



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

29th September 2021

www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

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 Oct</i>		
-	Rotary	Community Economic Development Month
<i>Weeks of Sept/Oct</i>		
4th-8th Oct	Aust	Australian Wildlife Week
4th-10th Oct	UN	World Space Week
<i>Days of Sept/Oct</i>		
29th Sept	UN	International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste
30th Sept	UN	International Translation Day
30th Sept	UN	World Maritime Day
1st Oct	UN	International Day of Older Persons
2nd Oct	UN	International Day of Non-Violence
4th Oct	UN	World Habitat Day
5th Oct	UN	World Teachers' Day



President's Report



Thaya Ponniah
President

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

The Greek philosopher Aristotle once said that the essence of life is “to serve others

and do good”. It seems that there's an increasing number of people starting to wake up to that philosophy and realise why volunteering is important. People are starting to understand why serving and helping each other benefit, not just others but themselves too. The ethos of Rotary and our motto of “Service Above Self” is still relevant and will be relevant into the future.

People are looking to organisations like our Rotary Club to mend the societal divide and facilitate connections they are so desperate for. This is what our club is thriving to do today.

People inherently want to be brought together, we all crave human connection, and this is where Rotary has positioned itself for 115 years. We offer friendship and make a tangible difference. To me, this is still what makes Rotary relevant, this is what makes it special, and this is why I get encouraged to contribute and be significant.

For the Rotary Club of Strathfield to stay relevant, we need to keep up with what is going on in the changing world around us. We must indeed recognise the importance of tradition and the past that came before us. Rotary has established a history that is so full of rich examples of service around the world. Our club always embraces change, and we tend to thrive on them.

In conclusion, I would like to remind all my friends of two significant events happening this week:

1. Our Youth Service Director, Ying Ho, is organising a Rotaract Club in Strathfield. We have an information evening this Thursday (30th September 2021) at 7 pm. Please encourage any young adults you know to join the virtual meeting. This is a good opportunity for them to check if they would like to join and serve with the Rotaract Club of Strathfield.

2. As we have already discussed, our inaugural "Ahimsa (non-violence) Peace Symposium 2021" will be this Saturday on zoom at 4 pm. This is a cultural diversity initiative of SRf Creatists and the Rotary Club of Strathfield. We will commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd Birth Anniversary also observed as the UN International Day of Non-Violence on 2nd October 2021. We would like to encourage all the members to join this symposium which is chaired by our Assistant Governor and Community Service Director PP Rick Vosila and our young and energetic Rotarian Saroni Roy. We will have great keynote speakers covering some interesting topics like non-violence, the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the global "Women, Peace and Security".

We have more information in this bulletin and on our Facebook regarding the above-mentioned events.

The greatness of humanity is not in being human, but in being humane - Mahatma Gandhi.

Yours in Rotary,

Thaya Ponnia



Director Reports



Rick Vosila
Community



Roy Ellis
Internatiuonal Service

Dear Members,

At metioned at the recent visit by our DG, we launched an online fundraising campaign on the GoFundMe platform in response to our inability to raise service funds in our usual ways. There are many good works we still need to do which will need some significant financial resources. Please take a look inside the campaign which describes the projects we will support with this.

Can I ask that you share this campaign with your friends, colleagues and business associates as broadly as possible with your own covering appeal for support. We would particularly like to target businesses in our local areas seeking their contributions, as well as corporates we may have connections with.

Thanks for your help with this, as together we Serve to Change Lives.

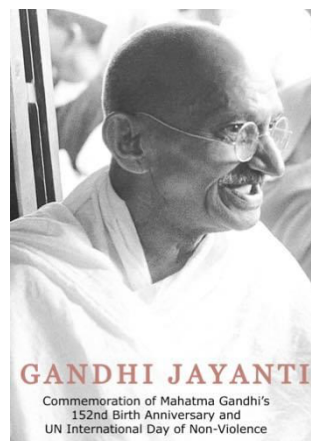
Regards,

Rick Vosila

Simply click <https://gofund.me/f44f0ce3> to go direct to the campaign

Dear Rotarians,

We're pleased to invite you to the inaugural Ahimsa Peace Symposium 2021, a cultural diversity initiative by SRf Creatists, Saroni Roy Foundation and Strathfield Rotary Club. This is to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd Birth Anniversary and UN International Day of Non-Violence on 2nd October 2021



Date: Saturday 2nd October 2021

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm AEST

Location: Live Virtual Event

Cost: Free Event

Link below

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ahimsa-peace-symposium-2021-tickets-169309819227?aff=erelexpmlt>

The Ahimsa Peace Symposium 2021, a tribute to the global peace hero Mahatma Gandhi is a virtual panel of inspirational guest speakers from India and Australia, and a global community forum to discuss Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Ahimsa (non-violence), their articulation with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the global "Women, Peace and Security" agenda.

Amidst the chaos and unprecedented trying times, it is a call for action to multicultural communities, peacebuilders, artists, government leaders, advocacy, media and academia worldwide, for global partnerships, to create a shared blueprint to achieve a better, peaceful and more sustainable future for all.

We look forward to seeing you next Thursday!

For further information contact Ying:
ph. 0410618197
email: info@strathfieldrotary.org.au



Ying Ho
Youth



ROTARACT OPPORTUNITY

You are invited to the Strathfield Rotaract information evening on Thursday 30th September 7pm.

