



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: water and sanitation

This week: On your bikes! Bobbin Head Cycle Classic briefing



With less than 2 weeks to go until this year's big cycling event, it's essential that all our club members and the volunteers that they have conscripted attend the briefing for everyone involved. This is when you will learn

the details of arrangements, particularly in relation to rider safety and changes made since last year, find out when and where you need to be, collect your own safety equipment, etc. Don't miss it!

Last week's guests & announcements

President Tony:

- Welcomed Isobel, Anna and Hugh Middleton and Rachel, Sue and Alan Lowenstein;
- Thanked the BHCC envelope stuffers (see last week's Koongga);
- Thanked Ross Egan and other members for their successful organisation of the 2 March film night, which raised \$3,000 for PolioPlus;
- Offered free training for 2 traffic controllers for the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, which will also qualify them to embark on a new career as 'lollipop men' or 'lollipop women'; and
- Announced that, between 1 April 2015 and 30 June 2016, all members will need to register under new child protection laws in order to participate in child related club projects.



Caroline Jones announced the establishment of a book club for members, partners and their friends. The club will meet on the first Thursday of each month at 6.30 for 7 pm at Caroline's home. The first book to be

discussed is 'The Shadow of the Wind' by Carlos Ruiz Zafon.

Peter Kipps reported:

- Over 2,021 riders already registered for the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic;
- Closure of registrations for the 104km ride;
- Judging by the timing of registrations, riders do no work on Monday mornings, but catch up on the work they missed on Friday afternoons;
- Our club has assembled about 100 volunteers - more than any of the other participating Rotary clubs; and
- More volunteers are required.



Rob Hall:

- Said that over 15,000 tick awareness brochures have been distributed and more are being given out; and
- Showed an short film clip demonstrating correct tick removal procedure, created *pro bono* by Craig Baxter, the animator for the film 'Happy Feet'.

Michael Tyler:

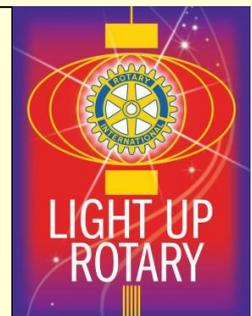
- Conducted a quick survey which revealed that all but 4 members of the club have never experienced the excitement of writing for or producing a school, university, club or business newsletter;
- Invited volunteers to gain that experience by writing for, editing and producing Koongga;
- Announced that stand-in writers, editors and producers are needed for 4 weeks in July and August (when the current editorial and production team will be on assignment overseas) and that a new team will be needed after June 2016, when the current staff retire permanently.

Linda Lam-Rohlfs proposed and asked for feedback on a new club program, which she summarised as follows:

- We propose to join a 'pilot program' initiated by Rotary International, by setting up a **Rotary Hub** in our club.
- **Rotary Hub** is a forum through which we can expand our network directly to local community groups,

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The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara. Visitors welcome (Tel: 9498 2700). www.kuringgairotary.org.au

Rotary International
Theme 2014-2015

- to increase awareness of Rotary services and to encourage collaboration.
- The Hub will meet **once monthly** in a structured but casual and fun way, with a focus on increasing humanitarian/community services. We will welcome new ideas for fund-raising activities. Local community groups, friends and visitors will be invited to join us in the Hub meetings for knowledge sharing and building long term partnerships with Rotary.
- It is proposed to meet at **Gordon Golf Club** and there will be no cost to club members during the pilot period. If we decided to continue, it will be at a cost of \$10 per member (to cover the meeting costs). Visitors and guests will be invited free of charge. Attendance at the Rotary Hub meetings will be considered equivalent to attendance at the club's weekly meeting.



Joy Newling said that 11 members/partners are registered for the District Conference on 20 - 22 March and invited more members to join them. **Rob Hall** strongly recommended attendance, particularly by recently joined Rotarians. Look out for **President Tony** at the conference.

Linda Lam-Rohlfs expressed privacy concerns about the circulation of people's names, email addresses and telephone numbers. She recommended that electronic files/documents containing such information be encrypted with password protection before circulation, so as to make it harder for 'hacker's to access.

The loneliness of life at the top



President Tony at work on Rotary business

District Assembly

Rotary International District 9685 will hold its annual **District Assembly** on Sunday **12 April 2015** at The Kings School, North Parramatta from 8.30 am to 4 pm.

