

STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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/ Angelo Franco
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LATE APOLOGIES Kevin Freund 0412 494125

Wednesday, July 23 2008

JULY IS NEW ROTARY OFFICERS' MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

Looking back on World Youth Day wasn't it refreshing to see so many smiling faces on the youth of the world, young people of all nations coming together and enjoying life – perhaps future Rotarians.

Last Wednesday it was great to hear a little bit of history first hand on the trials and tribulations of sheering in country Australia.

Brad and Cheryl popped in the other afternoon and I would like to report on how well Cheryl is looking. She has had a few stints in hospital and her treatment is going to plan.

Fellows, I have now realised how the best laid plans don't always work out, to date three meetings and none have finished on time – I will try to be pick up my act.

Secretary Allan is overseas at the moment and I would like to thank PP. Roger for stepping into the secretaries' position. All invoices for dues not received by hand this week will be forwarded by post. Please ensure prompt payment so we can fulfil our obligations to RI.

Sunday 27th July is National Tree Day. This is Australia's biggest community tree planting event. National Tree Day started in 1996 and more than 1.5 million volunteers have planted 11.5 million native trees and shrubs. Strathfield Council is celebrating this by having a tree planting at Hudson Park oval on the 27th; we will be doing the BBQ and if you can help see Shirley or myself.

Following our win last Saturday night against the Springboks it is very timely that tonight we will be hearing from George Ayoub, our own home grown international referee – welcome George.

Remember

Fun and fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S MEETING

A Whistle-Stop Tour with an International Rugby Referee

George Ayoub

Introduced by Peter Manenti

Thanked by Doug Potter

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays

25/07/2008

Brian Johnson

28/07/2008

Anuradha Kamkolkar

Wedding Anniversaries

NIL

Rotary Anniversaries

NIL

LAST MEETING'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Don Burvall who was introduced by Janelle Watson. His subject was 'Life in a Shearing Shed'

Don, who is a retired Wool Classer, is a member of the Rotary Club of Chester Hill. He has been an assistant judge at the Royal Easter Show and has also taught at TAFE.

There are 2 types of Wool Classer – Professional and Owner Classer. As a professional Don has his own unique stencil which means any bale of wool which he has classed can be identified anywhere within the chain from shearing to manufacture.

There are 3 clearly defined areas of sheep production. There are those (basically Merino) which are raised for the sole purpose of providing wool. Then there are those that are fattened for the domestic meat market and finally the live export market.

Wool is classed on the fineness of the fibre. This is expressed in microns which is a measure of the diameter of the wool fibre. In June 2008 a bale of wool produced by the Hillcrest Pinehill Partnership which had an average micron measurement of 11.6 realised \$247,480. It was exported to India.

Most wool between 11.5 and 24 microns is used in clothing. Larger micron wool is used for blankets, insulation and furnishings.

In the shearing shed the day starts with a hearty breakfast (normally a female cook) and then progresses through the day with a break for morning tea, then lunch, followed by afternoon tea and finally dinner. Surprisingly the classer was provided with a separate table with full table service. Shearer's quarters were very basic.

In the late 1800's shearer's using hand shears were paid 14 shillings per 100 sheep shorn. The current rate with machine shearing is \$202 per 100.

As the saying goes Australia has progressed on the sheep's back. From the original 28 sheep in the First Fleet the flock reached a peak of 183 million in the 1970's. Currently the flock numbers are around 100 million located on around 70000 properties across Australia. The largest property was Thylungra Downs in Queensland which had an area of 23000 square miles and had 101 shearing stands. It now fattens cattle.

Other items mentioned by Don included the introduction of the 'wide' combs, chemical shearing, mulesing of sheep to prevent blowfly strike and shearing records.

After questions from the floor which included Tax Accountant Charles Pitt seeking clarification of the terms 'not found' and 'found' which relates to the provision of tucker for the shearing gang Don was thanked by PP Roger Vince

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

- More assistance needed for barbecue on Sunday 27 July 2008 at Hudson Park for National Tree Day, 10am to 1pm. \$500 to the Club
- Burwood Club is having Craig James from COMSEC as their guest speaker on 21 July 2008.
- David Giri has tendered his resignation from the Club which has been accepted.
- Commitment sheet for Buddah Raska.
- Advised that Silverwater was no longer a club and that the former members had been invited to join our club.

From Acting Secretary Roger Vince

- Certificate of Appreciation received for our recent donation of a Shelter Box. We have been advised of the Box Number so that we may follow its destination.
- -Letter of thanks received from two RYPEN attendees from Homebush Boys High.

