

**RI President  
John Kenny**

**9710 DG  
Michael Pedler**

**President  
Jack Wightman**

**Secretary  
Ian  
Thomlinson**

**Treasurer  
John Messner**

**Apologies and  
additional  
guests to Rolf  
Gimmel the  
Tuesday  
before the  
meeting on  
44762274 or  
email  
[rolfs@dodo.  
Com.au](mailto:rolfs@dodo.com.au) OR  
you will be  
charged for  
your meal.**

*The Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. Bulletin*

## Narooma's Oyster Festival Turns three and breaks even

When it was realised that the town could lose the "Blues Festival" the chamber of commerce felt a "town owned" festival was needed.

Three years on and the "Blues Festival" has left but the Oyster Festival is thriving.

Matt Deveson, our wonderful host from the Whale, changed hats last Thursday night and "debriefed" us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Oyster Festival.

- Whilst being bigger than last year there is still room for improvement.
- Largest percentages of the visitors were either day trippers or stayed with friends and relatives.
- Business need to promote it all year and to look at what they had on offer.
- Maybe more needs to be done on Sunday

Matt strongly believes that Narooma needs two or three such events during the year. Our Bike-a-thon could become one of the extra events.

Why May? To take advantage of the off season for business.



This is a "World Beater" festival with integrity, is a little different and attracts families.

### Statistics

- ✓ 20% more people
- ✓ 36% more Oyster Sales
- ✓ 12mtr Oyster Bar made locally from local timbers sold 1,500 doz Oysters.
- ✓ 29% of people stayed on. Of that 52% stayed with relo's.

This festival was the first for the Lands Council who, were very happy. The sea sculptures added another dimension.

The new route for the march was popular and a big hit with visitors.

The Festival will grow over the next few years and hopefully we'll have a couple of other events in the town to help foster jobs and strengthen Narooma's long term future.

**TONIGHT:** A surprise and maybe a traveller's update!!!!

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:** Lillian Hardie (Bill's wife) celebrates her birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup> while Debbie (Rolf's wife) celebrates her birthday on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## COMING EVENTS

17 <sup>th</sup> June	Joint Board Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> June	TBA
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Markets
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	CHANGE OVER – Partners night
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Change over Moruya
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	Change over Batemans Bay
16 <sup>th</sup> September	District Governor visit – Partners night.

## DUTIES

TASK	10 <sup>th</sup> June	17 <sup>th</sup> June	24 <sup>th</sup> June
Cashier	Bob Antill	Kris Elphick	Lin Morey
3-minute talk	Ian Thomlinson	Jeremy Ferguson	Laurelle Pacey
Wheel	Kris Elphick	John Messner	Bob Antill
FINES	Chris O'Brien	Laurelle Pacey	Chris O'Brien
Introduction			Ian Thomlinson
Thanks			Jeremy Ferguson

### INTERNATIONAL TOAST:

RC Baton Rouge is in D6200 in Louisiana, USA.

A very old club, chartered in 1918, it has a staggering 488 members who meet on Wednesdays, 12.10 pm. for lunch at Boudreaux's Restaurant.

“When there's a disappointment, I don't know if it's the end of the story. But it may be just the beginning of a great adventure.”

*Pema Chodron*

# JACK'S JOURNAL

I wasn't able to attend last week and hear what Matt Deveson had to say about the Oyster Festival. As Chairman of the organising committee he must be well pleased with this year's event – the most successful festival yet. His committee now has the formidable challenge of making next year's better yet. I'm sure it will grow because it is community based and people enjoy being a part of it as well as being there for the various attractions.

According to the post-festival report in Narooma News, 44% of an estimated 8,000 people "through the gates" were from outside the district. That means that nearly 4,500 local people attended. It strikes me that the festival provides us with an excellent opportunity to promote Rotary and the club, and to identify potential members. I suggest most strongly that we set up an information/ recruitment stall at the festival next year, and sell the club as well as donuts and sizzling Sangers.

