

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

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

8th June
2023

Tamar Views

Weekly Bulletin



Rotary

Club of South Launceston



This Week
Paul Swaitkowski

Presidents Report

Hello Rotarians

I hope all members and their families had a wonderful week.

At last Thursday's meeting Dale Luck gave a wonderful presentation of his recent trip to Africa. Climbing Kilimanjaro, visiting the Serengeti, visiting Tarime our Care for Africa region and Zanzibar. What a wonderful experience. Dale had four guests join us, three of them colleagues from his trip. I know all members enjoyed Dale's talk.

This week's guest speaker is Rotarian Paul Swaitkowski. In our newsletter last week, it was advertised Paul's presentation was *The Mowbray Vet* but now he will be talking on his recent trip.

A couple of weeks ago Rotarian Judith King mentioned that she and friends were setting up a GoFundMe page to raise money for new equipment to help patients suffering from Huntington's disease communicate called *eye gaze technology*. If any member of our club would like to donate to this worthy cause here is the website

<https://gofundme.com/f/fund-igaze-support-for-professor-neville-king>.

We have attached Judith's email to this newsletter so you can read more.

The district changeover lunch is at The Riverside Golf Club at 12 pm on 25 June 2023. All are invited. The cost is \$40 per head for a hot carvery and sweets. RSVP June 16, 2023, to dg@rotary9830.com.au.

Our changeover dinner is once again at Stelo at Pierre's on 1 July 2023 6 for 6.30pm. The cost will be \$75 per person. Two courses plus canapes and a welcome drink on arrival. We have had a strong response to attend this function. If you have not let Terry Crawford know that you are coming, please do so ASAP.

I remind all Directors that annual reports need to be completed and sent to Secretary Sue by 16 June 2023.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday evening.

Yours in Rotary

Andrea Bartholemew

COMING EVENTS

15th June

Kylie Tune
Volunteer Coordinator

Reconciliation Tasmania

22nd June

TBA

1st July

Changeover Dinner
Stelo @George St.



5th June
Paul Swaitkowski

6th June
Shirley Preece

8th June
David Peachey

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

CLUB DUTIES

DATE	8th June	15th June	22nd June
ATTENDANCE	Dale Luck	Terry Crawford	
WELCOME	Craig Mitchell	Judith King	
CHAIRPERSON	Ian Smith	Les Baxter	
THANKS	Peter Stearnes	Wayne Higgs	

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

Notes 1 June 2023

President Andrea

Welcomed members, guests Anna McGrane, Carolyn Farrar, Tania Clarke, Vincent Butler

Steve G – co Treasurer, with Dale L, Community Service

Steve went through the latest donations agreed to by the Board.

Rotary Foundation \$1,000US

PCYC \$1000

Australian Rotary Health \$1000

ROMAC \$1000

Shekinah House \$1000

This takes us to over \$20000 donated so far this Rotary year.



Last week's guest speaker was our own PP Dale Luck, who spoke about his recent trip to Africa. The trip was an organised one, under the auspices of the Care for Africa Water Bores Project. This project is supported by our club and also the Rotary Club of Central Launceston. Dale took the opportunity for some sightseeing, which included climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, visiting the Maasai Mara Game Park in Kenya, The Serengeti National Park in Tanzania and also Zanzibar. Dale also caught up with Di Butler who was also in Tanzania at the time, in connection with the Water Bores Project.

Dale said he flew to Dar Es Salaam Airport, on to Kilimanjaro Airport and the next morning was on his way to climbing Mt Kilimanjaro – no time for jetlag recuperation! Mt Kilimanjaro is 5,895 metres high and is Africa's highest mountain. Dale said his trek started at the 1,800 metre level.

On day two the group, of which Dale was a part, climbed 1,000 metres and a further 1,000 metres on the third day. The next day they climbed to 4,800 metres by 4.00 pm and then began their ascent to the peak at 11.00 pm, aiming to reach the top by dawn. Dale reached the 5,695-metre mark, but the altitude was taking its toll and he opted not to attempt the last and difficult 200 metre two-hour trip to the top.

