

Strathfield Rotary News



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

President: Kevin Freund

Website: www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

October is Vocational Service Month

Kev's Conveyances

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

What a wonderful experience it was last week to listen to the presentation by Erin Greenhalgh. I am positive that everyone in attendance felt as I did, inspired and full of admiration for Erin and her achievements in arranging the transition of five Indigenous students from the remote Aboriginal community school at Ti Tree in the Northern Territory, to Meriden and Trinity Schools.

Erin, at the age of 26, is guardian to the five students, three boys attending Trinity, as well as full time carer to the two girls attending Meriden. At the same time Erin is working full time as a Year Three Teacher and is in her second year of her doctoral studies.

Erin is seeking both physical and financial support and your board has decided to provide a weekly allowance, to the end of June 2010, to assist her in this exceptional endeavour. I also strongly encourage members to consider providing physical support if you are able to take the students out on activities on the weekends. I will be able to provide you with contact details.

District Governor Paul Reid has established a "D9690 Disaster Appeal Fund" in response to the catastrophic natural disasters that have happened in our neighbouring nations of Samoa, The Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam, and is asking all Clubs to consider extending the hand of friendship and give their support. Rotary has demonstrated its strength in providing "second tier" support once the recovery needs have been properly assessed. DG Paul has approved the sum of \$5000 from District funds to immediately support the appeal and our club will decide shortly the level and content of our support.

This Week's Meeting

**The Climate Change Issue:
Carbon Ready...or Not?**

Andrew Petersen

Introduced by Allan Petersen Thanked by Welwyn Petersen

A reminder to members and partners that our coach trip to Bowral on Sunday 25th October will travel via the South Coast, for a short visit to the new Southern Gateway Centre which includes the Jumbulla Aboriginal Discovery Centre, located at Bulli Tops Lookout and then up through The Macquarie Pass, with a brief visit at Robertson, then onto Domenico & Johanna's home at Bowral.

Tonight we welcome a very special guest, Andrew Petersen, the son of Allan & Welwyn Petersen, to discuss the very hot topic of climate change.

Cheers, **President Kevin**

Last Week's Presentation *Recorded by Peter Douglas*

From the Desert to the Beach: All in the Name of Education

Our guest speaker was Erin Greenhalgh who was introduced by PP Peter Manenti.

Her subject was 'From the Desert to the Beach: All in the Name of Education.'

Erin is the daughter of Doctor Julie Greenhalgh, Principal of Meriden.

In 2006, at the age of 24 Erin, who had graduated as a teacher, applied for a position in the teaching profession. The Northern Territory Government accepted her application and she was appointed as 2IC to an aboriginal school at Ti Tree which is 200 kilometres north of Alice Springs on the edge of the Tanami Desert. There were no shops, no mobile reception, only the school and a health clinic manned by two nurses. There were also two police officers who were responsible for Ti Tree and a substantial surrounding area. There are 15 houses in the immediate area and a number of humpies in a creek camp.



President Kevin with Erin Greenhalgh

In her first year Erin looked after a class of 12 to 17 year olds. In addition to pupils from the Ti Tree community others are bussed in from settlements up to 20 kilometres away. In the first term average attendance was around five children but this had improved to 25 in the second term. In her second year Erin took over teaching the primary class. As a reward for the children achieving an attendance of over 85%, 19 children were taken to Sydney for an eight day visit. This included a visit to Meriden School where some of the pupils

became pen pals of Meriden students. Through this relationship one of the Ti Tree pupils indicated a wish to attend Meriden so a three week trial was undertaken. This proved extremely successful and after much discussion two girls - Anthea Joe and Shamayla became pupils at Meriden at the start of 2009.

Erin is the guardian to these two girls and they live with her in Strathfield. Erin meets from her own resources the cost of housing and feeding these two girls.

Erin is also the guardian to three boys who are boarders at Trinity Grammar at Summer Hill.

Erin spoke at length about the language and culture of the aboriginal people and the impact it had upon her. She also spoke about how the girls had adapted to the 'european' ways.

Erin is now teaching at Trinity Prep School.

At the conclusion of her talk there was much discussion about what Erin was undertaking and in what way we at Strathfield Rotary could assist.

Erin was thanked by PP Bert Houston.

Last Week's Proceedings

Recorded by PP Roger Vince

From President Kevin

Welcomed our visitor Erin Greenhalgh, the Club guest speaker for the evening.

