

The Wahroongler



Bulletin of The Rotary Club of WAHROONGA

Chartered 1975 and Meeting at 7.15 am Wednesdays, at Warrawee Bowling Club Rotary Australia's first Breakfast Club. 17th Jan 2018, Vol 43, No 27

Sue's News

Such a happy meeting last week. So much fun. Thank you Neil for your 5 Star fellowship - and thank you Jo-Ann and Ross for playing along. It was wonderful to get to know a little more about you. I have more new member interviews planned. Memo to future interviewees - be careful what you tell Neil!! Jo-Ann told me after the meeting that she had a sinking feeling all through Ross's interview that there was a tutu with her name on it in Neil's bag of tricks.



Our two Rylarians Sonia and Anthony have finished their course, and both enjoyed their time there. They are coming to speak to the Club about their experiences on Wednesday 7 February, 2018.

The RYLA Dinner was inspirational as usual. For our newer members, District 9685 RYLA is a leader-ship development course run by District 9685 for young people in the age group of 18 to 27 who have already shown leadership initiatives. The cost of their attendance, which is close to \$1,000.00 per head, is funded by their nominating Club. The course is run by a group of volunteer facilitators - mainly young people who have attended RYLA in previous years. Specialist trainers and speakers address the Rylarians during the course of the week. District 9685 provides camp parents, who for the last eight years have been a Rotary couple from The Entrance Club. Our Phill Comfort and Shirley were camp parents for three years, in past years. The dinner is held midway through the week to enable networking between Club members and the candidates.

Similar courses are held both Australia-wide and worldwide in other Rotary Districts under the RYLA name which is the acronym for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Turning to another subject - wonderful news on the Tree Project already - with Brett Goods confirming that the SAN would be willing for us to plant a memorial tree for Garry Webb in the grounds of the hospital. Lyn is delighted. Peter K is in discussion with Hornsby Council about a tree near the PCYC and David Russell is doing the same with the Warrawee Bowling Club.

Ken Broadhead has written to me as follows: Do you know that Wahroonga Rotary has a history of tree planting? When John Cameron took his GST Team to Russia (2006?) he planted a tree near the playground in Wahroonga Park. In 1993 when Phil Dean was President, we planted several trees on the Wahroonga end approach of the road bridge on Alexandra Parade. These are now very hand-some trees. I can point them out to you if you wish.

Like topsy - the Tree Project just keeps on growing - more news in later bulletins.

We must now concentrate our minds, as the <u>NOVUS Dinner</u> is under four months away. Somehow or other Peter Smith has been inveigled into coming out of "retirement" and accepting a place again on the NOVUS Board. Thanks you Peter - much appreciated.

This week we are in for a treat as our guest speakers are Kath and Kim!

No - not that Kath and Kim - but Kim Pearce and Kath Davis who will speak to us about their work in India, which they have named "the Possibility Project".

We very much look forward to their visit.

Sue Owen, President

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Last Meeting

President Sue welcomed all and Bob Reid, Doug's father over from London and Susan Catterall, Ross's wife joins us today.

Sue advised quietly, that we are now the largest RC in the District with 61 members, to be 62 next week.

Turramurra has 60 and they have the same footprint as us, so between us we have over 120 fantastic members in this area. Lower Blue Mountains has 56, Northbridge 51, Ryde 48, Upper Northern Beaches 47, Mosman 43, Windsor 43, Woy Woy 43, Carlingford 42 and the rest are below 40.

The RYLA Dinner was a very glamorous affair at Miramare Gardens and the food was very nice obviously. But the queues for drinks were very deep & George saved the day. He had a bottle of wine on the tray, six



Doug Reid and his father, Bob visiting from London. He lives in a flat next to RC Westminster Cathedral nearly at Victoria Station

glasses in his hand and another bottle under his arm, like a French waiter. The others there were John Welch, Ross Catterall, Barbara Salisch and Lucy Dahill.

Jenetta Russell hoped we all had a wine filled Christmas and drank our cellars dry and are ready to top up now. The stats to date are all done and they all did exceptionally well—except the chardonnay. We had 9 of the top wine connoisseurs in the club to analyse the 6 whites and 6 reds. She did the stats on the varieties. They did not know what they were just saw the bottles.

