



**ROTARY CLUB
OF WAGGA WAGGA**

part of the solution



ABN: 42 569 872 625

~ CROW ABOUT ~



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAGGA WAGGA Inc. - CHARTERED 1930

Web: - www.waggarotary.org

Facebook: - <https://www.facebook.com/waggawaggarotary>

Postal Address: - PO Box 246, Wagga Wagga, 2650

<p>RI President: Holger Knaack Dist. Gov 9705: Michael Moore Area Three Gov: Martin Brown Club President: David Payne Club Secretary: Ellen Brasier</p>	 Rotary Opens Opportunities	<p>THE FOUR WAY TEST: Of the things we think, say or do: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it the truth? • Is it fair to all concerned? • Will it build goodwill & better friendships? • Will it be beneficial to all concerned?
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BULLETIN NO: 19.

Thursday 5th November, 2020.

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH.

Club meets at the WAGGA WAGGA COUNTRY CLUB, **6:00 PM for 6.30 PM** (unless stated below).

Duty Officers' Roster: -

Please arrange for a replacement if you cannot fulfil your rostered duty. Also inform the Bulletin Reporter.

DATE:	Thursday 12 th Nov.	Thursday 19 th Nov.	Thursday 26 th Nov.
PROGRAMME:	Club Social BBQ - Copland Street	Club AGM.	Aaron Campbell NSW Fire Brigade
ATTENDANCE:	Karel Bijker	Karel Bijker Alan Lean	Karel Bijker Terry Mecham
GREETER:	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
SHORT & SWEET:	Not Required	Bruce Barber	Lyndal Seymour
FINES-MASTER:	Not Required	Vida Smart	Peter Veerhuis
INTRODUCE SPEAKER:	Not Required	Not Required	Mary Ann Kelly
VOTE OF THANKS:	Not Required	Not Required	Ellen Brasier
BULLETIN REPORTER:	Don Pembleton	Bryan Short	Gerry Page
C'TTEE MEETINGS:	N/R	N/R	Special Meeting to adopt updated constitution.

Invocation: *For good food, good fellowship and the opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks.*

UNABLE TO ATTEND A MEETING? Please lodge an apology with THE COUNTRY CLUB OFFICE ☎ 6922 6444

by **2.30 pm Wednesday** (or pre-record it in the book provided at the meeting attendance table – IN BLOCK LETTERS).

Also, for catering purposes, please advise if bringing a guest to a meeting

MEETING REPORT: -

Attendance.

President David welcomed all to the meeting with a special welcome to our Key-Note Speaker, Brazilian exchange student, Sofi Seneme (who arrived in Wagga early this year) and John Heazlewood's guest, Ben Howard who had been a Rotary Exchange student to Brazil in 1995. There were 32 members present and a warm welcome was extended to our returning members Allan Duffus, Paul Galloway & Alok Sharma. There were 11 apologies.

President David spoke briefly of the sad loss of Barry Francis and requested all to stand and observe one minute's silence in his memory.

Vale Barry (Bazza) Francis.



Tony Hutchinson was asked to reflect on Barry's life. His comments are recorded in full below.

"On Sunday at approximately 1.30 PM Barry Francis lost his long running battle with his heart and passed away at the WWBH ICU.

He was born and schooled in Queensland. He learnt music and singing as a child and developed that talent over the years. He was a surfer and a keen rugby player. He met and married Chris and they have two children and two grandchildren.

He trained as a boilermaker/welder, worked in PNG and Bougainvillea but his claim to fame was he was involved in building the frame of the main stage at the Sydney Opera House. His other jobs included working cruise ships as an entertainer and playing a part in the Dirty Dicks musical theatre restaurant. He joined the RAAF and trained as a ground radio technician serving at Springwood, Amberley, Melbourne and eventually was posted to Wagga with the RAAF School of Radio. He left the RAAF in the early 1990's and worked for TAFE at the RAAF School of Technical Training as an electronics and radio communications instructor. In 1998 he suffered a massive heart attack and was told he would never work again. Plenty of support and a dogged determination saw him return to being an instructor and he did not retire until 2013 when TAFE lost the contract.

