



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: April: Magazine month

This week

Alan Edenborough Saving the James Craig



Early in 1972 the 'Lady Hopetoun and Port Jackson Marine Steam Museum' (now the Sydney Heritage Fleet) was attempting to acquire a permanent waterfront site in Sydney Cove. It was advised that it would have no chance of doing so unless it had a square rigged sailing ship that it could display. By chance, Alan Edenborough, who was then the secretary of SHF, came to hear of the rotting hulk of the James Craig, which lay beached in Recherche Bay, south of Hobart.

In January 1972 Alan travelled to Tasmania to inspect the ship and prepare a report for the board of SHF. This was the beginning of a process that culminated in re-launching of the ship in 1997 and completion of its restoration in 2001. There's no better person than Alan to describe the fascinating saga of bringing back to life one of only four 19th century barques in the world that still go to sea regularly.



This is a story you won't want to miss.

Last meeting's guests

Last meeting President Tony welcomed guest speaker Steve Wyatt, Rebecca Wyatt, Graham Blackman, Di Blackman, Lindsay Forrest, Frances Forrest, Glenn Drury, Ian Jackson, Matthew McClelland, Roy Laidlaw, Ashley Peake, David Ballantine, Gary Keating, Melissa Archey, Alex Casulious, Chris Blomfield-Brown, Geraldine Blomfield-Brown, David Ingham, Graham Gibson, Jason Solomon, Mike Wesslink, Richard Watson, Steve Adams, Craig Vardy, David Solomon, Patsy Hungerford, Judy Timms, Sofia Kulchycki, Adrienne Hall, Eunice Price, Joyce Cribb, Jannet Pendleton and Anne Goodman. 23 of the visitors are members of the Waratah

Cycle Club (and every one of them a potential Rotarian - Ed).

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

Peter Kipps gave a presentation about The Bobbo, highlighting the following points:



- Rider numbers were 970 in 2012, 1675 in 2013 and 2007 in 2014.
- The proportion of female riders has dropped significantly, making a challenge for the organisers to attract more women in future.
- 70% of The Bobbo's Facebook friends are male.
- The 2014 event raised \$130,000.
- 30% of the riders in 2014 raised funds in addition to their registration fees. The amount raised per rider is increasing year by year, but is still only 12% of the equivalent amount raised by riders in The Gong ride.
- There were 25 teams of 25 or more riders in the 2014 Bobbo (compared with over 500 in The Gong ride).
- Organisers of The Bobbo need to get more teams involved and need to offer rider training to prepare riders for the event.

Peter presented a certificate of appreciation to Graham Blackman for Blackman Bicycles' invaluable support for The Bobbo over its first 3 years. In response Graham remarked on the event's very impressive results, excellent community spirit and camaraderie. He said that he had helped start The Gong ride and its organisers 'would have been doing backflips' if they had had such good results in the early years. He predicted a strong future for The Bobbo.

Rotary makes a difference

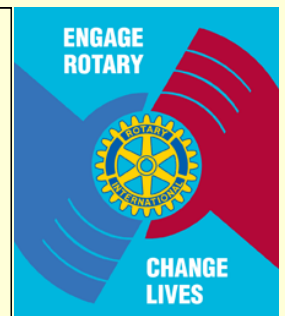
Graham Timms gave a presentation on how Rotary makes a difference. It went like this:

Email - Tony McClelland to Graham Timms: Subject Meeting tonight:

Hi Graham. We currently have 31 guests for tonight and

In this issue

- This week: Alan Edenborough - Saving the James Craig
- Last meeting's guests; Bobbin Head Cycle Classic;
- Rotary makes a difference
- Last meeting: Steve Wyatt - Climbing Mount Everest
- Philippines typhoon relief
- Points of Light Volunteer Pathway - Washington DC
- Studio 10 TV show
- Calendar of events; Club officers; Club committees



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

I expect more. With your presentation could you also please consider a brief plug for Shelterbox, EaglesRAPS, Clarke Road School and our interest in assisting with the Women's Refuge project in Hornsby as well as the other stuff we do?

