



BE THE INSPIRATION

# The Wahroongler

**Rotary**  
Club of Wahroonga



## Bulletin of The Rotary Club of WAHROONGA

Chartered 1975 and Meeting at 7.15 am Wednesdays, at Warrawee Bowling Club

Rotary Australia's first Breakfast Club

19<sup>th</sup> December 2018, Vol 44, No 24

## Stuart's Scribblings



Congratulations must go to Janelle Speight, who has stepped forward to become our President in the Rotary year 2020-21, to follow Doug Reid. Thanks also to John Cameron and Greg Starr who will continue into next year as Treasurer and Secretary. We are indeed a healthy Club with ample talent and commitment among our membership. This point was brought home to me at last week's meeting of all club presidents in the District. Many clubs have not yet found a president for next year, let alone the year after!

However Janelle's elevation to President Nominee does raise a new challenge, because she is currently our PR and Marketing Chair. Her role includes the technical tasks of acquiring and managing the photographic records of the Club, and the maintenance of our Facebook and Twitter accounts. She is ably supported by Ian Cameron, who manages our website. Few other clubs are as successful as ours at keeping all of these resources up-to-date, and that is not a trivial task. It requires time commitment and a level of technical skill. At last week's meeting of the Novus Dinner Committee, I was made even more aware of our dependence on these two folk, as Janelle has taken on the marketing role for that too, and we will also need Ian's help to improve and maintain the Novus website. You can probably guess where this is heading! Are there any members out there who would be willing to understudy Janelle and/or Ian with a view to taking on some of the technical tasks which are so critical to our Club? Please let me know!

As I just mentioned, the first meeting of the Novus Dinner Committee was held last week, and I was invited to attend. This is a mammoth organisational task, upon which our Club depends to fund our amazing youth activities portfolio. All I can say at this stage is that the Committee is developing some exciting plans. You will in the near future be called upon to assist with various aspects, including the silent auction and the wine sales. However you can at least make sure that you keep the date of the dinner clear – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – and think about how you are going to persuade all of your non-Rotary friends to join you, so that we can have the maximum possible number of Rotary Club tables.

Finally, multi-talented Ian Cameron, who heads the Rotaract Steering Group, shared with you all last week his plans for the establishment of what is now officially called **"The Provisional Rotaract Club of Hornsby Ku-ring-gai"**. This is an important step towards RI President Barry Rassin's goal of doubling the number of Rotaract clubs and members. Please help to identify suitable membership candidates in the 18-30 age range.

**Stuart Armstrong**

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## Last Week @ WBC

**President Stuart** welcome our Guests: Ashley Fraser, David Rigby —for the third time with his membership application, Amanda Firkins, District Rotaract Chair, RC of Castle Hill, AG Fiona Jenkins, RC of Turramurra.

The McWhannells hosted a great party, so thank you again to Neil and Heather. Their son-in-law, James did a wonderful job as a barman - some enjoyed his service more than others. Towards the end of the party a few there would have seen Stuart take a dramatic fall in the kitchen, when his knee collapsed. Apologies to Brian Moffat as his Esky broke Stuart's fall and he broke the Esky.



**Announcements Bob Howe Abbox** was yesterday and some 14 people assisted. It was a great opportunity to see the two schools work together—Abbotsleigh and Knox. There were 27 young people with a variety of handicaps and 120 students worked with them on rotation over the four days. Working over the four days ensured that the students realise what families do. They really enjoyed their time. This is the 11th year we've done it and will do it forever.



**Helen Clarke** was involved with this great fun and she wanted to thank everyone there yesterday. She is very proud of all the Rotarians and we all learn something. Some folk didn't know David Campbell. Everyone worked as a machine, which is the best of Rotarians. Bob and Greg carried the main roles of organising the 14 wonderful folk who turned up—they showed grace and joy. She is very proud of them and grateful.

**Barry Edmundson** Neil McWhannell had a wonderful party, but the singing was dreadful—don't know who they were.

We had 12 volunteers at the San Carols for the evening. Ian Faulks brought some coloured lights to identify the collectors better and made the collections easier. No-one fell over and we made around \$1,300 that will be banked today. It was a very good evening—thank you very much.

