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

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





Weekly Bulletin





This Week Hannah van der Velde

Presidents Report

Hello Rotarians,

I hope you have had a wonderful week.

First of all, I do apologise for the late apology for last week's meeting. I thank PP Harry for filling in for me. I hope all members enjoyed last week's guest speaker Hannah van der Velde.

Our Board will meet next Monday evening, if there is anything you would like the Board to discuss please email me or talk to me after this week's meeting.

Our new District Governor Mike Patten will join us on Thursday 17 August 2023. I am hoping Mike will be able to give us an update on the Regionalisation Pilot.

This week we are having a quiz night. I know we all enjoy these evenings. Next week our social evening is at the Schnity Bar in Yorktown Square. I will ask Terry to take the numbers this Thursday.

CAN YOU HELP

Annette Viney (Northern RYDA Coordinator) is looking for Presenters for the upcoming RYDA at Symmons Plains running form the 18 September to 29 September 2023. Training will take place during the event.

Anyone interested please let her know by the end of July so she can let Marion Cooper know. We are in desperate need to have some Rotarians trained in the North. Email annetteviney@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing all members on Thursday evening at the Grand Chancellor.

Yours in Rotary Andrea Bartholemew President

COMING EVENTS

20th July Quiz Night

27th July Social Night Schnitty Bar York Town Square

Board Meeting 25th Jully 7pm @ Andrea's

CLUB DUTIES

DATE	20th July	27th July	3rd August
ATTENDANCE	Les Grant	Social Night	Les Baxter
WELCOME	Kathy Macqueen	Social Night	Krista Preece
CHAIRPERSON		Social Night	Criag Mitchell
THANKS		Social Night	Phil Ogden

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

The guest speaker at our club meeting on 6^{th} July was Kirsten Ritchie, the founder of the Launceston charity 'Strike it Out'.

Kirsten said the charity began six and a half years ago when as a single mum she went to parks in Launceston on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings each week to offer help to homeless people sleeping rough. The charity has since expanded its operations beyond Launceston into the north and north-west of the state.

Strike it Out now visits campsites of homeless people offering meals, blankets and food packs. This service also extends to people who are living in houses, but struggle to make ends meet.

The charity is currently developing a sleeping pod trailer and mobile shower trailer, designed to be environmentally friendly and self-sufficient. The forty-foot sleeping pod trailer is solar powered and has seven sleeping pods containing lights, power-points and fans. The trailer also has a common-room and kitchen and will be staffed.

Strike it Out is also developing a shower-trailer, which has its own water tank, with solar and gas power. The current problem the charity has, is to find a suitable location from which these facilities can operate.

Meeting council and other government requirements is proving difficult. For example, the trailers cannot occupy more than 50% of a site's area. Provision also needs to be made for wet weather cover and to channel rainwater off the trailers, which causes TasWater to become involved. The sleeping pod trailer is too heavy to be towed on the road and must be transported by loading it onto a suitable vehicle. Although it cannot go on the road, it has to be registered in order to be insured.

Kirsten said she hoped that a forthcoming meeting with acting mayor Matthew Garwood would help resolve some of the issues homeless people in Launceston are having regarding council actions which tend to make their situations worse, rather than better.

Kirsten concluded by saying that the homelessness problem in our city is sadly increasing and other agencies, as well as hers, are trying to do as much as they can to ease the plight of those affected.

The speaker at last week's club meeting (13th July) was Hannah van der Velde.

Hannah is chaplain at Queechy and Kings Meadows High Schools Hannah spends one day per week at Queechy High School and two days per week at Kings Meadows High School.

Hannah said her role is to provide social, emotional and spiritual support to students who seek her help. Hannah has qualifications in Youth Work, Pastoral Care, Community Service and Psychology.

Hannah is employed by Scripture Union Tasmania and is not a school staff member, which causes her role to be somewhat isolating. She sits outside of the teaching and admin staff cohort and is also separate from the school's psychologist and social worker. Each school decides how she is to operate. In Kings Meadows High School students can be referred to her by teachers and support staff. This does not happen so much at Queechy High School. Hannah says there is not much stigma in engaging with the school chaplain as there sometimes is with the psychologist or social worker.

Hannah can only discuss spiritual matters if they are raised by the student first. Hannah does quite a deal of work with new students who struggle to find their feet in a new school environment. Poor behavior is often a symptom of students who are anxious, have poor mental health and come from troubled family backgrounds. Hannah tries to engage students through games, crafts, art therapy and in the classroom and schoolyard.

Hannah is also involved in the breakfast club at Kings Meadows High School which provides over one hundred bread and milo breakfasts each day. Hannah can refer students to supports outside the school if she considers this necessary.

Hannah said that her role at Queechy High School is harder – there are more problems, students are more troubled and have greater needs. The school has an attendance problem, with a number of students arriving late or not at all. Mostly at Queechy, Hannah deals with students who wander into her office.

She indicated that on a particularly heavy day, she dealt with a student who was threatening suicide and self-harm, a 16 year-old whose parents were alcoholics and drug-dependent, a 15 year-old who only received one meal a week at home, whose parent was diabetic and didn't manage their condition very well and a step-sibling who was violent, suicidal and self-harming.

Hannah is faced with the dilemma – how can she help these students? She simply can't easily fix their problems. She said she tries to instill in them the idea that they are loved, valued, wanted and can have hope for the future. She presents a Christian perspective when she has the opportunity. She encourages students to make good choices and is heartened when students do take notice of what she says and overcome the temptation to act unwisely in challenging situations. Hannah tries to sow positivity and to show students that their lives have value.



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

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District 9830 2022-2023 Bob Calvert

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TBA

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Terry Crawford
(Attendance & Recording)

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ander

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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?"