



K O O N G G A

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New Member Talk - Jack McCartney



This week Jack McCartney, who was inducted into the club last week, will give his new member talk. This is his opportunity to tell the club about himself, his family, his life experiences, his occupation and everything else.

Come along and get a first hand account of Jack's life.

Possible Golf Day Project

The Rotary Club of Hornsby is looking for one or more other clubs to join in running its established annual golf day. Our club's board and the Community Service committee will consider whether it's a project that we can become involved in. Something for the many golfers in our club to take a swing at perhaps?

Nominees For President Elect

The club's Annual General Meeting is due to be held on Monday, 2 December. At the meeting elections will be held for board positions, including the President Elect for 2015/16. As we don't have a President Elect for 2014/15, options include:

- Electing one of the long-serving Rotarians who has not yet served as President;
- Electing a relatively inexperienced Rotarian (which we've done before);
- Recycling one of the numerous Past Presidents in the club; or
- Extending President Tony's reign. He edited Koongga for 15 years, so we know he's got the stamina to stay in the role *ad infinitum*.

Which of those options takes your fancy? Isn't it time you put up your hand to be elected?

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

Also at this week's meeting, there will be a discussion of plans for next year's Bobbin Head Cycle Classic. This is your opportunity to put forward suggestions and volunteer for the numerous tasks involved in setting up and running the club's major annual fundraising event.



Propose A Speaker



Do you know a good speaker on an interesting topic? President Tony has challenged all members of the club to propose speakers for our meetings. Before you move on to the next item, note down the names of your family, friends and business associates who have something to

say that's worth hearing. Everyone has a story to tell and our club wants to hear it. There's no limit to the possible topics.

Early Warning - Next Week's Meeting

Next week's club meeting will be held at the **Hornsby RSL Club on Tuesday, 24 September**. Consequently there will be no meeting at West Pymble Bicentennial Club on Monday, 23 September.

The meeting will be a joint meeting of northern Sydney Rotary clubs and is being held for the official visit of District Governor Graeme Davies. (The District is now so large that it's impractical for the DG to visit every club separately.)

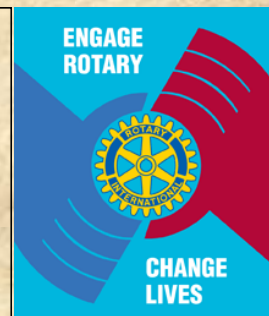
Let's have a good turn out of our members to hear the latest news from our new District. It's business as usual, fellows!

Rotary International Convention

All members are encouraged to register as soon as possible for the Rotary International Convention to be held at Homebush May 28 - June 4 next year. The number of registrations affects the level of funding provided by RI.

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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

WebAware

Last week Bob Ivey continued his occasional series demonstrating the use of the club's website.

For members he showed how to:

- Enter guests and apologies (including apologies for other members); and
- Access Koongga (essential for viewing rosters, amongst other things).

For anyone, he showed how to access the following informative short videos on the website:

- What is Rotary?
- In Rotary You Can Also . . .
- This Close to Ending Polio
- The Heart of Rotary

Acknowledgements

President Tony made special mention of the following members for their exceptional contributions to the activities of the club:

- Peter Kipps - for the huge amount of work he has put into the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic and the skill with which he has fulfilled his role.
- John Aitken - for the enormous amount of work that he has done in coordinating the work of the service committees and keeping the club functioning in President Tony's absence overseas.
- The Koongga Editor - for keeping club members and others informed (hopefully) interested.

Last Week's Speaker

Annabelle Chauncy Update on Katuuso School



Annabelle grew up in the Southern Highlands of NSW. Having completed her undergraduate Arts/Law degree, in 2007 she spent 3 months in Kenya and Uganda, where she undertook aid work as part of the World Youth International Overseas Service Project.

Having fallen in love with the people and the continent, she returned to Australia dedicated and motivated to create realistic change in Africa. She returned numerous times and in November 2008 to March 2009 she led a volunteer school building project in Northern Uganda with Australian organisation *Hands of Help*.

School for Life Foundation's man on the ground, Dave Everett, graduated from a degree in Development Studies at Macquarie University in 2009.

Born in South Africa, Dave lived in Botswana until he was two years old before moving to Sydney. In 2007 Dave's four-month trip to Kenya turned into almost a year, where he was involved in sustainable community projects, such as the distribution of mosquito nets, installation of an irrigation system, establishment of bore hole and cattle trough, and numerous other income generating ventures.

Building the school combines Dave's love for the outdoors, kids and his passion for helping impoverished communities. Dave currently lives full-time in Uganda as the Country Director, where he oversees the day-to-day management of employees, building and maintenance of the school.

School for Life is focused on "breaking the cycle" of poverty through education and the construction of a combined primary school and vocational training centre called 'Katuuso' in rural Uganda.

School for Life strongly believes that education is everything. It is the key to creating lasting change. Education increases literacy and improves employment prospects, which is why the Foundation is ensuring it is accessible for Ugandans in poverty stricken, rural and remote areas.

The Katuuso school has 8 classrooms and separate buildings for administrative and other purposes. The school employs 30 staff, from teachers to cooks, groundsmen and security staff. There is a deep water bore, which provides clean water to the entire local community. The school provides 3 nutritious meals per day for the students, who would otherwise be inadequately fed. (The school charges a nominal fee for attendance, so that local families do not take it for granted.)

Planning is underway to acquire more land, upon which to build a secondary school for 300 students, with boarding facilities.

Alive Medical services visits Katuuso periodically to perform a medical clinic for the whole community. On a recent visit, it provided 5 doctors, 2 nutritionists, counsellors and lab technicians to ensure that accurate tests for HIV, malaria and other illnesses were performed. The students and community received free medications and health care advice. The overall health and nutrition of our students has increased significantly since they began at Katuuso Primary School in January.

Recently the vocational part of the school has been teaching the students and the entire local community better agriculture and farming practices, including skills of sustainability, intercropping and adding value to their land with cash crops like coffee and chilli. It's all part of the Foundation's approach to creating a holistic development within the entire community at Katuuso.

The agriculture plot has now seen its first harvest. Onions, beans, and cabbage have all been picked and the maize has finished growing and is now drying on the stalks. The red chillis are also currently being harvested. Once picked, they are dried on plastic mats for 2-4 days and then stored in sacks. The last 4-6 weeks has seen the chillis become ripe almost as fast as they can be harvested.

The rainy season is fast approaching and Katuuso will be planting 3,000 coffee trees. The subsistence plot will be replanted due to the rainy season beginning and the school will be growing, tomatoes, onions, beans, bananas, matooke, maize and cabbages to feed its students.

The school's animal farm has continued to expand and its goat has recently given birth to 2 kids, one male and one female. The school has purchased more hens to go with its two cockerels, so it is hoping there will be some chicks soon!