



# Rotary Club of Strathfield



## STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675  
4th August 2021

[www.strathfieldrotary.org.au](http://www.strathfieldrotary.org.au)    [info@strathfieldrotary.org.au](mailto:info@strathfieldrotary.org.au)    <https://www.facebook.com/strathfieldrotary>

### *Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes*

<i>Year 2021</i>		
-	UN	International Year of Peace and Trust
-	UN	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development
-	UN	International Year of Fruits and Vegetables
-	UN	International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour
<i>Month of July</i>		
-	Rotary	<b>Membership and New Club Development Month</b>
<i>Weeks of August</i>		
1st – 7th Aug	UN	World Breastfeeding Week
2nd – 8th Aug	Aust	Landcare Week
<i>Days of August</i>		
4th Aug	Aust	National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day (NAICD)
9th Aug	UN	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

### *President's Report*



**Thaya Ponniah**  
*President*

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary.

Living during a pandemic for the past twenty months has been challenging and at times uncertain. However, this moment has also propelled us to adopt methods that had existed, but were not as widely used until now, to stay engaged,

undertake work and move forward. This included working remotely, studying online, having meetings online and even serving our community online.

The Rotary Club of Strathfield participates in many local and overseas projects by providing manpower, materials or funds. We do this because of the satisfaction we get from serving others and embracing humanity. Quoting our Rotary International President, Shekhar Mehta, *“Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth.”*

We at the Rotary Club of Strathfield have just completed one month of our new year – 2021-22. Although most of our areas are under strict lockdown, we have had great attendance for our weekly zoom meetings with an average attendance of 28 members. Some members are going to be recognized for their 100% attendance at our next meeting. Our Club Service Director Arie Pappas will choose one lucky winner for a special price.

At the Community Service front, Director Rick Vosila has already commenced a few projects, such as:

- Cool room project for the St Paul's Church, Burwood Parish Pantry
- COVID-19 vaccination promotion program via social media
- GoFundMe online fundraising program for humanitarian projects

Under the leadership of International Service Director Roy Ellis, we are happy to announce that we have commenced working on a Global Grant Project. It will be under two Rotary International focus areas, "Disease Prevention & Treatment" and "Maternal & Child Health".

Our Vocational Service Director, Alexey Prokopenko, has been very busy with many projects and programs. He has already started working on the details of our new project, the IT Training Program

for Indigenous Community and our annual event, the Police Officers Award Ceremony.

Ying Ho, our Youth Service Director, has already done much groundwork for the new year to continue with the great work done by our legendary late Peter Smith. Our 'Working with Children Check' (WWCC) specialist, Ed Dunlop, has had a great response from our members over the past 2 weeks with a few renewals and new checks, and our compliance has gone up. They were great results to see that 70% of the club and 100 % of our board are now WWCC compliant.

Our gratitude to all the members for their active participation and engagement. Our board members constantly work and lead our club despite all the unprecedented pandemics. Let's think about the various challenges our club faces to remain relevant to the community and to our members and what strategies and initiatives we need to embrace to address those issues.

Tough times don't last. Tough people do.

Yours in Rotary,

*Thaya Ponnia*

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### *Speakers from last week: PP Renga Rajan ADG and PP Bharathi Rengarajan*

Past presidents Renga And Bharthi gave an informative presentation using practical and personal experiences needed for clubs to increase memberships and to how to retain them.

