## ROTARY CLUB NEWS

NO. 1

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STRATHFIELDROTARY.ORG.AU

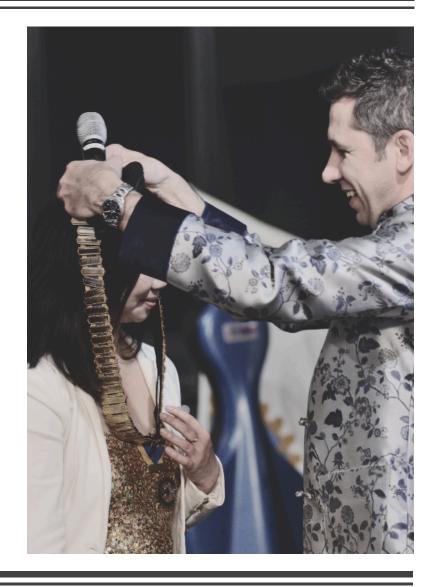
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**JULY 2025** 

# WELGONIE BAGKE THE MONTHLY GLUB BULLETINE

#### STRATHFIELD ROTARY CLUB CHANGEOVER 2024-2025 DINNER

28 June 2025: Our club recently held its extraordinary annual Changeover Dinner a significant event marking the formal transition of leadership from one president and board to the next. Immediate Past President Alexey Prokopenko officially handed over leadership to our new President, Ying Ho. The evening was attended by around 90 guests, including club members, distinguished guests, and community leaders from Strathfield. The program featured a delightful entertainment segment with performances by the Sonare String Quartet from the Sydney Chamber Music Project, as well as a musical interlude by Alla Meunargia, a participant in The Voice Russia.





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During our Changeover Dinner, Paul Harris Recognition was awarded to Cr Benjamin Cai, Deputy Mayor, in honour of his outstanding contributions to the community and the Strathfield area. A 30-Year Anniversary Recognition Letter from Stephanie A. Urchick, Rotary International President 2024–2025, was presented to Keith Byrn. Past District Governor Janice Hall proposed a toast to Rotary, and Lindy Hadges, Director of the ADHD Foundation, brought the evening to a close with her final remarks







#### **KEY DELIVERABLES AND RECOGNITIONS (2024–2025)**

Our club experienced an exciting year filled with growth, innovation, and community engagement. We had a queue of inspiring guest speakers, each bringing valuable insights and perspectives, so many that some had to wait their turn due to high interest and limited scheduling. To energise club life and strengthen social bonds, we introduced new events such as Board Games Night which encouraged laughter, friendly competition, and interaction beyond formal meetings, and the Past Members' Reunion Night, which warmly welcomed former members to reconnect and share memories. Operationally, we transitioned from Excel spreadsheets to professional accounting software (MYOB), improving the accuracy, transparency, and efficiency of our financial management. Additionally, we moved all event bookings and registrations to digital platforms, streamlining the

for members process while enabling guests donations. These enhanced operations reflected our club's commitment to innovation. inclusivity, and creating meaningful, smooth service for Vocational Excellence Awards celebrated outstanding professionals, businesses, and volunteers. We presented over 30 awards.

# WHERE 2025 TAKES FLIGHTLE

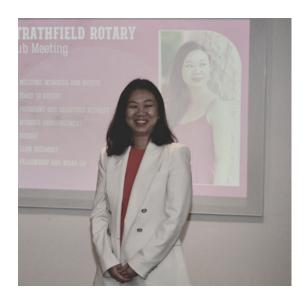
- 2 JULY 2025 (ROTARY CLUB OF STRATHFIELD ASSEMBLY)
- **10 JULY 2025 (SIGNING KOREAN SISTER CLUB AGREEMENT)** Wonju Sarang Rotary Club of Korea and Strathfield Rotary Club of Australia
- 16 JULY 2025 (ANTON STARODUBTSEV, WINDOWS FACTORY) Energy efficient windows and why it is so important (<a href="https://windowsfactory.com.au/">https://windowsfactory.com.au/</a>)
- 23 JULY 2025 (OKSANA KORIAKOVA, IMPERO) Winning the Networking Game (<a href="https://impero.com.au/">https://impero.com.au/</a>)
- **27 JULY 2025 (NATIONAL TREE DAY BARBECUE SUNDAY)**
- **30 JULY 2025 (MENNO TABBERNAL, ULTIMATE EFFICIENCY VA SERVICES)**

