



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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Wednesday, February 4 2009

FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

Last Wednesday Jeanie Muspratt delivered an engrossing talk on bush care. It was wonderful to listen to someone so passionate about their work. I can't believe we live so close to the CBD and are still able to sustain at least some of the natural habitat.

The commitment sheet for 'Dinner at the Duxbury's' is circulating again, don't forget to fill it in as I am sure it is going to be a great night.

In November Warwick Tester spoke to us on the attributes of the Centurion Programme. I feel \$100 donated to the programme is a \$100 well spent all going to Rotary Health. I hope all our members feel the same.

Congratulations go out to past Rotarian Jeff Boyce being named as Strathfield Citizen of the Year on Australia Day. We noted he was still celebrating on Saturday night at a local restaurant with a grin from ear to ear.

It was wonderful to hear that Carol and Roy Langford the founders of the Trish M. S. Research Foundation both received an O.A.M in the Australia Day Honours List. Their continuing effort in supporting Multiple Sclerosis Research has not gone unrecognised.

The Trish Foundation Golf and Dinner is fast approaching – 19th February. Raffle tickets were issued last week for this great cause. Could you please return the butts ASAP to Niall. I am looking forward to seeing a big roll up of members and their friends to support this gala occasion.

The Men's' Shed sounds like an unusual subject of this week's guest speaker Peter Sergeant. I am interested to hear if Peter can put my shed back into order!

The tennis has finished –for the moment. I can now get my beauty sleep these late nights take their toll!!

Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

Men's Shed

Peter Sergeant

Introduced by Paul White Thanked by Bert Houston

CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

4/02/2009

Peter Foss

5/02/2009

Ted Ingall

11/02/2009

Welwyn Petersen

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

8/02/2009

Ray & Ann McCluskie

Joseph & Grace Kim

9/02/2009

Andrew & Maria Kowalski

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

11 Feb

Allan Petersen

LAST WEEK'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Jeannie Muspratt, Environmental Project Officer with Strathfield Council. Jeannie was introduced by PP Joe Saad.

Jeannie, who has a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Science and a Certificate 3 from TAFE, has worked for the Strathfield Council Department of Planning in the Parks and Gardens area,

She has been employed by the council for close to 3 years and surprised us by stating she walks to work from Croydon.

Council has a policy of working towards a sustainable environment where the natural urban environment is clean and healthy and biodiversity is protected.

Council has a 3 year management plan and a 12 month operational plan. Council has an area of 14.1 square kilometres and services a population of 34,000.

Jeannie spoke of 3 distinct areas within council where she is particularly active.

The first area was the passage of the Cooks River through the council area. Council has been working for some time on restoring the river banks. We can all see the progress that has been made where the river meanders through the Strathfield Golf Club. Council is involved with other councils between here and Botany Bay in the Cooks River sustainability project.

The next area was the Cox's Creek area of some 1.5 hectares which is on the southern border with Bankstown Council. Council is engaged in bush regeneration in this small area which is home to one of the last stands of Acacia Fluffy Wattle. One of the difficulties of this area is the fact that it is totally surrounded by industrial buildings.

The final area is the Mason Park wetlands which borders Olympic Park. This area is home to migratory birds from the Northwest Pacific Region. The area is being planted with low salt marsh species with the assistance of the Sydney Catchment Authority.

The council has a Bush-Care program where vital assistance is provided by volunteers who help with planting and weeding. On national Tree Day in 2008 over 1000 trees were planted. There is also a corporate tree planting project in Cook Park with the involvement of Mitsubishi.

Other areas of council involvement include resource recovery, waste education and 'Clean Up Australia' Day which occurs early in March.

After a range of questions Jeannie was thanked by Trevor Duxbury

Australian Rotarian receives Humanitarian Honours



Rotarian Alex Buchanan is the 2008-09 recipient of The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award.

Buchanan, of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, is a retired food technologist and scientist. He studied Agriculture and Science as a 1959-60 Ambassadorial Scholar at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, USA. His research has led to improvements in food production to support developing nations and emergency relief activities.

