



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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Printed By Selectprint

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Wednesday, May 13 2009

MAY IS CLUB PLANNING MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

It was Mothers Day on Sunday and I hope everyone had a chance to celebrate motherhood and ponder on how important mothers are to all of us.

I received an excited call from one of our Rotarians throughout the week letting me know of an important soccer match that took place last Friday between the Strathfield Mayor's Eleven and the Chamber of Commerce Eleven – guess who officiated over the match (all bribes to the ref going to charity) he put the Rotarian name up front – yes it was Tony Lanzafame – well done Tony.

Last week once again we were enriched by a guest speaker Faye Yarroll. Faye had us all captivated by her life story and how she overcame adversity. Faye's knowledge of Cochlear implants and her 'guinea pig' status with these implants left us much more knowledgeable.

I always like to read the RDU magazine to learn what is happening both here and overseas. D.K. Lee's theme of 'Making Dreams Real' and focusing on the dream of reducing the child mortality rate- including the need to wipe out polio in the remaining four countries which are still affected. Each club must not forget the importance of the \$1000 to the Rotary Health Foundation over and above the usual commitment. This \$1000 will go towards the matching grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

In the R.D.U. magazine there are listed 'simple projects to save lives' – one of which, treated mosquito nets in the fight against malaria, is being supported by our club.

Malaria is responsible for ten percent of all under five deaths in developing countries.

The last fellowship dinner of the year is being organised by P.P. Steve for later this month – I wonder where our taste buds will be travelling this time.

The Red Shield Appeal has always been well supported in the giving of man power by Strathfield Rotary and once again our club should be well represented, please see Peter Smith and put your name on the list. It is volunteer's week this week so let's consider how important this role is in the community.

This week I am looking forward to listening to two speakers – our own Eve and the other Deborah Ng. They represent two generations of schooling, it should be most interesting.

Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

Deborah Ng and Eve Dutton

Introduced by Peter Smith Thanked by Keith Stockall

CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

15/05/2009 **Charles Pitt**
Steve Taylor
17/05/2009 **Cheryl Ayres**
18/05/2009 **Ray Wilson**
19/05/2009 **Tony Lanzafame**
20/05/2009 **Richard Horwood**
Peter Smith

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

NIL

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

15 May **Pearce, Garry**
15 May **Wilson, Raymond**

LAST WEEK'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Faye Yarroll from the Cochlear Awareness Network. Faye was introduced by Bradley Ayres. The Network is made up of volunteers who have received Cochlear implants or who are the parents of recipients. They give their time to educate the community on the dramatic impact a Cochlear implant can have on the life of someone with a significant hearing loss.

Faye informed us that she is profoundly deaf and that without her Cochlear implants and processors she would have no hearing. With them she can hear at 95% of the normal level.

Faye noted that 1 in 6 people currently are hearing impaired and that this figure is expected to increase to 1 in 4 given the appeal of loud music to young people today.

When a person with a hearing impairment seeks help they need to be assessed to determine the best device for that particular person. This may be a powerful hearing aid or a Cochlear implant.

Hearing impairment also affects the family and friends of the affected person. It may lead to an isolated and lonely life for the affected person.

Cochlear implants work by stimulating the nerves in the inner ear. The device was pioneered by an Australian, Professor David Clarke. Where a person

has auditory nerve damage a hearing aid is of no assistance. In Australia the youngest recipient of a Cochlear implant was 3 months old and the oldest was 93 years old.

Faye has a processor behind each ear which consists of a "mother board" and three small batteries. The transceiver is the part that is placed inside the head. Each transceiver has 24 electrodes which are half the diameter of a human hair.

Faye was born with a heredity hearing loss. She received two hearing aids and learnt to lip read. Faye noted that a fringe benefit of acquiring this skill was that travel on public transport became a lot more interesting. Faye's hearing deteriorated further following an accident and as the side effect of prescribed medication to the extent that she was profoundly deaf in both ears. Faye had a senior position with a major corporation and found that performing to the required standard was getting too hard with her profound hearing loss.