Please join using the following Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/97164936778pwd=b1JOaEhEYTF0TWR2ekQxd1ZhcDRRUT09>

This is where you will find out about all things Rotaract, the vast global network of people and opportunities available to you as a member. We will also have some exciting guest speakers!

Member Announcements

David Croft

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

The District 9675 RYLA committee has advised that the 2022 RYLA program is going ahead from the 3rd-9th of January, 2022 at Stanwell Tops.

The committee is monitoring the COVID-19 situation and developing a response plan.

RYLA is a life-changing leadership program for young adults aged around 19 to 25. The committee has advised that they will consider applications from 18 year olds.

The 7-day program typically has 75 participants and focuses on leadership, personal development, teamwork and community awareness.

RYLA features presentations from many experts who generously donate their time and experience to further the development of young leaders. The program combines workshops and presentations to fully explore the fundamentals of effective leadership.

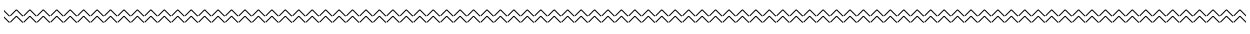
RYLA gives young people the chance to build their communication and problem-solving skills. They will learn from

community leaders, peer mentors, special guest speakers and Rotarians. This is both a challenging and rewarding program.

Awardees will form amazing connections with their fellow participants, and the impact on their lives will go well-beyond the 7 days they spend together.

Further details and the Registration form are now on the District website – <https://www.rotarydistrict9675.org/page/ryla>

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding RYLA or to discuss any potential nominations.



Club News

Our Club has been recognised in the Sydney Metro Business Awards, in the “Outstanding Community Organisation” category.

The Outstanding Community Organisation Award recognises an organisation that works to improve the social, cultural or environmental wellbeing of the community.

2021 Winner

- WorkVentures

2021 Finalists

- Activus Transport
- **Rotary Club of Strathfield.**

Congratulations also to club members **Alexey Prokopenko** and **Joanne Baldwin** with Kite Union being a finalist in the Micro Business category. The Excellence in Micro Business Award recognises a business that has effectively driven growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies implemented to achieve business success and/or resilience.

Alexey was also recognised by being a finalist for his individual contribution. The Outstanding Business Leader award recognises an inspirational business leader aged 36 or over who demonstrates outstanding entrepreneurial spirit, strategic business direction and innovative ideas, whilst providing leadership to the new generation.

Well done Rotary Club of Strathfield, Alexey Prokopenko and Joanne Baldwin!



Speaker from last week: Jodi McKay

Jodi McKay was a guest speaker at our weekly meeting last week, and it was a great and friendly meeting where Jodi had the opportunity to openly share some of her extensive experience in politics and community service, as well as what it's like to be a local member and help people in the community. She described her main job as connecting people to get their needs met, with job loss, Covid health issues, home schooling, and a variety of other issues being among the most common these days.

It was also an opportunity to thank Rod, who generously assisted an elderly member of the Strathfield community

with some gardening work last week. Rod, you did a fantastic job!

As the meeting progressed, she discussed how difficult it has been to be a good and honest politician, as well as the pressure she faced as the leader of the opposition, a position that many people wanted and pushed for. She also reminds us that it is worthwhile to enter politics for the right reasons and to work for what you believe in! We all wished her the best of luck in her future as a politician and community leader. Jodi, We hope to see you soon.

Writeup by Marvin Manrique-Velasquez



Another great Zoom rollup



Speaker for this week: Robert Jordan

As well as being a (new) member of our club, Robert is also a Community Ambassador for Ovarian Cancer Australia.

Rotary International

October is Community Economic Development Month.

“Nearly 1.4 billion employed people live on less than \$1.25 a day. Our members promote economic and community development and reduce poverty in underserved communities through training, well-paying jobs, and access to financial management institutions. Projects range from providing people with equipment to vocational training. Our members work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities.”¹

“Rotary supports investments in people to create measurable and enduring economic improvement in their lives and communities.

References: ¹ <https://my.rotary.org/en/Node/180961>

² <https://rotaryoceania.zone/stories/october-is-economic-and-community-development-month>

The Rotary Foundation enables Rotarians to invest in people by creating sustainable, measurable and long term economic improvements in their communities and livelihoods by :

1. Building the capacity of entrepreneurs, community leaders, local organizations, and community networks to support economic development in impoverished communities;
2. Developing opportunities for productive work;
3. Reducing poverty in under-served communities;
4. Supporting studies for career-minded professionals related to economic and community development.”²

COVID Capers

If you were thinking about travel in the near future as NSW starts to ‘open up’, take a look at how much easier (or more difficult) it would have been if you had done it at some point over the past 750 million years.

<https://dinosaurpictures.org/ancient-earth-750>

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 29th Sept	Robert Jordan Supporting Ovarian Cancer Sufferers	TBA	TBA	Zoom
Wed 6th Oct	Paul Kougias Importance and challenges in grassroots sport	TBA	TBA	Zoom
Wed 13th Oct	Raymond McCuskie The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust	TBA	TBA	Zoom
Wed 20th Oct	Vimla Hayman Rotary Interplast	TBA	TBA	Zoom

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

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

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
30th September	Gulian and Simone Vaccari (wedding)
1st October	Bill Carney (Rotary)
1st October	Mathew Elias (Rotary)
2nd October	Christopher and Toni Virgona (wedding)
2nd October	Trudy Ho (Rotary)





The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (22-09-21) – Zoom	34 ³
Club membership	50
Partners	1
Guests	4

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

³ Includes honorary member Jodi McKay

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

* 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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