



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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Wednesday, October 8 2008

OCTOBER IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

A fine speaker in Lewis Rangott last Wednesday night providing us with a good insight into the workings of I.C.A.C – but a worry that he had come across my name in relation to a person he was investigating – I of course was all clear.

Brian Johnson said his farewells last Wednesday night. We will miss him from Rotary but his efforts will be well received at the Orange club. On a personal note I will miss him as a good friend just a stones throw away, but we will be commuting regularly to Orange. I am sure everyone will be welcomed with open arms.

October is breast cancer awareness month and there are many products available to purchase where some of the purchase price is donated towards cancer research, perhaps we could all look out for these.

Congratulations to Rotary Downunder on its 500th issue. I enjoy my copy regularly and reading of the goings on of other clubs in our part of the world. There are always feel good stories of the way our fellow Rotarians serve the community.

Our Pride of Workmanship evening is coming up on the 29th October – it is a partner's night and I hope for a good attendance to congratulate the awardees. Don't forget the trivia night on the 28th November - Bert and his team are working hard to arrange a fun night, so grab your friends, family and neighbours and make up a table. If you can't manage a table Bert will organise one for you.

A good Rotarian Eve Dutton had a fall last Thursday and broke her leg. Eve is in Concord hospital this week and then onto rehab. I hope she recovers well and we see her back on her feet soon.

I trust you all were able to take a break over the long weekend and recharge your batteries - I certainly did!

Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary

President Grahame

TONIGHT'S MEETING

Careflight

John Ebbott, Community Relations Officer

Introduced by Trevor Duxbury Thanked by Bradley Ayres

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays

8/10/2008 **Kevin Beltrame**
10/10/2008 **Karen Catalano**
15/10/2008 **Peter Manenti**

Wedding Anniversaries

NIL

Rotary Anniversaries

NIL

LAST MEETING'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was Lewis Rangott the principal officer for local government and planning with the ICAC. Lewis was in charge of Operation Atlas the ICAC investigation into Wollongong Council. Lewis was introduced by Neil Kennan who played a key role in the investigation by providing expert evidence.

Lewis advised us that the ICAC was nearing its twentieth anniversary and had recently conducted two of its biggest investigations being Railcorp and Wollongong Council.

He informed us that Neil's expert evidence at the Wollongong Council hearing had not been challenged by any of the approximately twenty barristers present.

The relevant legislation contains a definition of "corrupt conduct" which runs to six pages. In effect what needs to be shown is willful misconduct and it needs to be established "on the balance of probabilities". The ICAC receives on average 2,500 complaints each year and from these about 50 formal investigations are initiated. It is unusual for public hearings to be held.

Search warrants can be obtained to search public buildings or private properties. The ICAC has extensive powers including being able to obtain bank records and tap phones. People can be forced to give evidence even if it would incriminate them. If objected to such evidence could not be used in any subsequent criminal prosecution.

It also has the power to recommend that a council be sacked as occurred with Wollongong Council. Lewis then advised us of the details of what occurred in Wollongong. Frank Vella's Quattro DA had received approval although it was far outside LEP limits. For instance it had a height of 48 meters whereas the limit was 11 meters. Also it had a floor space ratio about three times that normally allowed. It was discovered that Beth Morgan the person approving the application was in an undisclosed sexual relationship with Frank Vella and that she had received bribes. This amounted to serious corrupt conduct. If prosecuted for bribery a sentence of seven years imprisonment may be imposed. They attempted to explain the gifts received as normal for two lovers however a "reasonable person" test is applied and this argument was quickly rejected. Lewis commented on the imbalance of what each party stood to receive. Frank would have gained an estimated \$10 million if the project had gone ahead whilst Beth only received about \$50,000. In conclusion Lewis advised us that the ICAC's role is mainly a naming and shaming one. It can also recommend to the DPP that a person be charged with an offence then it is up to the police to arrest and prosecute that person and the usual criminal prosecution evidence rules would apply and the higher burden of proof would also apply. Lewis was thanked by Rod McDougall.



President Electric, Lewis Rangott & Neil Kennan

Last Club Meeting's Statistics

Visitors: - (13) Members' Partners, Ben Horwood, Melissa Nolan, Emma Saad

Attendance: 32

Apologies: 10

Non-Apologies: 21

LOA: Tony Lanzafame till 29/10, Janelle Watson till 08/10, Connie Galetta till 10/10

Exempt Members: - 3

The Sergeant raised \$118.⁶⁰

Last Club Meeting's Raffle

(The Raffle raised \$210)

1 st Prize	Vase	Niall King
2 nd Prize	Dimple Whisky	Roger Vince
3 rd Prize	Black Label Whisky	Sharon Saad
4 th Prize	Red Wine	Umesh Kamkolkar
5 th Prize	Red Wine	Les Hockley
6 th Prize	Dinner next week	Niall King

LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Grahame True

- The Club BBQ was successfully operated in Strathfield Park for the Spring Fair last Sunday.
- \$1,600⁺ was raised from the Spring Fair BBQ.
- Burwood Rotary is holding a Melbourne Cup Meeting on the Monday Evening prior to the running of the Cup. Members who wish to attend should advise President Electric.
- Commitment Sheet for Christmas Puddings is circulating.

