



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Rotary

Club of Strathfield



Namaste

STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

30th September 2020

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

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Month of October</i>		
-	Rotary	Economic and Community Development Month
<i>Weeks of October</i>		
4th – 10th Oct	UN	World Space Week
5th – 8th Oct	Aust	Australian Wildlife Week
5th – 11th Oct	Rotary	Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week
<i>Days of October</i>		
30th September	UN	International Translation Day
1st October	UN	International Day of Older Persons
2nd October	UN	International Day of Non-Violence
5th October	UN	World Teachers' Day
5th October	UN	World Habitat Day

President's Report



Usha Garg
President

The winter is again playing hide and seek with us and so are many of our members with meetings. It is almost a fun game guessing who we will see in the next meeting.

I hope we are all enjoying this relatively slow paced relaxed atmosphere this year.

The primary focus remains on meetings and if you are enjoying the meetings and the guest speakers then please do come to all the meetings, virtual or in person and encourage other members and friends to come along. We do look forward to seeing each other and our partners.

Recently we had the Zone 8 conference. For those who were unable to attend this virtual conference, can access the excellent presentations at bit.ly/36bC5aw

The Rotary D9675 Conference is coming up and will be held as a F2F event at the Sydney Masonic Centre on 19-21 March 2021. However it could change to a virtual conference if COVID-19 prevents gathering in person. PDG Sue Hayward assures us a great line up of speakers, both local and from overseas. Keep an eye for more details.

Also registrations are open for the next Rotary International Convention to be held on 12-16 June 2021. "Feel the Energy in Taipei" is the message from the convention. The convention is the perfect place to discover new opportunities for service and friendship. Twelve hosting Districts in Taiwan with around 35,000 Rotarians are joining together to show their hospitality and warmest welcome. The charm of Taipei lies in its vibrant spirit, enthusiasm, diversified culture, culinary delights and much more. The innovation and ongoing developments in Taiwan have also attracted people from all over the world. Join the Rotary Convention in 2021, and Feel the Energy in Taipei.

"One thing I know for certain, is if Nigeria could eliminate the wild poliovirus, any country can eliminate it." These are the words of Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee. This week he was recognized as one among 100 TIME magazine's most influential people in the world for his instrumental leadership and work with Rotary members and partners to achieve the eradication of wild polio in the African

region. He is the first Rotary member to receive this honour for work towards eradicating polio. Although not a great fan of the TIME magazine, I believe this honour for this important work is a great celebration for Rotary.

Food security issues are again highlighted in parts of the world with the ongoing COVID19 pandemic. Rotary Voices has an inspirational story of how Rotary Club of Newlands in Cape Town, South Africa, raised US\$80,000 to feed many thousand families and children suffering from the devastating effects of COVID-19 on food security in their city.

<https://blog.rotary.org/2020/09/01/rotary-members-feed-thousands-in-cape-town/>

Back to the club matters, our Board meeting is coming up and I welcome members to suggest matters for discussion.

Last week we heard from a student who had come here for higher studies about his home country Mongolia. It is not often that we hear from overseas students about their homeland first hand. This week we return to the theme of art and music and we will hear from a young teacher Ying Ho on the power of music in education.

Look forward to seeing you all.

Usha Garg



Speaker previous week: Munkh-Erdene Bayartai



Guest speaker Munkh-Erdene Bayartai will took us on a virtual journey to Mongolia.

“Muugi” was introduced by Concord Rotary Immediate Past President Charmaine Langley.

Muugi has been studying for a PhD in Health Sciences at the University of Sydney which he has literally just completed or, that is to say, just handed in the last of his papers. He has also been attending Toastmasters and has taken out prizes for speaking.

This slide summarises his talk and above captures some of the unique scenes of his home country. Notice the symbol and Mongolian script shown in the centre. The horses are the symbol of Mongolia and the vertically written script is uniquely Mongolian. Unfortunately, schools are not teaching this anymore and more commonly the Cyrillic (Russian) script is taught. There are restrictions on the teaching the traditional script.

