

THE PORT WHEEL

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc.
Vol. 73 - No.30 - Wednesday March 3rd, 2021
 Club No.17940 Chartered May 22, 1948
Website - www.rotaryclubportmacquarie.com.au
 See us on facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubPortMacquarie/>

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie
P.O. Box 136, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

- **President** - Elizabeth Fielding
- **President-Elect** - Frank Moxon
- **Immediate Past President** - Bob Cleland
- **Vice President** - Glenda Barber
- **Secretary** - Geoff Slack
- **Treasurer** - Frank Moxon
- **Club Service Director** - John Oxley
- **Community Service Director** - Phil Perry
- **International Service Director** - Ray Hodgson
- **Vocational Service Director** - Neil Porter
- **Youth Service Director** - Diana Gammon
- **Membership Director** -
- Club Meetings each Wednesday @ Port Panthers 5-30pm for 6pm start.
- **Apologies or bookings to - Sam Openshaw**
- **Phone 0408 235 870**
 - **Emails to - mentalhealthsupport@hotmail.com**
- **Club Bank Details**
BSB 932-000
a/c 500 186 792
- **Past District Governors -**
 Roger Dulhunty 1969-70;
 Ivan Meldrum 1975-76;
 Laurie Barber 2006-07;
District Governor - 2020-21
 Debbie Loveday
District Governor Elect - 2021-22
 David Mayne
 - **Bulletin Editor**
 - Kerry Medway
kerry@kerryedway.org

Rotary Goes Robotic!

Rotary Presidents Heather Mayne (PMQ West) & Elizabeth Fielding (PMQ) presenting a cheque for \$11,700 towards the Hastings Secondary College's Virtual Reality STEM robotic program. Receiving the cheque are Ian Ross (Principal of Westport High School) & Meaghan Cook (Principal of Port Macquarie High School).



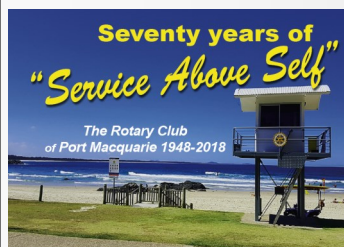
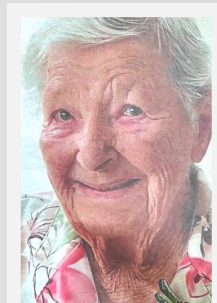
The Rotary Clubs of Westport and Port Macquarie are working together to support Hastings Secondary College in its aim to build capacity in its students to develop STEM related skills for the future. At present the project is focussing on attracting year 7 and 8 students (particularly girls) into the sciences. The Rotary team includes "grants specialists" – Rick Eller from Westport and Fred O'Toole from Port Macquarie who are looking for new grants. They work with Leanne Jeffrey, Community Liaison Officer from the College. The school has produced details of present needs for the grant applications.

This project is set up in isolation with the aim of sourcing new funds without impinging on the general aims of members of these very busy Rotary Clubs.
 - Diana Gammon.



Rotarian Craig Oversees the Arrival of the Covid Vaccinations for the Senior Citizens of Port Macquarie

Craig Wearne, the CEO of Garden Village & a member of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie oversaw the first Covid vaccinations at the Village last weekend. Craig and his staff have done a great job in steering the Village through Covid and now negotiating the vaccination of up to 130 residents. The first person to be vaccinated was 100 year old Grace Symonds (pictured right - courtesy of the Port Macquarie News 26/2/2021).



In our 73rd Year

THE HOME OF OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR



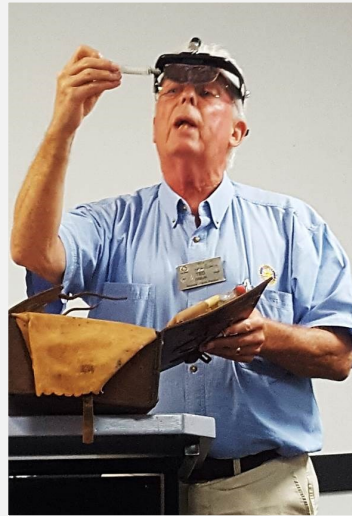
Club program

If you are unable to fulfil your role, swap with someone & advise Bull Editor - Kerry Medway

