



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



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 6.15 p.m. for 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 3 April 2013

April is Magazine month - recognising the contribution of "The Rotarian", and "Rotary Down Under".

TONIGHT'S MEETING

An update on two projects – Wendy Milburn, Principal Chalmers Road School, and Mr Ken Barrows of Strathfield Men's Shed.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Last week we enjoyed hearing from Romolo Adorna and Chris Virgona who both told us a little bit of their background and experiences.

Both Romolo and Chris have a common connection both have an Italian background and both are in Real Estate.



Romolo Adorna President Ray Chris Virgona

Romolo came to Australia from Italy as a child with his parents. Romolo chose to study Real Estate and Property and qualified as an Estate Agent and Auctioneer.

Romolo is married to Antonia, lives in Strathfield and has 3 children who are all chartered accountants.

Romolo was originally introduced to Rotary many years ago by Rotarian Ron Thurgar who

was a neighbour at the time. Unfortunately because of family and work commitments Romolo discontinued with Rotary after a few years and re-joined Rotary again on 8 August 2012.

Chris Virgona's parents came to Australia from Italy and Chris was born in Five Dock. He has a large extended family consisting of many uncles and aunts and 35 cousins.

Chris has 1 Brother and two sisters; he married wife Toni in 1988 and has 3 daughters. Chris attended Drummoyne High School and elected to pursue Business Studies and secured a junior clerical position with the Sydney Water Board. However having decided that progression in the "public service" was likely to be slow and long he decided to study for his Real Estate Certificate and obtained a position with an estate agent at Kingsford and later moved to L J Hooker in Strathfield. In 1986 Chris purchased Richardson & Wrench Strathfield which at the time had a big display window, 1 listing, 3 desks and a telephone. Chris worked hard to build his business to what it is today, he likes what he does and specialises in residential mainly in Strathfield and some commercial listings.

Chris described in great detail a very memorable auction he conducted once for a dysfunctional Italian family at Croydon Park. This was a very funny story and too detailed to repeat here but suffice to say a good price was achieved at the auction and all "lived happily ever after" despite the existence of a few AVO's between family members.

Announcements:

President Ray Wilson

- Reported the club provided BBQ cooking for Homebush West primary school on Friday 22 March and thanked Niall King, Trevor Duxbury Dave Martin, Kevin Freund and Grahame True for their assistance.
- Reminded members that no meeting will be held 24 April in lieu of ANZAC Day service at Cape Cabarita on 25 April.

Janelle Watson

- Thanked President Ray, David Martin and Niall for their assistance in picking up the educational material from OTEN and delivering same to Donations in Kind collection site for Rotary projects.

Anuradha Kamkolkar

- Advised Korean night at club on 12 June, cost will be \$35.00 per person.

Niall King

Advised there will be two BBQ commitments on 4 May, yes that's right 2 on the same day.

- The first being 5.00 am to 9.00 am at Sydney Olympic Park. This will be to provide "breakfast" for The BIG Ride.

On Saturday 4 May, hundreds of bikers will set out from Sydney Olympic Park, along Olympic Boulevard for the 360 km Big Ride to Parkes. Ending at the iconic Big Dish, made famous in the movie "The Dish".

The riders will comprise bike enthusiasts; from weekend warriors to corporate cowboys. From members of Ulysses to Long Riders and anyone who just loves those weekend rides to nowhere. They will be on Harleys, Victorys, Triumphs, Hondas, Kawasakis, Yamahas and Beamers but they will all have one destination in sight - Parkes for Parkinson's.

- The second BBQ commitment is at Ashfield Infants Home fete from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

PDG David Croft

- Reminded members of the ANZAC Day BBQ at Cape Cabarita and encouraged attendance at this important occasion. A Commitment sheet will be circulated this week.

PP George Hallworth

- Reported that 12 people attended the social evening at Mancini's restaurant on 21 March and enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

Congratulations to the following for birthdays and anniversaries next week:

Birthdays

10 April Allan Teale and Kevin Freund

Anniversaries

10 April Angelo and Maryanne Franco

Rotary Anniversaries

Nil

Raffle prize voucher last week was kindly Donated by:



**27 Rochester Street Homebush
9746 6199**

CLUB STATISTICS	27/03/2013
Members	22
Apologies	17
Silent - no apologies	9
LOA	0
85'ers	3
	51

Partners	0
Guests	0
TOTAL ON NIGHT:	22
Make-Ups:	
Roger Vince	1
Raffle	\$150.00
Sergeant-at-Arms	\$114.90
	\$264.90

