



Let's Help the Community Together



PRESIDENT: HELEN ROSE
SECRETARY: PENNY McNAUGHTON
BULLETIN EDITOR: GEORGE KONCZ

Theme 2023-2024
CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

www.cessnockrotary.org. PO Box 101 Cessnock NSW 2325

NEWSLETTER: 2ND JULY 2024

NEW ROTARY YEAR, NEW PRESIDENT HELEN ROSE



The 87th Cessnock Rotary Changeover from President Graham Rose to our new President Helen Rose. The board members remain very similar to the previous year. Helen is looking forward to her role as the President and we trust that we will have another successful Rotary year ahead. We have started the year with three resignations from the club but all other members are very keen to keep the club running full steam ahead. President Helen will chair her first meeting this Thursday and our members all give a vote of thanks to Graham Rose for his leadership in the previous Rotary year which was quite a huge success. We have a Planning Session in our next meeting, for our whole year agenda so that we are going to be far more organised than ever before. Well that's the plan of attack anyway.

# BIGGEST MORNING TEA



Last Friday morning the Rotary Club of Cessnock held the Biggest morning Tea at Marthaville Cottage in aid of the Cancer Council. We had Vicki Steep put in hours of preparation of so many tasty goodies. Penny and Elsie helped set up and cater along with three Friends of Rotary - Caroline, Liz and Lyn. We were all entertained by our good friend Ron Jackson on the keyboard with his mellow voice There were lots of raffle prizes and the overall Biggest Morning Tea went really well raising around \$850 for the Cancer Council.

# ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR 2024-2025

The Rotary Club of Cessnock are dedicated to addressing the diverse needs within our community through a variety of programs. We trust that those who apply for our assistance are genuinely entitled to benefit from these initiatives. Our commitment to service is founded on our principals of trust and respect for all individuals. We believe in the integrity of our community members and rely on an honour system to ensure that support reaches those who truly need it. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact and build a stronger, more inclusive community.

## THE BIKE PROJECT

The Rotary Club of Cessnock commenced a Bike Project in 2021, which aimed to provide bicycles that have been donated then repaired and serviced at no cost to children in the community whose families lack the financial means to purchase their own. This program grew to providing bicycles to any member of the community who needed one and didn't have the means to purchase their own. Through this initiative, we seek to promote accessibility, independence, and mobility for all members of our community, regardless of their socio-economic status or physical abilities. The Bicycle Project has been a cornerstone of our efforts to empower individuals and families in the Cessnock area. Over the past three years, we have distributed bicycles to community members in need, allowing them to commute, exercise, and explore their surroundings with ease. Building on the success of this program, we are now expanding our efforts to develop specialised bicycles for individuals with significant physical disabilities, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to experience the joy and freedom of cycling.

## SCONE TIME

In 2021 The Rotary Club of Cessnock initiated an ongoing program titled Scone Time aimed at fostering community spirit and support. This program offers a free morning tea, featuring freshly baked scones served with jam and cream, along with coffee or tea. It is specifically designed for those in the community who may be feeling lonely, isolated, or who are new to the area. Scone Time provides a warm and welcoming environment where community members can come together, socialise, and build connections. The program not only addresses social isolation but also helps newcomers integrate into the community. It serves as a platform for creating friendships and support networks.



**Both projects, The Bikes and Scone Time, are successful and helping different groups in our community**

# BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM

Breakfast and Lunch program commenced in 2021. Originally launched as a free lunch from our BBQ in an outdoor area, this initiative has significantly expanded due to its positive impact and growing demand. The program now includes a hot breakfast and a three-course lunch, hosted in the Uniting Church Community Hall. This venue provides a welcoming, café-like atmosphere, enhancing the dining experience. The primary objective of Breakfast Lunch is to support the most vulnerable members of our community, offering them not only nutritious meals but also a sense of dignity and belonging.

Achievements:

- The program has successfully grown from a simple BBQ lunch to a comprehensive meal service.
- The shift to the Uniting Church Community Hall has allowed for better accommodation and a more pleasant environment for attendees.
- The initiative continues to provide vital social support, helping to alleviate food insecurity and isolation among the community's most vulnerable.

Actions:

- Maintain and enhance promotional efforts to ensure those in need are aware of the program.
- Continue seeking volunteers and partners to support meal preparation, service, and clean-up.
  
- Explore opportunities for additional funding and resources to sustain and potentially expand the program further.



# PCYC WEEKLY BBQ

The Rotary Club of Cessnock began to support Cessnock PCYC in August 2023 with providing a free sausage sizzle on Friday evenings.

Regularly hosting the sausage sizzle enhances the Rotary Club's visibility in the community. It shows that the club is actively involved and invested in the community's well-being. This consistent presence helps build trust and strengthens the reputation as a reliable and caring organisation.

This initiative ensures that these young people receive at least one nutritious meal, which is vital for their physical health and well-being.

Events like these create positive memories for young people and their families. These memories can foster a lifelong appreciation for community service and the importance of giving back, potentially inspiring the next generation of volunteers and community leaders.

By continuing to support the PCYC with a free sausage sizzle on Friday evenings, the Rotary Club of Cessnock not only addresses immediate community needs but also fosters a positive, supportive environment that benefits all residents in the long term.



**President Helen Rose, Annette D'Adams, Vicki Steep and some other club members have supported this program from the beginning.**



Scone Time at Marthaville Cottage every Friday morning is a real success. We have Rotarians and Friends of Rotary who volunteer and provide an excellent morning tea with a huge smile.

## ROTARY CLUB OF CESSNOCK Inc. 2024 2025 Planning Meeting 4 July 2024

### AGENDA

1. President Helen to open the meeting
2. Overview of Club Goals and Objectives (15 minutes)  
Presentation by Club President on Vision for 2024-2025
3. Project Selection for 2024-2025 (45 minutes)  
Review of Ongoing Projects, Status Update on Current Projects  
Youth Support: Decision to continue or cease any or all ongoing programs and youth support initiatives  
New Project Proposals, Presentation of New Project Ideas by Members  
Selection of Key Projects to Support
4. Fundraising Strategy Development (45 minutes)  
Review of Past Fundraising Activities, Financial Summary of Fundraising Efforts from Previous Year  
Fundraising Goals for 2024-2025, Setting Financial Targets  
Fundraising Ideas and Planning, Brainstorming New Fundraising Ideas, Planning Major Fundraising Events (e.g., Trivia, Auctions, Charity Runs)
5. Closing Remarks (5 minutes) Summary of Key Decisions and Next Steps



Our new Sponsor, please welcome and support Jason Newberry when practical.

Our club is really fortunate to have so many sponsors and there is a growing support by some of the existing sponsors to take on the Major Sponsor position in the near future. There will be information regarding that soon.

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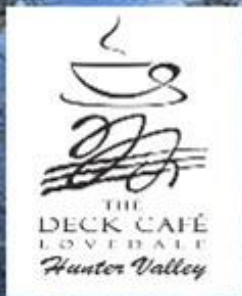
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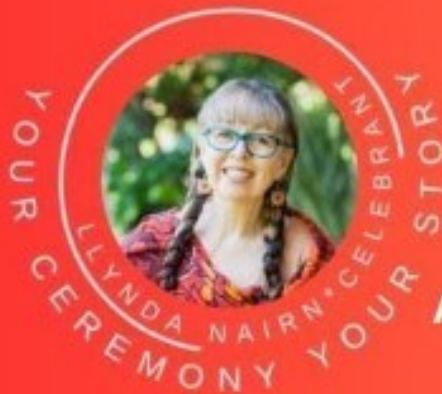
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