All had to have the same wine at the same time and had to drink all of the small sample with food and water in between. They had to

rate each one out of 10, then Jenetta tallied the results by dividing the total by 10 and multiplying by nine.

The ratings were—White 1—4.6, White 2—5.5, White 3—5.6. The unoaked chardonnay was 6.0—far and away above all the other wines and certainly it was not ABC—another b. chardonnay. The next reds were 5 and lower. So buy 6 of the best kept secret of your life.

Christine Biddle is chasing volunteers for Bobbo and has spoken to most and needs more family and friends as marshals as she has to

submit the names to the Lifeline team.

Sandy van Dijk wants us to sign up for the Theatre on Wed 7th March at Pymble Players at 8 pm. This is a special extra night for the play The Blonde, Brunette and Vengeful Redhead by Robert Hewitt. Coffee is on at 7.20 pm with the usual champers and chicken sandwiches at the interval—all for \$25 pp. Bring your friends.

Ron Wainberg is seeking volunteers for Clean-up Australia Day on 4th March. He needs as many as possible to sign up for the same sites at Cliff Oval and Wahroonga Park. Please advise which you'd prefer.

Rob Giacometti The raffles have finished. Thank you to all. It is drawn this week. They have raised \$6,000 for the Rotary Foundation.

He's made 2 international phone calls by mistake one even at 3 am to New York.



Jenetta selling the chardonnay









Sgt Jo advised that Doug Reid has a new granddaughter Charlotte on 4 Jan. Today is the anniversary of Caesar crossing the Rubicon on 10th January. On New Year's Resolutions—Jo's is to get here before 7.15 each week. 9%

of people who made New Year Resolutions forget them within a month. Most identify getting healthier, fitter and lose weight; live life to the full; spend more time with friends and family.

Phill had a cross fine—Sue for a belated birthday on 25th Dec—all sang Happy Birthday to her and 3 cheers.

PP Neil &



Fellowship

Ross Catterall some people say accountants are boring. Are there any others here?

You were a country boy so Neil had a little present for him.

Place of birth My Parents owned and lived on a remote cattle/sheep property near Walcha, northern NSW.



Ross in Akubra & DrizaBone long coat

My Mother came to Sydney (Wahroonga SAN) for my birth & then we returned soon after. I have one brother. I spent my early childhood and teenage years on the property.

Schooling Early years (at age 4) spent at "Tia Bush School" a one room, one teacher school, then to Yarrowitch Primary (age 1 to 10) - both small country schools approx. 50 km from Walcha. Final 2 years of primary school I completed "correspondence" and "school of the air" from our property.

High school years (7-12) I attended as a boarder at Avondale College High School near Cooranbong NSW.

Neil how was it growing up in the country? Very privileged to have spent my early years growing up on a cattle/sheep property, mustering cattle, working in shearing sheds, trapping and shooting rabbits for pocket money, driving the station vehicles from an early age. Leant a lot about life during the early years.

Ross learned to drive at 7-8 yrs. He'd drive down to the mail box each day from 8-10 yrs on his own to collect the mail.

One day he thought he'd like to drive further, so he went down the road and met a car behind him. In a WW2 jeep with shot guns you don't let anyone overtake you, so he drove faster and faster till he got back to the letterbox. Guess who was in the other car? The local policeman. "Hello driver, OK?", "Yes" and he drove off. Seven years later he was the one who gave Ross his licence.

For pocket money he would get rabbits—6/- for either one trapped or shot with the lead. **Neil** in NZ they introduced possums for the fur industry, but its become a pest. But a black silk earned you \$13 and is very rare.

University studies My initial experiences when leaving the Country (age 18) and transitioning to living and working in the City. At 18 he attended UTS and obtained a Bachelor in Business Studies, then undertook the "Professional Year" with the Institute of Chartered Accountants and became a Member and later a Fellow of that Institution.

Became a Member of The Society of CPA's, The Australian Taxation Institute and Australian Institute of Management. Undertook further studies via Deakin University and obtained qualifications in Financial Planning.

