



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

Rotary Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

30th-August-2017

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Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

Month of August	Rotary	Membership and New Club Development Month
Weeks of August	-	-
Days of August	United Nations	International Day against Nuclear Tests (29 th August)
	United Nations	International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances (30 th August)

President's Report

Last Week's Speakers

Well... the night finally arrived. The long awaited presentation by Paolo on the High Speed Rail concept, followed by a discussion by PP John Elvy on the project itself, as well as potential property impacts of such an enterprise. It was tough work keeping Paolo's enthusiasm and obvious passion for the project at bay (read, within 20-minutes), but we managed to get both speakers in, answer a few questions and still finish the meeting not much past 8:30pm! And what a great turnout – some 40 members and guests in the room, who all seemed to enjoy the discussion – including one of Paolo's associates – Carlo Vimercati – who flew up from Melbourne just for the meeting. My thanks again to Paolo for promoting the night and encouraging past and present members to the meeting. It looked

like a good reunion for many of them, particularly catching up with PP John Elvy. Well done, and congratulations Paolo... you pulled it off!

It was also a great opportunity on the night to announce the successful completion of the Global Grant project that we participated in last year, supporting the Rotary Club of Mumbai North Island, as they upgraded the facilities at the Mother Teresa English Medium High School. It was particularly special as Ross Brown was in the room, and we were able to publicly thank him once again for his generous contribution, making the grant possible.

Rotating Sergeant's Session

As has been communicated already, we will be reverting to the popular 'Rotating Sergeant's Session' concept – starting on 13 September 2017.

Tonight as there appears to be some kind of special connection between our Sergeant and the guest speaker, Sergeant-at-arms, Anu will perform her normal Sergeant duties throughout the evening. Next week we have a Transfer Meeting to Ryde College of TAFE Training Restaurant, so I'm not sure if we'll have the opportunity for a Sergeant's session there. The next 'normal' meeting back in the Club is therefore 13 September 2017, when we have the Meriden Interactors joining us.

Rick's Run For Rotary

It's over. OK, OK,... I'll let it go. No more mention of it from now on...

Strathfield Spring Fair

This is once again fast approaching – 2 September 2017. Andrew Aravanis, Community Service Director, is circulating a Commitment Sheet to ensure we have the BBQ covered on the day. Please help out if you can; should be a great day. This year proceeds from the BBQ will go to The Catherine Sullivan Centre (CSC), one

of our named beneficiaries for this year. Members of the Board and staff from the CSC will be in attendance at the BBQ, helping out and promoting the good works of the Centre.

Tonight's Speaker

OK, I was being a little facetious when earlier on in this report when I referred to the 'special connection' between tonight's speaker and our Sergeant. Milind Kamkolkar is of course the son of members Anu and Umesh, and will be delivering what I'm sure will be an interesting speech tonight. Milind is in demand as a speaker around the world, and with a job description that includes 'CDO, AI Activist, Digital Health Innovator, TedX speaker, and Health Startup Advisor', who knows what we might hear tonight! Whatever it is, I'm sure it will be special and not to be missed.

Rick



Last Week's Guest Speakers:

John Elvy & Paolo Giammarco

John Elvy has a very long association with Rotary and specifically the Rotary Club of Strathfield. He was part of a GSE (Group Study Exchange) team to Japan in 1978 and joined R. C. of S. in 1979. He was President in 1994-94 and has been Mayor of Strathfield Council as well as a Sydney City Councilor. He has also been a CEO/director of Leighton's and LJ Hooker Commercial.

Paolo Giammarco needs no introduction except to note that he has been involved with the promotion of HSR

since 1990; which came as a surprise to most members.

Paolo spoke specifically about the Futuro HSR concept for a Sydney to Melbourne passenger and freight service. Freight is essential to the economics of the strategy with 40% of the revenue deriving from freight.

In 1984 a proposal by Dr John Nicolson, Dr Paul Wilde and others proposed VFT for Sydney to Melbourne via The Hume

Corridor or Cooma/Bairnsdale Corridor at a cost of \$5B.

A chronology up to 1998 can be found at [http://www.aph.gov.au/About Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/Publications_Archive/Background_Papers/bp9798/98bp16](http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/Publications_Archive/Background_Papers/bp9798/98bp16)

More recently reviews of HSR were commissioned by John Howard and Anthony Albanese. Both reports Paolo described as “rubbish” because the reviewers lacked the expertise and vision needed.

In 2013, a group making contact through LinkedIn brought together key personnel with new expertise to promote the HSR concept into a practical and economically viable way proposal and formed the FUTORO HSR group.