I met Bazza in 2000 when I started working for TAFE, also as an avionics instructor. We became good friends and I encouraged Bazza to pick up the guitar again by getting him to entertain us at some of our garage parties. I introduced him into Rotary in 2005 and he really enjoyed the atmosphere, company and being on the BBQ team. He was elected to the board and was president in 2011-12. He received a PHF in 2012 and a Sapphire Pin in 2016.

His love of music led him to the Wagga Male Rugby Choir where he found more like-minded people. He also started busking down town at the weekends and raised \$17,000 for local charities. In 2010 his friends chipped in for his birthday and bought him a recording session at Flying Fox Studios where he produced a CD called 'Songs of the Street'. Nearly all the copies have been sold and he was contemplating either a re-release or producing another album..

He has been plagued with health issues, especially over the last 10 years, but he continued to press on with medical science coming to the rescue with two pacemakers and regular interventions plus a briefcase full of pills to keep everything working. Unfortunately another heart attack did too much damage and combined with kidney failure and blood problems there was no recovery.

Please stand and raise your glasses in a toast to the memory of our good mate and fellow Rotarian Bazza"

Short & Sweet.

Peter Murray reflected on a time when he was secretary of the Gundagai Rugby League Football Club and in particular about one semifinal match that ended in controversy. The match was between South Gundagai and Nangus. The referee failed to appear so Peter volunteered for the role. There was an ineligible player on the ground, a missing line judge, a disputed try and Peter forgot to keep the score.



A replay was ordered but Nangus refused to participate. A delegation of officials, including the local police sergeant was needed to retrieve the Bourke Shield from the Nangus Village store. Sadly the shield was lost forever when the store was burnt down in the 1980's.

Quite a story Peter!

Fines Session.



Paul Galloway, with some help from Alok Sharma, commented on various topics. He started with an emphasis on Exchange students and compared the similarity between the Australian and Brazilian national colours. He mentioned an American student who lived exclusively on peanut butter sandwiches. Paul then noted the political colours of the USA – it is all blue and red but no green. There was a story of motor bikes, fences and wombats that some members seemed to relate to. I am not sure where the fines were in these stories but the coins kept rattling the boxes.

Finally Paul talked of the money that Barry had been able to raise with his singing and asked us to sit and reflect on Barry's music and donate accordingly.

Key-Note Speaker.

Brad Bland introduced our guest speaker Sofi Seneme who is in Australia as a Rotary Exchange student. As a fifteen year old Sofi had contact with Australian exchange students who were living in Brazil. She made the decision to become involved in the Rotary Exchange programme. Australia is a long way from home and her family, so she said she was a little afraid. This was not helped by stories of dangerous Australian animals especially sharks - or that students rode kangaroos to school.....

Sofi is very proud of her home city of Rio Claro with a population of more than 200,000. There is an Australian connection through the Museu do Eucalipto which was established in 1916. It has a very large collection of eucalyptus.

Sofi's time in Australia has been disrupted somewhat by Covid 19. There was a trip planned to central Australia in March which was cancelled. This was a great disappointment. However there were many other activities in compensation. Visits have been made to Sydney, Tathra, Ulladulla, Nynghan and to Hay where she helped shear a sheep, a real highlight. Sadly there was no trip to Melbourne.

Sofi has been attending Wagga High School during her time in Wagga. Initially she found Australian English very hard to understand but she has enjoyed her time at Wagga High. Because Brazilians have their main meal at midday school times are different to Australia's school hours. Sofi also noted that there are no elective subjects in Brazil's schools so when she is home she has her dance classes outside school hours.



When asked if she would like to return to Australia Sofi mentioned the expense but yes she has many friends here. However she still has her last year at school in Brazil to complete.

Garry Roberts thanked Sofi for her summary of life in Brazil and her experiences as an exchange student in Australia. She was presented with a certificate confirming our commitment to vaccinate ten children against polio.

Ben Howard spoke briefly and thanked the club for the invitation to attend tonight's meeting. As a former exchange student he commended Sofi for her courage in coming to Australia where the language is different and in a year when where society has been so disrupted by Covid 19.

Next Meeting.



President David reminded members that the meeting next week will be a club social barbecue – **the venue is the Club Warehouse in Copeland Street.**

It will be a casual night where we can again enjoy the gastronomical delights of our illustrious BBQ Team.

