



ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc.

# The PORT WHEEL

Volume 69 No.10 Wednesday 31st August, 2016

Club No.17940 Chartered May 22, 1948

Website - [www.rotaryclubportmacquarie.com.au](http://www.rotaryclubportmacquarie.com.au)

## Meeting notes

\*Tonight's International Toast was to the **Rotary Club of Javea in Spain**, presented by Debbie Loveday.

- Bumped into a former member of our Rotary Club - **John Toose**. John said his wife Valda is doing it tough health-wise. He said he missed Rotary. Sadly when he lost all his retirement investments in legal scandal a few years back, he could no longer afford to come to Rotary.



### Walk for Motor Neurone Disease

Sunday 18th September  
See Glenda Barber for details.

## Posties for Prostate



Visiting Rotarian Posties on Town Green being welcomed to Port Macquarie by Mayor Peter Besseling & President of Port Macquarie Rotary Club Gil Padarin-Innes along with Keith Innes (Keith is holding the 'killer' dog on right of picture!!!) The Posties were hosted by Rotary for a few days in Port Macquarie whilst raising funds to combat Prostate Cancer.

## Spanish Night



Director Gai Nixon & the club's International team staged a great Spanish evening.

Pictures l/r—Senorita Deborah Loveday, Senor El Toro Frank Beukers, special guest Senorita Tania Flores with Senor Petro Jensen & Senorita Diana Clark from S/W Rocks club, winners of the best-dressed Spaniards prize.

Thanks Gai & team for a fun night. OLE! OLE!

**President:** Gil Padarin-Innes **Secretary:** Terry Crossley  
P. O. Box 136, Port Macquarie... NSW... 2444

**CLUB MEETINGS, EACH WEDNESDAY @ Port Panthers, 5-30pm for 6pm start.**

**Apologies or bookings to Keith Innes...  
Email - [rpmclubsvcs@outlook.com](mailto:rpmclubsvcs@outlook.com)**

**President** - Gil Padarin-Innes; **President-elect & Treasurer**- Frank Beukers; **Vice-President** - Lyn Bowen  
**Secretary** - Terry Crossley;

**Directors - Club** - Keith Innes, **Vocational** - Kerry Medway/Vern Allen, **Past-President & Community** - Phil Perry - **International** - Gai Nixon, **Youth** - Diana Gammon. **Membership** - Chris Whitton.

**Past District Governors** - Roger Dulhunty 1969-70, Ivan Meldrum 1975-76, Laurie Barber 2006-07.



# Club program

If you are unable to fulfil your role, please swap with someone & advise

Date	Program	Speaker	Program chair	Welcomer	3 on Me	Inter. Toast	Sergeant
Sep 7	Public Speaking	Four Students	Dianna Gammon & Deb Loveday	Lloyd Cross	.....	.....	Kerry Medway
Sep 14	District Governors Visit	DG Ian Jackson	President Gil Padarin-Innes	Alastair Moss	?????????	Dr Ted Giblin	Lyn Bowen
Friday 16th September—ROTARY GOLF DAY @ P/M Golf Club.... All hands needed...see Roster in red book.							
Sep 21	Golf Day Dinner At P/M Golf Club		President Gil & Col Pickering	Lloyd Cross	.....	.....	Neil Porter
Sep 28	Ethics in Rotary	John Oxley	Ted Giblin	Doug Heagney	???????????	?????????????	Neil Porter



## THREE - ON - ME Keith Innes

A few weeks ago on the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, Vietnam, Keith gave a brief talk on this heroic event. I asked him for a photograph and some more info on his service in Vietnam. This is an edited version of Keith's story -

*"I had three trips to Vietnam. The first was with Det 547 Sig Troop from July 1966 - June 1967 as a linguist/crypt analyst. The second was on HMAS Sydney as a language instructor for 3Bn RAR in December 1967. The third was with Det 1 Div Int Unit as a linguist/combat intelligence operator.*

*547 was a highly protected unit. It wasn't until well after the war that information about 'signals intelligence' started to become widely known and used. When you have a look at the unit's history you can start to understand why the Battle of Long Tan could have been a disaster for Australia and our allies. Fortunately after the battle and people began to understand what 'signet' was all about and how vital it was for intelligence re the enemies locations. 547 had been monitoring the Vietcong's 275 Regiment's movements and wireless traffic, we just didn't know when and what was going to happen?*

*The time leading up to the Battle of Long tan, Col Joye & Little Patti were beginning to perform at a concert for the troops. During the concert the Battle of Long Tan erupted. The US began firing 155mm guns, the shells soaring over the concert toward Long Tan. They sounded like trains passing over the top of you. It has been misreported that Col Joye & the band & Little Patti were evacuated before the show began. (continued)*



Keith in Duc Thanh, Vietnam, 1970.

*They weren't and clearly they had never heard artillery fire like this before. Little Patti dropped straight to the floor of the stage. The concert was cancelled & the musicians were evacuated from the area.*

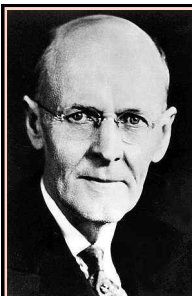
*One of my tasks in 547 was to go in small aircraft/helicopters and listen for 'voice conversations.' There was an issue because some of the people listening to Vietnamese unit conversations kept mistaking the words "Tra Loi" = "Over" for "Uc Dai Loi" meaning "Australia(n) and thought these were threats to the Aussies.*

*On my second trip I met on board ship a Platoon Sergeant, Ron Carroll. I had known him in SAS in 1960. Ron was killed in action & was one of the remaining 33 whose remains were recently brought home from Malaysia.*

*The tour with 1Div (my third) was probably the most interesting because I lived out in the villages with Australian & US teams & interacted with the local Vietnamese units & police. Service in Vietnam came at a great cost, I didn't see my two sons for some years after their birth.*

Thanks Keith for your story.

We honour you & all our Vietnam Veterans



## Rotary's Founder PAUL HARRIS

Quote - No.10

*"As one gets older, one realizes neither joys nor sorrows are permanent."*

- Message to a youth group in Huntington Park, California in 1922

## BIRTHDAYS September 2016

- 13/09 - Laurie Barber
- 14/09 - Lyn Sheppard
- 14/09 - Lorryl Rumble-Fuller
- 18/09 - Paul Froome
- 22/09 - Doug Heagney
- 26/09 - Paul Trevillion
- 28/09—Tamara Rumble
- 30/09 - Margaret Allen.

## ANNIVERSARIES September 2016

- 10/09 - John & Lynn Sheppard
- 19/09 - Paul & Kerry Trevillion