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## BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAGGA WAGGA Inc. - CHARTERED 1930

Web: - [www.waggarotary.org](http://www.waggarotary.org)

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<p><b>RI President:</b> Gordon R. McNally</p> <p><b>Dist. Gov 9705:</b> Andrea Grosvenor</p> <p><b>Area Three Gov:</b> Garth Perkin</p> <p><b>Club President:</b> Peter Olson</p> <p><b>Club Secretary:</b> Ellen Brasier</p>	<p><b>CREATE HOPE in the WORLD</b></p>	<p><b>THE FOUR WAY TEST:</b> Of the things we think, say or do: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it the truth?</li> <li>• Is it fair to all concerned?</li> <li>• Will it build goodwill &amp; better friendships?</li> <li>• Will it be beneficial to all concerned?</li> </ul>
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*Wagga Rotary Club acknowledges the Wiradjuri People – The traditional owners of the land upon which we meet.*

**BULLETIN NO: 24.**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

### DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH

Club meets at the WAGGA WAGGA RSL CLUB, 6:00 PM for 6.30 PM (unless stated otherwise below).

**Duty Roster:** Arrange a replacement if you can't fulfil your duty & inform the Bulletin Reporter, or pre-advise via the "Red Book"

	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb.
<b>PROGRAMME:</b>	New Year Fellowship?	TBA	TBA
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Philip Cross David Kennedy	Elle Palmer Jenny Masters	Margaret Keys Geoff Treloar
<b>SHORT &amp; SWEET:</b>	Graeme Callander	Anthony Bosco	Donna Goodwin
<b>FINES-MASTER:</b>	David Cannon	Gerry Page	David Payne
<b>INTRODUCE SPEAKER:</b>	n/a	TBA	TBA
<b>VOTE OF THANKS:</b>	n/a	TBA	TBA
<b>BULLETIN REPORTER:</b>	Gerry Page	David Kennedy	Vicky Donoghue
<b>MEETINGS:</b>			

**Invocation:** *For good food, good fellowship, and the opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks.*

**RSVP For Meetings:** Members are required to register their attendance (plus that of any guests) **BEFORE NOON ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING** by using the link in an email that they receive each week. Failure to respond to the email by the deadline will mean no meal will be ordered for you. It is courteous to register your apology.

- RSVP for Visitors: please phone Vicky on 0407 586186 as early as possible.
- Members who have problems with registration or miss the deadline should not hesitate to contact Vicky.

## ***MEETING REPORT: -***

### **ATTENDANCE:**

President Peter welcomed members and guests to the last meeting for 2023. He led the Invocation to Rotary then proposed a toast to the Australian Cricket Team for their achievements in 2023, including winning the World Test Cricket Championship title in London, retaining the Ashes against England, and winning the One Day International Cricket World Cup in India.

There were 25 members and one guest present. Our visitor was Sally Short as a guest of Bryan. Peter also made a special welcome to Donna Goodwin, who was attending her first meeting as a fully-fledged member. There was no Guest Speaker for the night as we were having a social evening and were entertained by our own members.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- President Peter advised that December is Rotary Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
- Birthdays this week were Yvonne O'Connor-Pembleton (10/12) and Bryan Short (14/12) and as this was our actual meeting night, he was the lucky recipient of a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday. There were no Rotary Anniversaries, but Nepal and Dipa Ghosh celebrate their Wedding Anniversary in the coming week.
- Peter spoke to Nick Skinner from Mt Austin Clontarf and passed on our congratulations to the Dance troupe for their special segment at the Finale of the Schools Spectacular which featured Ivy Simpson.
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December will be our final Family Fun Day for the year at Lyndal's gym. Peter and wife Lynne will be there. Members joined in spontaneous applause to thank Lyndal for her generosity in providing this fundraising opportunity for the Club.
- Peter also offered a special thankyou to Paul and Judy Galloway for hosting our Christmas Party, and also to Vicky and Ellen for our table decorations and looking after our donated presents. This was all very much appreciated.
- David Payne had to postpone the meeting of the Rotary Peace Ceremony committee, which he chairs, as he has Covid, and no one else could fill in for him.
- During the local March Against Domestic Violence last Friday, Inspector Jillian Gibson revealed that our Club would assist in building awareness of Elder Abuse – also referred to as Senior Safety, in the community. Peter is looking for feedback on whether this might be a Club Community Project. In regard to domestic abuse locally, the Police advised that in one day recently, they had 18 cases reported within Wagga Wagga.
- Peter had also received an email from Xiaoming Zheng, Chief Investigator and Senior Lecturer at CSU School of Medical Research. He is seeking volunteers over 55 years, relatively healthy and willing to be examined by 5-minute MRI every 4 months for 20 months. The activity is to look at brain behaviour and possible connection to Dementia. The research has been approved by the CSU Human Research Ethics Committee. Peter Smart has offered to do some further investigation into the project before we consider our involvement.

