



Rotary

Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675
13th October 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 Oct</i>		
-	Rotary	Community Economic Development Month
<i>Weeks of Oct</i>		
18th-24th Oct	Aust	National Bird Week
18th-24th Oct	Aust	Aussie Backyard Bird Count
18th-24th Oct	Aust	National Water Week
<i>Days of Oct</i>		
13th Oct	UN	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction
15th Oct	UN	International Day of Rural Women
16th Oct	UN	World Food Day
16th Oct	Int	World Restart a Heart Day
17th Oct	UN	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
17th Oct	Aust	Gone Fishing Day
20th Oct	UN	World Statistics Day
20th Oct	Aust	National Ride 2 Work Day
24th Oct	Rotary	World Polio Day



President's Report



Thaya Ponniah
President

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

As members of the Rotary family, we are 1.2 million neighbours, friends, and community leaders who come together to create positive, lasting changes in our communities and worldwide. Our diverse occupations, cultures and backgrounds give us a unique perspective. Our shared

passion for service drives us to take on the world's most challenging problems.

Rotary Club guiding principles include the Four-Way Test (Truth, Fairness, Goodwill and Friendship). Other principals involve Rotary's commitment to **Service above Self**, which is channelled through the Five Avenues of Service: Club, Vocational, Community, International and Youth & New Generations.



As we reached fifteen weeks of our Rotary year this week, it is good to have a snapshot of our progress so far. With our energetic board members and generous club members, we have achieved significant milestones in all the avenues of service despite the pandemic lockdown, restrictions and without in-person meetings.

Club Service:

We reached the fifty-member mark last month, at which we had five new

members inducted, coinciding with the Governor's visit.

- We are happy to announce that one-fifth of our members are females.
- All our online meetings were well-attended by members, with an average of 30 members attending last month.
- We also introduced a 100% Attendance Recognition Program and have already have three lucky winners.

Community Service:

- Cool room project to support the community through "Parish Pantry" of St. Paul's Church at Burwood.
- "Mind Your Health" social media campaign with a Multicultural NSW Grant.
- GoFundMe online fundraising to support all our club's social service projects.
- COVID-19 Vaccination Promotion via social media.
- Mental Health Day - Event on 31 October 21
- Supporting the District Governor's Partner Program, the 'Aboriginal Child and Family Health Program 2021-23'.

Vocational Service:

- Foundation Grant - **empowering indigenous youth for workforce**. A landmark project to help the indigenous community obtain beginner skills in the new digital and technological world.
- Organising the annual "Police Awards" for the local community's law enforcement officers.

International Service:

- The inaugural AHIMSA Peace Symposium 2021, a cultural diversity initiative.
- Partnership contribution of AUD25,000 for Matching Grant

Projects by **Australian Health Humanitarian Aid.**

- Global Grant Project on COVID-19 and Maternal Health in Northern Sri Lanka to provide medical equipment worth USD90,000 for an Operation Theatre and COVID-19 Treatment Centre.
- Global Grant Project on COVID-19 and Basic Health in Southern India. Due to COVID, pregnant women cannot travel to Tiruvannamalai General Hospital; the goal is to equip these remote primary health care centres to save lives.

Youth & New Generations:

- Formation of Rotaract Club of Strathfield.
- NYSF nominations for three candidates
- District Grant application for 'Peter Smith Youth Awards' for Youth Empowerment

I am sincerely grateful to our board of directors and all our club members for initiating and executing all these projects. Our club is full of encouraging members. One word of encouragement can be enough to spark one's motivation to continue with a difficult challenge. Unfortunately, we have not yet met in person since we started our Rotary year on the 1st of July 21. But our close fellowship and the bond of friendship in our club is helping us to survive strong winds.

"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world, it will be known by the results it achieves" – Paul Harris.

Yours in Rotary,

Thaya Ponnia

Director Reports



Rick Vosila
Community

Dear Members,

As mentioned at the recent visit by our DG, we launched an online fundraising campaign on the GoFundMe platform in response to our inability to raise service funds in our usual ways. There are many good works we still need to do which will need some significant financial resources. Please take a look inside the campaign which describes the projects we will support with this.

