



**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

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

<p>RI President: Shekhar Mehta</p> <p>Dist. Gov 9705: Leo Farrelly</p> <p>Area Three Gov: Elaine Almond</p> <p>Club President: Alan Lean</p> <p>Club Secretary: Ellen Brasier</p>	 SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES	<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: 24.

Thursday 9th December, 2021.

DECEMBER IS ROTARY DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH.

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

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

Date:	Thursday 16 th Dec 2021	Thursday 23 rd Dec 2021	Thursday 13 th Jan 2022
PROGRAMME:	Club Christmas Party.	NO MEETING	NO MEETING
ATTENDANCE:	Not Required (see below)		
GREETER:	Not Required		
SHORT & SWEET:	Kris Kringle (see below)		
FINES-MASTER:	David Wynne		
INTRODUCE SPEAKER:	Not Required		
VOTE OF THANKS:	Not Required		
BULLETIN REPORTER:	Peter Veerhuis		
MEETINGS:	Nil		

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

IMPORTANT: If you're unable to attend a meeting? **Please lodge an apology with THE COUNTRY CLUB OFFICE ☎ 6922 6444 by NOON on TUESDAY** (or pre-record same in the book provided at the meeting attendance table).

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

MEETING REPORT: -

Attendance.

This weeks meeting was held at the Wagga Wagga Men's Shed which was festively decked out, all ready for their Christmas celebration the following evening.



After thanking John, the Men's Shed Vice-President, and proposing a toast to Wagga Rotary, President Alan warmly welcomed all thirty-two members attending plus our guests Elle Palmer (ex-member) and Elaine's guest Cat Daley. Key-Note speaker, John Nixon from Can Assist was also welcomed.

Administration Matters.

- ➔ President Alan gave a special mention to those celebrating their birthdays. That is Gordon Sagers (7/12) Carole Murray (7/12), First Year Rotary Anniversary Peter Olson, Wedding Anniversaries for David & Fran Payne (07/12) and Nepal & Dipa Ghosh (12/12).
- ➔ President Alan then asked Graeme Callander to join him to introduce Elle Palmer. Elle had previously been a member of our club but had left Wagga some ten years ago to move to Sydney. Graeme and Don Pembleton have remained in touch with Elle and stayed with her occasionally over the years when on their motorbike trips. Elle has now moved back to Wagga and President Alan inducted her into our club as our newest 'renewed' member.
- ➔ Tony Hutchinson reminded all of the following BBQ events: -
 - TUESDAY 14th December we have the BBQ for the Wagga Rugby Choir Christmas function, 5.30pm start, at 17 Clare Avenue.
 - SATURDAY 18th December is the Multi-Cultural BBQ at the Botanic Gardens between 11am and 3pm.
- ➔ Club members welcomed Phil Cross back after the death of his wife Merryl. Phil thanked everyone for their support during the last few weeks and then went on to remind club members that he was very happy to continue to take Centurion donations now that he is back. Phil also told the club of the letter he received from Centrelink giving their commiserations to him and saying they would like to offer him a 'Bereavement Lump Sum'. Intrigued by their implied generosity, Phil looked at the enclosed cheque, and saw that it was for the amount of \$5.50. He's thinking of framing it.
- ➔ President Alan recounted to club members that the BBQ at the Clontarf Awards night was very successful, with Clontarf students, their parents and staff being very appreciative as always. Nick Skinner told Vida he is hoping that next year will see the return of visitors to the school grounds so Rotarians can commence the visits again. He also mentioned that the roster worked very well, and hopes we will use it again. Pat Edmunds mentioned to Alan that there is a possibility that another Clontarf Academy may open at Koorungal High School, which would be wonderful for students at that school.
- ➔ President Alan reminded everyone that next weeks meeting will be our Christmas party at Paul and Judy Galloway's home (full details below). Paul requested assistance from ANY member that is free (not necessarily just the ladies) that can go along at around 3:00 PM on Thursday to help decorate the tables etc.
- ➔ President Alan passed on a message from Rhonda Sharkie. She has requested anyone who is able to visit Rob to please do so. He would really appreciate seeing Rotary friends. A special note: Proof of vaccinations (Covid and Flu) will be required.



