



**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: 3.

Thursday 15th July, 2021.

JULY IS ROTARY NEW LEADERSHIP 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 22 nd July	Thursday 29 th July	Thursday 5 th Aug.
PROGRAMME:	Brainstorming Session. Club Programs.	Belinda Crane Multicultural Council.	Emma Guestella. Vet Scholarship.
ATTENDANCE:	Karel Bijker Shishir Bhengra	Karel Bijker David Friedlieb	Karel Bijker Paul Galloway
GREETER:	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
SHORT & SWEET:	John Heazlewood	Graeme Callander	Neil Hilpern
FINES-MASTER:	Peter Smart	Mary Anne Kelly	Peter Olsen
INTRODUCE SPEAKER:	Philip Cross	Vicky Donoghue	Allan Duffus
VOTE OF THANKS:	Elaine Almond	Bruce Barber	Karel Bijker
BULLETIN REPORTER:	Don Pembleton	Bryan Short	Peter Veerhuis
MEETINGS:	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.

Our meeting, with thirty three members in attendance, was declared open by Club President Alan. Eight apologies had been tendered.

Administration Matters.

- Apologies received from Nic Skinner and the Clontarf boys, who were to be our speakers for the evening. They are isolated due to Covid and unable to visit outside venues.
- The Friday morning visits by our Rotary Club to the Clontarf meetings have been suspended until further notice for the same reasons as stated above.
- QR code has been installed at our book storage/sorting shed in Copland Street – please use it when attending that facility.
- President Alan attended the Murrumbidgee Rotary changeover where the president inducted himself back into office.
- Wagga Rotaract Club is going very well and at their next meeting will have a workshop on knitting.
- Our next Club Sunday Lunch will be on Sunday 1st August at the Riverina Hotel. Lyndal will provide further details closer to the event.

Short & Sweet.

Paul Galloway resurrected the custom of an International Toast. The selected Club was the Rotary Club of Malta. He provided the following statistics: -

- Malta is the largest island on the archipelago in the central Mediterranean.
- It is 80 Kms South of Sicily across the Malta Channel.
- There are five islands that surround Malta.
- The population of Malta is around 500,000.

The club was established on 6th October 1967 – the first in Malta.

- The Rotary President is Terrace, Corinthia San Gorg – see induction photo at right.
- The club meets on Mondays at 7.30 PM at the Corinthia St. George's Bay Hotel Malta.
- The Club forms part of District 2110
- Their evening programs include topics such as: -
 - "Libya & Britain, then and now – where is Libya heading?"
 - Seed bank establishment for the restoration of degraded 2,000 natural habitats in the Maltese islands.



Paul then proposed the toast from a seated position as is the requirement now with Covid restrictions.



Fines-Master Session.

Alok Sharma proceeded to aim a lot of his fines a Covid facts for Australia, and each table had to submit an answer and be fined if incorrect.

- What are the number of people who have contracted Covid-19 in Australia?
- How many have developed blood clots? (76)
- How many have died from blood clots? (3 out of 74 million doses)
- What are the total deaths from Covid? (912)

He then proceeded to fine Phil Cross for his 50th Wedding anniversary and Graeme Callander won the lucky door prize.

Covid Update.



Peter Smart gave us some interesting information on the current state of Covid Testing. Peter is part of the thousands of people processing various pathology results. He commented that yesterday (14th July) there was a major delay in his reporting for there had been an EXTRA 32,000 requests in NSW above the normal, and this had created a crisis for each report required a demographic entry and there were not enough staff to cope with the overflow. He suggested that people should be patient when awaiting results.

Key-Note Speaker

Because of the unexpected cancellation of the Clontarf team, two of our members were called on to fill in the gap.

Shishir Bhengra.

Shishir was born in the Easter side of India and was the youngest child in the family. He thus inherited jobs such as walking the dog and washing the dishes.

At high school he found he could get a lend of money off each elder brother without them knowing that each had opened their pockets, and was keen on sport, especially cricket, where he represented his school and travelled to different countries where he saw a very different type of life. With his sport, his father made him get very early and go running.

His father also wanted him to have a good education, so sent him to Calcutta where he had to arise at 4.00am and catch a train to arrive at 6.00am when classes began.

This didn't suit Shishir, so he returned home and there discovered Rotary.

He then decided he would have to obtain a degree and then a postgraduate degree.

