



# 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, September 03 2008**

## SEPTEMBER IS NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

### PRESIDENT ELECTRIC'S LINES

No bulletin last week – due to a full load for all. Two weeks ago we heard an interesting speaker Associate Professor Peter Howard speaking on Clemente Australia, it never ceases to amaze me the amount of help that is within our community.

A big thank-you to Peter Smith and his gang for a terrific “Police Officer of the Year” awards night. Congratulations go to Senior Constable Ben Watson and Senior Constable Leah Greig for their well deserved recognition, with the quality of policing that was on show last week we can feel we are in safe hands. It was a pleasure to be able to hand over a cheque for \$2000 to Police Legacy from the monies raised on the night. Note: Police Remembrance Day Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

The unity walk for Parkinson’s was held last Sunday and it was great our club was able to contribute to that also.

On another happy note congratulations must go to P.P Brian on receiving a 2008 Strathfield Council Design award for single dwelling alterations and additions.

Congratulations also to Dominico on winning an award from the Master Builders Association for contract housing \$1 m to \$1.5 m. Don’t we have clever people in our club. September is New Generation month on the Rotary calendar – just in time for Fathers Day. Fathers and Grandfathers will celebrate the joys of parenthood passing on wisdom and life experiences similarly as Rotarians can do within the community encouraging a new generation of members. Some up coming fellowship and fun days for your diary:

A banquet of Chinese cuisine at the Golden Coronet on the 9<sup>th</sup> September – see Steve Taylor for details.

Strathfield Spring Fare on Sunday 28th September.... – we will need “BBQers”. Put on your thinking caps for the trivia night on 28 November.

Dinner at the Duxbury’s- enjoy the beautiful Victorian ambiance 14<sup>th</sup> February.

In March we have a car trial to an exotic destination. Tonight we welcome (for a second week in a row) District Governor Paul Erickson who will give us an insight into this years district matters (he must really have a soft spot for Strathfield). Looking forward to the district news. (Rugby not worth reporting this week!!!!)

**Remember - Fun and Fellowship in Rotary**

**President Grahame**

### TONIGHT'S MEETING

#### **District Governor’s Visit**

Introduced by Harley Tarrant

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### **Birthdays**

2/09/2008

**Terry Rohan**  
**Trevor Duxbury**

4/09/2008

**Margaret Croft**

5/09/2008

**Janelle Watson**

10/09/2008

**Penny True**

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

7/09/2008

**Peter & Jan Van Der Sleen**

#### **Rotary Anniversaries**

1 Sep

**A. Bala.**

4 Sep

**Kevin Beltrame**

5 Sep

**Domenico Alavaro**

### LAST MEETING’S GUEST SPEAKERS

Our guest speaker was Peter Howard an Associate Professor at the Australian Catholic University. Peter was introduced by Keith Stockall. Peter’s subject was Clemente Australia. Clemente Australia combines the national resources of higher education and community welfare agencies in providing the means by which marginalized Australians can access purposeful higher education in a community setting with necessary support services readily available.

Peter started his talk by giving us examples of homeless individuals living on the streets wishing to engage with society. Michael asks everyone on George Street if they have “Got a match?” so that he can engage in conversation. John wishes to remain sleeping on the steps of a church as he gets to meet lots of people. Peter advised us that there are 189,000 people in Australia who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

There are many reasons for people disengaging from society. Peter gave us the example of Larry who lost everything through gambling. With the assistance of Clemente he is now enrolled for a Doctorate at the University of Western Sydney doing a thesis on public housing. He also advised us of Lizzy who withdrew from

social contact after her daughter committed suicide twenty years ago. Again with the assistance of Clemente she has reengaged with people through learning. Peter also pointed out that this disengagement can occur to people across the whole range of socio-economic status groups.

