



# Woopi News

PO Box 436, Woolgoolga NSW 2456  
www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwoolgoolga  
woolgoolgarotaryclub.org.au  
woolgoolgaheritagewalk.org

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Club President  
Rod Mackenzie  
District Governor  
Alyn Miranda  
Rotary International  
President  
R Gordon R McNally

Meetings each month  
2nd & 4th Mondays  
6-8pm Woolgoolga C.ex

*We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gumbaynggirr people, the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters where we live, learn and work.*



## Vale Long time Member, past President and Recent Board Member, Richard H Matthews.

It was with deep sadness we learnt of Dick Matthews passing on 1 Jan 2024. Our Club gives grateful thanks for Dick's exemplary service. Dick worked tirelessly for the club right up until the last weeks of 2023. A Celebration of his life was held on Monday 15 Jan at the C.ex Club. President

### Vale Dick Matthews - A Life of Service



Richard 'Dick' Matthews passed away on 1 Jan 2024 at the age of 88 years. Dick was born in 1935 in the small community of Berrumbidgee, near Tumbarumba. Dick was a long time member of the Woolgoolga Rotary Club and was a past president.



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Rod's address there, and the article for Woopi News compiled and submitted by Bob Breen with input from others gives a more comprehensive outline of Dick's wonderful contribution to Rotary and our Woolgoolga community. You can read the full article in the **February Woopi News** either hardcopy or Online. (page insert on right) Thanks go to Bob and the contributors assisting him for a great compilation.

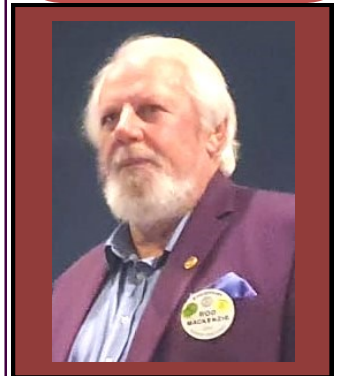
**NEXT MEETING : Monday 12 February 2024 6pm C.ex Club meeting Room**

At our Next meeting on Monday 12 February 2024, we plan to have **Troy Arvidson** a local resident of the Coffs Harbour area, who runs the FOOD FIX program. It provides meals for needy families. This fits the framework of supporting the homeless, which has been raised by members, as a community need and possible Rotary project. Troy will be telling us about the Sandy Beach P.S Breakfast Program. Troy is planning the initial trial of the School Breakfast program 'Aardvark's Breakfast Club' to start in March at Sandy Beach Primary School, with a vision to expand it to other schools. Troy recently started a voluntary Emergency Food Relief service called "Food Fix" and dedicates every Friday to delivering food to the homeless, families who are struggling to make ends meet and basically anyone doing it tough. Some of the food is donated by local businesses. The parents have often commented that they are sending their children to school without breakfast and with minimal lunch to eat. It seems to be a growing concern in our community. With this in mind, Troy is trying to assist families to ensure that kids are fed before school, hopefully making their learning experience a lot easier and enjoyable.



## Board & Officers

President: Rod  
Secretary: David F  
Ass Secretary: Alison  
Treasurer: Geoff  
Vice President: Kim  
President Elect: tba  
Community Services: all  
Youth: Mary  
Club admin & Public image: Pam F  
Membership: all  
Public Officer & TRF David F  
Bulletin: Mary  
Pride in Work: Bob  
Board: all other members



## Theme 2023-2024



Rotary International's 23/24 President  
Gordon R. McNally (from Scotland)

## LAST MEETING : 22nd January 2024

### Guest Speaker Lisa Nicholls

Lisa Nicholls from Woopi News, RUOK, Fluro Friday and our local Woolgoolga and Northern Beaches FB page was our guest speaker at the last meeting. Lisa gave us a background of her journey to Woolgoolga and the things she is now doing. She grew up and was schooled in the Clarence Valley, with an early goal to one day having her own magazine. Lisa left school early and got a job with the Daily Examiner. After a year Lisa moved to Sydney and worked at the Sydney Morning Herald. Working her way from the classifieds through the amusements (now the entertainment section) which she grew from one half page to 8 each week. Ultimately she ended up in the marketing department and worked across other publications in the SMH stable under great mentors. Her mother suicided in 1988 and over time this led Lisa to understand about issues with mental health and worked with Key Employment, Lifeline and doing the suicide prevention walk. Lisa started Fluro Friday which, for 7 years has met every Friday on Woopi Beach. She is the mid North Coast ambassador for RUOK and is the proprietor of Woopi News which she started in 2019. Her new project is Piiink which is a retail reward app offering discounts and rewards, including to charitable groups. Lisa is a great supporter of our Club and the community and was an entertaining guest speaker.



**Marine rescue markets.** President Rod has booked a site for the Feb, March and April at \$25 each market. This will be for our **Pop Up Retro Clothing Stall** and marketing Rotary and our projects. The sub-committee met (Bron, Michelle, Jenny, Peter and Rod). A stall at the Marine Rescue market on **10 February** has been booked. Goods are coming in and we have some donated raffle prizes. Approval of \$200 budget to cover start-up and miscellaneous expenses was given. Bronwyn gave an update at the club meeting: Plans are well underway with many items already donated to the cause. The site has been booked for Saturday 10 February. This is a trial run to test out the market

and viability of making this a regular event. Peter, Michelle and Kyle are organising a 'silent auction' in conjunction with the market stall. They have acquired generous donations totaling \$780, including a \$500 soft board with fins from XS Surf. There will also be a smaller raffle with tickets sold on the day. We are keen to promote Rotary and raise awareness of the local club's contributions to the community, so also on display at the market stall will be the DV Safe Phone box and information about the promotion, our Rotary banners and an information board with highlights of our community projects. A big thank you goes to Jenny, Michelle, Peter and Kyle for their great support and contributions.



### Mobile phones for those at risk of domestic violence.

The current Committee working on the grant is Alison Ratliff and David Fayle, and significant progress has been made already.

Rod has floated the idea of expanding the scope of the project. Additional team members would be welcome.



### MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend

Date	12 February Meeting	26 February Board/Club Meeting	11 March Meeting	25 March Board/Club Meeting
Reminders	Cex Wga Order meal by 6	4.30 Board then Order meal by 6	Cex Wga Order meal by 6	4.30 Board then Order meal by 6
Welcome/Fellowship	Michelle	David F	Jenny	Chris
Introduce Guest Speaker/s	Rod	Pam	Alison	Kyle
Vote of Thanks	Bob	Bron	David E	Kim
Guest Speakers or Event	Troy Ardvison	tba	tba	tba

### PROJECTS

- ◆ Water Purifier Mullaway PS
- ◆ Sewing Group
- ◆ DV Safe Phone
- ◆ Sleeping bags, tarps, blankets
- ◆ Men's Health Van (MHERV)
- ◆ Tutu desks
- ◆ Compost bins
- ◆ Power to the Kids



