

Meeting Report for Wednesday, 16th June 2021. REPORTER: JUSTINE DILLON

19 members and 1 visitor attended the meeting which commenced with a meal - barbecue, at 18:20.

Chairperson: Ian McPherson:

- Ian welcomed Ian Yarker and Graeme Allan back following periods of illness and a welcome to Jarryd, Justine’s partner. Ian invited Justine to make her announcement: the baby that they are expecting was confirmed today as a GIRL.
- Thanks to Ken for an excellent barbecue.

Reports:

Denise Payne

- Congratulations to Justine & Jarryd: It is the intention of the club to hold a Baby Shower at a date to be decided ... possibly August. Justine has been asked to provide a list of required items.
- Reported on the scheduled meeting of Cluster Presidents and Presidents Elect. Rose reluctantly at 06:30 (usual rising time is 08:30). Only Ashmore R.C. officials of the six Cluster Officials attended with A.G. David Bisiker. President Norman has been the only club official to attend all of the monthly Cluster meetings.
- Ian McPherson suggested the offer of grandchildren’s, no-longer-needed items for use by Justine. This suggestion was welcomed as all Taylor’s old items were disposed of some years ago.

Marcia Waller - Changeover Dinner:

- Confirmed to the Southport Golf Club today that attendance total for the Changeover Dinner is 48 Persons. It is necessary that all fees be received by the Treasurer by the 17th of June. Still approximately 12 outstanding. “Please Pay!

President Norman Coventry:

- Reported on the last twelve months; much has been achieved, the highlight being the acquisition and planting of a native tree in the Gold Coast Botanic Gardens, to celebrate the Centenary of rotary in Australia.
- Future meetings will be “Online”.

- Future Training Courses will be online and free.

- Thanks expressed for Rotary Foundation donation. The second highest of the clubs in the Cluster.

- A Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday: 18:30 at ARCC. Director reports for the month are due.

- RYDA, the **Rotary Youth Driver Awareness** programme has been terminated.

- Ian McP offered a vote of thanks to Norman for his two successful, consecutive years as an extremely competent and hard-working President of the Ashmore Rotary Club; carried out diligently and with good humour despite ongoing health issues related to a serious road accident several years ago.

Ian Wilson:

- Thanks to the members of the Club who gave their time as monitors at the Science & Engineering Challenge. The Ashmore Rotary was involved in the first challenge 17 years ago before the students who participated this year were born. Ian McP worked with students building a Hovercraft. The student teams working on this project were unaware of the existence of hovercraft and the principle of its method of propulsion. Michael H. was astounded by the inability of university students to add two, three digit numbers together without the help of a calculator.

Justine Dillon:

- Will deliver a *Welcome to Country* address to new citizens at a *Neighbours Connect* meeting at the Varsity Community Centre on Saturday.
- Involved with the Men’s Mental Health event on Sunday from 6 am to 4 pm; walking from The Spit to Burleigh.

Graeme Allan:

- Thanked members for their good wishes during his recent illness. Having been diagnosed with Vascular Dementia some four months ago, he was advised this week that the diagnosis was incorrect He is of course very happy that the condition was mis-diagnosed but not enamoured with the reality of suffering anguish as a result of that mis-diagnosis and error in treatment.

Michael Hyland: Guest Speaker - Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Covid-19.

Geography: PNG comprises half of the island originally known as New Guinea. It is the third largest Island nation encompassing 462,840 square kilometres. It has a population of just over 9 million citizens (98th in the World). It has a population density of 15 citizens per square kilometre (201st in the world). **It is the closest foreign nation to Australia.** The closest point of the main island (Daru, just west of the Fly River) is 151 kilometres north of the northern tip of Cape York (across the Torres Strait) There are at least 274 islands in the Torres Strait. It is not difficult for foreign nationals to “Island-hop” to the Australian Mainland (a one-time routine for the smuggling of cannabis). The administrative border of Australia is Kassa Island, area approximately two hectares and just one kilometre from the PNG coast. Saibai Island is one of the larger islands in the Torres Strait. With a population of 317, it is just 4 kilometres from PNG. This border was negotiated in 1974/75 ; at the time of PNG independence (PNG wanted the islands but the population wanted to remain Australian). The compromise was that the geographical border would be midway across the strait.

PNG has experienced surprisingly low incidence of Covid –19; 16,882 cases and 165 deaths. Almost all being in the urban areas with little transmission to the remote village communities.

Comparison of Cases per 1,000 of population: **PNG; 1.9 AUS; 1.16 USA; 101.8 UK; 1.92 IT; 70.39**

Comparison of Deaths per 1,000 of population: **PNG; 0.018 (132nd) AUS; 0.035 (117th) USA; 1.83 (18th) UK; 1.92 (17th) IT 2.1 (12th)**

Figures in Parenthesis () indicate the position, the lowest (Peru) with the highest death ratio (5.82) is in Position 1. In Position 155 (0.00036) is Tanzania.

It is not transmission of Covid - 19 that we should be concerned about. China has recently announced that it is looking into funding a new City on Daru Island incorporating an “Industrial zone, Seaport, Commercial, and residential Zones together with a Resort: over a 100 square kilometre area. Daru is just 60 km north east of the Torres Strait.

President Norman delivered his last “joke” and closed the meeting with the reciting of the Four Way Test at 20:07.

Collectables

Bottles - plastic and glass, Cans with the 10c return bar code: T.B.A.

Tea Bag Tags: To Heather Y.

Stamps: To Ian McP.

Bread Clips: To T.B.A.

