



# STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675  
20th 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>		
21st-27th Mar	UN	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination
<i>Days of March</i>		
20th Mar	UN	International Day of Happiness
21st Mar	UN	International Day of Nowruz
21st Mar	UN	World Down Syndrome Day
21st Mar	UN	International Day of Forests
21st Mar	Aust	Harmony Day
22nd Mar	UN	World Water Day
23rd Mar	UN	World Meteorological Day
24th Mar	Aust	Earth Hour
24th Mar	UN	World Tuberculosis Day
24th Mar	UN	International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
25th Mar	UN	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
25th Mar	UN	International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members
26th Mar	Aust	Purple Day - Epilepsy Foundation

## *From the President's Desk*

Hi Fellows,

On Friday afternoon, I travelled back from Hobart, and flashing on the television screens was the unfolding story of the shooting in Christchurch and then I'm reading it on the phone.

I have spent a wonderful week with my family in that City many years ago. New Zealand, it is us - we are the same, relatives. The innocence of worshipping and prayers should not end this way. The response of Rotary is to firstly to mourn with our fellow

Rotarians in New Zealand. Going forward, we must promote Rotary's strength of welcoming of all people regardless of their faiths. We are meeting and working together, for the benefit of the local and international community.

On Saturday, back home, I headed off to the 9675 District Conference, at Bankstown Sports Club; what memorable speakers! The one that left me with a lot to consider was Louisa Hope, a survivor of the Lindt Café siege, in December 2014. Louisa, having coffee with her mum, off to see the Solicitor upstairs from the café, the doors of life opening and closing, the decision to go to the Lindt café, the appointment time, all of which meant another decision made, she would not be in the café. Survival has changed her life, a strategic decision formed while laying on a stretcher in Phillip Street, her thoughts were, "I have survived, where is Mum?!". To the future, it was now "one life and one moment". Three months in hospital, recovering from shrapnel wounds to the foot and abdomen, Louisa developed a close relationship with the nursing staff as they helped her through the physical and mental challenges of the siege. I would say it was instinctive, although I did not hear Louisa say that, a legacy of a career at the big end of town, becoming aware of the nursing needs. The Louisa Hope Fund for Nurses was created both at the Prince of Wales Hospital and the Nepean Hospital, as her mum lives out there. Please read the material on the web, it is inspiring, just as it was at the conference.

Louisa, not a small woman, telling us, I was always watching my weight. One of the first medical conversations

was along the lines, you're lucky, the abdomen shrapnel, some of it is still there, but your stomach fat stopped it going through to your abdomen, - could have been bad. The struggle with waistline, there was a purpose not to have succeeded.

There were other great speakers, but Louisa was to me the most memorable. Arie is to give us a full report at our Wednesday meeting.

From RI President's Personal Representative, PDG John Prendergast, we learnt that the number of Rotary Clubs and MacDonald Restaurants were similar worldwide: 36,000. The similarity, if any, should not be considered. Statistics that's all!

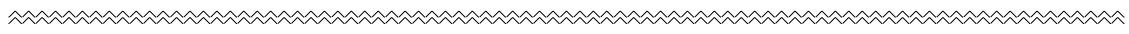
The conversation with other Clubs are, they are not same, our Club's weekly dinner meeting and speaker, is the 1905 Chicago original. A new Club forming at Gregory Hills (near Camden) is not intending to be a dinner meeting. Personally, I like Rotary over dinner. Possibly change will occur for we are in a changing society.

Re-districting was not on the agenda at the conference, it was part of the conversation. The views are mixed. I had flash backs to past conferences, like the one in the 1980s at Gosford Leagues Club, with the flag bearing exchange students, the Conference Dinner booked out, no room at 500 plus and Strathfield taking over a restaurant at Bateau Bay because there was no room for all of us. This conference on the weekend, was not the same, in style or numbers. The District now has more Clubs. My preference is for the new style.

As the Police Rock and Roll Band, played, Dream Lover, with the accompanying muffled sing along, I looked across the dance floor, I may have glimpsed an aging Rotary, maybe not, the light was bad, it was

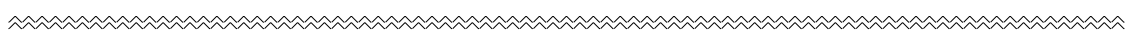
blue, I'm asking Arie, Rick, Gulian and Thaya, did they see it!

*Charles*



## *Last Week's Speaker: Carmel Soames*

No report received



## *This Week's speaker: Luke Athens*

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

Luke commenced his private investigation career in 1996 and has

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.



## *Next Week's speaker: tba*

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### *Reports from Directors*

From Wednesday 13-03-19

#### **Arie Pappas**

Reminded members that the District Conference will be held this weekend at the Bankstown Sports Club. He put out an invitation to join the Strathfield table at Saturday's dinner.

Reminded members that this year's Youth Awards will be held at Strathfield Town Hall on Wednesday, 10 April.

#### **Peter van der Sleen**

Also advised members of the closing date for RYPEN applications. Peter handed out flyers to interested Rotarians.