Career — Initially commenced working career with KPMG, Chartered Accountants (originally Hungerfords) and later joined as a Partner in a City based firm, Davidson & Mein. Later we merged with "Bentleys" and then RSM Australia. Remained with RSM as a Partner until my retirement from that firm in 2013. RSM is one of the larger private accounting firms in Australia with more than 100 Partners and 1,500 staff in Aust. plus offices in over 120 countries globally. I was responsible for the Financial Management Division at RSM and maintained a select private client base.

Post my retirement from the firm I have retained Board Positions in a number of Companies and act as Trustee for a number of large private family estates and continue a less formal relationship with RSM.

Your wife Susan. We have been married for 41 years this year. Susan is an historian and actively involved with many of the Scottish Clans. Susan was born at Lindfield and we met when we were both members of Rotaract.

Children – **David** - has a degree in Computer Studies and is the IT Manager at Foxtel and well known in his volunteer role as "Controller" for Ku-ring-gai State Emergency Services (SES) **Deborah** - has a degree in Education plus a Dip Ed and is a high school teacher at Riverside Girls High.

Christopher - has a degree in Environmental Science and works as an Environmental Consultant, also actively involved with Ku-ring-gai SES.

Grandchildren David and Cassie have a daughter and a son, Lucy and Joshua; Deborah and Scott have a son, Nico.

Rotary milestones – Susan and I met when we were members of Ku-ring-gai Rotaract. No previous active involvement with Rotary.

Interests – Orienteering, every Wednesday, running, sailing, outback travel—Simpson Desert and Gunning Stock Route, Burke & Wills Project, various company board positions and trusteeships, relaxing at our holiday retreat on the Gold Coast. He is a fan of Slim Dusty.

Any interesting facts about yourself or your life Have been involved in many "honorarium positions" during my working career - including South Stein Steam Ship Company, The 3801, Northside Montessori Society, Knox Old Boys Association, Australian Desert Expeditions. My Professional Career was very rewarding- I looked after a number of clients for in excess of 30 years and became their all-encompassing adviser in areas of Accounting, Taxation, Estate Planning and Investments. I was privileged to have had a select private client base which included many interesting people.

Jo-Ann Moffatt—welcome

Place of birth I was born in 1967 at Royal North Hospital in St Leonards to William a fitter & turner and Beverley a housewife. I was christened Jo-Ann Louise Loughland and am the youngest of 4 children with 3 older brothers, who have found employment as: William - a woodman, Geoffrey and Michael - both golf pros. I am a 4th generation Australian on my father's side. My grandfather, father and eldest brother all share the name William. They are fondly referred to as Bill, Billy and Willy.

Schooling I attended primary school a St Kevin's in Dee Why then St Kieran's Manly Vale. My high school years were spent at Stella Maris College Manly. I grew up in Cromer and then North Balgowlah.

Career, Work & Studies I was a ballerina from the age of 4 until 21 years. When the musical CATS came to Sydney I auditioned for a part and made it through dancing to singing where I wailed like a cat and went no further....LOL.

Neil well knowing that, we have a little something for you ...



I didn't go to university but have been a TAFE junkie having completed certificates in Japanese Language, my Real Estate Licence and a Certificate in Human Resource Management.

I got my first job when I was 14 working at Woolworths Variety Store in Manly where I worked for 5 years.



When I finished my HSC in 1985, I got a job at North Shore Veterinary Hospital in Crows Nest where I worked on and off for the next 10 yrs in as receptionist, weekend kennel attendant and fill-in nurse. I was saving up to travel overseas, so I used to babysit, taught ballet and worked as an usherette when Mike Walsh re-opened the Hayden Orpheum Theatre at Cremorne.

Travels, Work & Studies I travelled to Japan when I was 21 and

lived there for 14 mths where I continued with my Japanese language studies, taught English to company executives and worked for Japan Fitness Corporation teaching Aerobics and weight lifting

in English to Women and Children using a Walt Disney program. I also worked in a conversation bar pouring drinks, lighting cigarettes and singing karaoke – that was interesting! My most memorable experience in Japan was my climb of Mt Fuji to watch the sunrise and being woken up at night many times by small earthquakes. I returned to Sydney and worked for DFO (Duty Free) at The Rocks Sydney for 7 months.

