



The Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook

Club Bulletin

Volume 25
Issue No. 21, 16 January 2012

Monday 16 January

Guest Speaker: John Cranfield - Subject - Depression and Suicide Prevention.
Organizer: Carol Russell

Monday 23 January

Guest Speaker: Ken Peterson - Sydney Norwest Astronomy Group
Organizer: Rob Hamer

Monday 30 January

Guest Speaker: Barry Gobbe, first ambo to the Granville Bridge Train Disaster
Organizer: Rob Hamer

Duty Roster

Next Meeting Monday 16 January 2012		Following Meeting – 23 January	
Chairman	Larry Jacka	Chairman	Rob Hamer
Night Reporter	Douglas Lam	Night Reporter	Barry Freeman
Front Desk	Howard Fleming	Front Desk	Alan Paynter
Front Desk	Michael Moroney	Front Desk	Michael Moroney
Steward	Rob Wansbrough	Steward	Graham Evans
Steward	Stan Baseley	Steward	Col Wright
Photographers	Ross Ballinger/Steve Baker	Photographers	Ross Ballinger/Steve Baker

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President's Report	Photos from 'Kris Kringle'	Humour, Birthdays & Anniversaries
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Upcoming Events

<p>Thursday 15th December Tree of Joy – Santas' Workshop Organizer: Brian Furrer</p>	<p>Saturday 7 January Bunnings Thornleigh BBQ Organizer: Rob Hamer</p>
<p>Saturday 7 January Presidents New Year Dinner – Geranium Cottage 6pm Organizer: Carol Russell</p>	

Meetings

Monday 6.30pm for 7.00pm – Springfield House – 245 New Line Road, Dural
<http://www.wphcrotary.org>

Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Inc. PO Box 103 West Pennant Hills 2125 Australia

APOLOGIES: If you are unable to attend or are bringing a guest (even if they are your partner) you must book them in.

Phone **9439 1422** or email dturnbull@lhogroup.com.au **before 11am** on the day of the meeting.

President's Report – 12 December 2011



How good was that! Our Kris Kringle night was a fabulous way to end the 2011 year with around 60 members and guests relaxing and enjoying each other's friendship and company.

Prue did a wonderful job decorating the tables despite being unwell and not being able to stay for the night. Thanks for the big effort Prue.

Also thank you to Santa and his Elf for helping to make it a special night once again.

We also had the pleasure of presenting our Rotary Exchange Student blazer to Caitlin Gilchrist. Caitlin departs for Spain on 21st January. We look forward to following her adventures during her year abroad as we have with Brittany Bickford whose year in Denmark is coming to a close.

Thank you to all our hard working members and directors for their terrific contribution during the first six months of this Rotary year. We kicked all the goals we set out to kick and without doubt had quite a bit of fun on the way.

Margaret and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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"Somehow not only for Christmas, But all the long year through,

The joy that you give to others, Is the joy that comes back to you.

And the more you spend in blessing, The poor and lonely and sad, The more of your heart's possessing

Returns to make you glad."





A Christmas Thought!

“And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so?

It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags.

And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore.

Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before.

What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store.

What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.”

Dr. Seuss

Night Report

The meeting opened with Tom Westcott saying Grace and Howard Fleming giving the Loyal Toast.

The attendance was excellent, apparently the largest for the year.

President Colin welcomed all present, making special mention of the Exchange Student from Finland and Louise from Denmark. He also thanked Club members and their partners for attending the last official function for the year.

With such a large crowd, all in festive mood, it took a little while to get some semblance of order in which to discuss business.

A reminder was given that wrapping up the Tree of Joy gifts would take place at David & Jill Turnbull's house on Thursday, 15th December at 7.30pm. It was also announced that the response from the public was not as good as in previous years and that if any member wanted to purchase a gift or two, labels could be supplied.

