



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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Rotary monthly theme: December: Family Month

It's party time!

This week is the club's Christmas party and last meeting for 2013.

Where: 41 Richmond Avenue, St Ives

When: Monday, 6.30 pm

Cost: \$0

Catering: as already volunteered.

Drinks: BYO

Set up and clean up: as already volunteered.



Tree of Joy

Ted Price has organised the club's annual Tree Of Joy at West Pymble Shopping Centre.

You're encouraged to make donations of non-perishable food. All goods donated are passed on to Lifeline, which makes up hampers and distributes them to needy people. Simply drop your donations in at West Pymble. Or call Ted and buy a Rotary Christmas cake or pudding, which he can place under the tree on your behalf. Tel: 9498 5552



Last week's guest

President Tony welcomed Adrienne Hall to our meeting.

Rotary International Convention



You've registered for the Convention, so as to take advantage of the early bird rate which ended on Sunday, 15 December. So now you're wondering how you can get more involved. Simple: go onto the Convention website

<http://rotary2014.com.au/> and register for:

- Home hosting;
- Sergeant At Arms (volunteer guides at the Convention); and
- Host Hospitality Night, 3rd June 2014

Show the world what great hosts you are and enjoy the party!

Gordon Market

Volunteers are required to act as occasional backups for Frank White to put out the market signs and put them away after the event. Apply to President Tony.

New member prospects

While you're socialising during the festive season, why not invite your business associates, friends and families to a Rotary meeting in the new year? Our annual bowls night on 13 January is a great time to introduce newcomers to the club.

President Tony thinks that our club has more than enough solicitors already (Koongga is working on that), but surely you know other categories of potential member you could invite. Active involvement in cycling is not a prerequisite.

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

Peter Kipps reported the following progress on 'The Bobbo':

- 3622 hits on the Bobbo website (almost double the total for the 2013 event)
- Distribution of 30,000 flyers for the event
- Visits to 75 bike shops
- A very active Facebook page, thanks to Georgina Carver. It includes advertisements.
- Emails sent to all the riders in last year's event
- 193 registrations received already - almost 3 times

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ENGAGE
ROTARY



CHANGE
LIVES

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

Rotary International
Theme 2013-2014

the number received by this time last year

Bob Ivey demonstrated tracking software supplied free of charge by Google which enables Bob to monitor John Aitken's location when he goes shopping. In the Bobbo, the club will use the software to keep track of the marshal team leaders and the lead cyclists in each group of riders.

District Conference



The Conference program is coming together well – see conference.rotarydistrict9685.org.au. We can look forward to an exciting day, packed full of information, entertainment and inspiration.

The [Showcase in the Mall](#) will be on the Saturday, the [Conference Showcase](#) will be part of Sunday's proceedings as will the breakout sessions, and the [on-line conference](#) will be held during the week following the Conference.

DG Graeme has encouraged us to **invite guests** so they can experience the wonderful world of Rotary at our Conference. Guests may be registered at the special rate of \$70 - the same as 'New Rotarians' - right through to the start of the Conference. **Why not ask someone else to come along with you?**

Do you know a Rotaractor? Encourage them to register as well as make it easy for them if you can. The Conference will hold special attraction for Rotaractors.

A little over two months to go! Are you ready?

Board position vacant - Filling The Gap

Filling the Gap is a not for profit organisation which recruits dentists to work in Aboriginal community-controlled health services where access to dental treatment is limited or non-existent and where there is, consequently, much need.

The organisation needs a person with a legal, administrative or business background to join its volunteer board of directors. The ideal person is a retired or semi-retired individual with an interest in volunteering and public interest.

The position entails chairing board meetings, which take place once every two months, and communicating and liaising at a higher level with Aboriginal peak bodies (state and federal) and government officials (state and federal).

