



Rotary Opens Opportunities



THE PORT WHEEL

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc.

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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@kerrymedway.org

The feeding of 400 RFS Flood Rescuers



Rotarians - Sam Openshaw & Neil Black

A report from President Elizabeth Fielding -

It started with a phone call last Wednesday morning to say there were 400 RFS and Fire Rescue personnel arriving that night that needed to be fed and could we help. Of course I said without hesitation we have to help.

An hour later we had a meeting convened at the indoor stadium and decided that we needed to involve the Lions clubs as well, due to the magnitude of the task ahead.

We decided we would work to a two day roster with Rotary Sunrise, Lions and Port West/Port Macquarie Rotarians.

We are ably assisted with wonderful staff from the stadium café who have made everything work like clockwork. They take care of food ordering, managing donations and all the logistical challenges leaving us to cook for the hungry hordes. It has been a wonderful demonstration of clubs getting together, pooling resources and manpower and just getting on with the job. The 'furies' are so grateful as are we for the marvellous job they are doing.

At this stage the operation will wrap up on the weekend and they will pack their containers and semi-trailers and return home to their families.

Tonight's International Speaker

International Director Ray Hodgson (pictured with his partner Helen Michelmores) introduced speaker Joseph Nguyen from Vietnam. Joe had a great sense of humour & entertained us with stories of struggling with Australian English! He thought he was coming to Campsie but went to Kempsey!!!!



Seventy years of "Service Above Self"

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie 1948-2018



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
April 7th	Zoom	OzHarvest Ronnie Khan M/D	Elizabeth Fielding				
April 14th	200 Years of Port Macquarie	Four members to share 5 mins	Ted Giblin	Ray Hodgson	John Oxley	Robert Ruitshauser	Kerry Medway
April 21st	Anzac meet with Port West Rotary	Phil Perry & David Mayne				Neil Porter

Life and Death in Nepal



Rotary in Action

Rotary International District 9650
CONFERENCE 2021
Panthers Port Macquarie – March 12-14

Ray Hodgson

Ray Hodgson



The third keynote speaker at the recent Rotary District Conference was Dr Ray Hodgson, a specialist gynaecologist & Assoc. Prof. in Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the University of NSW. Ray is also the International Director of our club. He conducts medical tours into Nepal with an aid organisation he formed - Australians for Women's Health (A4WH), focussing on the appalling state of maternal health and genital prolapse in Nepal. Ray gave us a challenging update on his work & Rotary's support at the conference.

I've attached a few slides from the conference talk. I think the most important one is the slide (at right) with the fundraising graph. This shows the powerful effect that Rotary has had with our project. Rotary became involved in 2017, and soon after there were clear benefits from various Rotary contributions, including District and Foundation Grants. While the majority of funds raised are from private donations (not directly through Rotary), once Rotary became involved our organisation, A4WH gained more prestige. It gave many people confidence to donate to our cause.

The United States are coming on board too, with the creation of a platform over there to allow tax-deductible donations through Rotary in the US.

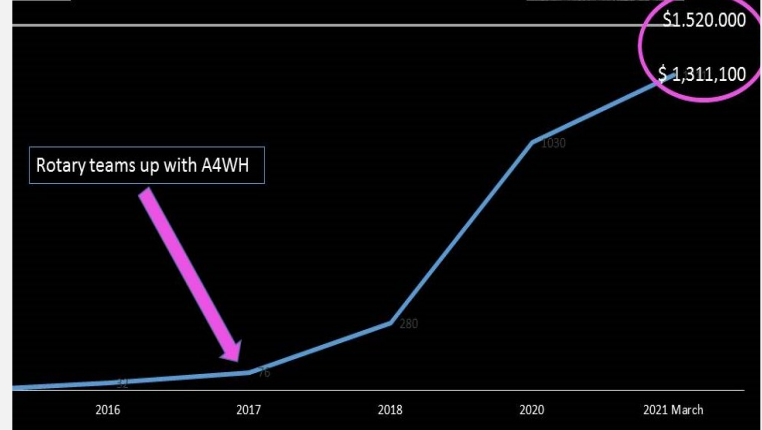
We need to raise a little over AUS \$1.5 million. This figure includes the costs of land, planning, engineering, construction and fitting out the hospital. Right now we've raised a little over AUS \$1.3 million – the end in almost in sight.

When I'm appealing to audiences to come on board with our Mothers & Babies Hospital project, I usually ask them to embrace the many challenges we all face along the way – to grab the challenges with both hands and to give this our best shot. I'm proud to say that individuals and Rotarians HAVE embraced these challenges, they HAVE grabbed them with both hands. My appeal now is: DON'T LET GO. Let's all keep a firm grip on to this, let's stay hanging on until we get our hospital up and running and independently self-sustaining. Let's show the world that as Rotarians we can make a major difference.

Note these Dates - in your diary -

- **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**

Mothers & Babies Hospital FUNDRAISING



- **John Oxley is seeking 3 Rotarians to share some insights about Port Macquarie's beginning 200 years ago.** Please contact John ASAP... 0414 135 614
- **President Elizabeth** has done an amazing job in co-ordinating the breakfasts & dinners each day for the 400 firefighters. Well done Elizabeth.
- **Mavis Wallace** gave a great mini-talk on the history of our book sales. Will feature in next weeks bull.
- **Glenda Barber** reported on several of our members - Tricie Miles, Patricia Urban, Sue Porter. Great to see Frank Moxon back tonight.

My apologies for leaving out the April birthdays in last weeks bull... Kerry

BIRTHDAYS March/April 2021

- 31/03 - John Oxley
- 31/03 - Helen Crossley
- 09/04 - Gai Nixon
- 18/04 - Mary Oxley
- 28/04 - Sheila Openshaw
- 29/04 - Debbie Loveday

ANNIVERSARIES March/April 2021

- 31/03 - Phillip & Helen Brown
- 03/04 - Gerald & Hazel Haynes
- 11/04 - Frank & Patricia Urban
- 19/04 - John & Mary Oxley