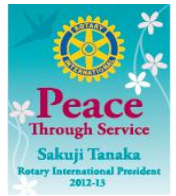




# STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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Secretary **Joe Saad**  
Treasurer **Peter Smith**  
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Bulletin Printed By **Selectprint**

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Wednesday, July 4, 2012

## July is New Rotary Officers Month



### RAY'S PUTTS



**Good Attendance!**

**Great Company!**

**What else is necessary for a successful Change Over?**

Congratulations to Trevor for an excellent year as our President. We appreciated all the time and effort you and your supportive board contributed to our Rotary Year for 2011- 2012.

The two Paul Harris Fellows that were awarded to PP Trevor Duxbury and Lesley Smallwood were well deserved by both recipients; congratulations to you both.

Rod McDougall received a sapphire pin as an acknowledgement for many years of hard work and diligence to the ideals of Rotary. The Service Above Self Award to Peter Smith was an appropriate recognition to a conscientious Rotarian.

Thank you to the forty Rotarians, partners and friends for attending, you all certainly contributed to the success of the evening.

*President Ray*

## TONIGHT'S MEETING

### Job Talk

David Martin

## CONGRATULATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

4 Jul Sue Byrn

### ANNIVERSARIES

2 Jul Eric and Pauline Khu

### ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Jul Grahame True

## BowelCare Program

Rotary's BowelCare (formerly BowelScan) has asked District to support their request that Bowelcare become a recognised Rotary Program. In order for it to become a Rotary program it requires the support of at least two districts with each having a majority of two-thirds majority in the district supporting it. Time is of the essence now with the first opportunity for clubs to meet face to face being the next meeting in 2012-2013. Each Club is asked to vote YES or NO in support of the BowelCare Program becoming a Rotary Project.

## The Strathfield Rotary Board for 2012-2013



**Rod Rimes, Peter Smith (Treasurer), Niall King, Anuradha Kamkolkar, Joe Saad (Secretary), Ray Wilson (President), Suzanne Freund (President-Elect), David Martin, Allan Teale,**

*President Ray*



## The Inner Wheel Club of Sydney Inner West Changeover Dinner

Strathfield Rotary has been invited to the changeover dinner of the Inner Wheel Club of Sydney Inner West, to be held Wednesday 25 July 2012. Current president, Maureen Haywood, will handover to incoming president Julie Yates. Maryanne Franco is a member of the club and would be delighted if other Strathfield Rotary partners were able to attend. Members are also invited, although the dinner clashes with our club meeting on the same night. The evening presents an excellent opportunity for partners considering membership of Inner Wheel to learn more about the organisation and the Sydney Inner West Club. Details of the dinner are as follows:

25 July 2012 @ 6:30 for 7:00 pm

Club Five Dock, 66 Great North Road Five Dock

Cost \$50 per person for three course meal (Drinks available at club bar prices). RSVP 16 July 2012

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## FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

DATE	PRESENTATION
11/07/2012	<i>Club Assembly</i>
18/07/2012	<b>Cathy Jones</b> <i>The History of Strathfield</i>
25/07/2012	<i>DG's Visit and Job Talk</i>
1/08/2012	<b>Tony Burke</b> <i>Local Member</i>
8/08/2012	<b>Club Debate</b> <i>Club Members</i>
15/08/2012	<i>Murray Stone</i>
22/08/2012	<i>Police Officer of the Year</i>
19/09/2012	<b>The Ambassador Restaurant</b> <i>Ryde TAFE</i>

### CLUB STATISTICS (from Club Changeover 29/06/2012)

<b>Attendance:-</b>	<b>38 members</b>
<b>Partners:-</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Apologies:-</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Non-Apologies:-</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LOA:-</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>85'ers:-</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Guests:-</b>	<b>43</b>

<b>Raffle</b>	<b>\$1425.00</b>
<b>Sergeant</b>	<b>\$ 142.00</b>

### The Taylor's World Cruise Issue 10 (Abridged)

**Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup> Athens Greece.**

We arrived in Piraeus, the port city for Athens, and immediately took a tour because as it turned out we were leaving early afternoon. As we had been to Athens before and we had seen the Parthenon and the Greek museum, and shopped in the Plaka we decided instead to visit the new Parthenon museum that has been built just below the Acropolis complex.' This new mightily impressive museum built solely to display artifacts from the site has glass floors revealing excavations still taking place below the museum site. The upper floor is modeled on the floor plan of the Parthenon itself, complete with friezes, statues (including a partial plaster reproduction of the "Elgin marbles" currently in the British museum) The museum gives an excellent view of the Parthenon itself, the only disappointment being the continued presence of scaffolding and cranes, and the apparent slow progress of restoration of buildings. While doing some shopping later we also noticed the number of closed shops, and shops having significant sales. We also had a passionate explanation from our guide that the average Greek worker was diligent and hard working and all their current problems were caused by the "Euro" and the politicians. Denise and I had more favorable impressions of Athens this trip and a greater level of respect for the Greek people.

**Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday June 25<sup>th</sup> Venice.**

We sailed into the Venice Lagoon on Saturday and observed the incredibly complex and expensive flood gates that they will hope will flood proof the city in winter. Venice is truly one of the most beautiful cities in the world to enter, with our massive ship dominating the skyline as it sails down the canal into our berth. We embarked straight from the ship into a small ferry and visited the two nearby islands of Murano and Burano. Murano is famous for its beautiful glassworks, including jewelry, vases, dish ware and amazing sculptures. Burano is famous for its exquisite lace products, and the most amazing variety of colours in its buildings. In the late afternoon Norm and Sandy joined us for a walking tour and a superb simple dinner of really genuine spaghetti and meatballs, complete with a bottle of cold Lambrusco (sparkling Italian red wine). On Sunday Denise and I did some shopping and touring, particularly enjoying the incredible view from the Rialto Bridge, and admiring the wonderful character and ambience of this "museum city". We were interested that the Chinese have now established a strong retail presence in Venice, paying more than the locals and establishing their own clothing and shoe shops. Certainly from my viewpoint I did feel the shops had a sameness about them. How many tourist shops do you need selling Murano glass and decorated masks? The sail away from Venice was equally spectacular with our high position affording us an excellent view over the buildings and canals, including all those leaning clock towers.

**Tuesday June 26<sup>th</sup> Dubrovnik**

Our friends Miroslav and Sherida sailed the Adriatic coast last year and raved about the bright blue water and amazing scenery. Now I understand why. Sailing into Petka, the port city of Dubrovnik was an amazing experience with bright blue water contrasting with the craggy rock cliffs, the light coloured houses and the uniformly orange tiled roofs. The town viewed from the ship was beautiful. We took a bus into the old walled medieval city which was a wonderful experience, and we even walked the high and steep city walls, before exploring the beautiful churches, monasteries and shops in the old town. Dubrovnik is famous for its embroidery and Denise picked up some nice examples of it. Interestingly Dubrovnik was heavily shelled in the 90's Balkan wars with many buildings destroyed. Thankfully because of its world heritage status the city has been completely restored to its original glory.

**Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup> At sea**

During our day at sea we passed through the busy straits of Messina, which separates Italy and Sicily. A really interesting sight was a new Autostrada that had been built in from the coast away from the towns. This road was a real feat of engineering with substantial tunnels integrating with long viaduct and suspension bridges cutting straight through the coastal mountain range. Later in the evening we sailed close by the island of Stromboli, an active volcano. In the time we spent passing we witnessed three mini eruptions complete with smoke and dark lava plumes flowing down the mountain. Amazingly there are two villages on the island, one at either end, away from the central lava flow. I can tell you straight it would be close to the last place on earth I would like to live.

**Thursday June 28<sup>th</sup> Naples**

Thursday morning we arrived in Naples and as we had already toured Pompeii and the Amalfi coast we opted to tour the island of Capri, about 50 minutes off the coast by hydrofoil. Capri is an amazing island dominated by two central mountains, with some flat areas around some of the coast. You arrive at Marina Grande and then take the "Mamma mia" road up to the first level, which is Capri township and then travel up VERY NARROW WINDING ROADS further up to Anacapri. Why the "mamma mia road you ask. Well when you are driving along the cliff face with a mad Italian driver, you have other traffic coming at you head on and you then look straight down about 500 metres or so, you easily say "mama mia" or words to that effect. Anacapri was beautiful and cooler with nice affordable shops, a beautiful villa and gardens to explore and a chairlift, which we took, up to the peak of Mt Solaro which gave superb views over the island. After leaving Anacapri we drove down to Capri where we had a nice lunch in a very splendiferous hotel, undoubtedly home to the young and rich judging by the poolside parading, before doing some more shopping (looking really because this is the Italian version of Rodeo Drive in LA). We returned to Marina Grande via a funicular (steep railway) and then boarded our ferry home, which unfortunately was not air conditioned in the hot afternoon sun resulting in two very tired and hot people. The weather has been very hot in Greece and Italy with most days being from 32-36 deg.C (and up to 40deg.C) and with high humidity very uncomfortable and physically draining, certainly for me. Both of us have absolutely had the delays encountered in ships tours, with too talkative, too much detail guides, and interminable waiting. Yes I'm sorry but today is a whinge day, and yes I know its summer in Europe, and yes I am aware it's been freezing in Sydney.

**Friday June 29<sup>th</sup> Civitavecchia (Port for Rome)**

Today is a public holiday in Rome (St Peter and St Paul day) so much of Rome was closed, and as a consequence of our ordinary day on Thursday decided we would have a transport free day. We went into Civitavecchia for the morning exploring a real town with real shops and markets, not just tourist shops like we had experienced in Capri, Venice and to a certain extent Dubrovnik. We rested and recuperated in the afternoon ready for the Cinque Terra tomorrow, Monaco on Sunday, and Barcelona Monday. Europe apart from being bloody hot has been crowded and our itinerary very busy. All the best as always

*Steve and Denise*

## HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

### *The Alien*

*A woman pulls into a gas station at night to get some gas. She notices a spaceship parked in front of her. She also sees an alien standing there pumping gas into his spaceship. Alongside the spaceship are printed the letters U.F.O. While waiting for her turn to pump gas she decides to ask the alien a question. "Do the letters U.F.O. stand for Unidentified Flying Object," she questions. "No," answers the alien. They stand for Unleaded Fuel Only."*