

STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc.
District 9690, New South Wales, Australia



President Grahame True
Secretary Allan Petersen
Editors Ian Johnson / Peter Douglas /
Bert Houston / Angelo Franco
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Web: www.strathfieldrotary.org.au
APOLOGIES BY 4pm TUES Eric Khu 9746 0397
OR EXTRA ATTENDEES Email: brontin@bigpond.com
LATE APOLOGIES by 5pm WEDS: Kevin Freund 0412 494125
Wednesday, February 11 2009

FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

Last week, guest speaker Peter Sargent certainly gave us food for thought about getting involved in the setting up and running of a local Men's Shed. The next board meeting will be discussing the viability of this venture. It is always a pleasure to welcome travelling Rotarians to our club and last week we did just that, Bob Milner from the Rotary club of Cowes on the Isle of Wight. The exchange of banners and a little banter made for an enjoyable visit. The Brazilian G.S.E Team will be visiting the Burwood club on Monday 16th February. We have been invited along with the Concord club and the Breakfast Point club to come and see their presentation. It is 6.15pm for 6.30pm at the Burwood RSL, partners are most welcome. Please contact John Mansour on 0418 262 329 and let him know if you are attending. I received the Rotary Foundations annual report this week and it is interesting to read of the projects the foundation is involved in – it is on the treasurers table for you to peruse. The Doug and Terry tag team is well underway in organising the inaugural 'Sergeants Dinner' for our March 11th club meeting. They are inviting past members and partners to revisit for a night of fine food, fine wine and fine fellowship. I am looking forward to reacquainting myself with past Strathfield Rotarians.

I would like to thank Keith Burn who has arranged to organise our car trial on Sunday 22nd March so don't forget to 'save the date' – it is going to be a great day.

The annual Trish Foundation Charity Day is on the 19th February – golf for the golfers, food for the foodies or you can partake in both – never having picked up a golf club it will be interesting to watch those who have – don't forget to invite your friends to help support the foundation.

Whilst on the subject of friends Ray Wilson needs names and addresses for the membership night which will be on the 22nd April. Ray is very keen to invite as many prospective Rotarians as possible so please give him your support.

The commitment sheet for this Saturday's 'Dinner at the Duxbury's' will be circulating tonight for the last time, if you have not yet marked *yay* or *nay* please do so – see you on the 14th.

Happy Valentines Day

Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

Embrace Life and Get Results

Margit Kent

Introduced by Joe Campisi

Thanked by Roger Vince

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE!!!

NEXT WEEK'S MEETING TRANSFERRED TO TRISH GOLF DAY ON THURSDAY 19/2/09

CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

11/02/2009 **Welwyn Petersen**
22/02/2009 **Anne Manenti**
23/02/2009 **ROTARY 1905**
Bradley Ayres
25/02/2009 **Ross Brown**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

18/02/2009 **George & Afaf Helou**

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

15 Feb **Peter Douglas**

LAST WEEK'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Peter Sergeant from 'MENSHEDES'. Peter was introduced by Paul White.

Peter informed us that there are around 150 Men's sheds across Australia and New Zealand with limited expansion to the United Kingdom. The project has been described as the best concept in men's health since the initial opening 5 years ago. The idea is to balance health, culture and lifestyle with economic outcomes.

There are various types of sheds but the basic concept is to provide a place for men to meet, have fun and do practical things. It is a place to learn about culture and life skills, to pass on craftsmanship, to create jobs and business opportunities and to give men their lives back in their respective communities. There is a wide range of activities carried out within sheds including woodwork, metalwork, art and computing. Men's sheds are open to men of all ages. It is not about groups of grumpy old men nor is it a place for secret men's business.

Peter spoke of a particular men's shed which is recycling bicycles.

'Mensheds' is a registered health charity and is a not for profit corporation. The management structure provides a website, help desk, resource centre and technology infrastructure.

Men's sheds have regard to the health and wellbeing of its members by creating activity with physical, mental, social and spiritual outcomes. There is a strong community involvement and the sheds help address the needs of isolation and loneliness. They are a bridge to good health.