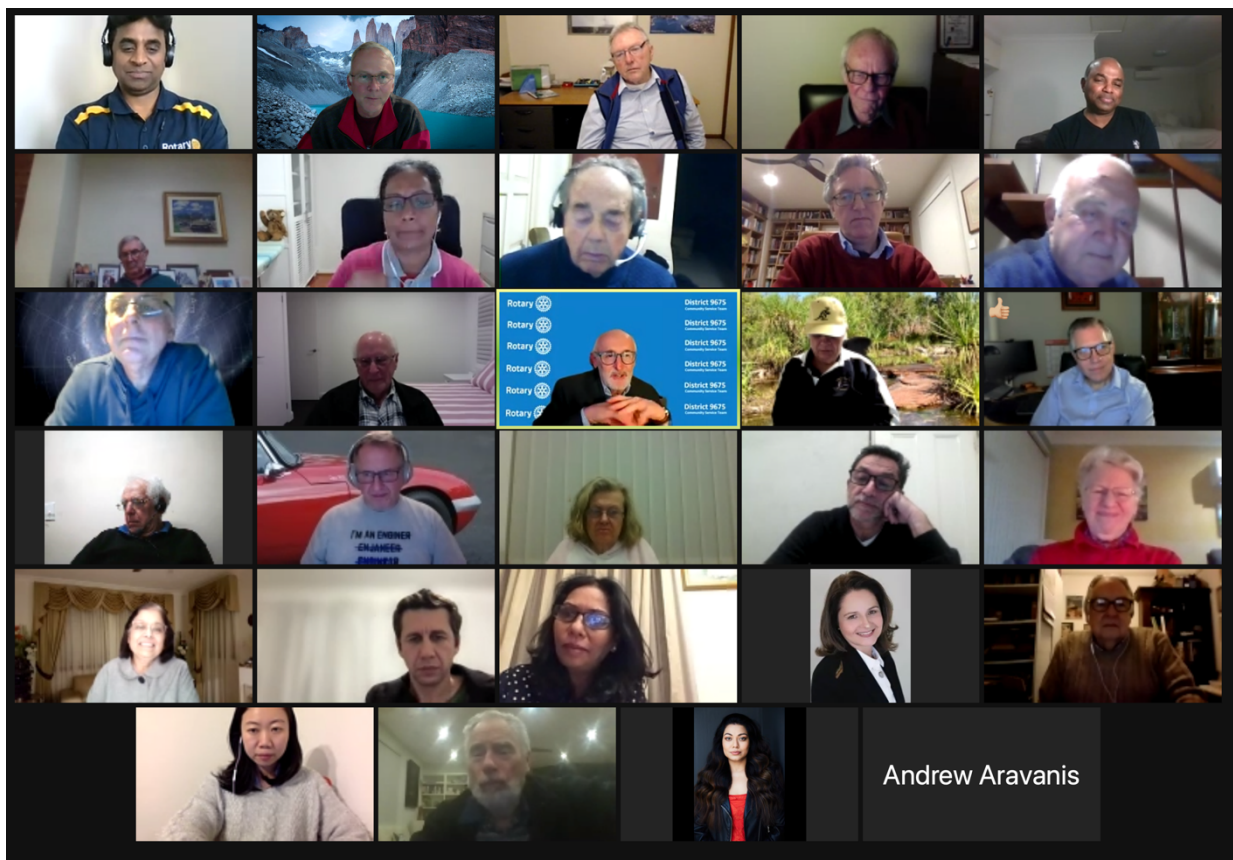
Firstly, Renga's detailed presentation of the five ways of getting new members

including "**each one - bring one**" definitely resonates with all of us .Renga explained the importance of retaining these newly gained members. We were explained the reasons why members may leave and that the clubs need to understand and address these issues so our clubs could grow.

Bharthi's presentation was just as impressive regarding the **cultural Diversity** needed in Rotary Clubs. By using her own clubs experiences, Bharthi explained the different types of diversity such as skills, talents, and gender play important roles, in not only reaching a broader community, but in retaining the memberships of the clubs. Bharthi further explained how these factors also add strength to a club and aids in retaining the members.

The apt motto "**anything is possible and nothing is impossible**" mentioned by both of them, shows their level of commitment to Rotary. It was indeed a very useful and needed presentation for us all. Again thank you Renga and Bharthi for the time taken in presenting these valuable and practical solutions for Rotary.

*Writeup by Jaya Challa*



Renga Rajan (top left) and Bharathi Rengarajan (2<sup>nd</sup> row from top, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left)

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*Event for this week: Club Assembly*  
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## COVID Capers

As mentioned at last week's meeting, Thaya and Bradley are looking for members to contribute COVID-related material for the bulletin. Given the environment in which we find ourselves, we are looking for material with some association with, or diversion from, COVID. This could be lists of some of your favourite TV shows, books, podcasts, etc. Or you might wish to share the story behind learning (relearning) a musical instrument, or that 'impossible' jigsaw puzzle now completed, or an arts/craft project you now have had the time to produce.

To get the ball rolling, your editor has listed his top streaming shows to binge on during lock-down.