The amount of work involved is quite small, as the bulk of the heavy work (recruitment of dentists and dental staff, working directly with, and visiting and monitoring Aboriginal communities, liaising with the dental fraternity, and many routine matters) is done by other board members. If you (or anyone you know) would enjoy the challenge of working with a group of highly motivated professionals, all of whom are volunteers, please contact Michael Tyler. T: 0418 451 867

Last week's speaker



Rob Hall

How Rotary made me eat a horse

Rob talked about the way experiences provided by Rotary, such as RYLA, had shaped some important aspects of his later life. One of these was triggering an intense interest in what he called, "getting backstage". By way of explanation, he described going to New Zealand on a Rotary student exchange. In New Zealand, Rotarian families in both the North and South Island hosted him. In Rotorua, he stayed with a Maori family. When he arrived at their home he was, as he said, "welcomed by a delightful family in t-shirts and jeans who sat around chatting to him over a beer or two." However, the next morning when he went to breakfast, the family was sitting around in their traditional costume eating their cornflakes. He wondered if he should have "dressed for breakfast". It turned out that the family were part of a group under contract to perform for tourists. After the performance, they returned to their "normal life and normal clothes". At that moment, Rob said that he decided that while the performance had been a valid experience for the tourists who probably left feeling that they had a window into Maori culture, seeing both sides of the Maori experience and being "back stage" seemed so much richer.

This experience occurred while he was working as an engineering trainee with BHP in Newcastle (his city of origin). The company was very supportive of his desire to transition from being an engineer to training in psychology. As, he said, he became more interested in understanding issues such as why accidents occurred and how to design better control panels than how heavy the electrical supply cable for the rolling mills needed to be.

Rob's career in psychology took him into the university environment where he taught psychology and gained his PhD. His interest in research methods led him to teach in schools of psychology, environmental studies and marketing at universities in Australia, China and most recently, in Verona, Italy.

It was in Verona that his interest in the wartime history of Italy developed and while there he noticed a book about the destruction of historic Verona and its subsequent restoration to the beautiful UNESCO classified city it is today. He bought the book and discovered that it was the product of a local Rotary project. He contacted the club to find out more about the book. This year, on his and Adrienne's 6th visit to the city, and in his role as a self-described "Rotary newbie", he made contact with the club again and the club officers took Adrienne and Rob to a splendid restaurant for a "typical Veronese meal". As they already knew, the Veronese are notorious amongst other Italian regions for their passion for eating horse and ass meat. When the huge plate of *bollito misto* (mixed boiled meats) arrived, Rob found himself chewing his way through delicacies such as boiled tendon and whole tongues. Rotary really had made him eat a horse.

Calendar of events

January	13	Bowls night at West Pymble Bicentennial Club
	20	Joy Aimée - How to write a best-seller
February	3	Assoc Prof Sheryl van Nunen - Ticks and allergies
	23	(Sunday) Inaugural District 9685 Conference - venue: the Concourse, Chatswood
June	1 - 4	Rotary International Convention - venue: Olympic Park, Homebush
	3	Rotary International Convention Home Hospitality Night

Club officers and committee chairmen 2013-14

Board of directors

President	Tony McClelland
Vice President	John Aitken
President Elect	Tony McClelland
Secretary	Geoff Hungerford
Treasurer	Graham Maslen
Director - Membership	Roger Desmarchelier
Director - Public Relations	Michael Midlam
Director - Club Administration	(Vacant)
Director - Service Projects	John Aitken
Director - Rotary Foundation	Graham Timms

Service committee chairmen

Club Service	(Vacant)
Vocational Service	Michael Midlam
Community Service	Ross Lambert
International Service	Greg Newling
Youth Service	Joy Newling
Bobbin Head Cycle Classic	Peter Kipps
Sergeant-at-Arms	Greg Newling

Club committees 2013-14

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic: John Aitken, Ross Egan, Peter Kipps, Tony McClelland, Michael Midlam, Adele Mitchell, Graham Timms

Club History: Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

Club Service/Club Administration: Geoff Hungerford, Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga Editor)

Community Service: Lou Coenen, Gary Dawson, Roger Desmarchelier, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Bob Elsworth, Rob Hall, Chris Hoch (Red Shield Appeal), Geoff Hungerford (Markets) Caroline Jones, Nick Kenyon, Ross Lambert, Loïc Lacombe, Jack McCartney, Michael Midlam (Bowel Scan), Frank White (Markets)

International Service: David Forsythe, Graham Maslen, Adele Mitchell, Greg Newling, Peter Tang

Membership: Roger Desmarchelier, Dilys Geddes, Linda Lam-Rohlfs

Public Relations: Michael Midlam

Program: Rob Hall, Ross Egan

Rotary Foundation: Graham Timms

Vocational Service: Michael Midlam

Youth Service: Malcolm Braid, Emyr Evans, Greg Goodman, Bob Ivey, Tom Jackson, Linda Lam-Rohlfs, Joy Newling, Ted Price