

# The Pelican News

## ROTARY CLUB OF THE ENTRANCE INC.

Chartered 26<sup>th</sup> April, 1972 District 9685

Facebook; Rotary Club of The Entrance

Website: <http://www.rotarytheentrance.org.au>

PO Box 8173 Tumbi Umbi 2261

WEEKLY BULLETIN 2019 – 2020

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47 years helping the local community

RI President Mark Daniel Maloney

District Governor Kalma McLellan

### CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

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Clive Denmark

**Secretary**

John Bennett

**Treasurer**

Peter Ward

**President Elect (20-21):** Clive Denmark

**Foundation:** Peter Ward

**Youth:** Gordon Crawford

**Community:** Robin Hearder

**Bulletin Editor:** Secretary

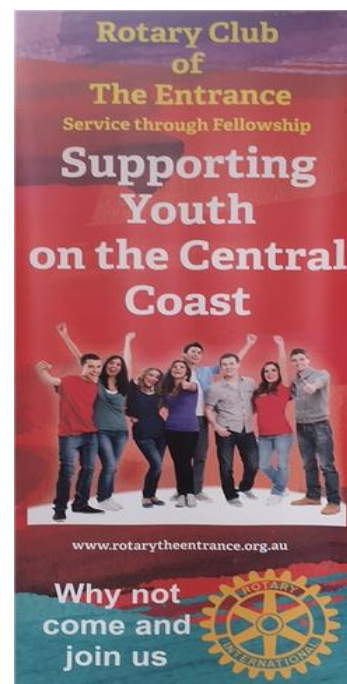
**Club Administration:** David Waterhouse

**Membership:** Gordon Crawford (ALL)

**International:** David Waterhouse

**Vocational:** Peter Ward

**Auditor:** Jim Gorman



JUNE IS ROTARY..... MONTH

**Address Correspondence to:**

The Secretary Rotary Club of the Entrance  
PO Box 8173 Tumbi Umbi 2261

Bulletin Editor- President Clive  
[hamletconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:hamletconsulting@bigpond.com)

**CATERING**

To assist with seating could you make your apology or book in any guests?

**David Waterhouse** by telephone call or SMS by noon on Monday on 4388 1749 or 0450 068 887

**Child Protection – apply at** [WWW.check.cyp.nsw.gov.au/Application/Applicants](http://WWW.check.cyp.nsw.gov.au/Application/Applicants)

Use the name on your driver's licence. Receive a number APPxxxxx. Attend RMS office with number & proof of ID. A WWC number ending with V will follow by E-mail e.g. QQC1234567V

## From the President's Desk

Welcome to Don Cannings who was inducted as a member at our last meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Our business meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays are currently all held on Zoom.

We have our **next meeting on Tuesday 16th** which will be in the nature of general discussions which can include our reactions to the speakers from Cobar & Tanzania & any thoughts on Youth Exchange

**The following tuesday week 23rd<sup>th</sup> June** is our last Board meeting of the year when we will be signing off on donations & when we need reports on the years activities from all directors. You do not need to write "War & Peace" just a few paragraphs to record for posterity what the club achieved in your portfolios in 2019/20

One welcome sign of the easing of restrictions is the **reopening of the restaurants in Mingara . Alice, who runs the noodle bar & Ming Dragon** has always looked after us & would, I'm sure, be pleased to see any of us at the Ming Dragon. Bookings are essential as numbers will be strictly controlled ( 4349-7838). David has had some **discussions re holding our changeover dinner there on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June.**

Gordon & I went to meet Pablo Ducarme & his parents Sebastien & Alex last Monday. Pablo is interested in being our Outbound Exchange Student next year. District are planning on Exchanges being allowed to proceed next year but accepting that Inbounds will be shortened to six months. The Ducarme & Trott families have indicated they are willing to be host families for an Inbound so there is no impediment to our taking an inbound next year. Pablo lives in Chittaway & goes to school locally. He speaks fluent French & English & would like to go to Austria or another German speaking country. Lets hope that the progress out of Covid 19 restrictions continues without major hitches.

