



**Alison Perrott**  
President

## “Newcastle - See Change”

Refreshed and all fired up after my holiday in July, it was very satisfying to deliver a luncheon in August full of networking, a flurry of new members and two speakers with very different but no less fascinating stories.

Our local speaker was Scott Evans, whom I have personally known since 1999 when he was working on the launch of the Newcastle Stock Exchange in 2000. Scott is the General Manager and Company Secretary of what is now the National Stock Exchange of Australia, and Scott explained to members how the business has grown and how they differ from the Australian Stock Exchange. It is clear that the exchange provides options for business owners wanting to release equity to staff or looking for that all important succession plan. An exciting commercial venture with it's head office right here in Newcastle.

We had the pleasure of being introduced to Gordon Weiss, a self confessed cafe lizard, and “lover of global nether regions”, he is the very well travelled author of *The Cage* and who now lives in Newcastle. Gordon worked for the United Nations for twelve years and was very much entrenched in the Sri Lankan conflict with the Tamil Tigers. Tens of thousands of civilians perished along with many of the Tamil Tigers in 2009 and Gordon was compelled to write about the history and reveal the truth of these tragic events.

I for one was left searching my soul for how I could have had an opinion on the Tamil Tigers, which clearly now Gordon has highlighted was very misinformed. It was also somewhat humbling to appreciate the price countries can pay for the choices our leaders make and to be very grateful Australia and Newcastle are so highly developed.

Gordon currently divides his time between coffee and family life in Newcastle and international projects. He has been kind enough to offer members a signed copy to those who wish to buy a copy of the book, he can be contacted via email at: [gordonweiss@gmail.com](mailto:gordonweiss@gmail.com)

You may also be aware we surveyed members in July regarding our moment of reflection the club currently conducts before your meal is served. Traditionally this involved the religious saying of Christian Grace, moving with the times we asked whether members wished to continue this. Thank you for the large number of members that responded, as a consequence from next luncheon we will be moving to a non-religious moment of reflection. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank Reverend David Campbell for his 11 year service of saying Grace. His words I am sure have helped all of us reflect on others less fortunate.

Another change at the club is that Greg Valentine has stepped down as Senior Vice President for personal reasons. I would like to thank Greg for his support and contribution to the club and committee this year. Congratulations go to Tiron Manning who volunteered to undertake the role of Senior Vice President. If you are keen to do a networking spot please get in contact with Tiron, his details can be found on the back page of VISION.

Don't forget! Just a reminder that the awards are closing soon so if you have not nominated anyone please have a look at the details on our website.

I look forward to seeing you at the September luncheon.

With kind regards,

**Alison Perrott**  
2013 President



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# Upcoming speakers & events

## September Luncheon

Tuesday, 10 September  
12.15pm for  
12.45pm start – 2pm  
Harbourview  
Function Centre



Professor John Attia

### Professor John Attia HMRI

Professor John Attia is director of HMRI's CReDITSS (Clinical Research Design, IT, and Statistical Support) Unit, providing epidemiological, methodological and analysis services to a wide range of biomedical researchers. As a member of HMRI's Public Health and Neuroscience programs, he has personally developed high-level, multidisciplinary collaborations with renowned researchers within Australia and around the world.

More than \$12.4 million in funding has flowed from Professor Attia's self-initiated and collaborative grant applications and he has published over 250 peer-reviewed journal articles, garnering 2234 citations. In the past year alone, Professor Attia has published almost one publication per week. Five of the most recent articles appeared in the prestigious international journal Nature Genetics.

Canadian born, Professor Attia trained in clinical medicine at Ontario's McMaster University. He also obtained a BSc in Physiology, a MSc in Epidemiology, and a five-year MRC scholarship to complete his PhD in Molecular Genetics (Toronto).

Since arriving in Australia in 1999, Professor Attia has supervised or co-supervised 17 PhD students and six Master's students in Public Health. He also designed, developed and obtained funding for the advanced training program in General Medicine at John Hunter Hospital, the first formal program of its kind in the NSW.