Short & Sweet.



Graeme Callander gave us a 'Long and Sweet' rendition of a recent radio interview he did with Paul Murray from the Wollundry Rotary Club during 2AAA's 'Jazz Session'. Paul wanted to know the history of the Riverina Jazz Band.

As a child of Salvation Army Officers, Graeme was in a brass band from the age of 7 yrs. On joining the army at 18 yrs, he had an unsuccessful attempt to join the Kapooka Army Band, learning in the process the value of practising before auditions.

After six years in the army, he and Bronwyn were living in Bendigo, when he joined the Bendigo Municipal Band, which is really when his musical career took off. His band won the Australian band Championships held in Wagga Wagga in 1977.

From then, wherever Graeme moved to, he played in the local bands, achieving various levels of success in competitions and events they played.

When Graeme was in Wagga, he met Pharmacist David Kennedy at the hospital who had heard that Graeme could play by ear and invited Graeme to rehearse with the Riverina Jazz Band. David had been in the band since its inception in approx 1960, though it has been disbanded for a while, it reformed shortly after Graeme joined them.

Graeme's first big event with the Riverina Jazz Band was the Canberra Jazz Festival in 1991, and they went on to play many other festivals in NSW and around Australia. When the band disbanded in 1998, a few members formed 'Presto con Fuoco' (meaning Fast with Fire) which played together for 5 years.

Fines-Master Session.

Peter Smart opened his fines session by fining Peter Olsen who won the raffle, despite his volunteering to 'carry the bag' to collect the fines. We are used to quite elaborate fines from Peter, but he assured us he was keeping it simple tonight.

He thanked our hosts at the Men's Shed for the wonderful food and hospitality they have yet again provided us, and then proceeded to fine any member who HAS a shed, who DOESN'T have a shed, and a double fine for anyone whose shed is a 'man-cave'. Apparently this latter kind of shed is defined by having carpet and a loo-!

On a roll, Peter then fined the ladies....for not being men! (The venue for the night quite clearly states MEN'S Shed).

On a topical note, as we are coming up to Christmas, and Santa has a beard, Peter requested all those present with a beard to pay a fine. He pointed out that this fine was in NO way gender specific.

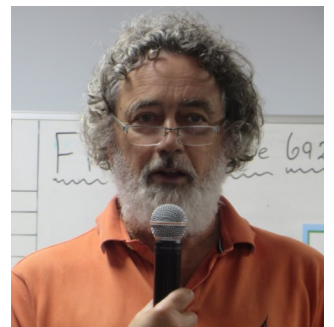
Whilst talking about Santa: Q – Why does he have a long white beard? A – Because he is old and at his age you can do what you like with your facial hair.

(This fine was a little confusing but the bulletin reporter can assure the reader that this particular Q & A was directed at Peter's wife☺)

And finally, Peter added a teensy fine to Graeme Callander for his very interesting, but probably one of the longest on record at 9 mins 53 secs, Short and Sweet ☺

Jess Boardman Project.

Thanks to all members who assisted Jesse Boardman in his predicament. Peter Veerhuis, who has coordinated this matter, reports that up to last week, Jesse has deposited \$300 into the Club's Service



account. Wednesday 8th December saw Peter Murray drive Jesse to and from Cootamundra – so the total benefit to our Service projects will be \$400.00. It appears that we have now exhausted our supply of volunteers/drivers and Peter reports that the remaining trips to and from Cootamundra will be paid to a Taxi company.

Key-Note Speaker.

Mike Murry introduced John Nixon who he met through the Prostate Support Group.

John opened his presentation by asking all present to put their hands up if they have been touched by cancer in any way, either personally, or through family/friends. Our whole club raised their hands, a reaction that John stated he gets every time he asks the question, no matter where he is.



Can Assist has been around since 1955, and has 55 branches in Australia and around 3000 volunteers.

John was first involved with Can Assist in Temora in 2010 when he was President of the Greek Club which donated money to the Temora Can Assist. Both his parents had used the West Wyalong Can Assist service so he was well aware of how important the service is to cancer sufferers and their families.