**Hugh Burne** Organised for the Waratah Girls' Choir to perform at Ku-ring-gai Carols in the Park. He has now arranged with PDG John Wakefield, husband of DG Susan, for the choir to open the Rotary District Conference at the end of March. They are really good and if you cannot see them at Carnegie Hall, you could do it in Newcastle—it's a great opportunity.

**Janelle Speight** Check out this story I found – not about Rotary, but Malala who was so inspiring.

<https://honey.nine.com.au/2018/12/11/14/27/malala-yousafzai-sydney>

Astounding that there is currently, 135 million girls not in school around the world. Rotary helps with this cause around the world. A quote I remember from the night was at the end when Annabelle Crabb asked Malala

“What did your Dad do to influence you and make you who you are today”?

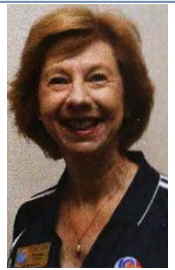
Answer: My Father would say “Don't ask me what I did for my daughter, ask me what I didn't do?, that is..., I didn't clip her wings”. Thought provoking.

Asked if Malala would be first Woman Prime Minister in Pakistan, she replied “I hope there will be many before me”.



**Neil McWhannell** thank you he is happy to open their home, it is great to see our Rotarians enjoy themselves. This is very special. A few could not make it. They had to re-stock the bar twice and \$30 gave the finest foods and wine and we made a profit.

**Rob Gia** this will be the last time for the raffles—it's been fantastic. Thanks to all, he needs the books back by next week.



**Fiona Jenkins**



**Hs&Ts** Phill Comfort won this time.

**Sgt Jo-Ann** it was a very good Christmas Party is all you can say. Some little Santa gifts

- \* Stuart needs a new knee
- \* Brian needs a new lunch box—he's bought a red one already
- \* Neil needs Foxtel for his 42" TV over the spa
- \* Neil's son-in-law James, needs an RSA.

Jo told us that The Enormous Horns, who will be performing at District Conference (29<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019) are a favourite group from her younger days. Although some band members have changed, Robert is still the main singer. She encouraged more of us to come to it!

**At the Annual General Meeting, chaired by Secretary Greg Starr, we re-elected Greg Starr as Secretary for 2019-20, John Cameron as Treasurer for 2019-20, and elected Janelle Speight as President for 2020-21. Congratulations to all three. The minutes of the AGM will be available on Club Runner in due course.**

Following the AGM, Secretary Greg reported on the Board meeting held at Stuart's house on 27<sup>th</sup> November. The Board discussed the fellowship with the Narrabri RC; the Child Protection Manual, the Policy and Procedures that will be adopted across the Club and put on Club Runner. Our Working with Children's Verification Officer, Phil Easton will be able to amend these as he sees fit. The Club is looking at a Club Unisex Polo top with GI style cap for members. The **International Committee reported that they** have six people going to Nepal with Anne. Hugh has prepared a report for the Board on the **Future of the Workforce**, which will be discussed at a future date. Janelle and Jenetta are coordinating volunteers for the schools in the area. We are setting up an **Inter-act Club** at Knox for the boarders. Board minutes are available via Club Runner.



**Ian Cameron and Amanda Firkins** made a presentation about the plans to set up a Rotaract Club in 2019 and sharing some of the background work that has been done. [Rotaract Presentation](#)

*N.B. Due to a technical glitch with a corrupted memory card, the "official" photos from this meeting were lost and where-ever possible good pics from past events have been used in this edition.*



**Ian Cameron**

- ⇒ A team was formed to look at the practicalities and pitfalls of setting up a Rotaract Club.
- ⇒ They have had a chequered history and the Crosslands Club did not last long.
- ⇒ One of the difficulties facing many is that at that of the age of young people who are transient with uni and travels and it is difficult to keep the membership intact.
- ⇒ What is it?
  - There are a lot of ideals for vocational and community spirit in Rotary
  - 18.30 exchange ideas
  - Develop leadership and professional skills through service
  - Meet regularly in a hotel, etc. in a less formal setting than we have here
  - There are a lot of activities that can be done with other RCs and activities too

**Amanda Firkins** on Rotaract around the world.

- There are clubs in 184 countries
- There are 10,904 clubs—Australia has 70 and our District 4 with 3 under formation
- There are 50,792 Rotaractors

**Ian Cameron** Rotaractors decide how they will run after their sponsor RCs help to form them. In North Sydney there are 8 RCs that are planning to jointly start a Rotaract Club.