I got itchy feet again and packed my bags and flew to London where I lived for 2 years. I worked in a pub, worked as a waitress in a Mexican restaurant, worked as a Japanese speaking receptionist for a new Toyota Dealership and worked as a nanny for 2 doctors. I went on a skiing trip to France in the capacity as a Nanny. I had my first ski lesson and was left up on the runs to find my own way down. The runs closed from the top down and I got stuck up there. It was getting dark and the family I nannied for were concerned so they deployed a search party. I was rescued by a French skiing instructor on his moped and he sat me in his ski-bike trailer.

Husband I met my husband to be, Bryan, a Kiwi, in a shared house situation in Neasden NW London. He worked as a motorbike courier. When our relationship blossomed we saved hard and bought our own motorbike and rode together from London to Israel, travelling for several months whilst camping all the way. Bryan proposed to me at a Beer Festival in Austria. I said YES.

On our travels I contracted Typhoid and spent time in five different hospitals in Israel. We went trekking in Nepal and ate the best ever Apple Pie in Kathmandu. We flew out of the mountains in a light aircraft because my feet became badly infected with blisters.

We rode camels into the Indian desert where we spent two nights in the sand dunes under the stars.

We joined an African safari and travelled for 10 weeks in an ex-army truck down through Eastern Africa passing through Uganda, Zaire, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawai and Zimbabwe. We visited the gorillas in the jungle, we rode in a dugout canoe to a Pygmy village where I felt very tall and we trekked to an active volcano where my thongs melted and we rode rapids down the Zambezi. Our tent got stolen 5 weeks into the safari whilst sitting around the camp fire so we slept under a mosquito net for the remaining 5 weeks. We went twice to a restaurant called 'Carnivores' where we ate giraffe, crocodile tail, gizelle and wildebeast. I



got pooed on by a condor and cried because it felt like I'd been punched in the back and my baked bean sandwich was stolen from my hands by a swooping eagle.

My husband Bryan is the youngest of 5 boys. He grew up on a family sheep farm in St Andrews on the South Island of New Zealand. He left school when he was 17, worked on local farms and then moved to Auckland where he was a land-scaper for a few years until in his early 20's he decided to travel overseas.

In 1993, I returned to Sydney bringing Bryan with me. Bryan secured a job as a long distance driver with a furniture removal company. He had a heavy vehicle licence from driving combined harvesters in NZ. I returned to work at North Shore Vet hospital and we got married later in the year at St Marys in Manly. I then worked in real estate in St Ives for the next 5 years. We bought our first property, a 2 bedroom unit in Hornsby. We sold the unit 5 years later and bought a 3 bed

house one street away. Ten years on saw us sell the little house and we bought a larger family home three streets away in Hornsby.

Children Our daughter, Jemima was born in 1999, followed by Charlotte in 2002.

Bryan continued to work in the furniture removal industry for 10 years on the northern beaches of Sydney and in 2003 an opportunity came our way to buy Smith Owens Service (SOS Removals & Storage) from Laurie Owens who was retiring. I do the admin & HR part. Bryan has 2 hobbies – golf and deep sea fishing. He is a member of Asquith Golf Club and goes fishing with his mates annually to the Cook Islands.

Jemima is 18 and just completed her HSC. She has been travelling in Great Britain and Europe for the last month - 2 weeks on a school music tour and 2 weeks with friends, returning home on Monday 8th January. Jemima commences university in March to study a double degree in Law and Commerce at Notre Dame Sydney. Her hobbies are soccer and playing her euphonium with Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Band and Orchestra.

Charlotte is 15 and will commence Year 10 shortly. Charlotte's hobby has pretty much been Gymnastics for the last 11 years, but due to an injury and a desire to try different sports she left gymnastics in December. Whilst a gymnast, Charlotte was on the NSW State team 2 years running and in 2016 travelled to Melbourne with the team and competed in Level 7 in the Senior division and became the Australian Champion on Beam and Vault. Her new interests are Cheerleading, Rugby Seven's and Surf Life Saving. Charlotte continues to coach gymnastics.

