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5th December 2019.

Rotary Club of Howrah



Bulletin Chartered 5th June, 1976

President: Peter Lowery
Secretary: Glen Woolley
Bulletin Editor: Rob Warren

A switched on club working for our community.

Thursday 5th December 2019

Annual General Meeting, Club Assembly and Board Meeting

IAN THOMAS AND GINA PORTER - RISDON PRISON



Ian Thomas presenting President Peter with a beautifully engraved Huon Pine plaque for our Club's support of Risdon Prison's Justice programs.

Ian Thomas and Gina Porter - Tas. Prison Service



Ian gave a little of his background, having done most of his training in England and around the world, with a year in Nigeria with the British Foreign Office, and the programs they engage individuals in prison. He came from England in 2017 to take up his post as Director at Risdon, overseeing programs of support and rehabilitation. In Tasmania 99% of prisoners are released back into the community and there are currently 650 inmates in five Tasmanian facilities.

Ian spoke of inmate separation anxieties and how they are dealt with in coming to terms with their time in prison. Rehabilitation is the main focus but some don't get it! It often takes many years for them to realise that any change must start with them. Not surprisingly 80% of the inmates are illiterate and have poor maths skills.

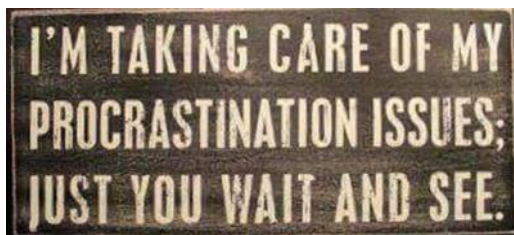
The Wooden Boat Festival and the *Vanessa G project*, was an opportunity to start a unique program, which is continuing as they, the inmates, felt valued and not demeaned because of their current role and placement.

Gina spoke about some of the positive programs they run in Risdon Prison. There are real opportunities to build on programs to re-engage with the community in hospitality, agriculture along with many other educational programs in which Gina is involved. Many inmates go out of the prison to study and are able to begin to transition back into the community again. Contracts are being set up for various education bodies to introduce and focus on life skills programs, like how to interact with Centrelink, ATMs and credit card use. The media often drives much negativity about prisons and they are an easy target and for the authorities this is very frustrating. It is proposed to have an engagement with the community, with a "Prison Expo" being planned. This is being organised to help those in the community who don't understand what goes on in the "barbed wire facilities".

HERE AND THERE ...

- Remember your festive hats for the end of year Christmas Dinner at South Arm (Sun 15th December)
- Thanks to everyone for making the Fashion Parade Day a successful one. We have received very positive feedback and strong interest for 2020.
- Pre-PETS training 30th November ~ hope we have some reps there.
- Thurs 5th AGM, Club Assembly and Board Meeting.
- Sat 7th December Southern Support School Market 3.00 – 7.00pm. Crew needed!
- Fri 13th BUNNINGS BBQ. Volunteers are required.
- Wed 18th December, Rotary Club of Lindisfarne invites all to their Bushfire Appeal at 6.30pm. They'd love to see you there in a laid back Christmas spirit atmosphere. Check with Robyn Harrison for details.
- Thurs 19th Christmas Breakfast is at Three Little Ducks in Bellerive.
- **Raffle Winners:** After an exhaustive search of the fruit wine prizes Suzie chose the 'Feijoa' and then gave it to Reg to give to Annette, Gayle took the Mango wine in a 100th of the time.

A COUPLE OF SMILE MAKERS



COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Thurs. 5th Club Assembly, Board Meeting and AGM.

Sat. 7th Southern Support School Market 3.00 - 7.00.

Thurs. 12th TBA

Fri. 13th Bunnings BBQ.

Sun. 15th Christmas Lunch - South Arm RSL Club

Thurs. 19th Christmas Breakfast - 3 Little Ducks 7.30 for 8.00 am.

| | DUTY | ROSTER | |
|----------|---------|---------------|-------------|
| Date | Chair | Registration | Duty |
| DEC 5th | Peter L | Helen Shirin | John Bob |
| DEC 12th | Roger | Suzanne Robyn | David H Rob |

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

10th Roger Hawkes

16th Lindsay Chivers

17th Jan Farrell

19th Jacqui Lowery

28th Ray Pickett

Wedding Anniversaries

11th John & Margaret Anderson

30th Graeme & Jan Farrell

30th George & Dana Toepfer

31st David and Fran Mitchell