Carol Russell then informed the Club that the first get together for 2012 would be on Saturday, 7th January at Geranium Cottage, 828 Old Northern Road, Dural where good food and good fellowship will start the New Year off. The gathering time will be from 6pm which is a little later than last year due to the fact that there is a Bunnings BBQ on the same day at which several members will be working.

Louise was then invited to speak about her adventures over the previous week. Obviously our Australian Christmas is very different from that of Denmark but she could not get over how much rain we have had and that it was quite cold on some days. Mind you, I am sure we are all in disbelief ourselves.

As she only had four days left for school she felt that things were winding down, stating that she had played a lot of pool and was looking forward to the start of the holidays. Each sentence from then onwards was punctuated by giggles!

President Colin then introduced Caitlin, our outgoing student, and wished her all the best for a wonderful time in Spain. Rob Wansbrough was her Counsellor and she was presented with her "Rotary Blazer" and the Club Pennant so she can present it to the host club. President Colin then read out a poem that had been written about the "Rotary Blazer" by a young exchange student and what it meant to be wearing it. Caitlin promised to send regular emails on the 15th of each month.

With the business part of the night over – the buzz went round the room, SANTA'S COMING!!! ... and sure enough, on cue, the familiar sight of the roly-poly, white bearded gentleman and his trusty elf walked through the door, greeting all with the time-honoured HO, HO, HO. His major duty of the night was to distribute the gifts and with "ladies first" policy the line up was enormous, stretching the length of the room. One could hardly miss the variety of dress and head gear, ranging from:

- *The fairy on top of the Christmas Tree
- *A huge variety of Reject Shop T-Shirts
- *Long, straight antlers
- *Short, stickie-out antlers (very fashionable this year)
- *Puppy-dog hats
- *Rudolf Noses
- * And more "Flashers" than you could poke a stick at

The sartorial elegance of the line-up was overwhelming and so was Santa who managed to kiss nearly every female in the room. It's amazing what that red outfit does to a man – if only we knew who he was.

The male line-up for Santa took less time due to the fact that he didn't bother to kiss any of them. Steve Baker, however, took out the first prize for the most 'unusual' hat which tended to gyrate on his head – several comments were made, most of which could not be repeated.... And then it was time to wave goodbye to Santa until next year.

Carol succeeded in bringing some sense of propriety to the gathering by getting all to join in "Jingle Bells" and both our young visitors from Denmark and Finland told us how to say "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" in their respective languages.

President Colin thanked all those Club members who helped decorate and set up the room.

Tom Westcott won the raffle (and the cricket!!) and Sgt. Jim had a long line of birthdays and anniversaries to announce and increase the Club's coffers.

At some point the quality of the evening declined again with ensuing fines regarding comments about the misuse of "Donging the Donger" and who had ultimate power for such an action.

Instead of Heads and Tails Sgt. Jim introduced "This and That" a fast moving game of mimic. Needless to say, most of us fell at the first hurdle with the worthy winner being Helen Ballinger.

Our Host Frank, then thanked the Club for its support at Springfields and extended best wishes to the members for Christmas and the New Year, which were duly reciprocated.

Night Reporter Sandy Burrage

Xmas in Australia



Xmas in Denmark



Christmas in Denmark is supposed to be when a mischievous elf called Nisse can have his fun. He is said to live in the lofts of old farmhouses and enjoys playing jokes.

He wears gray woolen clothes, a red bonnet, red stockings and white clogs. Families leave him a bowl of rice pudding or porridge on Christmas Eve to keep his jokes within limits. Usually though he is kind and helpful helping out on the farms and being especially good to the children.

Christmas Eve dinner begins with rice pudding that holds a magic almond inside. Whoever finds the almond receives a prize. They then have goose, red cabbage and browned potatoes. After that lots of pastries and cakes.

The Danish tradition is the Christmas plate. This was a tradition in the early days where rich Danes gave plates biscuits and fruit as presents to their servants. These plates were the nicest and best kind and were not used for everyday use, this is the reason why they became so collectable.