## **SHORT & SWEET:**

Our Short and Sweet session this week was presented by Lyndal Seymour. She told the story about an 11-year-old girl, and being her mother's big girl, and helper.

As a normal kid, as Christmas approached, whenever she was alone near the Christmas Tree she would feel all the presents and check all the cards to see who was going to receive what. It had been a tough year for the family and whenever her mother looked at the tree, she would sigh and warn them - there would not be as much for Christmas this year, and her mother would periodically also say "giving is better than receiving". The daughter had trouble with such talk, as Christmas was all about jumping out of bed on Christmas Day and rushing to open Christmas presents.

On Christmas morning, all the family rushed to the living room and let the paper fly. As all the presents were handed out, her mother said here is another one for you, but it was not a present the girl recognised as hers during all her earlier inspections. It had been her mother's present with the card exchanged to now have her daughter's name on it. She said "Mum, I can't..." But her mother's eager face and words "Let's see what it is honey. Hurry and open it" encouraged her. So she did open it and it was a hair dryer. Being an 11-year-old, she was stunned.

As she grew up she always remembered that Christmas and the joy on her mother's face when she gave up her present and came to understand how it is better to give than receive.

A nice message to have reinforced as Christmas approaches.

Thanks Lyndal



## **FINESMASTER:**

Impromptu Fines Master was David Wynne, who rattled off a multitude of stories related to aging, including a catch-all fine for "***anyone who is older than when I last saw you***".

***Then these gems.....***

***The wonder years*** – wonder where I parked the car, where I left my phone, glasses, what day it is.



I used to wake up feeling like a million \$s, now I feel like a bounced cheque.



And so they continued about the advantages of being over 60 – there's nothing left to learn the hard way, no one expects you to run anywhere, your investment in health funds starts to pay dividends, your secrets are safe with friends because they can't remember them and things you buy now will not wear out.

David finished his hilarious presentation with a little poem about "***Another Year Has Passed***".

Great work Wynnies – a very good effort considering you only had a couple of hours before the meeting to prepare it.

### **?? GUEST ?? SPEAKER**

And guess who our surprise guest speaker was – none other than our own David Wynne. He was a busy boy tonight.

He regaled us with a couple more chapters of Outback Jack and Joe the Italian. This included Part 5 **Let's Hit the Road Joe** and Part 6 **Joe's First Night in the Long Paddock**. This is an ongoing saga of Jack and his Italian mate Joe Alphabet as they roam the back blocks of Australia droving a huge mob of sheep.

We have heard a couple of earlier Parts, and we look forward to further instalments.

In between times, if you want to read a bit more of David's poetry, just search for "**Wynnies Bush Poetry**" on Facebook or go to

<https://www.facebook.com/wynniesbushpoetry/>



### **FINAL THOUGHTS:**

President Pete's thought for this week:

The Three Stages of Man:

- ◇ He **believes** in Santa Claus,
- ◇ He **doesn't believe** in Santa Claus
- ◇ He **is** Santa Claus.

*Comment from Bryan who wrote the notes:*

"Reminds me of my 4-year-old grandson last week who said, "Santa talks like my Dad... and he's got Dad's boots on ... I think that's my Dad dressed up as Santa!"

Consequently, after many years in this role, his Dad has just been sacked from the Santa Claus gig!" (Perhaps this is the Fourth Stage of Man!!)

### **NEXT MEETING:**

This concludes our program for 2023. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at our usual venue, the RSL Club. Please mark your diary if you are rostered for a 'meeting duty' on our first night back. Look out for the email 'invitation' on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January!

The next Bulletin (#25) will be published following that meeting.

### **PLEASE BLOCK-OUT THE FOLLOWING DATES IN YOUR DIARY: -**

- **12<sup>th</sup> January**                      **Email invitation to first meeting of 2024 will arrive.**
- **18<sup>th</sup> January**                      **First meeting for 2024 (RSL Club)...don't forget to RSVP !!**
- **18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> May**                    **2024 BOOK FAIR**
- **25-29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**                **RI Conference – Singapore**

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**

(17<sup>th</sup> Dec. to 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan.)



**Birthdays:** Brad Bland (21/12), Allan Duffus (27/12),  
Neil Hilpern (8/1), Lyndal Seymour (9/1)

**Rotary Anniversaries:** Nil

**Wedding Anniversaries:** David & Josephine Cannon (22/12, David & Ruth Kennedy (31/12),  
Peter & Joan Veerhuis (8/1), Brad & Jacqui Bland, 14/1)

**≈KOOKABURRA≈**



**Santa says 'Stay Safe' !!**

**Merry Christmas**  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Enjoy your break!**

**See you next year!**

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