

Coffs City Rotary



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to the world

ABN 92 963 118 216 District 9650

Secretary – Bill on 6648-7680

PO Box 570, Coffs Harbour 2450 NSW

Club President – Scott Stacey District Governor – Maurie Stack RI President – K R Ravindran

Meeting Place – Cex Coffs Harbour

Monday Lunchtime

12.30 - 1.45 pm

Apologies – FWO – 6650 7000 by 10.30 am Monday

COFFS CITY CHATROOM

May 9, 2016

TODAY: President Scott was at the head table today and sounded the gong at around 12.40 pm and things got under way.

Thanks Giving was presented by **Bob Carle** and the Toast to Australia was proposed by **Peter Lindsay**.

President Scott announced that due to a 'misunderstanding' there was no guest speaker organised for today's meeting.

However there were a couple of guests introduced by **President Scott, Romane, our Youth Exchange student** and **visiting from Sawtell Rotary, Peter Paff**.

I must say that attendance numbers over the past couple of weeks have been very poor. It is your club and you should want to come along, make an effort to organise your day so you can spend an hour or so enjoying Rotary.

REPORTS:

Brian Leiper reminded members about the opening night for the **Bald Archy Prize Exhibition**. The exhibition runs from 14 May to 11 June. **HOWEVER the exhibition opens on the 14 May (Saturday), 6.00 pm to 8.00pm and the cost is \$10.00 per head (\$9.00 for Friendship Members). This includes finger food and live music. Drinks are also available.**

The board of the Bunker Cartoon Gallery Inc would like to see as many of our Rotary club members in attendance as possible.

In addition Brian advised that the very popular show, **The Stomping Ivories**, are to return to the Bunker Gallery in August. Keep your eye out for the dates for this event.

Jay Clowes reminded members that he will be continuing with the member interviews to be added to the club website. Expect a call from Jay.

Ian McAllister raised the issue of the **Change Over** dinner which was set down for 2 July. As **George Cecato** pointed out this will be election day and **it was agreed to change the date to Friday, 1 July. This evening will be held at Passfields Restaurant.** Please adjust your diaries.

Ian also mentioned the **Careers Day to be held at the Coffs Harbour Race Course on Thursday, 26 May** and being organised by Bob Prater. There was a full rundown of this event in last week's bulletin. Ian needs members to put up their hand to assist Bob on the day, all very simple tasks which will suit most of our members. Please speak to Ian if you can help.

President Scott then invited **George Cecato** to talk about the **Wine, Beer & Food Enjoyment to be held on 21 May, see the flyer attached.** As usual George had plenty of flyers to hand out to everyone and requested that these be distributed this week. On the day all available members are requested to attend and help out. George advised that Mike Blewitt and Dom Hawke and his daughter London, were doing a great job organising the Silent Auction. George will have more to say on the organisation of the day later. George went on to advise us of some of the issues before the Chamber.

He made a plea that we use and we encourage others to consider using the direct flights to Brisbane. This is a cheap way to get the Brisbane quickly and the community needs to take up the offer. George advised that if the company running the flights do not make money they will pull out and we will not get another direct flight to Brisbane for a very long time.

George also spoke of the looming problems facing **Dolphin Marine Magic**. The small but very vocal group of those opposing this facility are making a lot of noise and there is a chance that we will lose this valued tourist drawcard in our region. This facility helps in the research of the marine environment and is also a great educational tool for our schools. George advised that some 10,000 students visit this venue each year. Your support is essential to save this venue, write to the State Member and express your thoughts.

He also mentioned the **proposed port facility**. One cruise ship company has expressed interest in the idea and the Chamber is pushing ahead in gaining support for this proposal.

Stage 2 of the Jetty4Shore development is on the timetable. Obviously we need to pressure council to move ahead with this given all of the other things council is expected to complete in the community. We need to lobby for this project to be completed in the short term.

Graham Lockett advised members of the **launch for the 2016 Coffs Coast Cycle Challenge**. By the time you read this the launch would have been held. You will have to read about it in the next bulletin.

Bob Carle advised members that the next **Fellowship Evening will be held on 27 May**, possibly at the C.ex RibEye Restaurant. Bob will advise further on this next week.

Bernard Spry who is on the **International Committee** advised that he is in the process of setting up a connection, perhaps a sister city arrangement, with a Rotary club in Savusavu, Fiji. This town in Fiji is on the island of Vanua Levu which is the second biggest island in the Fiji group. The Rotary club of Savusavu was established in the early 1990's and currently has 17 members. The club's main community activities centre around helping with the education of their school children and helping villages with water and sanitation. They have also completed a renovation and restoration at the Savusavu hospital. Bernard will keep us informed with developments with this project.

President Scott then called on **Algy Semetas** to tell members a little about himself. Algy was born in Lithuania. His family were farmers. In the late 1940's his parents decided to leave Lithuania and had decided to head for the US where other family had emigrated to. However on their travels through Europe they changed their plans and ended up in Melbourne. Algy was schooled in a college in Melbourne and attended university in Melbourne attaining a degree in Commerce. He worked in the accounting profession for around 10 years however found that industry lacked the desired excitement. He then commenced in the hospitality industry and continued in the field until his retirement this year.

Algy and his wife Margaret have owned several restaurants and cafes in Coffs Harbour over the years, the last one being 'Algy's Café' in Industrial Drive. Well done Algy, welcome to Coffs City Rotary.

NEXT MEETING: Next Monday, 16 May at the usual venue.

SERGEANTS SESSION: **Ian McAllister, assisted by Algy,** canvassed for funds in an attempt to make ground on Ian's budget of \$1,500 for the year. He advised last week that he is well behind at the moment and requires the help of all members to make up the shortfall.

Pick the Joker was won by **Bob Carle.** While the pack of cards has reduced considerably Bob did not have any luck. **The Pot is now \$115.00 and should be an enticement for members to come along to our meetings.**

CLUB NOTICES

- 14 May – Bald Archy Exhibition at the
Bunker Cartoon Gallery
- 21 May – Wine, Beer & Food Enjoyment
At PacBay
- 26 May – Careers Day at Coffs Race Course
- 13 – 14 August – Coffs Cycle Challenge
- 6 November – B.I.G. Charity Golf Day

DISTRICT NOTICES

- May – Bowel Scan month
- 22 May District Assembly at Port Macquarie
- 27 – 29 May – MUNA at Kempsey



BIRTHDAYS

- 20 May – Terry Maguire
- 26 May – Melissa Bell



ANNIVERSARIES

- No more until July

30 May – Therese Murray-Prior