



# STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675  
25th May 2022

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

<i>Year 2022</i>		
-	UN	International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development
-	UN	International Year of Glass
-	UN	International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
<i>Month of May</i>		
-	Rotary	<b>Youth Service Month</b>
<i>Weeks of May</i>		
1st Apr-31st May	Aust	Australian Heritage Festival (National Trust)
<i>Days of May/June</i>		
29th May	UN	International Day of UN Peacekeepers
21st May	UN	World No-Tobacco Day
1st June	UN	Global Day of Parents



## *President's Report*



**Thaya Ponniah**  
*President*

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

### **Rotary, A Catalyst Between The Haves And The Have Nots**

Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's 2021-22 presidential theme is "Serve to Change Lives." He contends that caring for and serving others is the best

way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

#### ***What is Rotary***

- **We transform communities** – Approximately 47 million volunteer hours each year.
- **We connect people** – 1.4 million members worldwide.
- **We fund sustainable projects** – \$333 million was awarded for global service initiatives in 2020-21.

#### ***What we do***

Rotarians create lasting change. Solving some of the world's most complex and pressing problems takes real

commitment and vision. Rotary members believe that we share a responsibility to take action to improve our communities. Join us, to make a bigger impact - together.

No challenge is too big for us. For more than a century, we've bridged cultures and connected continents. We champion peace, fight illiteracy and poverty. We help people get access to clean water and sanitation, and fight disease. Our latest cause is to protect our planet and its resources.

We have also developed our own focus areas to undertake humanitarian services more strategically and systematically.

Our main focus areas are:

- Promoting Peace
- Saving Mothers & Children
- Fighting Disease
- Supporting Education
- Supporting the Environment

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives,

and create a better world. We believe that exemplifying and embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) should be a part of everything we do at Rotary.

We, at the Rotary Club of Strathfield, thrive on many projects and programs to serve our communities locally as well as internationally. Today, through events like the Rotary Charity Ball, we are bringing together the 'haves and have-nots', collaborating for a synergy to serve better without reinventing the wheel.

As the President of the Rotary Club of Strathfield I would like to thank you all for being a part of that platform to 'Serve to Change Lives'.

***"Learn, earn, return-these are the three phases of life."***

**- Jack Balousek, former president of True North Communications**

Rotary Service to you,

*Thaya Ponniah*

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### *Speaker from last week: Steve Goldsmith*

Steve was educated at Homebush Boys High School where he was a member of the interact club. He studied as an architect, but his overwhelming interest and concern became the impact of the earth's changing environment and the future stability of our planet.

Steve's theme for his talk was - *"Let the bears have a say" - polar bear logic - We are concerned ... Due to climate change, mankind may now be an endangered species"*

Steve's presentation consisted primarily of a series of graphs and tabulations showing rising carbon dioxide levels "the

canary in a rapidly changing world", estimated global land and sea temperatures and the effects of changing atmospheric air flows and temperatures over recent decades.

Charts showed Arctic Sea ice changes and melting of permafrost in Serbia which is causing large quantities methane to escape into the atmosphere.

He spoke of the impact of atmospheric changes, particularly air flows from the Sahara which apparently impact Brazil's rain forests. He noted coral bleaching from elevated sea temperatures, "Greenland ice is melting at about a million tons a day and we are heading

towards an ice-free Arctic". In England flowers are blooming early.

Steve described his views as "halfway between scientist and man on the street"

His message was that "we are experiencing an unprecedented rate of change; we are in uncharted waters and nature will not go back"

He is worried that society does not echo these concerns, in part due to poor political leadership.

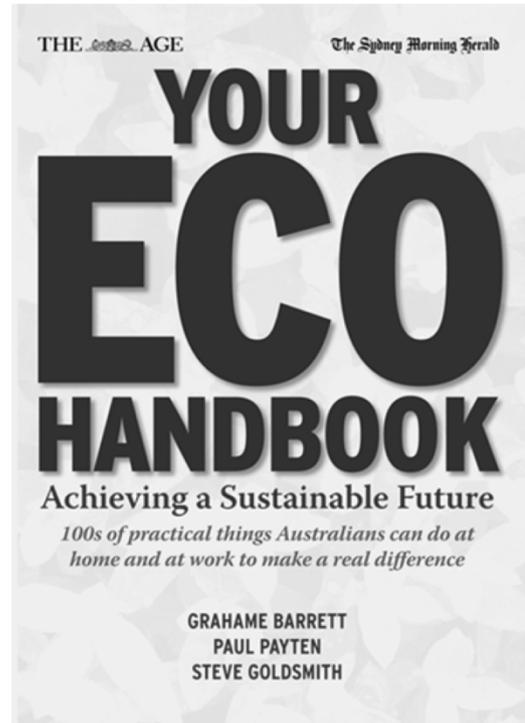
"We need to get away from domestic concerns and focus on this mess"

Due to time constraints, Steve was not able to offer his views on the best the way forward to achieve stability for our planet, however, in 2008, Steve co-authored a publication "Your Eco Handbook" which contains hundreds of practical steps for environmental sustainability.

When asked "what can we do?", Steve responded that "We need more scientists in politics - about a third"

No doubt some of these answers are contained in his publication.

*Writeup by David Croft.*



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*Speaker for this week: Anoop Nair*

New member Anoop Nair will provide a job talk this Wednesday.

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*Club News: New Member, Anoop Nair*



*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 25th May	<b>Rtn Anoop Nair</b>	-	-	Strathfield Golf Club
Sun 29th May	<b>Rotary Charity Ball</b>	-	-	La Montage
Wed 1st Jun	<b>No meeting - Transfer to 29th</b>	-	-	-
Wed 8th Jun	<b>No meeting - Transfer to 9th June</b>	-	-	-
Thu 9th Jun	<b>Youth Achievement Awards</b>	-	-	Strathfield Town Hall

<i>Birthdays</i>	
-	-

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
31st May	David and Margaret Croft (Wedding)
1st June	Joseph Saad (Rotary)
1st June	Allan Teale (Rotary)





## The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (18-05-22) – in person	16
Club membership	57
Partners	0
Guests	2

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$170.00
Sergeant's session	\$67.65

## 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	Community	Rick Vosila
International	Roy Ellis	Vocational	Alexey Prokopenko
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Arie Pappas

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

## Upcoming event: Gala Ball

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Strathfield  
**Rotary**  
Club

## Save the Date Rotary Charity Ball

Sunday 29 May 2022

6:30 for 7:00 pm  
Le Montage Function Centre  
\$150 per person - all inclusive

All Proceeds To  
The Rotary Foundation  
Strathfield Rotary  
Local Community Projects

Enquiries  
Andrew Aravanis  
[info@strathfieldrotary.org.au](mailto:info@strathfieldrotary.org.au)

*Upcoming event: Youth Achievement Awards*  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June**



**NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN**

The Strathfield Youth Achievement Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of young people who go to school, live, work or train in the Strathfield Local Government Area. Running since 2003, the Awards are organised by the Rotary Club of Strathfield, and feature categories of Arts and Culture, Environment/Community Service, Science and Technology, and Sport.

**Do you know an exceptional young person who deserves their achievements to be recognised?**

Enquiries: [info@strathfieldrotary.org.au](mailto:info@strathfieldrotary.org.au)

*Nominations close 5:00pm Wednesday 18 May 2022*



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