



**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](http://www.waggarotary.org)

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

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

**RI President:** Holger Knaack  
**Dist. Gov 9705:** Michael Moore  
**Area Three Gov:** Martin Brown  
**Club President:** David Payne  
**Club Secretary:** Ellen Brasier



**THE FOUR WAY TEST:**

Of the things we think, say or do: -

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill & better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

**BULLETIN NO: 30.**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.**

**FEBRUARY IS ROTARY PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH.**

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

**Duty Roster** Please arrange for a replacement if you cannot fulfil your rostered duty & inform our Bulletin Reporter: -

Date:	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March.
<b>PROGRAMME:</b>	Social Night at Mens' Shed (Ashmont Road)	Scott & Maria Anderson	Tumba/Rosewood Rail Trail
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Karel Bijker David Kennedy	Karel Bijker Bryan Short	Karel Bijker Nepal Ghosh
<b>SHORT &amp; SWEET:</b>	David Wynne	David Kennedy	Peter Smart
<b>FINES-MASTER:</b>	Ellen Brasier	Paul Galloway	Bruce Heydon
<b>INTRODUCE SPEAKER:</b>	Not Required	John Heazlewood	Peter Veerhuis
<b>VOTE OF THANKS:</b>	Not Required	Alan Lean	Paul Galloway
<b>BULLETIN REPORTER:</b>	Don Pembleton	Ellen Brasier	Gerry Page
	Nil	Nil	Nil

**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 same 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.**

The meeting opened at 6.35 PM with thirty members in attendance. There were twelve apologies received.

Our president David Payne was back in the chair after last week's absence. He welcomed guest Fran Mecham (guest of Terry) and our Club Guest and Key-Note Speaker Julie Mecham – who, incidentally, is also related to Terry & Fran!

### **Administration Matters.**

- **Coolamon Rotary Club's 50 years** celebratory dinner is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March. The cost is \$25.00 per person. President David is encouraging members to attend and is hoping to send at least five and possibly ten representatives (2 car loads). Please RSVP by 21<sup>st</sup> February to Pres. David Payne.
- Our meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March. The Country Club is not available due to the annual Pro-Am Dinner. There is a suggestion that a barbecue will be organised for that night. Watch this space. Any further ideas from members are welcome.

### **Short & Sweet.**



Brian Short gave a detailed update on the energy market, renewable energy, the costs involved and savings that may be made.

Some highlights: Potential savings of up to 50% on power bills. Some newly established farm homes are staying off the grid. It is cheaper to install solar panels, batteries and a backup generator. (NB. I remember living with no electricity, then a 32 volt generator and then great excitement when our home was connected TO the grid. Times change . . . JH).

Brian also talked of the diversity of electric cars that are available. There is a choice of full electric, conventional hybrid or plug in hybrid. The choice depends on cost and how the car is to be used.

### **Fines-Master Session.**

Gordon Saggars had a long list of fines which included references to the raffle winner and those who only drank beer. Cars were mentioned – a Rav 4 electric vehicle and an Austin Healy 3000. Some members have been using colouring books during lockdowns. Gordon finished with two stories, one highlighting Australia's early adoption of Wi-Fi, the other drawing attention to the Pope's interest in hairstyles.



### **Lucky Door Prize.**



The luckiest member of our club must be Bruce Heydon who has, on numerous occasions, been our winner of the weekly Lucky Door prize – which, as many of us might know, is normally the winner's choice of a wine, either red or white. Unfortunately, Bruce, being a man of sober habits, doesn't consume the fermented juice of the grape and consequently declined his prizes. He has a preference for the vitality of hops and barley. Our committee felt that this was an injustice that must be remedied, so a carton of beer was purchased and presented.

You just know that this is not going to end well don't you? They purchased the wrong brand of beer. One wonders where all this might end!

The door prize for this week was won by Bruce Barber who accepted a bottle of 'Red'.

## **Key-Note Speaker**

After concluding the fines session Gordon stayed at the podium to introduce our Key-Note Speaker, Julie Mecham. Julie is a Crisis and Support worker based at the Wagga Women's Health Centre, where she has been for the past nine years. She has a Diploma of Community Services.

The Wagga community has one of the highest rates of domestic violence in NSW. Nine out of ten victims of domestic violence are women and the perpetrators men. Julie recognised this imbalance throughout her talk. Domestic violence can take many forms. There may be coercive control rather than actual violence. It can be systemic and intentional and not necessarily the result of alcohol, stress, drugs or rough upbringing.