#### **Rod McDougal**

Confirmed that not only is the Trish Golf Day going ahead in next year, that the date has been locked in for Thursday 20-Feb-2020. [Will it really be 2020 next year? That means, for example, that the Sydney Olympics were 20 years ago!! – Ed]

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### *Reports from members*

From Wednesday 13-03-19

#### **Rick Vosila**

Highlighted that, for some time, we have been supporting Chalmers Road School. Most recently with their project to acquire a special-needs bus for their students, the cost of which is about \$90k. Once they raise \$30k, organisation such as the Variety Club will make up the difference. Strathfield Rotary [and 'superman' Rick in Particular – Ed], they are a couple of grand short of the target. The next fundraising opportunity will be on the State Election day of Saturday 23-3-19 when they hold a BBQ in the school grounds (which will be a polling place). Rick asked members to consider donating their time or supplies on the day.

#### **Bradley Ayres**

Highlighted the recent ABC news article that an Australian Rotary Health expo in Hobart (funded by the Tasmanian and Hobart governments) had a stall by an anti-vaccination group. The government is unhappy about this occurring. Promoting such a dangerous belief flies in the face of all that Rotary has done in our Polio Plus project over the past three decades. [For the ARH response to Brad's complaint email, please refer to one of the "Out and About" pieces later in this bulletin. – Ed]

#### **Rod McDougal (email sent out)**

"I am writing to inquire whether any member of our club plans to attend the Rotary International Convention

in Hamburg, Germany, to be held 1-5 June 2019.

Please advise by 10.4.19 if you plan to attend. Feel free to contact me to discuss the role of a voting delegate.”

Those attending may be eligible to represent our club as a voting delegate at the convention.



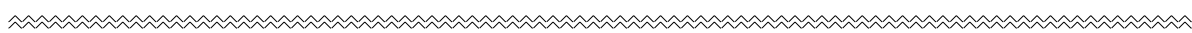
## Dates for the Calendar



<i>Rotary Events</i>			
<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Event/speaker</i>	<i>To introduce</i>	<i>To thank + Speaker write-up</i>
Wed 20th Mar 2019	<b>Luke Athens</b> 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	<b>Youth Achievement Awards</b>	-	-

<i>Birthdays</i>	
21st Mar	A Bala
22nd Mar	Maree McDougall
24th Mar	Guru Singh
25th Mar	Mathew Elias

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
-	None





## The Statistics

Attendance last meeting (13-03-19)	20
Leave of absence	3
Other absence	4
Apologies	5
Late apology	2
No apology	11
Club membership	<b>45</b>
Make-ups advised	0
Partners	0
Guests	4

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle (well done Paul Anton!!)	\$335.00
Sergeants session	\$106.15

## 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 actively 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, 20 Mar 19	Domenico Alvaro	Wed, 17 Apr 19	Rick Vosila
Wed, 27 Mar 19	Thaya Ponniah	Wed, 24 Apr 19	Roger Vince
Wed, 3 Apr 19	Chris Virgona	Wed, 1 May 19	Peter van der Sleen
Wed, 10 Apr 19	Janelle Watson	Wed, 8 May 19	Gulian Vaccari

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## *Out and About: Response from ARH regarding anti-vaccination Group*

Joy Gillett @ Anti-vax group 4 March 2019 at 11:07 am [Details](#) JG

To: Bradley Ayres, Cc: Kevin Shadbolt, Jessica Cooper

Siri found updated contact info in this email: Joy Gillett joy@arh.org.au [update...](#)

Dear Brad

Also, as a Rotarian, I am horrified that this has happened. Australian Rotary Health **DOES NOT** support any anti vaccination group in any way. The event organised in Tasmania, was not organised by Australian Rotary Health and we had no knowledge that this group were in attendance – until we were advised this morning.



Australian Rotary Health has a strong stand on this and totally support vaccination - and as I said are extremely concerned and we are making immediate enquiries as to who enabled them to attend.

We disassociate ourselves with the view expressed by anti-vax groups.

We will also speak to the Rotary group responsible.


With kind regards,  
Joy Gillett

Joy Gillett OAM  
Chief Executive Officer

### Australian Rotary Health

p 02 8837 1900 | f 02 9635 5042 | w [www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au](http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au)  
 2nd Floor, 43 Hunter Street, Parramatta NSW 2150  
 PO Box 3455, Parramatta NSW 2124



**#LiftTheLid**  
on Mental  
Illness

**ADOPT A SCIENTIST**

Research Scholarships Education Awareness

## *Out and About: Upcoming Youth Awards*



**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](http://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au) 

Nominations close 5pm, Monday 11 March 2019

The poster features a blue background with a white box containing the text '2018 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS' and 'WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2019'. Below this is a silhouette of two people jumping joyfully against a blue sky with colorful streaks. The bottom section is a dark blue banner with white text and logos.

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## *Out and About: District Conference*

**Saturday 16th March 2019**



The Strathfield Gang