



Rotary

Club of Strathfield



Namaste

STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

2nd December 2020

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

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Month of December</i>		
-	Rotary	Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
<i>Weeks of December</i>		
-	-	-
<i>Days of December</i>		
2nd Dec	UN	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
3rd Dec	UN	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
4th Dec	UN	International Day of Banks
5th Dec	UN	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development
5th Dec	UN	World Soil Day
7th Dec	UN	International Civil Aviation Day
9th Dec	UN	International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime
9th Dec	UN	International Anti-Corruption Day

President's Report



Usha Garg
President

The best Christmas gift is to realise how much we already have.

..... Anonymous

Last week, we hosted what was described as one of the best "**Pride of Workmanship Awards**". Having organised a few in recent years, I can attest to that. A big thanks for your contribution and attendance in bringing together this wonderful night, the great organisation, the calm flow, the table program, the speakers, the raffle, the induction, the food, the seating, the award winners, the awards, the citations, the

shield, the photography and last but not the least, the ambience. There were over 100 people in attendance. In the prevailing climate, it was a great feat. At moments like this, we can all be proud of being a member of the Rotary Club of Strathfield. I commend the leadership of Thaya Ponniah and Jan Barrett and the committee (Peter van der Sleen, Rod McDougall, Janelle Watson) for organising this in record time.

On this busy evening, we had the pleasure of inducting to our club, **Dr Fiona Martin MP**, Federal Member for Reid. An excellent introduction from Dimitry was followed by inspiring words from Fiona about how her work embodies the ideals of Rotary as well. We look forward to more interaction with her through our work and meetings.

We are halfway through this year and the time has come to identify the carriers of responsibility for the next Rotary year. At tonight's **AGM, chaired by our own PDG David Croft**, we look forward to the introduction of the new Board for 2021/22 under the capable leadership of President-elect Thaya Ponniah. Let us all be there to support Thaya and his team.

The year ends with our **Christmas party** for members at one of our favourite

venues Nonna & Co. on Friday, 11th December. Planning is underway for an evening of great fun and giving.

Coming in the new year, we will meet again mid January for our exciting Croquet game at the Croquet Club and on March 13th we look forward to the celebration of our **50th Anniversary**.

We are now coming into the summer holiday break. For me and Dinesh, this has always been a time to **catch up on reading**, if not travelling, and the inevitable long drawn discussions and analysis of the books we read. This year I have been busy and there is a long list to catch up on.

*Have a
Very Merry
Christmas
and
Happy New Year*

Looks like this will be the final bulletin for 2020. So I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very relaxed and enjoyable break and a very Merry Christmas. Have fun with family and friends and keep safe by following the rules of engagement.

Lastly, a special thanks to many members who had key roles in the running of the club and played their part extremely well to make this half year meaningful for all of us. Look forward to working with you in the same spirit and creating the same magic in the second half of the year.

Usha Garg



Event previous week: Pride of Work

Email received from Patricia Giammarco

“This Pride of Workmanship will be one that will never be forgotten by Mrs Jo-anne La Manna.

Just to be recognised for her outstanding work ethic was enough for her, but, to be selected as the overall winner of the Ray Sherry Award was just fantastic.

Miss Jo has never received anything more than a genuine THANK YOU for all her extra work.

Surprise guest were invited, Facebook was running hot with messages from family and friends and constant praise was given by fellow staff members all day Thursday and Friday at school.

A huge thank you to Strathfield Rotary Club. The organizing team and the selection panel. Miss Jo is humbled and honoured to receive such accolades.

Thank You”

[Please refer “Out and About” on pp.7-8 for a few photos taken on the night – Ed]

Reports from Directors



PP Rod McDougall
Treasurer

Auditor's Report

Our audited financial accounts are now available for the 2019-20 Rotary year. I am pleased to report that our independent auditor has found the accounts to be in order and to fairly present the financial position of the club. The audit report, containing the financial statements, may be found [here](#)

The pandemic significantly reduced fundraising opportunities during 2019-

20 and the accounts show a deficit of \$7,447.06 for the year. This was a result of decisions taken by the board to support compelling projects even though they were not fully funded. Surplus funds brought forward from, 2018-19 were used to allow this to occur.

The report will be listed for discussion at the AGM this Wednesday. Printed copies will be available.

I would like to pay tribute to James Heesh, Partner Hales Reddon Chartered Accountants. James has conducted the audit of accounts, pro bono, for many years.

Member Announcements



PP Keith Byrn
Welfare Officer.

Fellow Rotarians,

For those who are unaware PP Peter Smith was admitted to St. Vincent's Hospital following a fall on Saturday. I have spoken to him today (Sunday) and he is feeling a bit worse for wear and is tiring easily, exacerbated by his current treatment.

I am unsure if Peter is allowed visitors but I know he would welcome a call or messages from fellow Rotarians. I have offered Peter & Marlene any assistance that they may need.

I am sure you will all join me in wishing Peter a speedy recovery. I will update Peter's condition as news comes to hand.



Peter Smith
Youth Service Director

I am grateful...

One Friday morning, I left home early to go to the city to buy/fix some iPhones. It was a nice sunny day and I enjoyed the ride to the city. As I was walking along comfortably on the familiar George Street, something strange started happening. I started feeling a little wobbly and wheezy. I also realised that as I kept walking, the store seemed to be moving further and

further away from me. I started stopping at bus shelters to get some rest in between walking. But this time when I walked again, my legs did not carry me and I fell backwards on my back and hit my head on the pavement. I heard the sound and passed out.