They take much pride making their own decorations with bright paper, bits of wood and straw. The parents secretly decorate the tree, and children are not permitted to see the tree until dinner on Christmas Eve. The tree is then lit up and families gather around to sing carols and hymns.

Each Sunday in Advent, guests are invited to join in the lighting of the candles on the Advent crown. Adults drink a warming mixture of red wine, spices and raisins, and children drink a sweet fruit juice, like

strawberry. Everybody eats small cakes of batter which have been cooked over the fire in a special pan, and dusted with icing sugar.

In Denmark Christmas Eve is a special time. It is at this time parents secretly decorate the Christmas tree with home made wood and straw baubles. The children are only able to see the tree before dinner when it is lit up and the family gathers to sing carols and hymns.

In Denmark Christmas Eve is called Juleaften and is the biggest occasion of the year. Parties go on all night, with traditional prune-stuffed roast goose, red cabbage, fried pastries, and cinnamon-laced rice pudding called Grod.

The Christmas elves called Julenisse are appeased with rice pudding, and dishes of seeds are placed outdoors for wild birds.

Courtesy of www.saidaonline.com/en

Photos from the Last Meeting – ‘Kris Kringle’

These are just some of the photos taken by our intrepid photographer Ross Ballinger. There are many more available on his web album [WPH Rotary Xmas Party](#) If you didn't get a mention he said he will buy you beer when he sees you next (well, maybe?)





Book Fair 2012- Update from Clive Denmark

This year's Book Sale is to be held on Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd March 2012

- *This event is critical for the club's fundraising in the second half of the year*
- *Last year's Book sale was our first. It was well planned, it involved a lot of hard work and it was financially successful, raising some \$8000+ net, thus making it the clubs second largest fundraiser after the Garage sale.*
- *The Lamberts & the Bowlands who were the driving force behind the sale last year have indicated they'd like other members to run it this year. Other members made valuable contributions and we'd like to encourage them to get involved again.*
- *Tony Makin & myself have agreed to organise it but we need lots of help & support.*

Our Basic Strategy

- *We have met with the Bowlands & the Lamberts & agreed broadly on what needs to be done & by when. We agreed on areas which can be improved & will be working to try to come up with ways to achieve those improvements. We will be looking for ways of adding value to try to increase the funds raised.*
- *Our club programme already has an indicative time table that notes a meeting in mid January & weekly meetings in February – this have been accepted as the basic structure, although individual dates may be altered closer to the time.*
- *We agreed that signage (9 banners) needs to be put up in mid January & that we will man the club's "garage sale phone" from then till the week of the sale.*
- *It was agreed that the setting up of drop off points across the likely areas of calls worked reasonably well last year & should be expanded if possible*
- *e.g. my house in Castle Hill was a nominated drop off house. Callers from the Castle Hill area were asked first if they could drop off books at my house. If they were unable to do so their address was taken & given to me & I picked them up. I did a first cull of books, discarding those in categories or condition that were not acceptable & put them straight in my recycling bin. I put reasonable books in fruit boxes and delivered them to a main sorting point when asked.*
- *We also need to identify members or places where we can do large scale sorting into categories & pull out near new books for special sorting/ pricing*
- *We have booked the Church garage that we used last year for the sale and have extended the period of access from Monday 27th February to Saturday March 3rd*
- *We propose to have a preliminary meeting after Mondays meeting (5th December) to elicit offers to get involved & will follow up with e-mails to all members , including those not present at Mondays meeting*

We are especially keen to identify members (& especially newer members) who are keen to participate in the planning or who are willing to commit to being drop offs point (both in our heartland of Cherrybrook / West Pennant Hills and in more outlying areas) or willing to volunteer as sorters (this will involve a fair amount of time and commitment, some interest in & knowledge about at least some types of books would be a definite plus)

From Clive Denmark

Sergeant Jim Simpson's 'Paraproisdokian'

'Hospitality is making your guests feel at home even when you wish they were'.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Robert and Anne Wansbrough - 8th January

Hany and Jo Gerges - 12th January

John and Marie Russell - 21st January

Birthdays

Cawas Sahukar - 7th January

Alison Bowland - 12th January

Rosemary Clarke - 16th January

Margaret McGowan - 17th January

Humour

A Christmas Gift

A man bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas.

