

Volume 59 No. 41 15 May 2017 — Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

# Discussion—The refocus of Our Club

A discussion was started and moderated by Graham Timms with members actively and enthusiastically participating.

Some members felt that we are not fully aware of the activities carried out in the Avenues of Service and we need more input and updates.

One members said we should consult to the local Police, Ambulance, Firepersons, Council to get a feeling of that the community needs.

Another member said we need to restart the dinners for Eight and Restaurant evenings.

#### Michael Tyler said (during and after)

As I was driving home last night, I remembered the defining thing that PDG Harold Sharp said at the District Assembly: Rotary doesn't have a problem attracting new members; it has a problem retaining members: for every 2 new members, Rotary is losing 3. (The stats may not be 100% accurate, but the principle reflects what has been happening for a long time.) That's what leads to the conclusion that clubs need to focus on engaging their members (especially new(ish) members) and also caring for them.

This isn't new. It has been said periodically for many years. We should remind ourselves of the object of Rotary, as stated in our constitution:

"The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

*First.* The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; ..."

Usually that's expressed as promoting fellowship or the statement that the first thing that each club needs to do is make sure that its members have fun. That's the fundamental starting point for everything else.

Next, it's long been known that clubs need (a) to involve their members in

# **Discussion—The refocus of Our Club**

worthwhile activities that they enjoy doing and (b) to encourage members to put forward their own ideas and support them when they do. (Of course, one also needs members who are always ready to take up the challenge – whether it's being a driver on Red Shield day or taking on a leadership role in the club.)

Finally, the club needs to show that it cares, by consistently calling absent members and helping them when necessary. (To my mind this falls into two broad categories: (i) showing that the club cares about those who are unwell and (ii) taking steps to [re -]engage those who are disengaged.) This requires more than just an occasional phone call from the club's welfare officer (if we had one).

It was good to have a discussion about such issues last night. Perhaps, as was suggested, we need to spend more time 'doing' in club meetings (whether it's planning, implementing or reporting) and less time chatting and listening to guest speakers. Your editor queried the value of Avenues of Service and said we should focus on community projects

## **Bobbo results**

The Bobbo 2018 profit is \$200,000.00 plus \$23,000.00 paid directly to Lifeline by IAG, a total of \$223,000.00.

Our allocation to charities is

Total	\$57 185 00
RFS AND SES	\$ 1,625.00
KYDS	\$ 5,000.00
EaglesRAPS	\$20,000.00
Lifeline	\$30,560.00

In reality, because our club does more than 50% of the work our community contribution is significantly greater.

2018 is a great outcome for our club. In my 40 years as a member of Rotary I cannot recall a single event which has generated as much profit to distribute to charities.

Bobbo has introduced four new members to our club.

Maybe we need another activity like Bobbo (but smaller)???

# NOW IS THE TIME TO DECIDE !

At our meeting on Monday 1 May 2017 I invited you to think of where you would like to be making a contribution within our Avenues of Service.

For the next Rotary year the Chairs of our various Avenues of Service are

International......Georgina M Youth .....Graham M Vocational .....Michael T Community.....Bob E Foundation.....Chris H

I have been discussing with each of these members their ideas and plans for the next Rotary year. In a couple of weeks the team will meet to share the draft plans and then organise to make a presentation to the Club on Monday 29 May 2017. At this forum, members will be able to hear what the projects/ social activities/fundraising etc are proposed and obtain your feedback.

I encourage you to think of the Avenue of Service you would like to be in and discuss with the appropriate Chair. You can move from your current committee and/or be on more than one.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss any aspect of the above.

Malcolm

BTW...I have now received most Questionnaires and will provide a summary of the key areas.

## Facebook

On Friday, Roger, Malcolm, Linda, Gary, Emyr and Tony attend a Facebook training course in the city.

The purpose is to bring our club up to speed with the use and benefits of Facebook.

