



Rotary
Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675

THE SPOKE

23 November 2016

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Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

Month of November	Rotary	Rotary Foundation Month
Days of November	United Nations	25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

President Steve's Snippets

Hi everyone,

This is another huge week for the members of Strathfield Rotary Club.

This evening we warmly welcome the awardees, the nominees and friends and supporters for our annual Pride of Workmanship Awards.

We, of course, also welcome our very hard working local member Jody McKay, who is herself the epitome of a dedicated, hard working Parliamentarian.

These POWawards are unique to Rotary and specifically recognize the quality of the service and dedication to their jobs of ordinary Australians, who might not otherwise be recognized for their achievements in their working lives.

The nominations received this year have been exceptional and cover a wide range of employment and responsibility within each nominees area.

Importantly for our Rotarians, who themselves find many of the nominees, it is simply the great service that they receive during the course of their normal activities that prompts them and our other nominators to put forward this wonderful group we see tonite.

We hope that everyone enjoys the evening, and it is not too late. We have sixteen nominations (not a record, but close) with each nomination telling a different story.

Importantly we also hope that you see a different side of Rotary, not just the grey haired guys you might see cooking BBQ' sausages at Bunnings, but a very dedicated group of people of all ages, from mid thirties to 90, whose sole objective is "service above self" and doing good works for the community.

Rotarians too, very much embody the ideals of "Pride of Workmanship".

Rotarian Usha Garg, has done a fantastic job organizing the Pride of Workmanship awards. On her own initiative Usha asked the Strathfield Council for sponsorship for the event, and I am very pleased to report that they have given us \$1,000.

Together with our other great, regular sponsors, this means that we can now offer complimentary dinner to the partners of award nominees.

I am very thankful for the work of the Club's directors and committee chairs. Thanks to you our Club is punching above its weight.

Thank you for joining us this evening. We hope you enjoy the evening, and if taking your own ideals of service and pride in your work to new levels interests you, consider becoming a Rotarian. You will never regret it.

President Steve

Last Week

President Elect Rick Vosila never fails to entertain. Last Wednesday evening, as his first slide indicated, Rick presented on the topic of "A brief History of Me" with apologies to Stephen Hawking's 'A Brief History of Time'.

Married for 28 years, and with a 26 year old daughter, Rick grew up in Auburn, and after his most recent home was compulsorily acquired for the M4 East tunnel, now resides in Five Dock.

Rick took us through each phase of his working life with a slide that indicated the technology or event that was current at the time.

The first slide, of a Commodore 64 computer, was appropriate as it came out the same year that Rick commenced employment with IBM, 1982.

In 1994, Rick left IBM to join Uni Foods (Unilever). The Sydney Olympics coincided with a move in 2000 to become CIO of Unilever.

Looking for new challenges took Rick in 2002 to Goodman Fielder. However, following Burns Philip's hostile takeover of Goodman Fielder in 2003, Rick moved on to Chubb. Chubb, in turn, were taken over by United Technologies.

Seeking a change from corporate life, or at least being an employee of large organisation, Rick started his own IT consultancy.

In 2009, he re-joined UTC, United Technologies, where he stayed until launching his IT business, Sognos, in 2016. Sognos is a Microsoft Certified Partner and specialises in the transformation and optimisation of field service operations.

As a side note, Rick's presentation was a lesson for us all: slides don't need to repeat what is said, but rather should support what is said

Bradley Ayres

Member Note

Rotarian Peter Manenti has generously agreed to sponsor two of the main prizes for the Stroller Derby. That means that with the very generous Gold Coast holiday offered by the Kamkolkars, also members and great supporters of Strathfield Rotary, that we now have the main prizes locked in for the Stroller Derby.

The web page, event details, prizes and fundraising element for the Stroller Derby are well underway and will be much closer this week when Treasure Rod sets up the payment portal on the new website.

The web site, event entry, and participant fundraising will now allow entrants to fundraise for the event, and obtain sponsors, just as Rick did for the recent Oxfam walk, very likely increasing the fundraising potential of the event.

So progress is being made and the event will be able to be launched shortly.

The Rotary Foundation

PDG Paul Reid shared Strathfield's recent and total contributions to the Rotary Foundation by noting that we have donated just under \$108,000 since 2013. To put this in perspective, Paul indicated that, on average, just \$1,000 is enough to save a life. So 108 people are alive today, thanks to the Rotary Club of Strathfield.

To give an appreciation for the magnitude of the Foundation, in the year 2014/2015, the Foundation provided staggering amounts, including

Global Grants - \$68,700,000

District Grants - \$25,200,000

Polio Plus - \$128,900,000

Peace Scholarships - \$4,000,000

The Polio Plus programme is one of which, as Rotarians, we should be immensely proud. From around 350,000 cases in 1988, in 2016 there have been just 27 reported cases and there is a real hope that the disease can be entirely eradicated.

With impacts such as this, Paul left the Club with a message that, whether today or via bequest, we individually give consideration to supporting the Rotary Foundation.

Rotary Celebrities and Projects

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."

Founded in 1947, **the Ambassadorial Scholarships program** was the largest non-governmental and most international scholarship program in the world. Scholars studied in a country other than their own where they serve as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill. Over 37,000 scholars from some 110 countries received scholarships at a cost of almost US\$446 million. The program ended in 2013. Scholarships are now funded by Rotary Foundation district and global grants and are offered directly through Rotary clubs.

November is Rotary Foundation month when it is worth reflecting on the goals of the Rotary Foundation

1. Eradicate polio, our top priority
2. Build a sense of ownership of our Foundation among Rotarians through their contributions to the Annual Programs Fund, the Permanent Fund, and our Rotary Peace Centres
3. Continue our progress on the Future Vision plan and align our service projects with the six areas of focus: Peace and conflict prevention/ resolution, Disease prevention and treatment, Water and sanitation, Maternal and child health, Basic education and literacy, Economic and community development

The Rotary Foundation is now receiving more than \$85 million each year for educational and humanitarian work around the world.

David Croft

Dates for the Calendar



<i>Rotary Events</i>	
Wednesday 23 November	Pride of Workmanship Awards, Partners Night
Wednesday 30 November	tbc
Wednesday 7 December	ROTARY CLUB OF STRATHFIELD AGM
Saturday 30 April 2017	Strathfield Rotary Club Stroller Derby

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<i>Birthdays</i>	
24 November	Simone Vaccari
28 November	Rod McDougall
30 November	Cathy Beresford
<i>Anniversary</i>	
25 November	Roger and Janice Vince
30 November	Allan and Kate Teale
<i>Rotary Anniversary</i>	
25 November	Andrew Aravanis
27 November	Gulian Vaccari
28 November	Nazih Touma
30 November	Gurcharan Singh

<i>The Statistics</i>	
Attendance last week	18
Leave of absence	3
Apologies	6
No apology	11
Club membership	38
Partners	0
Guests	
Members Rotary activities hours	tbc

<i>Funds raised last week</i>	
Raffle	\$150.00
Sergeant	\$87.10
'Heads and tails'	\$25.00

<i>Your Committee 2016-2017</i>			
President	Stephen Taylor	Secretary	Peter van der Sleen
President Elect	Rick Vosila	Sergeant	Grahame True
Immediate Past President	Allan Petersen	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth Director	Arie Pappas	Community Director	Andrew Aravanis
International Director	Rick Vosila	Vocational Director	Gulian Vaccari
Club Services Director	Bradley Ayres		
Bulletin Editor	Andrew Kowalski	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	SelectPrint	Apologies	Gulian Vaccari

Thanks to Our Very Generous Sponsors

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