



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675
13th March 2019

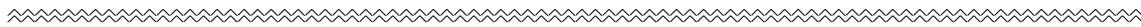
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Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Month of March</i>		
-	Rotary	Water and Sanitation Month
<i>Weeks of March</i>		
11th-17th Mar	Rotary	World Rotaract Week
11th-17th Mar	Aust	National Ground Water Awareness Week
11th-17th Mar	Int	Brain Awareness Week
<i>Days of March</i>		
8th Mar	UN	International Women's Day



From the President's Desk

Hi Fellows,

Wow what a memorable meeting we had last Wednesday, 6 March! We welcomed back from Colombia our own Peter van der Sleen, from his trip to South America, and his brief two-day visit to our la Amiga, Rotary Club of Fusagasugá, in Colombia. Peter spoke of his first hand observations of our gifts to the school children, positively endorsing the appreciation for the gifts, having been loudly said in the photos received earlier in the year. I use the term la Amiga, as there are more women in the Club than men. We have a wonderful friendship, with this Club, and we are so lucky.

But there was more! The speaker Steven Nakhla, a building inspector and mediator. The facts of a couple's duplex building in Dundas, gone wrong, grabbed everyone's attention. Poor workmanship and vanishing builders is an experience we all understand. By the number of requests for Steven's contact details, there is likely an extra client or two coming from his visit. If I can add a small historical observation, poor building workmanship is not new, and our parents and newspapers called it "jerry-built". The term being in use in 1869, and being traced to a building company in Liverpool, UK. Called "Jerry Bros" <https://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/jerry-built.html>

Last Friday was International Women's Day; a day to remember women in the home and in the workforce, for gender balance in all parts of our community. I know in our own District 9675, there is a leadership of women, with our current District Governor Sue Hayward and District Governor-Elect Dianne North. Here at our Club, we are trying to better gender balance. Not to let the day pass without a comment.

Normally in my Bulletin Piece, I have a poem, this week I have once again turned to a famous poet Henry Lawson, but instead referring to his short story the "Drovers Wife": https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/l/lawson/henry/while_the_billy_boils/book2.1.html. This woman is to be celebrated, and her dog, I wish he were mine.

On the subject of Rotary re-districting, a decision has to be made by us in the near future. I would suggest you read through the article in the February, Rotary Down Under, We are one, by PDG John McLaren, a case for a single Australian Rotary Region. In my view, Rotary is not a national body, rather a collection of like-minded Rotarians, not bound within national borders. To me this is strength of Rotary.

I will not be in on Wednesday, as I'm away for Professional Development, but I will see you on Saturday at the District Conference - try to be there.

Charles

Last Week's Speaker: Steven Nakhla

Steven Nakhla was one of our most interesting guest speakers, and fielded more questions both throughout and after the talk than I have seen for a while.

Steven Nakhla heads up his own consulting company, SJN building consulting. He has been working within the industry since 2004. He has worked as labourer, estimator, inspector, project manager and now as predominantly as a profession specialist consultant to the industry and the public.

Steven pointed out that in NSW alone there were an astonishingly high 226,816 complaints made in reference to the building industry and

there over 2,860 cases before the tribunal currently. He also drew attention to the fact that there are no notations made on fair trading's web site about a shoddy builder until the case is heard and a judgment made.

As such it is very difficult to make a judgment of a builder on your own simply by viewing the fair trading site.

He believes that most of the problems that he sees through his business revolve around the following areas:

- The quality of the workmanship being delivered by a builder.
- The time delays that occur regularly costing homeowners dearly while awaiting completion of their homes.

- The Scope of works and the misunderstanding between what the homeowner expects is covered in the building contract and what the builder has included in the contract.
- The Site Conditions for each individual site and the additional costs associated with preparing the site which are not included in the contract.
- The Variations in the contract and how the costs add up quickly with each variation made.

Steven indicated that it is money well spent to have the building contract that you are about to sign reviewed by a professional consultant 1st and solicitor. Furthermore, he pointed out that many of the disputes he becomes involved in through his office in a professional capacity as an expert adviser and witness would have been easily resolved if proper due diligence in researching the builder and a review of the contract were conducted before choosing the builder and entering a contract.

As a rule of thumb if you choose to build he suggested:

- To always ask to speak with some of the people who the builder had worked for recently and look at their work.
- Check the forums and review pages on the Internet for information.
- Have the contract reviewed and fully understand what you are receiving from the builder
- Engage an independent project manager if possible, and
- Try and Buy an existing building rather than build one if you can. That way you get what you see, you can have it inspected before you buy and your time frame is assured

He felt that qualified tradespeople were getting harder to find and training courses are not filled with new people coming through. Overall he suggested caution before commencing, employing professionals and being mindful of your budget.

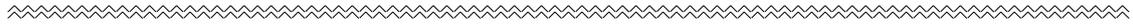
Summary by *Chris Virgona*



This Week's speaker: Carmel Soames

Carmel will present to us information on over 55's luxury living. In so doing, she will outline current approaches to

caring for our Seniors, suggest a better approach and highlight what the future might look like.



