Toowoomba Meeting 11/11/2019

Members Present   27
Apologies      9
Absent      6
Raffle Winner   71 - Unclaimed

Sergeant Andrew Tilly

Meeting opened at 6.05pm with The Four-Way Test – Read by Sergeant and members toast to “Rotary International”.

Welcome by President David Snow.
Welcome Guests: Malene & her parents.
Arthur Gillam, Trish & Blake Wilson, Terri Davis, Wendy Roberts

President Notices:
- Induction of Greg Johnson – introduced by Clive Armitage
- Greg provided a brief history including his time working with Alan Twiddle in optometry.
Directors Reports:
• No Reports

Secretary’s announcements:
• RYDA Christmas drinks – Thursday 28 November at “Zacks” Burke & Wills hotel from 5.30pm – all welcome,
• Thanks you letters received from “The Haven” $3,200 donation & Life Flight $44,000 donation.
• Christmas Party Sunday 15 December – invite resent – looking for confirmation and payment as soon as possible
Next meeting Monday 18 November Burke & Wills.

Sergeant’s Session:
• Notable fines: Ray French – 6th Great grandchild born today.

Guest Speaker – Malene Justesen.
Introduced by Chairperson Elizabeth Gillam.

Malene accompanied by her father a retired accountant who has a keen interest in farming and her mother who loves nature and enjoyed interacting with wallabies at the Bunya mountains.

Three years since Malene returned to Denmark – Completed a further two years of school on her return. Has not yet made up her mind what she wants to do at university so is working for her uncle who is a stone mason.

The exchange program had a big impact on Malene’s life – Provided a great deal of cultural understanding, self development and self confidence resulting in her returning a very much matured individual. These skills are helping in her current work with her uncle which requires travel to other countries to negotiate business terms – allowing her to communicate and present with confidence.

Fun facts – her jacket and badges collected around Australia weighed 2.5kg on return. She has retained her school uniform as her friends do not believe she had to wear a uniform to school. Biggest adjustment was Australian slang.

Malene encouraged the club to be involved again with an exchange student as it is a great experience and provides the individual with many lifelong benefits.

Presidents Announcements:
• David & Mark Norman to present $16,500 donation to Emerge Cafe this week – RTR2 funds (photo attached)
• Chris Clark, Errol Wildman & Mark Weaver to assist at RYDA
• Board Meeting updates:
  o Instagram account established to promote our club – please Tag “Rotary Club of Toowoomba”
  o Food van underutilized asset – On agenda for future – “How do we use better” Do we allow other clubs to use?

Meeting closed at 7.30pm with singing of the National Anthem.