



Ashmore in Action

Issue N^o. 100 28th August 2022

Club President



Brad Francis

THE 4-WAY TEST

- IS IT THE TRUTH?
- IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
- WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIP?
- WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

R.I. President



Jennifer Jones

Michael Lane joins the Rotary Club of Ashmore

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The next meeting of
The Ashmore Rotary Club at the
Ashmore Rotary Community Centre

on
Wednesday, the 7th of September 2022

DUTY TEAM: GOLD

Please be sure to advise Robyn Schatz if you will be attending AND if you will require a meal.

Contact information is:-

Email: randgschatz@gmail.com

Tel: 0439 794 092

Club Officials for the Year 2022-23

President: Brad Francis
 Vice president: Brian McAllan
 Past President : Denise Payne
 Treasurer: Pat Fleming
 Secretaries: Justine Dillon
 Ian Wilson

Service Directors

Projects : Heather Yarker
 Ken Cowan
 Administration : Robyn Schatz
 & Club Service Rob Deshon
 Public Relations : Sue Plummer
 Foundation : Greg Clogan

Support

Attendance: Robyn Schatz
 Welfare: Joan Adams
 A.I.A.: Michael Hyland

On Wednesday, the 17th of August, Michael Lane was inducted as a member of the Rotary Club of Ashmore. Michael is a member of the Australian Armed Services. He works as a Logistics Officer at the Kokoda Barracks, Canungra. His home is on the Gold Coast.

Michael has been in the Army on a full or part-time basis for 34 years. His overseas service includes spells in Iraq, India and China although he claims that he is not particularly fluent in the languages of the countries in which he has worked. He was a member of the Tasmanian Police Force for 14 years and in 2002 was a member of the Australian Police Rugby League team to tour of New Zealand.

Amongst his other achievements, Michael has Masters Degrees in Business, Logistics Management, Defence and Strategic Studies and Capability Management. Whilst living in Tasmania, Michael was a member of the Howrah Rotary Club, presently based at the Tasmanian Police Academy on the Eastern shore of the Derwent River. Michael has been assigned the classification of *Defence Services*.

We welcome Michael Lane to our club with the assurance that he will very quickly become a valued member of our community.

Report of the meeting held on Wednesday, the 17th of August 2022

We had 15 members and 2 guests, DG Karen Thomas and District Photographer Peter Truer, in attendance. Harry and his team produced a very tasty BBQ pork meal, with crème caramel and ice cream to finish.

Chairman Joan kicked the meeting off with news from Heather and Ian about their trip in the bush, their Good News Muster. 13 NextGen members have been in the Longreach/Barcardine area, and extending down to Yaraka, during the last few weeks. They have been surveying the health (mental and physical) of the community and the schools, and have

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Social & Volunteer Calendar

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

Wednesday, 7th September

No Guest Speaker.
DUTY TEAM: GOLD

Wednesday, 21st September

No Guest Speaker
DUTY TEAM: RED

Wednesday, 5th October

No Guest Speaker
DUTY TEAM: GREEN

Thursday, 20th October

Gold Coast City Junior Council
 Time & Venue to be advised

Report of the meeting held on Wednesday, the 17th of August 2022 CONTINUED

also started a new project for an ambulance transfer station halfway between Tambo and Blackall. This is a joint project with Tambo hospital and ReClub NextGen. The club has also donated 3 AED machines to Tambo and Alpha. Heather and Ian are remarkable Rotarians, working hard and enjoying their many experiences.

Joan announced that next Wednesday's meeting will be at Mamma Mia's restaurant at 6.30. Please advise Joan if you are attending.

Joan handed the meeting over to President Brad, who had the great pleasure of inducting Michael Lane as a member of our club. Michael is a former Rotarian, and will be a great asset to the club. His classification is Defence Services, and he will be on the Gold Team.

DG Karen started her address with an explanation of this year's Rotary Theme, Imagine Rotary, and the significance of the year's logo, which was designed by Riki Salem, an indigenous artist in Melbourne, the city which will host the International Convention in May next year. The 7 dots represent our 7 areas of focus, and the green line under them is a digging stick, which is used when doing hard work. The circle symbolises connections. The colours are purple, green, and white. Purple signifies empowerment, and is also the Polioplus campaign colour. Green is for the environment, and white is for peace, our core mission. Our first ever female RI President, Jennifer Jones, has chosen these colours, and significantly, they were also the colours of the Suffragettes. We have a new song for the year too, appropriately set to the tune of John Lennon's beautiful "Imagine".

