

# Coffs City Rotary



ABN 92 963 118 216 District 9650

Secretary – Fiona Thwaites on 0459497070 - 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***

September 5, 2016

**TODAY:** Back to normal today with a cast of 13 member and two guests present.

**President Terry called the group to attention by sounding the gong at around 12.35.**

**President Terry** called on **John Donaldson** to present Thanks Giving and **John Walker** to propose the Toast to the Queen and Australia.

**Our guests were introduced by our President, Nick Hagmayr, our Exchange Student and Karen Mills from BCU, a guest of Bernard Spry.**

### **Reports:**

**Bob Carle** spoke about his ideas on our next **Fellowship Event**. He asked members to give thought to the idea of having a **Mystery Bus Tour**. I do remember we held one of these adventures some years ago, organised by a now former member **Kim Weston**. I was unable to attend for some reason however the reports

back were that it was a great outing. Please give it some thought and let Bob know of your ideas.

**Brian Leiper** advised members that the current exhibition at the **Bunker Cartoon Gallery** is the **Marnie Yeates Nature Photography Exhibition** together with **Nature with a Twist Cartoon Exhibition**. Get along and have a look. You will not be disappointed.

**Mike Blewitt** had entry forms for the **2016 B.I.G. Charity Golf** day at the meeting for members. Mike has also sent the invitation to each member via email to enable you to distribute it via your address book. There are only 144 places available and as in the pass the field fills up quickly. So get the email out a.s.a.p so your friends don't miss out.

**Bernard Spry** advised that he had been in contact with our 'Sister Club' in Fiji, the **Rotary Club of Savusavu**. As you are aware the board approved that we purchase, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Savusavu, a sterilizer unit for the local hospital. Bernard was advise that another donor had already come to the party with this equipment so Bernard is now investigating other options.

**Exchange Student Nick** gave a report on his adventure at a recent Youth Exchange camp. By all accounts a lot of fun was had and some new skills developed. Well done Nick.

**Treasurer John Walker** advised that all but a few members have now paid their dues for the current year. He advised that all of the members present were up to date so he could not have a quiet word to anyone.

**President Terry** advised members that **Peter Jackson had tendered his resignation** from our club. Terry read out Peter's letter. Peter had contributed a great deal to our club over the years, both in his personal effort and considerable personal donations and his presence will be missed. Sorry to loose you Peter.

**Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour Daybreak are aiming to raise awareness and funds for a for a much needed PET scanner to be based in Coffs Harbour. Together with BCC Cinemas we will be hosting a Premier of "The Magnificent 7". Attached is a flyer with all details date, time and costs, please forward onto your club members as we are hoping for a sellout night.**

Our recently returned member **Bruce Robertson** was our guest speaker at very late notice. Bruce gave us an insight to his and Sally's recent 3 month sojourn in Europe.

As most of us were aware Bruce and Sally have a share in a fifth wheeler rig which was in the US. They share this rig with another couple and have taken turns in travelling around the US and Canada over the last several years. Some months ago they transported the rig to the Newcastle in the UK where it is now stored. Whilst it was in storage, and before Bruce and Sally arrived, it was to repaired following a mishap.

However when Bruce and Sally arrived it had not been repaired so their planned trip was delayed a little. Once they got underway they first travelled to Amsterdam, through Holland and North Germany and on to Denmark via a ferry. Bruce advised that one of the highlights in Denmark was LeggoLand. He noted that the highest point in Denmark is only 180 meters above sea level. Bruce said that he was somewhat concerned with the various ferry trips as their rig is a fairly large one, much larger than most of the 'normal' motor homes travelling around Europe. On the different ferries they jam the vehicles in and as their was big it was loaded in with the semis and large trucks. Bruce found this quite daunting. Manoeuvring around the various motor home parks was also interesting due to their size. They also travelled to Norway. Norway benefits from the North Sea Oil which has been developed off Norway. However the government, instead of selling the right to the oil companies has taken an equity in the oil fields and thus the country has many billions invested and they only spend the interest earned on the investments. Perhaps our government could learn a thing or two from the Norwegian government.

They also travelled to Sweden. Bruce advised that taxes in Sweden are very high. Tax on a new car is, I think Bruce said, 180% and because of this people try to get away with buying cars in other European countries and bringing them back to Sweden. However the authorities are on to this scam. GST, again I think he said was 25%. While the taxes are very high the benefits to the population are extensive.

Bruce gave a very interesting talk and perhaps inspired some members to take up this sort of adventure. If you are interested I note that there is a motor home for sale at K & J Trucks - price \$330K. It looks very nice though.

President Terry thanked Bruce however I did note that Bruce did not receive a pen. Things must be tight in the Treasury.

***NEXT MEETING: To be held at the usual venue on 12 September at the usual time of 12.30 pm.***

**SERGEANTS SESSION.** Ian McAllister was an absentee as was Ross Paul however Past President Scott Stacy had a couple of funny stories concerning our Treasurer and his adventures in the Marathon Run held last Sunday in Coffs.

The raffle was held and no one claimed the winning ticket so it was re drawn and won by the Brian Leiper. The remaining cards were presented and lo and behold Brian picked the Joker and is \$195.00 better off.

***The Pot is now back to \$5.00.***

**Tickets are still available for a movie night being organised by Sawtell Rotary. The movie is 'The Beatles – 8 Days a Week'. Get in touch with Alan Freedman on 0419 357864. See the brochure below.**

### **CLUB NOTICES**

6 November – B.I.G. Charity Golf Day

### **DISTRICT NOTICES**

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

24 –26 March 2017 – District Conference, Laurieton

### **BIRTHDAYS**

14 September - Eddie Chau

28 September - Judy Leiper

29 September - Ian McAllister

30 September - Bernard Spry

3 October - Fiona Thwaites

6 October - Bernard Dowling

11 October - Carmel Spry

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

No anniversaries for August as far as I am aware

19 September – Eddie & Misty Chau

25 September – Geoff & Mary Pollack

2 October - Ian & Sandra McAllister

5 October - Bob & Sheryl Carle

10 October - Terry & Kris Maguire

17 October - Craig & Bronwyn McMahan

26 October - Graham & Carol Lockett

### **PHOTO GALLERY**

#### **WOULD YOU ELECT THIS MAN FOR MAYOR**



NICK AT RALEIGH RACEWAY SUNDAY

(NO HE DIDN'T GO FOR A DRIVE)