The purpose of the one-day Assembly is to prepare all incoming Rotary club leaders and officers for their roles in the administration of their club.

An opening plenary session will be held for all participants, followed by breakout sessions / workshops for each individual role.

It is essential that all club office holders in 2015-16 attend, so that they learn about their roles and the opportunities available to them to ensure they have a successful year.

Registration is now open on-line at assembly.rotarydistrict9685.org.au. Each club officer attending must register individually. If he/she is unable to attend, another club member should attend in their place.

The District Assembly is a vital part of the preparation for the year ahead and all club office bearers are encouraged to attend.

The accreditation process for grants from the Rotary Foundation will take place at the Assembly, so it is essential that each club's Foundation Chair attend. Clubs that do not attend this session - for the entire session - will not be accredited and thus will be ineligible for Foundation grants in 2015-16.

Board meeting notes

At its meeting on 9 March, amongst other things, the board:

- Agreed to invite the club's two National Youth Science Forum candidates to a club meeting;
- Approved payment of a donation of \$3,120 to Camp Breakaway;
- Approved proposal of the Rotary Hub project to the members; and
- Resolved to promote ShelterBox at the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic;

Don't forget that all members are welcome to attend board meetings. The next one will be held at 5.30pm on Monday, 13 April at the Killara Golf Club.

Last week: Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment

Recently our club sponsored two students, Isobel Middleton and Rachel Lowenstein, to attend the Rotary Program of Enrichment ('RYPEN'). Last week they spoke to us about the experience and showed us a video made at the camp. This is what they said:

Rachel: Good evening Rotary members. Recently Isobel and I attended a three day, two night RYPEN camp at Narrabeen. There we learnt about teamwork, taking initiative and leadership.



Teamwork was learnt through building a raft together. Each group was given a jar of money and we had to decide as a group what materials we wanted to buy and the most efficient way to build it. Though my group's boat wasn't the fastest and didn't win, I learnt that it's not about being the best, it's only about being the best that you can be.

We took initiative during the bomb challenge, when no one had any idea what was going on. Everyone followed the given instructions and placed themselves into the required amount of groups. This made everything so

much easier and taught me that, by simply using your initiative, tasks can become easier and more enjoyable, as everyone was a willing participant, eager to contribute.

Leadership was learnt during our group discussion. We learnt that some people are listeners, while others are talkers, and that to be a good leader you have to step out of your comfort zone and show both sides.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed my time at RYPEN. I found it to be inspiring, motivating and thought-provoking. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. It was truly a memorable experience.



Isobel: Hello, my name is Isobel. I really enjoyed the RYPEN summer camp. It was definitely one of the best experiences of my high school career. It was a bunch of fun and I had done nothing like it before.

When I first heard of the camp I was, to be honest, unsure if I wanted to do it. All I knew was that it was some kind of leadership camp and I thought we would be just be doing exercises and stuff like that. But it wasn't anything like that.

From the moment I arrived I knew it was going to be memorable. Everyone was incredibly nice and friendly. The 'leaders' weren't really like teachers, but were our friends and acted like our buddies, which was really nice as it made them more approachable.

Everyone was split up into four groups; blue, yellow, red and green. I was in green. We stayed in our groups for most of the weekend but still got to meet everyone.

When we arrived we received these sort of goody bags that had some snacks, a booklet and our name tags that had our group colour on it. We later found out the hard way that these lanyards had to be physically attached to us at all times. Otherwise we had to face the penalty of doing the chicken dance for everyone, or worse sing 'let it go' from the film 'Frozen'.

Everyone was in the dark about what we were going to do on this camp and were only told what we were doing at that specific moment. Every group managed to do the same things, just at different times.

The first activity my group did was the incisive games, where we split into smaller groups to tackle problem solving games. The first game we completed was the maze. The maze was tricky, as the people in the maze had to be blindfolded and the others had to guide them through safely without touching the sides.

We were also the only group to complete the stepping stone challenge you saw in the video. This challenge was hard, as you had to tackle the problem and work together to do it. The goal was to get everyone onto the opposite end they were standing on. For example, all of the four people on the left hand side would have to make it to the right hand side, still leaving



that one stone in the middle at the end. But if you asked me to do it again today it would probably take me ages to work it out. These games got us to work together to solve problems quickly and to trust each other when we only just met.



