



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

Rotary Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

20th-September-2017

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<https://www.facebook.com/strathfieldrotary>

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

Month of Sept	Rotary	Basic Education and Literacy Month
	Australia	National Biodiversity Month
	-	International Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
	-	International Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
Weeks of Sept	-	-
Days of Sept	-	World Car-Free Day (22 nd Sept)
	-	World Maritime Day (29 th Sept)
	United Nations	International Day of Peace (21 st Sep)
	United Nations	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (26 th Sept)
	United Nations	World Tourism Day (27 th Sept)



President's Report

Last Week's Visitors

I've always been impressed by the quality and maturity of the youth in our area. Last week was no exception as we welcomed three Meriden Interactors and their teacher into our Club, for a report on what they'd individually experienced as active members of the Meriden Interact Club. You can read the full report prepared by Arie Pappas later in this bulletin, but suffice to say our Interact Clubs are definitely helping to develop strong civic spirit in our youth. Thanks again to PP Roger Vince, PP Peter Smith and FP Arie Pappas for their work with our youth.

WHG Interclub Debate

I'm constantly told that new members must be given a job to help them start to feel a part of the Club. Well, I've listened and (with Andrew Aravanis' approval) I have asked NM Nick Hamilton-Kane to coordinate our Club's efforts and participation in the WHG Interclub Debate to be held on 27 November 2017 at the Burwood RSL Club. Nick stood-up and announced this during Member News at last week's meeting, and I want to ensure all Members get notified via this Bulletin. Nick will in due course circulate more information on this

night as it develops, however in the meantime here are the important points:

- 1) It will be a Transfer Night for us from 29 November 2017.
- 2) It is being promoted as a Partner's Night.
- 3) We will need one or two debaters to volunteer for the actual debate on the night (the topic of which is designed to be a little controversial, and a lot of fun). Please see Nick if you're interested (don't make me *voluntell* you!).

Police Officer of the Year Awards

Well, the first of our signature awards nights is on next week; our annual Police Office of the Year Awards, being coordinated by Vocational Service Director, Paolo Giammarco and his dedicated team. Interesting that I'm not allowed to be MC this year. I had a lot of fun in that job last year; I hope the Police did too! Anyway, the police drive-bys have stopped and my driver's license has been reinstated, so, all back to normal now! We have a fantastic MC lined up for this year's event – PP John Elvy, who was at our Club only last month, presenting with Paolo on the High Speed Rail topic. It will be great to welcome John back to our Club, and have a 'proper' MC do the job this

year. This is always a great night; the police truly value the recognition they get, although they never seek it. Every year we hear them say, "I'm just doing my job". They are everyday heroes on our streets, putting their bodies and lives on the line to protect our community. I'm looking forward to celebrating these awards with them next week.

This Week's Speaker

This week we're keeping it in the family again, with Dr Jill McRae presenting to us on Human Rights. As I understand it, Jill is a cousin of PP Peter Smith, as well as a recognised international advocate for human rights. She is currently focused on the plight of Syrian refugees. This promises to be another fascinating and thought-provoking topic and is not to be missed.

Legend:

- WHG = Western Harbour Group
- FP = Future President
- NM = New Member

Rick



Previous Guest Speaker: Meriden Interact

Last Wednesday we had the pleasure of hearing from the girls at Meriden School Interact Club. We were joined by Georgina Vimalaratnam (Vice President), Julia Iskander (Treasurer) and Emma Carbone (Secretary) along with the Meriden School Interact Co-ordinator Ms. Gillian Legge.

Unfortunately Daisy Hannaford, the President, was unavailable due to illness.

The girls gave a delightful presentation of their various projects that they have worked on throughout the year. The following extract is a summary of the presentation.

The Meriden School Interact Club is the most highly sought out club within the school. The club is limited to only 40 members consisting of Year 10 & 11 girls. Students who are interested in joining at the conclusion of Year 9 are required to submit a written application and then undergo a ballot as there are only limited places - this is a very distinguished club!

The girls serve the club for a period of 2 years and resign at the conclusion of Year 11. Whilst the girls have excellent support, they only require minimal guidance from their Interact Co-ordinator Gillian Legge and PP Roger Vince, They are extremely well organised and independent. They hold annual elections for the office bearers and the club democratically decides upon their service projects.

During 2017 the girls raised over \$7,000 dollars from their annual dance on 26th May.

The girls recently made a presentation along with a \$3,500 donation to an Australian organisation called the LOVE MERCY FOUNDATION, who are involved in simple solution projects to give access to education, health care and employment of girls and women in Northern Uganda. In addition to the generous donation, the girl's also presented a painting, which they painted as a group and felt was symbolic. This is real International Action – Interact! More information is available on the Love Mercy Foundation website¹ about

¹<http://www.lovemercyfoundation.org/home>

their beginnings with the founder, Australian Olympian Eloise Wellings online. This presentation was attended by Chris Virgona on behalf of our club.

