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Rotary Club of Howrah

Theme 2023-2024



Bulletin

Chartered 5th June, 1976

President: Reg Emmett
Secretary: Robyn Harrison
Bulletin Editor: Rob Warren

People Of Action In And For Our Community.

Thursday 25th July 2024

Patrick Eadington - GenU organisation

WHERE WERE YOU ON BLACK TUESDAY 1967?

The 1967 Tasmanian fires were an Australian natural disaster which occurred on 7th February 1967, an event which came to be known as the Black Tuesday bushfires. They were the most deadly bushfires that Tasmania has ever experienced, leaving 64 people dead, 900 injured and over seven thousand homeless.

At last Thursday's meeting we enjoyed a Bob Hardy initiated "Where Were You When?" session with the 1967 fires as the focus. Bob provided some provocations by showing a PowerPoint presentation based on the Mercury newspaper's reporting on of the days before, during and then the aftermath of the fires. Members were then invited to tell us about their experiences of Black Tuesday.

Some fascinating stories were told. Like Richard Wyatt who hid with a wet hessian bag over his head while the fire front passed his home in Lauderdale then put out fires around his and his neighbour's house by knocking a hole in the neighbour's water tank and filling buckets to douse the flames. Meanwhile, his then wife who was a teacher at Sorell District School was helping to supervise all the students who were sheltering on the nearby causeway. Gayle Smith was in Grade 10 at Rosetta High School and standing in the Derwent River as the fires charged by. Pres. Reg was teaching on the first day of a new year at Taroon High School.

Children couldn't go home to places like Snug and Margate so they went home with the local kids to stay the night. When their parents arrived at the school to collect their children there was confusion about where they were actually staying. Grade 10 boys were actively fighting fires. There were many more great stories.



SOME MORE 1967 FIRE FACTS The fires destroyed 80 bridges, 4800 sections of power lines, 1500 motor vehicles and over 100 other structures. It was estimated that at least 62,000 farm animals were killed. The total damage amounted to **\$40,000,000** in 1967 Australian dollar values. The resulting insurance payout was the then largest in Australian history. There were 110 separate fires were burning in south-east Tasmania. It was 39 degrees Celsius throughout the day, winds reached 110 kph. Using current fire ratings, the fire warning would have been "catastrophic". It was an excellent and most interesting meeting especially for those members who weren't born before 1967 and all that were. Thanks to Bob for the idea and all who told their stories

CONGRATULATIONS TERRY - OUR NEWEST PHF

As you can see it was with great delight that President Reg presented Rotarian Terry Evans with his Paul Harris Fellowship certificate and associated badges at last Thursday's meeting. Terry has made a significant and sustained contribution to our Club since he was inducted several years ago. He has shown outstanding leadership and dedication in setting up our "travelling" Rotary Bookshop in at least four of its venues. He also wrote the operational instructions and is a regular volunteer at the shop. In collaboration with the Board, Terry suggested some of the funds raised by the bookshop be used to purchase of a defibrillator for the Meehan Range Mountain Bike Park. Terry took charge of the purchase of the defibrillator and coordinated to have the machine installed and maintained by the Clarence City Council. Terry has also led the International Service portfolio for three years and has coordinated our KIVA loans program. Terry has initiated one of our Club's regular social occasions, the Friday Drinks gathering at the BYC at the end of each month.



Congratulations Terry!

HERE AND THERE

- Our sincere condolences are extended to Rotarian Deb Austin whose mother passed away last week in Queensland.
- Former member and PP, Jan Jordan and partner Lee are hosting a Swedish exchange student. Many thanks Jan.
- Sales were slightly down in the Rotary bookshop last week, perhaps the inclement weather may have deterred some customers.
- As Regionalisation of Rotary is underway all Southern Clubs are invited to a meeting with the Community Leader on 28th August. Details later.

RAFFLE WINNERS: Chocolates were won by Leeanne Benson and of course, the second box was taken by serial offender Shirin Pickett.

BUNNINGS BBQ REPORT

It was great to see members put their hand up to work at the Bunnings BBQ as these BBQs are so few and far between this year. Co-ordinator Gayle says a big thank you to Rob W, Bob H, Terry, Jill, Sue M, Karin and Reg for responding and offering their time. With rain predicted, it was going to be a testy day with sausage-wanting patrons. But onward, upward and rugged up and with positive intent the teams got underway. It was so cold, with the breeze being so determined but fortunately no rain. The day started cloudless but the clouds soon moved in as did the drop in temperature. It was a successful day and sales were constant and kept us on our toes. Much "initiative was shown by newbies and this kept things moving smoothly. Pheeeeew! Time to thaw out at home after a brisk day of warming sausages for eager customers. Even the BBQ didn't help alleviate the cold but now it'll be summer before we're on again. Thanks to all for their efficient work and working through the cool.

Bread Sourcerer, Sausage Turner and Onion Revitaliser George . . .



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"We acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather and acknowledge Elders – past and present of Lutruwita".



DIARY OF EVENTS ...

JULY

Thurs. 25th Patrick Eadington - GenU organisation

Fri. 26th Friday Drinks @ Bellerive Yacht Club 5.00 pm

AUGUST

Thurs.1st Club Assembly

Sun. 4th Board Meeting 2 pm. Emmett residence 725 Acton Road
(Replaces usual June and July meetings).

Thurs. 8th Lindisfarne Rotary – defibrillator project

Wed 14th Coffee Club Local Grocer Cambridge Park 11.30 am.

Thurs. 15th Matt Cocker - The “new” Hobart airport.

DUTY ROSTER

Date	Greeter/Chair	Registration	Duty Officers
25th July	Karin	Shirin& Leeanne	Terry & Ishwari
1st August	Reg	Deb & Anne	Ken & David H
8th August	Peter L	Rob & Richard	George & Bob H

DON'T PLAY WITH FIRE!.....



Rotary

Thank you

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