



Rotary

Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675
11th August 2021

www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

info@strathfieldrotary.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/strathfieldrotary>

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Year 2021</i>		
-	UN	International Year of Peace and Trust
-	UN	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development
-	UN	International Year of Fruits and Vegetables
-	UN	International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour
<i>Month of August</i>		
-	Rotary	Membership and New Club Development Month
<i>Weeks of August</i>		
14th – 22nd Aug	Aust	National Science Week
16th – 22nd Aug	Aust	Keep Australia Beautiful Week
<i>Days of August</i>		
12th Aug	UN	International Youth Day

President's Report



Thaya Ponniah
President

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary.

There are some images so powerful they can never be forgotten. That was my experience when I viewed a famous photograph of the late Princess of Wales, Diana. At first glance, the captured scene shows Diana smiling warmly, the princess shaking the hand of an unidentified man.

But it's the photographer's story that makes it remarkable. On April 19, 1987, when Princess Diana visited London Middlesex Hospital, the United Kingdom was engulfed in a wave of panic as it was confronted with the AIDS epidemic. Not knowing much about the disease—which often killed with terrifying speed—was spread, the public at times treated AIDS victims like social pariahs. So it was a stunning moment when Diana, with ungloved hands and a genuine smile, calmly shook an AIDS patient's hand that day. That image of respect and kindness touched the world to treat victims of the disease with similar mercy and compassion.

The picture reminds me of something I often forget, freely and generously offering the love of humanity is an act of love, which is worth it. Rotarians don't miss any opportunity to give. We give – help to the helpless and hope to the hopeless. We also take a stand when it matters – whether it is risky or unpopular to save humankind and serve the needy people. We always step out to address the "need of the hour". Whatever the project, be it a foodbank for the homeless due to lockdown, a publicity initiative to support vaccination, educating the indigenous community in regional Australia, youth empowerment scholarships for the local community or our recent Covid global grant projects in India and Sri Lanka – our Rotarians contribute very generously.

Our first Club Assembly for the new year was a successful event last week. We started our year with a strong Strategic Plan, and our board presented a detailed implementation and execution plan based on our strategy. All our club members are dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship. We had a very healthy discussion for more than an hour, and the outcome was relevant and timely for us to move forward with the next 50 years of serving our community locally and globally. We are conscious of one thing – some leaders

are good in strategic planning and some leaders are good in strategic execution, but great leaders are good in both strategic planning as well as execution.

Rotary International has dedicated the month of August as a MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MONTH. I cannot emphasise strongly enough that the goal of this month is not getting the largest and most impressive numbers. There is not going to be any competition, recognition, or public use whatsoever of the numbers reported by any individual club. Our goal is to increase the number of quality members. The goal that answers not only the question, "What is Rotary?" but the question, "What does Rotary do?"

I strongly believe that with these numbers, we will be better able to demonstrate the value of Rotary: Making a Difference — which in time will enable us to make more of a difference, for more people, in more ways, than ever. The lockdown is not good at all, but not even the lockdown can stop the Rotarians from serving the underprivileged and deprived community among us.

Yours in Rotary,

Thaya Ponnia

Member Announcements

Ed Dunlop

One of our star SSC students who's a repeat Rotary winner¹, Bella Merlino, is running

her own event for Dementia Australia if you want to donate 🙏

¹ Burwood Rotary Speech Craft Night winner 2017 and Strathfield Youth Achievement Award in "Arts & Culture" 2018 - Ed



Dear Santa Sabina Community

Bella Merlino of Year 11 is raising much needed funds for Dementia Australia, and she has organised a COVID-19 safe online Australian record attempt called 'Mind Games for Dementia'. Join her in being part of the record attempt and make history.

The Australian Record attempt will require a minimum of 100 persons playing board games for a one-hour period at the same time using the online platform of 'Zoom'.

Bella has chosen board games as the record attempt activity as the playing of board games is a good stimulus for memory and to remind ourselves of those in our society who have failing or no memories

Dementia is currently the leading cause of death of women in Australia and every three seconds someone in the world develops Dementia. Currently, there are more than 459,000 Australians living with Dementia. Some of these people may be your family or friends. One of the main symptoms of Dementia is memory loss, subsequently causing people with Dementia to lose their most precious memories.

The record attempt is happening on Friday 10 September 2021 from 7:00pm-8:00pm on Zoom and is open to the Santa community. All participants will receive recognition for their participation.

So come join Bella and be part of this history-making event. Numbers are limited, so register below to secure your place.