In 2005 Faye received a Cochlear implant. This required a one night stay in hospital followed by three weeks of healing. At Faye's first "switch-on" everything initially sounded robotic. Then Faye's brain started to respond and within 24 hours things started to sound normal. Faye began to hear many new sounds including the sound of birds singing in the garden. Faye had a further Cochlear implant in 2007 which after a period of adjustment was fully successful.

With her Cochlear implant Faye regained her independence and confidence. She was awarded "People Manager of the Year" by her employer.

Faye has learnt that "anything is possible" and that people should "never say never".

Faye is extremely grateful for her Cochlear implants as they have given her the precious gift of hearing.

Faye is happy to volunteer her time to tell everyone how beneficial they can be. Faye was thanked by Joe Saad.

Last Club Meeting's Statistics

Guests: - Dave Martin (Potential Member)

Attendance: 37 Apol: 17 7

LOA: 3

Suzanne Freund: till 31 May, 2009

Garry Pearce: till 29 May, 2009

Keith Byrn: till 06 June, 2009

The Sergeant raised \$265⁵⁵

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

- Commitment Sheets for:-
 - Red Shield Appeal Sun 24th May
- Thank you to Tony Lanzafame, Peter Smith & Bradley Ayres for the Youth Night
- Thank you to Steve Taylor for Restaurant Night at Korean BBQ

From Secretary Allan Petersen

- Reminder to Club members to submit nominations for the "Service Above Self" Award
- Holroyd Cavalcade Parade, "And The Bride Wore", 1905 to 1970. 8th May, Red Gum Room, Wentworthville Community Centre, 2 Lane St., Wentworthville. \$30pp

From Director Kevin Freund

- District Assembly for New Board last weekend
- DG Elect Paul Reed invites members to District Changeover

From Director Niall King

- Working BEE at Lidcombe, 8:00am next Saturday

From Director Peter Van der Sleen

- Teams for MUNA from Strathfield Boys High and International College
- 8 Students to RYPEN on Friday. Drivers needed

From Sal Tosto

- Invitation to Haberfield Rotary 25th Anniversary Dinner, Canada Bay Club, Friday 15th May

From Steve Taylor

- Next Restaurant Night, Thurs. 28th May
- Trivia Night Cape Cabarita, Friday 15th May. \$15pp

From Peter Manenti

- Bush Dance at Strathfield Town Hall has been cancelled due to poor response.

Last Meeting's Raffle

(The raffle raised \$225.⁰⁰)

1 st Prize	Wine Cooler & Directory	Dave Martin
2 nd Prize	Book & Red Wine	Rod McDougall
3 rd Prize	Books	Niall King
4 th Prize	DVD's	Kevin Freund

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

20th May 2009

"Ranfurly Library Services"

Peter Bourke

Introduced by Janelle Watson Thanked by Paul White

27th May 2009

"Using Acupuncture to Treat Depression"

Kirk Wilson

Introduced by Ray Wilson Thanked by Suzanne Freund

3rd June 2009

Wheelchair Sports

Kylie Gauci

10th June 2009

Lost Words

Gunilla Denton Cook

17th June 2009

"What Life Dishes Out"

Richard Dabinett

24th June 2009

NO MEETING

TRANSFERRED TO CHANGE OVER

26th June 2009 (Friday)

Change Over Night

Strathfield Golf Club

1st July 2009

Child Protection and Sexual Harassment

Frank Portelli

8th July 2009

Barnardos Children's Family Centre

Rosemary Hamill

15th July 2009

Office of Fair Trading

Joe Puntillo

22nd July 2009

Job Talks.

Doug Potter, Suzanne Freund, Godfrey Isouard

29th July 2009

House With No Steps

Dennis O'Reilly,

General Manager Fund Raising & Community Relations

COMING EVENTS

8th May 2009. (Friday)

Holroyd Cavalcade Parade, "And The Bride Wore", 1905 to 1970. 8th May, Red Gum Room, Wentworthville Community Centre, 2 Lane St., Wentworthville. \$30pp

15^h May 2009. (Friday)

Haberfield Rotary 25th Anniversary Dinner.