Karen explained her Rotary journey started as a member of the Rotaract Club of Murwillumbah. By now, all of our members should have a copy of the District Directory, which Karen referred to several times during her presentation. The directory outlines Karen's life story, and her experience in the Health industry. She has chosen to concentrate her efforts this year on disease prevention and treatment, with particular focus on chronic disease. There has been an increase in the incidence of chronic conditions such as diabetes, coronary heart disease, and high blood pressure during the last 2 years, and Karen feels that Rotary is in a good position to help. She pointed out that these are preventable diseases in many cases. She also mentioned Dementia, mental health, and male health. She would like to see greater availability and awareness of defibrillators.

Karen would like to see all Rotarians as blood donors, and even if we are not able to give blood because of our age, we may be able to get younger family members to donate on our behalf. Blood donation in the community is down 25% at the moment, and this puts the lives of those who rely on regular donations at risk.

Regarding mental health, Karen pointed out that many Rotarians put themselves out to be their best selves for the community, but that it is important that we also look after ourselves.

The last page of the District Directory is devoted to Karen's DG's Project for the year, which is to support Angel Flight. We will have a guest speaker on this subject during the year.

Karen emphasised the importance of our completing Risk Assessment forms for all our projects, as our insurers are likely to reject claims when this has not been done.

Karen next addressed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and gave examples of how we can apply these to our club's actions. She also drew our attention to Rotary's Code of Conduct, which is in the Directory. She encouraged us to consider having a special meeting devoted to women, and to reach out to Rotaract and Interact.

Lastly, she encouraged us to come to Yamba in March for the District Conference.

President Brad outlined some of our projects for Karen. He also encouraged members to volunteer for the Show carparking duties. He also advised that from next week, our meeting charge will increase to \$25.

Brad mentioned the Regionalisation Project, and pointed out that the club needed to vote on this in September. You can read about this in RDU August and July issues, and also go onto its website at creatingtomorrowrotary.org/media. The site has a Fact Sheet and also a FAQ section.

In 2019, the RI board approved a petition by the 2018-19 DGs of Zone 8 to address the challenges in our region. The petition sought to develop a coordinated regional approach to brand awareness, declining membership, community partnerships, fundraising and change management in order to better support clubs. Since then, there has been a working party implementing the project. Over the years there have been several mentions of this project in RDU.

There are 16 Districts in Zone 8, which takes in all of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific countries. There are about 31 000 Rotarians and 1000 Rotaractors. Two thirds of the clubs in our District need to approve the project, and this also applies to the other Districts. Our club vote is a majority vote. Your board approves the project. If it is approved, there will be a 3 year pilot scheme starting in July next year.

ROB DESHON

From the Editor's Desk

Firstly, I should also clarify the heading on Page 1 which is listed as "Issue 100" of Ashmore in Action. Senior members of the club will no doubt recall that there have been many more than 100 Issues. I could be corrected but I believe that Sue Lee first adopted the title "Ashmore in Action" as a more specific heading for the Club's newsletter than the original "Bulletin". Subsequent editors continued with that title. Issue 100 denotes one hundred issues since I took on the task as Editor.

I must also apologise for the inaccuracies in Issue 99 of Ashmore in Action. Those two pages were compiled in the dining room/lounge at my son's residence in North Mackay with two women chatting away on the other side of the room and a son occasionally calling me out to provide a second pair of hands to a complicated (for me) maintenance job he wanted sorting before we flew to Townsville. My ailing brain cannot cope with such distractions and I am convinced that the state of the Bruce Highway above Gympie rattled my poor brain to near concussion.

My mood was not helped the following morning when the taxi I had advanced-booked to take us to the airport failed to arrive. Beware, if you use 13cabs: confirm your booking. After waiting 20 minutes, I again rang 13cabs in an attempt to complain at the failure of the taxi to arrive but succeeded only in reaching Miss Electronic Voice; so simply booked again for immediate pick-up. The taxi arrived within 5 minutes enabling us to be checked in and settled in the Qantas lounge in time for a relaxing coffee and very tasty cakes before the call for boarding. This was a signal for very comfortable and enjoyable experience to the next ten days. After the 55 minute flight to Townsville, a short cab ride to the ferry terminal, a 20 minute cruise to Nelly Bay and we were lunching at Peppers with friends we hadn't seen for over two years. Having driven up from Eden on the NSW south coast, they had rented a cottage on the other side of the island (Horseshoe Bay). It was a perfect location. The property was in quiet, dense bushland, a five-minute walk to the beach, café's and pubs and was frequented by wallabies, possums, the occasional kangaroo and numerous species of birds who's dawn chorus was sometimes deafening.

The only drawback was that the internet was unreliable, at best, So I didn't bother. Surprisingly, temperatures ranged from 10 degrees (overnight) to 25 degrees at around 2 pm.