[Record attempt book here](#)

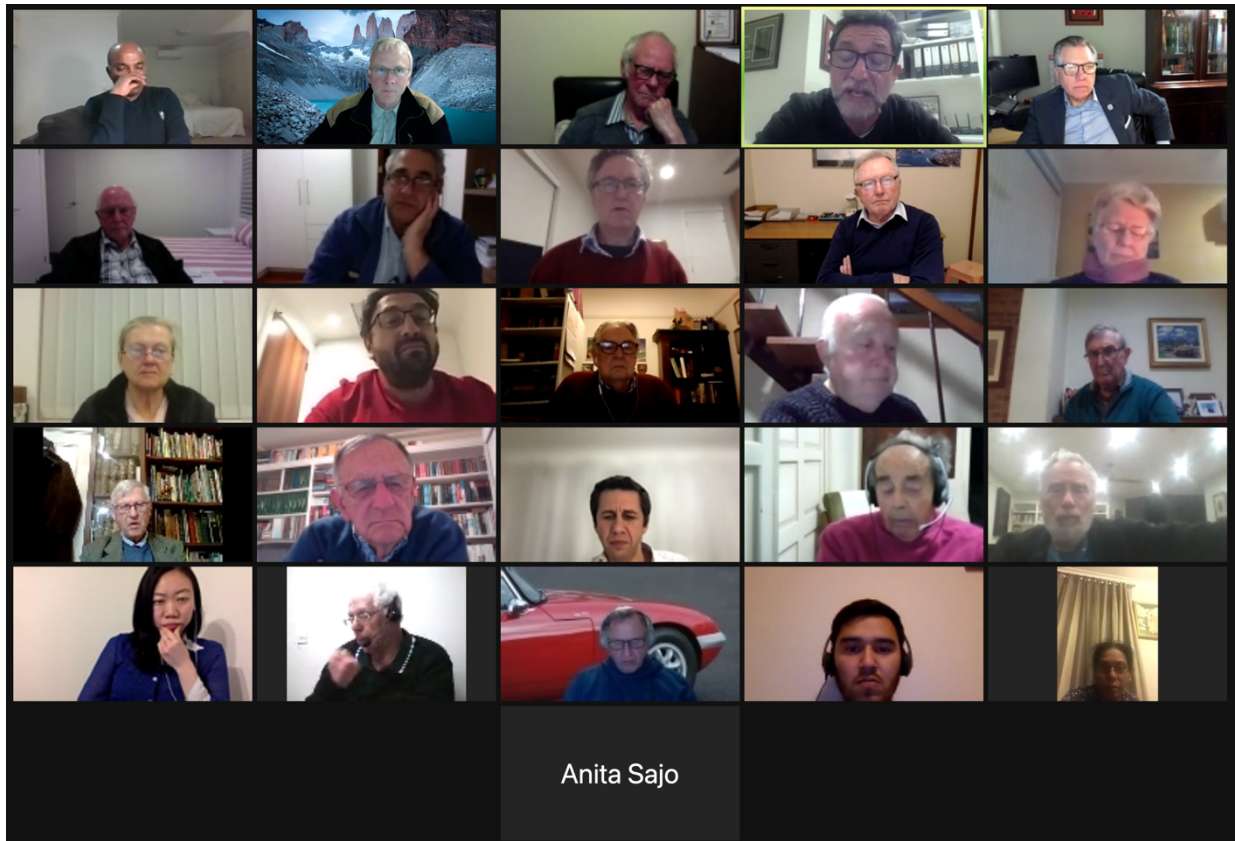
For those who are unable to participate in the record attempt, you can donate directly to Dementia Australia using the link below.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you there!

Yvette Graniero
Director of Community Relations



Event from last week: Club Assembly



Another great Zoom rollup

Speaker for this week: John Treloar

John Treloar is the son of John Treloar who was a dual Olympian competing in London in 1948 and Helsinki in 1952. In 1952 he ran in the final of the 100 metres, coming 6th. It was a photo finish with the first four runners timed at 10.4 and 5th and 6th at 10.5. He was a certainty for the 200 metres final but for a pulled hamstring in the semi final.

He also competed in the 1950 Empire Games in Auckland winning three Gold medals. John Senior was national champion in either the 100 and/or 220 yards from 1945 to 1952.

He arrived back in Australia from the Helsinki Olympics on the 10th of August 1952 and I was born on the 16th.

John is close to finishing a book on the complete 1952 Olympic team called 'The Kapyla Club: Australia at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics'

It is a pleasure for John to talk about the 1952 Olympic team, particularly this story of the cyclists who didn't ship a tandem bike to Helsinki. Russell Mockridge and Lionel Cox had never ridden together on a Tandem.

What happened? Let us find out!

COVID Capers

Thaya and Bradley are still looking for members to contribute COVID-related material for the bulletin.