There is often a pattern or cycle in the build-up to violence. The cycle starts with the build-up of tension which leads to abuse. The abuse can be followed by feelings of guilt and a fear of repercussions. The cycle continues with a tendency for the perpetrator to blame the victim. After a period of normalcy the tension builds again and the cycle repeats.

People often turn a blind eye to domestic violence which can be associated with victim blaming. Anybody can be affected by domestic violence.

It can be normal for couples to argue. The problem arises when there is an unequal power balance.

There are many types of violence. These include verbal harassment, stalking, and emotional blackmail often by the use of technology. Sexual violence can include denial of or insistence on contraceptive methods and abortion options. Social isolation from family or peers is common. Financial control can be a problem in up to 99% of domestic violence cases. Abuse can develop in a relationship with grooming by the offender. The perpetrator looks and sounds like a normal person but can be a monster behind closed doors.

Evidence of domestic violence can have physical and/or emotional signs. Victims can be very good at hiding symptoms. There are often barriers to seeking help. These may include shame or the possibility of the privacy of the victim not being respected when help is sought.

Women must make their own decision to seek help and not be pressured to do so.

In response to one question Julie mentioned that there have been as many as 45-89 domestic related deaths of women per year in Australia. 4 men have died from 'coward's punch' and laws have been changed as a result of this. However there has not been a similar response to change laws relating to domestic violence. Tony Hutchinson gave a vote of thanks to Julie. He thanked her for her terrific talk and emphasised that we have certainly been educated tonight. As is the custom Julie was presented with a certificate stating that 10 children will be vaccinated against polio in her name.

President David added his thanks to Julie and the meeting closed at 8.20pm.



## **FEBRUARY IS ROTARY PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH: -**

The presentation this week, by Key-Note Speaker Julie Mecham, is very timely and sits well within the Rotary Theme for February.

**“One woman a week is murdered by her partner/ex-partner in Australia”<sup>1</sup>** and Australian Police get called to one domestic violence incident every two minutes or 657 times per day!

It is our responsibility as Rotarians and Australian citizens to be informed and part of the solution to ending Family Violence in our communities. We must not avoid this topic because we feel helpless or believe that it doesn't happen to people we know.

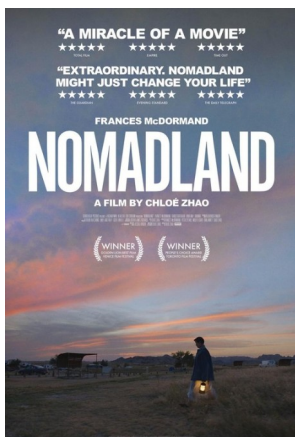
A program initiated by the Rotary Club of Melbourne is '**Rotary Safe Families**'. It is a preventative program that will assist Rotarians to be "part of the solution" and to spread "NO" to Family Violence across our community, Club and throughout Australia. Specifically designed Workshops provide everyone with practical safe methods of what actions we can take to prevent this violence from occurring in the first place, and suggestions on how to support someone you know who may be a victim of family violence.

Rotarians are encouraged to "champion" **Rotary Safe Families** at Club and/or District level. Interested persons should contact Melbourne Rotary (see link below) for assistance and an Information package which will able the "roll out" of this program. (Facilitator notes, overheads, videos, template for Manual, Toolkit and Wallet Cards are included in the package). This is your opportunity to 'walk the walk'. If you are interested and would like to be "**Part of the Solution**", contact: **Dorothy Gilmour** (Rotary Melbourne) - [gilmour.dorothy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmour.dorothy@gmail.com) for further information.

The Program Link: -

[https://rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/bulletin-articles-item/35326/rotary-safe-families/?type\\_fr=18#:~:text=Rotary Safe Families is a,your Club and throughout Australia.](https://rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au/bulletin-articles-item/35326/rotary-safe-families/?type_fr=18#:~:text=Rotary Safe Families is a,your Club and throughout Australia.)

### ***POLIO PLUS – MOVIE AFTERNOON: -***



**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021** – come along and enjoy an afternoon at the movies – and help raise funds for Polio-Plus.

A thought provoking, yet realistic & enjoyable film '**Nomadland**' will be screened at Forum Cinema 6 (Trail Street Wagga Wagga). The film is nominated as one of the best films of 2020 and has a 'rotten tomatoes' rating (?!?) of 95%. It depicts a woman who embarks upon a journey through the American West after losing her job during a recession.

The screening is organised by the combined Rotary Clubs of Wagga, and commences at 2.30 PM. The charge is only \$20 per person, so why not organise a party of family & friends? See Elaine for tickets.