After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."

"She did," he replied. "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"

Food for Thought

A friend is someone who can see through you and still enjoys the show



Family of the Week Program

Louise Lastein - Denmark 2011-2012			
Week Ending Sunday	Host Family	Planned Activities	Louise with You
	Hamer		
4th DECEMBER	Hamer		
11th	Bickford		
18th	Bickford	16th - Xmas party	Gladesville
25th	Bickford		
JANUARY 2nd	Bickford		
8th	Bickford		
15th	Bickford		
22nd	Bickford		
29th	Bickford		
5th FEBRUARY	Bickford		
12th	Hamer	Welcome Home Dinner - Friday 10th	District
17th - 19th	Hamer	Kosciusko Weekend	
26th	Hamer	Umina Beach weekend (Fri- Sun)	Umina
4th MARCH	Hamer		
11th	Hamer		
16TH - 18th	Hamer	Conference - Wollongong (Fri- Sun)	Club
25th	Hamer		
1st APRIL	Gilchrist		
8th	Gilchrist		
15th	Gilchrist		
22nd	Gilchrist		
29th	Gilchrist		
6th MAY	Gilchrist		
13th May – 2nd JUNE	Gilchrist	SAFARI (13May - 2nd June)	District
	Gilchrist		
	Gilchrist		
3rd JUNE	Gilchrist		
10th	Gilchrist		
17th	Gilchrist		
24th	Gilchrist		
27th		Depart Sydney for Denmark	

		Club Program 2011-2012	Partners	Organizer
Dec-11		Family Month		
Mon	5	AGM	No	Barry Lambert
Mon	12	Christmas Meeting (Khris Kringle-gifts'). X'change student blazer presentation	Yes	Social
Thurs	15	Tree of Joy- Santa's Workshop at Turnbulls	Yes	Brian Furrer
Mon	19	No Meeting		
Mon	26	No Meeting		
Jan-12		Rotary Awareness Month		
Mon	2	No Meeting (New Years Day)		
Sat	7	BBQ Bunnings Thornleigh. Rob Hamer organising in Barry's absence.		Rob Hamer
Sat	7	Presidents New Year lunch celebration at Geranium Cottage (6pm)	Yes	Carol
Mon	9	No Meeting		
Wed	11	Club Board Meeting -Cancelled		
Mon	16	John Cranfield - On depression and Suicide Prevention.		Carol
Wed	18	1/5 Book Fair Meeting		TBA
Mon	23	Ken Peterson - Sydney Norwest Astronomy Group	Yes	Rob Hamer
Thurs	26	Australia Day Holiday		
Mon	30	Barry Gobbe, first ambo on site at the Granville Bridge Train Disaster.		Rob Hamer
Feb-12		World Understanding Month		
Mon	6	Club Assembly		
Tues	7	2/5 Book Fair Meeting		
Wed	8	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place		CMcG
Fri	10	Ronald McDonald House Westmead. Dinner with and for the residents.	Yes	CMcG
Mon	13	Speaker - David Cook, Freelance Journalist. 4 wheel driving/caravanning in the Oz outback.	Yes	Rob Hamer
Wed	15	3/5 Book Fair Meeting		
Fri	17	Loiuse's Kosciusko Walk.	Yes	Graham Cuth
Sat	18	Loiuse's Kosciusko Walk.	Yes	Graham Cuth
Sun	19	Loiuse's Kosciusko Walk.	Yes	Graham Cuth
Mon	20	Nigel McDonald Cherrybrook RFS		Rob Hamer
TUES	21	4/5 Book Fair Meeting		
Sun	26	NORDBY Retirement folks 10-5,Kokoda Memorial Walkway BBQ area (adjoining Cafe end Killoola St Concord)	Yes	Tony Makin
Mon	27	Youth Night -RYPEN, RYLA, NYSF reports	Yes	Rosemary Clarke
Tues	28	5/5 Final Book Fair Meeting		