John's parents both used Wagga's Lillier Lodge facilities in Wagga which have been a huge benefit to them whilst they were receiving treatment in Wagga, so far from home.

John then went on to share his own personal story.

In 2011, in his early forties and whilst still living in Temora he decided to donate blood. He was found to have low iron, which then led to a diagnosis of Stage 1 Bowel Cancer. On further investigation he was found to have 'Lynch Syndrome' which is an inheritable condition from the maternal line, that has a 50% chance of leading to early age onset of bowel cancer for males, or breast cancer for females.

John was given lots of help from Can Assist in Temora to help and support him during his surgery and 8 week recovery. Help can come in the form of travel vouchers, accommodation, fuel vouchers, food, just to name a few of the ways the service helps cancer sufferers.

John has three sons, and in 2013 they moved to Wagga Wagga.

John courageously shared with us that in August 2017, Johns youngest son Bradley was diagnosed was Bowel Cancer at 20yrs. He endured 6 months of intensive Chemotherapy, but the cancer had spread throughout his body, and Bradley died in 2019.

During Bradleys battle with cancer, John discovered there was no Can Assist in Wagga. He contacted the Head Branch, and in October 2017 the Wagga Wagga branch of Can Assist opened with lots of community support.

John is now the President of the Wagga Wagga Can Assist branch. It is run totally on donations, and every dollar raised in Wagga, stays in Wagga.

Since October 2017, Can Assist Wagga Wagga have raised \$160,000.00, and they presently have 200 people on their books that they are helping.

They have the Bradley Nixon Memorial Motorbike Ride every year to raise money which is always well attended.

Johns very personal experiences and the role of Can Assist left all club members realising how lucky we are to have such an organisation in our town.

Mary Ann Kelly gave the Vote of Thanks, whilst still peppering John with questions, which he was happy to answer.

NEXT MEETING: -

As previously advised, the next meeting (16th December) is our annual Club Christmas function and also the last meeting until we resume after the Christmas/New Year break on Thursday 13th January 2022.

The venue for this function is Paul & Judy Galloway's home. Partners/Guests are welcome to attend the Christmas – but please see comments below regarding Kris Kringle, acceptances and payment. The function will be fully catered by Doris & Daryl Lamont. Start time 6:00 for 6:30 PM.

Don't forget to bring a small novelty gift (of maximum value \$5-00) that can be randomly distributed as Secret Santa/Kris Kringle.



Paul & Judy's home is located at 41 Plumpton Rd. Their driveway is next door to the Burringa Motel. Cars will be best parked along the eastern side of Plumpton Road where the Bike Path provides easy access to Paul's driveway.

The cost is \$45-00 per person and by the time you read this, you should have pre-paid. If you haven't yet paid you should contact Vicky Donoghue (MOB: 0407 586 186) to seek instructions.

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



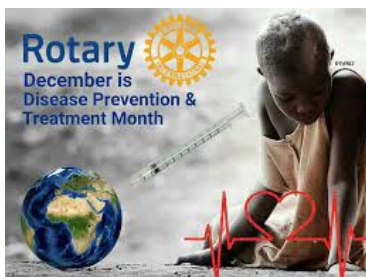
- ◆ **14th December** **BBQ Team – Rugby Choir function (TUESDAY).**
- ◆ **18th December** **BBQ Team – Multi-Cultural Council function (SATURDAY)**
- ◆ **13th January 2022** **First Club Meeting for 2022.**
- ◆ **24th March 2022** **Wagga Rotary Shine Recognition Function**
- ◆ **21/22 May 2022** **Wagga Rotary BOOK FAIR**

DECEMBER IS ROTARY DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH: -

As we all know, in order to advance our theme for 2021/22 (**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**), Rotary is dedicated to Six Areas Of Focus. Our key areas of focus for the month of December is Disease Prevention & Treatment.



Rotary's top priority is the eradication of polio, but Rotarians take on far greater responsibilities to fight disease. We set up health camps and training facilities in undeveloped countries and in communities struggling with HIV/AIDS and Malaria. We design and build the infrastructure for doctors, nurses, governments, and partners to reach the one in six people in the world who can't afford to pay for health care.



