



**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

<p><b>RI President:</b> Shekhar Mehta</p> <p><b>Dist. Gov 9705:</b> Leo Farrelly</p> <p><b>Area Three Gov:</b> Elaine Almond</p> <p><b>Club President:</b> Alan Lean</p> <p><b>Club Secretary:</b> Ellen Brasier</p>	 <p><b>SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES</b></p>	<p><b>THE FOUR WAY TEST:</b> Of the things we think, say or do: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it the truth?</li> <li>• Is it fair to all concerned?</li> <li>• Will it build goodwill &amp; better friendships?</li> <li>• Will it be beneficial to all concerned?</li> </ul>
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**BULLETIN NO: 1.**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021.**

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 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July
<b>PROGRAMME:</b>	<b>Pro Patria Update And Club Planning</b>	<b>Nick Skinner Clontarf Foundation</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Karel Bijker Margaret Everett	Karel Bijker Philip Cross	Karel Bijker Shishir Bhengra
<b>GREETER:</b>	Lyndall Seymour	Vida Smart	Peter Veerhuis
<b>SHORT &amp; SWEET:</b>	David Friedlieb	Paul Galloway	John Heazlewood
<b>FINES-MASTER:</b>	Alok Sharma	Bryan Short	Peter Smart
<b>INTRODUCE SPEAKER:</b>	Terry Mecham	David Cannon	Philip Cross
<b>VOTE OF THANKS:</b>	Peter Veerhuis	David Wynne	Elaine Almond
<b>BULLETIN REPORTER:</b>	Brasier, Ellen	David Kennedy	Don Pembleton
<b>MEETINGS:</b>	-	-	Board Meeting

**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.**

President Alan opened the meeting and welcomed the thirty-three members in attendance – including Hon. members Peter Murray and Bill Prest. Member's guests include Ellen's sister-in Law, Judy Rankin plus Midya Barai and Renas Baral, both guests of Peter Veerhuis. Also very welcome was Club guest and Key-Note speaker for the evening, Lisa Simpson.

Peter Chenoweth was a welcome surprise attendee due to him being 'locked out' of his (now) home-town, Rockhampton (QLD).



### **Administration Matters.**

- Vida addressed the club by asking for volunteers to put their names down to attend the Clontarf Breakfasts on Friday mornings during Term Three at Mount Austin High School. This program has been very successful with the rostering system, and feedback from both the Clontarf Director and Rotarian members has been very positive. Members who attend the breakfasts are encouraged to chat with the boys, and join in to play table tennis, pool etc.
- Members were reminded that the Coolamon Rotary Club Changeover dinner is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July for those planning to attend.
- The planned 'Sunday Lazy Lunch' is still planned for 4<sup>th</sup> July meeting around 1:00 PM at the Victoria Hotel. Lyndal will determine if there are any particular Covid restrictions that we need to be aware of.
- Elaine addressed the club with a Polio Plus Update. Earlier this year, three female health aid workers were killed in Afghanistan whilst undertaking immunisation duties. Their families are now being supported via the Afghanistan Health Minister and Rotary's Polio Program Leaders, but it is a sad reminder that raising the money for these immunisation programs is only a part of the process in some parts of the world. The aid workers risk their lives on a daily basis. On a more positive note however, worldwide there have been only TWO new cases of Polio recorded this year. (One in Afghanistan and one in Pakistan).
- Annual Membership Fees are now due. If anyone prefers to pay via EFTPOS, this is possible after a Thursday evening meeting. There will be a small additional fee to cover bank charges. Please see Nepal.
- Terry reminded Members that Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 our club is supplying the meal to Lilier Lodge. He requires six casseroles in total. He has two already arranged and asked for four more. Volunteers put their hands up.
- Alan asked the Service Committee Chairs to organise a meeting with their committee members prior to the next board meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021.
- President Alan informed the club that he has been invited to join the committee for Pro Patria, and that next week we will receive an update on where Pro Patria are up to right now.
- Bill Prest mentioned to those at his table that he turns 89 this year. He commented "If I was a car, I'd be worth a lot of money by now" Quick as a flash, Don Pembleton replied "Not in the condition you're in Bill!!!"



## **Short & Sweet.**



Peter Chenoweth stepped in to give us an update on his life since relocating back to Queensland. He was very flattering about our club and our reputation (not least for fellowship) and that he was pleased to be able to join us for the evening. His wife Lee who is presently up in Rockhampton, sent her best to everyone in the club.

