

The HUB

Tuesday 15th December 2015

Volume 70

Issue #24

Q. What happened to the man who stole an Advent Calendar?

A. He got 25 days!

Q. What do they sing at a snowman's birthday?

A. Freeze a jolly good fellow

Q. Why did the turkey join the band?

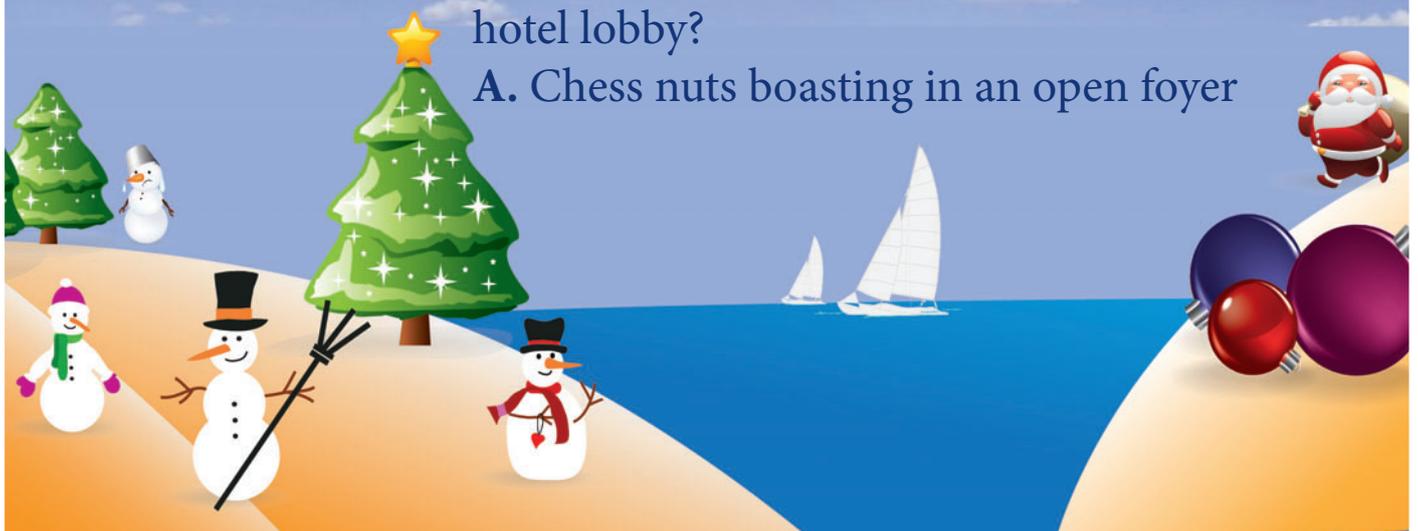
A. Because it had the drumsticks!

Q. Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A. A mince spy!

Q. What do you call a bunch of chess players bragging about their games in a hotel lobby?

A. Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer



**WISHING YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS & A SUPER NEW YEAR
FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE**



President Rotary International
District 9685 Governor

K.R. Ravindran
Rotary Club of Sri Lanka
Gina Growden (Terrigal)

ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE

DIRECTORS

President	Victoria Gouel
Administration	Julie Thorp
Foundation	Geoff Brennan
Membership	Charles Kilby
Public Relations	Tony Abboud
Projects	Ken Allen
Secretary	Stephen Thorp
Treasurer	Graham Metcalfe
Immediate Past President	Kalma McLellan

AVENUES

Community Service	Adrian Hallett
International Service	Burkhart Foertsch
Vocational Service	John Brown
Youth Service	Pat Mahony

COMMUNICATIONS

The HUB Editor	Kathryn Dodd
Serjeant-at-Arms	Duncan Taylor
Programmes	Patrick Longfield
Attendance	Ross Rocca
Social Secretary	Peter Cooper
Events Co-ordinator	Julie Thorp
Public Officer	Stephen Thorp
Website Administrator	Stefan Sojka
HUB Contributions	editor@ryderotary.org.au

CLUB INFORMATION

Chartered 22nd April 1946 District 9685 RI Club #18039

MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY 6PM FOR 6:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:
Next Generation Club (Level 2)
Ryde Aquatic Centre
504 Victoria Rd, Ryde

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Rotary Club of Ryde Inc.
PO BOX 90
Ryde NSW 1680

RSVP GUESTS OR ABSENCES TO JULIE THORP: 9871 1109

December 15th CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Remember, one gift per child please :)

TONIGHT'S ROSTER

Welcomers John Brown & Steve Thorp

Toast to Rotary Duncan Taylor

SEMI-ANNUAL SUBS ARE DUE!

Semi-Annual Dues are now due : \$125 for January-June

You can pay by cash or cheque to Treasurer PP Graham Metcalfe at this week's meeting,
or Bank transfer to BSB 112-879 / Account 000589388.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM RYDE'S GLOBAL FAMILY

Dear Ryde Rotarians!