Reported on the success of our barbecue at the Strathfield Spring Fair held last Sunday in Strathfield Park. The weather was a little on the wild side but the cooks sold out of sausages to a good crowd and the takings were just over \$2000. He thanked all the volunteers for a great and successful effort on the day.

Reported his attendance with Kevin Beltrame and Roger Vince at the Meriden Interact Changeover meeting held at lunchtime today.

Mentioned all the coming events over the next few months listed elsewhere in the Bulletin and asked members to fill in the commitment sheets if they are able to attend. The events include:

- 25th October - A day with the Alvaros at Bowral
- 28th October – Pride of Workmanship Awards.
- 13th November – Trivia Night
- 18th November – Wine Tasting

Reminded members of the barbecue at Bunnings Ashfield on 7th November. The Club have only to supply the labour to cook the sausages.

Announced he had received a phone call from Paul Twigg, the President of Burwood RC, to let the Club know their Melbourne Cup night will be held on Monday 2nd November. This is a makeup for anybody who would like to attend. It is a fun night supported by some members of our Club each year.

Acknowledged the return from overseas

of Paolo Giammarco.

Announced the September edition of the District Governor's newsletter is now available.

From Kevin Beltrame Youth Service Director

Elaborated detail about the Meriden Interact Changeover held today and attended by Kevin Freund, Roger Vince and Kevin Beltrame. It was a lunchtime meeting with a 'sumptuous meal of pizzas eaten on the classroom floor'.

From PP Rod McDougall Club Service Director

Clarified the reason for the resignation of Peter Harries from the Club. Peter has transferred to the membership of the Rotary Club of New Plymouth in New Zealand. Unfortunately, the RI rules, as well as our own bylaws, allow the membership of only one Rotary Club at any time. Peter wanted to maintain membership of both Strathfield and New Plymouth because he spends his time in both places. All avenues have been investigated but, unfortunately, it has not been possible to change the rules on membership. When Peter recently joined the RC of New Plymouth he was under the impression he could be a member of both Rotary Clubs. When his name was submitted to RI in Evanston by the Secretary of the RC of New Plymouth, without reference to RC Strathfield, Peter's name was automatically deleted from the membership of Strathfield. Unfortunately, this is a weakness in the RI system of membership changes. The membership change was only discovered after a reconciliation of the Club membership revealed the absence of Peter's name on the RI list. Peter has elected to allow the change to stand and has officially resigned from Strathfield. He is very disappointed

with the final outcome and perhaps would have preferred to remain a member of our Club. However, very importantly he has allowed the Club to continue the use the computer projector at meetings. He intends to visit us when in Sydney and play on the various golf days.

From Paolo Giammarco Community Service Director

Thanked members who helped at the Strathfield Spring Fair barbecue last Sunday and thanked President Kevin and Suzanne for organising the event. Suggested the barbecue and trailer may need some maintenance and a clean. Would like to organise a meeting of the Community Service Committee in the near future.

Announced he met our recent Exchange Student, Laura Fleurquin in Rodez, France. Laura would like to hear from members of our Club.

Presented to President Kevin a banner he had received when he visited the Rotary Club of Franciacorta-Oglio in Brescia, Lombardy, Italy.

From PP Bert Houston Chairman of Trivia Night Committee

Announced the running costs of the Chalmers Road School Bus will be the recipient of the proceeds from the Trivia night to be held on Friday 13th November. It is intended, like last year, to raise enough money to run the bus for the next year. Both rooms at the Golf Club have been booked to accommodate an expected large number of people similar to the 160 who attended the function last year. Asked members to organise tables of eight and help with raffle prizes. Anything suitable for the multiple prizes can be brought to our regular meetings before the night for storage here.

Last Week's Presentation

Comments from PP Ted Ingall

Report from PP Ted Ingall in reference to our guest speaker Erin Greenhalgh and the Indigenous Programme.

Brother Paul Hough, former headmaster of St Joseph's, and Andrew Penfold, an old boy, were responsible for setting up the programme at Joeys, and the girls school at Kincoppal - Rose Bay.

With reference to the number of students at Joeys, the correct number is 40 pupils, not 25.

Andrew Penfold has since been made the Chairman of the Australian Indigenous Education Committee. In reference to the 20 million dollars, this was not for Joeys, but will be administered by the Indigenous Committee.

I have arranged for Erin to contact Richard Quinn, the Chairman of St Joseph's Development and Foundation Committee, to explain the situation, and see if he can be of any assistance.

I have arranged for a copy of the *College News*, which has more about the Indigenous Programme, to be made available.

Food for Thought

Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.

Always try to be modest, and be proud of it!