Peter informed us that there is men's shed in Strathfield and President Grahame indicated his keenness to make contact with this group.

A further development is mobile men's sheds providing mobile services to country communities.

Also a flying men's shed in partnership with the Royal Flying Doctor Service providing services to remote country areas.

After a series of questions Peter was thanked by PP Bert Houston.

Last Club Meeting's Statistics

VISITOR: - Bob Milner (Isle of Wight Rotary UK)
Ron Fox (Parramatta Rotary)

Attendance: 35 **Apol:** 10 **Non-Apol:** 12

Exempt Members: - 4

LOA: *Eve Dutton:* till 11 February, 2009

Suzanne Freund: till 31 May, 2009

Brian Driver: till 30 April 2009

Peter Harries: till 15 April, 2009.

The Sergeant raised \$116³⁰

Last Week's Raffle by Keith Byrn

(The raffle raised \$230⁰⁰)

1 st Prize	Razor & Travel Pack	Neil Kennan
2 nd Prize	Books & DVD	Allan Petersen
3 rd Prize	Bottle of Wine	Dominic Alvaro
4 th Prize	Box of Fruit & Nuts	Gary Pearce
5 th Prize	Bottle of Wine	Ted Ingall

COMING EVENTS

14th February 2009 (Sat.) *VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER*
Dining at the Duxbury's. \$35pp. Swimming/Tennis optional
82 Abbotsford Road Homebush @ 5:00pm

16th February 2009 (Monday)

The Brazilian G.S.E Team at Burwood Rotary Club.

The Strathfield Club, the Concord Club and the Breakfast Point Club are welcome to see their presentation.

6.15pm for 6.30pm at the Burwood RSL. Partners Welcome. Contact John Mansour on 0418 262 329

19th February 2009. (Thursday)

Trish Charity Golf Day & Dinner
(Strathfield Golf Club)

6th – 8th March 2009.

District Conference Cypress Lakes Resort,
Hunter Valley

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

- Commitment Sheets for The Trish Golf Day on 19th Feb. and for Dinner at the Duxbury's on 14th Feb.
- President of Burwood Club has advised that the GSE team from Brazil will be doing a presentation on 16th Feb. at their club. It is a partner's night and the cost is \$25 per head.
- Informed members of PP Brian Johnson's health issues.
- Exchanged banners with a visitor from Cowes on the Isle of Wight.

From Secretary Alan Petersen

- Robert Lee sends greetings to the Club.
- Trivia Night will be held on Friday 20 February 2009 at Burwood RSL Club. The cost is \$15 per person.

From Director Janelle Watson

- Thank you received for \$1,000 contribution to the Bed Net Program.

From Director Niall King

- Trish Golf Day on 19 February 2009. Reminder to return player's sheets and raffle tickets.

From Treasurer Charles Pitt

- Reminder to pay fees due.
- Requested that members collecting merchandise on behalf of the Club from Rotary Down Under check what they are receiving and sign for what they are receiving.

From Ray Wilson

- Needs names and addresses of prospective new members by 18 March for Information Night on 22 April.

From Fred Haddon

- Reported to members on the Strathfield School for Seniors and sought assistance from members on "painting hair on a monkey".

From Sergeant Terry Rohan

- Requested names and addresses of past members of the Club in relation to the Sergeant's Dinner on 18 March.

COMING EVENTS

21st March to 10th October 2009.

"Great Aust. Bike Ride" Nine Stages Around Australia
Stage One & Two (Melb-Hobart-Melb 21-29 Mar)
Stage Three (Melbourne to Sydney 21st Mar) and *Stage Four (Sydney to Brisbane 19th April)*. Register as a rider/ sponsor at www.greataustralianbikeride.org.au

22nd March 2009. (Sunday)

Car Trial Organised by Keith Byrn

17th May 2009.