From Director Trevor Duxbury

- -Requested that extra attendees be advised to Eric Khu to assist with catering.
- -Late apologies now to be advised to Kevin Freund.
- -Weekly record to be kept recording attendances, apologies and other reasons for non-attendance.

From Treasurer Charles Pitt

- Shirley is collecting Half Yearly Dues and issuing receipts.

From Ray Wilson

- -Golf Day and Lunch on 31 July 2008.
- -Attended luncheon for new Rotary International President who gave an inspiring speech.

From Richard Horwood

- -Reintroduced himself to the Club after a long absence.

Last Meeting's Statistics

Welcome back David McGlynn

Attendance: 40

Apologies: 11

LOA: Silma Ihram, Arjun Jeganathan, Allan Petersen

Last Meeting's Raffle

1st Prize Hair Dryer

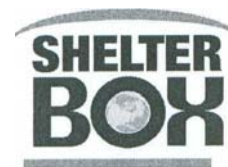
Arthur Crossan

2nd Prize Theatre Tickets

Kevin Freund

3rd Prize Red Wine

Anuradha Kamkolkar



AUSTRALIA

Thank you *for* your kind donation to this wonderful global humanitarian program - it is now the largest Rotary Club project in the world. A Certificate of Appreciation has been given to your Club with the number **AUS 4319**. Each ShelterBox purchased with a donation of \$1,200.⁰⁰ is given a number and those numbers are shown on each certificate. The AUS numbers are for ShelterBoxes purchased with donations from within Australia (since 2003). By referring to that number, donors can track the eventual deployment *of* their Shelter Box on a *Roll of Honour* on the websites www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au and on the principal site maintained in the home *of* ShelterBox in Helston, Cornwall in the United Kingdom, www.shelterbox.org. This tracking of each ShelterBox is a unique feature of this program.

Thank you again *for* your valued support. It has contributed to the replenishment *of* stocks *of* ShelterBoxes that have recently been deployed in huge numbers alleviating suffering throughout the world, and is greatly appreciated by us all.

The need exists... the need persists

PP David Langworthy

Chairman

Board of Directors ShelterBox Australia

PDG Ray Stewart

Administrator

ShelterBox Australia

COMING EVENTS

27th July 2008.

National Tree Day, 10am to 1pm.

BBQ at Hudson Park for Strathfield Council. \$500 donation to Club

29th July 2008. (Tuesday)

Social Evening @ Buddah Raska.

31st July 2008.

Golf Day and Lunch. Strathfield Golf Club

\$40 pp. Contact Niall King

27th August 2008.

Police Officer of the Year Awards

6:30 for 7:00pm

Partners Night

3rd September 2008

District Governor's Visit

23rd October 2008. (Thursday)

District Championship Golf Day

Strathfield Golf Club

7th – 9th March 2009.

District Conference

Cypress Lakes Resort, **Hunter Valley**

Letter from Homebush HS Students at RYPEN

Dear Strathfield Rotary Club,

Phillip Stapleton and Bilal Muzzaffar thank you for sponsoring us for RYPEN. We had a wonderful time at Springwood and took part in valuable lessons, which were very beneficial and influential. We also showed our varying capabilities in teamwork by being organised into groups and taking part in a variety of activities.

The speakers that contributed to RYPEN provided Rypennians with precious knowledge that will hopefully be applied through our various stages in life. The first and second speakers gave a special motivational speech about getting out of comfort zones, working diligently, having a positive attitude, becoming confident individuals, and leadership. Our old school captain (Mohammad Zaoud) was another appealing speaker who told us about how RYPEN changed him in a positive way and that we all can achieve greatly by using what we've learnt in RYPEN. The rest of the speakers told about the world around us: the crime, the famine, and the people that are considered outcasts in society and how their previous experiences have contributed to their actions. These demonstrations inspired us to be more concerned and aware about such major issues in this world.

The activities between the talks also provided us with an opportunity to work as a team with our groups and to bond with our peers. We learnt much about team work, leadership, communication and making friends. The normally quiet Bilal was particularly social and the normally rowdy Phillip provided the humour at camp. Overall, our experiences were outstanding and were very significant steps in our life. Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity.