Pets When I was a teenager I loved to ride my horse that I boarded at stables in Terrey Hills and entered into dressage competitions. I now love to play soccer and walk my two Airedale terriers.

Interests Since the age of 40 I have learnt to play the violin (quite badly), trombone and now try my hand at the banjo.

I love to sew quilts and do craft, but due to work commitments my cupboard is full of UFOs—unfinished objects. My passion is anything OLD—my house is full of antiques and anything vintage. I am often found on a Saturday afternoon cranking my gramophone, listening to my collection of 78s whilst pouring tea and drinking from my collection of trios and wearing one of my many vintage hats. My kids think I'm bonkers ... I agree. I want to go back to the UK and do a walking tour of Irish pubs and take part in a National Trust Jane Austin Tour. I want to visit every castle and stately home in the UK and Europe!!

Rotary milestones I was introduced to Rotary because I met Ian Cameron at a Ku-ring-gai Council Small Business Round Table discussion. He invited me to a Rotary meeting and I had a strong feeling that this was where I was meant to be so I applied for membership. I haven't really asked myself where to with Rotary from here — but as time goes on I am sure my path will become evident.



Community
Noticeboard at
Wahroonga
that Richard Pitt
refurbished
before Xmas.
Many passing
shoppers, including Rochelle and
hubby gave him
encouragement.
Greg Starr

RYLA 2018





Peter Kirkwood with Ian Cameron and our 2 candidates, Anthony Zhao (PCYC) and Sonia Elliott (Marion St Theatre)

RYLA Dinner, 9th Jan At Miramare Gardens

Santo Severino, CEO
of Miramare Gardens with
Michael Regan, Mayor of
Northern Beaches Council and
his wife Bronwyn.
Michael was
the guest speaker.





Anthony Zhao in deep discussions with Barbara Salisch and John Welch



President Sue with Sonia Elliott and Anthony Zhao



Ross Catterall, Barbara Salisch, President Sue, Lucy Dahill, Sonia Elliott and John Welch



RYLA students, Sonia Elliott and Clare Payntr with Lucy Dahill

Some Good Old Days Remembered



LIKE if you miss the good old days!







17th Jan 2018 - Kim Pearce & Kath Davis present 'The Possibility Project'- Social Justice & Inspiring Communities through Creativity

CLUB MEETING, 20th Dec 2017

Attendance: 43/60 members, 70.49%

Apologies: Kenneth Broadhead, Robert Ferguson, Robert Howe, Stephen McGregor,

Abhi Poudel, Anne Prescott, Greg Starr, Lynn Varvel.

Partner: Susan Catterall (Ross Catterall)

Visitors: Bob Reid (Father of Doug Reid), Ann Davidson (Barbara Harvison)

RECEPTION & HOSPITALITY ROSTER, from Club's Website for the year

If you are unable to attend any day please arrange a substitute and inform **Len Stanley** at **len.stanley29@gmail.com** or 0420 849 017, or 9144 4049

Date	Set up & put away	Hospitality	Reception (2 Rotarians)
17 th Jan	Christine Biddle	Stuart Armstrong	Hugh Burne, Ken Broadhead
24 th Jan	Ken Broadhead	Hugh Burne	Stuart Armstrong, Christine Biddle
31 st Jan	lan Cameron	John Cameron	Ross Catterall, Leon Clark

CLUB & DISTRICT DIARY

18 Jan, 2018 St Ives RC Dementia Awareness 3 sessions held at Canisius College—*Links*

18 Feb+18 Mar 18 Sundays The Rotary Leadership Institute 2 day course—to register

4 Mar, 2018 RYPEN, Clean up Australia rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au

7 Mar, 2018, 8 pm Pymble Players \$25—see Sandy van Dijk, or call 0411 132 807

10+11 Mar. 2018 District Conference at Leura

March International Women's Day & Harmony Day—we work again with K-gai Council

25 Mar, 2018 Bobbo

28 Mar, 2018 Bill Leventhal Breakfast 18 April, 2018 our ANZAC Day meeting

24 April, 2018 Joint dinner meeting with Turramurra and St Ives Rotary Clubs **5+19 May, 2018 Saturdays The Rotary Leadership Institute 2 day course**, as above