**Amanda Firkins** on developing the Rotaract Club in District 9685. Thank you she has met couple of times with Ian and found them a jovial bunch.

She has been n Rotaract for 8 yrs and in the Crosslands Club that her parents introduced her to. They had met at a Rotary event. Her mother came from Brisbane and her father from Melbourne. At 18 they urged her to join.

She had done Girl Guides and at school volunteered for the Salvos. She'd meet people at projects or events , but was not able to maintain the relationships. With Rotaract it tied it all together—her mum found the club and she has not looked back ever since.

Eight years ago she was not able to talk to such a room full of people, but through Rotaract and RYLA she overcame her nervousness. They get doers and people look for new members through their network of friends. There is career development after the day to day.

The Rotary sponsors advise the Rotaract President on why they started and encourage other RC member to attend as well.

Rotaract has young people from 18-30yrs and focuses on leadership and personal development skills with more networking for club events and socials. We are fortunate that Rotaract Australia has its own club and Board. For the last eight years she has gone to Adelaide for the conferences and games with very inspiring speakers.

You can see tyour full potential and lead on to Rotary through this networking. She has been inspired by attending the District Conference with so many great things.

Thank you for all you do & for forming this club and she is happy to help in any way she can.

**Ian Cameron** Amanda has already been a great support along with her colleague, Andrew Long from D 9675.

**Barry Rassin** set the challenge to develop Rotaract Clubs.

The small committee met in October and includes Janelle Speight, Lucy Dahill, Stuart Armstrong, Rob Gia and Ian Cameron. They will work as the steering committee for the formation of the club and the appointment of the Chair.

The other clubs involved in the Ku-ring-gai area are Turramurra and St Ives. The Committee will take over once the club is formed.

**Lucy Dahill** was Involved with Rotaract in the UK and collaboration with experienced Rotaractors helped with how to address issues. It's been positive with 2-3 meetings so far and another one today.

#### **Ian Cameron—key partnerships**

- The San—and Brett Goods, with Melva Lee in HR. They have potential members in the age group and a database to help with promotions. Brett does a fortnightly video conference and can include this as part of his communications.
- PCYC, located in Waitara, have large numbers of young people attending there and will open a database and they have wonderful coffee and cake.
- Ku-ring-gai Youth Forum—Lucy is interested here and knows Cherise who is their activities organiser.
- Plus we have the Rylarian Alumni we can canvas, who would make ideal Rotaractors.
- The district may sponsor some clubs and wants to measure interest.
- Sue Owen has a list from RYPEN Alumni from 2016. They are of the age and show great interest.

The core team will meet in January including some Rylarians who are more experienced and they will form the steering group, that goes on to become the organisational committee, that goes on to charter the new club.

The proposed name of the club is The Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Rotaract—HKR Club. When the cluster Presidents meet in the near future, we will share our plans with them, and hope that they will support the start-up of the new Rotaract Club. You are all encouraged to be involved by helping to find potential Rotaractors. Please tell family and colleagues. There is a timeline for this club's creation.

**President Stuart** At the RI Convention Barry Rassin made it clear he is very, very keen to start more Rotaract clubs—he'd like to double the numbers as Rotaractors feed into RCs. Amanda is now a two week old Rotarian, but in the past there was not a very good grab from Rotaractor to Rotarian.

In East Timor the District was involved with a few kids going to District RYLA and from this they were very enthusiastic to set up RYLA and in time to have Rotaract and then a RC—so the formation of two RCs came from the young people who were inspired by the RI convention. It is your duty to encourage others to join RCs.

**Bob Howe** raised the issue of the age cutting out at 30 and that this is often too early to consider joining a RC. In Apex they go to 40 and farewell them then, not 30 and even if Rotaract went to 35 there could be more likelihood of them going on to join a RC.

