



Strathfield Rotary Club



Strathfield Rotary Bulletin 2 August, 2023 District 9675

Dear Rotarians,

It certainly feels like we're heading into Spring. The skies are blue, my golf is as bad as ever and there is the faint whiff of backburning in the breeze. Or is that the smell of a barbecue beckoning community spirited folk to a Rotary snag sizzle?

It's been a busy week. On Wednesday we were treated to one of IPP Andrew's incisive interviews, this time with Rtn Mathew Elias.



Mathew has been in the Club for a number of years and members will mainly be familiar with his quiet, modest demeanour and the convenient location of his dentist's surgery next to the Croquet Club. However, we now know about his upbringing in Bangalore, India and the impressive professional and academic status of his parents (his father an engineer, his mother a Professor of Sociology). We heard about his wife, Navya, a successful banking executive, his wedding attended by 1000 guests (imagine the seating plan) and his two wonderful girls.

Now we also know that Mathew has an artistic skill – he is a keen caricaturist of Indian politicians. Oh what hidden talents we have in the Club! As if I hadn't had enough of dentistry for one day, having had my own teeth and gums probed and polished that morning, Mathew gave us his insights into recent technological advances in dentistry and the current challenges of the profession (beyond chronic halitosis and the routine disinclination of anyone to follow instructions on regular flossing).

To add to the jollity, the stand-in Sergeant Chris Virgona, enlightened us on interesting, and sometimes slightly unsavoury world records, the high (or rather low) point being the World's loudest burp, and the giggles and smirks from some of our more juvenile members at a few unintentional *double entendres*.



On Sunday Strathfield Council held a well-attended National Tree Day event, planting new vegetation in the Ismay Reserve along Powell's Creek in Homebush. The Club provided the barbecue and we burnished our environmental credentials by planting a few trees.

The good thing about these events is that it gives us a chance to be seen out and about in the community. It is a chance to have a chat with members of the public, hand out a few leaflets and generally raise awareness of Rotary. We also get the chance to get to know the Council team a bit better and meet a few interesting people. The fellowship was as usual good and we also had some help on the barbecue from a couple of non-members, one of whom is interested in being further involved in the Club.

Our schedule of speakers is well under control – our ever-organised Programmes Chair Bradley tells me we're almost booked up to Christmas. We have some interesting talks to look forward to.

So that's my first month as President – eleven more to go!

Have a great week and I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening.

Best wishes,

Nicholas Hamilton-Kane
President

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
<i>Monday 31 July</i>	<i>Club Board meeting</i>
<i>Wed 2 August</i>	<i>Michelle Davies – Principal, Chalmers Rd. School</i>
<i>Wed 9 August</i>	<i>Rowann O'Mullane – CEO Strathfield Private Hospital.</i>
<i>Sat 12 Aug</i>	<i>Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards</i>
<i>Wed 16 August</i>	<i>Ms Aruna Chandrala (new member job talk)</i>
<i>Wed 23 August</i>	<i>Sue Clark – District Community Services Chair - The "Dolly Parton Imagination Library"</i>
<i>Wed 30 August</i>	<i>Karen Pensabene – Mayor of Strathfield</i>
<i>Wed 6 Sept.</i>	<i>Tonia Barnes – Rotary District Governor</i>

Other News from the club meeting -

- ✚ Club Service Director – Grahame True – *“If everybody does one thing, this club would be flying”*.
- ✚ Youth Director - Ying Ho – Planning submission to Strathfield Council for a Grant Application for the Peter Smith Award.
- ✚ IPP Andrew Aravanis advised that PP Arie Pappas is safe and well in Greece and well away from the bushfire areas.
- ✚ President Elect & Vice President - Alexey Prokopenko – investigating various tech systems available to implement for the club next year.
- ✚ Secretary Steven Argyris is aware that some Rotarians are not able to open or access emails. Please contact Steven if you are affected.
- ✚ Steven has also taken pictures of events recently and they have been uploaded to the Club webpage and are also on the Club Facebook page.
- ✚ Treasurer, PP Rod McDougall advised that “almost all” members have paid their fees.



The poster is for the 2023 NSW Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards Night. It features the Rotary logo and the text 'Rotary Districts of NSW' and 'Emergency Services Community Awards'. The event is on Saturday 12 August 2023 at 6.30pm for 7.00pm at Bankstown Sports Club. It includes a QR code for registration and a link to book dinner tickets. Logos for partner organizations like Fire + Rescue, Marine Rescue, and NSW Ambulance are at the bottom.

Rotary Districts of NSW Emergency Services Community Awards (RESCA) are asking the NSW Communities to help us recognise outstanding Community Service performed by paid and volunteer members of NSW Emergency Service Agencies through the Rotary Districts of NSW Emergency Services Community Awards (RESCA).



(L-R) PP Usha Garg, Sergeant- Chris Virgona and Raffles- Jan Barrett.

Rotarians "In Profile"



Upper row L-R Rod McDougall, Grahame True, Peter van der Sleses
Lower row L-R Charles Pitt, Peter Manenti, Mathew Elias.



Thaya Ponniah and Roy Ellis.

*If you haven't been to a meeting for a while, please do come along
and join in the fun with your fellow Rotarians.*