

Rotary

CLUB OF BURNIE



CLUB NUMBER - 18437

THE BULLETIN

80TH YEAR - No 4 – JULY 19TH 2021



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

President – Themba Bulle
Secretary - George Austin
Treasurer - David Bennett
Bulletin Editor – Allan Jamieson

INVOCATION

For good food, for good fellowship, may the giver of all our blessings make us truly thankful.

ROTARY MONTH JULY – ‘CHANGEOVER’ MONTH

Apologies please call - Dr Themba Bulle on 03 6432 2222

Duty Roster – Wayne RICHARDS & Chandra WIJEWARDHANE

When do we meet? You can always find the answer on our

Club website: <http://www.burnierotary.org.au/>

Date	Event or Speaker/Topic	Venue
July 26	What is our Value Proposition? – Allan Jamieson	RSL
Ideas for speakers? Contact Paul Kearney or Secretary George Austin		

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – JULY 2021

	Birthdays		Wedding Anniversary		Rotary Anniversary
8	Graeme MUIR				
22	Steph. PRENDERGAST			12	Graeme WOOD
23	Barrie CRAWFORD				

RAFFLE WINNER	Nigel Morgan
----------------------	--------------

ATTENDANCE	22 (85%)
-------------------	----------

President Themba

- Allan will define the term “Value Proposition” next week.
- “Welcome back, Dean.” [Dean Chamley had spent some weeks driving up and back along the coast of Queensland. Dean replied: *“I missed you blokes! August 14 is my birthday. Everyone is invited to the party at my place.”*]
- Yvette Radford has suggested a fundraising idea: ‘Open-air Cinema’. See <https://www.tassieopenaircinemas.com.au/>

Secretary George:

- At the Board meeting last week, we decided to continue our sponsorship of Rural Medical School (RMS) students on the same basis as previously - \$5,000 per two-years of study per student. [Our current RMS student, Claire Griffiths, is in attendance tonight.]
- The Board also approved a donation of \$500 to the City of Burnie Brass Band. The band had sought a donation of \$1,000, however our member Wayne Richards, together with our club, are trying to organise a fund raising event to aid the band.
- Our Golf Day might be on 7th or 21st of March next year.
- **Make a note in your diaries:** We aim to make three Paul Harris Fellow awards at our August 23rd meeting – *partners’ night*.

Treasurer David:

- Our Service Acct. has \$16,470 and our Working Acct. has \$8,480. We have set-up a "Plumtree Acct" as required by RI and it contains \$5,000.
- We are still discussing dates and venues with the schools in our region for the Don't Meth With Me (DMWM) event this year.

PDG Ken Moore:

- Our District is seeking proposals for use of District Grant money. Applications close on August 31.

Guest Speaker: Diliani Wijesooriya

[My notes from the meeting are below – E&OE applies]

I'm actually Dileni, and I have four names in total.

The population of my country is slightly under that of Australia's, but the island is smaller than Tasmania. We have been able to export food!

I was born on the mid-west coast of the island – a somewhat rural region of the island. Both my parents were teachers and the Education Dep't required them to move across the island at one stage, but we came back to the west coast later on.

My schooling was disrupted by political instability and I was forced to wait three years before progressing to higher education. I entered a private medical school, though this was later taken over by the Gov't. It is highly competitive to get into some tertiary education places.

Education in Sri Lanka is 100% free; competition to enter good primary schools is very intense. My daughter, Nethmini, was interviewed when she was 2.5 years old! Overall, the standard of education in my country is higher than it is in surrounding countries.

The wealthier people in my country are taxed severely, which enables the government to fund many services; government employees are paid so little that they never reach the taxation level.

I started working at a children's hospital in Colombo, then moved to a mental hospital and later to a women's hospital and later again to an orthopaedic hospital. This last one was very large, with 7,000 staff. Through most of this time, the civil war was going on.

Several other countries were seen as good places to move to, and Australia was high on the list for many of us. I ended up in Tasmania because my husband, Chandra, gained a position at the Mersey Hospital in Latrobe.



Dileni, Chandra and Nethmini are all Rotarians in our club now – what a family!

===//===

In 2017, I read all the Board Minutes for this club, going back to 1942. I had reason this week to check my notes and I found some items that are STILL a cause for concern:

- 1952 Oct - Absentee members who do not make an apology should subscribe to the Club's loss.
- 1955 Jan - Members speaking during announcements is deplorable ... the height of bad form and culprits should be fined for breach of etiquette.

- 1956 Sep - Some members persist in sitting at the same table each week: "This was not approved of by Rotary ideals."
- 1962 Jan - Trial introduced whereby members arriving at luncheon meetings are allocated table numbers at random.
- 1972 Jul - Members to be asked to change their seating at meetings.

I will end with an extract from the latest edition of RI's *Rotarian* magazine:

A man was in an airport lounge at Kuala Lumpur airport when he noticed two men who didn't know each other become engrossed in a lively, thoughtful conversation. Politely interrupting, the man asked how they had established such an instant rapport. 'They showed me their Rotary pins and told me, "Whenever we see this wheel, we know we are friends." That was the first thing I ever knew about Rotary' the man said.

This anecdote is relevant to the topic of next week's meeting.