Among Buchanan's accomplishments are the development of the Australian milk biscuit, a high-protein biscuit used by the Australian Government and many Rotary Clubs for emergency food aid, and the creation of affordable, nutritionally balanced infant food for health centres in Thailand. Buchanan also helped implement the first successful cooperative food research projects between Australia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. On 26 January, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to food science and technology and to the community.

Currently, Buchanan helps to manage the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowment Fund. He was nominated for the award by District 9800 and was the winner for Zone 8.

The Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award was created to honor outstanding former Foundation program participants whose extraordinary service to humanity and professional achievements exemplify the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

- Strathfield Council has announced *Geoff Boyce*, a former Club member, as Strathfield Senior Citizen of the Year
- *David Croft & Bert Houston* organising Anzac Day Breakfast at Cape Cabarita
- Commitment Sheets for:-
 - The Trish Golf Day, 19th Feb
 - Dinner at the Duxbury's, 14th Feb

From Director Niall King

- Three weeks to Trish Golf Day
- Raffle Tickets for Trish Foundation being distributed to all members

From Director Janelle Watson

- Reminder of GSE Dinner at Panthers, Penrith on 11th Feb
- This month's edition of the Rotarian Magazine now available

From Ray Wilson

- Organising another Rotary Information Night for the 22nd of April. Members are asked to provide Ray with the name and address of potential members for a mail-out.
- Guests will attend on this night free of charge
- Nominations required by 18th March.

From Sergeant Doug Potter

- The Sergeant's Dinner on 18th March will be a "Back To Strathfield Night" for all Past Members
- Members requested to provide Doug with details of Past Members of the Club.

Last Club Meeting's Statistics

VISITOR: - Darryl Slater (Campbelltown Rotary)

Attendance: 34 **Apol:** 12 **Non-Apol:** 19
Exempt Members: - 2 **LOA:** 1

The Sergeant raised \$116³⁰

Last Week's Raffle by Keith Byrn

(The raffle raised \$210⁰⁰)

1 st Prize	Razor & Travel Pack	Bert Houston
2 nd Prize	Books	Warren Abbott
3 rd Prize	Bottle of Wine	Peter Smith
4 th Prize	Dinner next week	Peter Douglas

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

11th February 2009

Embrace Life and Get Results

Margit Kent

Introduced by Joe Campisi Thanked by Roger Vince

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

Doug Potter

25th March 2009

RYLA presentation

Maria and Vanessa

Introduced by Peter Van der Sleen 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

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

Applications for Future Vision Plan pilot

District governors may now apply to be a Future Vision Plan pilot district. Applications must be received by The Rotary Foundation no later than **15 May, 2009**. The pilot is a three-year test of the Future Vision Plan's new grant structure, which simplifies the process into two types of grants: **Rotary Foundation District Grants** and **Rotary Foundation Global Grants**. The pilot begins 1 July 2010.

Districts interested in applying must obtain approval from two-thirds of their member clubs. From the applicants, The Foundation Trustees will select up to 100 districts. Throughout its more than 90-year history, the Foundation has made only slight modifications to its programs. The Future Vision Plan, and those districts that participate in the pilot, will assist the Foundation in creating a more effective and efficient way to help Rotarians develop diverse projects with greater impact and sustainable outcomes.

COMING EVENTS

11th February 2009. (Wednesday)

Rotary Foundation Alumni Dinner

Panthers World of Entertainment. Mulgoa Road, Penrith.

Welcome the GSE Team from D4710 Brazil, & farewell

the team going to Brazil Cost: \$30.00 per head. E-mail

your RSVP by 30 January 2009 to:-

events@penrithvalleyrotary.org

14th February 2009 (Sat.) VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Dining at the Duxbury's. \$35pp. Swimming/Tennis optional

82 Abbotsford Road Homebush @ 5:00pm

19th February 2009. (Thursday)

Trish Charity Golf Day & Dinner

Strathfield Golf Club

6th – 8th March 2009.

District Conference

Cypress Lakes Resort,

Hunter Valley

18th March 2009.

