



Rotary

Club of Strathfield



Strathfield Rotary Bulletin 29 March, 2023 District 9675

Report from the meeting held Wednesday 22 March, 2023

Immediate Past Club President Thaya Ponniah has recently been appointed the District Chair for International Service.



Chalmers Road School Election Day Barbecue 25.3.23

Our club was once again able to support Chalmers Road School last Saturday - at a fundraiser held in parallel with the NSW state elections. The school is an official polling place.

Thanks to Trudy Ho, Jan Barrett, Peter van der Sleen and Steven Argyris for their efforts on the barbecue. Thanks also to Arie

Pappas, Thaya Ponniah and Grahame True for offering to assist if needed.

The results of the fundraiser are not yet available, but despite good weather - and the good food - the number of voters was slightly down. Pre-polling continues to increase in NSW.

Funds raised will go towards the purchase of an additional wheel-chair accessible bus badly needed by the school.

Rotary was "on display" during the day and many would have seen our banner and the barbecue. A number of people commented favourably on our good work in the community.

PP Rod McDougall

Date	Event – guest speaker
To-night Wednesday 29 March	Gulian Vaccari "In conversation" with Dimitry Chugg-Palmer Interact visit to Strathfield Rotary. Meriden Girls School and Homebush Boys High School.
Friday 31 March	Fundraising Event at the Flow Gallery, 57 Denison Street, Camperdown. www.medxchange.com.au/
Wednesday 5 April	"My time in the Australian Federal Police" Rob Gilder.
Wednesday 12 April	No meeting.
Wednesday 19 April	"Driving solutions" James Stewart.
Tuesday 25 April	ANZAC Day function.

Andrew Aravanis “in conversation with” PDG David Croft AM.

Below is an edited version of David’s education and working life, though the conversation covered areas and interests in David’s life not covered in this CV.



David Croft holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Sydney. David was Chairman of the Trustee Board of the Energy Industries Superannuation Scheme from 2004 to 2007 and the NSW nominated Director of the National Electricity Market Management Company Limited [NEMMCO] from 2005 until June 2009.

David has over 50 years of experience in the development, operation and management of interconnected power systems in Australia. He played a key role in the structural reforms in the Australian electricity supply industry including implementation of the State Electricity Market in New South Wales, which later became part of the 1st phase of the Australian National Electricity Market.

David is the former Chief Executive and Managing Director of TransGrid. TransGrid is the High Voltage transmission utility in New South Wales, responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of the NSW electricity power system. At the time of David’s retirement, TransGrid had assets of over A\$4.2 billion including 12,500 km of HV transmission lines, 83 substations and employed about 1000 people. TransGrid had an annual capital works program of approximately \$350 million.

During David’s ten year term as Managing Director, TransGrid was also actively involved in overseas projects in transmission engineering and electricity industry reform, particularly in China and South East Asia. In 2015, TransGrid was sold under a 99 year lease for \$10.23bn.

In 2004 David completed four years as the first Australian President of CIGRE (the International Council on Large Electric Systems, based in Paris). He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering, an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, an Honorary member of CIGRE and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He was a Governor of the University of Sydney Electrical and Information Engineering Foundation from 1998 to 2005.

David was awarded the prestigious Engineer of the Year award for 2002 by the Institution of Engineers, Australia, for significant achievement in his career and contribution to the engineering profession. He was also presented the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Australia, 2003 Sir Lionel Hooke Award and in 2004 was included in the Engineers Australia list of Top 100 most influential Engineers in Australia.

In 2003, David was awarded an AM in the General Division of the Order of Australia for service to electrical engineering, particularly the electricity supply industry, and to the community through the activities of Rotary International. David is also involved in many community projects and has been a member of Rotary since 1977. He was President of the Rotary Club of Strathfield in 1981-82 and was Governor of one of three Sydney Rotary Districts in 2000 – 2001. He was a Rotary nominee member of the Sydney University Council of International House from 2010 to 2019.