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Date	Topic
10/4/2013	Mr Patrick Longfield (Rotarian) - Eco Steps "Environmental Education and Future Sustainability"
17/4/2013	Mr Len Norman - The story of migration from ancestral northern Lebanese village of Kfarsghab (pron K-Fra-Sorb).
24/4/2013	NO MEETING
1/5/2013	PARTNERS NIGHT – Stephen and Denise Taylor - "around the World in 35 minutes"
8/5/2013	Club Debating Challenge Topic TBA
15/5/2013	Youth Achievement Awards
22/5/2013	"Law Week" Damien Tudehope Chief of Staff Office of the Attorney General and Minister for Justice
29/5/2013	A membership information evening
5/6/2013	Fellowship evening – "State of Origin"
12/6/2013	PARTNERS NIGHT – "Korean Banquet" \$35 p/p

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

Date	Event
25/4/2013	ANZAC DAY service @ Cape Cabarita 8.00 am
4/5/2013	BBQ – Parkinson's Big Ride Sydney Olympic Park 5.00 am – 9.00 am
4/5/2013	BBQ – Ashfield Infants Home 10.00 am – 3.00 pm
17/5/2013	Meriden Interact Dance
25/5/2013	Rotary BBQ Bunnings Lidcombe
26/5/2013	Red Shield Appeal



Rotary News

"Membership; the Engine"
From 'Rotary Recruitment & Retention' by Jeff Kublin, District 6920 Membership Chair 2010-2011

Membership is the engine that powers Rotary. Without it, we have no one to do the work; we have no money to support the worthwhile projects that so desperately need to be done, we have no creative ideas for solving problems. Since the mid-1990s, the membership in Rotary and other service clubs has been declining.

Why do members leave Rotary?

- We may bring in the wrong members.
- In some cases, as soon as someone shows up at our doorstep, we invite them to join.
- That's like hiring every job applicant.
- When we do bring in the right member, we often don't give them a reason to stay.
- We don't involve them and fail to make them feel a part of our organization.

Rotarians who feel that they are a valuable part of the organization, who are contributing to our projects and feel appreciated, do not leave. While recruitment and retention in a volunteer organisation can be different than in a business, the goals are similar;

- Bring in the individuals who are the most qualified to advance your organization
- Do what you can to keep them satisfied.

Of course, the biggest difference is that in Rotary the reward is not financial. It is personal. The family of Rotary extends beyond individual Rotarians and Rotary clubs to include other service minded people who help with the organization's work.

Groups such as Rotaract, Interact, and Rotary Community Corps serve side by side with sponsor clubs, using their diverse skills to improve the quality of life in their communities.

“2013 Rotary National Immunisation Day in Chandigarh”

Article by Moorthy Karuna

After my family reunion in Malaysia, I flew to New Delhi India and participated in the 2013 Rotary National Immunisation Day in Chandigarh. PDG Cynde Covington, **District 6970 USA** was the team leader, who organised a great itinerary for the 10 days and also looked after the welfare of all participants. She was assisted by Ajay Thakur, Live India Tours and Rotarian A.P. Singh, **Rotary Club of Chandigarh**. Out of the 28 participants, there was a couple from New Zealand, a lady from France, myself from Australia and the rest of the participants were from USA, including 81 year old PDG William Crawford and 27 year old Rotaractor Ann Marie. I had fun, thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and am very grateful to Cynde Covington for giving me this opportunity, because it has given me a very meaningful insight and a bigger picture of what Rotary is capable of achieving in the world.

Chandigarh is a beautiful place and most probably the cleanest city in India. The city does not use any plastic bags. President Vivek Gupta, Chandigarh Rotary Club mentioned that it is a smoke free city. I had a great home stay with President Vivek Gupta and his wife Promil, who

also hosted Christopher and Tanya Kaminski from USA. They were very good hosts, served excellent Indian food and showed us the Rock Garden, Sukhna Lake, Secretariat and a famous Hindu Temple.

On Sunday 24 February 2013, Christopher and Tanya Kaminski and I administered polio drops in a booth. On Monday 25 February 2013, 5 of us did the mob up through a slum area. The idea of mob ups is to give polio drops to children who did not receive polio drops from the booths. A.P. Singh accompanied us on the mob up and answered all our queries. Both the booths and mob ups had Indian staff from World Health Organisation. We only assisted. End Polio Now is by far Rotary's biggest project. I stayed an additional 4 days in New Delhi and used the Metro (Train) to go around. Using the Metro made me realise the high population and density. There are 75,000 children born in India every day. Addressing at Royal Institution Hall of the United Kingdom on 29 January 2013, Microsoft founder Bill Gates hailed India's polio campaign success as “among the most impressive global health successes that has ever been”.

The Rotarians in India should be congratulated because in the last 2 years, there wasn't any new polio case. With the help of Rotarians from India who have the knowledge and experience, Rotary should be able to eradicate polio from the 3 countries (Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria) remaining where the virus is endemic. Delivering this year's Richard Dimpleby Lecture, Bill Gates said the world could see polio eradicated in the next 6 years. It will be great if the Rotary Clubs are able to contribute more to this worthy cause that will definitely make a positive impact in the world. Rotarians should be very proud and if possible make personal contributions towards Rotary's biggest initiative.