This is made possible by:

1. Debt financing that is “well spent” meaning it has a positive long-term return.
2. To be successful it must include freight (Containerised) and well as passenger traffic.
3. HSR provides unification of regional areas through closer integration.

HSR can address:

1. Unaffordable city housing
2. Linking airports to cities
3. Linking marine ports and intermodal facilities to both regional and major cities

The Futoro HSR group has gained Involvement/support from Angus Taylor (Member for Hume) and John Alexander (Member for Bennelong). However government has given preference for the lower standard and less viable, in Paolo’s opinion, “Inland freight rail line.” He feels that there has been ongoing frustration

with a lack of commitment/vision from all governments involved.

A number of options in corridors are possible linking Sydney, Canberra, Albury, Melbourne, Brisbane, Newcastle, and Wollongong etc. Most importantly Paolo believes in catering for High Speed Freight for productivity reasons with high speed passenger occurring as a by-product of the concept. “Value capture” is the recovery of some of the HSR cost through the return of some component of the increase in land values along the HSR route to the consortium or the government.

John Elvy also has a very long involvement with HSR and is clearly passionate about the concept. He noted the importance of China as the largest HSR builder in the world. A proposal by China Rail allocating as much as \$225B to the HSR stage 1 route from Sydney to Melbourne through Canberra. It would be based on a viaduct system in rural areas and tunneling from Campbelltown to Circular Quay to obviate the need to resume land and instead purchase an easement.

He also would like to see Darwin as the port of entry to Australia with rail connecting to the capital cities. Furthermore, water from the Ord could be piped along the rail route to provide irrigation to arid areas. This adds to the viability of the project.

John also introduced a land development model based on local government borrowing more to facilitate development infrastructure of land that it owns. Private developers can then build and sell residences that include a caveat that provides repayment to the local councils when the property is ultimately sold.

Carlo Vimercati's view is that a "Country without rail is not a country" and Australia is 40 years behind. What is needed is for people with vision to force the government to act. A very viable model is Brisbane-Sydney-Melbourne with intermediate stops carrying passengers and freight. It would create 70,000 jobs and greatly encourage

development of inland hubs with agriculture production etc. China Construction Bank is willing to accept 2% to 3% ROI with a 35 year payback period.

Summary by Peter van der Sleesen



John Elvy & Paolo Giammarco



Carlo Vimercati with Paolo Giammarco



This Week's Speaker: Milind Kamkolkar

In what should be a fascinating talk by the well-travelled, and well-credentialed son of two of our members. Milind will tonight present a talk entitled "Hitting the snooze button -

is not an option". But which snooze button? And why is it not an option?

Tonight, we will find out!



Next Week's Speaker: Transfer meeting

On **Tuesday** (not Wednesday) evening, we will transfer our meeting to Ryde Catering College. If past experiences are any guide, we will be treated to a wonderful meal by keen

catering students from the Ryde TAFE. And have a great night of fellowship.



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 30th Aug 2017	Hitting the snooze button - is not an option Milind Kamkolkar	Umesh Kamkolkar	Andrew Aravanis
Sat 2nd Sep 2017	Strathfield Spring Festival	-	-
Tues 5th Sep 2017	Ryde College of TAFE training Restaurant	-	-
Wed 13th Sep 2017	Interact Meriden Gillian Legge and 4 students	Roger Vince	Arie Pappas
Wed 20th Sep 2017	Human Rights Dr Jill McRae	Peter Smith	Rod McDougall
Wed 27th Sep 2017	Police Officer of the Year	-	-

<i>Birthdays</i>	
4 th September	Margaret Croft
5 th September	Janelle Watson

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
1 st September	A Bala



Do You Know? Celebrities and Projects

From the earliest days of Rotary, members have referred to each other on a **first-name basis**.

Since personal acquaintanceship and friendship are cornerstones of Rotary, it was natural that many clubs adopted the practice of setting aside formal titles in conversations among members.

Individuals who normally would be addressed as Doctor, Professor, Mister, the Honorable or Sir are regularly called Jane, Bill, Charley or Jerry by other Rotarians. The characteristic Rotary club name badge fosters the first-name custom.

In a few areas, such as Europe, club members use a more formal style in addressing fellow members. In other parts of the world, mainly in Asian countries, the practice is to assign each new Rotarian a humorous nickname which relates to some personal characteristic or which is descriptive of the member's business or profession.

But whether a Rotarian is addressed by a given first name or a nickname, the spirit of personal friendship is the initial step that opens doors to all other opportunities for service.