Can I ask that you share this campaign with your friends, colleagues and business associates as broadly as possible with your own covering appeal for support. We would particularly like to target businesses in our local areas seeking their contributions, as well as corporates we may have connections with.

Thanks for your help with this, as together we Serve to Change Lives.

Regards,

Rick Vosila

Simply click <https://gofund.me/f44f0ce3> to go direct to the campaign

Member Announcements

David Croft

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

The District 9675 RYLA committee has advised that the 2022 RYLA program is going ahead from the 3rd-9th of January 2022 at Stanwell Tops.

The committee is monitoring the COVID-19 situation and developing a response plan.

RYLA is a life-changing leadership program for young adults aged around 19 to 25. The committee has advised that they will consider applications from 18 year olds.

The 7-day program typically has 75 participants and focuses on leadership, personal development, teamwork and community awareness.

RYLA features presentations from many experts who generously donate their time

and experience to further the development of young leaders. The program combines workshops and presentations to fully explore the fundamentals of effective leadership.

RYLA gives young people the chance to build their communication and problem-solving skills. They will learn from community leaders, peer mentors, special guest speakers and Rotarians. This is both a challenging and rewarding program.

Awardees will form amazing connections with their fellow participants, and the impact on their lives will go well-beyond the 7 days they spend together.

Further details and the Registration form are now on the District website:

<https://www.rotarydistrict9675.org/page/ryla>

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding RYLA or to discuss any potential nominations.

Speaker from last week: Paul Kougiás

I would like to thank you for interesting talk on your work with grassroots sports and local clubs.

I can honestly say tonight that there is probably 1 to 2 degrees of separation between myself and Paul on many different fronts.

I probably walked past him when I was visiting the companies of his past corporate life. When I was selling chemical processing equipment, that may have been utilised to make the products that he marketed.

Paul's association with Hurlstone Park Wanderer's could be the second front we may have crossed paths without knowing it. While I was supporting my daughter's ventures in football in the Canterbury District Soccer Football Association competition and he for his children.

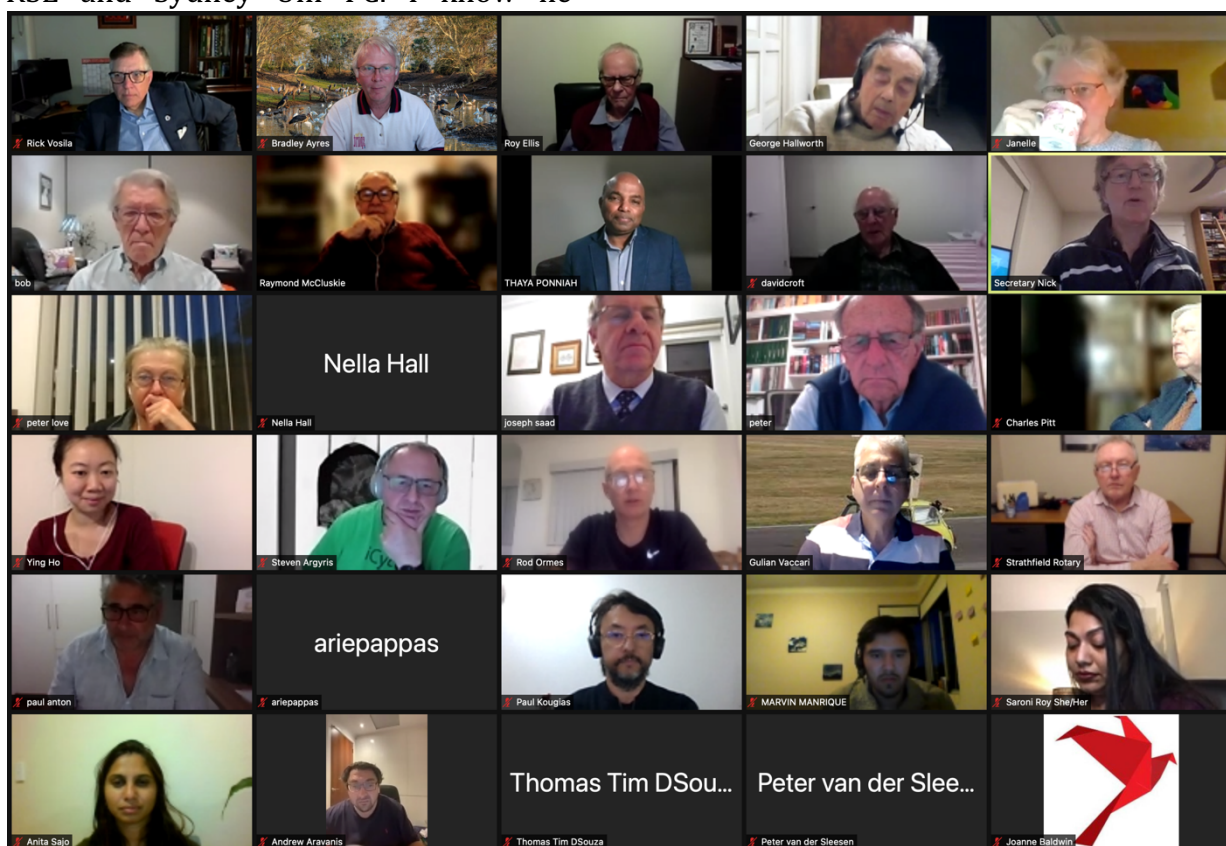
I know how chemical plants and football fields are worlds apart and Paul has succeeded in both, but to be a song writer as well, leaves me speechless.

