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Meeting Apology

Please use the club web-site **before 3 pm** on meeting day to apologise or add a guest, or you will be required to reimburse the club for your meal cost.

<http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au>

Debate winners

Certificate was presented to the winners of the Turramurra/Ku ring gai debate

The winning team, Roger Desmarchelier
Irene Kennedy and Graham Timms



Elevator Statement Page 2

Michael Tyler asked members at each table to prepare an "ASK" statement to a person in a lift to join Rotary. The significance is the limited time available to present the invitation.

Please see page 2

International

To: Club International Chairs

Ever thought about a trip to India, well here is your chance. A team of up to four couples has been invited to visit D3040 in Madhya Pradesh India for up to 10 days at the end of January/early February 2012. Members of the team will be home hosted and will attend the district conference which is a great experience in itself.

Should you wish to make additional travels in India before or after this official visit, the D3040 will give advice and assistance to do this. Our district will in turn host a small group from D3040.

Those interested in taking the opportunity to visit India and see Rotary in action there, should contact Barry Philps on email bphilps@bigpond.net.au who can give you further details

This Week

Christmas party 6.30 for 7pm
Michael & Louise Tyler
41 Richmond Av
St Ives

Last Week

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Confirmation of Minutes Moved David Forsythe sec Greg Newling carried

Annual report be received Mike Midlam and Malcolm Braid carried

Accounts for 2010 and 2011 have been completed and will be presented early in the new year
Accounts deferred to a future date when auditing has been completed

Committee for 2012-2013

- President Tony McClelland. Tony surrendered after the meeting when no nominations were forthcoming. Thanks to David Forsythe who nominated me for the past 15 years
- Vice President John Altken moved Roger
- Secretary Geoff Hungerford moved Roger
- Treasurer Tony McClelland moved Roger
- Director Michael Tyler Moved
- AGM adjourned to a future date

Elevator Statement

David Forsythe Elevator statement

Michael :

- What is Rotary all about?

Rotarian:

- Michael, Rotary is people changing the world for the better.
- We have eradicated Polio.
- We have provided fresh water for better and healthier lives all around the world.
- We have provided Shelterboxes after disasters.
- Michael, Rotary spans borders and is above politics and religion.
- Locally our projects make our community a better place to live in.
- Through friendship, we are just ordinary people achieving extraordinary outcomes.
- And we have fun doing these things.
- Michael, why not come and join us.

Lou Coenen Elevator statement

- You look like a person who wants to make a difference to your community as well as your world - but regularly finds you just don't have the time. What if I could show you a way that would allow you to do both and have fun doing it? Would you be interested?
- Rotary is a social group for business men and women who are exactly like you - they want to make a difference but have so little time between work and family pressures. We get together weekly for a group dinner, guest speakers, to also plan how we can help others whether here in West Pymble or West Africa. We help by providing labour, assistance, and / or funds to complete a wide variety of projects.
- These projects have a major impact on people's lives - from helping fund hospitals in Africa to hospital equipment to Westmead Children's hospital and special emergency housing and utensils to areas which have been ravaged by natural disasters. Globally, Rotary has been a major contributor of funds that has had a significant impact on the elimination of polio. Locally, we help with the Lifeline booksale, provide support and assistance to stay-at-home family carers. We work as a single group but also as part of a strong world-wide organisation committed to achieve great things for others - and because of our business backgrounds, we know that our contributions are well spent.

Elevator Statement

Lou Coenen continued

- Why not come see what it is like? Join us for a free dinner so you can see who we are and what we do - besides it is fun. Not a bad business proposition. Would this Monday or next Monday work better for you.

Graham Timms Elevator statement

- What's Rotary? Why, we're just clubs of ordinary men and women, non political, non religious, in a wide range of occupations, meeting every week, having fun.
- Doing amazing things and changing the world!
- We build hospitals in Africa, run youth development programs in East Timor, help drop-out kids in Blacktown and handicapped kids in Hornsby.
- And that's just our club. With other Rotary clubs and millions of other Rotarians worldwide we're stamping out Polio.
- Not too bad for a bunch of "just ordinary" people.
- We make things better. Why don't you help us? What are you doing next Monday night? How about I shout you a meal and a drink and you can get to meet some of the most astonishing people you will ever know?

Roger Desmarchellier Elevator statement

Why did we join Rotary

- Put something back to the community
- 100 years of organisational history. Well structured.
- International structure and power of combined clubs that can achieve major programmes (ie . polio eradication)
- Likeminded people
- Helping the less fortunate
- Fellowship. Meeting people
- Networking
- Community projects. Service theme
- We know where the money goes. No middlemen. No skimming.

