



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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JULY IS NEW ROTARY OFFICERS' MONTH

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

During 2010-11 it is hoped that we will be able to finalise some slightly overdue procedural housekeeping.

Strategic Plan: a 3 year plan and vision, encompassing such matters as membership retention and recruitment, club direction, community participation and creating significant projects etc. Strategic planning is seen by RI as an integral component in ensuring the revitalisation and growth of Rotary both locally and internationally. Our club's goals will of course need to align with those of the district and RI Strategic Plan. Some early work has been done in drawing up a Strathfield Plan and PP Rod McDougall has offered to "fine Tune" it and to bring it back to the club for adoption within the next few months.

Club's Constitution and By-Laws: Due to the constitutional changes (which came into effect on 1 July 2010) made at the recent RI "Council on Legislation" it will be necessary for both our constitution and by-laws to be amended. One of these changes involves the inclusion of the club's Immediate Past President as a member of the club's board. There are other minor (and previous) amendments that have made our documents out of kilter with the RI Constitution. It is imperative that our by-laws and constitution "must be in harmony with the standard Rotary Club Constitution"

It has been suggested that it may be best to totally delete our old constitution, prepare, adopt and file a new one, with the Department of Fair Trading, which would comply with the current RI requirements. Secretary Roger, in consultation with PDG's Harley and David, will "drive" this matter forward.

Our last week's speaker, Rick Brown, gave us a great insight to education in Uganda. It was inspiring that despite their extreme poverty the parents still made huge sacrifices so that their children received the education they were perhaps denied. My thanks to Jan Barrett for her contribution on the evening.

Our guest speaker this evening is Johns Williams who will speak to us about "The Leaving of Liverpool" – and of his experiences while starting life in 1947 in Australia as a Barnardos child. John is a member and PP of Liverpool Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow and has a life time of service to the community to share with us tonight. Please make John welcome.

President Pete

TONIGHT'S MEETING

Leaving of Liverpool

John Williams

Introduced by Allan Teale

Thanked by Allan Petersen

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays

28/07/2010

Anuradha Kamkolkar

29/07/2011

Joseph Kim

1/08/2010

Pam Singh

2/08/2010

??

3/08/2010

Joanne Slater

Wedding Anniversaries

NIL

Rotary Anniversaries

NIL

LAST MEETING'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Rick Brown who has worked as a volunteer for a Ugandan School for 10 years. He was introduced by Peter Van der Sleen.

Rick Brown spoke to us about "Schooling in Uganda". Rick first visited Uganda in 1993. He returned again in 1998 and 1999. In 2000 he accepted a redundancy offer from his public service position in Australia and has been in Uganda since then. In Uganda there can be up to 100 students in a class. Whilst most children attend primary school not many attend secondary school. Rick saw the need for a secondary school and obtained funds to buy 17 acres of land. The school is about 30 kilometers from Kampala.

The local culture does not place much importance on girls completing secondary school. They are encouraged to get married and have children whilst still of school age.

The school aims to provide:

- education
- spiritual guidance
- vocational skills.

Meals are provided for children attending the school and medicine is provided if required.

Donations are important for meeting these expenses, paying the teachers and developing facilities for the students. At present it is planned to put in some sport's fields. The school does take in boarders. The money received from the boarders helps to meet the school's running costs. The school was visited in 2007 by a group from SCEGGS who have set up a scholarship scheme and who assist the school greatly. The school has set a goal of becoming self sufficient eventually so that it does not have to rely on donations to keep running.

Rick was thanked by PDG Harley Tarrant.