District 9690 Family of Rotary Picnic Day

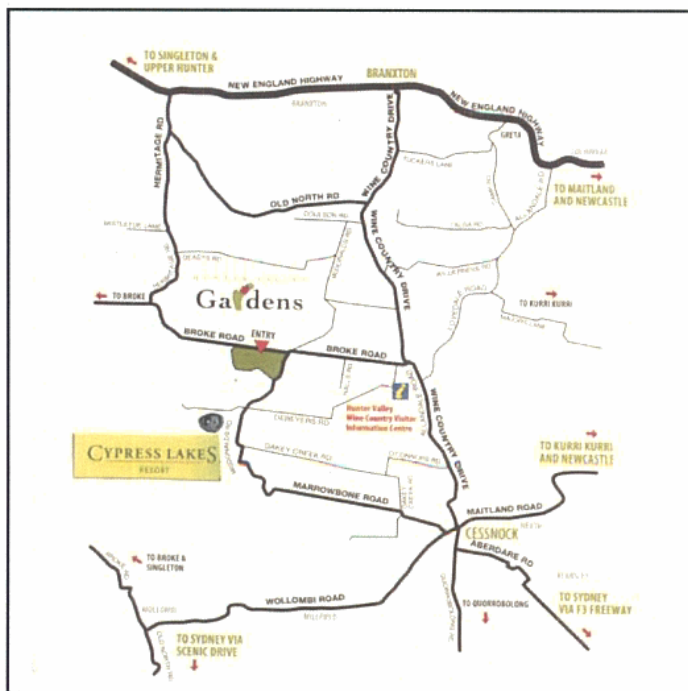
"Casuarina" Picnic Ground. Nurragingy Reserve, Doonside.
10:30am-3:30pm. Contact Marilyn Mercer,
hawkesbury@rotarnet.com.au

2008-2009 DISTRICT 9690 CONFERENCE



Chairman Ted Ingall wishes to advise attendees at the 'Make Dreams Real' Conference at **Cypress Lakes Resort** on **Broke Road** in the **Hunter Valley** of the following details.

1. *Friday is the 10am tee-off for the golf lover's day. The registration fee includes an electric cart, a gourmet lunch delivered on course and a 2:30 "prize time" sausage sizzle.*
2. *Free with every full registration is a Hunter Valley Gardens entry*
3. *A feature of Cypress Lakes Resort is a spa on the first floor above the conference registration area*
4. *Saturday Night is the 'Rotary Stars' Theme Dinner. Come as your favorite Movie Star or Movie Character*
5. *Featured Speakers include:-*
 - James Morrison
 - Kerri Pottharst
 - Professor Ian Hickie
 - Deepa Willingham
6. *To get there, Cypress Lakes is approximately 90 minutes north of Sydney and 10 minutes from Cessnock. Proceed through Cessnock, turn left and immediately then drive past the airport to Broke Road. Turn left onto Broke road. At the T intersection turn left again and Cypress Lakes is on the right about 2 Kms*



FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

18th February 2009

NO MEETING

Transferred to Trish Golf Day 19/2/09

25th February 2009

Weird and Strange Weapons

Paul Martin

Introduced by Steve Taylor Thanked by Tony Brown

4th March 2009

NO MEETING

Transferred to District Conference

11th March 2009

Polio Plus Program

Valda Bray

Introduced by Niall King Thanked by Ray McCluskie

18th March 2009

Sergeant's Dinner

PARTNERS' NIGHT

Doug Potter

25th March 2009

RYLA presentation

Maria and Vanessa

Introduced by Peter Van der Sleenen Thanked by Bradley Ayres

1st April 2009

St Mary's House

Sister Josephine Brimo

Introduced by Janelle Watson Thanked by Brian Driver

8th April 2009

Elizabeth Farm Visit

PARTNERS' NIGHT

Bronwyn Alcorn

Introduced by Janelle Watson Thanked by Brian Driver

15th April 2009

An evening at OTEN College

Wentworth Road, Burwood

22nd April 2009

Rotary Information Night

Membership Promotion by Ray Wilson

29th April 2009

Youth Achievements Awards Night

Tony Lanzafame & Strathfield Council

What Is Group Study Exchange?

