



The Keyway

ROTARY CLUB OF
WAGGAWAGGA SUNRISE Inc
Chartered 1991
PO Box 5430 Wagga Wagga 2650 NSW



Meeting Venue: Mantra Pavilion, Kincaid Street, Wagga Wagga
Meeting Time: Breakfast commences 7.00am followed by meeting completed by 8.30am

APRIL is MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH Month

FOR YOUR CALENDAR: 2018

15-20	Apr	Youth	RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
24	Apr	Meeting	
24	Apr	Board	Extra meeting for allocation of funds
29	Apr	Service	Combined with South Wagga Apex
	May	Service	Tree Planting – To Be Advised
01	May	Meeting	
5-6	May	District	2018 Conference, Leeton
08	May	Meeting	
09	May	Board	Joint Board Meeting May Monthly
15	May	RI	Last day for The Rotary Foundation contributions to be lodged with ARF
15	May	Meeting	
22	May	Vocational	5th Tuesday – CHANGE OF DATE
26-27	May	Service	Red Shield Appeal Sturt Mall
29	May	Meeting	
05	Jun	Meeting	
12	Jun	Meeting	
13	Jun	Board	Joint Monthly Meeting
19	Jun	Meeting	
23-27	Jun	RI	RI Convention Toronto, Canada
30	Jun	RI	End of Rotary Year
30	Jun	District	D9700 & Coolamon RC Changeover
New Rotary Year 2018-19		Be the Inspiration	
03	July	Club	27th Changeover & Induction of New Executive
14-16	Sep	Zone	Zone 8 Australian & New Zealand Conference



Meeting No 40 – 17 April, 2018

TODAY'S PROGRAM: RONALD McDONALD HOUSE WAGGA WAGGA
Speaker: Deborah Braines, Executive Officer

When introducing her, **Marilyn Walter** told us that Deborah began working at Creaghe Lisle the day before Charles Houen. For 34 years, Deborah worked in television production and administration at RVN 2 now Prime before starting with Ronald McDonald House 15 months before it opened.



Background In 2001, Pottsy and Leighton, together with Yvonne Braid, manager of 2WG/Star FM, visited the Children's Ward to find the parents' room at the time was two single beds divided by a curtain. The Kids' Kottage Appeal eventually raised \$350,000 from within Wagga and across the region. The monies were handled by the Sunrise Rotary, thus beginning the club's long association with the House.

The House together with Tamworth's, Wagga Wagga is the smallest Ronald McDonald House in the world and one of fourteen houses nationwide. It services families from Wagga Wagga, the Riverina and South West Slopes.

Over 100 years old, the original house at 300 Edward Street was purchased, refurbished, extended and opened on 19 March 2005. Currently, the house has 4 bedrooms, a volunteers' room, family and lounge rooms, kitchen and two offices.

The house next door was purchased for future expansion which is now underway. A breezeway will link the new extension which will have a playroom, office and meeting spaces and accommodation. An area to entertain undercover is also included. In the short term, the two accommodation rooms will be rented to medical staff providing ongoing income.

The House is licensed by Ronald McDonald House Charities in America.

Volunteers Referrals to the house are an unknown factor and occur at all hours but commonly families arrive in the early hours of the morning.

(right: Deborah Braines)

About 140 volunteers keep the House operational. A volunteer sleeps in the House every night of the year. Other volunteers look after the housekeeping and outside areas and assist with ongoing fundraising.



Since the house opened, **Bob** and **Carol Martin** have been rostered every second Monday to sleep over while Alan Sharp is 'Spider Man', a dab hand with a cobwebbing broom, keeping the fire sprinklers free of traces crawling critters. **Joan Skews** and **Sandra Rootes** are ticket sellers extraordinaire when needed.

Two positions on the board of twelve directors of Ronald McDonald House are filled by Sunrise Rotarians recognising the club's early association. They are

Rotarians **John Wood** and **Marie Wood** (above).

Fundraising is increasingly a challenge and highly competitive. All funds raised stay locally to support families from across the region. Operation of RMH relies on fundraising and the generous support of local businesses, organisations and individuals.

Ronald McDonald House Charities Australia The licensees of McDonalds restaurants support the Houses by providing the insurance costs. A great initiative is the Ronald McDonald Learning Program,

providing tutoring for children who have missed school through illness, even at the Higher School Certificate level.

Funds raised on McHappy Days and from donation boxes on the counters are sent to RMH Charities Australia.

Deborah is a member of the Mission Leadership Group which meets twice a year to determine what happens.

Family Room After years of planning, the Family Room at the hospital opened on 18 December 2017. Staffed by volunteers working four-hour shifts, eight hours per day, seven days a week, the room provides parents and families with a quiet space for respite from bedside vigils. It has comfortable lounges, laundry facilities as well as shower, toilet, microwave and internet access.

Holidays at beach retreats such as Bateman's Bay, Port Douglas and Foster are available to families for a no charge holiday which gives families the opportunity to enjoy their time together following a serious illness with their child.

Sponsorship Businesses such as Sealy (beds) Sorbent (toilet paper) and Amart (furniture) assist Ronald McDonald Houses.

