



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc
District 9690, New South Wales, Australia



President Rod McDougall
Secretary Roger Vince
Editor Bob Templeman:
Email: regatta@bigpond.net.au

web: www.strathfieldrotary.org.au
email: info@strathfieldrotary.org.au
tel 02 9746 2424

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NOVEMBER IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

PRESIDENT'S VIEW

A very sincere welcome to our two newest club members. Welcome to Les Hockley and his wife Rhonda and to Godfrey Isouard and his wife Linda. Best wishes for a long and rewarding association with Rotary.

Last week we welcomed Ross Lewis, the chief executive officer of the Oncology Children's Foundation (OCF). The Foundation does amazing work through its support for basic research into the causes of children's cancer. OCF will be the primary beneficiary of our major fundraiser, to be held at Sydney Olympic Park next March. More soon from Allan Teale and Peter Harries..

At its meeting this week your board decided that the weekly fee paid by members would be reduced, and club dues increased by a corresponding amount. The weekly fee currently covers much more than the cost of meals and the surplus is used to cover other costs. The change will more equitably apportion costs across all members reducing the cost to those attending meetings. It is hoped that this will encourage attendance - by members, and their spouses, partners and guests.

The board also considered opportunities for improving fellowship within the club, in particular for involving partners and spouses, and we have some ideas for next year. Member thoughts and suggestions are welcome.

The RYDA project took a big step forward this week with approval in principal for use of the Sydney Olympic Park venue being gained from all parties. Keith Byrn will soon call for assistance in staging the first training event. With large numbers of school students and many practical driving tests involved, the day must be well planned and controlled. Please give Keith your support.

Thanks to Bradley Ayres, Peter Foss, Peter Harries, Harley Tarrant, Allan Teale and Bob Templeman who committed a significant part of a day this week to attending the RYDA session at Penrith.

Shirley del Prado has declared the barbecue fit for duty for Carols by Candlelight. Thanks to Keith Byrn, Janelle Watson and Arthur Crossan for registering, cleaning and restocking the unit.

This week's raffle comes to us courtesy of the efforts of Angelo Franco. My thanks to Angelo for assisting at extremely short notice.

Enjoy Rotary ... **by getting involved!**

President Rod

TO-NIGHT'S PROGRAM

Mrs Barbara Stone, AM

Principal MLC School

Introduced by **Allan Petersen**

Thanked by **Peter Foss**

CONGRATULATIONS

New Members

Godfrey Isouard

Partner: Linda

Classification: Medical Sciences

Les Hockley

Partner: Rhonda

Classification: Services

Birthdays

29/11/2006 Eric Khu

3/12/2006 Roger Vince

Wedding Anniversaries

30/11/2006 Allan & Kate Teale

Rotary Anniversaries

30 November 1983 – Terry Rohan

30 November 1999 – Bill Carney

30 November 1999 – Eve Dutton

30 November 1999 – Gurcharan Singh

1 December 1976 – Peter Manenti

1 December 1978 – Ross Brown

1 December 1994 – Keith Byrn

1 December 1989 – Paolo Giammarco

1 December 1989 – Sal Tosto

5 December 2001 – Arjun Jeganathan

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guest Speaker was Craig Hemer, Marketing Executive with ANZ Fresh Food Corporation, and was introduced by Roger Vince.

ANZ Fresh Food Corporation of Concord manufacture and distribute Robert Timms, Bushells and Pablo coffee brands. They also own the Café Bar business as well as retail coffee shops at Roselands, Erina and Tuggeranong.

The House of Robert Timms is one of the few remaining companies which roasts and blends fresh coffee in Australia and is the only company which provides coffee in all its forms from beans , through

roasted and ground, to soluble, freeze dried and pulverised.

In 600AD an Ethiopian goat herder noticed that his animals became frisky after feeding on a bush now known as the coffee bush. When people imbibed of a drink using the berries of this bush they exhibited the same 'friskiness' and coffee as a beverage was born.

Although first cultivated in Ethiopia, in the 16th century it was taken by the Dutch to SE Asia, and by others to South America and the Caribbean, and is now cultivated worldwide. It grows best in regions between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn at a height between 600 and 1800 metres. Brazil is the largest producer.

There are two basic varieties of coffee – Arabica is the premium variety which is used in expresso machines and Robusta which is found in instant coffee

The coffee market in Australia is worth \$840 million, the market leader in Australia is Nestles and annual consumption is 2.4 kilos per head & growing.

Coffee is the second highest traded commodity in the world after Oil.

Craig was accompanied by his chief Barista who provided all with a cup of freshly made coffee of their chief, and was thanked by Garry Pearce.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

☼ **A.G.M.** – The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 December. President Elect Brian Johnson wishes to maintain the tradition of our Club of having a strong and effective Board, and hopes that many members will consider accepting nomination for election.

☼ **Drought Relief.** Capt. Cheryl Barclay of the Salvation Army has spoken to President Elect Brian Johnson about the effects of the drought in the mid western area of NSW, in towns such as Forbes, Parkes, Eugowra and Condobolin. They are desperately short of financial resources to assist many families in need, especially with Christmas just around the corner.

Our Club has dedicated the proceeds of our Xmas Dinner evening on 13 December to this cause. Please invite your family and friends to attend and offer support. An auction (3 items) and a raffle will be held to raise funds, and donations will also be sought.

