



# 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](http://www.strathfieldrotary.org.au)

## August is Membership and Extension Month

### Kev's Conveyances

### Wednesday, August 26, 2009

What a wonderful and inspiring experience for all those in attendance for The Literature Extension Presentation Evening. The Year 9 and 10 students from Strathfield Girls High School displayed enthusiasm and passion during their presentations, demonstrating a dedication to their English Studies and can feel truly proud of their achievements. It was a privilege to witness the talent of the youth in our community.

The success of the evening would not have been possible without the considerable efforts of English Teacher, Gabrielle Correy, and her coordination with Paul White. We extend a big vote of thanks for their efforts.

By now all members should have received our Member Survey "What are Rotarians really thinking?" I encourage all members to complete the form and return it in the reply paid envelope before the 4<sup>th</sup> September, remembering that "**The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands**".

An invitation has been extended to all Paul Harris Fellows to attend a Luncheon at Rosehill Gardens, James Ruse Drive, Rosehill on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009, 12pm to 2pm. The Guest Speaker will be John F. Germ, Vice Chairman and Trustee of The Rotary Foundation.

### This Week's Meeting

**RYDA**

**Presented by**  
**Greg Rappo**  
Director of Program Development

Introduced by Kevin Beltrame      Thanked by Peter Manenti

Tonight we welcome Greg Rappo, Director of Program Development of Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA), a great Rotary initiative providing first quality road safety information to youth to help insure when they commence driving they have the best road safety education possible.

**President Kevin**

### Last Week's Presentation by Peter Douglas

#### Literature Extension Program

Our program was the Literature Extension Program presented by 11 girls from Years 9 and 10 at Strathfield Girls High School. The program was introduced by Paul White and is the 4<sup>th</sup> year we have the privilege of this presentation.

Six books are short listed by the Children's Book Council of Australia, which is a volunteer-run, not for profit, organisation that was established in 1945 and is comprised of branches of individual members who are passionate about children's and young adult literature.

Chairperson Rebecca Quee told us how the evening would progress.

Stefanie Valakas gave the introductory speech about the importance of reading. Reading is pleasurable, relaxing, allows one's imagination to run, imparts knowledge and passes the time.

Michelle Lynn gave an explanation of the judging process - storyline, cover, blurb, relevance, characterization and language. A good book allows the reader to 'see' and 'hear' the characters.

Mechelle Lynn reviewed the first book - *Finnikin of the Rock* by Melina Marchetta. Mechelle described this a very simply

written novel of love, fate, hope and death but nothing special.

Irene Xu reviewed the next book - *Kill the Possum* by James Moloney. Irene said this was a well written book revolving around the emotional cruelty displayed towards three teenagers by their stepfather.

Catherine Eelep reviewed the next book - *Into White Silence* by Anthony Eaton. This was described as a fictional novel based on facts of the disastrous voyage of the Raven to the Antarctic in 1921 where one by one the crew desert or die.

Aaditi Padhi reviewed the next book - *Rose for the Anzac Boys* by Jackie French. Aaditi described this as a fictional novel based on fact about Rose setting up a canteen with two friends at the time of the first world war. It tells of the bittersweet experience of the journey from youth to womanhood revolving around love, war, friendship and death.

Christine Ding reviewed the next book - *Monster Blood Tattoo* by DM Cornish. The storyline revolves around a young boy fighting an imaginary monster. Christine felt this book was more suited to 8 - 12 year olds.

Lavanya Tummi reviewed the

final book - *Tales from Outer Suburbia* by Shaun Tan. This book is described as a 'Picture Book' and comprises 15 short stories each with a different perspective involving such diverse topics as discovery through to ignorance.

Lucy Napoli then announced the judges' decision that the winner was *Tales from Outer Suburbia* followed by Sylvia Luo who gave an evaluation of the Literature Extension Program with appropriate acknowledgements and finally Staff member Gabrielle Correy presented certificates to all participants.

PP Ray McCluskie thanked everyone involved.



SGHS Students—Avid readers, one and all

## Last Week's Proceedings Recorded by Janelle Watson

### From President Kevin

President Kevin gave a very warm welcome to the students, teachers and Deputy Principal, Angela Lyris, from Strathfield Girls High School. Kevin also welcomed the parents and friends to our Club. President Kevin said how delighted we were to be involved again this year with the Literature Extension Program.

President Kevin advised members that the Strathfield 2009 Spring Fair is being held on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September again in Strathfield Park. The event starts at 10am though Rotarians involved on that day are asked to be there earlier, at 8:00am, to assist in setting up the Rotary stand/BBQ area.

The Pride of Workmanship event will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October. This will be a Partner's Night

He announced that a Paul Harris Fellow lunch will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, and asked members to please pass that message along.

President Kevin also advised the Club that he had attended an interesting and informative President's meeting last

Friday evening. News for our District is that a new Rotary Club is being proposed for Revesby. Padstow is the sponsoring Club.

