



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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Wednesday, March 18 2009

MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

I am disappointed with the response to the car rally next Sunday; it has been on the calendar for many weeks. Keith Byrn has spent hours organising the questions and the route. The destination hosts were looking forward to a good roll up. I can't tell you the destination as it would not be a mystery! (no off road – no race). We are meeting at the Strathfield Golf Club car-park between 9.00- 9.15am; you will be given the route, questions and an envelope to be opened if you get lost. Join the trip to an 'exotic destination' for fun and fellowship – FELLOWS HAVE SOME FUN!

Now on a make me feel good – last week it gave us all much pleasure to hand the cheque over to the Trish Foundation for \$51,400 – also P.D.G. Lloyd Roevers spoke on the Polio Plus programme, great to hear such enthusiasm – Rotary at work.

In the latest edition of R.D.U. magazine we are all given food for thought from Bob Aiken the editor i.e.; how will the world financial problems impact on our club and the community.

The cost of Rotary is one of the obstacles in gaining new members to our clubs. What can be done – no meals at meetings; look at the costs of meeting venues and so on. Our conferences are expensive perhaps these could be down graded. Bob Aiken suggests there are many Rotary projects that require very little finance but we need to get in and get the job done – collecting donations in kind, helping with painting or building projects, these require more man power than finances but are still worthwhile projects. We must have well planned fund raisers and ease financial pressures.

These thoughts perhaps could be considered if Rotary is to grow during these times of economic stress.

Looking forward tonight to catching up with past Strathfield Rotarians, lots of stories to tell, and fun to be had under the command of Sergeant Doug and Sergeant Terry.

The 9th May is our 'Fun Raiser' at the Strathfield Town Hall. It will be a back to basics bush dance. I hope you will give P.P. Peter your full support and invite family and friends.

Note it on your calendar 9th May.

Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

SERGEANT'S DINNER

"A Brief History of Sydney Ferries / Parramatta River then and now"

JRW (Bill) Allen

Former General Manager - Sydney Ferries
Founder of the "Great Ferry Boat Race"

Introduced by PP Terry Rohan

Thanked by PP Doug Potter

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS TO DARRYL SLATER ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE ROTARY CLUB OF STRATHFIELD.

BIRTHDAYS

20/03/2009

Paul White

21/03/2009

A Bala

24/03/2009

Harley Tarrant

Guru Singh

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

18/03/2009

Brian & Cheryl Driver

22/03/2009

Maree McDougall

23/03/2009

Joe & Sharon Saad

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

NIL

LAST MEETING'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was PDG Lloyd Roevers who spoke on the Polio Plus Program. Lloyd was introduced by PDG David Croft.

Lloyd advised us that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation had given \$100 million US to help eradicate polio. At that time the challenge was issued to Rotary to match that donation. Lloyd coordinates several Rotary districts in relation to meeting this challenge.

In addition the Gates Foundation has now donated a further \$255 million US to help to eradicate polio. Rotary has been challenged to raise a further \$200 million for the cause. Lloyd wanted to experience the fight against polio at the coal face and chose to go to India for a National Immunization Day.

Rotary International put Lloyd in touch with the Polio Plus Office in India They put Lloyd in touch with District 6990 in Florida which was planning to take a group to India for the same purpose.

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

➤ Commitment Sheets for:-

- Sergeants Dinner – 18th March. \$30pp
- Car Rally - 22nd March.
- Elizabeth Farm – 8th April
- OTEN – 15th April. \$25pp

➤ Board Meeting Tuesday 17th Mar @ the True Household

From Director Janelle Watson

- Drew attention of members to the appeal for replacement Shelter Boxes following the Victorian Bush Fires
- An invitation to the District Change Over at Panthers, on 4th July 2009. \$30pp

From Director Peter Smith

- OTEN visit will be \$25 for buffet dinner
- The Strathfield Men's Shed has asked the Club to consider:-
 - Financial Support
 - Provision of Plywood.
 - Management Support
- The Strathfield Men's Shed meets on Pomeroy Street Homebush; Wednesdays 10am to 6pm

From Secretary Allan Petersen

- Thank you letter from St. Patrick's College for \$50 book prize
- Attended Ronald McDonald House Westmead for plaque presentation to the Club

From Treasurer Charles Pitt

- Outstanding dues now over 90 days. Members to be contacted

From Ray Wilson

- Any names for the Rotary Information Night by 18 March needed by next week.
- Golf Day to be held on 23 April to raise funds for junior golf. Ray would appreciate the assistance of members in selling raffle tickets (Plasma TV 1st Prize).