### ***D9705 CONFERENCE: -***

Our Annual Conference is to be staged over the weekend 19/20<sup>th</sup> March, at Bathurst NSW. Registrations are now being accepted. This year, numbers are restricted due to COVID (400 persons inside the conference venue, 360 at the Conference Dinner & 300 at the Welcome Function).

Click on the following link to go to the Conference website for further information and registration: -

<https://rotary9705.org.au/page/2021-district-conference-bathurst>

Members wishing to attend are urged to lodge registrations now – don't risk missing out.

### ***NEXT MEETING: -***

Our next meeting will, once again, see us enjoying the hospitality of the **Wagga Mens' Shed** in Ashmont Avenue. Any member who arrives at the Country Club in error will be required to contribute a suitable amount to the fines session at a subsequent meeting (The Honesty System applies here).

President David has booked for forty (and the Club will be paying for 40) and after reviewing the apology list for that week (11 to-date) is anxious that he has over-booked. To help him overcome his anxiety, we encourages you to **Invite a Guest** (or two). Normal rules for advising numbers for catering and/or apologies apply (i.e. call the Country Club office before Wednesday).



## ***DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2023/24: -***

Nominations for D9705 District Governor for 2023/4 close at 10.00 PM on Monday (15<sup>th</sup> Feb 21). Interviews will be conducted at Temora on 21st March 2021.

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

- ◆ **21/22 Feb 2021**            **P.E.T.s Training Session – Temora.**
- ◆ **7<sup>th</sup> March 2021**            **Polio-Plus Fundraising Movie Night – ‘Nomadland’.**
- ◆ **19/21 March 2021**            **District 9705 Conference (Bathurst).**
- ◆ **26/28 March 2021**            **Rotary Centenary Peace Dinner & Peace Walk (Canberra).**
- ◆ **15/16 May 2021**            **Wagga Rotary Club Book Fair (note changed date!)**
- ◆ **12/16 June 2021**            **Rotary International Conference (Taipei).**

## ***THE ‘HAPPY SNAPS’ FROM THIS WEEK: -***



***Gordon extracts the fines & introduces Julie.***



***Bruce collected the Door Prize.***



***Tony thanking our Key-Note Speaker.***



***President David - back in the chair.***

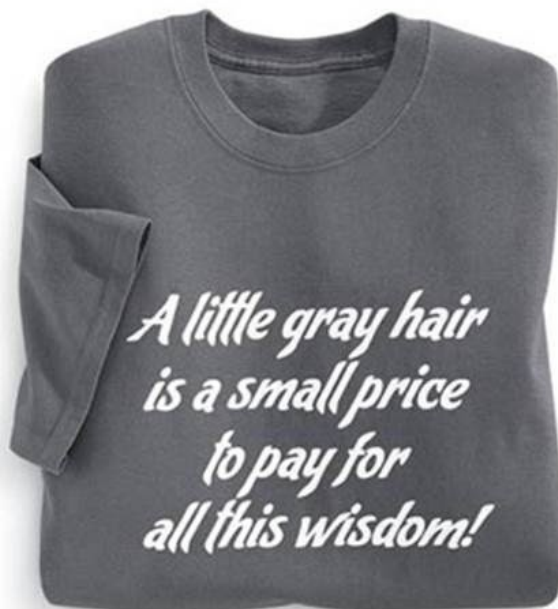
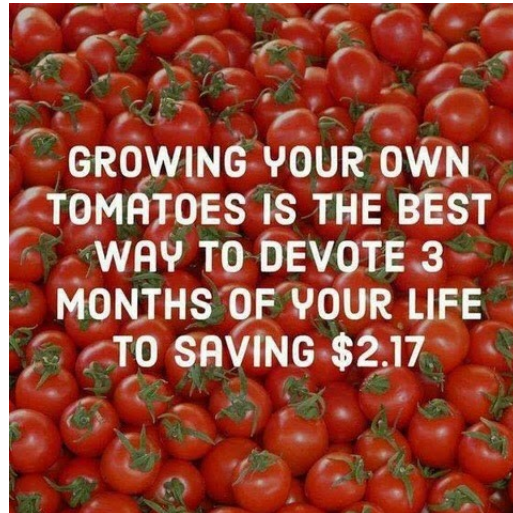
**Birthdays:** Merryll Cross (18/2), Sally Short (19/2), Joan Veerhuis, (19/2) Dipa Ghosh (20/2) & Alok Sharma (20/2).

**Rotary Anniversaries:** Nil

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Nil



≈ *KOOKABURRA* ≈



***Money cannot buy happiness – but it's far more comfy to cry in a Porsche than on a bicycle.***