

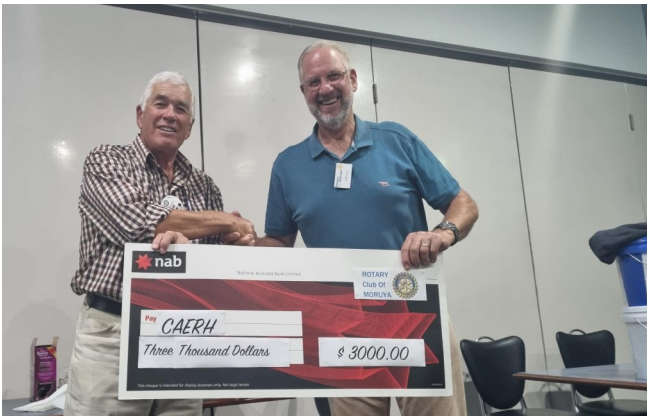
**Invocation.** *For good food, for good friendship and the privilege to serve we give thanks.*

**Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do.** *Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?*

## SHIRL'S SHENANIGANS

The parade at Saturday's Mardi Gras was a wonderful showcase of the community's humour and pride. Rohan and Sue organised many of the myriad of formalities, the gazebos, chairs, collection buckets, volunteer schedule, sausage and onion rolls. A special treat was the visit to the granite quarry on Sunday, commentary by Christine Grieg and a time for many of us to work, talk and enjoy the event.

**CAERH** Carers Accommodation Eurobodalla Regional Hospital - now has a bank account



- At Tuesday's meeting Treasurer Jeff Proud gave a large symbolic cheque for \$3,000 to Steve Young, Secretary of CAERH. This was from the redirected proceeds of last year's Race Day.
- On Wednesday the Race Day Committee voted that the funds from this year's Easter's Race Day will also be given to CAERH.
- Next Thursday Steve, John and I have been invited to enjoy the Narooma Rotary's Pride of Workmanship for 2023 and to receive a cheque from their raffle.
- Last week Steve went to the Night Owl Quilters to be given \$1,000. This was via an initiative of Vere Gray.

Pete Smith and I have given a presentation to the Moruya Golf Club.

*Shirl*



Assuming that the next Mardi Gras and River Lights show will be in two years time, now is a good time to jot down some thoughts on how Rotary's share might then work out. This year Rohan and Sue are the only two Rotarians who are members of the Chamber and it was decided that they would be the subcommittee to organize the day's program.

Sue has commented "It is my absolute belief that without Rotary this event would not have happened." The fact that we were heavily and enthusiastically involved certainly showed Rotary in a good light. However in two years time we will be older and less fit. One area where we could look to lighten our load involves the marquees. Do we need so many? It needed a very early start and hard work to pick them up. Sue met opposition as she tried to persuade Market stall holders to vacate their space so that the marquees could be set up. Each marquee really needed four people and we saw some of our women struggling. So next time it might be that we invite all stall holders to remain in situ if they so wish, and we limit marquees to the Rotary information centre and perhaps a few select others.

Catering by and large is best left to outside caterers. Throughout the afternoon, ice creams and soft drinks seemed to be popular, but late afternoon and evening showed a surprising lack of interest in food. This was apparent in our sales of sausages in rolls and bottled water. Last year we sold around 300 sausages, and, buoyed by that number, expected to do much the same this year. However, and despite the failure to arrive of two expected food vans, we sold only 100 sausages and gave away 25, 18 bottles of water, and gave away 10. So, in two years time will we go to the hassle of transporting and setting up the Rotary barbecue?

Another thought –maybe next time we could resurrect the work done on the famous bicycle and take part in the actual parade?

In no way do these suggestions diminish our high regard for the work of Sue and Rohan. "What a fantastic effort and experience put in by Sue and the committee." Wrote Steve.

We would all agree.