Aluminium Ring Pulls: To T.B.A.

Cane Toads: Frozen— In plastic bag - see procedure at watergum.org

To Michael H.Will pick up

Social & Volunteer Calendar to June

PLEASE BE SURE TO MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY OF THE DATES OF UP-COMING EVENTS LISTED BELOW:

Wednesday 23rd June:

Changeover Dinner at the Southport Golf Club.

Wednesday 30th June:

“The Great Debate”. Roast dinner.

Sunday 22nd August **FIRST NOTICE**

Gold Coast Potters: Father’s Day Barbecue

Wednesday 29th September

Visit of the District Governor

All of the above events will continue to be advertised on **Page One** of this publication under:

ATTENTION: EVENT DETAILS

From the Editor's Desk

I was disappointed to learn of the resignation of three of the senior ladies of our club. All three have been tireless workers for Rotary over many years and the gaps now left in our support systems will be very hard to fill.

Nevertheless, we must move on and attempt to fill those gaps amongst those remaining. Or better still, introduce new, younger people to our group. Those with ideas compatible to the new generations and with the energy to make those ideas a reality.

I am not party to the reasons that the ladies left us but I cannot let them depart without expressing my thanks for the work they have done during their years in the club.

Elaine Williams has been a tower of strength in our fund-raising projects for many years. Her badgering of businesses to provide items for our raffles has been amazingly productive. In particular, the recent raffles held at the Ashmore City Shopping Plaza and the Q Super Centre at Mermaid Waters have been spectacularly productive. Add to that, her decorative skills and workmanship during some of the functions held at various meeting rooms have helped establish a party atmosphere even before an event started.

Jan Heap has involved herself in the management of the club from almost the first day of her induction in 2005. Jan was President of the Ashmore Rotary Club in 2013/14 and, as far as I can remember, has held an executive position for most years since. More recently she has been an outstanding ambassador for the club with the local schools as Youth Director, taking over from Kay Nicol half way through the 2019/20 year when Kay signalled her move to chilly Scotland. Over several years Jan has been the receiver of the various odds and ends, some of which may, on first examination, appear to be worthless, have been saved from disposal sites to be reconfigured into useful accessories for various appliances (e.g. Ring Pulls to Wheelchair Wheels).

Barbara Healey also "joined the club running" just over six years ago. She was quickly into her stride assisting on our community projects and taking on that responsibility on the Board of 2019/20. Another of her many contributions to the Club has been the receiver of bottles and cans for recycling. But not simply receiving, Barbara has committed much of her time to taking those bottles and cans to the collection centre and laboriously feeding them into the machines to credit well over \$3,000 to the Clubs account.

Barbara was recently seriously injured in a fall. She is still recovering from those injuries.

All three ladies above are Paul Harris Fellows, awarded for their exemplary service to Rotary and to the local community through their work with Ashmore R.C. I thank them dearly for their dedication to the ideals of Rotary and their friendship to me.

On a happier note, we congratulate Jarryd and Justine on the news that they are expecting a baby GIRL later this year. All the "Grannies" are getting excited. Are we making history here? Perhaps the Foundation members - that includes, as one-time Club Historian, you Neil - can dig back into their (ailing?) minds to recall when, or if, a baby was born to a member or member's wife.

MICHAEL HYLAND

LETTERS

*Letters for publication in this document are welcome.
Information, news items or comments, good or bad on the content of this news sheet will be published without editing.
Bad or offensive language will not be published*

First Notice of Barbecue:

Please be advised that we have been requested to operate a Barbecue at the Gold Coast Potter's Association on Sunday, August 22nd.

This is a Father's Day function and I should have further details to announce at our next club meeting.

Brian McAllan

BBQ Coordinator

***This is a repeat of a letter published in AiA Issue 57
For action, refer to above Issue for detailed instructions.***

Dear Presidents, Youth Directors, Secretaries & AG's (FYI),

Please see the attached memo from YEP co-chair, Kathryn Koch with the exciting news that D9640 is about to embark on a "Virtual Youth Exchange Programme". How to access information etc. is contained in the memo. Should you have any questions, please contact Kathryn.

Presidents, please check with your Youth Director that they have received this information, as not all Youth Directors are listed on Club Runner, so I would ask that you provide them with the information - TKU. This information is being sent to all of the incoming Presidents/Secretaries & Youth Directors.

YIR,

Sue Randel

Dist. Sec

cc: DGE Jeff Egan

Incoming Dist. Sec. Jan Glynn

Kathryn Koch

David Kenny

Darrell Brown

NOTICES

2021 QUEENSLAND SENIORS MONTH

Did you know that Queensland Seniors Week has changed to a month-long celebration - Seniors Month!

Being held during October 2021, Seniors Month will provide opportunities for people of all ages, cultures, and abilities to connect through inclusive events and activities.

This month-long celebration will continue to provide an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the valuable contributions that seniors make to our city and will encourage community connections and participation.

Mayors Free Seniors Concert; Dates and venue to be confirmed shortly

Gold Coast Seniors Month Calendar of Events: If you are hosting a free community event during Seniors Month, please let me know and I can promote your event through the 'Seniors Month Calendar of Events.'

For more information please visit <https://qldseniorsmonth.org>.

Member's Welfare

If you are aware of any member who is sick or in need of help, please contact Joan Adams on:

Mobile: 0401 255 883

Email: joanadms3@optusnet.com.au

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Club Anniversaries this week

for

Kim Storen on the 23rd

and

Ian McPherson on the 29th