### From International Director Trevor Duxbury

David Ross for the Parramatta city Rotary Club was selected as team leader for the Group Study Exchange Program. Strathfield Club will be sponsoring two candidates for the team. The destination for the team this time is Novo Scotia in Canada. He also reported that the Club had received acknowledgement for funding another Shelterbox. Following the donation of \$2,000 to the Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) program, Strathfield Rotary Club has adopted the villages of Kokopau and Torojian, both in the North Bougainville District of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville of Papua New Guinea.

### From Youth Director Kevin Beltrame

Rotarian Paul White is seeking applications to attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly).

### From Secretary Charles Pitt

Brochure received from the Australian Tax Office, and letter from Strathfield Council advising of the Community Area Forum being held on 19<sup>th</sup> August.

### From Niall King

Informed Rotarians that it is time for another working bee at the MS Centre Garden at Lidcombe on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August. Please contact Niall to help out.

### From Club Service Director Rod McDougall

Announced that a survey created by RDU is being sent to Rotarians asking for comments on various matters. Please complete the survey as it will assist the Board in future planning directions for the Club.

**Two commitment sheets** were circulated at the meeting – firstly for the Spring Fair and secondly for the District Governor's visit on 16<sup>th</sup> September. President Kevin advised that this evening will be a Partner's Night and time 6:30pm for 7:00pm.

## Congratulations

### Birthdays

18<sup>th</sup> August **Allan Petersen**

### Wedding Anniversaries

None

### Rotary Anniversaries

1<sup>st</sup> September **A. Bala**

### Trev's Trivia

The first Eton v. Harrow cricket match took place at Thomas Lord's cricket ground (then on the site of Dorset Square, London). The poet Lord Byron was on the losing Harrow side.  
*Fotheringham's Sporting Trivia*



## What are Rotarians really thinking?

Have you received your copy of the survey questionnaire posted to all members last week? Hopefully you have completed it and returned it using the reply paid envelope. Note that the survey may be completed anonymously and there is **no** need to include your name and address on the reverse side of the reply paid envelope.

If you have not received the form, you may request a copy from Peter Smith or Ray Wilson – or you may download one from our website at

[www.strathfieldrotary.org.au/survey.pdf](http://www.strathfieldrotary.org.au/survey.pdf)

The completed document should be posted to Membership Survey PO Box 268 Strathfield NSW 2135 by 4 September.

President Kevin and the board are very interested in hearing your suggestions, so please take the time to complete and return the form.



## Have a Laugh



### What is a cat?

Cats do what they want. They rarely listen to you. They're totally unpredictable. When you want to play, they want to be alone. When you want to be alone, they want to play. They expect you to cater to their every whim. They're moody. They leave hair everywhere.

**Conclusion: They're tiny women in little fur coats.**

### What is a dog?

Dogs spend all day sprawled on the most comfortable piece of furniture in the house. They can hear a package of food opening half a block away, but don't hear you when you're in the same room. They can look dumb and lovable all at the same time. They growl when they are not happy. When you want to play, they want to play. When you want to be alone, they want to play. They leave their toys everywhere. They do disgusting things with their mouths and then try to give you a kiss.

**Conclusion: They're small men in little fur coats.**

## 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](mailto:brontin@bigpond.com)  
Late apologies by 5.00pm Wednesdays to Kevin Freund 0412 494 125

**30<sup>th</sup> August (Sunday)**

*Unity Walk in Aid of Parkinson's Research  
Sydney Olympic Park*

**2<sup>nd</sup> September (Wednesday)**

*Visit by Assistant District Governor Keith Roffey*

*Rotarian Revelations  
Suzanne Freund*

**3<sup>rd</sup> September (Thursday)**

*Tagalong Outback Experience 2009*

Inverell Rotary Club 14 day Caravan Tour. \$1,000 per vehicle plus \$20pp for evening meals. \$30 subsidy for non-vanners. Phone 02 6722 4488 or Mobile 0428 221004

**9<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)**

*Raising Positive Kids in a Negative World:  
Challenges for Schools and Parents*

Dr Julie Greenhalgh  
Principal of Meriden

**16<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday) [Partners Night]**

*Visit by District Governor Paul Reid*

**23<sup>rd</sup> September (Wednesday)**

*Presentation by 2008-9 outbound GSE Team*

**27<sup>th</sup> September (Sunday)**

*Strathfield Spring Fair*

**30<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)**

*From the Desert to the Beach,  
all in the name of Education*  
Erin Greenhalgh

**14<sup>th</sup> October (Wednesday)**

*Travelling the Silk Road*

Brian Lawrenson  
Past President  
Breakfast Point Rotary Club

**28<sup>th</sup> October (Wednesday) [Partners Night]**

*Pride of Workmanship Awards*

**10<sup>th</sup> November (Tuesday)**

*District Golf Day*

**18<sup>th</sup> February 2010 (Thursday)**

Transfer meeting from 17th February  
*Trish MS Research Foundation Golf Day*

**19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 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

### Unity Walk

On Sunday August 30th at 12 noon The 4km Unity Walk in aid of Parkinson's Disease research will take place around Sydney Olympic Park.

The entry fee of \$20 will also entitle walkers free entry into the Bulldogs game at ANZ Stadium.

This event will be a great way to support Parkinson's research, and get some exercise at the same time, and perhaps see a good game of footy too.

