



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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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>

This Week

Hat Day

Please wear a hat

Last Week

Our Ivan Cribb—Report over What a wonderful presentation, Ivan's mother did not understand no, and she broke through many barriers to launch his education and career. Ivan was tenacious and obviously intelligent and capable to achieve to such a high level in his life and career.

Trivia Night

June 16 - please bring your friends

Globetrotter Kenny Aitken

Our Globetrotter Kenny Aitken will be in China on 28 May and his planned presentation will be replaced by Rob Byrne—long bike ride in support of Polio Plus

Club Changeover

Monday 25 June at Avondale Golf Club & for 6.30 for 7pm

Erina Club Century Challenge

Coast Shelter - Beneficiary of the Century Challenge -Funds raised from the Century Challenge go to help the situation of homeless people on the Central Coast,



Up-coming Functions

Sat 26 May - Dinner for 8 (host or attend)

Eagles RAPS

Marten Wyne and Joy Newling



Marten Wyne, Joy Newling and Kavi Razzaghi-Pour, relieving Principal of Clarke Road School.



Last Friday night Greg and I had the pleasure of handing over the keys to the second-hand bus from Clarke Road School to Marten Wynd of Eagles RAPS!! The new bus finally arrived during the week, Tony was able to send the \$4000 through, Relieving Principal Kavi Razzaghi-Pour kindly offered to come and open up for us at 8pm and Marten was thrilled to come and drive the bus away. It all happened quickly because the school really wanted the old bus off the site because of reduced space on their temporary site. A more formal hand-over will be done at Eagles RAPS in a few weeks.

Over

Eagles RAPS

Funding for the bus was covered by \$1025 from New Generations budget, \$975 from the Christmas party and \$2000 from a Rotary Foundation District Simplified Grant. Eagles RAPS is very excited and grateful for the bus because it will enable them to take young people on educational excursions which are not possible at present. This is a win for everyone!

Some of you may not know that Eagles RAPS is located in Doonside and is dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide by giving opportunities to young people from disadvantaged/dysfunctional backgrounds through education and the building of self-confidence. The organisation has established a "school" providing an education for young people unable to attend mainstream schools for varying reasons. This "school" was established in 2003 with 2 students and currently has 183. The students' success rate is 83% in various TAFE courses, the majority being the completion of Year 10. Eagles RAPS is working to break the cycle of unemployment and welfare dependency. We have helped them in the past with the provision of computers through Tony's son,, other donations in kind and a large donation from the profit of an early Garden Festival. Hopefully we will be able to continue to help this outstanding organisation.

Joy Newling

Rotary Friendship exchange

President Caroline called the Rotary Friendship exchange Team Guests Rotarian Alpana Mishra, PAG Dhiran Datta, Sunita Datta, AG Vishwas Ghushie, Prati-bha Ghushie from Central India and Pam Pritchard to the lectern for an introduction to our club and for a photo.

The member called DD then addressed the meeting. RFE is a new International initiative from the Rotary Club of East Bopal and they have 65 members. His club is doing Library Projects, Computer Training and Ambulance and they have been building washrooms and toilets at schools

Rotary Friendship exchange



Ivan Cribb Guest Speaker

When aged four Ivan contracted an eye infection. He was admitted to the Children's Hospital where he underwent about six operations. At the conclusion of these he could no longer see. He was subsequently taken to another ophthalmologist who was highly critical of what had been done but by then it was too late.

He first attended the school conducted by (the now Royal) NSW Institute for Deaf and Blind children. Most of the pupils (including those living in Sydney) were boarders from Monday to Friday. His Mum, however, would not allow him to become a boarder. Ivan does not think he would have survived that experience. His family lived in Carlton and the school was situated in City Road, Darlington. His Mum took him to school every morning, returned home and then returned to collect him in the afternoon. Occasionally his Dad was able to help out. Ivan learned Braille and to read and greatly enjoy books at the blind school but it offered only a low grade primary education. It was envisaged that most of the pupils would, after leaving school, work in a sheltered workshop making cane chairs, mats and the like or make their way as musicians of some kind. His Mum wanted much more than that for her son. She obtained an interview with a senior education official as a result of which she obtained permission for Ivan to attend the Public School system. In the mean time Ivan had been learning typing at a local convent. At the age of about twelve he attended the sixth class at Carlton South Public School from where he went on to Canterbury Boys' High.