Greg Newling Elevator statement

- We are a worldwide group of like-minded individuals who meet weekly for fun and fellowship. We enjoy being able to be of service to others, for example, marginalized young people in Sydney, helping to establish a school in Uganda and providing shelter for people affected by disasters. Do you want to put something back into the community? Come and join us.

Lachlan Partners—David Forsythe

Not Arthur Partners

James Cook, Arthur Phillip and Lachlan Macquarie are considered the founding fathers of modern Australia. Each during their respective periods of exploration or governorship provided the vision and leadership needed to ensure safe passage or the colony's survival, in Cook's case through his seamanship, navigation and captaincy, in Phillip's case nurturing the infant colony from the elements and starvation, and in Macquarie's case creating substance and backbone out of the very worst of the colony's own self interests.

Phillip's stamp is everywhere in street, school, place and park names. Melbourne got Cook's Cottage somehow. Somewhere there Lachlan Partners got its name. And Sydney got Lachlan Macquarie's Parlour room. Well at least the inside panelling of his Parlour room.

I recently had the pleasure of attending what was probably the third official opening of the Parlour room. The story is quite fascinating.

Lachlan Macquarie was born in 1761. In 1803, he acquired "Jarvisfield", 12,603 acres on Mull, Scotland for 10,060 pounds, including Gruline House. After various periods of military service, he became Governor of New South Wales on 1 January 1810. His decade as Governor set the colony on the right path for future prosperity, and one of his actions was to grant Charter in 1817 to the Bank of New South Wales, later known as Westpac. He made three attempts, even in ill health, to resign, surely an indication of the recognised value of his work here. He also had to fight the inquiry of Commissioner Bigge, who seemed determined to report unfavourably and incorrectly on the colony's progress under Macquarie. Finally retirement was granted in late 1820. Meanwhile in 1817, through his brother, he acquired a further 10,000 acres of Mull for 20,500 pounds.

Alas, on his return to Mull in 1822, he realised his land was largely infertile and any tenants could not pay their way, and his plans for a new mansion house evaporated. So he and his wife Elizabeth were forced to live in the damp stone cottage on the estate known as Gruline House. In 1824, financially frustrated, he went to London to arrange provision of his pension, but fell ill and died there on 1 July, with pension unresolved. His estate was then valued at only 4,962 pounds. Elizabeth did also receive 4,500 pounds from the sale of his military commission. He probably would not be considered a very wise investor. One should not always take family advice either!

Elizabeth challenged the will, in which she had been left an income interest, because no sooner had Lachlan set off to London, on her own initiative in May and June 1824 she carried out what is today known as a makeover on Gruline House, and was left rather short on his passing. Lachlan was totally unaware of this planned refurbishment. Elizabeth was hoping to give her husband an "agreeable surprise" on his return, which of course

Lachlan Partners—David Forsythe

was never to be, at least alive. She was denied payment, but granted partial reimbursement of some running costs and money to erect a mausoleum for the family.

Elizabeth fought for her husband's good name, proper recognition of his achievements as governor, an appropriate pension, and retained some 950 head of cattle at Picton and shares in Bank of New South Wales. She died in 1835 at Gruline House.

The house passed through several families and in 1965 the then owner who used the house as a farm store, and the parlour room for holding cattle feed, suggested donating the panelling from the house to the new Macquarie University in Sydney as a permanent memorial to Lachlan Macquarie, a more worthy outcome for the last home of the man whose tombstone inscription includes the words "his services ... have justly attached a lasting honour to his name" and concludes with the words "the father of Australia".

The panelling is believed to be mainly the work of Elizabeth's 1824 makeover, and therefore we have to assume Lachlan Macquarie never saw it, and his only probable use of the renovated Parlour room was as a place of temporary repose prior to burial. The house was so small that there would have been nowhere else for his coffin to have been housed. Elizabeth must be considered the first person to have officially opened the newly panelled Parlour room, but not in the way she had hoped.

It was carefully dismantled and brought to Australia in 1967, the project funded by the Bank of New South Wales, stored for a decade in crates, and reassembled by Fischers Modern Homes Pty Ltd in the then new university library, and with great attention to its provenance, and debate on its future preservation, it was agreed to give it the beeswax treatment. The then New South Wales Governor, Sir Roden Cutler, officially opened it in September 1979, its second opening.