Peter said that they were in Rockhampton because that was Lee's home-town. He was originally from McKay, and the two towns have a bit of a rivalry. When he lived in Wagga the Maroons were always winning the State of Origin so he has always had to put up with "the crap" so he felt between that and living in Rockhampton, he has been well-immunised at living in rival territory.

Peter was told (by Phil Jackson) that on the English Rugby League Listing, McKay was notorious for being the 'dirtiest mob they ever played'. Peter could well believe that since when he played in the 'Under 6 stone 7 oz' , and not all the players had football boots. At the first break, the coach encouraged all those who wore boots to go and 'stomp' on the biggest threat on the other team next time he was tackled!

Peter reminded us how lucky we all are to live in the 'country area' and be relatively safe during the last 18 months.

Peter finished up by telling Don Pembleton he was reminded of him recently when he went to an 'alternate' art exhibition in Brisbane, which included not only pictures of motorbikes, helmets etc. but actual motorbikes. Peter inquired of Don if he got artistry on his motorbike to match his tattoo's. Don replied it was the other way round, but that Peter would never see his tattoo's to check!

## **Fines-Master Session.**

Brad Bland was a fines-master tonight promptly levying a fine against Bruce Hayden won the wine (Is that AGAIN?)

David Wynne was next with a Rotary Anniversary, but since he was absent, all the golfers had to pay in his stead.

Staying with today's date of 1<sup>st</sup> July, Brad went back to the year 1200 and apparently that's when sunglasses were invented in China. A sure way to get a fine from everyone in the room, as who doesn't wear sunglasses? Moving forward in time, Brad managed to find significant events that he could use to relieve us of our money. In 1851, Victoria separated from NSW, so those of us who have EVER crossed that particular border, (again, pretty much everyone in the room) had to pay up. Brad then moved through time fining for the Men's Wimbledon Final in 1901 (those who can't remember watching that match got fined), Inaugural Tour de France in 1903 (anyone who has ever worn Lycra), First Active Service for female Police Officers in 1915 (the men in the room paid for this), and finishing with 2005, when Ford produced the last Thunderbird Car. Great Job Brad.



## **Key-Note Speaker**

As a volunteer with Ronald McDonald House, Elaine Almond introduced our Guest Speaker Lisa Simpson. Lisa has a background in both nursing and counselling, and has worked in Pastoral Care. Since November 2019, Lisa has been in the role of Executive Officer of Ronald McDonald House (RMH) Wagga Wagga.

Lisa grew up in Young, lived in Sydney and Melbourne before moving to Wagga Wagga 17 years ago with her family, as she wanted to give her children a country up-bringing. Lisa's father was an Ambulance Officer and her Mother a Nurse and she has always felt good working in areas where she can help others.



It has been a very challenging 18 months at RMH for Lisa. The pandemic has certainly affected many charities fundraising events, yet it doesn't stop illnesses or accidents.

The Ronald McDonald House is on Edward Street, close to the hospital. The house has 4 family size bedrooms for families with sick or injured children across the Riverina beyond 100kms radius.

Ronald McDonald House started in 1974, with a child suffering from Leukaemia. Nowadays, the child's illness doesn't have to be cancer.

The families who are eligible for support are not only those with children with cancer, but also children with chronic illnesses that require treatment or multiple appointments, and mothers with high risk pregnancies. Lisa said they are seeing the latter more and more. Regional towns don't have facilities to deal with these pregnancies any more. They have a couple staying now who have been with them for 5 weeks. She was 32 wks pregnant, and came into Wagga for a check up appointment and was told she couldn't go home.

So the criteria for the families they can support has changed over the years. It has also changed in that there is now no cost at all to the family.

There are three staff working during the week, two of whom are full time. One is the Family Room co-ordinator.

The Ronald McDonald House Family Room is on the Paediatric Ward at the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital. Ronald McDonald House paid for the Fit Out, and lease the space from the hospital. This family room can be used by families with children on the Paediatric ward. They can do washing, use the bathroom, shower, have a cup of tea, use a recharge station for charging various phones, or just have a quiet time. There is no charge to the families, and there is usually a volunteer on site.

In 2020 some 200 families from the Murrumbidgee Health District area received support from RMH Wagga. There were in excess of 2,000 visitors assisted by the Family Room at the hospital.