Christmas greetings to you from your former Norwegian exchange student from 1989(!), now just a few years older, but still remembering good times in Australia!! We are now in the process of sending our oldest son Simen through Rotary Youth Exchange to Australia (we hope), and he has just been picked out to go! Very exciting!! Maybe our whole family can celebrate Christmas in Australia next year -who knows!?



I wish you all all a Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!

Much love from Mette Andersen and family



Dear Ryde Rotarians,

Eight years ago you truly changed my life by letting me be an exchange student in your club. Keep up the amazing work you do! It makes young people experience and understand important values for tolerance, coexistence and peace. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year 2016!

Best wishes,
Andrea Müller (Switzerland)"

Dear Ryde Rotarians,

I am still doing fine myself and, in fact, this year became a turning point for me. In April, I moved from Fukuoko to Takushina, and put myself in a totally new environment to pursue my career, as a University lecturer. Takushima is famous for “Wasanbon” a fine-grained Japanese sugar, and “Narurokinroki”, a brand of sweet potatoes in Japan.

Ayumi Hira

Ambassadorial Scholar hosted by Rotary Club of Ryde in 1997/98.



Dearest Rotarians

Today I bought my first christmas tree! A quite complicated task by bicycle, but it was totally worth it. Fortunately it's a pretty warm today, pleasant 1 degree this morning: I definitely wouldn't say no to a nice christmas seafood lunch, outside in front of the house... or an awesome Rotary meeting with lots of laughs and good speeches! Talking about speeches, I think of you quite often when I have to give speeches at uni. Each time I hear Geoff's and Co.'s advices and tips of how to improve my presentations ;)

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

Much love, Anna

To my dearest Rotarians,

Since a couple of weeks Jakob and I are on the road travelling through Australia. And I can tell you we love it! We've seen so many great things and nice places already. We had dinner with Wombats and Kangaroos in Bendeela, got some Donoughts from the Donoughtvan in Berry, enjoyed a beautiful campground right next to the beach in Dalmeny, experienced some rough winds in Port Albert and Cape Jaffa, drove along the beautiful Great Ocean Road, patted some Wallabys, Emus and Roos at a wildlife sanctuary and today we're on our way towards Adelaide.

We have the most wonderful time and there are still so many beautiful places and moments to come we're looking forward to. I hope you all are just enjoying your time as much as we are and we wish you the most wonderful Christmas with your friends and families!

Lots of Love

Emma and Jakob



Great news everyone – the Cakes and Puddings are in – just in time for Christmas!

If you placed an order, then bring your money with you on Tuesday night!

If you forgot to place an order, then bring your money with you anyway
as there are a few spares JUST FOR YOU!

Each item is \$16.50 with a small % of each sale going towards our great Club projects.

LAST WEEK AS RECALLED BY ALLEN HORRELL

Our AGM started with several guests, Rotary Brass in the persons of **Gladesville President Robert Erskine** and our **District Assistant Governor Paul Wynn**, **Blacktown City Rotarians Dick White and Bob Gardiner**, and our 2016 Rotary Youth Exchange outbound to Finland student **Maggie Miller-Wells** accompanied by her Mum and Dad **Annie and Craig**.

PP Ken Allen gave us an update on the health of **PP Martin Aston**, who is in Hospital with a blood infection, but hopes to be home soon now that he is on antibiotics. On the brighter side, his Daughter-in-Law made Martin a Grandfather this week!

PP Adrian Hallett thanked the Meals on Wheels volunteers and reminded us that we need volunteers for the fifth Sunday in January. Graffiti was applied to the Epping Road pedestrian underpass on Saturday night, and removed by our team on Sunday morning, no doubt a frustrating result for the undesirables who style themselves "Graffiti Artists". We are winning the war on Paint Vandalism!

PP David James has his Christmas present wrapping roster nearly filled, with 50 Interact volunteers bolstering our numbers. **PE Julie Thorp** circulated the attendance sheet for next week's Christmas party stressing that there must be only one present per child.

President Victoria Gouel told us that the 12th January will be our first night back and will be a pool-side BBQ, but will be dry due to idiotic OH&S policies of the Next Gen management. There was a clear consensus on moving the BBQ to another location where un-Australian rules do not apply!

Youth Director Pat Mahony needs drivers for transporting RYLarians to RYLA, and pointed out that the annual RYLA Dinner is on the 12th January, same night as our poolside BBQ, and drinks are served there: \$40 per head for Rotarians and Partners.

Pat then presented the club with a Timorese traditional scarf given by Timorese RYLarians as a thank you for this club's \$4000 donation to support RYLA in Timor.

After a dinner of fish and chips, our AGM was called to order: with 33 club members we had a definite quorum. Our afore-mentioned Rotary Brass adjudicated our Presidential election, with **John Brown** being found the winner. The other Board positions were announced unopposed, and the AGM was closed.

PP Geoff Brennan announced that there will be a Gift Sale this weekend at Rosehill Racecourse with Style Setter being one of the sellers. Part of the proceeds will go to the Rotary Foundation.