Email - Graham Timms to Tony McClelland: Subject Meeting tonight:

Tony. In five minutes? You want me to cover East Timor, School For Life, the tick project plus Shelterbox, EaglesRAPS, Clarke Road and the Hornsby Refuge? What about Polio Plus, Neringah Hospital, the Laos water project, ROMAC, Camp Quality etc. etc. etc.

Tony, I'll do what I can but do you want me to give an inspiring talk or just a list? I can't do both.

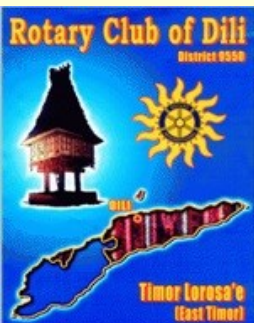
Email - Tony McClelland to Graham Timms: Subject Meeting tonight:

Inspiring talk thanks.

Cheers, Tony

If you want to know about all the other things we're doing, there are Rotarians here who can tell you. But you get the inspiring talk. It's about how we changed a country.

When I say we, I don't mean Rotary International or some amorphous greater Rotary but three small clubs from district 9685 – Ku-ring-gai, Thornleigh and Kincumber.



The story goes back to 2007, just after the attempted coup in East Timor when the Rotary Club of Dili – a bunch of eighteen or so mostly expats who meet every Wednesday night in the Dili hotel to eat roast pork and drink beer – got together with Theo Glockemann of the Rotary Club of Thornleigh to send a bright young woman named Armina to a training course

called Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA).

RYLA is a residential leadership program for young people between the ages of around eighteen and twenty-five. The thrust of the course is conflict resolution through negotiation, leadership without coercion and ... well you get the idea.

Armina completed the course, returned to Dili and was so persuasive that the next year the Rotary Club of Dili asked Theo if he could find sponsors for three new candidates. He roped in Kincumber and us and the new candidates were similarly successful.



In early 2009 these four graduates got together and invited a group of us to visit them to hear a proposal they wanted to present.

But first a bit of background about East Timor. East Timor – Timor Leste as it's correctly called – is a country without grown-ups. They're all dead, killed in 1945, in 1975 and in 1999. The young people carry on as best they can, but there are no old heads, no old wisdom, no history. It's inspiring but terribly, terribly sad to see a

twenty-five year old like Afonso, one of our RYLA graduates, running a youth group for drop-out street kids not much younger than himself.

Timor Leste in 2009 was administered by the United Nations, but they were scheduled to leave in 2012.

There was supposed to be an election but, given the attempted coup of 2007, the factions and the lack of grown-ups, the chances of an election – of democracy working – were somewhere between none and zero.

Timor Leste was, like so many African countries, a sure fire recipe for a failed state.

So we went – a group of six of us – to East Timor. We paid our own fares (although Qantas did give us a generous discount and the cost was tax deductible) and we stayed in one star hotels – the star was the one you could see through the hole in the roof. That's not the way aid agencies travel, but it is the way Rotarians do.



Anyway, the proposal was simple. Our RYLA graduates wanted to run RYLA courses in East Timor in the local language. They figured that they could run three before the election in 2012 and that would mean 150 East Timor RYLA graduates which, they had

worked out, would be just enough, given that there would be around 100 polling stations where the votes would be counted. With 150 they reckoned they could make the voting work.



We took it on. It was a hell of a push, not the least being translating the training notes into the local language, Tetum, and finding appropriate speakers, course moderators and so on and so on. We did it. Together with our four RYLA graduates and the local Rotary club we did it. Three RYLA courses, one hundred and fifty graduates before the elections in August 2012.

As you all know, East Timor is not a failed state. The election was successful, democracy was born and is alive and well. They have a hell of a lot of challenges ahead of them but there's hope and ambition to work it out. They will make it.

