



Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc.

# The PORT WHEEL

Volume 69 No.35 Wednesday 22nd March 2017

Club No.17940 Chartered May 22, 1948

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

## Meeting notes

- Tonight's International Toast was presented by **Gai Nixon** to the Rotary Club of **Sparrenburg, Germany**.
- **Fred O'Toole is on fire:** We have two applications for membership.
- **Debbie Loveday** spoke to issues about the forthcoming district conference and pointed out our own Associate Professor Ray Hodgson will be the key note speaker who will speak to the health-related issues and projects in Nepal. Debbie also spoke about the availability of money for Rotary International Grants.
- **Phil Perry spoke about Community Service** and passed around the Certificate of Appreciation received from the Women's Refuge to thank the Club, its members and friends who offered their time and "skills" to paint the lounge and children's play area and enhance the appearance of the refuge. He went on to say that that the money raised from the book sale is sneaking up past \$13,000.00. The Book Sale Committee is taking on board the suggestions received re the conduct of the book sale – if you wish to make a comment, there is still time.
- **Sgt Neil Porter** presented a book, "How to Deal with Difficult People" to Phil Brown – mainly to reflect Phil's professional life in dealing with difficult people (or that's what I was led to believe).
- Next week - Women's refuge story

## To be or Not to Be? Do we Change our Club Meetings????

A report on Wednesday's Club Assembly by Keith Innes

The Ballot: Twenty-five members were in attendance. President Gil spoke to the changes in Rotary International's directive about clubs being able to change their constitution, the frequency and types of meetings. **Essentially, it is proposed to have two formal meetings; one/two social (fellowship) meetings; and, one Board meeting to which members could attend, (but not vote) each month.** Members were then invited to speak for and against the suggested change in direction that this Club could undertake. Four members spoke against the idea, four members spoke supporting the idea.

Some of the points spoken were:

- Many clubs have lunch time meetings, but there are none in the Port area.
- Changes in schedule of meetings in many respects have not attracted new members and in fact has caused existing members to absent themselves from types of meetings they think don't suit them.
- That there were 4-5 meetings a month, prospective members considered this to be an "over commitment" time-wise.
- That we need to move with the times, to attract younger people we need to have a social program.
- Some of our most popular meetings are youth nights where we attract the candidates, family members, teachers and principals. We have had a positive impact at the respective Hastings Secondary College Port High and Westport campuses.
- On a general scale our Club has a good size membership. We have lost six or seven members over the past couple of years. We don't understand that many younger people are time poor. We do not appeal to 30-40 year old's, but are welcoming to people of our own age demographic.
- Our Committee System doesn't work well.

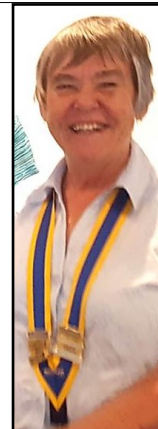
The ballot was conducted. **The result - 19 for 6 against.**

After the ballot, Phil Brown addressed the members and essentially said:

*We have a very good history of serving the community. Indeed, over the past three years, there have been three Rotarians who have been recognised as "Citizen of the Year" or received similar high profile awards.*

*There are many people out there who wish to serve the community but not be Rotarians. We shouldn't pigeon hole people because of their skills or backgrounds.*

*We should be communicating, "Rotary's here, we're here to help you"*



**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 -** Fred O'Toole.

**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
<b>March 24th - 25th - 26th - District 9650 Conference in Laurieton - Late Registrations until March 17. A late fee will be charged</b>							
March 29	Engineers in Australia	Meg Teasdel & Peter Wilson	Diana Gammon	Alastair Moss	_____	Doug Heagney	Kerry Medway
April 5							
April 12							
April 18	Anzac Meeting with Westport Club (note Tuesday)						

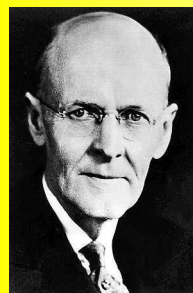
Congrats Sam on your Nomination



## Comments about the recent Rotary Book Sale

Treasurer Frank invited comments -

- \*More **supervision during sorting** at the RCC. Any book on any topic that is old, brown edge pages or just out of date **must be culled**.
- \*Having fiction boxes according to **alphabet** is a great idea.
- \*Some **topics** need to be **deleted**. This would be a topic of debate as everyone has their favourites. Personally I wouldn't have old computer or business type books; they are heavy and quickly out of date. More culling of religion is also needed as not many were sold.
- \***Paid help** must be organised to bring boxes from RCC to Panthers. Members are not physically capable of doing this kind of strenuous work.
- \*We need some **new signs** that are slightly bigger and easier to be seen. More stands are needed for tables. The banner above the door looking outside to Panthers foyer was faded and old and did not give a good impression.
- \*There needs to be **only one person who makes decisions and this to be made very clearly to all**. There were a few instances of being told one thing by one person and then told a different thing by another person.
- \*Also **once a decision is made it needs to be stuck too**. I was told one thing early and then given a different instruction at packing time.
- \*I realise the intention was to take the **minimum number of boxes back to the RCC** but there were some decent, near new and actually new books that were disposed of. I put three boxes of cookbooks outside with a sign saying free books and within 1/2 hour while we packed up all were taken. Surely we can think of something for those that really are worth saving rather than just dumping them.
- The Sunday shopping bags were missed & several people requested that they return in future sales.
- \* No pricing of books @ 75cents. please



### Rotary's Founder **PAUL HARRIS**

Quote - No.30

• *Inspiration is a flame which soon dies out unless fed with the fagots of service."*

• Message to the 1920 RI Convention, Atlantic City, new jersey, USA

### BIRTHDAYS March. 2017

- 30/03 - Marlene White
- 31/03 - John Oxley
- 31/03 - Helen Crossley

### ANNIVERSARIES March 2017

- 24/03 - Geoff & Sue Workman