RI News

Gordon R. McNally of Scotland selected to be 2023-24 Rotary International President

By Ryan Hyland

Gordon R. McNally, a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Lothian, Scotland, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2023-24. He will be declared the president-nominee on 1 October if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

McNally lauded Rotary's ability to adapt technologically during the COVID-19 pandemic, saying the approach should continue and be combined with the best of our past practices as Rotary seeks to grow and increase engagement.

"We have learned there is a willingness within communities to care for one another," he says, "and we must ensure that we encourage people who have recently embraced the concept of volunteering to join us to allow them to continue giving service."

McNally says that senior leaders' ability to communicate directly with club members online will be one positive legacy of the changes Rotary has had to make. But, he adds, "face-to-face meetings remain important, as they encourage greater interaction."

The best way to increase membership is engagement, according to McNally. To better support clubs, he says, Rotary

International, regional leaders, and district teams all need to engage with them. Engagement through social media will reinforce Rotary's brand and showcase the opportunities that come with it. And, he says, engagement with governments, corporations, and other organizations will lead to meaningful partnerships.

With better engagement, McNally says, "We will grow Rotary both by way of membership and in our ability to provide meaningful service."

He adds, "Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. I would encourage the use of the flexibility now available to establish new-style clubs that would appeal to a different demographic."

McNally, a graduate of dental surgery at the University of Dundee, owned and operated his own dental practice in Edinburgh. He was the chair of the British Paedodontic Society and has held various academic positions. He has also served as a Presbytery elder, chair of Queensferry Parish Congregational Board, and commissioner to the church's general assembly.

A Rotary member since 1984, McNally has been president and vice president of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. He has also served Rotary International as a director and as member or chair of several committees. He is currently an adviser to the 2022 Houston Convention Committee and vice chair of the Operations Review Committee.

McInally and his wife, Heather, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation. They are also members of the Bequest Society.

To learn more about McInally, read his interview:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/document/gordon-mcinally-interview>

and vision statement:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/document/gordon-mcinally-vision-statement>

which outline his goals for Rotary.

The members of the Nominating Committee for the 2023-24 President of Rotary International are: Gérard Allonneau, Parthenay, France; Ann-Britt Åsebol, Falun-Kopparvågen, Sweden; Basker Chockalingam, Karur, Tamil Nadu, India;

Corneliu Dincă, Craiova, Romania; Celia Cruz de Giay, Arrecifes, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mary Beth Growney Selene, Madison West Towne-Middleton, Wisconsin, USA; Jackson S.L. Hsieh, Taipei Sunrise, Taiwan; Masahiro Kuroda, Hachinohe South, Aomori, Japan; Larry A. Lunsford (secretary), Kansas City-Plaza, Missouri, USA; Anne L. Matthews (chair), Columbia East, South Carolina, USA; Akira Miki, Himeji, Hyogo, Japan; Eun-Soo Moon, Cheonan-Dosol, Chungcheongnam, Korea; Peter L. Offer, Coventry Jubilee, West Midlands, England; Ekkehart Pandel, Bückeburg, Germany; M.K. Panduranga Setty, Bangalore, Karnataka, India; Andy Smallwood, Houston Hobby Area, Texas, USA; and Steven A. Snyder, Auburn, California, USA.

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>	<i>Venue</i>
Wed 11th Aug	John Treloar The Australian Tandem Cycling Team – 1952 Helsinki Olympics	Rick Vosila	Rod McDougall	Zoom
Wed 18th Aug	Bill Crews The Work of the Exodus Foundation	Gulian Vaccari	David Croft	Zoom
Wed 25th Aug	Joanne Giannoto State Emergency Service	Paolo Giammarco	Trudy Ho	Zoom

NOTE: Due to the latest COVID outbreak and subsequent lock-down, the above program may change

<i>Birthdays</i>	
13th August	Christine Haseldine
14th August	George Hallworth
15th August	Gulian Vaccari

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
17th August	Paul and Georgia Anton (Wedding)
17th August	David Croft (Rotary)



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (04-08-21) – Zoom	25
Club membership	46
Partners	0
Guests	1

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	n/a
Sergeant's session	n/a

Your Committee 2021-22

President	Thaya Ponniah	Secretary	Nick Hamilton-Kane
President Elect	Andrew Aravanis	Sergeant	Keith Byrn
Immediate Past President	Usha Garg	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth	Ying Ho ¹	Community	Rick Vosila
International	Roy Elis	Vocational	Alexey Prokopenko
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Arie Pappas

¹ Position was held by the late Peter Smith

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	SelectPrint	Apologies	Peter van der Slessen
Social Media	Alexey Prokopenko	Programs Chair	Gulian Vaccari

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