Next thing I know many people were hovering around me helping me, bypassers, bystanders - all wonderful people. One came out quickly with a chair from a shop. Luckily, some bystanders happened to be medicos who rang for an ambulance. And very soon, a motorbike paramedic was on the scene giving me first aid and soon after an ambulance also arrived. My request to be taken to Concord Hospital was overruled and I was taken to the nearest hospital ie. St. Vincents.

Then started the cycle of x-rays, scans, cannulas, injections, drips and what else? And yes - the phone calls too. Fortunately, I escaped major injury to the head in spite of the big fall. But it was soon discovered that everything else was not as good as it should be, so I had to stay in the ICU and then to the room. The room - a large private room on the 7th floor - a room with a view. In the daytime I see the skyline, the palm trees, the parks and the ubiquitous cranes working away in endless construction. At night time, I see the beautiful city lights of the tall towers - things that I did not notice before.

And then I feel blessed that I am alive and may be going home soon. Ah! Home sweet Home. I am grateful for the mercy of having my faculties all in good shape - capable of thinking and doing things. What more can I ask?

Peter smith.

District News

1) ROTARY SNIPPETS – Their purpose is to highlight important information that needs to be shared with each Rotarian in District 9675. The latest Snippets are:

RISK MANAGEMENT by District Risk Officer, Chris Evans

<https://youtu.be/6Tste3oBm0>

PREPARING FOR YOUR AGM by District Treasurer, Ian McKensey

<https://youtu.be/1N7fxAfljn4>

As each SNIPPET is prepared it will be shared on the District website. They are

- On the Left hand side under District Newsletter
- Under projects in the Navigation Bar.

The link below is to previous Rotary Snippets on MyDistrict on the District website.

<https://rotarydistrict9675.org/page/rotary-snippets>

For further information or support, please contact the Director or Dot Hennessy, dothennessy@gmail.com or 0412 120 314 or Julie Collareda jcollareda@gmail.com or 0416120201

2) Rotary Christmas Trees are being sold by RC Parramatta City at 113 Castle Hill Rd, West Pennant Hills on 8am to 5:30pm on Sat and Sun 5-6 Dec. Sat and Sun 12-13 Dec. Thurs to Sun 17-20 Dec. These are real Christmas trees – Pinus Radiata – and they have a beautiful pine fragrance and a traditional full shape. Free onsite parking is also available. Please see the attachment for more information and location details.

3) Australian Rotary Health is working with **Mel Gray, President of RC Blacktown City**, in a record attempt of riding a static bike for 24 hours non-stop, raising funds for **Mental Awareness**. The event will be held on Friday 9th April to Saturday 10th April 2021 at Blacktown Council on the Village Green and relayed via ZOOM non-stop for the 24 hours. It will also be available on ZWIFT for those that wish to join in. The event is being promoted to every District in Australia and promoted as a Centenary of Rotary in Australia event. President Mel is hoping that Rotarians and non-Rotarians from all over Australia will join in for even a small part of the 24 hours either riding, walking, running, playing a yo-yo or anything to help raise some funds and in the process promote **Rotary in its Centenary** in Australia.

He would like our own District 9675 to be informed prior to the Official Launch being held in conjunction with ARH and Blacktown City Council on Australia Day.

So please watch this short Video. It is full of very interesting information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZkC9dQsiw&feature=youtu.be>

4) A reminder that a movie that has been made available to Rotarians to raise money for the End Polio cause. It is **I Am Woman** the story of Helen Reddy who made famous the song 'I Am Woman'.

These cinema showings are an annual event but COVID had provided challenges in 2020. But **President Angela Porritt (RC Concord)** has held such an event. She said: 'You can invite family and friends, particularly the women in your life as this is an inspirational movie, a chance to

reflect on how life has changed for women and an opportunity for us to highlight the work of Rotary to people beyond our club'. If you would like to know more details please contact Angela on 0438 771 715 or angela.porridd@terralilli.com or PDG Sue Hayward on 0439 550 976

Congratulations to all the D9675 leaders who have worked tirelessly during this very challenging 2020 and will continue to do so in 2021.

Kindest regards

Click here to view [the I Am Woman Trailer](#)

Janice M Hall
 District Governor Nominee/ District Secretary 9675
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A Final Thought:

John Quincy Adams said: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"

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>	<i>Venue</i>
Wed 2nd Dec	AGM	-	-	Strathfield Events Centre
Fri 11th Dec	Christmas party	-	-	Nonna & Co

<i>Birthdays</i>	
2nd December	Arie Pappas
3rd December	Roger Vince
3rd December	Toni Virgona
4th December	Neena Sinha
4th December	Trevor Hall

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
1st December	Edmund Brown (Rotary)
1st December	Paolo Giammarco (Rotary)
1st December	Peter Manenti (Rotary)
1st December	Keith Byrn (Rotary)
7th December	Prabhat and Neena Sinha (Wedding)
8th December	Rod and Maree McDougall (Wedding)



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (25-11-20) – in person	26
Club membership	45
Partners	12
Guests	71

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$1,240
Sergeant's session	-
Heads and tails	-

Your Committee 2020-21

President	Usha Garg	Secretary	Dimitry Palmer
President Elect	Thaya Ponniah	Sergeant	Nick Hamilton-Kane
Immediate Past President	Arie Pappas	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth	Peter Smith	Community	Allan Teale
International	Thaya Ponniah	Vocational	Janice Barrett
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Alexey Prokopenko

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

Out and About: Pride of Work

Wednesday
25-Nov-2020





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