1. **Ted Lasso** (Apple TV+) [Comedy] Once you get over all the sporting errors, this is a show, starring Jason Sudeikis, that combines humour with with many life-lessons; perhaps most poignantly, that looks can be deceiving and that caring for others can be a win in itself.
2. **The Good Place** (Netflix) [Fantasy Comedy] starring Ted Danson and Kristen Bell, this multi-award winning show tells the story of four people who unlikely find themselves in the afterlife. Whilst it is a light comedy, it also works because it explores many serious philosophical, moral and ethical questions. It also works due to the outstanding ensemble cast, including the fabulous (and stunning) Jameela Jamil, the very talented D'Arcy Carden, along with several memorable cameos from Maya Rudolph. Heck, all the cast are great!
3. **For all Mankind** (Apple TV+) [Drama] a show that is meticulous in its detail of 1960s/1970s technology, as it explores how things might have played out if the Soviet Union, rather than the USA, had been first to the moon.
4. **Lost in Space** (Netflix). [Sci-fi] Yes, the Robinson Family are lost again, but in a fast-paced 2018+ reboot. This series really freshens the experience as it has some nice character twists from the original 60s show that. For example, the despicable Dr Smith is one of the characters with a different back-story this time around, and the re-imagined robot brings a new, but darker, perspective than the original.
5. **Kim's Convenience** (Netflix) [Comedy] One of the few shows out there with a truly ethnically diverse cast. Whilst we may laugh at their antics, it is more their human foibles that are amusing rather than the 'cheap' laughs obtained from the normal racial stereotyping other shows have deployed.
6. **The Morning Show** (Apple TV+) [Drama] with a high-quality cast that includes Jennifer Aniston, Reese Witherspoon and Steve Carell this show explores the cut-throat business of morning television. Set against the tension of 'old-time' views and attitudes as they clash with current progressive movements such as 'me too', this is an engaging series.



## District News

District Secretary's Update 30 July 2021

Hello and welcome

We would like to welcome you to the first District 9675 Secretary's Update for the new Rotary year 21-22. We hope that you will like the changes that have been made to the format. image

The Update will be circulated to each member in the fourth week of the month following the District Governor's videos which will be distributed in weeks one and three.

We welcome your feedback and don't forget to forward to us the stories and events that are going on in your Club so that we can include them in the Update. We look forward to hearing from you! Please limit your contribution to no more than 100 words.

Finally, following the announcement of the tighter restriction for the greater Sydney area, we know that the next few weeks are going to have their challenges for many of us, so please reach out to us or members of your Club if you require any assistance or just a want a chat.

Rotary is the best example of how well vaccination works, with our key role in the elimination of Polio across the world. We now need to ensure we are vaccinated and promote vaccination to our family and friends. It's important to provide us with the protection we need.



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### **August is membership and club extension month - a message from the Membership Director**

August is Rotary International Membership Month so start by keeping your social media active. Follow our District, and RI, social media sites to see what Rotary members around the world are doing to celebrate Membership Month.

New and different club models will attract diverse leaders to Rotary. Watch the video below to learn more.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/membership>

We are reaching out to seek your support to build our Rotary District to be 'future fit'. To be an organisation which will continue to support the community, we need to grow our membership base. This is achievable with the active support of each one of you.

This year we are giving more importance to inducting new members into Rotary and, at the same time, we are emphasising the retention of our experienced

members who are the assets of our Rotary movement through our Five Way Strategy:

1. Each one Bring One
2. Membership Retention
3. Cultural Diversity
4. Flexibility
5. Increase Members Participation in Service Projects

We have a vibrant District Membership Team who are happy to help you to find and induct new members. We are happy to visit your club for a Membership presentation. Please contact me to request a club presentation.

Together we can reach new heights in 2021-2022.

Contact Renga Rajan

Mobile : +61 448757785

Email: [renga\\_rajan50@yahoo.com](mailto:renga_rajan50@yahoo.com)

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### **Listen to Andy Rajapakse Zone 8 Assistant Rotary Coordinator and his great ideas for growth**

Listen to Andy's great ideas for expanding Rotary - it's an inspirational story with ideas we can all use. Focusing on the positive!

<https://youtu.be/eq9UHV3E9iM>

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### **Learning & development update**

We are off to a great start for 2021-22 with a new team. Get to know the team. (you need to be logged into MyDistrict). If you have never logged in. then just follow the instructions.

There will be some updates to MyLearning and we will be conducting 'Rotary Ignite Your Passion' for new members on 28 August (2.30-4.00pm) with a repeat session on 10 September (7-8.30pm). Both sessions will be delivered via Zoom. We will make them interactive

and stimulating with supporting resources in MyLearning.



