



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?*

Derek's Dissertations

We are fast approaching Rotary's 119th birthday, with Rotary founded on the 23rd February 1905. In those early days, I doubt whether Paul Harris and his fellow Rotarians would have dreamed the organisation would become what it is today, with 1.4 million Rotarians, over 46,000 clubs in over 200 countries.

RI President in 1916/17, Arch Klumph established the Rotary Endowment principle: "Carrying on, as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept **endowments** for the purpose of doing good in the world, in charitable, educational or other avenues of community progress, or such funds could be well used for extension work." After this Endowment Fund was initially established at the International Convention in 1917, it became The Rotary Foundation in 1928. Last year, our Foundation raised over US \$427 million and funded more than 1,100 global grants, 470 district grants, and 310 disaster response grants to help communities thrive. The Rotary Foundation is OUR charity of choice, and as such we should, and DO support our Foundation.

Last week we again enjoyed the hospitality of Sue & Jeff Proud. Again, thanks to all who provided salads or desserts, and special thanks goes to Jan Young for her scrumptious individual lemon merangues. This was the last of our summer BBQs, and so this week we return to the MGC for our normal regular weekly meetings. I look forward to seeing you all back at MGC for fun, fellowship, and Rotary project planning.

Thursday morning, Chris Manahan, Allan Shephard, John Sewell, and I went to the heritage cemetery at Toragy Point. We were met by Daniel from NSWNP who has been working with Chris on the cemetery reparation project. Accompanying Daniel were three more NSWNP rangers who will be taking over the management of the cemetery. Daniel outlined the two headstones that need to be moved and two that need to be lifted up, plus the two gravesites requiring work on the surrounding fences. Chris has more details on the work required. We are very much limited by heritage requirements, but working within those limitations we can enhance this historic cemetery.

Derek

Last Week at the Prouds



One of the delights of our annual visit to Sue and Jeff is that there is always something new and imaginative to see. This year it was the fire pit—a cheerful fire in a large, half buried container surrounded by a square wall with ample sitting space inside. Endless entertainment possibilities, though our table layout meant that we did not really do it justice.

Sue's plates of nibbles and Bronwyn's speciality pies opened the menu. The basic sausage main course was well supplemented with member's contributions as were the plentiful desserts.



There is no doubt that our January meetings help our well deserved reputation as a friendly club—well illustrated here by this picture of five of our hardest workers.

Today's Customer Relations

"Your call is very important to us. Please enjoy this 40-minute flute solo".

President Derek's Board. *Vice President* Allan Veness; *Immediate Past President* Shirl Cornish; *Secretary* Vere Gray; *Treasurer* Jeff Proud; *Director Club Service* Steve Young; *Meal Numbers* Steve Young; *Program* John Gillett; *Bulletin* John Sewell; *Membership* Peter Smith; *Director International* Shirl Cornish; *Director Vocational* Peter Smith; *Director Community Service* Chris Manahan & Steve Picton; *Director Youth Service* Rhonnie South; *Rotary Foundation* Phil Armstrong; *Catering Projects* The Armstrongs, *Protection* Col Jay.



Progress at Toragy Point Cemetery

A rained on meeting with four Parks and Wildlife people on Thursday established the permissible parameters of our work. The wooden fence in the South East corner is to be repaired—one of the four corner posts needs major surgery. The layout and partial burying of the remaining pieces of marble headstones has been laid down in detail by the Park’s specialist. A joint working party is planned for the first week in March-more details before then.

Australia Day Events

This year, Council decided to hold its Citizen ceremonies last Thursday evening, an event not open to the public. Instead of the usual Australia Day Breakfast, we linked in with the Show Society. Their Official Opening Ceremony was at noon on Saturday in the Show Ring. Three Rotary/Lions awards were presented:

- Helen KOP – 2024 Moruya Citizen of the Year.
- Mackenzie BARNETT-HAYES – 2024 Moruya Junior Citizen of the Year.
- Margaret CROESE – 2024 Recognition of Community Spirit & Achievement Award.

A copy of the citations for these three awards is at pages 3 & 4.

President Derek comments:

“Saturday, I attended the official opening of the Eurobodalla Show. Prior to the opening Gary Traynor drove a Jeep to the stage and presented to me the awards to the Lions & Rotary Citizen Awards for 2024 as detailed above, followed by the local Army Cadets and Girl Guides performing a flag raising ceremony. The member for Bega, Dr Michael Holland M.L.A. announced and read the bios, the ESC Mayor Matt Hatcher presented the awards along with me and Lions President Jenny Jeffery.

John Gillett has arranged that the three recipients will attend our meeting on the 13th February, which will be a partners night.”

Derek

Duty	This Week 30 January	Next Week 6 February
Badges	Michel Nader	Allan Shephard
Invocation/toast	Steve Picton	Phil Smith
Meet & Greet	Rhonnie South	Peter Smith
Cashiers	Jeff Proud Fred Power	Wendy Smith Fred Power
4 Way Test	John Sewell	John Spencer
Introduce	President Derek	Rhonnie South
Thank	The Company	Phil Smith

Birthdays: John Nader, John Spencer, Lauren Barnett. Phil Armstrong.