☼ **Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Program**

Last Monday 170 students from St Patrick's College, Strathfield attended a RYDA Program at the Aquatic Centre, Penrith. Strathfield Rotarians in attendance to support the program were DG Harley Tarrant, Bradley Ayres, Peter Foss, Peter Harries, Allan Teale & Bob Templeman.

The program targets "awareness" and "attitudinal change" and seeks to encourage young people, who are on the verge of driving or are actively thinking about it, to take a more responsible attitude to motoring.

The students were divided into six groups and each group attended six sessions in the day.

The subjects covered by each session were,

a) Stopping Distances, b) Hazard Perception, c) Safe Celebrating and Fatigue, d) Your Choice – Police, e) Accidents do Happen – Personal stories from road crash survivors, and f) Finance & Insurance. A great benefit to the students who attended and should be available to all students nearing driving age.

MEMBERS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Rick Collins, Richard Horwood Arjun Jeganathan, Anuradha Kamkolkar, Ted Ingall, Terry Rohan, John Watkins

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

6th December 2006 Strathfield Rotary Club
Annual General Meeting

13th December 2006 Strathfield Rotary Club
Christmas Party

20th December 2006 Children's Christmas Party

COMING EVENTS

Carols by Candlelight

Will be held in Strathfield Park on Saturday 9th December. Our Club will be selling programs and glo-sticks and organising the BBQ and a raffle. All proceeds will be donated to the Christmas drought relief fund.

Trish MS Foundation Golf Day

Thursday 15th February 2007

Strathfield Golf Club. 12 midday followed by Evening Dinner & Presentations.

The Rotary trailer has been refurbished and Ray Wilson and Niall King have begun filling it. This will be the major raffle to be drawn on 15 February 2007 for the Trish MS Foundation. Whilst Ray & Niall have undertaken to sell tickets at many sites in the district, support by our members would be appreciated. *Donations of GOODS &/ or MONEY to fill this major raffle are sought.*

District 9690 Conference

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Strathfield
16-18 March 2007 at Newcastle City Hall.

Remember this is our Conference and an opportunity to support District Governor Harley and Megan and ensure that it will be a Conference to remember

So - Hurry! – Get your conference registration in before 30 November, and claim your Early Bird discount.

ROTARY INFORMATION

Last week DG Harley Tarrant attended the Institute meeting of Australia Governors . The problem of what to do to help rural Australia was discussed. While no national or state-wide program was endorsed, a number of points were made by governors in rural areas.

1. Depression is now a major factor with some 4 suicides a day. The story was told of one desperate farmer who took his sheep to the abattoir which refused to take them because of their condition. He took them back to his farm, shot them then killed himself.
2. Farmers are generally reluctant to talk to counsellors and are proud people who don't readily accept charity.
3. While the provision of fodder may be useful in some areas, the primary problem now is lack of water. Many farmers cannot keep their stock, so the supply of fodder is a minor problem.
4. Offers of help such as Christmas gifts, food parcels etc. must be handled carefully so that there is an appearance of fairness.
5. Any relief efforts should be coordinated through the DG of the area. This can be done directly or through DG Harley.
6. Making direct contact with Rotary clubs can be a problem. Many Rotarians are also badly affected – but they would do their best to help others anyway.
7. It is best to provide money to farmers which can then be spent with local businesses, who are also suffering through lack of trade. Many now face the loss of their home and business.
8. The NSW Department of Primary Industries is coordinating relief efforts. We should contact Geoff Warr 02 6391.3591 or email: geoff.warr@dpi.nsw.gov.au
9. Also it was suggested that city clubs could arrange a free Community/family BBQ in a country town. Supplies could be purchased from businesses in the town, and Rotarians and their families could stay overnight, or for a weekend, which would further benefit the town.

Note: Our Club has already taken steps to provide relief through the Salvation Army for farmers and local businesses in communities in NSW Central West. (see Drought Relief Announcement above)



Providing medical equipment and research programmes for children with cancer, leukaemia and serious cancer related illnesses

● The Oncology Children's Foundation is a not-for-profit children's charity dedicated towards assisting children who have been diagnosed with cancer, leukaemia and other cancer related serious illnesses. We are a major fundraiser for the Oncology Research Unit at the Children's Hospital, Westmead.

Twenty years ago only three out of every ten children diagnosed with some form of cancer survived, now seven out of every ten survive. Unfortunately that means that one in every four still die. Through funding vital medical equipment and research programs we aim to provide these children with the greatest gift of all, the gift of life.

● The Oncology Children's Foundation, while still a young fledgling not-for-profit children's charity, is indirectly responsible for major advancements into treatments and cures for childhood cancer related illnesses. Our cause is so significant that our major objective is now focused towards increasing awareness in the marketplace and therefore encouraging increased support across all levels of society.

We hope that this will result in fast tracking even further advancements and therefore provide our children with every possible opportunity to lead long & enjoyable lives.

Through a mix of redirection and increasing the quantity of revenue streams we have already experienced an escalation of awareness and expect that this will continue over the next few years.

Recently conducted independent research (UNSW) into the general community's attitude towards charities and their supporters was very encouraging. Major findings into why people would be influenced to support a charity were if; the charity was a children's one, it was a preventative charity and how accountable the charity was to it's supporters.

With this in mind, through negotiations and forming alliances we are at the cutting edge of some very significant fundraising and marketing initiatives not yet seen in Australia.