From Doug Potter

- Organising another Rugby Day on 23rd May 2009.

From David Croft

- Reminder of Rotary Race Day at Rosehill 2nd May 2009.
- Reminder of Rotary Anzac Day Breakfast at Cape Cabarita

Lloyd advised us that the Indian government sets the dates for the immunization days. As an election was looming there was some difficulty getting a definite date so that travel arrangements could be made. Eventually Lloyd was advised that the date had been "pre-poned" to 1 February 2009. As it turned out the timing was not ideal as it coincided with the terrorist attacks in Mumbai.

Lloyd arrived in Delhi on 29 January and was given his Rotary uniform. His group then received a number of briefings which Lloyd found very informative. They then went on a five hour bus trip to Chandigarh where they spent the night with their hosts. The next day was Sunday 1 February the official National Immunization Day. Lloyd's team was to spend three days in Colony Five, a slum area. Mothers brought their children to one of eighteen booths manned by volunteers. Each child was given two drops of vaccine and had a finger nail painted to show that they had been immunized. Some lucky children received gifts from Lloyd's team.

The next two days were "mop up" days. The volunteers went door to door to immunize children whose parents had not taken them to a booth. This is an arduous undertaking as the vaccine is heat sensitive.

There are three types of polio. Type Two has been eradicated with the last case reported in the late 1990's. A lot of areas were thought to be clear of Type One but reinfection has occurred due to the itinerant nature of many in the population.

It has been found that a person has to be immunized up to twenty times to be fully protected. Infection is from person to person and arises from poor sanitation. For each case reported it is estimated there are two hundred carriers.

Great progress has been made. From 350,000 cases per year the number of new cases has been reduced to less than 2,000 per year. Lloyd is confident that the financial and medical challenges can be met. Lloyd was thanked by Ray McCluskie.

Last Club Meeting's Statistics

VISITORS: - Carol & Roy Langsford (Trish Foundation)
Rhohda Hockley, Carole King

Attendance: 38 Apol: 11 Non-Apol: 11

LOA: *Suzanne Freund:* till 31 May, 2009

Brian Driver: till 30 April 2009

Peter Harries: till 15 April, 2009.

The Sergeant raised \$126⁵⁰

Last Week's Raffle

(The raffle raised \$225.⁰⁰)

1 st Prize	Bottle of Wine	Carol Langford
2 nd Prize	Bottle of Wine	Niall King
3 rd Prize	Chocolates	Dominic Alvaro
4 th Prize	Dinner next week	Janelle Watson

DONATION TO THE TRISH FOUNDATION

President Grahame and Niall King presented a cheque for **\$51,400** to Carol Langsford for the **TRISH Foundation**. This was the funds raised by the Charity Golf Day run by Niall King, Ray Wilson and Les Hockley.

> FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

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 PARTNERS' NIGHT

TRANSFER MEETING TO OTEN COLLEGE

51 Wentworth Road, Burwood

The management and staff at OTEN are enthusiastically supporting our visit - they will be providing *two speakers* on the night together with a *brief tour* of the facility.

We will be having a *nice hot and cold buffet dinner* (cost still being negotiated) on site at Café O (which is licensed and table wine will be available). The Café is independently operated by Fred Kaleel.

On site parking (southern car-park) has been arranged.