Group Study Exchange (GSE) is an educational program of The Rotary Foundation wherein Rotary districts in different countries are paired to send and receive professional study groups of four to six non-Rotarian team members and one Rotarian team leader to travel for four to six weeks, staying in the homes of Rotarians when possible.

Goals and Objectives

The Group Study Exchange program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women in their initial years of professional life. The program is designed to develop professional and leadership skills among young adults so that they can address the needs of their communities and an increasingly global workplace. GSE offers Rotarians the opportunity to participate in sending, receiving, and sharing educational experiences of study teams that will enhance Rotary's worldwide mission. GSE participants follow an extensive and rigorous program of international travel and team activities.

BRAZILIAN GSE TEAM MEMBERS

Elizabeth Daros

As a teacher, I would like to know places and people related to the education. Nowadays I develop my work not in a classroom, but in the administrative part, for the Secretary of State of Education of Paraná, more specifically in the “Núcleo Regional da Educação de Cornélio Procópio”. Another area of interest is in law, because it is my second graduation (2007). As I am getting experience in this new area, I would like to have the opportunity of knowing as much as I can about law in Australia.

Maristela Miranda da Silva

In Brazil I work as a teacher in private and public schools. I teach children, adolescents and adults. I hope that this month of living and learning will help me to grow professionally and culturally. My deep interest is in sharing lifestyles. In visiting your area I would enjoy the natural environment, the history, the bunch of activities, entertainment on offer. My personal qualities are enthusiasm, organizational skills, and good sense of humour. My strong desire is growing in teaching field and improving my English and after that, helping my students in my community by showing, telling them about an unforgettable time in Australia, especially in my host family.

Ilona Adriana Davidse

I have worked with five-year-old children at kindergarten for about ten years. I stopped teaching them because I was working too long hours and had no time to prepare my classes properly since I also taught English at a language school. Nowadays I only work at this school. There I have been working with people of all ages and all levels, my youngest students are nine and the oldest is sixty. My parents are Dutch and run an agricultural farm. We live on this farm and I help my father with the book-keeping. In my free time I love travelling, therefore I believe visiting Australia, meeting new people, exchanging personal and professional experiences is going to be very enriching.

Ana Maria Caetano

This exchange program will be very important to my professional life and to help me to get acquainted with new people, new culture. I hope as an English teacher, to improve my fluency in English and also to share my knowledge about this experience with my students and my co-workers. I work at a language school with about ninety-five students of different ages. I have 6 to 10 years old, at this age they like to play games in English, to sing children songs and to learn some grammar. I also teach teenagers between 11 and 18 years old, and adults. I teach until the intermediate level. I enjoy being in contact with different people of different ages as we have too much to learn from all of them. I'm very happy in my profession, and with this opportunity abroad in contact with another culture, I hope to be better in my profession and my life and ready to help as necessary.

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

Signs of our Time

From Peter Smith

Sign over a Gynaecologist's Office:

'Dr. Jones, at your cervix.'

In a Podiatrist's office:

'Time wounds all heels.'

On a Septic Tank Truck:

'Yesterday's Meals on Wheels'

On a Plumber's truck:

'We repair what your husband fixed.'

On another Plumber's truck:

'Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.'

On a Church's Bill board:

'7 days without God makes one weak.'

At a Tyre Store

'Invite us to your next blow-out.'

On an Electrician's truck:

'Let us remove your shorts.'

In a Non-smoking Area:

'If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action.'

On a Maternity Room door:

'Push. Push. Push.'

At an Optometrist's Office:

'If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place.'

On a Taxidermist's window:

'We really know our stuff.'

On a Fence:

'Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive!'

At a Car Dealership:

'The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment.'

Outside a Car Exhaust Store:

'No appointment necessary. We hear you coming.'

In a Vets waiting room:

'Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!'

In a Restaurant window:

'Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up.'

In the front yard of a Funeral Home:

'Drive carefully. We'll wait.'

And don't forget the sign at a RADIATOR SHOP:

'Best place in town to take a leak.'

Sign on the back of yet another Septic Tank Truck:

'Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises'