



**ROTARY CLUB  
OF WAGGA WAGGA**



part of the solution



ABN: 42 569 872 625

# ~ CROW ABOUT ~

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

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

Facebook: - <https://www.facebook.com/waggawaggarotary>

Postal Address: - PO Box 246, Wagga Wagga, 2650

<p><b>RI President:</b> Jennifer Jones</p> <p><b>Dist. Gov 9705:</b> Geraldine Rurenga</p> <p><b>Area Three Gov:</b> Elaine Almond</p> <p><b>Club President:</b> David Wynne</p> <p><b>Club Secretary:</b> Ellen Brasier</p>		<p><b>THE FOUR WAY TEST:</b> Of the things we think, say or do: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Is it the truth?</li> <li>&gt; Is it fair to all concerned?</li> <li>&gt; Will it build goodwill &amp; better friendships?</li> <li>&gt; Will it be beneficial to all concerned?</li> </ul>
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**BULLETIN NO: 35**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

## APRIL IS MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

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

**Duty Roster:** *We don't have foreknowledge of future apologies when drawing up the Duty Officer listing, SO IT IS IMPORTANT that you arrange a replacement if you can't fulfil a listed duty, and advise the Bulletin Reporter*

Date:	6 <sup>th</sup> April	13 <sup>th</sup> April	20 <sup>th</sup> April
		TBA	TBA
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	<b>NO</b>	Vicky Donoghue Geoff Treloar	Margaret Keys Philip Cross
<b>SHORT &amp; SWEET:</b>	<b>MEETING</b>	David Kennedy	Graham Russell
<b>FINES-MASTER:</b>		David Friedlieb	Gary Roberts
<b>INTRODUCE SPEAKER:</b>	<b>EASTER</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>VOTE OF THANKS:</b>		Mike Murray	Peter Olson
<b>BULLETIN REPORTER:</b>		Don Pembleton	Vicky Donoghue
<b>MEETINGS:</b>			

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

**Registration For Meetings:** Members are required to register their attendance (and that of any guests) **BEFORE NOON ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING** using the link in the email that they receive each week. Failure to respond to the email by the deadline will mean no meal will be ordered for you. Members who have problems with registration should not hesitate to contact Graeme or Vicky.

**Visitors** who wish to join us please contact Club Sergeant Graeme Callander ([graeme.callander43@gmail.com](mailto:graeme.callander43@gmail.com)), or phone Vicky on 0407 586186 as early as possible.

## Upcoming meetings:

There will be **NO ROTARY MEETING on Thursday April 6th** (Easter long weekend.)

**Next Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> April at RSL Club**

## **MEETING REPORT Thursday 30th March: .**

### Attendance

Our meeting this week was held at the RSL Club. President David Wynne commenced with the Invocation and a Toast to Vietnam Vets, as it is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. He then welcomed members and mentioned that our Guest Speaker, Dr. Nitin Verma, was coming to us via Zoom from Hobart, Tasmania. David acknowledged birthdays for Peter Olson, Lyn Hutchinson and Fran Payne.

### Administration Matters.

- President Dave reminded us about the **coming Barbeques**, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April, **Pro Patria Open Day (SEE POSTER ATTACHED)** and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Multi-Cultural BBQ at the Henschke School.
- The club has also invited to present a **BBQ at the River and Wren Markets**, but being too close after the Book Fair, perhaps we could sub-contract out to South Wagga or Koorringal.
- **Book Fair** setup date and weekend is 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May. Preparations are going along nicely.
- RYDA (Rotary Youth Driving Awareness) Roster for 11<sup>th</sup> May, needs 7 members.
- Dave attended the **combined Presidents meeting** on the previous Tuesday. Points of note were:
  - District Conference is on 17<sup>th</sup> June at Queanbeyan.
  - He gained a promise that our Book Fair would rate a mention of support, at all their meetings and in their bulletins. Also, donations of good quality stock.
  - Hot topic was the District Budget. It has been handed to those financial experts in the club to examine and report on. One thing noticed was no money allocated specifically for RYLA or RYDA. All Presidents were surprised at that decision.
  - All Youth Programs support added up to \$5,700, whereas \$35,000 is earmarked for the District Conference and \$30,000 was spent on the Training of PEs and new members.
  - Member numbers are falling across the district. It is concerning.
  - Everyone was a little dismayed at the lack of progress on the Regionalisation program and some are now regretting had supported the idea.
- **David Friedlieb:** David responded to the discussion about the draft District Budget. He said that there was \$60,000 for Insurance for all the Clubs and \$70,000 for District expenses and training. He said that it was sketchy on detail in some areas, especially how much is being spent on Youth Programs. He personally thinks that the district should not have any programs of their own. Overall, he generally supported the budget.  
**A copy of the District Budget is attached for member's perusal.**
- **Alok Sharma:** Thanked everyone for supporting Varoon on his 30-kilometre walk. He raised \$4621 and made Alok a proud father.



- **Elaine Almond:** Spoke wearing a purple polo shirt from the Ballina club in support of Zone 8, (Pacific Islands, New Zealand, and Australian clubs), project for awareness of domestic violence – noting that one woman is killed by a partner each week. She hopes our club may become involved in the project. She mentioned that Caloundra club has boxes of DV Safe mobile phones, re-purposed for use by women victims of domestic violence. A box is available for each club to make collections of unwanted mobile phones.



