

Coffs City Rotary



ABN 92 963 118 216 District 9650

Secretary – Geoff Pollack - 0411269685 - PO Box 570, Coffs Harbour 2450 NSW

Club President – Terry Maguire District Governor – Ian Jackson RI President – John F Germ

Meeting Place – Cex Coffs Harbour

Monday Lunchtime

12.30 - 1.45 pm

Apologies – FWO – 6650 7000 by 10.30 am Monday

COFFS CITY CHATROOM

March 13, 2017

TODAY: Back to a 'normal' meeting with 17 members and one guest in attendance. (A greater number of members at our Monday meetings would be good).

President Terry was again an apology. The chair was filled by **President Elect, Bernard Spry** and he got things underway by 12.40. He did not want to interrupt the social interaction taking place.

Thanksgiving was presented by Peter Wardman and the Toast to the Queen and Australia proposed by Geoff Knight.

President Elect Bernard welcomed our guest speaker, Shelly Whittington.

Bernard Spry proposed a toast to the **Rotary Club of Lae Huon Gulf, Papua New Guinea**. This club was founded in 1959 and meets at the Lae International Hotel.

Meeting time is Tuesdays at 7.00 pm, the official language is English. The club has 24 active members. The club forms part of District 9600 – part of Queensland, Nauru Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands – Zone 8..

Projects include:

'C'School Equipment: Many schools in PNG do not have adequate tools and equipment to assist with providing a good education. This project aims to provide up to date equipment to Lae's most needy schools.

Community Projects: The club focuses on improving its interaction with individual community organisations. Events are aimed at improving awareness around social issues such as malaria & HIV/AIDS

Pride of Workmanship Awards

Sports and Vocational Mentoring Program

School Scholarships Program

Support for Angau Hospital. This hospital is Lae's largest and lacks in good medical equipment

Annual Charity Golf Day

Annual Black Tie Ball.

Guest Speakers to look forward to:

20th March – A representative from Marine Parks – Department of National Parks

It is important that all members make an effort for come along to meetings where we have a guest speaker. It is not much fun for the member who organises a guest speaker when only a handful of members turn up to the meeting.

REPORTS:

Paul McKeon reported on the opening night for the '**Phantom**' Exhibition at the **Bunker**. He thanked those members (11) and their partners (5) for attending and giving support to the Bunker. **Jay Clowes** reported that he and his family visited on Sunday last and endorsed Paul's comments that it is very worthwhile for those members (all of us) who remember '**The Phantom**'. The exhibition runs until 12th May.

Peter Lindsay advised members that all is in place for the visit, on 22 to 28th April, of the two nurses from Tonga. More to come on this as to how and when the club will be involved.

Jay Clowes advised members that our **Face Book** page is working with many 'hits' He asked that members share it with their 'friends' so that the word spreads far and wide.

Jay also advised that he became aware of a project which may suit our club. A club in Far North Queensland has developed a '**domestic violence pack**' which they provide

to police to hand out when involved in these cases in their local area. More on this to come.

Peter Wardman suggested that the club should recognise the **Bunker Cartoon Gallery** manager, **Margaret Cameron**, for the excellent job she is doing at the Bunker and particularly Friday night's function. He suggested that we should take it upon ourselves and write to the Advocate 'Letters' and acknowledge her publicly and at the same time promote City Hill as the proper location for the city's Art Gallery and Library.. Let's do it.

Peter also advised that members should support the Chamber and take the opportunity to advance the City Hill development.

On Wednesday there is a meeting at council to discuss a 100 lot commercial development on land adjacent to the airport. Peter advised that again this is something which should be supported to develop the city's commercial diversity.

President Elect Bernard advised that he would contact George Cecato to determine the position with the **2017 Wine Event**. This production is normally held in May. More on this next week.

Bob Carle advised members as to how our **Exchange Student** is travelling. He recently spent a great day diving off the coast with the GSE Team. He is about to change his address again moving in with his next host family, a little closer to the action. Nick's family has arranged for him to return home at the end of May, a little earlier than originally planned. This will be after he completes his outback Australia trip. A send off is being planned for Nick by DayBreak. More on this to come.

Secretary Geoff advised that **London Hawke**, the daughter of Dom and Cherie, **has been accepted for RYLA** being on 1st to 8th April.

He also advised that applications are now open for the **2017/2018 NYSF**.

