



Rotary

Club of Strathfield



STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675
30th March 2022

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

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Year 2022</i>		
-	UN	International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development
-	UN	International Year of Glass
-	UN	International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
<i>Month of March</i>		
-	Rotary	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month
<i>Weeks of March</i>		
1st Apr-31st May	Aust	Australian Heritage Festival (National Trust)
<i>Days of Mar/Apr</i>		
30th March	Rotary	Preregistration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention
2nd April	UN	World Autism Awareness Day
4th April	UN	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
5th April	UN	International Day of Conscience
6th April	UN	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace



President's Report



Thaya Ponniah
President

My fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary,

Rotary thrives on community engagement.

The Rotary Club of Strathfield seeks opportunities to better engage with the

public. Our partnerships and community engagement programmes are devised with two different approaches. Firstly, we have annual programmes such as graffiti removal, youth awards, vocational service awards, BBQs at local festivals and functions, and so on. Secondly, we have ad-hoc programs where our club members rise to the occasion, addressing emergency relief programs or making use of local community engagements available to make our presence felt. We have initiatives like assisting local food

banks, running social media campaigns to raise awareness about mental health concerns or simply advertising with banners, manning a local information booth to promote Rotary and its mission of helping humanity with a strong sense of fellowship.

Our Rotary Club always looks for innovative approaches in collaborating with community members and agencies on long-term sustainable projects to address the needs. We do lots of work with organisations and groups to give back to the community, such as food for the homeless, cleaning around the local suburbs, assisting in educating children with special-needs, volunteering and assisting in organising events and more. Additionally, we also find the needs of the community, what's in people's minds, what they are concerned about, and the best methods to connect with people in the community.



Last week we had a great opportunity to partner with the Strathfield Council and be a part of the "Homebush Street Festival 2140". This helped us to connect with people and to invite them to be involved with Rotary.

"Letting various individuals in the community know who we are (the Rotary Club of Strathfield) and what we're doing.

A lot of people are interested in giving back to the community and they may be perfect members of our club," said Past President Rod McDougall, the main organiser of our Rotary Information Centre at the "Homebush Street Festival 2140". During the previous weekend of Rotary's participation in the Homebush Street Festival, we had seven inquiries about joining Rotary and nearly \$1,000 in ticket sales, proving Rod's remark.

Under Rod's leadership, we also had the following Rotary members to run our booth around the clock even though the weather was not good. We are grateful to our fellow Rotarians, Steven Argyris, Bradley Ayres, Jan Barrett, Paolo Giammarco, Usha Garg, Roger Vince, Nella Hall, Athena and Arie Pappas, Peter van der Sleen, and Chris Virgona for volunteering their time and talent at such short notice.

We are also running a raffle throughout the street festival for three weekends. The money we raise will go towards local social service projects. Once again, Chris Virgona of Richardson & Wrench Strathfield (a leading real estate agent in Strathfield) is generously sponsoring the raffle prizes, which include a smart TV, a smart phone, and a smart watch.

The magic of Rotary is that it allows ordinary people to achieve extraordinary things. For over one hundred years, ordinary people around the world have been enjoying Rotary because the power of one unites with the power of many to bring about exceptional change in the world. We, the Strathfield Rotarians, are developing a working model of the whole

community approach in responding to the community needs as well as strengthening communities through engagement and participation in local projects and activities.

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?” – Martin Luther King, Jr

Rotary Service to you,

Thaya Ponniah



Speakers from last week: Terry Chapman, Matt Webb, Angela Walker & Karins Wilson

Speakers:

- Terry Chapman - Project Director, WestConnex M4-M5 Tunnels
- Matthew Webb – Head of Technical and Commercial, WestConnex
- Angela Walker – Commercial Director, WestConnex/Transurban
- Karina Wilson – Community Engagement Advisor, WestConnex
-

Topic - West Connex Transport Links

An overview of WestConnex was given by Angela Walker. The pathway from 2015 – 2024 includes the M4 widening to eight lanes which opened in 2017, the M4-M5 opening in 2023, the Rozelle Interchange and the new M8 Sydney Gateway Project. Angela explained that the new motorways and tunnels are making a real difference to local communities as there is less impact on local roads and crashes are down by half. There has been a marked improvement in safety with M5 East and over-height vehicle incidents dropping by 44%. The key benefit, Angela noted, is the time savings with travel.