### **Short & Sweet:**

Vicky Donoghue asked us all what important event was happening this weekend? The answer was Daylight Saving Time was ending and we gain an extra hour. Millions of Australians are cheering, that the time chaos is no more, until the next time. The reason; in the cooler six months, we run on just three-time zones; Eastern, Central and Western Standard time. During Daylight Saving, we move to five!! Time zone terror!! Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, and ACT move to Eastern Daylight Time. Qld are then an hour behind, (no surprise), SA moves forward one hour, so half an hour ahead of Qld. Broken Hill is with them, to help confuse the issue. NT doesn't move, so 30mins behind Qld, and so it goes on. As a frequent traveller to Alice Springs, Vicky recounted how confusing and frustrating it is to watch TV and to find out when sporting programs begin in different parts of Australia and the world. Business is also in a mess trying to communicate, when some places aren't open yet or are already closed. Vicky suggested we should do what the Chinese do and have only one time zone for the whole country. She said to enjoy the extra hour on Sunday before it taken away again in six months' time.



### **Finesmaster:**

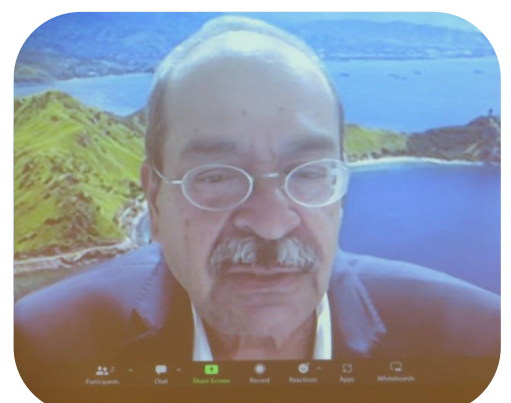
Terry Mecham gave us all a general “take your pick” of fines from a list of “The World's 10 Shortest Books”. If we fitted into any of the book's subject matter, we had to pay up. The list included ‘The Joys of Celibacy’, ‘All in a Day's Work – Diary of a Council Worker’, ‘Everything Men Know About Women’, along with ‘Everything Women Know About Men’. Terry added a few of his own including ‘German Sense of Humour’.

His wind-up joke fined anyone who has ever had a trip in a plane, via a story about a man taking a trip in a plane as a photographer, with the pilot mistakenly thinking the guy was his flight instructor.



### **Guest Speaker:**

After several attempts to improve the Zoom link from Hobart, Tasmania, and Alok already having a false start with his full and comprehensive introduction for Dr. Verma, we began to see and hear his broadcast. He spoke about two Projects he is working on within Timor-Leste, ‘*Project Lulu*’ and the *East Timor Eye Care Program*.



- **Project “Lulu”** – involves gathering eggs, larvae, and baby lobsters to bolster the fledgling seafood industry that has a huge potential.
- This project gives Rotarians the opportunity to assist a country to develop their industries and watch the country thrive, from our efforts. A good link came between Timor and Tasmania to cooperate in knowledge of the seafood industry.
- Using Ice in food markets immediately improved the sale price and saleability of Lobsters, in Timor-Leste.
- The sea currents between Atauro and Timor-Leste, were studied and they realised where these eggs, larvae and baby lobsters could be collected from to make them safe while growing them ready for market, alive or frozen.
- Telapia is also a stable diet – fish that has been examined and fisheries improved.
- Seaweed is the biggest market and is also another area where the Timorese can improve their lives through more efficient aquaculture. Dr. Verma invites the Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga to help out with these Seafood Projects.
- He then moved to the other project he has been involved with, the **East Timor Eye Care Program**. From the year 2000, 23 years ago Dr. Verma was asked to help out on a Humanitarian project in Timor-Leste. That work, commenced from 2000-2004.
- This was Phase One of a long term commitment to the general eye health of the people. It catered to the immediate needs, until there could be a proper setup of eye care services via the **National East Timor Eye Care Program**, which occurred with the assistance of Dr. Fred Hollows.
- Eye care services were setup in several areas, including Oecussi in West Timor; At that time, we did what we could. However, presently we have 365 days of the year coverage.
- The next stage was Outreach Surgery, then creating a Headquarters for Ophthalmology, where training for an ophthalmic workforce could commence. The first “native” Ophthalmologist was finally trained just prior to 2014, after which a workforce could be trained. This venture came about through co-operation from many learning institutions, including Universities of Sydney, Notre Dame and NSW, who had an input for training. These graduates eventually became Teachers themselves.
- Specialty Clinics were the next to be setup. Guide Dogs for the Sight Impaired and Blind, was an inevitable result, as well.
- Eye problems requiring surgery was at 11.9% of the population. It has come down to 2.8% now. We now are working on a Primary care model, which is a 30 year plan.
- Dr. Verma recognised that these activities were some of the defining moments of his career. He thanked Rotary for the assistance to achieve these goals.

A vote of thanks was given by David Payne, who thanked Dr. Verma for his time and patience with the electronics. David made him aware that our club will donate the equivalent of 10 Polio vaccines through RI on his behalf. Dr. Verma received a warm round of applause. Alok also chimed in with his heartfelt thanks, to a second round of applause.





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

- 15<sup>th</sup> April BBQ at Pro-Patria Open Day - 10am – 2pm (Poster Attached)
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April NO WAGGA ROTARY MEETING
- 11<sup>th</sup> May 23 RYDA day (Our Club is Rostered)
- 20/21 May 23 BOOK FAIR
- 24<sup>th</sup> June Multi-Cultural BBQ at Henschke School – 11am–3pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> June 23 Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga CHANGEOVER.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jul 23 Lilier Lodge Casserole night.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 23 Lilier Lodge BBQ night.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: -**

(2 April to 8 April)

Birthdays: Nepal Ghosh (6/4)

Rotary Anniversaries: Nil

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

≈ KOOKABURRA ≈



PHEW  
DAYLIGHT  
SAVING ENDED.  
THE CLOCK IN MY  
CAR IS RIGHT  
AGAIN.



**A FEW SNAPS FROM THE NIGHT**



Don't throw it Alok!



Hmmm...