Next Week's meeting: Luke Athens

Luke Athens is a Director and lead investigator with Heartbreakers, who are specialists in infidelity and partner investigations.

thousands of resolved investigation cases under his belt. Luke's extensive training and knowledge in the investigation industry is in high demand due to his unique skill set and a passion for investigations.

Luke commenced his private investigation career in 1996 and has



Reports from Directors

From Wednesday 06-03-19

10 April. And put out a call for nominations

Paolo Giammarco

Updated members on RESCA.

Peter van der Sleen

Updated members on his trip to Colombia and visit to both the Rotary Club of Fusagasugá and the school we are supporting.

Arie Pappas

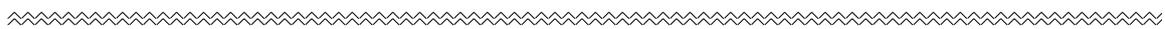
Reminded members that this year's Youth Awards will be held at Strathfield Town Hall on Wednesday,



Reports from members

From Wednesday 06-03-19

None



Dates for the Calendar



<i>Rotary Events</i>			
<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Event/speaker</i>	<i>To introduce</i>	<i>To thank + Speaker write-up</i>
Wed 13th Mar 2019	Carmel Soames Aged care lifestyle and luxury living	Usha Garg	Prabhat Sinha
15th-17th March 2019	District Conference	-	-
Wed 20th Mar 2019	Luke Athens Private detective	Chris Haseldine	Joseph Saad
Wed 27th Mar 2019	tba	Dimitry Palmer	John-Paul Baladi
Last week of March	BowelCare distribution	Peter Smith	-
Start: 1 April 2019 Finish: 31 May 2019	BowelCare	Peter Smith	-
Wed 3rd Apr 2019	tba	Richard Horwood	Peter Smith
Wed 10th Apr 2019	Youth Achievement Awards	-	-

<i>Birthdays</i>	
14th Mar	Strathfield Rotary (1971)
17th Mar	Joan Brown

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
14th Mar	Raymond McCluskie (Rotary)





The statistics

Attendance last meeting (06-03-19)	20
Leave of absence	3
Other absence	4
Apologies	5
Late apology	0
No apology	13
Club membership	45
Make-ups advised	0
Partners	0
Guests	3

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$250.00
Sergeants session	\$87.65

Your Committee 2018-2019

President	Charles Pitt	Secretary	Rod McDougall
President Elect	Arie Pappas	Sergeant	Grahame True
Immediate Past President	Rick Vosila	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth	Peter van der Sleen	Community	Thaya Ponniah
International	Chris Virgona	Vocational	Usha Garg
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Paolo Giammarco

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	Selectprint	Apologies	Gulian Vaccari
Facebook master	Charles Pitt		



Raffles Roster

In the Rotary spirit of sharing the load, 'raffles Rick' has devised a roster so all members can activity participate in our weekly raffles.

Here are the rules of the game:

1. This is a test of your accountability and responsibility. If you are rostered on for a particular night, you are accountable and responsible for running the raffle on that night. Please don't let your club down.
2. On your night, you do the lot: arrange the prizes beforehand (three prizes is all we need; be creative with them); announce the raffle; sell the tickets; tally the money; manage the draw; and make it a huge success. I will assist if needed. We can also enlist the support of other members on the night for ticket selling, etc.
3. If you can't make it on the night, you must arrange to swap your shift with someone else on the roster (early!). Don't just let it slip by so we don't have a raffle on the night.
4. If on the night that you're rostered on we have a Transfer Meeting (or no meeting) and so no raffle is required, you get the night off; bonus!

<i>Date</i>	<i>Rostered on</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Rostered on</i>
Wed, 13 Mar 19	Paul Anton	Wed, 8 May 19	Gulian Vaccari
Wed, 20 Mar 19	Domenico Alvaro	Wed, 15 May 19	Allan Teale
Wed, 27 Mar 19	Thaya Ponniah	Wed, 22 May 19	Peter Smith
Wed, 3 Apr 19	Chris Virgona	Wed, 29 May 19	Prabhat Sinha
Wed, 10 Apr 19	Janelle Watson	Wed, 5 Jun 19	Guru Singh
Wed, 17 Apr 19	Rick Vosila	Wed, 12 Jun 19	Joseph Saad
Wed, 24 Apr 19	Roger Vince	Wed, 19 Jun 19	Arie Pappas
Wed, 1 May 19	Peter van der Sleesen	Wed, 26 Jun 19	Dimitry Palmer



Out and About: Upcoming Youth Awards

To be held 10th April 2019



The poster features a blue sky background with colorful brushstrokes in red, purple, blue, green, and yellow. In the center, two silhouettes of people are shown in a celebratory pose, with one person jumping and the other reaching up. A white rectangular box at the top contains the text '2018 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS' and 'WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2019'.

2018 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2019

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Do you know an exceptional young person who deserves their achievements to be recognised? Nominate them online at:

 www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au 

Nominations close 5pm, Monday 11 March 2019