



K O O N G G A

Bulletin of the Rotary Club Of Ku-ring-gai Inc - Chartered 6th February 1959

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5 August 2013

This Week

Avenues of Service committees

This week's meeting will be devoted to planning by each of the club's 5 Avenue of Service committees: Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, International Service and New Generations (Youth) Service.

Each committee will sit at a separate table and will have the opportunity to review and develop its plan for the year, including its budget and implementation schedule.

Time permitting, before the end of the evening each committee will make a short presentation of its plan for the year.

This is an important meeting for all members, so please make sure you can attend and have your say in your committee's plans.

'Friends of Rotary' and other guests are also welcome to participate. The club values input from all sources.

Not sure which Avenue of Service committee you're in? Ask Acting President John Aitken!

Visiting Rotarian



Last week Acting President John welcomed and exchanged club banners with Rotarian Martyn Lindley, visiting from the Rotary Club of Eugene Delta, Oregon, USA. Martyn is a business development partner for Hewlett Packard's managed print services. See what the 115 members of his Rotary club are doing by visiting <http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/Home.aspx?accountid=7014>.

Martyn distinguished himself by winning our door prize. Shh! Don't let his club's sergeant know!

Question: what's our photographer Past President Bob doing on the wrong side of his camera?



Clarke Road School

Many thanks to Graham and Anne Maslen for helping at Clarke Road School at their *Magical Maths Day* last Friday.

Anne has also volunteered to be a reader on **Monday 19 August at 9.30am** during Book Week. The school would like a couple more readers, so would you like to volunteer and join Anne?

Also coming up is the **Unofficial Opening Celebration Party on Sunday 18 August from 12-3pm**. We're running the BBQ so **volunteers are needed** please. We now have 4 but we need at least 6, preferably from 11am to set up and start cooking. It is a good opportunity to see the fantastic new school too!

I'd like to finalise this by Monday night, so please let me know if you can help for all or some of the time. Also looking for donations of cakes or slices for visitors to enjoy with their tea or coffee – please keep any donations NUT FREE.

Many thanks,
Joy Newling

Rotary International Convention



It's time to start planning your involvement in the Rotary International Convention, which will be held at Homebush from 28 May to 4 June, 2014. Put it in your diary and register to attend now! (See: <http://rotary2014.com.au/>)

Not sure about attending? Talk to Greg & Joy Newling about the inspirational conventions they've attended.

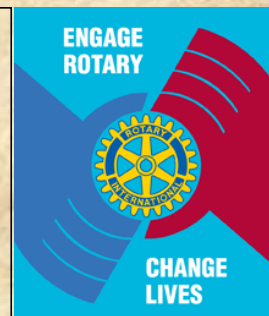
Volunteers are needed for many of the same tasks as for the Olympic Games in 2000 - airport greeters, transport, venue management, marshals, etc. Visit the convention website (above) by 30 September 2013 to register your interest in helping.

Home hosts will also be required. This is a wonderful way to get to know Rotarians from other parts of the world. Details of how you can register to do this will appear on the website soon.

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- (Members only): Travellers' Tales; WebAware; What Can You Do? Have Your Say; Club notices: Calendar of Events; Anniversaries; Door Teams; Last Week's Guests; Gordon Market Roster ; Club Officers; Positions Vacant.

The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at West Pymble Bowling Club, 2 Prince of Wales Drive, West Pymble. Visitors welcome. www.kuringgairotary.org.au



Rotary International
Theme 2013-2014

Last Week's Speaker



Environmental Impacts of Recreational Hunting in National Parks

Matthew McClelland gave us a detailed and persuasive explanation of why unsupervised recreational hunting in National Parks

does not effectively control feral animals. Instead, he advocated involving recreational hunters in planned control/eradication of destructive introduced species to reduce the adverse effects they have on native flora and fauna and the natural environment generally.

Some of the points that Matthew made are:

- Feral animals take hold in environments where there are few or no predators; they can reproduce quickly; there is low competition for food, water shelter; and there are minimal diseases.
- When animals are scared by loud noises or seeing the sudden and violent death of another, they will flee the area. As animals such as deer head into more remote areas they find new land, food and water supplies and the population tends to grow as the animals spread more quickly. Deer have been shown to not only change their location but also feeding times and behaviours to reduce the chance of encounters with humans.
- Hunters may report 'success' when they see fewer animals in an area, but it's due to a change in location and behaviour of the animals, not a smaller population.
- Land managers may shoot from a helicopter or herd a large number of animals into a truck. This more strategic approach removes a large number of animals and reduces the chance of them scattering to remoter areas as there are few remaining animals.
- Part of what makes feral animals very successful survivors in our forests is that they have a large number of young. This rapid population growth means they hit the 'holding capacity' of the environment very quickly. About 85% of piglets in Kosciuszko National Park die before their first birthday. These animals die not because of disease but because there is simply not enough food, water or land for them - the environment just can't support them all. So if a hunter kills the parents, the death of the parents frees up food so that more young will survive, in this case maybe 4 piglets will live to replace their parents.
- Recreational hunters cannot shoot the 85% of piglets necessary to control their numbers each year.

Next Week

3 x 'Ten on Me'

Next week one of our newest Rotarians will introduce himself and tell us about his life and career and two longer-serving members will update us on what they have been doing in the recent past.

These talks often reveal surprising hidden talents, experiences and achievements, so come prepared to hear some interesting revelations.

Council Project Proposals

Representatives of Ku-ring-gai Council recently met with several local Rotary clubs to discuss the following community initiatives.

Retiree and Volunteer Expo for northern Sydney – the aim of this event is to raise awareness of community services available in the area and showcase how retirees can become involved in volunteering. This will provide opportunities for people wishing to contribute to their local community in a meaningful way. This not only assists frail elderly and people with disabilities to live independently in their homes for as long as possible, but also develops a sense of community responsibility amongst residents. This event will include exhibits and workshops and would be open to all community organisations and members of the public to attend.

Youth Music festival – aimed at young people providing opportunities for live music performance's, stalls to sell goods, environmental and sustainability exhibits, other youth related activities and performances.

Multicultural Festival – engaging various cultural and linguistic groups living in Ku-ring-gai and providing opportunities for cultural expression. This may also provide an avenue for Rotary clubs to broaden their membership and obtain new members from people recently arrived into the area.

Neighbour Care style program - aimed at people that are frail, unwell and not able to carry out basic tasks around the house, e.g., change lights, take out bins, move furniture, attend appointments, companionship etc. This program would target people who are ineligible for community care services or who are periodically unable to carryout basic living tasks. There are already programs in operation in Australia that have a social component such as the "Street by Street" campaign (originated in Melbourne) RU OK Day, which was established to address socially isolated residents. These responses came about because of concern about people living in isolation and feeling disconnected, depressed etc.

Anti - Poverty Week Event - wishing to engage young people and raise awareness in the community about poverty issues that affect particular groups and communities in both Australia and overseas. This event will involve elements of fundraising, outdoor cinema, live music performances, food stalls and work in partnership with a number of community groups and local business in Ku-ring-gai.

Council is also currently in the early stages of developing a resource kit to assist groups wishing to stage special events in Ku-ring-gai, simplifying the application form and outlining the requirements, who to contact, where to get assistance etc.

Council staff would be very happy to discuss any of these projects and other related matters emanating from yesterday's meeting.