To register go to the Event Calendar on the D9675 website. If you know a new member, please encourage them to attend and learn about Rotary and District 9675

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### **Climate & Peace Webinar**

The next Climate & Peace Webinar is planned for 6pm AEST Tuesday 10th August. The topic: "What are our Security Risks in the Climate Crisis - Defence, Energy & Food" is being presented by the Rotary Clubs of Sydney and will be addressed by three expert speakers:

- Australia's top former defence planner, Cheryl Durrant,
- An expert in dispatchable energy storage, Prof. Lachlan Blackhall, and
- A farmer and avid campaigner for agricultural reform, Anika Molesworth.

These leading speakers will tell us why Climate & Peace have to be considered together. Registration is via

[www.climateandpeace.com.au](http://www.climateandpeace.com.au)



### **Lamington Day Update**

In spite of the NSW Health's announcement that COVID-19 Lockdown

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will continue in Sydney until the end of August, we have decided to continue with National Lamington Day on Wednesday 25 August 2021, as some businesses are still operating.

All businesses who have already placed orders will be contacted and given the option to continue with their order, change the quantity of Lamingtons they have ordered, or cancel their order for a full refund.

There have been many obstacles that we have been faced with during this project, but we have had good support for this project, which encourages us to continue with it during 2021.

There is still time for businesses to place their orders by Wednesday 18 August, so now is the time to contact them. A perfect time to say “thank you”.



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### 'Lift the Lid' walk

Australian Rotary Health (ARH) last year commenced the 'Lift the Lid Walk' (LTLW), in Queensland as a fun & fundraising concept to engage with clubs during October. It was an exciting adjunct to 'Hat Day' and mental health promotions with some clubs throughout Australia creating their own events. This year the decision was made to 'roll out' the concept into NSW.

Your club is invited to consider creating an event and every assistance will be provided to support you during that process. Local permission conditions at

the time of any proposed event must be observed.



Lift the Lid is promoted as a umbrella theme for any form of physical activity the clubs may wish to conjure i.e., running/ walking / push bike riding/ jogging/ skate boarding/ roller skates. The only limitation is imagination and venue, ideally it should happen in October, and donations should be encouraged. Individuals don't have to participate if they prefer involvement by donating instead.

Greg is available to offer advice and support, preferably by email.

Greg Lill, District 9675 ARH Chair

Email: [gregorylill@yahoo.com.au](mailto:gregorylill@yahoo.com.au)

Mobile: 0431 196 043

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### Police Officer of the Year - Nominations Close 27 August 2021

The Police Officer of the Year Awards are on again this year and nominations close on 27 August 2021. To find out more about nominating, voting and attending the Dinner on 5 November 2021 follow the link.

<https://sydneyrotary.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Rotary-NSW-Police-Officer-of-the-Year-Awards-2021.pdf>

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### Blackmore's Running Festival

The scheduled date for this event is Sunday 19th September. It is still possible it could go ahead on that date, but it is looking unlikely so a back-up date is being

negotiated. Information will be forwarded when it is known.

Applications to volunteer are still being taken.

Details and the application form can be found at:

[https://opportunities.inneedhelpers.com/appform.php?core\\_event\\_id=1902EE](https://opportunities.inneedhelpers.com/appform.php?core_event_id=1902EE)

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### **Mental Health Support during COVID 19 and isolation**

The NSW Government is providing additional funding/support for our mental health during the COVID 19 period especially during periods of self isolation.

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### **Community Grants**

The July 2021 Community Grants Bulletin from the office of Julie Owens MP is now available. This is a good opportunity for club presidents to review their projects for the new Rotary year and find some free grants which may help fund their projects.

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### **District Directory**

The District Directory 2021-22, in pdf version, has been loaded onto the District Website member's section. If any updates/changes are required now or during the next 12 months, please email them to me at [pnlacey2@bigpond.com](mailto:pnlacey2@bigpond.com). The Directory is only as accurate as the information provided. Thanks.

Nerrie Lacey, Directory Editor

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## *RI President: A look at the year ahead*

Dear change-makers,

Welcome to the new Rotary year — a year when you will be called upon to Serve to Change Lives and achieve big dreams. Because of your passion for achieving great things, we will grow more and do more.

Our Action Plan, Rotary's strategic road map, sets our course and strengthens us for the future by focusing on four priorities: increasing our impact, expanding our reach, enhancing participant engagement, and increasing our ability to adapt. This year, I am honored to move these priorities forward by leading with vision and implementing several initiatives that I believe will result in positive growth during 2021-22 and beyond.