After a most relaxing time, we left our friends to meet up in Townsville with a working companion and only other expatriate at Metals Refining Operations in Port Moresby. He left the Company shortly after me, in mid-2003 when the principles in Perth relinquished management rights "due to Country Risk". He now owns and operates a chemicals manufacturing company in Townsville and has recently won a contract to supply SEQ Water with liquid Aluminium Sulphate.

We spent a very pleasant three days in the city where Coronavirus has had a devastating effect on the economy. The vacation industry is only slowly recovering and there are still many shops and businesses premises that are vacant. A walk through the town centre at 3 p.m. was eerily quiet.

As I write this piece, the final day of our duty as parking fee collectors at the Gold Coast Show is under way. Duties began early on Friday morning and will finish at 3 p.m. today. Thanks to President Brad for his organising and monitoring this project and who, with wife, Helen, undertook more than one collecting shift. Thanks too to those members who have braved the early morning chill and the afternoon heat to make this a generally smooth operation. As with any event such as this, there are always going to be the "Whingers". "Why is it \$10? I can park here during the week for \$6.60"; "Show entry is free, why do I have to pay to park?"; "Why can't I park on the grass?". The most common complaint that we heard during the early shift on Saturday was "I'm working at the show, Why don't I get free parking?". The most irritating aspect was people arriving with a "Free Parking" vouchers that looked decidedly suspect. Although our Show Liaison contact was unaware of this document, it had apparently been authorised and distributed by the Show Secretary. This was Bureaucratic miscommunication at its usual worst.

I was saddened when I returned to see that a long-time friend of Ashmore Rotary had died. For several years Joan and Jack (John) Loader hosted functions at their property in Nerang. Of note, was the Melbourne Cup function where most of us made fools of ourselves prancing along a race course in their back garden and cramming into their extensive recreation area to sample a delicious variety of foods. Jack died some years ago and I am not sure that Joan recovered from the loss. One of the nicest couples I have met are back together now.

Ian and Heather Yarker are on the road again - was that song written for them? This couple are back doing their outstanding work in the far reaches of Australia outback for is it; the sixth time? I possibly speak for most of us when I say that simply preparing for a caravan trip up the coast would be a major task. Ian and Heather do this almost automatically as well as put together a Group/Groups, devise a route, arrange stop-off locations, and numerous other major and minor detail to ensure smooth and safe participation for those joining and leaving the "Tag-along".

And then there is the *real* object of the journey - to assist local communities and Rotary Clubs throughout the areas travelled to advance their service projects. It is difficult to imagine that anyone could have done more than Ian and Heather to advance the well-being of the Australian society. Does District 9640, Zone 8, Rotary International, recognise the contributions that Heather Yarker AM and Ian Yarker AM has had on this country to make it a better place?

I note that DG Thomas has identified Angel Flight as a project for this year. Launched in 2003 by Bill Bristow, Angel Flight is funded by donations to coordinate flights to assist citizens in remote rural communities to access specialist medical treatment only available in major population centres. Ashmore R.C. co-director of Administration & Club Service, Rob Deshon has already been in touch with Julie -Anne Scott of that organisation with a view to arrange a presentation at an Ashmore Rotary Club Meeting. I understand that there is a tentative date of 5th of October. This date has yet to be confirmed but will be notified to all members well in advance of the finally established date.

Finally, two more dates for your diary are:-

- Thursday, the 20th of October. Our usual Wednesday meeting will be transferred to Thursday when the club will be attending a meeting of the Gold Coast Junior Council. This is to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the organisation as a result of the initiative of Heather Yarker. Details of the time and place will be published closer to the date.
- Wednesday, the 26th of October. On that day, not a scheduled meeting day, Ashmore Rotary Club is hosting a Seniors' Week function at the Southport Golf Club. More details will follow as the day approaches.



FAR LEFT:
PRESIDENT BRAD FRANCIS
INTRODUCING NEW MEMBER
MICHAEL LANE TO THE MEETING.

NEAR LEFT:
DG KAREN THOMAS PINNING THE
ROTARY BADGE ON OUR NEWEST
MEMBER.

RIGHT:
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, KAREN THOMAS
DELIVERING HER ADDRESS TO THE
MEETING OF THE ASHMORE ROTARY
CLUB



**Picture
Gal-
lery**

Member's Welfare

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

Joan Adams on:

Mobile: 0401 255 883

Email: joanadms3@optusnet.com.au

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to

Honorary Member, Steven Gill on the 12th of September

Ian and Heather Yarker have a Wedding Anniversary
on the 3rd of September

Club Anniversaries: Pat Fleming (4th) Kelli Schatz (14th) and
Joan O'Keefe (19th) of September.