### Chris Heverin Special Olympics

For twenty years now, Chris has been Managing Director of Initiative Marketing Pty Ltd, a major events and marketing consultancy headquartered in Melbourne. Initiative Marketing specializes in the delivery of strategic consultancy services, major events and marketing programmes and Chris has vast experience in delivering projects for across all Australia's major sports.

Since early 2011, Chris has been a director of Future Sport & Entertainment P/L in partnership with John Elliott. In 2000, he was responsible for delivering major Olympic Games hospitality and events programmes for Visy Industries, Athletics Australia and Basketball Australia. He has also successfully implemented successful international projects with the IAAF World Athletics Championships, Australian Men's and Women's Basketball Teams and with Baseball Australia and Major League Baseball. Chris has also been engaged by Cricket Australia, AFL Clubs Carlton, Western Bulldogs and Sydney Swans, Netball Australia and was the Event Director of the Australia Post Stawell Gift for seven years.

Chris is the Project Director of the Special Olympics 2013 Asia Pacific Games, which will bring together 32 nations from across the Asia Pacific region. Over 2,500 athletes and carers, 6,000 officials and supporters from overseas and interstate and 200,000 spectators will converge on the Newcastle-Hunter region for the duration of the Games.



Chris Heverin

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# Last month at the Club



L-R: Gordon Weiss, Alison Perrott, Scott Evans



L-R: Greg Valentine, Sally Coddington, Anna Bailey, Matthew Smith



L-R: Allan Brady, Ty Brennock, Tristan Hough



L-R: Dene Kilpatrick, Jacques Cronje



L-R: Kath Carnall, Lance Swansbra, Sonya Hughes



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# Newcastle Business Club Annual Awards

In 1975 Newcastle Business Club recognised that there were many organisations and individuals that were making significant contributions to the commonweal of this city.

That year, the Club decided to make an annual award to a business, organisation or an individual who during that year, made a significant contribution toward the improvement of industry, culture, education or sport for the citizens of the city of Newcastle.

At that time, the Newcastle Regional Art Gallery project was underway and the Club decided to make a presentation to the Art Gallery of a major work of art for its permanent collection. The Summerhouse, by Hilda Rix Nicholas (pictured right) was presented to the Art Gallery in 1977. It remains at our regional art gallery as one of the community's valued art pieces.



Since 1977, this Club has made one presentation each year to an impressive line-up of Novocastrian people and organisations. We place a print of the Hilda Rix Nicholas painting in the annual award presentation certificates.

**Nominations are now open and close on 15 September 2013. The winners will be announced at the November luncheon. To nominate, please contact [mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au](mailto:mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au)**

## Advertise with VISION

A benefit of membership of the Club is that members are able to advertise with VISION by placing an insert in the monthly magazine.

This insert is DL size and 400 copies must be provided to the Secretary no later than the second Tuesday of the month.

For only \$250 your insert will reach the entire membership of the Club.

For more information contact Junior Vice President Holly Martin on 0403 293 880 or [holly@justholly.com.au](mailto:holly@justholly.com.au)

## Keep up to date on the Club

Newcastle Business Club members can receive an eNewsletter highlighting the guest speakers for that month.

If you are not presently receiving these emails and would like to be added to the secure mailing list please send an email to [mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au](mailto:mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au)

## Networking at the Club

Networking sessions are available to financial members of Newcastle Business Club and are held during most luncheon meetings. Members are allowed 90 seconds to promote their business news to luncheon guests. For further information please contact Senior Vice President Tiron Manning on 0438 502 371 or [tiron@propertytsolutions101.com.au](mailto:tiron@propertytsolutions101.com.au)

# NEWCASTLE BUSINESS CLUB

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For further information and enquiries:

Speakers: President Alison Perrott, 4910 2400

Membership: Secretary Ron Scanes, 4954 3381

Vision: Holly Martin, 0403 293 880

[www.newcastlebusinessclub.com.au](http://www.newcastlebusinessclub.com.au)

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed by the contributors to this publication are not necessarily those of the Newcastle Business Club or its members.