For those wanting more information or wishing to enter or make a donation, please go to the following link:

<http://www.unitywalk.com.au/>

I look forward to seeing you there on the day.

Many thanks  
**PP Steve Taylor**

### Fellowship Event

#### Organized by Steve Taylor

Hi fellows

Our first restaurant night out will be at  
**The Golden Coronet Chinese Restaurant**  
(We went there last year and it was great!)

268 Homebush Rd, Strathfield  
(Cnr Hume Highway)

When: **Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Time: **6.30pm for 7.00pm**

Cost: Between **\$35.00 and \$40.00**  
**for a banquet**

(drinks extra or BYO)

Commitment sheet: available Wednesday at the club

### 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.

### Have a Laugh

#### The Wary Son-in-Law

A man goes to see Mel Gibson's movie, "The Passion", and is inspired to take his family to Israel to see the places where Jesus lived and died.

While on vacation his mother-in-law dies. An undertaker in Tel-Aviv explains that they can ship the body home to Wisconsin at a cost of \$US10,000, or the mother-in-law could be buried in Israel for \$US500.

The man says, "We'll ship her home."

The undertaker asks, "Are you sure? That's an awfully big expense and we can do a very nice burial here."

The man says, "Look, 2000 years ago they buried a guy here and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance."

**The Yuppie and the Jackaroo***from Kevin Beltrame*

A Queensland jackaroo is overseeing his herd in remote territory when suddenly a brand-new BMW advances out of a dust cloud towards him.

The driver, a young man in a designer suit, Gucci shoes, Ray Ban sunglasses and YSL tie, leans out the window and asks the cowboy, 'If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?'

The jackaroo looks at the man, obviously a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing animals and calmly answers, 'Sure, why not?'

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZR V3 cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite navigation system to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo. The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany. Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses a MS-SQL database through an ODBC connected Excel Spreadsheet with email on his Blackberry and, after a few minutes, receives a response. Finally, he prints out a full-colour, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer and finally turns to the cowboy and says, 'You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves.'

'That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves,' says the Cowboy.

He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on amused as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

Then the cowboy says to the young man, 'Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?'

The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, 'Okay, why not?'

'You work for the Australian Government, Kevin's Office', says the Jackaroo.

'Wow! That's correct,' says the yuppie, 'but how did you guess that I am from the Rudd Government?'

'No guessing required,' answered the jackaroo. 'You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used all kinds of expensive equipment that clearly somebody else paid for, you tried to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know a thing about cows - this is a flock of sheep.'

Now give me back my dog.'

**It Could Happen!**

A Gosford girl was driving down the F3 when her car phone rang. It was her boyfriend, urgently warning her.

"I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the F3. Please be careful."

"It's not just one car!" said the girl, "There's hundreds of them!"

**The Wrong Conclusion***Anon*

A man staggered into a hospital with a concussion, multiple bruises, two black eyes, and a five iron wrapped tightly round his throat.

Naturally the doctor asked him, "What happened to you?"

"Well, I was having a quiet round of golf with my wife, when at a difficult hole we both sliced our balls into a cow pasture. We went to look for them, and while I was looking around I noticed one of the cows had something white at its rear end."

"I walked over, lifted its tail, and sure enough, there was a golf ball with my wife's monogram on it—stuck right in the middle of the cow's backside."

"Still holding the cow's tail up, I yelled to my wife 'Hey, this looks like yours!'"

"I don't remember much after that."

**Ain't Love Grand***from Kevin Beltrame*

An elderly gent was invited to an old friends home for dinner one evening.

He was impressed by the way his buddy preceded every request to his wife with endearing terms such as: Honey, My Love, Darling, Sweetheart, Pumpkin, etc.

The couple had been married almost 70 years and, clearly, they were still very much in love.

While the wife was in the kitchen, the man leaned over to his host and said, 'I think it's wonderful that, after all these years, you still call your wife those loving pet names'

The old man hung his head. 'I have to tell you the truth,' he said, 'Her name slipped my mind about 10 years ago and I'm scared to death to ask the cranky old witch what her name is.'

**Two Bowling Teams**

Two bowling teams, one of all blondes and one of all brunettes, charter a double-decker bus for a weekend trip. The brunette team rode on the bottom of the bus, and the blonde team rode on the top level.

The brunette team down below really whooped it up, having a great time, when one of them realized she hadn't heard anything from the blondes upstairs. She decided to go up and investigate. When the brunette reached the top, she found all the blondes in fear, staring straight ahead at the road, clutching the seats in front of them with white knuckles. The brunette asked, 'What the heck's going on up here? We're having a great time downstairs!' One of the blondes looked up at her, swallowed hard and said

"YEAH, BUT YOU'VE GOT A DRIVER!!!"

**Last Meeting's Statistics****Attendance: 31**

Visitors: 27

Apologies: 17

Non-Apologies: 11

**The Sergeants raised \$98.30****Raffle raised \$220.00****Winners**

John Thomson (Visitor)

Andrew Kowalski

Niall King

Raymond McCluskie

Rebecca Quee (SGHS)

Janelle Watson

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