)

Rotary anniversaries: Peter Pearse ('87)



CAMBRIDGE COURIER

Information about our next Rotary Meeting (usually held at Cambridge Bowling Club, 7.10 for 7.30 am):

Wednesday 15th April 2026

Activity: Roy Stall – The History & Development of the Chinese Navy

On Duty: Club Host: David James

Set up/Pack up: Don Holywell

Coming up soon
Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Activity: TBA

Club Host: John Gartlan

Set up/pack up: Mike Graham

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- *Changeover will be on Wednesday 24th June*
- *Cate & Jeremy attended recent Citizenship Ceremonies*
- *Jeremy & Christine will attend Anzac Day School Ceremonies, but we need a few volunteers to cover other schools as well*
- *Don & Graham are updating the Surabaya Karya Mulia school items*

NEWS ABOUT OUR CLUB MEETINGS, ROTARY GENERALLY, & OUR WORLD

Diana Blackie is a dynamic force, a walker, a nature lover and a volunteer, and she formed the Friends of Galup/Lake Monger in 2022 with the help of Christine Tonkin in order to improve Lake Monger and its surrounds. The lake is still a bureaucratic orphan because no single authority is responsible. Since white settlement and despite good intentions, everything possible was done to degrade an otherwise healthy wetland because everyone wanted it to look like a lake in an English park. Mistakes included exotic trees replacing native ones; introduction of water hyacinth which, after 30 invasive years, was declared a noxious weed; establishing landfill including decomposing food and attendant blowflies; and allowing carp to proliferate (which are now being stunned and caught through electrofishing). Originally, the wetland was bigger and extended to Britannia Park, beyond where the freeway now is. Diana’s group conducts regular working bees to re-establish suitable flora, particularly plantings of mini-forests, and they lobby Council and the Water Corporation about toxic algal blooms, as well as urging for upgrades of informative signage. The current Town of Cambridge 10-year plan does not address the issue of water quality. The hope is that swans and pelicans will eventually return. Fortunately, the long-necked turtles seem to have survived.



Despite the cost of living, have you noticed how popular it remains?

Birthdays: Peter Wagner (01 Apr); Peter McSkimming (03 Apr); Roger Veary (14 Apr)

Wedding anniversaries: Rod & Margaret Lane (03 Apr)

Rotary anniversaries: Peter Pearse ('87)

IF A MEMBER CAN'T ATTEND, OR WANTS TO BRING A VISITOR, PLEASE ADVISE LIBBY LARSEN BY EARLY MONDAY MORNING
Either by telephone (0438 462 917) or email (libbylarsen@westnet.com.au).

Bulletin Editor: Roger Veary



CAMBRIDGE COURIER

Information about our next Rotary Meeting (usually held at Cambridge Bowling Club, 7.10 for 7.30 am):

Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Activity: Mel-lifluous Memories – Mel Capper

On Duty: Club Host: Peter Pearse

Set up/Pack up: Mike Graham

**Coming up soon
Wednesday 29th April 2026**

Activity: Trevor Quick – Dangers of Meningitis

Club Host: Cate Barlow

Set up/pack up: Christine Tonkin

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- *Changeover will be on Wednesday 24th June. Details will be advised a little closer to the time*
- *Jim Berry is organising the usual ANZAC Day collection, and he needs the names of people who can help as soon as possible. Please contact Jim at your earliest convenience*

NEWS ABOUT OUR CLUB MEETINGS, ROTARY GENERALLY, & OUR WORLD

Roy Stall had the floor this week, and he came to tell us all about the history and development of the Chinese Navy. Roy has a BA in Asian studies from the ANU and has worked in a variety of fields including seven years in the Royal Australian Navy. In the year 2000 he changed direction and started teaching English as a second language, specialising in Maritime English. This took him to Indonesia, Japan and China, and whilst he was in China he visited a number of centres including Shanghai, Qingdao and Dalian - where he was housed in the Foreign Experts Apartment Building. Roy presented us with a slide show that gave a comprehensive overview of the Chinese Navy, and the fascinating images included a huge Chinese junk with eight masts and a Soviet warship in Dalian which is now used as a backpacker hostel. Ships of over 500 tonnes communicate by Maritime English, and so Roy's knowledge of the language was invaluable to his observations about the development of the Chinese Navy. At one stage China bought an old aircraft carrier from Australia to see how it was structured, and now they have developed their own sophisticated versions. China claims vast areas as territorial zones, meaning for example that they feel free to build naval bases on atolls around the Pacific. China's total naval assets far exceed those of the USA.



If your grandchild won't take a nap – is that resisting a rest?

Birthdays: none this time

Wedding anniversaries: none this time

Rotary anniversaries: none this time

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Wednesday 29th April 2026

Activity: Trevor Quick – Dangers of Meningitis

On Duty: Club Host: Cate Barlow

Set up/Pack up: Christine Tonkin

Coming up soon

Wednesday 6th May 2026

Activity: Gary Mack - Collapse of the International Rules-based Order and the Attack on Democratic Principles Around the World

Club Host: John Gartlan

Set up/pack up: Graham McHarrie

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- *Changeover will be on Wednesday 24th June. Details will be advised a little closer to the time.*
- *Jim Berry still needs a couple of people to assist with the usual ANZAC Day collection. Please contact Jim asap.*
- *There is a Fish Extravaganza at the Bowling Club on Sat 25th April. Please contact Jeremy for details.*

NEWS ABOUT OUR CLUB MEETINGS, ROTARY GENERALLY, & OUR WORLD

Our speaker this week was our newest member, Mel Capper, who grew up on a grain and sheep farm in rural WA. Mel attended St Mary's School and was selected to go on a Rotary Exchange to Denmark for a year – a wonderful experience which resulted in her dreaming in Danish! Graduating from Curtin University with a BSc Physiotherapy in 2006, Mel started work with Therapy Focus in their Graduate program. Mel and her husband then moved to Indonesia for 2 years, and she worked with Women with Disabilities Indonesia in Makassar, facilitating the development of inclusive education. After returning to Western Australia Mel took up a post at Child Development Services as a Senior Physiotherapist for 6 years. Full time parenting of her 2 boys (who are now 13 & 10 years old) followed, and then Mel returned to work as an Early Childhood, Early Intervention Officer with Wanslea and NDIS. Mel currently works as the principal practitioner of Early Moves which provides physiotherapy support in places of work and play. Her goal is to support movement and participation throughout peoples' lifespans in an enjoyable and sustainable way. In addition, Mel has completed training in a number of other fields such as observation skills and paediatric-specific conditions. She loves to travel and really enjoyed visiting India in particular.



I used to play the piano by ear, but now I use my hands

Birthdays: Graham McHarrie (24 Apr)

Wedding anniversaries: Jeremy & Jeanette Wood (25 Apr)

Rotary anniversaries: Jeremy Wood ('14)