In 2010 the room was dismantled again, and has now been reassembled in the foyer of the magnificent new Library at Macquarie University. On 20 September 2011 Governor Marie Bashir officially opened the parlour room for the third time. It sits in a glass enclosed room. One sees a modern galvanised metal wall stud frame and the painted back of the oak panelling. One can look in through the doorways and window into the interior of the room. Apparently it was felt that the back of the panelling was living history, without clear knowledge as to who painted it, and when, but I understand that the mobile number of one of the latest workers on the room is now part of its history and rich patina.

The Governor last year gave an impressive speech on Lachlan Macquarie's life and work as part of the 200 year celebration of the commencement of his governorship. She took this to Edinburgh and presented it there to an amazed audience who also knew little of this great

Lachlan Partners—David Forsythe

man. She confided that she was tapped on the shoulder there, and was told “I had no idea one of our ‘laddies’ had done so much in establishing and making Australia what it is today”.

As to the provenance of the only furniture in the Parlour room, Macquarie’s own two colonial gothic armchairs, that is another story for another day. Needless to say with a crest in the form of a wrist holding a threatening dagger, they would be at home in the offices of our collection team.

Perhaps when we have run out of currencies to use as meeting room names, or if the Euro passes into history, we could find some interesting names from Lachlan Macquarie’s past – Gruline, Elizabeth, or Jarvisfield. The reality is that we know so little about our country’s founders. We are more likely to know much more of the kings and queens of England and the presidents of the United States of America.

As our cultural background continues to rapidly diversify, and we live more for today and what will affect us tomorrow, the chances of our past becoming better known will continue to fade. Any opportunity to promote our history, and its understanding, is important and should not be allowed to be lost.

David Forsythe



Lachlan Partners—David Forsythe

- President Caroline has now arranged the Macquarie Uni Librarian to be a guest speaker next year.
- A visit to the library, probably the most tech savvy library in the country has been suggested.
- Timing may be difficult.
- David prepared this for Lachlan Partners newsletter.
- No guessing the source of Lachlan Partners name.



Remainder of 2011-2012 Calendar

| Mondays | Speaker | AG | Board meeting (5.30pm) | Weekends |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Monday 12 December | | Christmas party | | |
| Monday 19 December | | Christmas break | | |
| Monday 26 December | | Christmas break | | |
| Monday 2 January | Christmas break | | | |
| Monday 9 January | Banjo Paterson | | Board meeting | |
| Monday 16 January | Bowls night | BOB | | |
| Monday 23 January | Travel Quiz: Adele | | | |
| Monday 30 January | Movie night | | | |
| Monday 6 February | Ted Waters: community involvement in fund raising | | Board meeting | |
| Monday 13 February | Pride of workmanship | | | |
| Monday 20 February | ROMAC: Philip Smith | | | |
| Monday 27 February | Maxine Brodie | | | |
| Monday 5 March | Saving our Heritage | Board meeting | | |
| Monday 12 March | Tales from a Dilly Bag | Diana Hanks | | 16-18/3: Conference |
| Monday 19 March | | | | 25/3: Bike Classic |
| Monday 26 March | | | | |
| Monday 2 April | | | Board meeting | |
| Monday 9 April | Easter Monday | | | |
| Monday 16 April | New members' night | | | Trivia night |
| Monday 23 April | | BOB | | |
| Monday 30 April | | | | |
| Monday 7 May | | | Board meeting | Dinners for eight |
| Monday 14 May | | | | |
| Monday 21 May | Hat day | | | |
| Monday 28 May | | | | Red Shield collection |
| Monday 4 June | | | Board meeting | |
| Monday 11 June | Queen's birthday | | | |
| Monday 18 June | MUNA | | | |
| Monday 25 June | Changeover | | | |

Guest Speakers and events

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 12 December | Christmas party |
| 19 & 26 Dec & 2 Jan | Christmas break |

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|--------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 9-Jan | Banjo Paterson | Board meeting |
| 16-Jan | Bowls night | BOB |
| 23-Jan | | |
| 30-Jan | Movie night | |
| 6-Feb | | Board meeting |
| 13-Feb | Pride of workmanship | |
| 20-Feb | | 24/2 Growers' market |
| 27-Feb | | |
| 5-Mar | | Board meeting |
| 12-Mar | Dilly Bag | 16-18/3: Conference |
| 19-Mar | Who do you know? | 25/3: Bike Classic |