



CLUB NUMBER - 18437

THE BULLETIN

81ST YEAR - No 12 – SEPTEMBER 19TH 2022



President – ???

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: SEPTEMBER – EDUCATION & LITERACY

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
SEPTEMBER 26	Perviz Marker – About Burnie’s Penguins	RSL
OCTOBER 3	Lauren Harper – Rural Alive & Well	RSL
OCTOBER 10	??	RSL

Ideas for speakers? Contact George Austin

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – SEPTEMBER 2022

	Birthdays	Wedding Anniversary		Club Anniversary
14	Nigel MORGAN			
22	Dr Wing Sze LAU		11	John GLEN
27	Ken MOORE 1949			

RAFFLE WINNER	Leanne Cullen
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ATTENDANCE	15 (56%)
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Past President: Themba Bulle

- I will be on holiday from Sept. 29 to mid-November

Secretary: George

- I will distribute a Show Day BBQ roster this week.
- The Board has decided that our club will participate in the Rotary Expo in Hobart in March next year.
- Nominations for a young person willing to crew on the *Windeward Bound* will close on Sept. 29. Steph might have one person willing to take part.

Chairman & Treasurer: David Bennett

- In total, we have around \$34,000 in our bank accounts (included in this is the money reserved for our Plumtree project).

Slime Challenge:

- Leanne Cullen reported on a meeting of this event’s committee. The event will take place on Sunday 12th Feb., 2023; thus, we will need volunteers on the Saturday to set up and also on the Sunday to help run the event and to clean up afterwards. MORE people overall than we had this year, because that experience showed that there was a lot more work to do than had been anticipated.

- There will be *two* major sponsors next year and one of these will be Tasmanian Family Medical – *i.e.*, Themba’s clinic.

Regionalisation Project – Discussion and Vote

PP Allan led this segment of our meeting. He had distributed an information document four days previously, which explained:

- Members are to vote on whether some trials of different “regional governance” concepts within Rotary should commence.
- A useful description of what we will vote on would be; it is a “*pig in a poke*”; that is, something bought or accepted without first being seen or assessed. (See ‘box’).

The recent timeline:

- **13 April** - RI’s Council on Legislation approved the project – provided a sufficient number of Rotarians agree (hence this evening’s meeting)
- **1 June** - “Extensive club communication and consultation is scheduled to commence from **May 15, 2022.**” (thus, already the project was behind schedule)
- **22 August** - First visit to Burnie Rotary Club, to ‘explain’ regionalisation.
- **15-29 September** - Club Presidents to vote on Regionalisation.

The stated objectives for the Regionalisation project:

- Support clubs to engage members, volunteers & communities
- Create new attractive leadership roles
- Build a strong unified Rotary brand
- Encourage partnerships
- Improve efficiency & reduce duplication

The group of 62 Rotarians driving the Regionalisation project has stated:

“There are no guarantees that a new governance structure will improve member engagement, increase membership, or welcome more women into our clubs, but we have to try.”

This diagram (at right) is the clearest explanation of what is involved: Three *new* ‘management clusters’ will be formed, but how these are supposed to impact on Rotary clubs and members is *not* known (by us).



Why this project?

For the past three decades, there has been a dramatic fall worldwide in the number of Rotarians. For instance, in Rotary Zone 8 (comprising 1,160 Rotary clubs in Aus., NZ and some Pacific islands) the recent history of the average club has been:

- In 2012, the average club had 30 members
- From 2012 to 2022, that club inducted 26 *new* members
- In 2022, the average club has 24 members

∴ **collectively, Zone 8 has lost 37,000 members in ten years!**

One key factor in these statistics has to be a difficulty of clubs to *retain* newly-inducted members. Ergo, it can be questioned how these new 'clusters' will **reverse** the serious membership decline?

Surely, a far more *assured* approach to achieving an attractive, exciting club environment would be for each individual club to change the way that club operates.

The **Manual of Procedure** makes clear that there is a direct link between RI headquarters located in Evanston (America) and each club president, as regulated in each club's Constitution and By-Laws. These documents grant each club an almost unlimited freedom to function in any way that suits that club's specific situation. For instance, in Burnie Rotary's case:

<u>Activity at a Rotary meeting</u>	<u>Required?</u>
Weekly meeting	<i>No</i> : two or more meetings per month
Rotary Grace	<i>No</i>
Fine session	<i>No</i>
Foundation Box	<i>No</i>
Raffle	<i>No</i>
Meal	<i>No</i>
Guest Speaker	<i>No</i>

In recent times, it has been rare that we allocate time to discuss (i) what we do, (ii) why we do it, and (iii) how we do it.

So, what are we waiting for?

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Discussion revealed:

- a clear disquiet of the members about the lack of details emanating from the 'group of 62' and the inability of our members to put their own views and questions to said group. **Communication** *can* be unidirectional, but **consultation** *must* be two-way.
- a fear that an *extra* layer of administration will be an outcome.
- that, while the project goes on for its two-year trial period, we in Burnie Rotary club should set to and *change* our club. We must not drift for two years!
- that we should initiate the input of ideas from younger people; from the very people we seek to have as members.

When asked to vote, a clear majority were in favour of a "YES" vote.

Close 7:44 pm