Using his YouTube channel and song titles, I will sign off with the cheesy part of my thank you.

drowned in success and will be happy ask him to come back, as they say in Greek “Na Girisis”.

Embracing a new challenge Paul went down this road to be the guardian angel for many worthwhile clubs like Stanmore Hawks FC, Canterbury-Hurlstone Park RSL and Sydney Uni FC. I know he

Writeup by Stephen Argyris



Last week's Zoom rollout

Speaker for this week: Raymond McCluskie

Our own long-standing member, PP Raymond McCluskie was recently recipient of a 2021 Recognition Award from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

Raymond will tonight elaborate on the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, and the background to his award.

Raymond McCluskie joined the Rotary Club of Strathfield in 1980 when Dr Brian Hennell was president and when

Raymond was Principal of Strathfield TAFE College.

He has held many Strathfield Rotary club portfolios including secretary and treasurer. He was President at the turn of the century and was an assistant governor in 2007. He was also Treasurer of the International Fellowship of Rotarian Astronomers

He is the owner of Mr Computer Tutor, a boutique educational business that has

provided tuition specialising in programs for seniors and those transitioning into a new job requiring computing.

He has looked after the Club webpage ever since it was introduced at the turn of the millennium.

Raymond has a MSc degree in Mathematics and Physics and a postgraduate qualification in Education

Nearly 50 years ago Raymond was awarded a Winston Churchill fellowship by the Winston Churchill Trust to investigate the development of an undergraduate TAFE program in environmental science where he visited the "Red Brick" universities in the UK.

District News

District Conference – see you there



“Yes, now is the time to be thinking about all the joys of being out of lockdown and one of those is meeting up with your friends and colleagues at the District Conference in March 2022. This will be held at The Warwick Conference Centre in Warwick Farm (near Liverpool), and we have some great speakers lined up for you. Registrations are now open for ‘Very early-bird’ tickets. On 31 October prices will go up. Please note that non-Rotarian partners will always be able to come along at the very early bird price, so why not make a lovely weekend of it? Rotaractors, don’t delay. This is the cheapest price you will pay for your ticket!

Visit the District Website and find the District Conference tab. This will take you to the Registration, and Accommodation, links. More to come on

speakers shortly. Just a taster though... Craig Reucassel (War on Waste) has just confirmed his availability. What a great match for our seventh area of focus! See you there...

Click here to register.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=808939>

- Full registration Very Early Bird tickets are available between 19 September and 31 October 2021 at \$195pp or \$390 for a couple. (1 Rotarian plus a non-Rotarian)
- Full registration Early Bird tickets are available between 1 November 2021 and 16 January 2022 at \$235pp or \$430 for a couple. (1 Rotarian plus a non-Rotarian)
- Normal registration tickets are available between 17 January and 13 March 2022 at \$275pp or \$470 for a couple. (1 Rotarian plus a non-Rotarian)

At all times full registration tickets for Rotaractors will be \$20pp cheaper than the prices quoted above.”

