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**Wednesday, 29 January 2014**

**APOLOGIES OR GUESTS : Phone: 9746 0397 (Eric Khu)**  
**(Before 4pm Tues): Email: [brontin@bigpond.com](mailto:brontin@bigpond.com)**  
**6.15 p.m. for 6.30 p.m.**

## ***January is Rotary Awareness month - emphasising the importance of Rotary information to club members and awareness of Rotary in the community.***

### **Tonight's Meeting**

**Alan Mclean -**

#### **Splice the Mainbrace**

For hundreds of years rum has played many roles in society - it remains the beverage of celebration - it has been an integral part of powerful navies of the world, a sedative for childbirth, a means of motivating soldiers into battle, anaesthesia prior to surgical procedures, a substitute system of currency, a preventative for vitamin C deficiency disease, an integral part of the life of British aristocracy, a medium of "contra" for infrastructure developments by underfunded Colonial governments. Splice the Mainbrace is about historical facts, anecdote and tall tales.

### **A Note from the President**

I would like to welcome everyone back from the Christmas break and express the hope that we can work together during this year to continue to build our community connections, identify worthwhile projects and work towards raising the funds to contribute to the Strathfield community.

We started off with a successful social function at the Croquet, and Peter Smith has successfully finalised a grant towards our Graffiti Removal Project.

The enthusiastic committee is working on the establishment of a Strathfield Music Festival, and we will keep you up-to-date on this.

The Graffiti Removal requires a commitment from a team of Rotarians as the project will operate every three weeks throughout this year and I would sincerely appreciate some support with the fundraising committee as we look for achievable ideas that utilise our skills but also acknowledge our limitations. Please speak to me directly.

*Suzanne*

### **Last Week**

Domini Stuart, another great speaker, who shared some of her life experience for the benefit of members present.



**Domini with Rotarian Janelle Watson**

## Announcements Last Week

Peter Manenti advised that the clothing contribution package to Zambia had arrived. The letter below was sent to Peter from Zambia.



After sorting the clothing into age brackets and sizes, our guidance counsellor- Mrs. Chikwedzero began distributing the smaller items to Baby Class 1. Everyone got one item that matched their size.

We then moved into baby class 2. Here twins got matching dresses and the smaller hats were distributed much to the amusement of the other children!

After further sorting the larger items we began to provide clothing to the Grade 1 class. Here the teachers also helped control

the excitement for a fair distribution of clothing. The children were very happy!

Our last class was Grade 2- we still had enough items left to give everyone in the class something to take home with them. The larger items were distributed that afternoon to the grades 7 and above. The small baby items were left in the care of Mrs. Chikwedzero who will distribute them via the children with young babies in the family home.

A few items were kept aside for our village tour guides' family- Mabvuto. Finally-your lovely letter was placed in the photo board we built within the school grounds so all could see who provided the items and appreciate the kindness and effort made by yourselves.

We thank you immensely for your generous support.

A great and successful donation towards a wonderful school and thankful and appreciative children.



MEETING STATISTICS	22 January 2014
Members present	23
Partners	0
Guests	1
Leaves of Absence	0
Apologies	9
No apologies	16
Make-Ups	0
Raffle	\$170.00
Sergeant-at-Arms	\$88.35

**Congratulations to those who have birthdays and anniversaries during the next week:**

#### **Birthdays**

4 February Romolo Adorna  
5 February Ted Ingall

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

30 January Anne & Peter Manenti  
Pat & Paolo Giammarco  
1 February Marlene & Peter Smith

#### **Rotary Anniversaries**

1 February Charles Pitt, Tony  
Lanzafame and  
Rod McDougall

#### **FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS**

Date	Topic
5/2/2014	Club Assembly
12/2/2014	WestConnex What does it all mean to Strathfield? - Faye Woodward
19/2/2014	All about the Australian Museum -Lynne Cairncross
26/2/2014	TBA
5/03/2014	Disability, where we are today & why – Betty Stampoulis-Lyttle
12/3/2014	W.C. Wentworth - Andrew Tink

#### **FUTURE CLUB EVENTS**

Date	Event
1/3/2014	District Conference - Homebush
1 – 4 June 2014	Rotary International Convention



## SHIFT2014

new thinking | new technologies | new opportunities

#### **District 9675 Conference**

**Sydney Olympic Park, 1 March 2014** will be a POWERHOUSE of business advice and tools that can be implemented immediately - in your projects and your business all for \$325.00.