Apart from a few Braille titles in the English course, such as Shakespeare, there were no text books in Braille nor facilities to produce them, no tape recorders, let alone computers. His parents, mostly his Dad, read the ordinary text books to him and Ivan made notes in Braille. It was on these that he based his studies. He was good at English, History and languages but poor at Maths. After receiving the Leaving Certificate he received a scholarship to Sydney University where he studied Arts and Law. He still used the same method to study as at school, having books read and taking notes in Braille. He was still relying on friends and family to travel to and from the University as he was still unable to travel alone. Of social life he had virtually none. He graduated with degrees in Arts and Law, the latter with Honours.

Following graduation Ivan experienced one of the worst periods of his life. Unable to find a permanent job he went to the Bar but, without connections, the financial returns were meagre in the extreme. He still sometimes dreams that he has no job. It is a great relief to awake and find he no longer needs one. However, there was one really bright spot when he acquired a Guide Dog. This gave him the ability to go out independently and opened up a completely new world. He even gained the confidence to go out with girls!

Ivan's real break came when, through friends, he was offered a position with the legal firm, Dawson Waldron Edwards and Nicholls (now Ashurst Australia). It was in

Ivan Cribb Guest Speaker

a section of the firm concerned with work for the City Sydney Council. When Ivan joined it was a moderately sized firm (not the colossus of to-day) and he was lucky to be placed in the area of Local Government and Environmental Law which, although a specialty, but with a range far more diverse than much commercial law. Initially Ivan continued to work in much the same way as at school and University except that he now had his secretary read incoming correspondence, Acts and text books. He continued to make notes in Braille but a tape-recorder soon greatly facilitated the work. After due consideration he then dictated his letters, advisings, etc. In 1963 he became the senior solicitor in the section with several junior solicitors working under his supervision. In 1971 he was appointed a Senior Associate giving him the right to sign his own mail and those working under his supervision. He had effective authority to run the section subject only to consulting the relevant partner when he deemed it necessary. Towards the end of his career he acquired a small computer, which would be considered a mere toy these days but which was very helpful in allowing him to download much legal (and other) material courtesy of a print scanner in the State Library without burdening his secretary.

The strides which technology has taken are breathtaking but he has been able to take advantage of many of them in his private life.

In 1967, after meeting through friends, Joyce and Ivan were married. Their family now consists of three adult children (two daughters and a son) and their partners and six young grand children. Joyce has been an indispensable partner for Ivan ever since.

In the mid-sixties Ivan was invited to join the Committee of the NSW Guide Dog Association. He remained with the Association for about thirty years, holding various positions in the state and what was then, the National Association. He served on the national Council and various sub-committees for many years, including four terms as National President, a position which no longer exists. Subsequently he was also invited to join the Council of the Royal Blind Society NSW (now part of Vision Australia). He was a member of the Council for approximately twenty-five years serving four terms as Vice-President. In recognition of his voluntary work for vision impaired people he was awarded Membership in the Order of Australia (AM) in 1994. He has been a member of this club (for the second time) since 1994, held several Board positions and served as President 1999-2000. Given the alternatives of living at home on the disability pension or working in a sheltered workshop, Ivan believes he has had no alternative but to try to live as normal a life as possible. Very many people have helped him in this task but he singles out four women, in particular, his mother, the two ladies who, at different times, worked as his secretary and thereby undertook much more difficult work than would normally have been the case, and Joyce. With their help and others, he has been able to have an interesting and responsible career, raise a lovely family and make a not insignificant contribution to the community.

Remainder of 2011-2012 Calendar

DATE	Speaker (BM = Board meeting)
Monday 19 May	Red Shield collection
Monday 21 May	May Hat day; Graeme Davies & De Bono's six thinking hats
Saturday 26 May	Dinners-for-eight
Monday 28 May	Rob Byrne—long bike ride in support of Polio Plus
Monday 4 June	June Lower North Shore Rotoractors BM
Monday 11 June	Queen's birthday – no meeting
Saturday 16 June	Trivia night
Monday 18 June	3 x 10-on-me
Monday 25 June	Changeover