5 May, 2018 The Novus Dinner

23 May, 2018 The Bobbo Presentation Dinner

4 July, 2018 The Changeover Dinner

SPEAKER'S PROGRAM FOR JAN-FEB 2018

24 Jan Club Meeting—Peter Kirkwood, Didgeridoo

31 Jan Club Meeting—Joan Peacock, Family Drug Education

7 Feb Club Meeting—RYLA graduates, Sonia and Anthony, will speak to us

14 Feb Club Meeting—5 Star Interview with new members

21 Feb Club Meeting—Kerry Dougherty the author

28 Feb Club Meeting—the RYPEN kids are coming to speak to us

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS:

Link for up-to-date listing—Paul Harris Fellows Listing

NO ANNIVERSARIES

The Rotary Club of Wahroonga

Sue's Super Heroes & 2017-2018 Board & Committees

BOARD

President Sue Owen Past President & Neil McWhannell IPP & Community Service Director President-elect Stuart Armstrong

Secretary Greg Starr PDG John Cameron Treasurer

LEADERS

Sergeant Jo Karaolis

Archivist/Historian Ken Broadhead Badge Collection John Julius Child Protection Phil Easton.

Kerrin McCormack

Communications Team

Photographer George Richards PR, f & t Janelle Speight

Wahroongler Editor Kerrin McCormack

Webmaster Ian Cameron Year Book & Steve McGregor

Asst Treasurer

Insurance Officer Phil Easton

Mailbox & Noticeboard Key Holder

Greg Starr

New Badges Phill Comfort Public Officer Judith Kaine

Risk Management & Insurance John Collins

Roster & Attendance Len Stanley

Rotary Foundation Chair Marg Sachs

Speaker's Program Helen Clarke. John Cameron, Phil Easton

Welfare Officer Rob Ferguson Asst Welfare Officer Barbara Salisch **AVENUES OF SERVICE COMMITTEES**

IPP & Community Service Director - Neil McWhannell **Team**- Stuart Armstrong, Daksh Baweja, Leon Clark, John Collins, Barry Edmundson, John Julius, Peter Kirkwood, Max Lake, Jo-Ann Moffatt, Lvnn Varvel, Ron Wainberg

International Director - Anne Prescott

Team - Jim Fulton, Colin Grundy, Janet Grundy, Richard Jackson, Jo Karaolis, Richard Pitt, Abhi Poudel

Vocational Director - Hugh Burne

Team - Ken Broadhead, Ross Catterall, Jo Karaolis, Kerrin McCormack, Jim Verco, John Welch, Alfreda White. Angus M Robinson on leave

Youth Director - Bob Howe

Team - Christine Biddle, Phill Comfort, Lucy Dahill, Phil Easton, Ian Faulks, Ross Grant, Barbara Harvison, Doug Reid, Barbara Salisch, Greg Starr

OTHER COMMITTEES

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic Support Committee

Chair - Stuart Armstrong

Team - Christine Biddle, John Collins, Jim Fulton, Neil McWhannell, Doug Reid, David Russell, Janelle Speight, Greg Starr

Grants Chair - Peter Smith

Membership Processing & Welfare

Chair - Helen Clarke

Team - Rob Ferguson, Judith Kaine, Barbara Salisch

Partnerships & Fundraising Chair - Jenetta Russell **Team** - John Collins, Barry Edmundson, Rob Giacometti, Terry Hodge, Dick Webb

The Ministry of Fun Chair - Rochelle Wiley

Team - Phill Comfort, Kerri Hodge, Sandy van Dijk

Club members on the Novus Board

John Collins, Terry Hodge, David Russell, Rochelle Wiley

Hon. Members - Alister Henskens MP, Paul Fletcher MP

LINKS Bobbo 25.3.18. BHCC Update

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic - key facts from 2017

Australia in Space, new book

District Conference

Support Café Lyon

Wine Order Form

Facts About Dementia, 18.1.18. at Canisius College

Letter from Prem Khatry from Sambhay, Nepal

3 stages of life.

Youth: You have

all the time and energy, but not the

Adulthood: You have money and energy, but no time.

Old Age: You have all the money and the time, but no energy.

Moral of the story: Enjoy each

