

Club Meetings:
Thursday for fellowship at
6pm followed by Dinner at
6:30pm

Location:
Hotel Grand Chancellor,
29 Cameron Street,
Launceston, Tasmania

19
November
2020

Tamar Views



Weekly Bulletin



Rotary
Club of South Launceston



**This week's Guest Speaker: Andrew Fearman from Van Diemen Convertible Boats.
Next week: Social Evening at alternative venue. Numbers required this week.**

PRESIDENT HARRY'S NOTES



Welcome Rotarians,

Spring abounds, no excuse against undertaking those gardening projects. And now I'm told by the family to start thinking about Christmas!!

2020 is likely to be the most unusual year in our lifetime - for months the community slowed to almost a standstill. I find myself saying, "Where has this year gone?"

We had a relatively small attendance at the last dinner meeting. Thank you to last Thursday's speaker Past President Les Baxter, who shared his work helping establish variable crops in third world countries across Asia and the Pacific. As Rotarian Ian Smith said, some of the most interesting speakers have come from careers of members within our ranks.

Enjoy the rest of your week.

President Harry

COMING EVENTS

**Sheep Poo Collection
This Saturday.
21st November.**

**Rotary Tasmania
Family Event.**
Tasman Peninsula
20th—22nd November
2020.

**Visit of
District Governor,
Michael Plunkett.**
Coming in December.
Date to be confirmed.

**What comes easy won't last long.
What lasts long won't come easy.**

CLUB DUTIES

DATE	19TH NOVEMBER	26TH NOVEMBER	3RD DECEMBER
ATTENDANCE	TERRY CRAWFORD	BERNADETTE ETCHETAMA	SUE FAULKNER
WELCOME	JUDITH KING	GRAEME LE FEVRE	DALE LUCK
CHAIRPERSON	KEVIN PREECE	KRISTA PREECE	CATHERINE QUARRELL
THANKS	PETER STEARNES	PAUL SWIATKOWSKI	ANDREW WHITEHEAD

If you are unable to fulfill your rostered duty, please arrange for a replacement.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING.

President Harry:

Welcomed Members and guest Elizabeth Bartholomew, granddaughter of Secretary Andrea.

Club Service – Les Baxter:

Advised that the club Christmas function will be on 19th or 20th December – to be confirmed.

Social – Wayne Higgs:

The Social Casino night will be held on 28th November as per email sent out to members. Numbers are limited in accordance with Covid rules, so be quick to confirm!

Community Service – Dale Luck:

GroWaverly – approval has been received for them to develop the community site. A meeting is proposed between them, us, and another Rotary club to progress.

Migrant Resource Centre – Development Approval has been received for the garage – Wayne Higgs is in touch with them and this project should all happen quickly.

WHAT IS ROTEX?



Riikka Muje had a fantastic time when she lived in Brittany, France, in 2011-12 as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. “At the beginning it was hard,” she recalls. “I didn’t speak the language. I didn’t know anyone. But then it’s amazing how you can form a life in another place.”

After her exchange, adjusting back to life in her hometown of Rovaniemi, Finland, was just as hard — until she joined a Rotex alumni association, Rotex for short.

Rotex alumni associations are groups of Rotary Youth Exchange alumni who act as intermediaries between Rotarians and Youth Exchange students. They provide mentoring and organize events with exchange students in their home country as a way to give back and keep their international connections alive.

Now Muje is a fifth-year medical student at the University of Turku and president of Rotex Finland, which has more than 80 members across the country’s five districts.

APOLOGIES BY 10.30am TUESDAY TO TERRY CRAWFORD 63447033 or 0417 366 531
(If not received by then, an invoice will be issued)

LAST WEEK'S GUEST SPEAKER.

Last week's guest speaker was our own Past President (Dr.) Les Baxter.

Les spoke to us about his time working for the Australian Government providing development assistance to some of our near neighbours in the Pacific and Asia region.

Les began by distinguishing between the terms 'Aid' and 'Development'.

'Aid', Les said, is defined as humanitarian assistance in the form of food, shelter and clean water, for example.

'Development' includes education and capacity building. Les's main role was as an agricultural researcher, helping local agricultural producers, often subsistence farmers, to improve their crop yields and grow more suitable and successful crops.

Les talked about three countries in which he worked.



The first was **Solomon Islands**. The main island is Guadalcanal on which the capital, Honiara is situated. Les worked on forestry projects in this area. The situation was quite tense, he said, as a long-running civil war had ceased, but rivalry between racial groups was still a problem.

Les also worked at Auki on the neighbouring Malaita Island on projects aimed at improving nutrition. The diet in this area was poor, resulting in a significant vitamin A deficiency.

