



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

Rotary

Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

16th-August-2017

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Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

Month of August	Rotary	Membership and New Club Development Month
Weeks of August	Australia	National Science Week (12 th – 20 th August)
	Australia	Be Medicinewise Week (21 st August – 27 th August)
	Australia	Natural Fertility Awareness Week - Nationwide (21 st August – 27 th August)
	Australia	Keep Australia Beautiful Week (21 st August – 27 th August)
Days of August	United Nations	World Humanitarian Day (19 th August)



President's Report

Chalmers Road School Visit Last Week

Well... what an enthusiastic, passionate (and lengthy) presentation from Michelle Davies, Principal, and Emma Spencer, Teacher from the Chalmers Road School. I was looking everywhere for my Vaudeville Hook to help Emma finish her presentation. After some direct body language and instruction, we finally managed to end the talk. My apologies it dragged on much longer than planned, but I just didn't have the heart to cut short the impassioned plea being made for support for such a wonderful school, by such dedicated teachers. Thanks to you all for your understanding, for seeing it through, and for staying on

afterwards for a little after-meeting fellowship as well. The Board will now discuss and assess how we may be able to structure a project around appropriate support for the school, based on what Michelle and Emma outlined as their main needs during their presentation.

Western Harbour Group President's Meeting

Last Thursday night the first Western Harbour Group (WHG) President's Meeting of this Rotary year was held, chaired by our Assistant Governor, Renga Rajan. In attendance were Presidents from Drummoyne, Burwood, Haberfield, Granville, Concord and me from Strathfield. There were apologies from Five Dock

and Breakfast Point. We met at the Belhaven Function Centre in Wentworthville. Why there you ask? Well, one of the items on the agenda was to propose a joint WHG Cultural Evening, to be scheduled for early November this year, and to be held at that venue. More details to come as they unfold. Other items that we chatted about were 1. How has our first month been? and 2. Opportunities to do more collaborative projects and events (such as the one mentioned). A very good feeling amongst the group.

Rick's Run for Rotary

Well, the run is here! It's on this Sunday. We start at 6:00am from the Alexandra Headlands Surf Club, in between Maroochydore and Mooloolaba on the Sunshine Coast. If I finish before 10:00am, I will have achieved my goal of running it in under 4 hours. My closest to-date is 4:00:38. Ouch! So close. All I need to do is maintain an average pace of 5:41 minutes per kilometre, running at 10.6 km/hour. Easy! Wish me luck.



L-R: Mark Tanner, Drummoyne; Ian Gilkes, Concord; Rick Vosila, Strathfield; Bharathi Rengarajan, Granville; Walter Bock, Burwood; and Renga Rajan, AG WHG. Missing from photo: Charles Hughes, Haberfield

Thanks to all of you that have supported me and Australian Rotary Health with donations via my supporter page. Donations are around the \$3000.00 mark at the moment. I did set a goal of \$10,000 – a little ambitious, perhaps... but I'm still pushing!

Any help via your network of friends and contacts would be much appreciated. Thanks again.

This Week's Speaker

This week we welcome to our Club, Nora Duane, who will share with us her Rotary Story. We look forward to hearing it!

Rick



Last Week's Guest Speaker: Michelle Davies & Emma Spencer

We are all very fortunate people, we have been blessed with happy, bright healthy children, and we have been fortunate to have them educated at excellent schools in Strathfield, with top class facilities, fairly new buildings designed by top architects, and with top line teachers and amazing educational, sporting and cultural programs.

Amongst this almost educational excess though is a humble little State School with 65 students – Chalmers Road School. Chalmers Road was built in the 1970's, looks its age, and quite honestly doesn't look like it has had a maintenance or improvement dollar spent on it since. There are areas where children play open injury due to wear and tear, and age.

The Principal, a passionate educator, and young mother is Michelle Davies, and she, along with teacher Emma Spencer, were our speakers on Wednesday August 9th.

In preparation for Michelle's talk I visited Michelle at the school last Wednesday and given a tour. The reason that there are only 65 students is that all of them are moderately or severely mentally affected, and require a huge level of support just to get them to school, and to assist them in interacting with other students.