Mar-12		Literacy Month		
Thurs	1	Moving of Books from garages and containers to Church carpark	All	
Fri	2	Book Fair (starts 12 noon, Uniting Church, NLRd, Cbrook)	All	
Sat	3	Book Fair 8-12 noon	All	Rob Hamer
Mon	5	Rex Langthorne Director Special Olympics		
Thu	8	Bowel Scan sales commence at Cherrybrook Shopping Centre (through to Friday 16)	Yes	Barry Lambert
Mon	12	Paul Jeffress from MIVAC (Mines Victims and Clearance Trust)		Rob Hamer
Wed	14	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place		CMcG
Frid	16	District Conference- Wollongong- Go for Gold at the Gong	Yes	Rob Hamer
Sat	17	District Conference- Wollongong- Go for Gold at the Gong	Yes	
Sun	18	District Conference- Wollongong- Go for Gold at the Gong	Yes	
Mon	19	"Managing Conflict at work (and at home). Mark Rosenberg, Balanced Curve		Rob Hamer
Sat	24	Hills Home Show BBQ Fund Raiser		Tony Makin
Sun	25	Hills Home Show BBQ Fund Raiser		Tony Makin
Mon	26	Miriam Jacka - Vanuatu		CMcG
Apr-12		Magazine Month		
Mon	2	Meeting		
Mon	9	Pub Hol- Easter Mon		
Wed	11	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place		
Sat	14	Friendship Dinners Round 1		Tony Makin
Mon	16	Professor Nigel Hope, Orthapod at SAH		Rob Hamer
Sat	21	Friendship Dinners Round 2		Tony Makin
Mon	23	Meeting (Anzac Day on 25th)-looking for a speaker (Possible move of meeting with Lions)		
Mon	30	Robin Baird - CEO, Sydney Hills Business Chamber	YES	Rob Hamer
May-12		Community Month		
Wed	2	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place		
Mon	7	Ross Ballinger past members night- Speaker required (David Ellyard approached 08/12)	YES	Ross Ballinger
Wed	9	Combined Club Board Meeting at 7.30		
Mon	14	Ladies run meeting tonight+ International Night	Yes	
Sun	20	Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal		Tony Makin
Mon	21	Meeting- looking for speaker		
Sat	26	Weekend away- highlight of the year	Yes	Carol/Prue/ Mike
Sun	27	Weekend away- highlight of the year	Yes	Carol/Prue/ Mike
Mon	28	Vocational Awards -Pride of Workmanship	Yes	Pete Cleary

Jun-12		Rotary Fellowship Month		
Mon	4	Meeting	Yes	Rosemary Clarke
Mon	11	Pub Hol- Queens Birthday		
Wed	13	Club Board Meeting 7.15 for 7.30 at CMcG's place		CMcG residence
Mon	18	Louise's final presentation (or 25th). Louise departs on 27th	Yes	
Mon	25	Youth - Art Competition Prizegiving ; RYPEN	Yes	Rosemary Clarke
Fri	29	Club Changeover Dinner- Epping Club- all members - suit/black tie	Yes	CM/RH
Mon	2 Jly	No Meeting (on first meeting Day after Changeover)		

Directors 2011-12

Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook

President	Colin McGowan	0438 810 773
Past President	Graham Cuthbertson	0419 277 704
Secretary	Barry Lambert	0412 465 819
Actg Secretary	Keith Ball	0401 895 333
Treasurer /Actg Membership	Carol Russell	0418 431 157
Membership and President Elect	Bob Davison	0413 008 574
Club Services Director	Rob Hamer	0400 335 091
Youth Services Director	Rosemary Clarke	0439 819 965
Community Services Director	Tony Makin	0411 248 865
International Director	Clive Denmark	0400 425 210
Vocational Director	Peter Cleary	0419 499 827