Bob Kaye-Smith's ticket was drawn by Maggie, but the Joker was not drawn by Bob. Fines were meted out to me for not recognising the shorn **Stefan Sojka** on stage at the Haberfield Festa, **Stefan** for having rendered himself unrecognisable, **Geoff** for advertising his sale in the guise of a Rotary announcement, our Gladesville visitors for "dressing like Undertakers", **PP Graham** for driving past our anti-Graffiti team on Sunday without recognising them, **President Victoria Gouel** for hoarding the circulating sheets and rosters, and **PP Charles** for riding a Harley Fat Boy.

Blacktown visitors **Dick and Bob** revealed themselves to be friends of "Revered former Blacktown President Ian", PP Kalma McLellan's father. They presented Kalma with a photo poster of the first 50 presidents of Blacktown, her father appearing twice, and a bottle of Sharkey's Revenge, a survivor of one of her Dad's fundraising projects. It was a moving presentation.



Photo Credit : PP David James

Violette reported on her last two weeks, thanking **Bob Kaye-Smith** for taking her to the movies the weekend before last. She spent the last weekend

with the **Horrells** while the Dodds were out of town. We took Violette out for Dinner on Friday night, Segway riding at Olympic Park on Saturday morning, watching movies on AppleTV on Saturday afternoon, then to Maritza Horrell's birthday party that night, to the Pop Culture Show at Parramatta on Sunday morning, then Sunday lunch with the whole family before dropping her back to the Dodds' place. A Busy Weekend! Violette was an absolute pleasure to host for the weekend so the thanks go both ways.

Then **Maggie Miller-Wells** gave us a presentation on herself and her family. She is 15years old, her brother Max is 18 but she assured us she is her parent's favourite! She lives in East Ryde but her parents have access to a beach house at Mackerel Beach which she loves. She also loves drawing and her dog.

Her year in Finland in a village just South of Turku will replace her year 10, with her re-joining her cohort in year 11 for HSC. Maggie started to explain why she wanted to go to Finland but couldn't Finnish! She wanted to say that she wants to immerse herself in the reality of a foreign country, not just google it on a computer! She thanked us and her parents for sending her to Finland for an entire year, and admitted she has difficulty imagining being away from home for so long.

"A year seems like a long time now but it'll Finnish before you know it!" I told her helpfully. More helpfully I gave her Anna's email address so she can ask her anything about Finland before she goes. We then brought the meeting to a Finnish by singing the Anthem. Not a bad night for an AGM.

Percentage Attendance 8th December: 106.25%

Makeups: PP Artin Etmekdjian, Rtn Nora Etmekdjian.

Apologies: PDG Les Whitcroft, PP Burkhart Foertsch, PP Jan Cutler, PP John Higgins, PP Martin Aston, PP Noel Dunn, PP Patrick Longfield, PP Tony Abboud.

LOOKING AHEAD

January 12th Poolside BBQ - Partners & Honorary Members Welcome

VIOLETTE ROHART - FRIDAY NIGHT ROSTER

Violette is being hosted by John & Janelle Dodd

Please confirm your plans in advance with both Violette and the Dodd family!

Dec 18th Ian & Ruth Henderson
Feb 5th Graham & Carolyn Metcalfe
Feb 12th Kathryn Dodd
Feb 19th Peter & Margaret Cooper

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

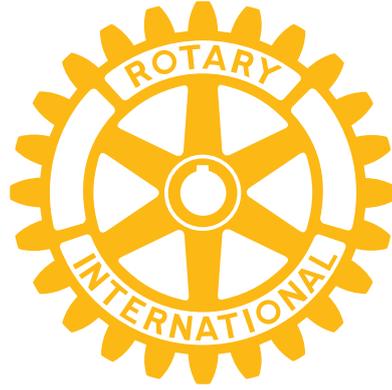
December 15th 36th Wedding Anniversary for **Martin & Angie Aston**
December 15th 64th Wedding Anniversary for **Bill & Val Payne**
December 17th 37th Wedding Anniversary for **Julie & Steve Thorp**
December 21st 39 Year Club Anniversary for **Peter Cooper**
December 22nd 59th Birthday for **Tony Abboud**
December 23rd 85th Birthday for **Noel Dunn**
December 27th 97th Birthday for **George Bouckley**
January 2nd 15 Year Club Anniversary for **Charles Kilby**
January 4th Birthday Celebration for **Angie (Martin Aston)**

CLUB MEETING DUTY ROSTER

If you are unable to fulfill this duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Victoria of the change.

DATE	WELCOMERS	TOAST	INTRO	THANKS
Jan 12th	David James & Bob Kaye-Smith	Ron Taffa	Bob Carroll	Ken Allen
Jan 19th	John Dodd & Ian Henderson	Stefan Sojka	Nora Etmekdjian	Jan Cutler

Rotary



THE ROTARY VISION

Rotary is a worldwide organisation of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary Clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are over 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are non-political, non-religious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto "Service above Self", Rotary's main objective is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

ROTARY THANKS

O Lord and giver of all good,
We thank you for our daily food,
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways,
Help us to serve you all our days.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

of the things we say, think & do

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill & better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice, for we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage, Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing, Advance Australia Fair!