From Director Niall King

- Thanked those who assisted with the BBQ in Strathfield Park last Sunday.
- Reminder to members of the District Golf Day on Thursday 23rd October 2008

From Director Peter Smith

- The Pride of Workmanship Awards Night is on the 19th October 2008, a commitment Sheet is circulating.
- Attendance is only 30 members & guests at this stage
- Mike Bailey is proposed as the guest Speaker

From George Hallworth

- Advised the Club that Stan Williams, former President of the South Strathfield Bowling Club in Augusta Street, died on Wednesday 1st October 2008.

From Brian Johnson

- -Advised the Club that he and Janet are moving to Orange. Their new address is "Carribie" 459 Stagecoach Road, **Emu Swamp**, Orange East 2800.
- The new phone number is **6365 9139**. Members are welcome to visit
- Brian indicated that he will miss the friendship of the Club and is planning to join a Rotary Club in Orange.



INVITATION TO STRATHFIELD ROTARY

Strathfield Rotary Club members and partners are invited to join with Burwood Club on Monday, 3rd November for their traditional Melbourne Cup eve event. There'll be food, fun, frivolity, fashion in the field and fast horse-trading (well, raffles and a Calcutta) as well as good old Rotary inter-club fellowship.

The starter's bell will sound at 6.30pm with a buffet dinner (at a piffling cost of only \$25) and we expect the night's card to be completed by about 8.30pm-9pm. As usual, the big night is in the meeting rooms just to the left and behind the small bar on the first floor of Burwood RSL Club,

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

15th October 2008

Ronald McDonald House

Adrienne Pearson, General Manager,

Ronald McDonald House

Introduced by Keith Byrn Thanked by Angelo Franco

22nd October 2008

Performance Improvement, Becoming More Productive and Getting Better Results

Neel Raman

Introduced by Ted Ingall Thanked by Kevin Beltrame

29th October 2008

Pride of Workmanship Awards,

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

Introduced by Peter Smith

5th November 2008

Experiences with Vision Australia

Nick Gleeson & Jo Anne Reeves

Introduced by Ian Johnson Thanked by Roger Vince

12th November 2008

Judicial Reminiscences

Justice Terry Sheahan

Introduced by Paul White Thanked by Bert Houston

19th November 2008

The Centurion Program

PDG Warwick Tester PP Lyn Tester

Introduced by Harley Tarrant Thanked by Janelle Watson

Rotaract

Aaron Sivasothy

Introduced by Bradley Ayres Thanked by Godfrey Isouard

26th November 2008

Muslim Culture and Australian Integration

Silma Ihram

Introduced by Rod McDougall Thanked by Kevin Freund

3rd December 2008

AGM and Elections

10th December 2008

Christmas Party (Rotarians)

17th December 2008

Christmas Party (Children)

24th December 2008

NO MEETING

31st December 2008

NO MEETING

7th January 2009

Restaurant Social Evening (Venue TBA)

14th January 2009

Bowls Social Evening

South Strathfield Bowling Club, Augusta Street

21st January 2009

Club Assembly

COMING EVENTS

10th October 2008. (Friday)

“WAKE” for Rotary Club of Silverwater Homebush Bay

Waterview-Dooleys at Silverwater

(Cnr Silverwater Rd and Clyde St). 7:00 for 7:30pm. \$60pp.

Tel: 9890 3333 Fax: 9890 7433

Email: mcpil@mccarthysalked.com.au

23rd October 2008. (Thursday)

District Championship Golf Day

Strathfield Golf Club. \$70pp including BBQ

23rd October 2008.

Performance of AIDA

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta.

Proceeds to Australian Rotary Health. . \$30pp

2nd November 2008.

FAMILY OF ROTARY CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

CLUB MARCONI, Marconi Plaza, Prairie Vale Road,

Bossley Park. 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

\$5pp or \$20 family of 5. Phone: 45 779504

3rd November 2008 (Monday)

Burwood Rotary Melbourne Cup Night

Burwood RSL at 6:30pm. \$25pp

14th February 2009.

Dinner at the Duxbury's

An evening of Victorian Elegance

6th – 8th March 2009.

District Conference

Cypress Lakes Resort,

Hunter Valley

FAMILY OF ROTARY XMAS PANTOMIME

Sun 2nd November 2008

CLUB MARCONI

Marconi Plaza,

Prairie Vale Road,

Bossley Park

2:00pm to 5:00pm

Cost: \$5pp or \$20 family of 5

Rotary Club of HAWKESBURY

RSVP Before: 24 October 2008

Email Marilyn Mercer at mmm@myisp.net.au

HOSTING FOR ROTARY LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

AT RDU PARRAMATTA

Home hosting is needed for some folks attending The Rotary Leadership Institute Training in RDU at Parramatta on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 11 & 12 October. The hosting will need to be in reasonable proximity to the Parramatta area.

There are four Rotarians from Tamworth and PDG's Cathy Roth and Frank Wargo.

Could Club's please ask if anyone is available to home host and have the Rotarians who volunteer or who might want more information get back to me by email as soon as possible? Regards, Ian Scott, District 9690 Trainer

Mobile: **0407 077 002**

Email: iankscott@optusnet.com.au

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

Church Bulletins

From Paul White

Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: 'Break Forth Into Joy.'

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours!'

Life in the 1500's

From Grahame True

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water.

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying. It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, 'Dirt poor'. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a thresh hold.

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old..

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, bring home the bacon. They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the upper crust.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realised they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift.) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, saved by the bell or was considered a dead ringer.