Bob also confirmed that our club has the honour of hosting the **Australian Ambassador to Lebanon and Syria**. You, your partners and friends are invited to a dinner at the C.ex on Thursday evening of the 30th March. The invitation has also been extended to the other clubs in the Coffs area.

See the invitation attached for full details. We will be taking names next Monday.

Don't forget this outing:

Vocational Visit to the Cancer Unit at the Health Campus. The catch is that we would need to attend at 6.30 - 7.00 am and have breakfast in the Health Campus café afterwards.

This is planned for the 3rd April. Please note the date for your early start.

President Elect Bernard introduce our guest speaker **Shelly Whittington**.

Shelly advised that she is the NSW & ACT Development Manager for Destiny Rescue. This group is involved in the following (from the group's website):

Today, Destiny Rescue is an internationally-recognized Christian non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing children trapped in the sex trade. Over the years Destiny Rescue has helped hundreds of children escape brothels, bars and red-light districts. We've brought many of them into our Rescue Homes, where the children are cared for in a safe, loving environment.

RESCUE THE SEXUALLY EXPLOITED AND ENSLAVED

Destiny Rescue rescues children from red light districts, brothels and sexually abusive situations.

RESTORE THE ABUSED

Destiny Rescue provides rescued children the intensive care and love they need to recover from the traumatic effects of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. We provide them medical help, counselling, schooling, vocational training and all daily needs required to be integrated back into society successfully. In addition, we provide a safe protective place for them to live, grow and experience unconditional love— a place where they can feel valued and esteemed; a place where they can be kids again.

PROTECT THE VULNERABLE

Destiny Rescue offers programs that help at-risk children and families reduce their children's chances of being sold, lured or trafficked into the sex-trade.

EMPOWER THE POOR

Destiny Rescue believes in empowering the poor and giving them a hand up in life, not a handout. Our philosophy and goal is to help them become self-sustaining through one of our many assistance programs. Simply put, we don't want to create a welfare system where children and families become dependent on our organisation, but rather have a chance to become profitable through hard work and common sense.

BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

Destiny Rescue is committed to being a voice for the sexually exploited, vulnerable and poor who, in most cases, can't speak up for themselves. We believe everyone has a right to be heard, especially those crying out for justice. Many times they are overlooked or tossed aside by society, but we are determined to be their voice – motivating and inspiring influencers to get involved and make a difference in the lives of the voiceless.

Shelly advised that every 26 seconds a child is 'traded' into the sex industry - 1.2 million children are 'traded' every year.

Destiny Rescue has removed 2,000 children from this danger since 2001. The group was commenced in 2001 by Australian, Tony Kerwin. They operate in 9 countries, including Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Dominican Republic, Thailand and India. Some of these children are as young as 4 years old, the average is 10. In India 90% of children kidnapped and traded are taken within the railway system in the country. The group establishes homes for the children rescued, those under 15 are encouraged to go to school and those over 15 are encouraged to continue with school and also learn a simple trade.

If you want to know more please go to the group's website at:
www.destinyrescue.org

Scott Stacey was called on to propose a vote of thanks to Shelly for her presentation.

Sergeants Fine Session: Ross Paul was in attendance and attacked members without favour. More dollars for the cause were extracted.

The chance to **Pick the Joker** was won by **Ross Paul**. 'Karma' worked and Ross was not successful so the pot continues to build.

Mike Blewitt Picked The Joker last week however Mike had to leave early so he will have a go at our next meeting. Mike will have a chance at \$50.00 and the following pick will be \$70.00 if Mike is unsuccessful.

CLUB NOTICES

May (or thereabouts) The Wine Enjoyment day
6 August – Coffs Coast Cycle Challenge.
November – The B.I.G. Charity Golf Day.

District Notices

26 February to 27 March 2017 – GSE Team from Germany in Australia.

16 – 19 March – Friendship Exchange Group from the USA in Coffs

24 – 26 March 2017 – District Conference, Laurieton

1 – 8 April – RYLA – Yarrahapinni

29 - 30 April – District Assembly – Kempsey - **This date have changed**

10 – 14 June 2017 – RI Convention, Atlanta, USA

BIRTHDAYS

18 March – Bob Carle

21 March – Carolyn Lockett

23 March – Kris Maguire

28 March – Graham Lockett

ANNIVERSARIES

29 March – Kylie & Matt Deans

2 April – Scott & Zawiah Stacey

12 April – Bruce & Sally Robertson

17 April – Geoff & Lou Knight