Shaping Rotary’s Future

“2021 marks the centenary of Rotary’s establishment in Australia, New Zealand

and the Pacific countries, and the challenge is to secure our future. To do this, we need to ensure that Rotary remains relevant, contemporary and flexible.

At the recent Zone 8 Virtual Conference, Past RI President Barry Rassin announced that our Zone would be a pilot study for “Shaping Rotary’s Future”.

The Zone Pilot Strategy in Zone 8 (Australia / New Zealand / Pacific Islands / New Guinea & Timor Leste) will confirm the wider regionalisation structure for Rotary across the globe. The reason that Zone 8 was selected for this pilot is that we realised the need and moved towards a possible solution earlier than the other regions who are suggesting similar changes to Zone 8.

This Pilot Study will change the roles of District Governors and Assistant Governors where Governors will move to sectional Leadership roles Assistant Governors will have wider leadership roles for groups of 10 – 30 Clubs (yet to be determined), rather than just being a link to the District Governor. This will be a “change management” process through 2022-2024.

Should the pilot go ahead under the current timeline a fully functional Regional Council will be in place and operating from 1 July 2024. An interim council, managed by the currently elected District Governors Nominee will operate during the lead up to year (2023 – 2024) as part of their responsibilities at the time.

The Regional Council will be **an elected body** with members being in the position for 3 years. The Sectional Leadership Group will **be elected** and will be required for a 4 year term. This will be 2

years in preparation and 2 years as a full member.

Some current District administration, grant management, membership, dues collection, insurance, international reporting, media contact and national entity functions will be transferred to the regional level to release Districts from the current operations requiring the leadership attention.

Further detailed information will be provided to Clubs as we are advised.”

Reminder to Clubs 'Empowering Girls Survey'

“One of Rotary International President Shekar Mehta’s key initiatives is prioritizing projects that focus on improving the health, education, well-being, and economic security of girls across the globe. He is encouraging Rotary clubs and Rotary districts to empower women and girls in all of the service initiatives they undertake during the 2021-22 Rotary year.

DGE Janice Hall is the Ambassador for Empowering Women and Girls in D9675. She would like Clubs to complete the following survey so we can collate the successful and empowering projects that your club already sponsors. An email was sent to Presidents and Secretaries on 21 September, so this is a reminder – see the link to the survey below.”

<https://forms.gle/1Dx1n8AwDnMxBBvz9>

Australian Rotary Health seeks members for Philanthropy Committee

“ARH is seeking to expand its support base so that they can fund even more

research than is currently being undertaken. To do this they are seeking Rotarians who may be experienced in the field of philanthropy to join this committee.

If that's you – follow the links below...
ARH Philanthropy Committee Invitation and ARH Role Description Philanthropic Foundations Fundraising.”

<https://rotarydistrict9675.org/documents/en-au/eb025f36-b2e7-4a12-8e32-37ac57022f03/1/>

<https://rotarydistrict9675.org/documents/en-au/876a849b-4cc3-4082-8264-805949e51e53/1/>



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>
Sun 10th Oct	Hat Day	-	-	-
Wed 13th Oct	Raymond McCuskie The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust	Paul Anton	Andrew Aravanis	Zoom
Wed 20th Oct	George Ellias Music Conductor	TBA	TBA	Zoom
Sun 24th Oct	World Polio Day	-	-	-
Wed 27th Oct	Anita Sajo & Doug Abdiel How one small business hired 26 of our newest Australians and wants to help you do the same	TBA	TBA	Zoom

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

<i>Birthdays</i>	
15th October	Peter Manenti
16th October	Christine Vosila
20th October	Trudy Ho
20th October	Thaya Ponniah

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
16th October	Alexey Prokopenko (Rotary)
17th October	Arthur Crossan (Rotary)



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (06-10-21) – Zoom	28
Club membership	50
Partners	0
Guests	2

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

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 *	Community	Rick Vosila
International	Roy Ellis	Vocational	Alexey Prokopenko
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Arie Pappas

* Position was held by the late Peter Smith

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
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