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH: -

Show your support for the Rotary Foundation by supporting the **CENTURION PROGRAM.**

Become involved in this (tax deductible) program – and don't forget, It's not only open to Rotarians, you can also invite family and friends to participate.



DISTRICT 9705 MEMBERSHIP FORUM: -

Next Tuesday (10th November 2020) at 5:30 PM, Mark Huddleston, who is guest speaker at our District Membership Seminar Series, will be giving a talk on Rotary Membership titled "**Creatures of Habit**"(sounds very relevant!).

The presentation is via Zoom Videoconferencing and registration is required (refer to Paul Murray's email dated 4th November for registration procedure).District 9705 Membership Forum

SBS TELEVISION – “STRUGGLE STREET”:-



Members may recall this TV program that was aired some months ago. Just to reiterate, it depicted a young family from the village of Nangus struggling with a son who suffers a very rare medical condition. If you missed it, you can still view it on SBS OnDemand – click onto one of the following links: -

<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/video/1618869315875/struggle-street>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/video/1624676931994/struggle-street>

In response to this TV show, our Rotary District, together with selected Clubs, offered to assist this family – and our Club, through the direct involvement of Graeme Callander, continues on in this role. The assistance being provided includes help with the construction of the family home (gratefully supported by Bunnings Warehouse, Wagga) and representations to our Federal Member & Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack for NDIS support.

Rotarians are requested, and encouraged, to continue financial support - which can be provided by clicking onto: <https://rawcs.org.au/donate/> Project number is: 44 - Year: 2019-20 - Then follow instructions

PLEASE BLOCK-OUT THE FOLLOWING DATES IN YOUR DIARY: -

- **10th November 2020** **District Membership Zoom Forum (Mark Huddleston) – 5:30 PM**
- **3rd December 2020** **District Governor Michael Moore on Zoom.**
- **17th December 2020** **Club Christmas Function.**
- **19-21st March 2021** **District Conference (Bathurst).**
- **12-16th June 2021** **Rotary International Convention (Taipei).**

THE 'HAPPY SNAPS' FROM THIS WEEK:



Our guests Sofi & Ben compare notes on Rotary Exchange.



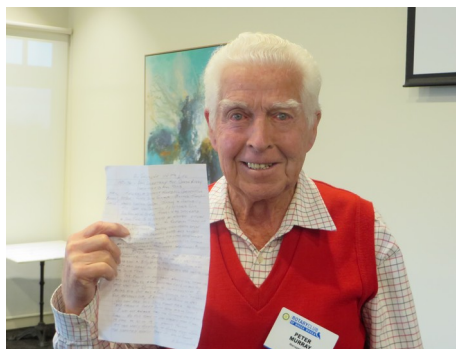
David & Vicki 'man' the attendance table.



Gary Roberts wins the 'Lucky Door Prize'.



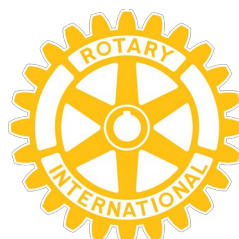
Good to see Alan back.



Peter with the story of the Bourke Shield.



Alok & Graeme prepare to empty our change purses.



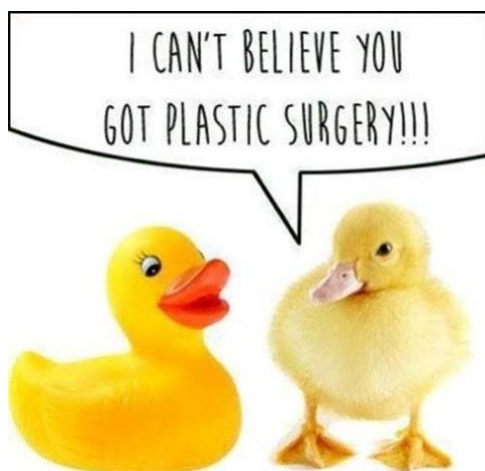
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: -

(8th Nov – 14th Nov)

Birthdays: David Friedlieb (11/11) & David Payne (14/11)
Rotary Anniversaries: Bruce Heydon (12/11/98)
Wedding Anniversaries: Nil



≈ *KOOKABURRA* ≈



If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they would eventually find me attractive.