As Angela explained, the motorways asset is still owned by the taxpayers of NSW,

though the Sydney Motorway Corporation has divested 51% of this asset to investors, which include among others, superannuation funds as well as partnerships with pension funds.

Tolling will be distance based with the WestConnex capped at \$10.06 – adjusted for CPI. Heavy vehicles will pay higher tolls reflecting the greater wear and tear. Untolled alternative routes are available for all the WestConnex network. It is possible to calculate the toll via a website and to plan your travel route as well. The company TransUrban has bought the right to toll.

Terry Chapman spoke of the tunnel milestones, the four years of excavation and the associated civil works involved. The St Peter's Interchange is the old Tempe tip. Terry talked of the mechanical & electrical fitout, the ventilation facilities, including the Campbell Road ventilation tunnel at Ashfield. We heard about the safety features – the cameras and the GPS back to the control room; the wall linings for fire protection; ventilation axial fans, jet fans for smoke, dampers & attenuators, and the baffles for noise control. Terry

talked about the cross passages in the tunnels located every 120 metres with every second one having a distribution panel. The M4 Motorway Control Room is currently located in Homebush.

Matthew Webb talked at length about the Rozelle Interchange and the issues involved in establishing that site. He also spoke of the M6 as well as the planned international terminal connection and the proposed connection to the domestic airport terminal. The Sydney Gateway Project 2024 and future work and tunnels to San Souci and possibly Taren Point in 2025.

Katrina Wilson talked about liveability. The use of cleaner fuel-efficient vehicles has had a positive impact on air quality.

The tunnels have meant less transport on Parramatta Road. The lasting legacy of the WestConnex work has led to the establishment of 23km of walkways and cycleways. Examples being Ismay Reserve and Haberfield Gardens. There has been much landscaping, with 900,000 plus trees and shrubs planted. There is also the M5 Linear Park and fitness equipment being set-up in 18 locations.

A very informative presentation delivered by each of the above named and of particular interest to those of us in the local community. Thank you.

Write-up by Janelle Watson



Event for this week: Social night

To be held at Da Franco Italian Restaurant.

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 30th Mar	Social event	-	-	Da Franco Italian Rest.
Wed 6th Apr	Club Assembly	-	-	Golf Club
Wed 13th Apr	Dr Sarah Dalton Clinician Experience during COVID	tba	tba	Golf Club
Wed 20th Apr	Member Induction Evening	-	-	Golf Club
Wed 27th Apr	Social event	-	-	tba

<i>Birthdays</i>	
1st April	Peter van der Sleesen
4th April	Sandra Argyris
4th April	Joanne Baldwin

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
-	-



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (23-03-22) – in person	15
Club membership	48
Partners	0
Guests	5

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	\$175.00
Sergeant's session	\$100.45

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

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

Out and About: Street Festival 2140

Friday 25th and Saturday 26th March

@ Rochester Street, Homebush





Upcoming Event: Pathways to Hope
Thursday 31st March

Pathways to Hope

Resolving Intractable Conflict
– from Northern Ireland to the Middle East

Featuring keynote speaker:
HUDA ABUARQUOB
Regional Director, Alliance for Middle East Peace,
followed by a distinguished panel and Q&A

Thursday March 31, 2022 7:30pm–9:30pm

Venue: Bryan Brown Theatre and Function Centre, Bankstown

Hosted by
Rotary Sydney to

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Alliance for Middle East Peace

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN

Event description – Pathways to Hope

What does it take to resolve intractable, multi-generational conflicts? What can the Middle East learn from the remarkable example of Northern Ireland and the Good Friday Agreement of 1998? And when it comes to Israel-Palestine is there a pathway to hope?

These questions form the basis of this special gathering of international and local speakers, as they consider the power and possibility of Israeli and Palestinian peacebuilding.

On Thursday the 31st March at 7:30pm at the Bryan Brown Theatre & Function Centre in Bankstown, join a panel of Huda Abu Arqoub – Director of the Alliance for Middle East Peace (ALLMEP), Ronit Zimmer - Executive Director, Project Rozana, Timothy J. Lynch - Professor, University of Melbourne, and host Chris McDiven - Chair, Together for Humanity.

Muslim, Jewish, Christian and attendees from other faiths are warmly invited to attend this thought-provoking evening of discussion.

Pathways to Hope is hosted by Rotary District 9675 and supported Project Rozana, the City of Canterbury-Bankstown, the Alliance for Middle East Peace and Plus61J Media.

Attendance is free, with free buses available from Bondi Junction at 6pm returning 9:45pm.

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