



Pres Stephen Hladio

DG Peter Ford

AG Phil Presgrave

RI Pres Mark Maloney

Bulletin editors: Yvonne Young and Issa Shalhoub

Club's Website and Club's Facebook

February is Rotary's Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

Today: Breakfast meeting at Driftwood, Milton - 7 for 7:15am

Future Programs:

18 Feb; TBA

25 Feb; TBA

March is Rotary's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

3 Mar: TBA

Saturday 7 Mar: District Conference at DLC

10 Mar: TBA

17 Mar: TBA

24 Mar; Special dinner at DLC, in support of affected restaurants, \$45 a head Partners' Night

PLEASE NOTIFY apologies and guests to Ed Zonneveldt on 0407 958 516, edzonneveldt1@optusnet.com.au BY 12 NOON ON MONDAY.

Club's Calendar

Semi-Annual dues are due

13 Feb	Thur	Older Person's Driver Workshop, at DLC, free
23 Feb		Rotary's Birthday
6-7-8 Mar	Fri - Sun	District Conference At Dunn Lewis Centre 'Roaring 20s'
28 Mar	Sat	Princess Ball
10 Apr		Club turning 60
12 Apr	Sun	BOF Festival
30 Apr 1, 2, 3 May	Thur - Sun	Entertainers
24 May	Sun	Swap Meet
31 May	Sun	60th Anniversary Lunch at DLC, 12 noon for 1:00pm. Please put the date in your diary

Birthdays: 15 Feb; Tim Gregory, 16 Feb; John Hozack, Anniversaries: 12 Feb; Christine and Michael Mastronardi, 15 Feb; Liz and Dom Fondacaro.

Sponsors' artwork and money needed asap, for the 60th History Book, please.

If you are participating in the 45 Club, please make sure that you have paid your \$50, check with Ross Wade.

Report on meeting of 4 February 2020

Sergeant at Arms Ian Tibbles welcomed members and guests Louise Garrett and Frank Zonneveldt.

Welcome back Dick Crouch, you are looking awesome.

President Steve Hladio reported to members that the donations are still rolling to assist the road to recovery after the Bushfire. The Club is continuing to support the Bushfire recovery programs.

Almoner Bill Harris has started the Wednesday runs again all well. Bill thanked members for supporting Glenn Rowen and his family at the funeral of Glenn's Father Alf Rowen.

PP Phil Brown spoke on Blessing of the Fleet currently seeking sponsorship for the event.

PP Wayne Fry spoke on the 60th Anniversary \$50, Sunday 31st May 2020 at the Dunn Lewis Centre, every member will receive a 60th Anniversary Book.

PP Brian Morrison spoke on Blessing of the Fleet and the dance practice starts Sunday 9th Feb with grooming and deportment lesson. PP Brian also mentioned that 10 pallets of masks have been donated to Batemans Bay Rotary Club and our club are taking one pallet from Batemans Bay Rotary.

President Steve spoke on BlazeAid who require equipment etc. Members of our Club are working with BlazeAid on this request.

Community Service Director Yvonne Young spoke on the stage required for Australian National Boat Titles on the weekend of 14th February to 16th February. Stage to be setup on Thursday 13th February in the Mollymook Reserve. **Thank you to Grant Schultz, Ian Tibbles, Steve Hladio and Phil Brown** for volunteering for this project.

Thank you, Yvonne Young for the meeting's report.



My help with the Emergency Fire situation at the Evacuation Centre. By Avril Pryor

I was rostered on at the ExServos Club along with Leonie Smith and Grant Schultz on the 1st January 2020 to serve the fires breakfast. As we were waiting to serve the fires we saw Michelle Babington's partner and he mentioned that Michelle needs urgent help down at the Evacuation Centre, without hesitation and as soon as we finished serving the fires, we all went down straight away and assisted in whatever way we could.

From that day forward I was there for 2 full weeks. I worked with all the teams of taking our community who lost homes, had damage to property, businesses effected, those wishing to register as an evacuee to see the Red Cross, Anglicare, the Salvation Army, St John Ambulance, Paramedics, the Chaplains, Disaster Welfare and FACS. One by one they all came over the 2 weeks, I sat with people to keep them calm, being a listener, sharing a few tears, being a comfort, giving a hug, getting them food and drinks, making tea or coffee, looked after the many dogs and cats giving them water, food, taking the dogs for walks. I cleared off tables, grabbed garbage bag after garbage bag and kept tidying up. In the bottom of the Civic Centre a lot of people also stayed the night or a few nights.

I mentioned to Michelle Babington and Alison Wells that I would look after the people below whilst taking people upstairs to register as an evacuee or who had lost homes, taking them to the appropriate agencies. People were coming in and out and donations of bed linen were getting dropped off constantly. I ensured that the bottom and the top was kept as tidy as possible and that included, vacuuming floors and stairways, doing dishes, clearing tables, folding blankets, sheets, blowing up air mattresses, telling young people to get off their phones and stop filming them at their most vulnerable time, being an interpreter for those who can't speak English very well, looking at Google Maps and trying to tell desperate tourists who had to get back to Sydney that they need to stay put as we were closed in, improvising and using sign language and hand signals, searching high and low for power points, shopping for essential supplies.

I have never in my life walked around Woolworths with about 10 trolley loads full of supplies for Evac Centre, (photo is attached). Over \$2k later. Filling bowls of water for pets outside. I have seen people an absolute mess, a young guy not even 20 years old, with his beautiful little girl born 2 months premature and pet dog, lost his house in Nelligen near Batemans Bay. So very sad. I played play doh, and card games (Uno) with the kids. The cheeky blighters will make you draw 4 over and over again.

I would to acknowledge that Yvonne Young, Phil Brown, Wayne Fry, Grant Schultz, Bec Cameron and Leonie Smith, all assisted in various ways doing what I was doing at the Evacuation Centre and then they all dropped in from time to time to make sure we were going okay and to offer some help of which I was so grateful for. My 2nd week in the Evacuation Centre proved just as busy as the 1st.

Every day for the 2 weeks I worked big long days from 7am in the morning until about 7pm at night like all of us there. Many truck loads kept coming with donations from Queensland and I made that many calls to Grant Schultz and Phil Brown letting them know more was on its way to the showground. The second week was probably the hardest, I helped those that lost homes, had property damage get some basics as we had set up a mini shop at the Evacuation Centre of which we called Cosco.

I loaded people up with goods, took it to their cars, heard story after story and comforted those people. I assisted in putting bags of essentials together for the communities at Lake Conjola, Fishermans Paradise and further out so it could be delivered to them. By about Thursday of the 2nd week I was there, the Evacuation Centre then turns into a Recovery Centre and I helped with cleaning up, letting down air mattresses, creating a list of those who had left donated linen and calling them, sorting out in tidy piles sheets, blankets, mattresses so people could come in and find their belongings all while sitting with people and being a comfort as they saw the agency they needed to see. This was a community effort.

End of report