The school is Kindergarten to Year 12, and the school is broken up into three areas The Junior School, the Middle School, and the Senior School.

The teachers and support staff at this school are amazing. They have no time off, have to contend daily with a varying range of scenarios, some unpleasant.



In her talk to us Michelle outlined the need for individual iPad's for students, as a major improvement in learning, and a number of areas where she would like to make small but significant improvements to the facilities for the benefit of both staff and students.

I hope during this year that our club may be able to assist Chalmers Road through obtaining grants, undertaking some working bee's at the school, repair or replace some needed equipment, and perhaps get some much needed modifications done.

Additionally, I strongly recommend that ALL members visit the school, look at the great work the teachers are doing, how much the kids appreciate visitors, and look at the areas that will be identified as needing improvement.

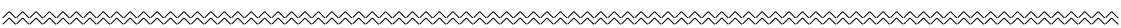
I apologise for this not being a regular speakers report, but Chalmers Road is a most special place, and it needs our help.

Summary by Stephen Taylor





Emma Spencer, President Rick, Michelle Davies and Kathy Powzun



This Week's Speaker: Nora Duane

Nora has been a member of the Rotary Club of Drummoyne since April 2016.

as a nurse and eventually co-proprietor of several homes in Melbourne.

Nora has spent a number of years working in the Aged Care area, both

Tonight, Nora will tell us about her Rotary story.



Next Week's Speaker: John Elvy & Paolo Giammarco

Two for the price of one?

John Elvy, a past president of the Rotary Club of Strathfield, has been in the real estate and development profession for 44 years. During that

time, John's focus has been in property investment strategies, project development, growing real estate businesses and building international property networks. Tonight John will inform us on the state of real estate.

Paolo Giammarco, a current member of our Club, is Director and Consultant at Giammarco Civil & Structural Engineers Planners &

Estimators. A passionate advocate for Fast Trains, Paul will enlighten us tonight on the topic.



Dates for the Calendar



<i>Rotary Events</i>			
<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Event/speaker</i>	<i>To introduce</i>	<i>To thank + speaker write-up</i>
Wed 16 th Aug 2017	"My Rotary Story" Nora Duane	Ed Dunlop	Allan Teale
Wed 23 rd Aug 2017	Hi Speed Rail John Elvy & Paolo Giammarco	David Croft	Grahame True
Wed 30 th Aug 2017	Hitting the snooze button - is not an option Milind Kamkolkar	Umesh Kamkolkar	Andrew Aravanis
Sat 2 nd Sep 2017	Strathfield Spring Festival	-	-
Tues 5 th Sep 2017	Ryde College of TAFE training Restaurant	-	-
Wed 13 th Sep 2017	Interact Meriden Gillian Legge and 4 students	Roger Vince	Arie Pappas
Wed 20 th Sep 2017	Human Rights Dr Jill McRae	Peter Smith	Rod McDougall
Wed 27 th Sep 2017	Police Officer of the Year	-	-

<i>Birthdays</i>	
22 nd August	Ann McCluskie

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
17 th August	David Croft (Rotary)



Do You Know? Celebrities and Projects

Our hard working contributor, David Croft, is taking a break this week.

David Croft



The Statistics

Attendance last week	23
Leave of absence	2
Apologies	6
No apology	3
Club membership	34
Partners	0
Guests	5
Members Rotary activities	Week ending 2-8-17: 28 [hours]

<i>Funds raised at Changeover</i>	
Raffle	\$190.00
Sergeants session	\$94.30

Your Committee 2017-2018

President	Rick Vosila	Secretary	Rod McDougall
President Elect	tba	Sergeant	Anuradha Kamkolkar
Immediate Past President	Stephen Taylor	Treasurer	Charles Pitt
Youth	Arie Pappas	Community	Andrew Aravanis
International	Prabhat Sinha	Vocational	Paolo Giammarco
		Club Services	Bradley Ayres

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master & Facebook	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	Selectprint	Apologies	Gulian Vaccari