"Sergeant's Dinner"

Dinner with a military theme

21st March to 10th October 2009.

"Great Aust. Bike Ride" Nine Stages from

Melbourne 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 or sponsor at

www.greataustralianbikeride.org.au

22nd April 2009.

Rotary Information Night

Membership Recruitment Night

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

Strathfield Australia Day Award Recipients

The Club extends congratulations to *Geoffrey Boyce* and *Jamal Kayrouz* who are Strathfield's new Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year in recognition of their tireless work in the community.

Both were presented with their awards by Mayor of Strathfield, *Keith Kwon* and Strathfield's Australia Day Ambassador and Superbike World Champion, *Warwick Nowland* at Council's Australia Day event held at Strathfield Park.



HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

The Word of Moses

From Tony Lanzafame

Recently, after disembarking Air Force One and strolling across the tarmac of an airport during one of his many trips, President Bush encountered a man with long grey hair and beard, wearing a white robe and sandals, holding a staff.

President Bush went up to the man and said, 'Has anyone told you that you look like Moses?'

The man didn't answer. He just kept staring straight ahead.

The President said, 'Moses!' in a loud voice. The man just stared ahead, never acknowledging the president.

The President then pulled a Secret Service agent aside and, pointing to the robed man, asked, 'Am I crazy or does that man not look like Moses to you? The Secret Service agent looked at the man and agreed.

'Well,' said the President, 'every time I say his name, he ignores me and stares straight ahead, refusing to speak. 'Watch!'. Again the President yelled, 'Moses!' and again the man ignored him.

The Secret Service agent went up to the man in the white robe and whispered, 'You look just like Moses. Are you Moses?'

The man leaned over and whispered back, 'Shhhh! Yes, I am Moses. But the last time I talked to a bush, I spent 40 years wandering in the desert and ended up leading my people to the only spot in the entire Middle East with no oil.'

CRICKET:

From Ray McCluskie

(The In's and Out's of the Game)

You have two sides -- one out in the field and one in.

Each man who's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out.

When they are all out, the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in out.

Sometimes you get men still in and not out.

When both sides have been in and out including the not outs, that's the end of the game

HOWZAT

Best Short Story of the Month

From Doug Potter

Two guys are drinking in a bar.

One says, "Did you know that Lions have sex 10 to 15 times a night?"

"BUGGER!" says his friend. "And I just joined Rotary."

The Motel Bill

From Peter Harries

Next time you think your hotel bill is too high you might want to consider this.

A husband and wife are travelling by car from Brisbane to Melbourne. After almost ten hours on the road, they're too tired to continue and they decide to stop for a rest. They stop at a nice hotel and take a room, but they only plan to sleep for four hours and then get back on the road.

When they check out four hours later, the desk clerk; hands them a bill for \$450.00.

The man explodes and demands to know why the charge is so high. He tells the clerk although it's a nice hotel; the rooms certainly aren't worth \$450.00.

When the clerk tells him \$450.00 is the standard rate, the man insists on speaking to the Manager.

The Manager appears, listens to the man, and then explains that the hotel has an Olympic-sized pool and a huge conference centre that were available for the husband and wife to use.

'But we didn't use them,' the man complains.

'Well, they are here, and you could have,' explains the Manager.

He goes on to explain they could have taken in one of the shows for which the hotel is Famous. 'The best entertainers from New York, Hollywood, and Las Vegas Perform here,' the Manager says.

'But we didn't go to any of those shows,' complains the man again.

'Well, we have them, and you could have,' the Manager replies.

No matter what amenity the Manager mentions! , the man replies, 'But we didn't use it!'

The Manager is unmoved, and eventually the man gives up and agrees to pay.

He writes a check and gives it to the Manager.

The Manager is surprised when he looks at the cheque.

'But sir,' he says, 'this cheque is only made out for \$50.00.'

'That's correct,' says the man. 'I charged you \$400.00 for sleeping with my Wife.'

'But I didn't!' exclaims the Manager.

'Well, too bad,' the man replies. 'She was here and you could have.'