**President Stuart** suggested if this was a local motion it could be put to the D 9685 and this could go forward to [Evanston](#).

It is very important that we get more Rotaract Clubs and that RXCs sponsor them and maintain a close relationship with them and communication.

He himself had a debate about which club to join and this shouldn't be a problem as all are in the Rotary family.

In England the Rotaract clubs are linked to RCs and you can go to them both. If they don't want you, then this is rather sad and shows you are not doing your job properly..

They generally meet 2 weekly, so it is not onerous. Keeping the link develops leadership skills.

He joined Rotary at 32 and had the meetings in his diary, so you don't drop out and carry on. You get good care in vocational education and training and it gives young people an anchor point to learn leadership skills that we can conduct sessions for them.

RYLA is a starting point and within our capabilities and skills—like leadership skills 18.30.

Look to learn aspects we can introduce in training and education for young folks to encourage them and give them a social circle.

**Peter Smith** this is a hopeful start. With 184 Rotaract Clubs in the world there is great spread when you consider the total number of countries is 195.

Sending this message to the District to send on to Evanston would be good.

**Amanda Firkins** Rotaract has no governing body, even though they come under the RI banner. The closest it comes to this is for 2.5 days before the RI Convention when matters on a great scale internationally are discussed and shared. She has attended it for five years and each country has an MDIO—Multi-Disciplinary Information Organisation.

All chairs meet to discuss the District and zone and what they will do at the Rotaract Club level. Big W has a Rotaract Club in the US.

Rotaract Clubs are thinly spread in Australia—in one UK District there were almost 60 Rotaract clubs for a population of 900,000 people; in Australia there are 30 clubs across the whole country. We help each other and the more you get the more help you get. It is our duty to encourage more people to join Rotaract and then Rotary.

**President Stuart** thanked all guests and Amanda who is happy to give help. Next week we have a mystery 5 Star Fellowship and Joan and Jan will update up on the Mongolia project.

**Reminder too—this is the last week to bring in raffle book butts & \$\$ & unsold ones too.**



**Abbox**  
11<sup>th</sup> Dec 18  
with 14 Helpers



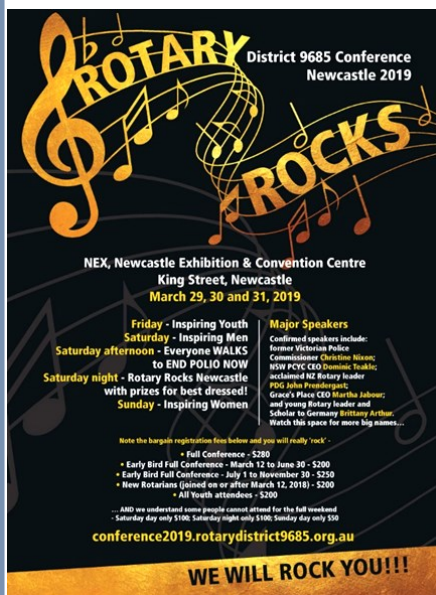
# 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - Joan & Jan on Mongolia plus 5 Star Fellowship - Last Meeting for 2018

**Correction from last week on questions and comments**—Last Saturday evening we were with friends at dinner. The subject being discussed was global warming. To my horror four of the group deny global warming is man-made and told me the oceans are big enough to absorb all the plastic bags that find their way into the sea. In fact, when the supermarkets stopped supplying them they went out and bought 1,000 plastic bags!

They also hold the view that over time creatures will adapt to eating minute pieces of plastic, so there won't be mass extinctions!

Almost the most alarming thing was that all four are highly intelligent people, in fact they worked in the Finance Industry(!) and these views were expressed violently, even to old friends like us.