It would be remiss of me if we did not congratulate PDG Harold Sharp ( Crows Nest & Terrigal) & PP Michael Hickey Blayney & Terrigal) on their being awarded O.A.Ms in the recent Australia Day Honours

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## Notices- Online activities during the months of May & Early June

1. Tuesday 16th June – Business meeting on Zoom –General Discussion
2. Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June – 11.00am Social Brunch in the Park , Long jetty
3. Tuesday 23rd June- Board meeting
4. Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June– Changeover Meeting TBD

## Report on activities undertaken over the last 2 Weeks

### Zoom Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

The club welcomed Gordon & Terese Hill from the Rotary Club of Cobar to talk about their efforts supporting the local farmers through a prolonged period of drought specifically from sept 2018 & ongoing. Gordon introduced himself & his wife who is also a Rotarian by saying that they were the only two retired members of a small club with eight active members. As they were retired they had coordinated a broad range of measures to assist approx 2/3 of 150 properties in the Cobar Area.



But first he told us a bit about Cobar, a town with a population of some 3700 people but with a further 150 families on properties in a surrounding area the size of Tasmania. The nearest decent sized town is Bourke some 160 kms to the North. Gordon also answered one of our members that it was some 6 hours drive from Bathurst ( or over 4 hours NW of Dubbo )

The area has been very dry since Sept 2018 with many of the properties requiring drinking water for household use. There has been some rain in the last 2 to 3 months which has greened up some parts & produced a bit of grass for stock feed ( mainly sheep) but not enough to grow any cash crops. Most properties are down to breeding stock & Gordon indicated they were reluctant to sell those or even kill them for household consumption. If they get more rain they will want to try to rebuild their flocks which could take up to 3 years.

The Covid crisis ( & the earlier bushfires ) have taken the focus off the impacts of the Drought & also reduced the demand from China & Italy for wool which has reduced the price of wool, so the farmers last chance of generating some income has been severely impacted as well.

Over the last 2 years R.C of Cobar has been successful in getting donations of road trains of fodder & donations of cash from a wide range of sources. A number of Rotary clubs including clubs in Victoria & NSW have been very supportive & there have been RAWCS schemes set up. The St George Motor boat club has also been a major benefactor





Apart from helping with fodder to feed the sheep the Rotary Club of Cobar has supplied domestic drinking water, grocery packs , fuel vouchers, food for working dogs & help with bills. They have worked with local businesses, who are also doing it tough, to source those goods.

To give some idea of quantities over 490 grocery packs each with a value of \$100 have been distributed. Many have been distributed by the local mailman who has done it willingly at no charge. The other main distributor is the children's mobile resources group, a government funded initiative which provides a playgroup style range of activities for isolated families.



The club also provided \$500 vouchers for 27 families that would not otherwise have had a Christmas last year as they had no cash for presents or special food /treats.

Finally, we'd like to recognise the beneficial impact that Gordon & Terese have had on the mental health of those families being supported. Gordon mentioned in passing that he often spent up to 40 minutes on the phone to those families they are supporting. He also mentioned the club running a bar b Q at Tilpa for a number of families from that area.

Our club has raised some \$950 this year from our local community including through Chop , the butchers at Bateau bay Village. The club is adding monies from our fundraising activities to make up a potential donation to \$2000 , which although a fairly modest donation could fund the equivalent of 20 grocery packs or a delivery of any of the other essential supplies currently being provided.

## Zoom meeting of Rotary club of Erina held on June 9<sup>th</sup> – Six members of our club zoomed in to hear Gemma Sisia from the House of St Jude, Tanzania

One thing you can be sure of whenever you get an update from Gemma there is always plenty that has happened & plenty more planned.