And the RYLA courses continue. They're growing grown ups day by day.

Last week our original RYLA graduates approached our Rotary District with a proposal that they have been developing which involves building schools, but is actually



nothing less than a complete revamp of the Timor Leste education system. They'd like our help (and we'll almost certainly give it to them) but with or without our help they're going to do it.

But you know the greatest kick I got out of the whole thing? It was a photograph on the front page of the Australian Financial Review of the Timor Leste ballot count. And there they were, Armina and Afonso, front and centre, counting the ballots.

Don't ever let anybody tell you we can't make a difference!

Last meeting's speaker

Steve Wyatt - Climbing Mount Everest

Steve Wyatt gave a fascinating account of climbing Mount Everest, at an age almost double what you might expect an Everest climber to be.



Steve had climbed in his youth - in England, New Zealand, South America and elsewhere. He'd had no intention of attempting Mount Everest, but when the opportunity presented itself, he seized it gladly. It required 2 months away from home.

The small team Steve joined was organised by an Englishman he had climbed with before. The team included a bed & breakfast proprietor from the UK, a professional climber from the UK, a doctor who spends more time climbing than practising medicine, the very fit Iliana Arsova who was to become the first Macedonian to scale Mount Everest, a Hong Kong resident and a film maker from France/USA.

They flew to Lukla airfield near Namche Bazaar and then took a leisurely 3 weeks to walk to Everest Base Camp, acclimatising gradually by climbing an average of 300 feet per day. Along the way they stayed in tea houses, made visits to places off the main route, such as Gokyo Lakes, and stopped to receive blessings from temple monks. Their equipment and supplies were carried by sherpas and



yaks. Arriving at Everest Base Camp, they found it and the crevasses of the Khumbu Icefall (the lower part of the approach to Mount Everest) covered in snow. There was a constant noise of avalanches all around them.

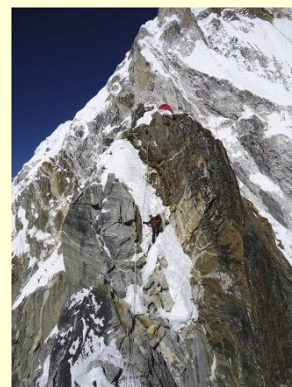


The Icefall itself is constantly moving, which makes it extremely dangerous. The many teams of climbers at Base Camp combine to share equipment, used by a team of sherpas who set up and maintain the route throughout the climbing seasons. *(Tragically, since Steve's talk, 12 sherpas have died in an avalanche in the Icefall, resulting in cancellation of this year's entire spring climbing season on the mountain - Ed.)*

Because of the conditions, the team had to wait at Base Camp for 2 weeks. This was both mentally and physically draining and the climbers lost weight.

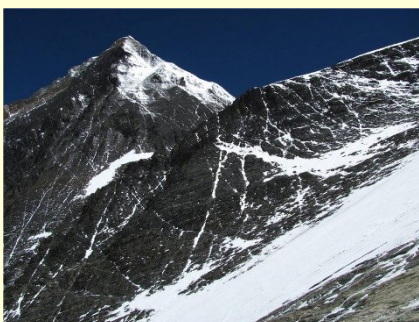
The first climb up to Camp 1, at 6,000m, was the first real test of Steve's acclimatisation - it required frequent stops and left him gasping. At the altitude there was intense ultra violet light and the temperature varied from over 50°C in the sun to below 0°C in the shade. It took 80 minutes to boil a billy of water (from ice and snow) - longer at higher altitudes.

By the time the team got to Camp 3 at 7,400m, they were dependent on oxygen cylinders. Even with them it was 'nightmare effort', climbing 5 steps at a time. At times Steve asked himself why he was putting himself through the experience.