The country is very sparsely populated with of only 3 million people. The population density is only 1 to 2 persons per square km.

Mongolia is in Central Asia and is landlocked, being surrounded by China and Russia.

The capital is Ulaanbaatar (population 1.6 million), is shown above left in the picture. It is now a fast growing typically modern city along with traffic jams and all the other element of big cities.

Genghis Khan, around 1200 AD, created the Mongol Empire which was the largest empire ever to exist in the world.

Mongolia’s Key Geographical features shown above are:

- The Gobi Desert
- Rugged mountains snow covered even in summer



Extensive treeless grass covered “Steppe”

Nomadic Mongolians live on the steppe. Because of the severe climate, they must move at least twice a year taking their animals and houses with them. The portable house called Ger are a round semi-permanent yurt which can be picked up or reconstructed in less than 2 hours. Ethnically, Mongolia is 96% Mongol and 4% Kazak. 53% of Mongolians are Buddhist. As is common in many ex-communist countries, atheism the next most common belief.

Politically, it has been a multiparty republic since 1990 after the break-up of the USSR but Chinese influence is increasing.

Winter can be bitterly cold and as low as -40C so warm clothing is essential for survival. Mongolia is famous for furs and more especially cashmere.

Summer can be very hot with temperatures 20 to 40 degrees

When to visit: July is the best time as not too hot or too cold and a time of festivals and free events.



Naadam Festival (“three games of Men”) has competitions of Horse racing, wrestling, and archery.

Horse racing is very traditional and children, as young as two, learn to ride. Horse Racing is done bareback to reduce the load on the horse.

Throat singing is a traditional music form where artists can sing two notes at the same time resulting in a haunting music style. Have a look on YouTube at Bukhu Ganburged.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yqjg8ln58g>

Muugi was invited to join a Zoom meeting with the RC of Strathfield after his return and to maintain contact.

He also would welcome visitors from our Rotary Club

Writeup by Peter van der Sleen

Speaker for this week: Ying Ho

Ying Ho works with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. She is currently

Head of Keyboard at MLC School in Burwood.

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 30th Sept	Ying Ho The power of Music and Music Education	Janelle Watson	Alexey Prokopenko	Strathfield Events Centre
Wed 7th Oct	Danjela Prahovic Improving the life skills of young people via technology	Trudy Ho	Dimitry Palmer	Zoom
Wed 14th Oct	tba	tba	tba	Strathfield Events Centre
Wed 21st Oct	Geeth GEEGANGE Community Ambassador for NBN co NBN update	tba	tba	Zoom

<i>Birthdays</i>	
2nd October	Abbie Palmer
4th October	Athena Pappas
5th October	Grahame True

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
1st October	Bill Carney (Rotary)
1st October	Mathew Elias (Rotary)
2nd October	Trudy Ho (Rotary)
2nd October	Christopher and Toni Virgona (wedding)



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (23-09-20) - Zoom	20
Club membership	45
Partners	1
Guests	3

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle (pre-payment system)	tba
Sergeant's session	\$-
Heads and tails	Not held


Your Committee 2020-21

President	Usha Garg	Secretary	Dimitry Palmer
President Elect	tba	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		

3 Abstract Painters

Julienne Harris
Doug Purnell
Jeannette Siebols



Jeannette Siebols, Slender Threads, 2020, oil on canvas

Opening at the McGlade Gallery
 Australian Catholic University, Strathfield
 Saturday afternoon, 12th September 2-4pm
 Continuing until Saturday 24th October

There will be a Covid-safe opening.
 Please RSVP to Diane.Merrilees@acu.edu.au
 9701 4140 if you wish to attend.
 Please observe social distancing and hand hygiene.
 We recommend that you wear a face mask.

McGlade Gallery
 Australian Catholic University, Strathfield
 Gate 3,
 25A Barker Road,
 Strathfield N.S.W.

Gallery hours:
 11am to 4pm Monday to Saturday

Bulletin kindly printed by