The big news this year was the girls school had been built and the first class of girls had started at the school a few weeks before the Covid 19 crisis happened & all students had to go home. This means that they have 3 schools on site now : a primary school and a boys & girls high school, both of which take boarders.

They also had their first intake of students who had completed high school & gone on to graduate from University. Pleasingly, plenty of these student now donate money from their earnings back to the school & even more exciting at least two of them are back working in the school , one as a teacher & one in administration dealing with sponsors.

Other matters of interest were that 20 years ago when Gemma, a girl from the NSW bush, wanted to start the school clubs from regional NSW were amongst the first to support the venture firstly with fundraising , then by going out to Tanzania & helping build the first school & then by representing the school in Australia & helping co-ordinate fundraising & communication ( for the record Armidale was the first club but Gosford North was second and Erina was third & Monica hart (from Erina) took on the role of co-ordinator in Australia for the first ten years ).

As the school has grown so of course has its funding requirements. Because the families of the kids are so poor all of the children are on scholarships, then there is the costs of boarding many of them and the school operates a bus fleet of 19 buses. All up the annual budgeted expenditure is now close to \$6m & 90% of that is funded out of Australia.

I spoke in the last Pelican & showed pictures of Covid 19 kits being prepared for distribution. The first 2000 kits have been distributed but feedback from area representatives have identified other families struggling to survive & in typical St Jude's style, & with the help of supporters & past members of the school, plans are under way to prepare and distribute a further 1000 kits.

Although we do not have a lot of uncommitted funds we are intending to make a club donation of \$240 plus any monies that individual members donate for that purpose



**Sanitiser** now seems readily available but if anyone wants a small bottle of sanitiser I still have a couple of large bottles and some of the smaller bottles Kathleen got for me & am happy to drop them off to you

Our club has stocks of 13 cans of "Coke no Sugar" left over from Bunnings bar B Qs which have "best before" dates of May & June 2020. Would anyone who drinks those brands buy them from us . Any reasonable offer? Say 50c per can? Contact clive ( mob 0400-425210)

Thank you to Renee Dunn, from the Samaritans, for reading The Pelican News & especially for buying the cans of Diet Coke with short dated "best before" labelling, the cash has gone in to the project account

## Humour

### Marriage and golfers:

Peter decided to tie the knot with his long-time girlfriend.

One evening after the honeymoon, he was cleaning his golf shoes.

His wife was standing there watching him.

After a long period of silence she finally speaks.

"Honey, I've been thinking, now that we are married, I think it's time you quit golfing. Maybe you should sell your golf clubs."

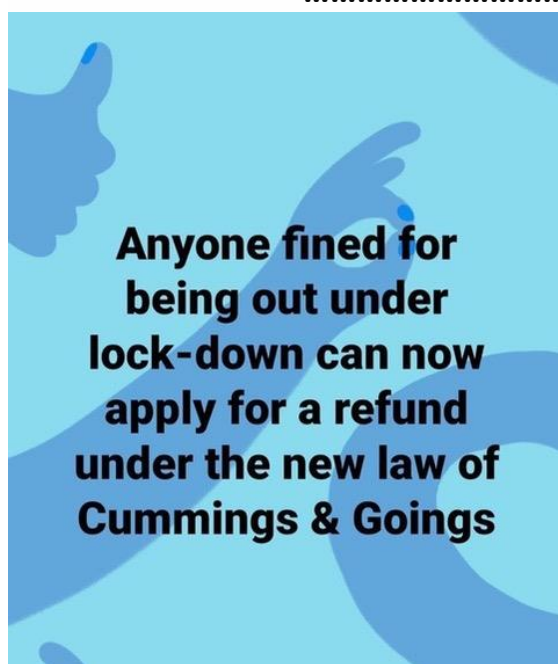
Peter gets a horrified look on his face.

She says, "Darling, What's wrong." ?

He says, "For a minute there, You sounded like my ex-wife."

She screams, "I didn't know you were married before."

"I wasn't." he replied.



## We wish to thank our Sponsors