Date	Program	Speaker	Program Chair	Welcomer	My Story/Fascinating Facts	International Toast	Sergeant
Mar. 10th	Youth Science	Students report on their NYSF	Diana Gammon	Frank Gaukroger	_____	Gai Nixon	Sandra Adams
March 12th - 13th -14th - District Conference at Panthers... hosted by DG Debbie Loveday							
Mar. 17th	Social Evening - Possibly La Roma Italian Restaurant	_____	Glenda Barber	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mar. 24th	Children suffering from Bereavement	James Thomas Feel the Magic	Elizabeth Fielding	Diana Gammon	Mavis Wallace	Sam Openshaw	Kerry Medway

The Bird Man from Alcatraz (oops) Port Macquarie!!!

Ted Giblin via ZOOM from Sydney gave us a fascinating talk on local bird life. Ted, who is a member of the Hastings Birdwatchers shared insights into the Birds of the Hastings. There are 317 different species of birds in this area, some in danger of extinction. Ted showed pictures of many of the fascinating birds found by the sea, on the continental shelf, inland in swamps & rainforests.



Some birds fly 1000s of kilometres from the Northern Hemisphere to come here for the winter months before returning to mate.

One of the great birdwatching spots is in the Sea Acres Rain Forest. Neil Porter suggested that the club look at a visit to Sea Acres & for Ted to lead us on a birdwatching tour.

This was enthusiastically agreed by the members on ZOOM.

In Sea Acres there is Australia's largest owl that is known to consume one possum per day (365 possums per year). We should export these owls to New Zealand as they have a huge possum problem! Thanks Ted for a great presentation.

Note these Dates - in your diary -

- **March 12 - 14, 2021 - District 9650 Conference in Port Macquarie**
- **March 26-28 - Giant Rotary Book Sale - Panthers**
- **April 10 - Working Bee at the Community Centre**
- **April 21st - Rotary Anzac Day meet**
- **May 1 - 8th - RYLA at Lake Keepit**
- **September 17th - Rotary Golf Day**



- **DG Debbie** reported that she is flat-out trying to get everything in order for the upcoming **District Conference**. At this time there are 275 Rotarians & partners registered for the conference. Valda Sturrock has done a great job in registering everyone. Changing Covid restrictions has made the planning for the conference difficult for DG Deb & her team.
- Diana Gammon reported that our club is willing to **sponsor two candidates for the RYLA week in May**. Anyone with any recommendations of suitable young people contact Diana.
- Diana also informed us that there could be **20 teachers & students at next weeks Science meeting** & we are in for an interesting night with the youth. There will be a table quiz with prizes.
- Kerry reports that he has the names of 21 deceased Rotarians for the **Rotary Remembrance Service** on Sunday morning at 8-30am. These names have come from only nine clubs in the district. Sadly 40 clubs have not responded. Fortunately our club has had no deaths over the past 2 years.



INVITATION

Youth Science Night

DINNER MEETING 5.30 PM FOR 6.00 PM
TO 7.30 PM

WEDNESDAY, 10TH MARCH 2021

AT PANTHERS

Hear Hastings Secondary College and Mackillop College students report on their experiences after attending the NYSF program.

Year 11 students will run a science contest.

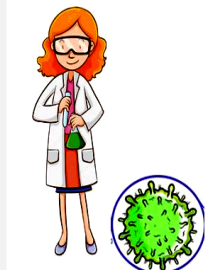
STEM



Science • Technology • Engineering • Math



WORK FROM HOMER



RSVP Sheila Openshaw
Friday 5th March 2021
Mobile 0408 235 870
mentalhealthsupport@hotmail.com
\$26.00 per person
Speakers - Guests of Rotary



BIRTHDAYS March 2021

- 05/03 - Elizabeth Fielding
- 18/03 - Ted Giblin
- 30/03 - Charles Craddock
- 31/03 - John Oxley
- 31/03 - Helen Crossley

ANNIVERSARIES March 2021

- 14/03 - Terry & Helen Crossley
- 17/03 - Frank & Sue Gaukroger
- 31/03 - Philip & Helen Brown