OK, so what's the speed of dark?

On the other hand, you have different fingers.

Strathfield Croquet Club
is holding an
Open Day,

Thursday 8th October
10.30am

50 Redmyre Road, Strathfield
Free Trial and Lessons

Further information from:

Yvonne 9744 6622

Ruth 9736 3410

Geoff 9763 1089

Congratulations

Birthdays

8th October

Kevin Beltrame

10th October

Karen Catalano

Wedding Anniversaries

None

Rotary Anniversaries

None

Rotary Grace

O, Lord and giver of all good,
We thank you for our daily food,
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways
Help us to serve you all our days.

Dates for Your Diary

For catering purposes, please remember to send apologies or details of extra attendees by
4.00pm Tuesdays to Eric Khu 9746 0397

email: brontin@bigpond.com

Late apologies by 5.00pm Wednesdays to Kevin Freund 0412 494 125

14th October (Wednesday)

Travelling the Silk Road

Brian Lawrenson

Past President, Breakfast Point Rotary Club

Introduced by Joe Saad Thanked by Ray Wilson

21st October (Wednesday)

***Awareness: An Effective Way
to Beat Prostate Cancer***

Hayes van der Meer

Introduced by Peter Smith Thanked by Peter Foss

25th October (Sunday) ▶ Partners' Day ◀

A Day with the Alvaros

Join Domenico and Johanna Alvaro at their beautiful
home at Bowral in the Southern Highlands.

28th October (Wednesday) ▶ Partners' Night ◀

Pride of Workmanship Awards

7th November (Saturday)

***Infant's Home Barbecue,
Bunnings, Ashfield***

10th November (Tuesday)

District Golf Day

11th November (Wednesday)

MS Ambassador

Erin Hodder

13th November (Friday) ▶ Allcomers' Night ◀

Trivia Night

18th November (Wednesday) ▶ Partners' Night ◀

Wine Tasting Evening

Hosted by Cabarita Cellars

25th November (Wednesday)

Hearing Voices Network

2nd December (Wednesday)

AGM

9th December (Wednesday) ▶ Partners' Night ◀

Strathfield Rotary Christmas Party

16th December (Wednesday)

Children's Christmas Party

18th February 2010 (Thursday)

Transfer meeting from 17th February

Trish MS Research Foundation Golf Day

19th to 21st March 2010

District 9690 Conference, Forster NSW

**The Rotary Club of Strathfield meets every Wednesday evening at Strathfield Golf Club, Centenary Drive, Strathfield.
Visitors welcome**

Rotary Note

by PP Raymond McCluskie

A Note on Participation

How well are you participating at our weekly meeting? Where are you helping? Are you part of the Rotary Meeting Team? Do you volunteer to help the meeting work?

Here are 20 features of our meeting that need attention by someone (a Rotarian) each week:

1. You have a bulletin prepared for you.
2. You have an e-news prepared and sent to your email address.
3. Apologies are taken so that you have a venue set up for you at Strathfield Golf Club with waiters and a meal. Do you remember to apologise?
4. The Rotary banners are hung.
5. The sound system and Rotary paraphernalia are set out.
6. A guest speaker is organised.
7. A roster is prepared for the introduction and thanking of the guest speaker. A present is organised for the Guest speaker.
8. Notes are taken of the Guest speaker for inclusion in the Bulletin and on the webpage.
9. Directors report at the meeting.
10. Members of committees report at the meeting.
11. The President prepares and conducts the meeting and makes a written comment on the Club's progress.
12. You are notified of events and your support is sought for Rotary activities.
13. Notes are taken of what happens at the meeting and recorded in the Bulletin.
14. A diary of events is made available on the website and in the Bulletin.
15. The future meetings are listed in the Bulletin and on the website.
16. The Treasurer manages, *inter alia*, your dinner fees.
17. An attendance officer records your make-ups as well as club attendance.
18. Raffle prizes are donated by members and others and the raffle is organised.
19. Our Sergeant-at-Arms has a fine for you.
20. You share in Rotary fellowship.

Have a Laugh

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part where Chicken Little tried to warn the farmer. She read, "... And so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, 'The sky is falling, the sky is Falling!'" The teacher paused then asked the class, "And what do you think that Farmer said?" One little girl raised her hand and said, "I think he said: 'Holy Sh*t! A talking chicken!'" The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

From PP Grahame True

I guess the real questions are:
Are you participating in the meeting in any of the 20 activities listed above?
Are you pulling your weight at Club meetings?
Can other members take over your duties in your absence?
Do you apologise in time so that, in your absence, the meeting can proceed?