Kind regards,

Bilal Muzzaffar

Phillip Stapleton

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

30th July 2008

The Exodus Foundation

Brian Odgers

Introduced by David Croft Thanked by Steve Taylor

6th August 2008

Group Study Exchange Team (GSE)

Introduced by Paul Giammarco

13th August 2008

The Literature Extension Program

Gabrielle Corry, Strathfield Girls High School

Introduced by Peter Van der Sleen

20th August 2008

Clemente Australia,

“Opportunities for the Disadvantaged”

Associate Professor Peter Howard

Introduced by Keith Stockall Thanked by Tony Lanzafame

27th August 2008

Police Officer of the Year Awards

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

Introduced by Peter Smith

3rd September 2008

District Governor's Visit

Introduced by Harley Tarrant

10th September 2008

Loyal Staff and Loyal Customers

Two Problems with One Solution

Matt Balogh (McNair Ingenuity)

Introduced by Neil Kennan Thanked by Raymond McCluskie

17th September 2008

Kids, the ultimate community responsibility

Craig Davis (Youth off the Street) Sydney Swans

Introduced by Peter Smith Thanked by Bert Houston

24th September 2008

Meriden Principal (To Be Confirmed)

Dr Julie Greenhalgh

1st October 2008

Operation Atlas, ICAC Wollongong

Lewis Rangott

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

Introduced by Neil Kennan Thanked by Rod McDougall

8th October 2008

Careflight

Don Kemble

Introduced by Trevor Duxbury Thanked by Bradley Ayres

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

In Praise of Older Women

In case you missed it on 60 Minutes, this is what Andy Rooney, 60 Minutes Correspondent (CBS), thinks about women over 40:

As I grow in age, I value women over 40 most of all. Here are just a few reasons why: A woman over 40 will never wake you in the middle of the night and ask, 'What are you thinking?' She doesn't care what you think. If a woman over 40 doesn't want to watch the game, she doesn't sit around whining about it. She does something she wants to do, and it's usually more interesting. Women over 40 are dignified. They seldom have a screaming match with you at the opera or in the middle of an expensive restaurant. Of course, if you deserve it, they won't hesitate to shoot you if they think they can get away with it. Older women are generous with praise, often undeserved. They know what it's like to be unappreciated. Women get psychic as they age. You never have to confess your sins to a woman over 40. Once you get past a wrinkle or two, a woman over 40 is far sexier than her younger counterpart. Older women are forthright and honest. They'll tell you right off if you are a jerk if you are acting like one. You don't ever have to wonder where you stand with her! Yes, we praise women over 40 for a multitude of reasons. Unfortunately, it's not reciprocal. For every stunning, smart, well-coiffed, hot woman over 40, there is a bald, paunchy relic in yellow pants making a fool of himself with some 22-year old waitress. Ladies, I apologise. For all those men who say, 'Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free?', here's an update for you. Nowadays 80% of women are against marriage. Why? Because women realise it's not worth buying an entire pig just to get a little sausage! Andy Rooney is a really smart guy!

The Perfect Husband

From Shirley Del Prado

Several men are in the locker room of a golf club. A cell phone on a bench rings and a man engages the hands free speaker function and begins to talk. Everyone else in the room stops to listen.

MAN: 'Hello'

WOMAN: 'Honey, it's me. Are you at the club?'

MAN: 'Yes'

WOMAN: 'I am at the mall now and found this beautiful leather coat. It's only \$3,000. Is it OK if I buy it?'

MAN: 'Sure, go ahead if you like it that much.'

WOMAN: 'I also stopped by the Mercedes dealership and saw the new 2008 models. I saw one I really liked.'

MAN: 'How much?'

WOMAN: '\$290,000'

MAN: 'OK, but for that price I want it with all the options.'

WOMAN: 'Great! Oh, and one more thing...the house I wanted last year is back on the market. They're asking \$2,950,000' for it'.

MAN: 'Well, then go ahead and give them an offer of \$2,800,000. They will probably take it. If not, we can go the extra \$150,000 if it's really a pretty good price.'

WOMAN: 'OK. I'll see you later! I love you so much!'

MAN: 'Bye! I love you, too.'

The man hangs up. The other men in the locker room are staring at him in astonishment, mouths agape.

He turns and asks: 'Any one know who this phone belongs to?'

The Philosophy of Ambiguity From Grahame True

Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.....

Atheism is a non-prophet organisation.

If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?

The main reason Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, 'Where's the self-help section?' She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

What if there were no hypothetical questions?

If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If a deaf person goes before a tribunal, is it called a hearing?

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?

Is there another word for synonym?

Where do forest rangers go to 'get away from it all?'

What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?

If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

Why do they lock petrol station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?

How do they get kangaroos to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

Does the little mermaid wear an algebra?

How is it possible to have a civil war?

If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?

If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?

If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

Whose cruel idea was it for the word 'lisp' to have 's' in it?

Why are haemorrhoids called 'haemorrhoids' instead of 'assteroids'?

Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?

Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

If you spin an oriental man in a circle three times does he become disoriented?

Can an atheist get insurance against acts of god?