David Croft





The Statistics

Attendance last week	20
Leave of absence	?
Apologies	?
No apology	?
Club membership	34
Partners & Guests	21
Members Rotary activities	Week ending 23-8-17: tba [hours]

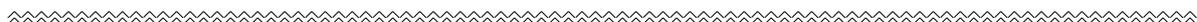
<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$380.00
Sergeants session	Not held



Your Committee 2017-2018

President	Rick Vosila	Secretary	Rod McDougall
President Elect	tba	Sergeant	Anuradha Kamkolkar
Immediate Past President	Stephen Taylor	Treasurer	Charles Pitt
Youth	Arie Pappas	Community	Andrew Aravanis
International	Prabhat Sinha	Vocational	Paolo Giammarco
		Club Services	Bradley Ayres

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



Out and About

The Strathfield Rotary/Peter Smith nominee, Skye Kim, won the big daily double at the Award Ceremony held last Wednesday.; the “Youth Volunteer of the Year” (up to 24 years) and the “Volunteer of the Year - Overall Winner”. Unfortunately, Skye couldn’t attend due to study/school excursion commitments. Peter Smith accepted on her behalf.



NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards¹

Volunteers from the Sydney Inner West region were recognised for their outstanding contribution at the Annual Volunteer of the Year Awards held in Burwood today.

The top award went to Skye Kim of Strathfield who received both the overall 2017 Sydney Inner West region Volunteer of the Year Award and the Young Volunteer of the Year Award for her work with The Rotary Club of Strathfield.

¹ <http://www.volunteering.com.au/2017-regional-winners/sydney-inner-west/>

“Skye’s enthusiasm for worthy causes has seen her campaign for Indigenous rights with Amnesty, stand at train stations at 6 in the morning to raise money for diabetes research and selling badges for Legacy,” said Gemma Rygate, the CEO of The Centre for Volunteering.

“Skye has personally raised thousands of dollars for charities and she has inspired and cajoled her school mates to volunteer as well.

“The Volunteer of the Year Awards recognise the nation working hard at a grassroots level to deliver resilient and compassionate communities,” said Gemma Rygate, the CEO of The Centre for Volunteering. “This year there has been a record number of nominations for the Volunteer of the Year Awards, with almost 110,000 volunteers recognised across all categories,” Ms Rygate said.

“Volunteering is a mutual gift, delivering rewards to both the giver and the receiver. Volunteering contributes \$290 billion to Australia’s economic and social good,” Ms Rygate said.

<i>Award Category</i>	<i>Winner</i>
Overall Winner Volunteer of the Year	Skye Kim
Youth Volunteer of the Year (up to 24 years)	Skye Kim
Adult Volunteer of the Year (25 – 64 years)	Ivana Morris
Senior Volunteer of the Year (65+ years)	Ming Xu
Volunteer Team of the Year	Dress for Success Sydney Jail Outreach Team

The Minister responsible for volunteering, Ray Williams, said the awards are an important opportunity to celebrate the contribution of local volunteers.

“The efforts of volunteers here today have, no doubt, greatly improved the lives of Sydney Inner West region residents. The NSW Government acknowledges and thanks all volunteers for their valuable contributions and commitment to creating inclusive communities.”

“People who volunteer are often happier, healthier and more connected to their communities,” Mr Williams said.

ClubsNSW CEO Anthony Ball said the club industry was pleased to be Principal Corporate Partner of the 11th Annual Volunteer of the Year Awards. “On behalf of 1300 member clubs, ClubsNSW recognises and acknowledges the valuable efforts of the 2.4 million volunteers in NSW.

“Clubs across NSW generate over 40,000 volunteers in the club industry who dedicate more than a million hours of their time per year- we are incredibly grateful for their enormous contribution in building and strengthening our local communities”.

Twenty regional Volunteer of the Year Award ceremonies are held around NSW.

All regional winners are in the running for the overall NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards, which will be announced at a gala event in Sydney in December.

The Volunteer of the Year Awards are generously supported by principal partners, the NSW Department of Family and Community Services, and ClubsNSW. Other sponsors are Bupa Aged Care and Thrifty Car Rentals.



The NSW **Volunteer of the Year Awards** is an annual program run by The Centre for Volunteering to recognise the outstanding work of volunteers in every region across NSW. Twenty award ceremonies are held across NSW from August to September where nominees are recognised with certificates and winners announced. Regional winners are entered into the final of the Volunteer of the Year, 2017. For more information about the 2017 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards go to www.volunteering.com.au.