Rotary Snippet

“Teenager of the Year”

District Governor Elect Jim Stamford of Padstow Club at the District Assembly prior to his year (1979-80) asked for ideas for a new program for Youth to mark the 75th Anniversary of Rotary International.

The Youth Service Committee headed by Barry Bullivant of Granville Rotary Club, Ken Nicholls, also of Granville Rotary Club, and another couple of Rotarians met and the following concept of a Youth Award for teenagers, not recognized by other awards, was suggested.

This award would recognize those between the ages of 13 to 18 and the criteria would be for Community Service, bearing in mind that most would be students. Scholastic ability was not a high priority like other awards - Community Service was the main aim.

The above suggestions were agreed to and adopted by the District and the first Award was made the following year.

In later years the award was changed into a slightly different concept as it is today with a name change to

R.O.Y.A. (Recognition of Youth Award).

Bobbie Nicholls, September 2009

Note: Strathfield Rotary Club does not participate in R.O.Y.A. Instead we have the Strathfield Youth Awards, a joint venture with Strathfield Council, initiated by Tony Lanzafame in 2003.

Rotary News

from PP Roger Vince, Interact Chairman D9690

28th Meriden Interact Changeover 30th September, 2009

The new Interact Board members were announced and enthusiastically welcomed by the large number of girls who were present. Kevin Freund

presented badges to the new Board and Roger Vince expressed his appreciation to the old Board who were very ably led by their President, Clarissa Fasanella, Vice President Zelal Celik, Treasurer Miriam Haddad and Secretary Sandra Mankarios. The names of the new Board were announced following voting by

the Interact members on 22nd September. Thanks were expressed to Ms Tanya Naticchia, who has very capably mentored the Meriden Interact Club this year and is leaving Meriden on

maternity leave at the end of this term. The new Interact Board for 2009 – 2010 is as follows:

President – Amy Duong
Vice President - Tanya Mankarios
Secretary – Chrissy Yangoyan
Treasurer – Salima Jirani

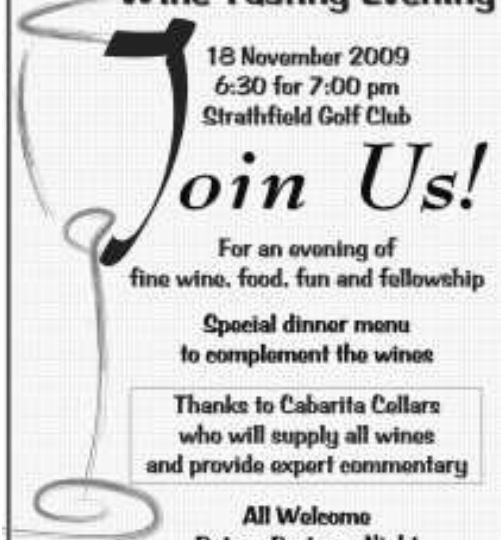


President Kevin with, from left to right, Clarissa Fasanella (Past President), Amy Duong, Tanya Mankarios, Chrissy Yangoyan, Salima Jirani, Roger Vince.

A very happy meeting concluded with a lunch of pizzas and soft drinks. As a matter of interest the Meriden Interact Club was formed in 1981 when Brian Hennell was Club President.

Strathfield Rotary Wine Tasting Evening

18 November 2009
6:30 for 7:00 pm
Strathfield Golf Club



For an evening of
fine wine, food, fun and fellowship

Special dinner menu
to complement the wines

Thanks to Cabarita Cellars
who will supply all wines
and provide expert commentary

All Welcome
Rotary Partners Night

Cost \$25 per person all inclusive

RSVP 11 November Rod McDougall 9746 2424

Thanks in Advance

Youth Director Kevin Beltrame would like to thank, in advance, the following members who have volunteered to join him providing assistance to the RYDA programme at Homebush on Tuesday, October 20:

Trevor Duxbury, Andrew Kowalski,
Roger Vince, Allan Petersen,
and Peter Foss.

Last Meeting's Statistics

Attendance: 35

Visiting Rotarians: None

Visitor: Erin Greenhalgh (Guest speaker)

Apologies: 12

Non-Apologies:

L.O.A.: Warren Abbott
George Helou
Doug Potter
Umesh Kamkolkar
Anuradha Kamkolkar

Raffle raised \$240.00

Winners

Niall King
Umesh Kamkolkar
Neil Kennan

The Sergeants raised \$100.70

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