Three fellow climbers were guests at last week's club meeting and two of them made it to the top.

The tour party, of which Dale was a member, used huts for accommodation. Dale said after descending from their peak attempt, they had to vacate the hut by 3.00 pm, so there wasn't much time for recuperation before tackling the descent. Dale said the group comprised of 15 walkers and 31 staff.

The porters were really helpful, each carrying 20kg of their own gear and 30kg of the climbers' stuff. They went on ahead and had everything ready when the climbers arrived, including meals. Meals were basic, including wiener bakes, beans and plenty of chips. Dale said the temperature on the mountain was really cold – minus 10 degrees – it sometimes goes down to minus 20 degrees. Dale really enjoyed the fellowship of the climbing party.

After returning from Mt Kilimanjaro, Dale travelled to the Maasai Mara Game Park in the Great Rift Valley over the border in Kenya. The bus they travelled was something of a boneshaker, having really no suspension. The Park gave the opportunity to observe Kenyan village life and, of course to see a multitude of animals.

Dale then returned to Tanzania, to the Tarime District, where Care for Africa concentrates its supportive programs. Dale said that Care for Africa provides school children with 6,000 breakfasts each year. Dale attended the official opening of the latest Care for Africa sponsored water bore. It was quite a grand occasion, with about 500 people attending, featuring typical African music and dancing.

Dale then travelled to the Serengeti National Park on the shores of Lake Victoria, Africa's largest lake. No swimming in the lake is possible because of the bilharzia parasite which can burrow into the body and emerge through the eyes. Again, a plethora of African wild animals were on view. This part of Dale's trip included a hot-air balloon ride, which was exhilarating.

Dale returned to Dar Es Salaam and travelled to Zanzibar Island, the birthplace of Freddie Mercury, whose real name was Farrokh Balsara.

Spices are a feature of Zanzibar with many varieties grown there. Dale said the local beer was pretty potent! Dale visited the Slave Market Memorial in Stone Town, which was a sobering experience.

Mt Kilimanjaro



Maasai Mara



Lake Victoria



Slave Market Memorial



Judith's Email

As I briefly mentioned at Rotary recently my husband Neville has been breaking down barriers yet again and what we have found will hopefully help many others.

I need your and Rotary's help now. Can you please share the Go Fund Me link with Neville's story with key people/groups and ask them to share the link as well?

I have shared this information below with the national and international HD communities via FB to let them know what we are trying. I am not asking HD families for donations as I know the constant struggle and poverty they live with.

Asking people for money makes me really uncomfortable so I am asking friends to share the Go Fund Me link with any groups they may be involved with. Neville was a very proud member of South Launceston Rotary Club until his disease prevented attendance. I still read the Rotary newsletter to him every week, so he has Rotary in his heart and is up to date with what our club is doing. So, I am really hoping that Rotary can support the circulation of this Go Fund Me link.

Below is what I have posted on Facebook. Click on the link to see the actual Go Fund Me page.

'We need your help. This post is about my husband Neville who has advanced Late Onset Huntington's Disease. We need to raise funds to help his broken body to communicate. The shorter story is on this Go Fund me link. <https://gofundme.com/f/fund-igaze-support-for-professor-neville-king>

Being over 65 years old Neville does not qualify for the National Disability Insurance Scheme of the Australian Government that funds costs associated with disability. People who have contributed to society all their lives are rejected because of their age but that is a battle for another day. In 2018 Neville received an Officer of the Order of Australia award AO for his services to humanity. Now I need humanity to help him. <https://gofundme.com/f/fund-igaze-support-for-professor-neville-king>
The longer story is to imagine this is happening to you. You have a few symptoms then you are told you have inherited a horrid life-destroying disease. Over time Huntington's Disease ruins your ability to work, socialize, enjoy family, and friends, steals your ability to walk due to being no longer able to coordinate your arms and legs. You are becoming trapped in a non-functioning body.