We also did several other activities such as canoeing, a disco, quizzes, making charity videos and having bomb day. Bomb day was really cool and was probably one of the best things about the weekend. My team and Rachel's team had to work together to find clues, so that we could find the bomb and stop it from exploding, and I mean literally exploding.

We also got the chance to write letters to ourselves about our time at RYPEN camp, so that we wouldn't forget all the great memories we experienced. I can't wait to receive my letter next year.

Overall, the camp was amazing, so thank you for letting Rachel and I go. I learnt a lot of new skills and came home with a new found confidence. I will treasure the memories for a really long time.

Next week: Natalie Fisher: Small towns: big ideas

There have been a number of arts-based initiatives in regional Australia over recent years that demonstrate how the arts can contribute to the transformation of small communities.

Art can provide a town with a competitive edge, a brand or reputation, a character. It can generate media, visitation, ticket sales, support other industries, create jobs, develop skills and confidence, introduce talent and expertise, strengthen community and heal rifts or divisions. The arts can bring people together in new ways for good reasons. This is particularly important as small towns struggle to survive, as people and industry move away.

Natalie will show some examples of recent arts-based initiatives in small Australian towns and how they have transformed local communities. She will also discuss ways in which their success may be measured.

Natalie Fisher is an experienced social research and evaluation consultant with more than 15 years of experience. Her work spans a range of sectors, including arts and culture, regional Australia, disaster recovery, human services, urban planning and environmental sustainability. She works for all three tiers of government throughout Australia. Recent clients have included Regional Arts Victoria, Cultural Victoria (formerly Arts Victoria), Arts Queensland, Australia Council for the Arts, Museums Australia, and local councils throughout Sydney.

Natalie is an active member of the Australasian Evaluation Society and the Australia Market and Social Research Society. She has also worked as a part-time tutor of Marketing and Brand Identity at the University of Sydney within the Faculty of Economics and Business. Natalie has been a committed member of Sydney Philharmonia Choirs for 18 years and is also a practising visual artist.

Calendar of events

March	23	Natalie Fisher: Small towns, big ideas
	29	(Sunday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic
	30	Steve Champion: Industrial relations in 2015
April	6	Easter Monday – no meeting
May	4	Club business meeting
	14	(Thursday) Fundraising night: Pymble Players: a Hercule Poirot whodunit
	17	Meeting postponed 3 days
	20	(Wednesday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation to charities
	25	Chris Russell: Behind the scenes at 'New Inventors'
June	29	Changeover dinner

Club officers and committee chairmen 2014-15

Board of directors

President	Tony McClelland
Vice President	John Aitken
President Elect	Graham Timms
Secretary	Geoff Hungerford
Treasurer	Graham Maslen
Director - Membership	Greg Newling
Director - Public Relations	Michael Midlam
Director - Club Administration	Joy Newling
Director - Service Projects	John Aitken
Director - Rotary Foundation	Graham Timms

Service committee chairmen

Club Service	Joy Newling
Vocational Service	Michael Midlam
Community Service	Ross Lambert
International Service	Roger Desmarchelier
Youth Service	[Vacant]
Bobbin Head Cycle Classic	Bob Elsworth
Sergeant-at-Arms	Malcolm Braid

Club committees 2014-15

Administration: Joy Newling, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall, Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga)

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic: Bob Elsworth, Graham Timms, Tony McClelland, Ross Egan, John Aitken, Michael Midlam, Emyr Evans, Dilys Geddes, Geoff Hungerford, Jack McCartney, Linda Lam-Rolfs

Club History: Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

Community: Ross Lambert, Michael Midlam (Bowel scan), Lou Coenen, Linda Lam-Rolfs, Gary Dawson, Roger Desmarchelier, Chris Hoch (Red Shield), Caroline Jones, Nick Kenyon, Loïc Lacombe, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day)

International: Roger Desmarchelier, Graham Maslen, David Forsythe, Peter Tang, Georgina Manning, Lindsay Forest, Loïc Lacombe, Emyr Evans, John Aitken

Membership: Greg Newling

Public Relations: Michael Midlam

Rotary Foundation: Graham Timms, Peter Tang

Vocational: Michael Midlam

Youth: Joy Newling (acting), Bob Ivey, Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson, Ted Price, Joyce Enos, Greg Goodman, Linda Lam-Rolfs, Jack McCartney