



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**



The Port Wheel

The weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc
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Club No. 17940 Chartered May 22nd, 1948

Website www.rotaryclubportmacquarie.com.au

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubPortMacquarie/>

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie

P.O. Box 136, Port Macquarie
NSW 2444 Australia

President - PDG Debbie Loveday

President-elect - Dr Ray Hodgson

Immediate Past President -
Frank Moxon

Vice President - Phil Perry

Secretary - Frank Moxon

Treasurer - Bob Cleland

Club Service Director -

PDG Debbie Loveday

Community Service Director -
Bob Cleland

International Service Director -

Ray Hodgson

Vocational Service Director -

Diana Gammon

Youth Service Director -

TBC

Membership & Public Image -

PDG David Mayne

Rotary Foundation -

Phil Perry

Club Meetings Wednesdays @ Port
Panthers 5-30pm for 6pm start. BUT
check program on page 2 for what is
happening.

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

Debbie Loveday 2020-21

David Mayne 2021-22

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Loveday

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Unbelievable !!!!

Tonight we heard
one of the most
moving & remarkable
stories I have heard
in Rotary!

Gemma Sissia a girl
from a farm near
Armidale with seven
older brothers, 20
years ago started a
private school called
St Judes (the patron
Saint of the
Hopeless).

Gemma was given a
donation of \$10-00

from a lady in Armidale. The school was a private school with no fees. The children have to gain a scholarship based on their intellect & level of poverty (if you had glass windows in your home, you were considered too rich to gain the scholarship!!!)



Three students enrolled on the first day.

Today there are over 1800 students and the school has a budget of \$8.3million US. 90% of this money is raised here in Australia. Much of it through Rotary. The R/C of Armidale Central got on board & local Rotary Clubs from surrounding towns have joined in support & the Rotary connection has snowballed. Armidale Central R/C went over on a RAWCS project and built the first classroom in 2002.

The school has now graduated their first students from Year 12 and a young Tanzanian called Enoch was one of the first graduates and was at our meeting tonight. He is now a Uni graduate working at the school with the Alumni students. Several students from the school recently graduated as doctors & are working in the local hospitals.



There is so
much more to
tell, but my
eyes were so
full of tears to
write down
what I needed
to share!!!

To support the
School of St
Judes &
sponsor a
student go to
the website -

www.schoolofstjude.org

For a great story of the vision
Gemma had, grab a copy of the book
-THE SCHOOL THAT HOPE BUILT by
Madeliene Kelly. Published by Allen &
Unwin in 2023.

75 YEARS
Making a
difference.

Club program - If you are unable to fulfil your role, swap with someone & advise Port Wheel Editor Kerry.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Program Chr</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>
June 28th	Changeover Dinner Meeting		Deb Loveday to Ray Hodgson	Neil Porter	
July 5th	One hour meeting followed by bistro meal		???		
July 12th	One hour meeting followed by bistro meal		???		

Meeting Welcomers - June 28th - ????

Sadly Geoff Slack Resigns from Rotary

The Board has regrettably received a resignation from long time Rotary member Geoff Slack.

Geoff has been a member of Rotary for 30 years from 1982 to 2016 at the Rotary Club of Gloucester and from 2016 to the present with our Rotary Club.

Geoff has held almost all the Board positions at various times and was President of Gloucester Rotary Club in 2001. As a member of the Port Macquarie Rotary Club from 2016 he has served as Secretary and Vocational Director.

Outside of Rotary, Geoff served three terms as a Councillor at the Gloucester Shire and was Mayor for three years. He was a Delegate of the MidCoast County Council and was a Director of Westpac Helicopter Service for three years. He was made a Life Member of the Association of Mining Related Councils.

Sadly, Geoff is stepping down due to ill health of both himself and his wife Lynn. In the seven years he has been a member of our club, Geoff has served Rotary with distinction. Geoff will be greatly missed.

Geoff writes - *"Thankyou for your friendship and I am sure we will still meet up as we are not leaving beautiful Port Macquarie."*

Geoff was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship by our club in 2021

Pictured here with Past President Elizabeth Fielding. >>

Thanks Geoff for your contribution to Rotary. Every blessing to you & Lynn. Happy birthday for this Sunday



Geoff & Lynn



Club News

Stay in the Know!

SOME DATES TO NOTE IN 2023

- There will be no club bulletin on June 28th. Changeover featured on July 5th.
- **Valda Sturrock will be taking photographs of the Club Changeover & sending them for the July 5th bulletin.**

Laurel Rumble Fuller reports that the demolition of the Observatory is expected to happen at the end of this month in **Rotary Park** & the total remaking of the park will begin.

CHANGEOVERS

- **Hastings Rotaract** - Friday 30th June @ Oriental Spoon Korean Restaurant
RSVP by Tuesday 27th to hastingsrotaract@gmail.com
- **July 1 - District 9660 Changeover** @ Newcastle Exhibition Centre
- **July 4 - R/C Wauchope** - no info.

Birthdays June 2023

25/6 - Geoff Slack
30/6 - Darryl McMahan

Wedding Anniversaries June 2023

24/6 - Gai & Bill Nixon