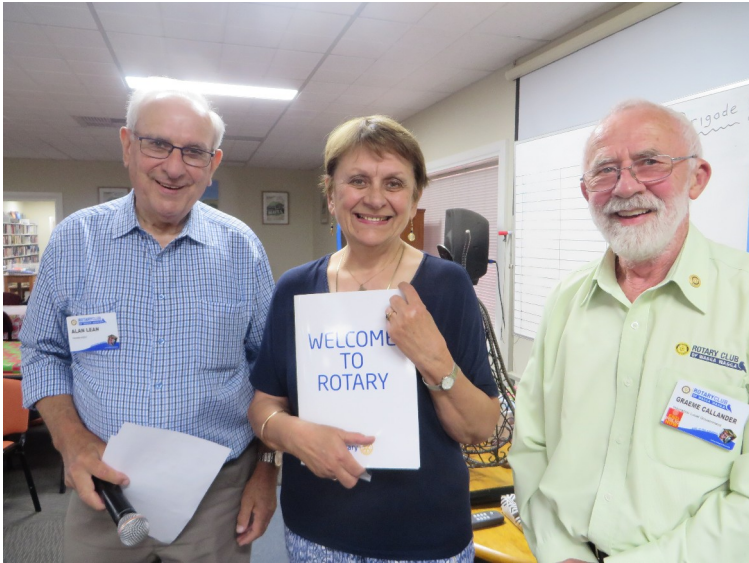
Disease prevention and treatment takes on many forms, from supporting studies to helping immunize people to improving drinking water and the sanitation infrastructure. The world relies on Rotary to tackle these global challenges, and to set an example for others to follow.

Here are some suggestions on how Rotary clubs, Districts and our service partners address these needs both locally and internationally:

- Support health education programs that explain how diseases are spread and promote ways to reduce the risk of transmission.
- Help immunize people against infectious diseases.
- Support continuing education and training for health workers through scholarships, and public recognition.

- Improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in underserved areas.
- Improve sanitation facilities by providing toilets and latrines that flush into a sewer or safe enclosure.
- Promote good hygiene habits through education. Proper hand washing with soap and water can reduce diarrhoea cases by up to 35%.
- Develop or support programs that provide immunizations and antibiotics. Measles, malaria, pneumonia, AIDS, and diarrhoeal diseases are the leading causes of death in children under five.

SOME 'HAPPY SNAPS' FROM THIS WEEK: -



Welcome back Elle – The World’s Newest Rotarian.



Mike – possible speculating on the 'Pommy's' Cricket Scores



Mary Anne moves the Vote of Thanks for our Speaker.



John on behalf of our hosts points out the emergency Exits.

**Rotary District 9705
District Governor
Leo Farrelly OAM**

Birthdays: Bryan Short (14/12).
Rotary Anniversaries: Nil.
Wedding Anniversaries: Nepal & Dipa Ghosh (12/12).



≈ **KOOKABURRA** ≈



What naughty boys get for Christmas

The tradition of the little angel on top of the Christmas tree: -

One particular Christmas, a long time ago, Santa was getting ready for his annual trip. But there were problems. Four of his elves were sick, and the trainee elves just weren't working out. Things got worse when Mrs. Claus told him her mother was coming to visit.



Then, when he went to harness the reindeer, he found that three of them were about to give birth. Two others had jumped the fence and were out carousing, heaven knows where. When he went to load the sleigh, one of the sideboards cracked and the toy bag fell to the ground, scattering the toys.

Frustrated, Santa went into the house for a cup of coffee and a shot of Christmas Cheer, but when he opened the cupboard, he discovered the elves had apparently had a party, and there was nothing left to drink. Just as he accidentally dropped the coffee-pot, breaking it in hundreds of little pieces, the doorbell rang. Santa opened the door, cursing beneath his breath, and there stood a beautiful little angel with an enormous, perfectly shaped traditional Christmas tree.

"Merry Christmas Santa," the angel said. "Isn't it just a lovely day to be alive? Look! I have a beautiful tree for you. Where would you like me to stick it?"

And thus began the tradition of the little angel on top of the Christmas tree.