❖ **As at 31 March 2018, Ronald McDonald House Wagga Wagga had accommodated 14,086 members of 2,538 families**

BOARD REPORT – APRIL

- 2018-19 Annual dues will be increased by \$10 to \$250
- allocation of funds has held over to a special board meeting convened for next Tuesday 24th April
- fines monies are to be used to defray costs to members for club guests

(right: Dawn Smith, Joan Skews, Val Samuelson)



- changeover 3 July at Country Club approx. \$40 for two courses with DG John Glassford to attend
- names of guests such as past members / PHs etc needed
- the national anthem will not be sung weekly but on special occasions according to the wishes of members in the recent vote
- Joan Skews will be assisting with the co-ordination of service projects
- tree planting postponed until May with view to a more recently prepared site.
- Michelle and Simon Swan to attend Foundation Workshop re District Grants in Young in early June
- Number of Club Centurions has dropped during the past year.
- More boxes have been ordered. Return to Marilyn.
- nominations for consideration for PHF asap with short comment/reasons
- social night at Ronald McDonald House
- changed date – 22nd May next vocational visit
- RYLA Caitlin Voss and Alice McDonald are attending RYLA in Orange this week
- Alex Williams requested next payment for Charles Houen Scholarship
- NYSF has changed application/approval process and increased cost to \$3150.
- Club will fund NYSF applicant up to \$1500

- two applications received for CSU scholarship – to be interviewed by small panel
- domain for Police Officer of the Year website to be paid
- \$3000 plus for PCYC – presentation to be arranged.
- Ronald McDonald House and Kurrajong Early Intervention to receive proceeds from the Riverina Truck Show
- Annual Peace Day – coverage in *Wagga Weekly* – advertising paid for by District Peace communities committee

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Secretary: Alan Sharp

Correspondence In

Science & Engineering Challenge Letter of appreciation for support by Sunrise RC

Bo Children's Hospital Request for funding

Macular Disease Foundation Request for funding

Correspondence out

Australian Rotary Health Requested update on status of 2018 Indigenous Health Scholarship



(above: Pres. Deidre Tome & David Gilbey)

Treasurer: Darren Verus

- please record suggestions for future disbursements in the book circulating. Check last year's list.

Club Administration: Fred Loneragan

- Contact Details Please update contact list being circulated.

The Rotary Foundation: Marilyn Walter

- Tax deductible donations to the Foundation should be received by Treasurer asap for transfer before 15 May.

Vocational Service: Bob Martin

- *Black Friday Drinks & Dinner* A successful social evening at Ronald McDonald House for drinks and then dinner at Turvey Tavern on the deck was held last Friday. Twenty members and partners attended. Thank you to the board members of RMH John Wood, Marie Wood, Yvonne Braid, Bill O'Rourke and Pat Coombes.

Service Projects:

- *Biggest Morning Tea & Garden Viewing* Tu 10 Apr Sue & Max Chapman's

Sue Chapman has written to thank the club 'for use of equipment and the tireless work put in by many' supporting the **25th** morning tea held by the Machine Knitters, which raised over \$3500.

Sue expressed her personal gratitude for club support for fundraising efforts advising that 'the garden has helped raise about \$35-40 000 for charity'.



Australia's
**BIGGEST
MORNING
TEA**

their club



- *Community Service* Su 29 Apr

Max Chapman advised that South Wagga Apexians had sought our assistance to fulfil the Easter wishes of sixteen people using Meals on Wheels who would like some basic maintenance or light gardening completed.

EASTER WISHES

Apexians are future Rotarians. This is an opportunity to develop some goodwill between the clubs while providing community service

FINES:

Val Samuelson extracted fines from members unable to eat runny egg to those wearing colours in the painting on the wall and much in between. **Fines Total: \$51.90**



MEMBERS' NEWS:

Welcome back Dennis! It was wonderful to welcome the return of Dennis Blackett looking so well. Dennis thanked members for the good wishes and indicated that the future looks positive.

Birthdays Denise Flockton (16.4) June Brown (17.2) Sandra Rootes (18.4)

ATTENDANCE: Andrew Reynolds, Alan Sharp, Bob Martin, David Brady, David Gilbey, Dawn Smith, Deborah Braines, Deidre Tome, Dennis Blackett, 'Dizzy' Desailly, Jennifer Groch, Joan Skews, John Wood, Marie Wood, Marilyn Walter, Max Chapman, Michelle Swan, Peter Brown, Peter Gissing, Sandra Rootes, Simon Swan, Val Samuelson.

APOLOGIES: Bruce Spinks, Darren Verus, Denise Flockton, Fred Loneragan, Leanne Deacon, Lesley Scott, Ndungi Mungai, Sue Hartwig.

NEXT WEEK:

APRIL	
MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH	
Date	Tues 24 April
Venue	Mantra Pavilion
PROGRAM	TBC
Speaker	
Attendance 1	Deborah Braines
Attendance	Lesley Scott
Reporter	David Gilbey
Photos	Denise Flockton
About Rotary	
Fines Session	Peter Brown
Intro. Speaker	Peter Gissing
Thank Speaker	Michelle Swan

... from the archives (to fill a space):



(above: 2011 Changeover Dinner – Dennis Blackett, Noelene Hogan, Marilyn Walter, Sandra Rootes & Denise Flockton receiving awards.)

... and now for some drollery (courtesy of JokesoftheDay ...)

Existential Angst

- Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting dead?
- Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough money?
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?
- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?
- Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?
Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?
Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?
Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?
Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?
Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?
How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?
When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, 'It's all right?' Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, 'That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going!'
Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?
In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?
How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?
The statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you.

A famous professor of surgery died and went to heaven. At the pearly gates he was asked by the gatekeeper, "Have you ever committed a sin you truly regret?"
"Yes," the professor answered. "When I was a young candidate at the Hospital of Saint Lucas, we played soccer against a team from the Community Hospital, and I scored a goal, which was off-side. But the referee did not see it, and the goal won us the match. I regret that now."
"Well," said the gatekeeper. "That is a very minor sin. You may enter."
"Thank you very much, Saint Peter," the professor answered.
"You're welcome, but I am not Saint Peter," said the gatekeeper. "He is having his lunch break. I am Saint Lucas."

Bulletin reporter: Deidre Tome
Pics: Bob Martin
Keyway editor: David Gilbey