The Interact Club also decided to donate \$3,500 to an Australian organisation in the Northern Territory - NGURRA JIRRAMA FOUNDATION who are involved in Indigenous education projects. This is a project close to the heart at Meriden as they are also closely involved with a school at Ti Tree, which is north of Alice Springs. Several girls from Ti Tree have been educated at Meriden over the years.

The Interact girls are off to Laos for a community service project in December. The girls live, eat and work with the local township. They pre-determine the project in conjunction the local community and the girl's will fund & help build the facility. This is a bi-annual effort totally financed by the Interactors themselves.

Finally Emma Carbone talked about her wonderful recent experience at RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) and expressed her desire to attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) when she finishes her schooling.

The presentation was extremely well received by our members who had great interest and many questions.

Summary by Arie Papas



Gillian Legge with Interact girls from Meriden!

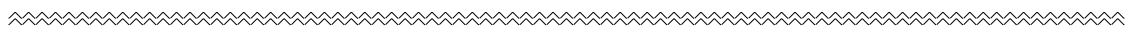


This Week's Speaker: Dr Jill McRae

Dr Jill McRae is a passionate advocate of civil and political rights. As the CEO of International Campaign for Humanitarian Relief of Syria Inc (ICHRS), she is currently working to help Syrians, especially women, children and the elderly living in refugee camps. Dr McRae has written extensively on international and regional peace initiatives, notably on

Bougainville, West Papua, Ireland, the former Yugoslavia, and the Middle East. She is also a frequent guest lecturer, international consultant and conference delegate, mediator, scholar and esteemed poet².

²http://w3.unisa.edu.au/alumni/alumninews/2017/BAU/issue7/STORY_4.html



Next Week's Speaker:

Police Officer of the Year

The Police Officer of the Year (POOTY) is one of our club's showcase events. It is our way of publically saying 'thank you' to our local Police Officers from the Burwood and Homebush Local Area Commands. This night also has a

great tradition over the years of having the attendance of Commissioners, & Assistant/Deputy Commissioners. This will continue next week when we welcome Deputy Commissioner – Metropolitan Jeff Loy.

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 27th Sep 2017	Police Officer of the Year	-	-
Wed 4th Oct 2017	World Animal Day Sandra Guy	George Hallworth,	Prabhat Sinha
Wed 11th Oct 2017	Lessons from Life & Business Peter Watson	Chris Haseldine	Guru Singh
Wed 18th Oct 2017	TBA	Bala	Joe Saad
Wed 25th Oct 2017	Fizzics Ben Newsome	Raymond McCluskie	Usha Garg
Mon 30th Oct 2017	Rotary Club of Burwood School Speech Night	-	-
Wed 1st Nov 2017	Transfer meeting to Mon 30 th Oct	-	-

<i>Birthdays</i>	
23 rd September	Domenico Alvaro
24 th September	Keith Byrn

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
-	-



Do You Know? Celebrities and Projects

As an international organisation, Rotary offers each member unique opportunities and responsibilities. Although each Rotarian has a first responsibility to uphold the obligations of citizenship of his or her own country, membership in Rotary enables Rotarians to take a somewhat different view of international affairs. In the early 1950s a Rotary philosophy was adopted to describe how a Rotarian may think on a global basis. Here is what it said:

"A world-minded Rotarian:

- looks beyond national patriotism and considers himself as sharing responsibility for the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace;
- resists any tendency to act in terms of national or racial superiority;
- seeks and develops common grounds for agreement with peoples of other lands;
- defends the rule of law and order to preserve the liberty of the individual so that he may enjoy freedom of thought, speech and assembly, and

freedom from persecution, aggression, want and fear;

- supports action directed toward improving standards of living for all peoples, realising that poverty anywhere endangers prosperity everywhere;
- upholds the principles of justice for mankind;
- strives always to promote peace between nations and prepares to make personal sacrifices for that ideal;
- urges and practices a spirit of understanding of every other man's beliefs as a step toward international goodwill, recognising that there are certain basic moral and spiritual standards which will ensure a richer, fuller life."

That is quite an assignment for any Rotarian to practice in thoughts and actions!

David Croft





The statistics

Attendance last week	20
Leave of absence	6
Apologies	4
No apology	6
Club membership	36
Partners & Guests	11
Members Rotary activities	Week ending 13-9-17: 34 [hours]

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$230.00
Sergeants session	\$105.00

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## *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    |

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Out and About: BBQ at Strathfield Girls High

Friday 15th September 2017

Strathfield Girls High Girls Raise Funds For McGrath Foundation (with a little help from Strathfield Rotary)

Year 10 girls from Strathfield Girls High planned and executed at school a successful lunch break fundraiser on 15 September. The event was in part of a test of the girls' "event planning" skills, learned during their commerce subject! They made a good decision to call on Strathfield Rotary for help and Peter Smith and Rod McDougall cooked over 300 sausages (and onions). The girls sold sausage sandwiches, cakes and other goodies and organised some fun activities. The event was well attended, and kept Peter and Rod busy. Proceeds will be donated to McGrath Foundation.



Rod McDougall and Peter Smith with the girls from Strathfield Girls High