Some of the additional challenges were the inability to use pesticides, the need to teach crop rotation and the obstacles in getting produce to market—often via canoe was the only option. Many villages were only accessible via the sea, which in rough weather exacerbated the problem.

Some islands were strongly maternal societies. In some areas people were continually hungry—taro was the main crop, but it is not particularly palatable or nutritious. Les said that some emergency feeding programs had to be put in place to improve the diet. The locals were encouraged to grow pepper as a cash crop. Les said the country of Taiwan gave assistance to the programs in which he was involved. People were encouraged to grow rice, but they didn't like this—standing in water didn't appeal to them. They preferred to grow vegetables instead.

The second country that Les worked in was **The Philippines**. The country is a former Spanish colony dominated by a few privileged families who control the country. There are religious tensions in the country between the mainly Christian north and the Moslem south. The island of Mindanao in the south is the source of constant unrest and aid work there can be quite dangerous. A great deal of rice is grown in the country as well as Paw-Paws (Papaya) and Jackfruit. Disease is also a constant problem. Volcanic activity is also a threat, with Mt. Pinatubo erupting from time to time, causing severe devastation to farming areas. Les said that an area called Laitai measured its rainfall in metres, meaning that although it was a tropical area, crops needed to be grown under plastic or in greenhouses.



The third country Les was involved in was **Pakistan**.



Les said that the Punjab area is half Indian and half Pakistani, where the border is constantly disputed. The national government of Pakistan leaves some areas for the locals to sort out amongst themselves. Much of the area is in the hands of Feudal landlords. Some have 2,000 to 3,000 employees, some working for the same landlords for several generations. Some landlords are quite benign, but some are harsh and mistreat their employees. Mangoes and bananas are grown as well as citrus trees, but 'Citrus Green' a disease, is a constant problem. Security was a real problem for aid workers, often requiring military protection.

Les said he found this period in his life very rewarding, in spite of the obstacles and set-backs. To see a real improvement in quality of people's lives as a result of his, and his team's efforts, was very satisfying.

AND FINALLY.....

When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.

To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.

Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.

It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd

of turtles.

The older I get, the earlier it gets late.

When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.

I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.

I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH LAUNCESTON

Officers and Duties 2020-2021

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH LAUNCESTON

Club Chartered

March 17 1962

with 23 members

58th Year of Rotary Service

Thursday Meeting

Hotel Grand Chancellor
29 Cameron St, Launceston
6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

Make-ups & Apologies

Assist-Secretary Terry Crawford
Before 10.30 am Tuesday
6344 7033 (W) 0417 366 531

Correspondence

PO Box 60
Kings Meadows 7249

Rotary International

President 2020-2021

Holger Knaack

Rotary Club of Herzogtum
Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany.

District Governor:

District 9830

2019-2020

Michael Plunkett.

Rotary Club of Deloraine.

Email:

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Editor:

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Items by 9.00 pm Monday please

President:

Harry Galea.

Immediate Past President:

Krista Preece.

Vice-President:

Lara Alexander.

Secretaries:

Andrea Bartholemew.
(Organisation
& Correspondence)
Terry Crawford.
(Attendance & Recording)

Treasurers:

Stephen Gordon. (Accounting)
Terry Crawford. (Banking)

DIRECTORS & PORTFOLIOS

Member Services & Foundation:

Director: Les Baxter

Members: Terry Crawford,
Judith King, Kevin Preece,
Glenda Iles, Peter Stearnes.

Community Services:

Director: Dale Luck.

Members: Lara Alexander,
Les Baxter, Marilyn Briggs,
Nic Butler, Paul Fitzpatrick,
Steve Gordon, Graeme LeFevre,
Anna McGrane, Craig Mitchell,
Phil Niejalke, Troy Reid,
Ian Smith,

Public Image:

Director: Glenda Iles.

Members: , Les Grant,
Wayne Higgs, Judith King,
Graeme LeFevre, Kathy MacQueen,
Catherine Quarrell,

Vocational Services:

Director: Wayne Higgs

Members: Les Baxter, ,
John Frearson, Glenda Iles,

Youth Services:

Director: Melissa McGrath.

Members: Marilyn Briggs, Di Butler,
Bernadette Echeta, Sue Faulkner,
Glenda Iles.

Office Bearers:

Sergeant: Phil Niejalke.

Bulletin: Ian Smith.

Information Technology:

Kathy MacQueen,
Anna McGrane.

Pastoral Care: Ian Smith.

Photography: Brian Beardwood.

Programme: Les Baxter.

Social: Les Baxter.

History: Vacant.

Sheep Manure Project:

Graeme LeFevre.