



STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

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



President Rod McDougall
Secretary Roger Vince
Editor Angelo Franco
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web: www.strathfielddrotary.org.au
email: info@strathfielddrotary.org.au
tel 02 9746 2424

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AUGUST IS ROTARY MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION MONTH

PRESIDENT'S VIEW

What a broad church our club represents – and nothing like a club assembly to demonstrate the point.

I requested a healthy airing of issues, and members certainly obliged. Of course, there was not complete agreement on all points raised and your board was left with much to consider. Our next board meeting follows this week's club meeting, so the timing was excellent. Attendance was quite respectable for a club assembly, my thanks to those present.

This is not the place to mention all items discussed or all those who contributed (I suspect Secretary Roger Vince is still attempting to decipher his notes – such was the pace of the meeting). But I would like to thank Steve Taylor and Roger for their positive suggestions on membership development. Kevin Beltrame had clearly planned for the meeting and his many suggestions on the financial aspects of the club's operation will be given serious consideration. Thanks to each of the directors for their reports – and for sticking to the limited time each had available.

On the subject of a need to define or reconsider the dress code/standards/policy, a number of different viewpoints were unambiguously expressed. Our club has an evolving dress code and it seems there will always be room for disagreement between members as to what meets minimum requirements. I hope that as a group we continue to enjoy fining members for *perceived* violations – but for this year your board wishes to concentrate on more demanding priorities and plans no action on the issue. For partners nights (both official, and those nominated as optional) I trust all will continue to appreciate that these nights are special events requiring an appropriate standard of dress.

Those present last week would have noticed a subtle but significant change in meeting procedure with Sergeant Peter Foss taking a more active role in the control of the meeting. This will continue further, with the aim of ensuring that we have an orderly meeting - which finishes on time!

Enjoy Rotary ... **by getting involved!**

President Rod

TO-NIGHT'S MEETING

Iain Robertson. CEO

Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)

Introduced by: Keith Byrn

Thanked by: Steve Taylor

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays

NIL

Wedding Anniversaries

NIL

Rotary Anniversaries

NIL

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

At last week's Club Assembly the issue of membership was again raised. Here is a message from Bill Boyd. President, Rotary International.

SO MUCH HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT MEMBERSHIP IN ROTARY.

We talk about attracting new members and recruiting them. We talk about membership retention. And we talk about membership loss. We talk so much about membership that sometimes, when a speaker begins to discuss it, you can see all the eyes in the audience begin to glaze over. We've all heard it before.

Building membership is, of course, crucial to building Rotary. Rotary is nothing without its members and its clubs, and as members age, we must find new ones to take their places. More than that, we must always be growing in order to meet the many new needs that arise in our communities every day. But I believe the best way to strengthen our numbers isn't by focusing on our numbers - it's by focusing on our clubs. A truly strong club is tremendously attractive. A strong club offers opportunities for friendship, fellowship, and meaningful service. It offers new connections within a community and a chance to meet like-minded friends, the kinds of friends who will still be close decades from now. Again and again, we find that successful clubs have certain features in common. Together, you might think of them as a "to-do" list for clubs that need a boost:

Assess. Listen to each other, and find out what members want.

Emphasize. Accent the social aspects of Rotary. They are the glue that binds us.

Market. Don't sell your club as a product - market it. Find out what people want, and do your best to give it to them.

Induct. Bring new members into your club with dignity and class.

Involve. Make the whole family part of Rotary. Don't let it be another commitment that takes members from their spouses and children.

Mentor. Make sure that a seasoned Rotarian helps new members get started and stays involved for at least a year. Newcomers can get lost easily.

Educate. Provide education continuously, but give a little at a time. There's a lot to learn about Rotary, and it can be overwhelming.

Enthuse. Show enthusiasm openly! Rotary should be fun.

Membership comes down to one simple statement: Strong clubs lead to a strong Rotary. Without strong clubs, no amount of recruitment and retention efforts will help Rotary grow. With strong clubs, Rotary will flourish and provide another 100 years of service to humanity.

Report by Directors

Connie Galletta (Community Service 1)

- ★ Service to Seniors ★ Bike Ride
- ★ Golf Day ★ Pearls on Show
- ★ Trivia Night (replaces Travel Extravaganza)

Anu Kamkolkar (Community Service 2)

- ★ Raffles Sal Tosto ★ Carols Keith Byrn
- ★ Probus George Hallworth
- ★ Rotary Grove Peter Foss

Paul Giammarco (International Service)

- ★ Youth Exchange – sponsoring outbound student
- ★ GSE to North Carolina
- ★ Ambassadorial Scholarship
- ★ Donations in Kind & RAWCS

Bradley Ayres (Youth Service)

- ★ Involvement with local schools
- ★ Youth participation with Club
- ★ Continue RYPEN, INTERACT, etc.
- ★ Shoe-box Donations to Timor

Kevin Freund (Vocational Service)