Last Meeting's Statistics

Attendance	32
Apologies	8
Attendance	57%
Raffle	\$215.00

Raffle Winners

Godfrey Isouard, Peter van der Sleen, Angelo Franco

Sergeant \$108.05

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

28th July 2010

Leaving of Liverpool

John Williams

Introduced by Allan Teale Thanked by Allan Petersen

4th August 2010

Westpac – Back to Basics

David Martin

Introduced by Kevin Freund Thanked by Peter Smith

11th August 2010

Literature Extension Program

“Strathfield Girls High School”

Partners Welcome

Introduced by Paul White Thanked by Peter Smith

18th August 2010

Police Officer of the Year Awards

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Peter Smith

- **GUIDE HALL HUT** – President Peter advised that the Strathfield Council has accepted responsibility for organizing the fixing the roof problems which are priced at \$16000.

From Darrell Slater (Club Service)

- Advised that Programme is well underway but if any member had a prospect for a Guest Speaker, please send detail to Darrell.Slater@ae.salvationarmy.org.
- Also the 25th August will be a visit to the Ryde TAFE. Commitment sheet next meeting

From Ian Johnson (International Service)

- Paolo advised that the GSE Team Leaders have been chosen for the two outward bound teams leaving in February 2011 for Taiwan and the Philippines. Applications for team members close on 13 August 2010. Shelterbox in Australia is to launch on Saturday 31st July 2010 at Dundas.

From Ray Wilson

- Golf Day on 26th August and District Golf Championships on 26th October. Please invite Golfing friends and associates to join with us

From Godfrey Isouard

- National Youth Science Forum District 9690 Selection Update

As a member of the District NYSF panel, I attended the applicant review meeting on 22 July. The Strathfield club has one applicant who has now advanced to the District Selections stage which will be held on Sunday 1 August. On that day we will select 15 students to participate in the 2011 NYSF.

Dear All at Rotary Club of Strathfield,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$2000 to The School of St Jude's 2010 Student Appeal to help us 'Keep that Motor Running'! Your kind donation is helping us pay for fuel for our buses and generators – this is a very important purchase for our busy school, so thank you! In the eight years since our opening in 2002, our numbers have risen from three students and two staff members to more than 1300 students and 300 local staff members! Each year we enrol between 150 and 180 new students beginning in Prep or Standard/Class 1. We now have three campuses, including two primary campuses and one secondary campus with boarding accommodation. The growth of the school has been incredible and we are so proud to be a part of creating positive futures for these Tanzanian children.



Knowing the opportunity they have been given – a completely free education – our students all work tremendously hard. Many children would otherwise not be able to attend school at all as expenses like books, uniforms, transport and food are inescapable in the public system and many parents simply cannot afford to send their children to school. At St Jude's, we provide our students with everything they need to complete each school year, including school supplies, uniforms, nutritious lunches and morning teas, and transport to and from school on one of our 20 colourful buses.

We currently have approximately 1300 students and 300 local staff members travelling on our buses to and from the St Jude's campuses, Moshono and Usa River, from within a radius of approximately 60 kilometres. Access to school buses means our students are no longer required to leave home before sunrise to walk a long and, at times, unsafe journey to school. Arriving by bus also means that when school starts at 8:30am, the students are still energetic, fresh and ready to begin their day.

Each day more than 2000 bumpy kilometres are collectively travelled by our 20 buses, with the first one departing at 5:30am each school day for the long journey to Ngarenanyuki through Arusha National Park and back to school. Standards 1 to 3 ride the buses to and from home every day and on Sundays and Fridays the boarding students (Standards 4 and above) also need to be transported home and back to school again.

On Fridays, several buses make more than one trip just to get everyone home!

There's no time to rest during school hours either, instead our buses are making trips to the local markets or into Arusha town to collect fresh produce, school equipment, building materials, transporting students and teachers on excursions, collecting visitors and groups or making deliveries between the two campuses. On Saturdays they're transporting local staff and then on Sundays they head out in the afternoon to collect our boarding students – they work hard! They also use A LOT of diesel!

Diesel is also used to supply the school's three generators. In Tanzania it is common to have regular and often prolonged power cuts, which can cause a disturbance to the school's everyday activities. However, when the power cuts out, the generators kick in and lights and computers come back on, classes continue, the cooks/cleaners can continue with their work because water pumps can function, staff communication between departments and campuses is only momentarily disrupted and no one is left waiting hours for the power to return.