#### **THE FORMAT IS FAST PACED:**

16 Remarkable speakers  
4 Essential business success areas  
1 Opportunity for extraordinary insights, powerful inspiration and practical tools needed to survive and thrive in our ever-changing, global & online environment.  
HURRY! There are a limited number of tickets are available for the EXCLUSIVE Rotary District Breakfast and to the Networking Cocktail Party at the close of the conference.  
We are in the midst of a redefinition of the way organisations function, connect with their customers and create profit.  
This new world of opportunity requires us to rethink what we do and how we do it.

SHIFT2014 presents a one day POWERHOUSE of inspirational content from 16 of Australia's best thinkers, creators, innovators and doers.

MC Melissa Doyle will guide the day featuring Myer's Bernie Brookes, our new Governor-General Peter Cosgrove, ABC TV The Gruen Transfer's Dan Gregory, economist Ross Greenwood, Forbes Magazine's #5 social media influencer Gihan Perera and other talented individuals.



## **Rotary announces president for 2015-16; first Sri Lankan ever to lead organization**

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EVANSTON, Ill., USA (Dec. 23, 2013) — K.R. “Ravi” Ravindran, a business leader from Colombo, Sri Lanka, will be the 105<sup>th</sup> president of Rotary International – a global network of 1.2 million volunteers dedicated to tackling the world’s most pressing humanitarian challenges. Ravindran, a member of the Rotary Club of Colombo, will begin his one-year term on 1 July 2015 as the first Sri Lankan to hold Rotary’s highest office. Ravindran says a top priority will be to strengthen clubs by attracting men and women committed to improving communities worldwide through volunteer service. From supporting local food pantries to providing clean water in remote villages, Rotary clubs join forces to carry out impactful and sustainable projects at home and abroad. And Rotary members often are both first-responders and re-builders when major disasters strike, because Rotary clubs are present in every corner of the world. After the devastation of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, Ravindran led Rotary’s recovery efforts by helping to raise US\$12 million to rebuild 22 schools, enabling nearly 15,000 children to resume their studies. “The tsunami could take away schools, homes, possessions, and even loved-ones, but it would never be allowed to take away the spirit of children,” said Ravindran. Ravindran was also involved in many other tsunami-related projects in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, and Thailand that were supported by Rotary’s Solidarity in South Asia Fund for long term recovery. Rotary clubs around the world contributed nearly US\$6 million to the fund. The projects include housing developments, orphanages, water and sanitation systems, solar oven technology, community-based credit

unions, health centers, and the replacement of destroyed fishing trawlers.

As president, Ravindran will oversee Rotary’s top humanitarian goal of eradicating the paralyzing infectious disease polio. In 1988, Rotary helped launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the WHO, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Since then, Rotary club members worldwide have contributed more than \$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to the polio eradication effort.

Overall, the annual number of new polio cases has plummeted by more than 99 percent since the 1980s, when polio infected about 350,000 children a year. Only 223 new cases were recorded for all of 2012. More than two billion children have been immunized in 122 countries, preventing five million cases of paralysis and 250,000 deaths. Polio today remains endemic in only three countries, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan, although “imported” cases in previously polio-free areas – such as the Horn of Africa -- will continue to occur until the virus is finally stopped in the endemic countries.

As Sri Lanka’s chair of Rotary’s polio eradication efforts, Ravindran led efforts to eradicate polio from Sri Lanka. His country became one of the first in Asia to become polio-free in Asia. The PolioPlus task force which he headed consisted of representatives from Rotary, UNICEF and the Sri Lankan government. The partnership successfully negotiated a ceasefire with the northern militants to allow polio immunizations to continue during scheduled National Immunization Days.

Ravindran is founder and CEO of Printcare PLC, a publicly listed company and global leader in the tea packaging industry. He also serves on the board of several other companies and charitable trusts. He is the founding president of the Sri Lanka Anti-Narcotics Association, the largest antinarcotics organization in Sri Lanka. A Rotarian since 1974, Ravindran has served Rotary as a director and treasurer of Rotary International and as a trustee of The Rotary Foundation. He has been awarded The Rotary Foundation’s Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award and the Service Award for a Polio-Free World.