The Chinese say that people in such circumstances need “a walking stick to help them along” and Peter advised us that Clemente is such an aid. Clemente Australia commenced in 2003 at Surry Hills with eight students. Students study one subject from the humanities each semester. After completing four subjects students graduate and this can create a pathway to further tertiary education. There are now nine sites across Australia where students are taught. In the five years that it has been operating Clemente has had one hundred students participate and ten graduates. An integral part of Clemente is the involvement of corporate /community learning partners. Some large corporations have become involved. A learning partner assists a student for two hours each week. The learning partners also learn from the experience and often change their view of the homeless and marginalized.

In conclusion Peter stated that there are a lot of marginalized people who want to learn and we have to be smart enough to present them with the means of going about it. Peter was thanked by Tony Lanzafame.

### Last Club Meeting's Statistics

Attendance: 36

Apologies: 9

LOA: *Silma Ihram, Arjun Jeganathan, Peter Manenti  
Trevor Duxbury, David Croft, Allan Teale,  
Connie Galletta*

Exempt Members: - 3

Visitors: - *Margery Foss* (Breakfast Point Rotary), *Joseph Kim*,  
The Sergeant raised \$118.<sup>80</sup>

### Last Club Meeting's Raffle (*The Raffle raised \$225*)

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Carpet Sweeper	Joseph Kim
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Red Wine	Kevin Freund
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Golf Cup	Gary Pearce
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Dinner next week	Doug Potter

## COMING EVENTS

**14<sup>th</sup> September 2008 (Sunday) 11am – 3pm**

**JAZZ IN SILKSTONE PARK**

**Tennyson Road, Breakfast Point**

**Music by “The Capitols” ([www.thecapitols.com](http://www.thecapitols.com))**

**Wine Tasting, Food, BBQ, Family Entertainment.**

**Pacific Cruise Raffle \$5 per ticket; 3 for \$10**

**25<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**Samuel Morris Foundation Race Day and Auction  
Hawkesbury Race Course.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008. (Thursday)**

**District Championship Golf Day**

Strathfield Golf Club

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2009.**

**District Conference**

Cypress Lakes Resort, **Hunter Valley**

## LAST MEETING'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *From President Grahame True*

- Commitment Sheet for RYPEN on 12<sup>th</sup> September for Drivers and sponsors
- Non-attending members causing problems with catering.
- Arjun Jeganathan has indicated his intention to resign from the Club due to work commitments
- Special pot of daffodils brought to meeting to remind members of Daffodil day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.
- Thanked the caterers for taking the trouble to organize the Olympic theme for the dinner.

### *From Director Peter Van der Sleen*

- Thank you to Kevin Beltrame for organising the RYPEN weekend
- Applicants for the RYLA camp in January 2009 are now being sought from 18 to 26 year olds.

### *From Director Peter Smith*

- Arrangements for the Police Officer of the Year Awards are well in hand
- Ted Ingall is recovering from his minor procedure
- Numbers for the 2009 District Conference are less than the 28 initially booked.
- The actual number of bookings will need to be confirmed ASAP

### *From Kevin Beltrame*

- Reported on his attendance at the Kokoda Track Ceremony for the commemoration of the end of the war in the Pacific

### *From Secretary Allan Petersen*

- Thank you letter to District Rotaractors and the Club for donation to Shelterbox.

### *From Treasurer Charles Pitt*

- The Club remains solvent
- Requested that the 6 outstanding half yearly dues be finalized next week before late reminders issued.

### *From Margery Foss*

- Breakfast Point Rotary is holding a JAZZ IN THE PARK afternoon on the Village Green on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 3:00pm.
- Sausage Sizzle and Charity Raffle for a Pacific Cruise for 2.

## RI PRESIDENT FOR 2010-2011

The 2008-09 Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2010-11, having functioned in accordance with the bylaws of Rotary International, has indicated that it unanimously nominated:

**RAY KLINGINSMITH**

of the Rotary Club of Kirksville, Missouri, USA for the office of President of Rotary International for the year 2010-11. Biographical information for Rotarian Klinginsmith is available on the RI Web site.

## FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

10<sup>th</sup> September 2008

### **Loyal Staff and Loyal Customers**

#### ***Two Problems with One Solution***

Matt Balogh (McNair Ingenuity)

Introduced by Neil Kennan Thanked by Raymond McCluskie

17<sup>th</sup> September 2008

### **Kids, the ultimate community responsibility**

Craig Davis (Youth off the Street) Sydney Swans

Introduced by Peter Smith Thanked by Bert Houston

24<sup>th</sup> September 2008

### **Shaping a Vision**

Catherine Giammarco

Introduced by Suzanne Freund Thanked by Brian Johnson

1<sup>st</sup> October 2008

### **Operation Atlas, ICAC Wollongong**

Lewis Rangott

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

Introduced by Neil Kennan Thanked by Rod McDougall

8<sup>th</sup> October 2008

### **Careflight**

Don Kemble

Introduced by Trevor Duxbury Thanked by Bradley Ayres

15<sup>th</sup> October 2008

### **Ronald McDonald House**

Adrienne Pearson, General Manager,

Ronald McDonald House

Introduced by Keith Byrn Thanked by Angelo Franco

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008

### **Pride of Workmanship Awards,**

PARTNERS' NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm

Introduced by Peter Smith

29<sup>th</sup> October 2008

### **Performance Improvement, Becoming More Productive and Getting Better Results**

Neil Raman

Introduced by -- Thanked by --

5<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### **Experiences with Vision Australia**

Nick Gleeson & Jo Anne Reeves

Introduced by -- Thanked by --

12<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### **Judicial reminiscences**

Justice Terry Sheahan

Introduced by Paul White Thanked by Bert Houston

19<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### **The Centurion Program**

PDG Warwick Tester PP Lyn Tester

Introduced by Harley Tarrant Thanked by Janelle Watson

26<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### **Muslim Culture and Australian Integration**

Silma Ihram

Introduced by --- Thanked by ---

## POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

### AWARDS NIGHT

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of August was a special night in our Club Program with the **Police Officer of the Year Awards**. The Guest Speaker on the night was Detective Superintendent Mark Noakes, Commander of the State Surveillance Branch. Mark spoke of his journey through the ranks of the Police Service and some of the highlights. All funds raised on the night went to the Police Legacy Fund with a cheque for \$2000 being presented to Senior Sergeant Helen Beileiter on behalf of the Fund.

### **The 2008 Police Officer of the Year Finalists.**

#### ***Burwood Area Command.***

Constable Lauren Hill

Constable Shannon McGann

Detective Senior Constable Danielle Rogerson

Sergeant Mark Scifleet

Constable Justin Veitch \*

Senior Constable Ben Watson

Constables Ben Wilson & Anna Zajac

#### ***Flemington Area Command.***

Senior Constable Leah Greig

Detective Constable Melissa Kilminster

Constable Michael Machado

Leading Senior Constable Anthony Richards

Senior Constable Matthew Sabongi

Constable James Whelan

Constable Bianca Zuvic

### **2008 BURWOOD POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

#### ***SENIOR CONSTABLE BEN WATSON***

### **2008 FLEMINGTON POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

#### ***SENIOR CONSTABLE LEAH GREIG***

*\* Constable Justin Veitch from Burwood Area Command received a Special Commendation in 2007 for his actions in subduing a prisoner that resulted in serious injury to himself. Justin wrote the following letter for the Awards Night.*

*To the Strathfield Rotary Club, Commander Mark Noakes, Fellow Police Officers, Friends and Family.*

*I'm sorry I am unable to attend this wonderful event night, due to my ongoing health problems that I received on duty in December 2006. I have asked Constable John Tikisci to relay a few words for me.*

*I'd like to thank Strathfield Rotary, especially President Grahame True and Vocational Services Director Peter Smith, for holding the Police Officer of the Year Awards Night.*

*I would also like to thank my colleagues and management at Burwood Area Command for the many calls, assistance and support, many of them would be nominees for the awards night. Last Year I was honoured to receive a Special Commendation on the Awards Night. This is the third year in a row that I have received a nomination for the Police Officer of the Year Award which has been unexpected. You probably don't realise what these awards mean to me.*

*Since last year's Awards Night, my wife had our first son Harrison. Even though I can never work the streets again doing what I love, I have these awards from Rotary, so that many years from now I will be able to show my son I was a good Police Officer. For this I am forever grateful to the Rotary Club of Strathfield.*

## Unity Walk at Sydney Olympic Park

Unity Walk at Sydney Olympic Park in aid of Parkinson's NSW was held on Sunday August 31st 2008.