My question is - are you finding many people deny climate change and do it so aggressively you can't have a sensible discussion over dinner? **Peter Smith**



**ROTARY District 9685 Conference Newcastle 2019**

**ROCKS**

NEX, Newcastle Exhibition & Convention Centre  
King Street, Newcastle  
March 29, 30 and 31, 2019

**Friday - Inspiring Youth Saturday - Inspiring Men**  
**Saturday afternoon - Everyone WALKS to END POLIO NOW**  
**Saturday night - Rotary Rocks Newcastle with prizes for best dressed!**  
**Sunday - Inspiring Women**

**Major Speakers**  
Confirmed speakers include:  
Honour Victoria Police Commissioner Christine Nisac;  
NEX RVC CEO Dominic Twidale;  
Inclined NZ Rotary leader PDS John Presnam;  
Grace Place CEO Martin Johnson;  
and young Rotary leader and Scholar in Germany Britany Arthur.  
Watch this space for more big names...

Note the bargain registration fees below and you will really 'rock'.

- Full Conference - \$280
- Early Bird Full Conference - March 12 to June 30 - \$200
- Early Bird Full Conference - July 1 to November 30 - \$250
- New Rotarians (joined on or after March 12, 2018) - \$200
- All Youth attendees - \$200

AND we understand some people cannot attend for the full weekend.  
Saturday day only \$100; Saturday night only \$100; Sunday day only \$10

conference2019.rotarydistrict9685.org.au

**WE WILL ROCK YOU!!!**

Stuart would like more people to attend. We have rooms reserved at the Conference hotel.



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- KIDS

## LINKS

[What is Rotary?](#)

[Paul Harris Fellows Listing](#)

[VIP Dates for 2018-2019](#)

[Ku-ring-gai Monopoly Flyer](#)

[Bobbo Sponsorship Prospectus](#)

[Bobbo 2019](#)

[Rotary Rocks Conference 29-31.3.2019](#) [Rotary International's Hamburg Conference 2019](#)

[Angus' greetings and good news on volunteer appointment](#)

[Kate Rose post on Human Rights Anniversary](#) [Novus 2019 announcement](#)

[Rotaract Presentation](#)

[Christine Biddle's mother passed away](#)

# The Rotary Club of Wahroonga

Link for [Stuart's Saints](#): 2018-2019 Board & Committees

## ATTENDANCE AT THE LAST MEETING AT WBC

**Attendance:** 45/61 members, 73.75% or 75.41% with 1 applied credit

**Apologies:** Christine Biddle, James Fulton, Karen Gair, Jolyn Karaolis, Amanda Mighell, Richard Pit, Lynn Varvel, James Verco

**Visiting Rotarians:** Amanda Firkins District Rotaract Chair, Castle Hill RC; Fiona Jenkins, Turramurra RC

**Visitors:** Ashley Fraser (Janelle Speight), David Rigby (Stuart Armstrong)

**Applied Make-up Credit for 12/12/18: Raffle selling Wahroonga Village**

**Sat. 24 Nov, 2018** Jim Verco

**Make-up Credits:** Ian Faulks at Blacktown City, 27.11.18.

## RECEPTION & HOSPITALITY ROSTER, from Club's Website for the year

If you are unable to attend any day please arrange a substitute and inform

**Len Stanley** at [len.stanley29@gmail.com](mailto:len.stanley29@gmail.com) or 0420 849 017, or 9144 4049

Date	Set up & Put away	Hospitality	Reception (2 Rotarians)
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Lucy Dahill	Phill Comfort	Philip Easton, Ann Davidson
9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Ann Davidson	Philip Easton	Phill Comfort, Lucy Dahill
16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	James Edmundson	Ian Faulks	Jim Fulton, Karen Gair
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Ian Faulks	James Edmundson	Karen Gair, Jim Fulton
30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Jim Fulton	Karen Gair	James Edmundson, Ian Faulks

## CLUB & DISTRICT DIARY 2018 + 2 Entries for 2019

**15 Dec 11am-4pm Raffle Ticket selling for St Lucy's and St Edmund's at Wahroonga**

29-31 Mar 2019 [Rotary Rocks](#), Rotary Conference

25 May 2019—**Novus 2019**, please pop it in your Diary for 2019

1-5 June 2019—Rotary International Conference Hamburg

## SPEAKERS' PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER 2018

**19 Dec —Last Meeting for 2018**



*Ho, Ho, Ho  
and  
a Merry Christmas to all*