Whilst doing this study, he met his future wife who was a nurse. There was a problem however for the "cast" system was still very prominent, and he was a Catholic and she a Hindu. Shishir's future father-in-law seemed to solve the problem, and after the wedding, they moved to Manchester in England. He of course still follows Manchester United Football Club.

Shishir specialised in insurance and he and his wife had produced two daughters.

They then decided to migrate to Australia, and a recommendation from a friend, chose Wagga to settle in 2013. They've been here ever since, but at first, found life very different.



One example was when they first landed in Melbourne with 13 bags and 2 children. They arranged to catch the morning train to Wagga, but the taxi got caught in a traffic jam and they missed it. Thinking it was like England they thought they'd catch the next one in half-an-hour or so. They were very surprised to learn the next train left about 12 hours later and would take 8 hours to get to Wagga. He has been at the ANZ bank since arriving.

Alok Sharma.

Alok chose to follow up on his "Short & Sweet" with a factual look at Covid-19 throughout some of the world's countries and show how the media and social media have badly distorted some of the facts. So far, the world has seen 188,654,892 cases of Covid-19. There have been 4,066,861 deaths.

Democracy has played a significant part in both infections and deaths, for in autonomous countries such as China, laws can be enforced whether the population agree or not. Thus, better control of the virus can be achieved. In democratic countries this is not the case.

Thus, looking at some of the democratic countries, and considering the population, figures look a bit different.

Country.	Approx. population	Death Rate
USA	330,000,000	184.8
Brazil	190,089,940	254.7
India	1,130,874,376	30.2
Australia	26,000,000	From Astra Zeneca = 0.0000004

Percentage vaccinations per country were also interesting.

Australia	9.1%
USA	48.5%
India	5.4%

In India, antibiotics, oxygen, and many other drugs are just sold over the counter without a prescription.

The local hospitals are not equipped to carry large amounts of oxygen because of this and of course when a pandemic hits, the population buy up supplies of oxygen leaving the regional hospitals short (a bit like toilet paper).

So, we should have a very positive attitude to the virus in Australia, and instead of having a half-empty glass, or half-full glass attitude, we should just have a smaller glass and keep it full.

NEXT MEETING: -

Our next meeting is to occur at the Wagga Country Club – it is to be a 'brain-storming' session to determine future Club programs (speakers, social nights, outside visits etc. So put your 'thinking caps' on and come prepared for some constructive input. We value your ideas.

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

- **22nd July 2021** **Board Meeting.**
- **1st August 2021** **Next Club Sunday Lunch**
- **11/12th September 2021** **Rotary Zone 8 Virtual Conference**
- **22nd September 2021** **Lilier Lodge Barbecue**
- **25th November 2021** **Wagga Rotary Shine Recognition Function**



RUTH GISSING: -



Ruth passed away last weekend at the age of 99. She was widow of our long-serving member, Morris Gissing PHF – and mother of current Rotarian, Peter (Wagga Sunrise Rotary). Our thanks to Philip Cross who dug into our Club Archives to locate the adjacent photo of Morris & Ruth.

It may be of interest to note that Morris' father, Harry, was also a member of our Club – he was Club President 1935/36 and progressed on to be our District Governor.

We offer our condolences to Peter & family.

SOME 'HAPPY SNAPS' FROM THIS WEEK: -



Paul Proposes the Toast to RC Malta.



Graeme Collects the Lucky Door Prize.



Alok's Glass is Half Full.



David thanks members Alok and Shishir for their presentations which were delivered without (much) notice.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: -

(18th Jul – 24th Jul)

- Birthdays:** Mary Anne KELLY (23/7).
- Rotary Anniversaries:** Gary ROBERTS (23/7/20 – plus Murrumbidgee 2007/19 & Koorinal 1981/19).
- Wedding Anniversaries:** Graham & Lyn RUSSELL (19/7).



≈ **KOOKABURRA** ≈

My wife sent me a text that said,
"Your great"

So, naturally, I wrote back, "No,
you're great"

She's been walking around all
happy and smiling.

Should I tell her I was just
correcting her grammar or leave
it?



No matter
how serious
life gets,
remember to
have fun and
be silly.

Sun. Moon & Stars

I envy people that grow old gracefully. They are like a fine wine; I'm ageing like milk – getting sour and chunky.