The last camp at the South Col is the starting point for the final climb to the summit. Steve noted lots of abandoned food and other supplies on the ground. (The Nepalese government has started a program to clear the mountain of rubbish. Every climber is required to bring not only all his own equipment and refuse but also other rubbish off the mountain.)

Adam the climber/doctor set off for the summit at 8 pm, arriving at dawn (4.30 am). Climbing together, Steve



and Iliana Arsova departed at a different time and arrived at 3.30 am. At the altitude, with the temperature at minus 30°C, they could not stay to see the dawn. Also they had to get off the summit quickly,

to make way for other climbers coming up. Otherwise, they could become trapped above the bottleneck of the 'Hillary Step'.



The monsoon was approaching, making the temperatures rise and causing the Icefall to begin collapsing. The team needed to pack up and get down quickly to Camp 2, where they arrived exhausted. However, they then needed to press on to Base Camp - it was a scary passage back through the Icefall.

In conclusion, Steve said that the experience was extremely difficult both mentally and physically. He lost 20kg out of his 80kg through dehydration and could not eat enough to maintain weight. His blood oxygen level dropped to 60 (from 100 at sea level). It resulted in long term fatigue, which took 9 months to recover from.

Points of Light Volunteer Pathway

Roger Cherry's recent talk about the Sydney Writers Walk at Circular Quay reminded Judy Timms of a similar concept in Washington DC called the "The Extra Mile - Points of Light Volunteer Pathway." Koongga readers might be interested in her photograph of one of the plaques. Thanks, Judy!



Studio 10 TV show

Studio 10 is a fresh new morning television show presented by Ita Buttrose, Jessica Rowe, Joe Hildebrand and Sarah Harris, which is offering complimentary tickets to all Rotary members to attend. The show is recorded live every weekday. Audience members are required to arrive by 8am and the show finishes just before 12noon with a sausage sizzle served right after. They also offer tea, coffee, biscuits and refreshments throughout the show but the big thing is that there are frequent prizes and giveaways on the show. To attend call 02 96501626 or email: studio10tickets@networkten.com.au



Rotary

PHILIPPINES TYPHOON RELIEF

The Philippines is Devastated by Typhoon Yolanda "Haiyan"

On the 8th November 2013, the Philippines were hit by a devastating typhoon, with winds of 300km/h and a storm surge of 4 metres. On the 27th January 2014 the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in the Philippines reported:

- 6,201 people dead and another 1,785 people missing.
- Over 28,626 people injured.
- Over 1,000,000 homes damaged and 4.1m people displaced.

Rotary District 9685 has established a relief fund with RAWCS, led by Maurie Schokman and his committee to provide assistance by working with existing Rotary contacts in the Philippines. The fund will provide targeted relief to a few long term projects over the next 2 to 3 years.

We invite you and your Club to consider a donation to the disaster relief effort, every dollar will help. Many small donations can make a big difference!

Projects Being Considered by Committee

- Repair Rural Health Units
- School class rooms, get children back to school
- School supplies
- Various repairs to Divine Word Hospital
- XRay Machine
- Wheelchairs
- Medical Supplies

BUILD BACK BETTER

On-Line Credit Card Payments
 RAWCS Code 45-2013-14
www.rawcs.com.au

ALSO Direct Cash Deposits:
 Account Name: RAWCS Eastern Region Overseas Aid Fund
 BSB: 082146
 Account: 046528943
 Reference: 45-2013-14
 Email schokma@attglobal.net when you make deposit

Calendar of events

May	5	Club forum
	12	Meeting postponed to 15 May (Thursday)
	15	(Thursday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation (at Rotary Club of St Ives)
	19	TBA
	26	Richard Field – Okavango: miracle in the desert
June	1 - 4	Rotary International Convention - venue: Olympic Park, Homebush
	3	Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night
	9	(Queen's birthday) No meeting
	23	Club Changeover

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-Rohlf's

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-Rohlf's, Joy Newling, Ted Price