22nd April 2009

Rotary Information Night

Membership Promotion by Ray Wilson

29th April 2009

Youth Achievements Awards Night

Tony Lanzafame & Strathfield Council

6th May 2009

Cochlear Awareness Network

Faye Yarroll

13th May 2009

Deborah Ng and Eve Dutton

Peter Smith

20th May 2009

"Ranfurly Library Services"

Peter Bourke

3rd June 2009

Wheelchair Sports

To Be Confirmed

10th June 2009

Lost Words

Gunilla Denton Cook

17th June 2009

TBA

24th June 2009

NO MEETING

Transferred to Change Over

26th June 2009 (Friday)

Change Over Night

Strathfield Golf Club

COMING EVENTS

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 March 2009.

"Mystery Car Rally" & BBQ

3rd April 2009. (Friday Evening)

MERIDEN-INTERACT DANCE 6:00pm to 10:30pm

WALLIS HALL AT MERIDEN. *Rotarian Helpers needed*

23rd April 2009. (Thursday)

JUNIOR GOLF CLUB FUND RAISER

Strathfield Golf Club

Organised by Ray Wilson

2nd May 2009. (Saturday)

Rotary Race Day at Rosehill

25th April 2009. (Saturday)

ANZAC DAY Breakfast at *Cape Cabarita*,

Organised by David Croft & Bert Houston

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

4th July 2009. (Saturday)

District Changeover 6:30pm for 7:00pm

Penrith Panthers. \$30pp

SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Rotarians give service to their club and to the community in many different ways. Some serve actively in high profile roles such as officers of the club, chairs of committees or event organizers while many others give outstanding service, support and assistance in less obvious and unobtrusive ways. Last year the Rotary Club of Strathfield introduced a "Service Above Self Award" to be presented annually to the club member who is judged to;

- *put the Rotary Ethic ahead of their own personal considerations*
- *always put in that extra effort for Rotary in serving the community*
- *go beyond the norm in representing Rotary to the community.*

The recipient of this award is chosen by secret ballot of all members of the club; not by the President or the Board which makes the award all the more meritorious because the winner is recognized and rewarded by his/her peers. The first recipient of the Service Above Self Award was Ray Wilson who was presented with his award at the Club Changeover. In April we will be calling for nominations for this year's award. So start thinking now about who you will nominate for this very special recognition

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

Senior Moment From Grahame True

A STUNNING SENIOR MOMENT

A self-important college freshman walking along the beach took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen resting on the steps why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation. "You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one" the student said loud enough for others to hear. "The young people of today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon. We have nuclear energy, ships and cell phones, computers with light speed....and many more." After a brief silence, the senior citizen responded as follows.

*"You're right son. We didn't have those things when we were young....so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little sh*t what are you doing for the next generation? The applause was amazing!"*

The World's Shortest Fairy Tale From Grahame True

Once upon a time, a guy asked a girl 'Will you marry me?' The girl said, 'NO!' And the guy lived happily ever after and rode motorcycles and went fishing and hunting and played golf a lot and drank beer and scotch and left the toilet seat up and farted whenever he wanted

Rangi and Whetu of HOKITIKA. From Shirley Del Prado

Honi died in a fire and his body was burned pretty badly. The morgue needed someone to identify the body, so they sent for his two best friends, Rangi and Whetu. The three men had always done everything together... Rangi arrived first, and when the mortician pulled back the sheet, Rangi said, 'Yup, his face is burned up pretty bad. You better roll him over.' The mortician rolled him over and Rangi said, 'Nope, ain't Honi.' The mortician thought this was rather strange. So he brought Whetu in to confirm the identity of the body. Whetu looked at the body and said, 'Yup, he's pretty well burnt up. Roll him over.' The mortician rolled him over and Whetu said, 'No, it ain't Honi' The mortician asked, 'How can you tell?' Whetu said, 'Well, Honi had two assholes.' 'What? He had two assholes?' asked the mortician. 'Yup, we never seen 'em, but everybody used to say: 'There's Honi with them two assholes.'

Did you know? From Peter Smith

- 'Stewardesses' is the longest word typed with only the left hand
- 'Lollipop' is the longest word typed with your right hand.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
- 'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
- The sentence: 'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog' uses every letter of the alphabet.
- The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
- There are only four words in the English language which end in 'dous': tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
- There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: 'abstemious' and 'facetious.'
- TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- The cruise liner, QE 2 moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.
- There are more chickens than people in the world.
- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.