Next time you pass a petrol station, imagine the cost of filling 20 school buses and a number of jerry cans, as well as powering these three generators! Fuel is The School of St Jude's greatest monthly expense at approximately USD \$18,000, which as you can imagine keeps growing with the increase of world oil prices.

As we continued to grow over the years, it started to make a lot more sense to have our own onsite fuelling station; saving travel time, fuel expenses (over-inflated taxes) and removing an otherwise complicated fuel purchasing system. Thanks to the help of generous supporters like you, in July last year, we were able to purchase and install a 10,000L tank at our Moshono Campus at a total cost of USD \$10,400. Having the tank on campus saves us approximately USD \$550 per month and a lot of inconvenience!

Your kind donation in response to our 2010 Student Appeal is now helping cover our never ending fuel expenses; including fuel for our buses and the generators. You can't imagine how much all of us here at St Jude's appreciate your donation and support. Without fuel, our school would not be able to operate. Your donation is literally helping us to keep moving!

Thank you again for your wonderful contribution. Thank you for standing with us in our fight against poverty.

Best wishes,

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

For Lexophiles

From Peter Smith

A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.
A will is a dead giveaway.
Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.
A backward poet writes inverse.
In a democracy, it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, it's your Count that votes.
A chicken crossing the road: poultry in motion.
If you don't pay your exorcist, you can get repossessed.
With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.
When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine was fully recovered.
A grenade fell onto a kitchen floor in France resulted in Linoleum Blownapart.
You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
Local Area Network in Australia: The LAN down under.
He broke into song because he couldn't find the key.
A calendar's days are numbered.
A lot of money is tainted: 'Taint yours, and 'taint mine.
A boiled egg is hard to beat.
He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
A plateau is a high form of flattery.
The short fortune teller who escaped from prison: a small medium at large.
Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.
When you've seen one shopping centre, you've seen a mall.
If you jump off a Paris bridge, you are in Seine...
When she saw her first strands of grey hair, she thought she'd dye.
Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.
Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
Acupuncture: a jab well done.
Marathon runners with bad shoes suffer the agony of de feet.
And might I add...It is better to have loved a short woman than never to have loved a tall.

The Living Will

From Grahame True

Last night, my friend and I were sitting in the living room and I said to her, 'I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.'
So she got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out my wine.....She's such a bitch.

Free Kittens

From Angelo Franco

A pretty little girl named Suzy was standing on the sidewalk in front of her home. Next to her was a basket containing a number of tiny creatures; in her hand was a sign announcing FREE KITTENS.
Suddenly a line of big black cars pulled up beside her. Out of the lead car stepped a red headed woman, grinning.
"Hi there little girl, I'm the new Prime Minister Gillard. What do you have in the basket?" she asked.
"Kittens," little Suzy said.
"How old are they?" asked Gillard.
Suzy replied, "They're so young, their eyes aren't even open yet."
"And what kind of kittens are they?"
"Labor Supporters," answered Suzy with a smile.
Gillard was delighted. As soon as she returned to her car, she called her PR chief and told him about the little girl and the kittens.
Recognizing the perfect photo op, they agreed that the prime minister should return the next day and in front of the assembled media, have the girl talk about her discerning kittens.
So the next day, little Suzy was again standing on the sidewalk with her basket of "FREE KITTENS" when another motorcade pulled up, this time followed by vans from ABC, Channel 7, SBS, Ten & Nine.
Cameras and audio equipment were quickly set up, then Gillard got out of her limo and walked over to little Suzy.
"Hello, again," she said, "I'd love it if you would tell all my friends out there what kind of kittens you're giving away."
"Yes," little Suzy said. "They're Liberal Supporters."
Taken by surprise, the prime minister stammered, "But.. But. Yesterday, you told me they were Labor Supporters."
Little Suzy smiled and said, "I know. But today, they have their eyes open."