**President Shirl's Board.** *Vice President* Andrew Elek; *Immediate Past President* Chris Manahan; *Secretary* Andrew Elek; *Treasurer* Jeff Proud; *Director Club Service* Keith Armstrong; *Meal Numbers* John Hayes; *Program* John Gillett; *Bulletin* John Sewell; *Membership* Peter Smith; *Director International* Shirl Hayes; *Director Vocational* Pauline Gleeson; *Director Community Service* Tony Armstrong; *Director Youth Service* Rhonnie Sourh; *Rotary Foundation* Keith Armstrong; *Catering Projects* Tony Armstrong, *Protection* Col Jay; *ShelterBox* Alan Shephard.

## ClubRunner Webinars

Our District 9705 inherited and are successfully using the District version of ClubRunner which had been bought in 2016 by District 9700. Several clubs in the district are using the Club Version. We don't use it but perhaps we should.

ClubRunner has announced a series of Webinars starting on April 14th until April 23rd. They offer both beginner and advanced level training sessions covering various modules, by role on the club and district versions. Registrations are now open on [www.clubrunner.com/training](http://www.clubrunner.com/training)

Duty	This Week 21 March	Next Week 28 March
Badges	Pizza night at Yumaro 48 Campbell Street 6.30 for 7pm	Cletus Heffernan
Invocation/Toast		Mervyn Jamieson
Meet and Greet		Col Jay
Cashiers		Chris Manahan John Nader
4 Way Test		Michel Nader
Introduce		-----
Thank		-----

**Birthday:** Bronwyn Jay

## ShelterBox Update

The March edition of Rotary Down Under reports a plethora of disasters. Ukraine and Pakistan. Cyclone Gabrielle in New Zealand. The Lismore Floods. All deserve our financial assistance but overshadowing all are the earthquakes in Turkiye and Syria and their aftermath of homeless and starving suffers.

ShelterBox, as Rotary's Project Partner, already has a team in Istanbul, assessing the need for tents, mattresses, thermal blankets, clothing, solar lights and other essentials.

We have not run a ShelterBox morning outside the swimming pool since before the pandemic. In view of the new priorities, perhaps our old displays, based on the box and its contents, will need some change. Meanwhile, page 14 of RDU gives options for making our personal donations to ShelterBox's Turkiye and Syria responses.

## Last Sunday at Quarry Park

As part of the Mardi Gras program Rotarian Christine Greig ran two visits to the Quarry. She reports: *We had two tour groups with roughly 40 people in each group. I spoke about why I have such an interest in the quarry, the construction of the park, the history of the Granite in Moruya and the story of the quarry.*

*The tours last year were successful but council had concerns about traffic control and parking.*

*I felt it was much easier this year and having the bus (thanks Steve Young and Marshall's Buses)*

*Being able to conduct the tours has been a goal for many years.*



March 17 to March 19	PETS and Club Assembly	Merimbula Service Club—
March 21	Yumaro Living	Pizza Night—survival kit etc Partners Night.
<b>March 22</b>	<b>ANU Medical Students</b>	<b>Dinner at members' homes</b>
March 28	Social evening	
<b>April 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>RYDA</b>	<b>At the Race Course</b>
April 4	TBA	<b>Cinders is now on 11 July</b>
<b>April 8</b>	<b>Races</b>	<b>Rotary Easter Cup. John Spencer will be calling for names this week.</b>
April 11	Board Meeting	
April 18	Ken Hutt	Mt Everest Conquest
April 25	Social Evening	
May 2	Vocational Award	
May 9	Board Meeting	

## Quarry Park—Chatbots and AI

I asked Chatbots to write me an essay on Moruya Quarry [chat.openai.com](https://chat.openai.com)

Here is an extract from the lengthy reply: *The quarry was opened in the 1850s and was initially used to extract slate and granite. However, it was the discovery of high-quality sandstone in the late 1800s that led to the quarry's boom period.*

So I asked it again: *The quarry is known for producing high-quality granite that was used in many notable buildings and monuments across Australia. In the early days, the granite was transported by ship from Moruya to Sydney and other cities for construction projects. No mention of Dorman Long.*

So based on this small sample, we can conclude that Christine's future as a tour leader is not threatened by Artificial Intelligence. The score would seem to be: **CHRISTINE 10, AI NIL.**

Editor