Anniversaries: The Heffernans and the Youngs

Jan 30 Tuesday	Back to Golf Cub	Derek Anderson
Feb 6 Tuesday	Amanda Boot-alazza Leo Chrisallo	RYLA experience
Feb 13 Tuesday	Board Meeting	Three Australia Day Awardees
Feb 20 Tuesday	Kerry Boyenga	Indigenous Language
Feb 27 Tuesday	Social Evening	
Mar 3 Sunday	Country Qualifier*	TBA
Mar 5 Tuesday	Moruya Museum	Partners Pizzas ??
Mar 8-10 Weekend	PETS & District Learning	Batemans Bay
Mar 12 Tuesday	Board Meeting	
Mar 19 Tuesday	Emeritus Bishop George Browning	Palestinian Issue
Mar 26 Tuesday	Social evening	
Mar 30 Saturday	Rotary Easter	Charity Race Day

*** John Spencer plans to begin work on the roster for March 3rd Races , so let him know of your availability.**

A thankyou letter from Mandy Hillson

The volunteers (well the Committee) of the Arts Council of Eurobodalla, had a Working Bee this week to clear out the rubbish from under the Art Central building. The skip that Rotary kindly paid for was full to the brim!

Again we would like to thank Moruya Rotary for its generous donation.

Kind regards
Mandy



**THESE ARE THE CITATIONS PREPARED BY GARY TRAYNOR IN SUPPORT OF
THE THREE ROTARY/LIONS AWARDS FOR 2024.**

Helen KOP – 2024 Moruya Citizen of the Year

For the past fifteen years, Helen KOP has performed the role of 'Advocate' for returned servicemen and women. This is a voluntary role and Helen donates countless hours of her time into supporting veterans helping them to attain their entitlements and benefits.

Helen's work as an 'Advocate' for veterans largely goes unnoticed. It is a role which the 'civilian' community is likely very unfamiliar and the work of an Advocate is rarely, if ever, placed in the public eye.

Relentlessly, Helen KOP donates her time and knowledge as a proud volunteer, to improve the health and lifestyle of Veterans from the Shoalhaven in the north, through to the Victorian border. In fact, she is the only person who is performing this demanding role and as such, Helen is currently juggling around 130 + cases. This quantity is far in excess of her quota. Further to this, we have been made aware that Helen has offered support to some Veterans located Interstate who have nobody else to turn to for help.

Only the veterans themselves, and perhaps their immediate family will truly know the amount of work that Helen has quietly performed in the background of our community.

If that is not enough, Helen also volunteers her time in support of local, not for profit organisations who cry out for help. Helen even stepped in at very short notice last month to assist the Lion's Club when they desperately needed assistance at the Moruya Carols By Candlelight.

Helen, your community recognises and acknowledges your exhaustive work, and it is my pleasure to announce you the 2024, Moruya Lions Club & Rotary, Citizen of the Year.

Mackenzie BARNETT-HAYES – 2024 Moruya Junior Citizen of the Year

Mackenzie BARNETT-HAYES is a recent school leaver and has entered the local work force. Whilst most of you will not know her name, you may recognise her face if you have attended any of the commemorative ANZAC Day services within the Eurobodalla over the past three years.

Mackenzie was nominated by the Tuross Memorial Gardens Committee, based on her commitment shown in support of the RSL movement since 2021. 'Macca' as she is known, is one of the fine young people who has performed the role of Catafalque Party at our many services each ANZAC DAY.

To give you an idea of her commitment, Macca starts her day at 3.30am and performs catafalque duty at the Tuross Dawn Service. She then travels as fast as the legal speed limit will allow, to be in time for the Tomakin morning service. Macca would then attend the Moruya main service, finally finishing her day at the Moruya Dusk Service at the World War 2 bunkers near Moruya airport. A record four services every ANZAC Day.

Further to this, young Macca was a supporter and active participant in the 2022 and 2023 Moruya Mardi Gras Street parades, when young people were desperately needed. She is always the first to step forward and volunteer for community events, bringing other youngsters with her.

The Tuross Garden Committee states that Macca possesses the rare traits of Reliability and Dependability and consider her a shining example of Australian Youth and future leader in our community. Macca will be there again this coming ANZAC Day and has volunteered to train up any future youth who wish to step up to the challenge.

It is my great pleasure to announce Mackenzie BARNETT-HAYES as the 2024, Moruya Lions Club & Rotary Junior Citizen of the Year.

Margaret CROESE – Recognition of Community Spirit & Achievement Award 2024

If you do not know the name of Margaret CROESE in the town of Moruya, then perhaps you have been living on another planet.

Marg's teaching career spans nearly five decades with many of those years spent at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School in Moruya.

Generations of Moruya residents, have been taught and influenced by Mrs C.

Her compassion and care of her students has always been on open display and it's the reason why Marg has a cult following among past and present students.

At lunch or recess time, if Marg is not out in the playground with the children, she can be found in a classroom teaching guitar to a group of future musicians. This routine has been followed throughout her teaching career.

Marg's love of music and her beautiful singing voice are also the backbone of the Moruya Sacred Heart choir where she can be found and heard at each service over the weekend.

She also is a supporter of youthful musicians each year, leading the St. Mary's School Choir at the Moruya Carol's by Candlelight. In addition to this, Marg has been a committee member of Carols By Candlelight and she has also performed to our elderly citizens at the local IRT Village.

Faith and Humanity are key to Marg's life, and this is clearly evident in all that she does for the Moruya Community. Marg has been a contributing member of the Catholic Church Parish Council and has been influential in shaping the response to social justice and pastoral care issues in our local community.

When not at school, Marg can be found either visiting patients at Moruya Hospital or the Moruya IRT facility, and if she is not there, then she is out dropping a care package or some home cooking to someone in need. Marg certainly lives her faith and her strong sense of humanity caring for others makes one believe there really are angels walking amongst us.

Marg's service to the Moruya Community over such a long and sustained period is certainly worthy of recognition and it is my absolute pleasure to announce her, the Moruya Lions Club & Rotary 'Community Spirit & Achievement Award' recipient for 2024.



Photographs courtesy of *Moruya Mail*