But you are still aware. Finally, you lose the ability to communicate in any way. You are trapped inside your body unable to move in a purposeful way. People walk past as you slowly become invisible. That is what has happened to my husband Neville and so many others afflicted with Huntington's Disease. It is awful.

I noticed Neville watched me intently via Skype when I read to him. He has control of his eye muscles. There is a technology called eye gaze technology that uses a computer with a laser that follows your eye movements. So started this saga.

Neville's wonderful cousin Lib, a speech pathologist, borrowed this prohibitively expensive equipment, gave her time for free and tested Neville... he demonstrated he could use it. He is the first person with Huntington's Disease in Australia to use eye gaze technology to communicate.



His cousin Lib rang me with her phone on speaker. While talking I heard a male voice say, 'I can speak.' I stopped stunned and asked, 'Neville is that you?' And he replied via computer 'Yes, it is'. The hairs on my arms stood up!

The joy about the possibility of Neville having some quality of life by being able to communicate his needs rather than being locked in his body is indescribable.

I do not like asking others for money so instead I ask you to share this GFM link with groups/people who may be able to show financial assistance for this much needed equipment and ongoing support.

Many thanks to Lib's husband Stuart, an IT guy for setting up <https://gofundme.com/f/fund-igaze-support-for-professor-neville-king> . It is wonderful to have family help.

The project money will be used for:

- Purchase of the initial TD Pilot eye gaze equipment
- Specialist expertise for the instigation of Neville's communication program
- Project research and data collection throughout the case study
- Training for a communication partners support team
- Stipendiary for support team expenses
- ...and as far as possible, additional eye gaze equipment for the HD Tasmania equipment library

Please support this important ground-breaking project. Your generosity will be much appreciated by Neville and others who will benefit from this initiative.

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Hopefully if any Rotarians visit Devonport and call in to see Neville, at Meercroft Nursing Home, he will be able to speak directly with you via computer support. The male voice even has an Aussie accent!

If we are able to get more than one piece of equipment, I will recommend that we start eye/screen computer training early in the Huntington's Disease course and before communication is disrupted. I believe that pre-emptive training will see a lessening of the frustration and despair suffered by people with Huntington's Disease. What has been described as psychosis in HD as people lose their ability to communicate may well just be utter desperation to be heard!

I will be busy with this for the next few weeks and hope to get the equipment and program in place sooner, rather than later.

Many thanks

Jude
0448 980 698

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH LAUNCESTON

Officers and Duties 2022-2023

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH LAUNCESTON

Club Chartered

March 17 1962
with 23 members
61st Year of Rotary Service

Thursday Meeting

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

Make-ups & Apologies

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

Correspondence

PO Box 60
Kings Meadows 7249

Rotary International

President 2022-2023

Jennifer Jones

Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland
Ontario,
Canada

District Governor:

District 9830

2022-2023

Bob Calvert

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Items by 9.00 pm Monday please

President:

Andrea Bartholemew

Immediate Past President:

Lara Alexander

Vice-President:

TBA

Secretaries:

Sue Faulkner (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, Glenda Iles,
Peter Stearnes

Community Services:

Director: Dale Luck

Members: Lara Alexander,
Les Baxter, Paul Fitzpatrick,
Steve Gordon, Graeme LeFevre,
Craig Mitchell, Phil Niejalke,
Ian Smith

Public Image:

Director: Glenda Iles

Members: Les Grant,
Wayne Higgs, Judith King,
Graeme LeFevre,
Kathy Macqueen

Vocational Services:

Director: Wayne Higgs

Members: Les Baxter,
John Frearson, Glenda Iles,
Paul Swiatkowski,
Andrew Whitehead

Youth Services:

Director: Harry Galea

Members: Di Butler, Glenda Iles,
Phil Ogden, Joyce Ogden

Office Bearers:

Bulletin: Glenda Iles

Information Technology:

Kathy Macqueen

Pastoral Care: Ian Smith

Photography: Brian Beardwood

Programme: Les Baxter

Social: Les Baxter

History: Vacant

Sheep Manure Project:

Graeme LeFevre

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"