Four of our members have had possible new members in their sights since our second Membership Development Assembly on 8<sup>th</sup> April – two months ago. I look forward to welcoming some of them to the club as dinner guests in the near future. Besides the aforementioned four, the rest of us should also be actively seeking out prospective members. Don't let up, fellows – we all should continue to be on the lookout. When you do approach someone in particular and get to the point of issuing a dinner invitation, make sure that Attendance Officer Rolf knows that that person is a club guest when they first attend.

In last week's Journal I reported that we had sent a batch of members' contributions to The Rotary Foundation's Parramatta office. I neglected to say that they were directed to the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund. Contributions to the Annual Programs Fund are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs doing good in the world. These programs currently cover more than 160 countries and geographical areas on seven continents. One program made possible by such contributions was the construction of a half mile concrete walkway in Nabapally, India, that serves as an escape route for villagers during annual monsoons (a project of the Rotary clubs of Calcutta Metropolitan, West Bengal, India and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada). Sounds like something much more substantial than the Narooma-Kianga-Dalmeny shared pathway/cycleway, if not as long.

Yours in Rotary Fellowship,

President Jack.



President Jack has been busy organising the nomination for the "Bike-A-Thon" in the District Awards.  
The project comes under the Community Service section and an extensive summary was provided by Jack to be announced at the District Changeover on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

## Mental Health back in the spotlight.

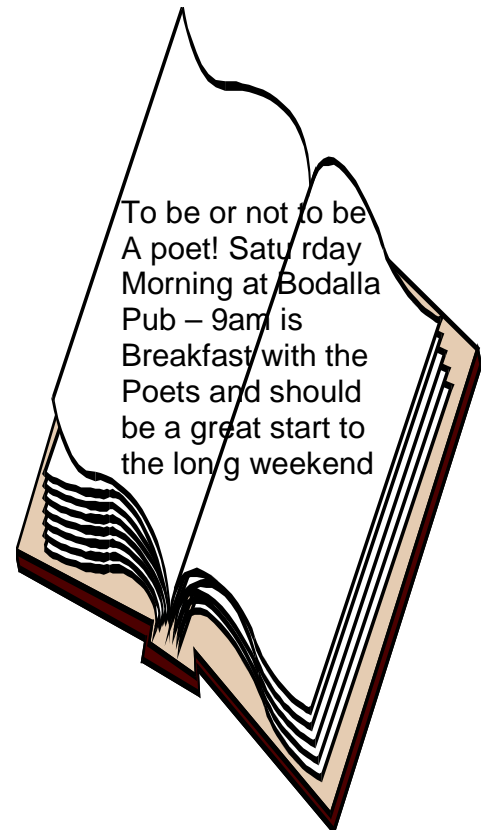
It was with great sadness I learnt that the niece of a co-worker committed suicide last week. A tragic waste of a 20year old who had much to live for.

Following our successful Mental Health Forum we have the opportunity to run (with the help of Rotary Health) "Mental Health First Aid Workshops".

These have now been supported by the Federal Government and will cost people only \$20 ea to participate.

This course is a must for all teachers, employers and employees and should be a priority of ours.

I would like input as quickly as possible so we can organise a team to come to town, talk to me, please. Bob Ant.



## *STOP PRESS....*



Sitting on the side of the highway waiting to catch speeding drivers, a State Police Officer sees a car pattering along at 22 MPH. He thinks to himself, "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over.

Approaching the car, he notices that there are five elderly ladies-two in the front seat and three in the back-wide eyed and white as ghosts. The driver, obviously confused, says to him, "Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replies, "you weren't speeding, but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers." "Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly...Twenty- two miles an hour!" the woman says a bit proudly.

The State Police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explains to her that "22" was the route number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the woman grinned and thanked the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask... is everyone in this car OK? These women seem awfully shaken and they haven't muttered a single peep this whole time," the officer asks with concern.

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute officer. We just got off Route 119.