### **Expanding our reach through Each One, Bring One**

Rotary is a vibrant organization that has spread to nearly 200 countries and geographical areas and has a rich legacy of

fighting to end polio. Don't you think we could have a greater impact on the world if more people were practicing Service Above Self?

Members like you are our greatest asset. But for the last 20 years, Rotary membership has remained stagnant. Through a program I am calling Each One, Bring One, I ask each of you to commit to welcoming one new person into Rotary or Rotaract in the next 12 months. This one act of growing Rotary will make you true change-makers, because you will have helped us achieve in just 12 months what we could not do in 20 years. Of course, you will need to engage and retain these members as well. Member engagement is equally important for our organization's growth.

As we welcome new members, let us continue to ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are ingrained into all aspects of Rotary. We believe that anyone who gets

involved with Rotary — whether as a member, partner, or participant — must feel valued, respected, and welcomed. It is only by embracing the full diversity of the world that we will be able to grow and to achieve our goals.

I am thrilled that Rotaract membership continues to grow. This year, we are taking further steps to reaffirm and promote Rotaract as a distinct membership type in Rotary. I encourage Rotary and Rotaract clubs to find ways to connect with one another, perhaps by creating a mentorship program or partnering on a club-based initiative, district grant, or global grant. We achieve more when we work together!

### **Serve to change lives**

Service is at the heart of my own connection to Rotary, which is why I want all of us to showcase Rotary’s good work by hosting Rotary Days of Service. Invite your members, neighboring clubs, local civic organizations, program alumni, friends, family, and the public to join you for a community service event. Let Rotary Days of Service be a celebration of our passion for doing good.

As your club decides which causes to support this year, please consider projects that focus on empowering girls and creating equity for them. Whether it’s through a global grant project or a local program that your club supports, we can all contribute to the important work being done all over the world to expand access to education, improve sanitation, and fight gender discrimination and inequality. Girls are equal stakeholders in this world, and they should have equal rights.

We also need to let others know about all the wonderful work Rotary does. Each of you is a Rotary brand ambassador, so use social media, local media, and your club’s website to show your community — and the world — how you and your fellow Rotary members are people of action.

### **Increasing our impact**

My friends, you are resilient, and you are doing amazing things to fight COVID-19. We adapted quickly to support our communities at the start of this pandemic, and we are committed until the very end. Let’s work to ensure that vaccines are made available equitably worldwide and that people get vaccinated as quickly as possible.

We recently awarded our first \$2 million Programs of Scale grant to Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia and will name our second Programs of Scale grant recipient this year. This award and our efforts to eradicate polio and fight COVID-19 are examples of how Rotary addresses significant needs on a large scale. These programs serve as models for how we can demonstrate our measurable and sustainable impact.

We have so much to look forward to in the year ahead, and together, we will do so much. Nothing is impossible for Rotarians and Rotaractors!

I am so honored to be on this journey with you.

Sincerely,

**Shekhar Mehta**  
**Rotary International President, 2021-22**



## 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 4th Aug	Club Assembly	-	-	Zoom
Wed 11th Aug	<b>John Treloar</b> The Australian Tandem Cycling Team – 1952 Helsinki Olympics	Rick Vosila	Bill Carney	Zoom
Wed 18th Aug	<b>Bill Crews</b> The Work of the Exodus Foundation	Gulian Vaccari	Trudy Ho	Zoom
Wed 25th Aug	<b>Joanne Giannoto</b> State Emergency Service	Paolo Giammarco	David Croft	Zoom

**NOTE:** Due to the latest COVID outbreak and subsequent lock-down, the above program may change

<i>Birthdays</i>	
-	-

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
-	-



## *The Rotary Statistics*

Attendance last meeting (28-07-21) – Zoom	26
Club membership	<b>46</b>
Partners	0
Guests	3

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	n/a
Sergeant's session	n/a

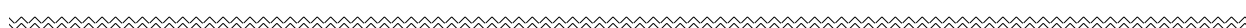


## *Your Committee 2021-22*

President	Thaya Ponniah	Secretary	Nick Hamilton-Kane
President Elect	Andrew Aravanis	Sergeant	Keith Byrn
Immediate Past President	Usha Garg	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth	Ying Ho <sup>1</sup>	Community	Rick Vosila
International	Roy Elis	Vocational	Alexey Prokopenko
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Arie Pappas

<sup>1</sup> Position was held by the late Peter Smith

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	SelectPrint	Apologies	Peter van der Slessen
Social Media	Alexey Prokopenko	Programs Chair	Gulian Vaccari



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