Ronald McDonald House Wagga Wagga exists on donations. Their annual expenses are around \$200,000 and funds are raised as follows: -

- IPTAAS – Government Reimbursement Scheme (15%)
- McDonald's Restaurants (20%)
- Personal & Corporate Donations, Fund-raising etc. (65%)

The facility is 'manned' 24/7 – 365 days a year mainly by volunteers.

Peter Smart then provided a vote of thanks, complimenting Lisa on her presentation; she was really engaging and had everyone in the room watching with interest as she spoke.

Lisa was then presented with the clubs certificate of polio vaccination of ten children on her behalf.

### **NEXT MEETING: -**

The next meeting sees us met again at our 'home base' the Wagga Country Club.

Whilst the main thrust of the evening is to make some serious plans for the coming twelve months, we will also receive an update from President Alan on the Pro Patria and our proposed involvement in this movement.



## **ROTARY ZONE 8 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE: -**

This year's Zone 8 conference will take place on the weekend 11/12<sup>th</sup> September. It is going virtual with a flexible two day program running from 11.30 AM to 1.00 PM each day.

It will inspire and energise participants in that it will have all the best elements of the face to face conference in that you can choose the sessions you want to attend, listen to great speakers, ask questions and network with other participants – all from the comfort of your home. The event will bring together the best of Rotary in one place over one weekend,

Registrations open 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021. For more detailed information and registration, click onto: -



<https://www.rotaryzone8.org/sitepage/2021-zone-8-national-conference>

## **MEET OUR NEW DISTRICT GOVERNOR: -**

The District Changeover Dinner last Saturday (26<sup>th</sup> June) saw the induction of our new District Governor, Leo Farrelly OAM.

Leo was initially recruited into Rotary in 1989 by the Rotary Club of Belconnen ACT. He was a member there for five years and then rejoined in 2008. He has served in many Club roles, including as Club President in 2015/16. Subsequently he served as Assistant Governor of Group 5 (Dist 9710) for a number of years up until the inauguration of our current District 9705.

Leo is a member of the Paul Harris Society and a member of the Scouting Rotarians Fellowship.

Leo served 24 years in the Royal Australian Navy, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander in 1987. His military service included time in Destroyer Escorts, the aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne plus two years at the RAN's patrol boat base on Manus Island (PNG).

Now, in his 'spare time', he is Principal of PPM Strategies Pty Ltd a company that provides training in project and programme management directed at achievement of an organisation's strategic plan.



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

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| x | <b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b>    | <b>'Lazy Sunday Lunch' Victoria Hotel 1:00 pm.</b> |
| x | <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</b>   | <b>Coolamon Rotary Club Changeover Meeting.</b>    |
| x | <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b> | <b>Lilier Lodge Casserole Night</b>                |
| x | <b>11/12<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>  | <b>Rotary Zone 8 Virtual Conference</b>            |
| x | <b>22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021</b>     | <b>Lilier Lodge Barbecue</b>                       |
| x | <b>25<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>      | <b>Wagga Rotary Shine Recognition Function</b>     |

**SOME 'HAPPY SNAPS' FROM THIS WEEK: -**



**Who Is That Masked Man Tonto?  
Tony Hutch Engaged In Some Fellowship With  
Peter Who Is Visiting From Queensland  
(Don't Mention The State Of Origin Games).**



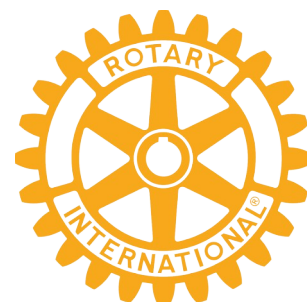
**Bruce Claimed The Lucky Door Prize Once  
Again!!  
He'll Have To Take Up Consuming Wine If This  
Keeps Up.**



**Peter Moved A Vote Of Thanks On Our Behalf  
For The Excellent Presentation By Lisa.**



**Vida – Well, Just Being Vida  
(Seeking Support For The Clontarf  
Breakfasts).**





**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: -**

(4<sup>th</sup> Jul – 10<sup>th</sup> Jul)

**Birthdays:** Peter Smart (6/7).  
**Rotary Anniversaries:** Nil.  
**Wedding Anniversaries:** Karel & Wendy Bijker (10/7).



≈ **KOOKABURRA** ≈

**Granma says**



Think Positive - it keeps you young. For example, I fell down the stairs today and I thought WOW - that's the fastest I've moved in years.



NEVER BE AFRAID TO  
TRY SOMETHING NEW.  
REMEMBER, AMATEURS  
BUILT THE ARK;  
PROFESSIONALS BUILT  
THE TITANIC.