

**Rotary**  
CLUB OF BURNIE



CLUB NUMBER - 18437

# THE BULLETIN

80<sup>TH</sup> YEAR - No 37– APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> 2022



**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: APRIL – MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

**Apologies: please call before 1:00 pm Monday**

**Dr Themba Bulle on 03 6432 2222 or George Austin on 0438 450 801**

**Duty Roster: Graeme MUIR & Dilani WIJESOORIYA**

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

Date	Event or Speaker/Topic	Venue
APRIL 11	Allan Jamieson: Support for a Men's Table in Burnie?	RSL
APRIL 18	NO MEETING – EASTER MONDAY	--
APRIL 25	NO MEETING – ANZAC DAY	--
MAY 2	??	RSL
<b>Ideas for speakers? Contact George Austin</b>		

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – APRIL 2022

	Birthdays		Wedding Anniversary		Club Anniversary
1	Aileen FORREST	24	Wayne/Sue-Ellen LICHT	6	Bruce CLARK
24	David BENNETT	28	Ken/Lois MOORE		

<b>RAFFLE WINNER</b>	Chandra
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<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	16 (61.5%)
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**Pres. Themba:**

- Welcome to Paul Porter, a former President of Burnie Rotary Club, and to Somerset Rot'n Leanne Cullen.

**Sec. George:**

- The Tas. Symphony Orchestra (TSO) has advised us of the need to change our procedure if we are to host future concerts at the Metro Cinema. In essence, the TSO is not supposed to be seen to be selling entry tickets to their concerts. Our club can seek to secure *Donations* from attendees, but cannot *sell* entry tickets.
- This year's RYDA date is Tues. May 10<sup>th</sup>. As usual, the event will be held at Camp Clayton. We will be looking after only Parklands HS students. We seek three volunteers.

**Treas. David:**

- The Slime Challenge might result in a profit for us of around \$2,300. The Golf Day profit could be in the order of \$7,000.

### **PP John Glen:**

How is Rotary helping in Ukraine and adjoining countries?

- There are 62 Rotary clubs in Ukraine, but with only around 1,100 members in all.
- So far, most donations around the world have been sent to RI's Disaster Response Fund and 31 grants have been made totalling US\$900,000.
- To-date, 3.5 million Ukrainians have been displaced into neighbouring countries.
- In Poland, Rotary is providing transport, accommodation, food and medical assistance.
- In the Czech Republic, Rotary is providing sleeping bags, medicine, food, defibrillators and oxygen.
- Similar efforts are being made via Rotary clubs in France, Austria, Hungary, Romania and Moldova.
- Germany is setting up a national taskforce to co-ordinate relief efforts.

In Australia, the smart approach is to rely on RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service), which has set up a fund – “Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief Aid” for donations. The current goal is to raise \$5 million. RAWCS is working in conjunction with the Australian Federation of Ukrainian organisations and Caritas Ukraine. This is the largest *tax-deductible effort* in Australia aiding Ukraine.

John urged our club to donate into said fund.

### **PP Paul Porter:**

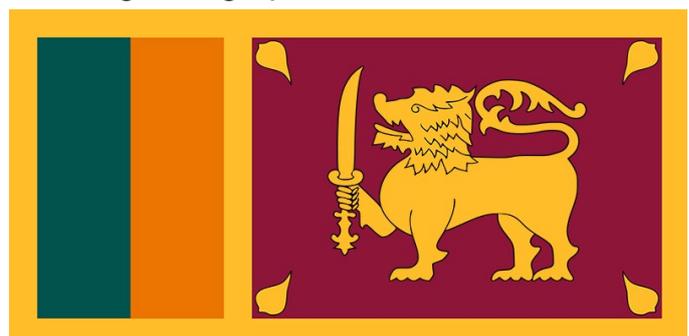
[Paul was Burnie club President in 1996-7. He and his wife, Diane, subsequently moved to the Noosa region in Queensland, where Paul joined the Noosa RC, becoming President, Secretary and Treasurer in that club.]

- ‘The Noosa club had 60 members when I moved there’, Paul said, ‘but now there are just 20 members.’
- A major fundraising effort has been to arrange visits by Circus Quirkus to Noosa <http://www.circusquirkus.com.au/> to assist children who have a limited lifespan.
- In the past, RYDA was government sponsored, but now a company sponsors this Rotary event!
- ‘I am retired and now spend my time visiting golf clubs with my wife. I even play the game!’

### **Guest Speaker: Chandra WIJewardhane**

Chandra focused his talk on his experiences growing up in Sri Lanka.

He told the story behind the country's flag: The four leaves refer to the four Buddhist virtues of loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy and equanimity; the sword held by the lion reflects the sovereignty of the nation; the green stripe is support for Muslims and the or-



ange for the Tamils (during the long war in Sri Lanka against the Tamil tigers, each tiger wore a cyanide capsule around his/her neck).

The National bird is the Rooster and the Water Lily is the National flower. Chandra told of the age-old custom of preserving meat in honey; the meat is first dried and then immersed in honey.

The Cabinet of the governing party in Sri Lanka has been a “family affair”, he said.

[Just a few hours after Chandra told us this, the Sri Lanka cabinet resigned in recognition of escalating popular demonstrations against the government. *“Only the president's brother, Prime Minister Mahinda, stayed on as the government grapples with a major economic crisis. Earlier, the President, Mr Rajapaksa, invited opposition parties to join the cabinet.”*

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-60975941> ]



Chandra in national dress, with Pres. Themba in his winter jacket

Chandra showed us a picture of a huge castle built in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century on top of a massive rock. “Nobody knows how it was done.”

To reach his secondary school, Chandra had to climb 145 steps each day. Chandra showed us images of objects he created during his school years. One such object was a tower, similar to the Eiffel Tower, made from finely cut matchsticks – he would split one matchstick into 64 smaller sticks and the tower comprised 25,000 small sticks. If he sneezed, he would have to begin again!

Close 7:35 pm