- ★ Police Officer 8th Aug
- ★ Pride of Workmshp 18th Oct
- ★ Vocational Ethics

Brian Johnson (Club Service)

- ★ Need new bulletin Editor
- ★ Peter Harries Programs

COMMENTS FROM CLUB ASSEMBLY

1. Bulletin to list members on Leave
2. Letterbox drop for new members in Homebush Bay, Breakfast Point etc.
3. Approach local papers for Rotary articles
4. Listing of Club Policies for dress, Apologies etc.
5. Stipend for the President
6. Funding of Bar TAB for Guest Speakers
7. Formalising of welcome for Guests
8. Move Guest Speaker to an earlier time

LAST WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

From President Rod McDougall:-

- ★ Commitment sheets circulated for Theatre events.
- ★ Peter Harries is organising Guest Speakers
- ★ A Guest Speaker for the Pride of Workmanship Dinner is still required.

From Director Bradley Ayres:-

- ★ "Shoe Box" appeal for East Timor. Gift donations and/or cash required from members.
- ★ Commitment sheet for 9th August 2006 for a Literature presentation by Strathfield Girls High School. This will be an optional Partners Night.

From Director Kevin Freund:-

- ★ Commitment sheet for Police Officer Awards

From Steve Taylor:-

- ★ Planning a Pizza Night

From Peter Harries:-

- ★ Planning a Fund Raiser on Sunday 3rd March 2007 in Olympic Park

From Ted Ingall:-

- ★ Reminder of the District Conference next year for ALL Club Members.
- ★ Accommodation alternatives listed in previous handout or see Ted Ingall. (eg 2 bedroom apartment at Quest for \$265)

MEMBERS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Arjun Jeganathan
George Hallworth
Tony Lanzafame
Allan Teale
Euan Watson

Statistics

Present:- 37 Members
Apologies:- 10 Members
Non-Apologies:- 5 Members
Exemption:- 1 Members
LOA:- 4 Members
Peter Foss's Sergeant Session raised \$89.⁵⁰

Raffle Winners

The raffle raised \$199.⁰⁰

1st Prize Bellezza Hair Care **Allan Taylor**
2nd Prize Dinner next Week **Ray Wilson**
3rd Prize Bottle of Wine **Umesh Kamkolkar**

NEXT ROTARY MEETING

9th August 2006

Strathfield Girls High Literature
Presentations

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

16th August 2006

Police Officer of the Year Awards
Commissioner Ken Moroney
Partners Night

COMING EVENTS

Police Officer of the Year Awards

Wednesday 16 August 2006. Partner's
night. 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Dinner at The Woolwich Pier Hotel

Monday 11th September 2006. 7:00 pm.

Priscilla Queen of the Desert

Thursday 10th October 2006. Lyric Theatre.
8:00 pm. \$70-\$80

Pride of Workmanship Awards

Wednesday 18 October 2006. Partners
night. 6.30 for 7.00.

District Golf Championship

26th October at Strathfield Golf Club

Titanic The Musical

Tuesday 7th November 2006. Theatre Royal.
8:00 pm. \$70-\$80

District 9690 Conference

16-18 March 2007 at Newcastle City Hall.
*Strathfield Rotarians need to be there from
Thursday, 15th March 2007.*

HUMOUR FROM OUR MEMBERS

Daft Questions

From Grahame True

- How come wrong numbers are never busy?
- Do the people in Australia call the rest of the world "up over"?
- Does that screwdriver belong to Philip?
- Can a stupid person be a smart ass?
- Does killing time damage eternity?
- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- Why is it that night falls but day breaks?
- Why is the third hand on the watch called a second hand?
- Why is it that when you are driving and looking for an address, you turn down the volume on the radio?
- Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavour and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?
- Are part-time bandleaders semiconductors?
- Daylight savings time, why are they saving it and where do they keep it?
- Have you ever imagined a world with no hypothetical situations?
- How can there be self-help "groups"?
- How do you get off a non-stop flight?
- How do you write zero in roman numerals?
- If Barbie is so popular then why do you have to buy all of her friends?
- If blind people wear dark glasses, why don't deaf people wear earmuffs?
- If cats and dogs didn't have fur would we still pet them?
- If swimming is good for your shape then why do whales look the way they do?
- If you can't drink and drive then why do bars have parking lots?
- If you take an oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disorientated?
- Why do the signs that say "slow children" have a picture of a running child?
- Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called "rush hour"?

Stupidity Awards 2006

From Joe Campisi

Yes, it's that magical time of the year again when the Stupidity Awards are bestowed, honouring the least evolved among us. Here then, are the glorious winners:

1. When his 38-calibre revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.....
2. The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat-cutting machine and, after a little hopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.
3. A man who shovelled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.
4. After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.
5. An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.
6. A man walked into a Louisiana Walmart, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer...\$15.
7. Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a breezeblock through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the breezeblock and heaved it over his head at the window. The breezeblock bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.
8. As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her bag and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the bag from.
9. The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5 a.m., flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk refused because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.
10. When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home, near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.