15^h May 2009. (Friday)

Cape Cabarita Trivia Night. \$15pp

17th May 2009. (Sunday)

DISTRICT 9690 FAMILY OF ROTARY PICNIC DAY

"Casuarina" Picnic Ground. Nurragingy

Reserve, Doonside. 10:30am-3:30pm. Contact

Marilyn Mercer,

24th May 2009. (Sunday)

RED SHIELD APPEAL

Strathfield Town Hall

28th May 2009. (Thursday)

RESTAURANT NIGHT

Steve Taylor

18th June 2009. (Thursday)

BREAKFAST POINT CHANGEOVER 6:30 for 7:00pm

Breakfast Point Country Club, 72 Village Drive, Breakfast Point

4th July 2009. (Saturday)

DISTRICT CHANGEOVER 6:30pm for 7:00pm

Penrith Panthers. \$30pp.

ROTARY REFEREE'S THE MAYOR

On Friday last (8th May), a friendly soccer match was played at Bark Huts Reserve, Belfield. The teams were The Mayors Eleven (or was that 15) comprised the Mayor, some of his cohorts and members of Strathfield SES. The second team comprised members/associates the local Chamber of Commerce.

Strathfield Rotary Club was represented by the referee Tony Lanzafame and his two sons, Ross & Jacob. The match was a friendly game, and apparently some money was raised to help with the referee's medical costs after the game. (*Tony is not as fit as he used to be*).

Only one yellow card was issued during the game, even though the referee did try hard to issue more. Some of the SES members, being Rugby Union players had to be cautioned not to pick the ball up and run with it. At one stage they questioned why the ball was round and not OVAL shaped.

The final score was 2-2 (a draw). There was a protest at the end of the game when the Chamber of Commerce objected to the Mayor's 11 having 12 players on the field. The protest was dismissed, because it was pointed out that the Mayor's 11 actually started the game with 15 players on the field. A great afternoon was had by all and it can be safely said there was no controversy during the game, and no bribes were taken or received.

This effort was a great promotion for the Strathfield Community, the Strathfield Chamber of Commerce, Strathfield SES and our own Strathfield Rotary Club

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

OLD AGE

From Tony Lanzafame

1. Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later the doctor spoke to Morris and said, "You're really doing great, aren't you?" Morris replied, "Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'" The doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur. Be careful.'"
2. A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully, up onto a stool. After catching his breath he ordered a banana split. The waitress asked kindly, "Crushed nuts?" "No," he replied, "Arthritis"
3. A couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things. They decide to go to the doctor for a check-up. The doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember. Later that night while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair. His wife asks, "Where are you going?" "To the kitchen" he replies. "Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?" "Sure." "Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?" she asks. "No, I can remember it." "Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. You'd better write it down because you know you will forget it." He says, "I can remember that! You want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries." "I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, so you'd better write it down!" she retorts. Irritated, he says, "I don't need to write it down, I can remember it! Leave me alone! Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!" Then he grumbles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes the old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate for a moment and says - "Where's my toast?"
4. Three old guys are out walking. First one says, "Windy, isn't it?" Second one says, "No, it's Thursday!" Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer."
5. A man was telling his neighbour, "I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand dollars, but it's state of the art. It's perfect." "Really," answered the neighbour. "What kind is it?" "Twelve thirty."!

THE SCONES

From Shirley Del Prado

An elderly man lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favourite scones wafting up the stairs. He gathered his remaining strength, and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning on the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom, and with even greater effort, gripping the railing with both hands, he crawled downstairs. With laboured breath, he leaned against the door-frame, gazing into the kitchen. Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there, spread out upon the kitchen table were literally hundreds of his favourite scones. Was it heaven? Or was it one final act of love from his devoted Irish wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man? Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself towards the table, landing on his knees in ruffled posture. His aged and withered hand trembled towards a scone at the edge of the table, when it was suddenly smacked by his wife with a wooden spoon. "Rack off", she said, "they're for the funeral!"

THE PROPHECY

From Kevin Beltrame

They once said that a black man would be President when pigs flew. Barack Obama has had his first 100 days and – Wham “**Pig's flu!**”