We have decided to create a test page for our group of six and when we are up to speed we will edit the club page. This is a competent and passionate group.

At some stage we will encourage/assist all members to create a Facebook page for the distribution of our club information

## Ebicycles

This week I have started riding an Ebicycle, picture opposite.

As we become older and the hills become "steeper" this is a good solution to extend our cycling age to say 85/90 or more??

In my case I have ridden with friends for more than a decade and it was becoming difficult to keep up with them. This situation has reversed.

A number of friends have ridden my bicycle and they become instant converts. If anyone wants a ride please ask

## Lifeline Play and Dinner

#### Thursday 29th June, 2017



Tim Firth's hilarious comedy

Ensemble Theatre - 78 McDougall Street, Kirribilli

Four city-dwelling business men set out on a team-building weekend only to become trapped on an island in the wilds of Tasmania. As day turns to cold, cold night, the men discover hidden vulnerabilities and unexpected strengths as they battle the elements and each other.

Tim Firth's wicked comedy is a masterful look at men trying to make the best of a bad situation while they remain, unfortunately... men.

**Starring:** Andrew Hansen, David Lynch, Craig Reucassel and Chris Taylor **Running time**: 2 hours, 10 minutes, including interval. **Please note**: may contain strong language

And a delicious pre-event dinner at

Sydney Flying Squadron (next door to theatre)

It's a great opportunity to catch up with friends, as well as meeting other Lifeline supporters.

Included in the dinner price is a glass of wine, and a 2 course meal (main and desert) served on an alternating basis.

#### **BOOKING DETAILS**: Dinner and show package (start 6pm) - \$120 Show only (start 8.15pm) - \$75

To book your tickets please go to our Try Booking.com page and follow the prompts. http://www.trybooking.com/273811

Tickets will be allocated by order of bookings received so be quick for the best seats. In previous years our Ensemble Theatre night tickets sold quick-ly so book now to avoid disappointment.

Thank you for supporting Lifeline.

Connie Therkildsen

Fundraising/Events

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President	Michael Midlam
Vice President	John Aitken
Immediate Past President	Graham Timms
President Elect	Malcolm Braid
Secretary	Lindsay Forrest
Treasurer	Chris Lewis
Director	Greg Newling
Director	Linda Lam Rolfs
Service committee chairpersons and committees	
Administration (Club Service)	Gary Keating
Vocational Service	Lou Coenen
Community Service	Roger Desmarchelier
International Service	Georgina Manning
Youth Service	Linda Lam-Rohlfs
Social events	Joy Newling
Bobbin Head Cycle Classic	Tony McClelland
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#### **Club committees**

Administration: Gary Keating, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall (Program), Bob Ivey (Web and social media), Graham Maslen, Tony McClelland (Koongga)

**Bobbin Head Cycle Classic: Tony McClelland**, John Aitken, Ross Egan, Bob Elsworth, Peter Kipps, Michael Midlam, Gary Keating

Club History: Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

**Community: Roger Desmarchelier**, Gary Dawson Rob Hall Geoff Hungerford (Gordon Markets) Gary Keating Ross Egan (Daffodil Day) Chris Hoch (Red Shield) Anil Fulwaria Nick Kenyon Ted Price Cathy Jackson

International: Georgina Manning, Rob Hall, Graham Timms, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling, Anil Fulwaria, Emyr Evans

Membership: Tony McClelland,

Public Relations: Emyr Evans, Georgina Manning,

Rotary Foundation: Chris Hoch, Peter Tang, Lindsay Forrest, , Greg Newling Social Events: Joy Newling, Ross Egan, Georgina Manning,

Vocational: LOU Coenen, David Forsythe, Peter Kipps, M Tyler

Youth: Linda Lam-Rohlfs, , Cathy Jackson, Gary Keating, Chris Lewis, Matt Mahjoub, Andrew Marselos, Joy Newling, Don Riddell