PP Steve Taylor wishes to sincerely thank the club for its \$200 donation to this event, and the individual contributions and attendance at the walk of Keith Stockall, Ann and Ray McCluskie, Jan and Roger Vince, Kevin and Suzanne Freund, Kevin Beltrame and Karen Catalano, Josh and Rebecca True, and last but not least Alan and Adrienne Taylor with daughter Kate and grandson Allesandro.

Over 700 people participated in this walk and many thousands of dollars were raised for research into the causes of Parkinson's disease



## HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

### Olympic Errors

From Grahame True

*Here are the top nine comments made by NBC sports commentators so far during the Olympics that they would like to take back:*

1. Weight-lifting commentator: 'This is Gregorieva from Bulgaria. I saw her snatch this morning during her warm up and it was amazing.'
2. Dressage commentator: 'This is really a lovely horse and I speak from personal experience since I once mounted her mother.'
3. Paul Hamm, Gymnast: 'I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father'
4. Boxing Analyst: 'Sure there have been injuries, and even some deaths in boxing, but none of them really that serious.'
5. Softball announcer: 'If history repeats itself, I should think we can expect the same thing again.'
6. Basketball analyst: 'He dribbles a lot and the opposition doesn't like it. In fact you can see it all over their faces.'
7. At the rowing medal ceremony: 'Ah, isn't that nice, the wife of the IOC president is hugging the cox of the British crew.'
8. Soccer commentator: 'Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field.'
9. Tennis commentator: 'One of the reasons Andy is playing so well is that, before the final round, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them... Oh my God, what have I just said?'

### Mexican Oysters

From Shirley Del Prado

A big Texan stopped at a local restaurant following a day roaming around in Mexico. While sipping his tequila, he noticed a sizzling, scrumptious looking platter being served at the next table. Not only did it look good, the smell was wonderful. He asked the waiter, "What is that you just served?"

The waiter replied, "Ah señor, you have excellent taste! Those are called *Cojones de Toro*, bull's testicles from the bull fight this morning. A delicacy! A special Mexican Cuisine Treat!"

The cowboy said, "What the heck, bring me an order." The waiter replied, "I am so sorry señor. There is only one serving per day because there is only one bull fight each morning. If you come early and place your order, we will be sure to save you this delicacy."

The next morning, the cowboy returned, placed his order, and that evening was served the one and only special delicacy of the day. After a few bites, inspecting his platter, he called to the waiter and said, "These are delicious, but they are much, much smaller than the ones I saw you serve yesterday."

The waiter shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Si, Señor. Sometimes the bull wins."

### Four Fight Stories

From Grahame True

1. After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's license to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later. The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair. She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me' and she processed my Social Security application. When I got home, I excitedly told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office. She said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability, too' And then the fight started.....
- 2 My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table. My wife asked, 'Do you know her?' 'Yes,' I sighed, 'She's my old girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since.' 'My God!' says my wife, 'Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?' And then the fight started.....
- 3 I rear-ended a car this morning. So, there we were alongside the road and slowly the other driver got out of his car. You know how sometimes you just get so stressed and little things just seem funny? Yeah, well I couldn't believe it; he was a DWARF!! He stormed over to my car, looked up at me, and shouted, 'I AM NOT HAPPY!!' So, I looked down at him and said, 'Well, then which one are you?' And then the fight started.
- 4 A woman is standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to her husband, 'I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.' The husband replies, 'Your eyesight's damn near perfect.' And then the fight started.