The future of Virtual Assistant services (<a href="https://ultimateefficiency.com.au/">https://ultimateefficiency.com.au/</a>)



















As we begin a new Rotary year, I am guided by RI President Francesco Arezzo's theme: "Unite for Good." It calls on us to take action that creates lasting change in ourselves, in our communities, and across the globe. This spirit of shared responsibility will shape everything we do in 2025–2026.

This year, we focus on five key priorities: growing a diverse and inclusive membership, delivering impactful community service, strengthening fellowship, embracing modernisation, and honouring our Rotary traditions.

We'll expand our membership by reaching out to new communities, especially through vocational and youth networks. Every member plays a role by showing up, inviting others, and sharing Rotary's values. Community engagement remains at our heart, with ongoing support for projects in partnership with Strathfield Council, and events like National Tree Day, Citizenship Awards, and Carols in the Park. We'll also apply for grants and seek more volunteers.

Fellowship is vital to a thriving club. We'll hold more social events, reconnect with past members, and keep our speaker program fresh and inspiring. To improve operations, we've moved to MYOB, continued using Humanitix, and enhanced our digital presence. A new monthly bulletin, prepared by Alexey Prokopenko, will keep members and friends informed and engaged.

We'll continue our core programs. Police Awards, Anzac Day BBQ, Vocational Excellence Awards, Youth Awards and our commitment to youth via RYLA, RYPEN, NYSF, and MUNA. We'll also work to re-establish the Interact Club at Strathfield Girls High School and build new connections with youth organisations and universities.

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Internationally, we'll deepen relationships with clubs in Vanuatu and Colombia, and explore a sister-club partnership with Korea. Collaborations with the Rotary Club of Carlingford will also be pursued.

Above all, our success depends on each of us. Let's participate, lead, and support one another. This is where 2025 begins with action, connection, and a united commitment to doing good.

Together, we have the chance to make this Rotary year not only successful, but truly meaningful. Rotary is more than just a club, it's a place where people grow, connect, and find purpose. Speaking from experience, I can say that through Rotary, I've grown as a person in confidence, leadership, and understanding of others. It helped shape who I am today. As our club continues to grow and improve, we welcome new members who want to make a difference while also growing themselves. If you're looking for a place to belong, give back, and become the best version of yourself, Rotary is the perfect place to start. This is where 2025 begins.

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#### PICTURE-PERFECT MOMENTS





### Remember to nominate local excellence in Strathfield, or those who work with Strathfield!

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Do you work with or serve the Strathfield community or nearby suburbs? Nominate a business or staff member for the Vocational Excellence Awards, presented by the Rotary Club of Strathfield.

These awards celebrate outstanding workplace contributions and dedication to our local community. It doesn't matter where the business is registered what matters is their impact in Strathfield and surrounding suburbs.

- Award Ceremony: 15 October 2025
- Submit your nomination at: vocationalexcellence.com.au

We also welcome **sponsors** who'd like to support the event and promote their business locally. Becoming a sponsor is a great way to showcase your brand, connect with the community, and be part of a celebration that highlights the best of Strathfield. Contact us for more details on sponsorship opportunities and how you can get involved.

Let's recognise and celebrate those making a real difference in our community! Every nomination helps shine a light on individuals and organisations whose hard work, passion, and dedication inspire others. Together, we can honour their achievements and encourage more positive contributions across Strathfield.

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## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club of Strathfield offers sponsorship packages for major events, meetings, and social gatherings, as well as the option to make simple donations. Sponsors gain valuable exposure through our promotions, social media, and events while showing their commitment to social responsibility and community engagement.

Your support helps fund projects that improve lives in Strathfield and beyond. From youth programs to local service initiatives, together we create lasting change. Partner with us to make a difference and be recognised as a valued supporter of our community.

If you wish to support our club, please contact Immediate Past President Alexey Prokopenko at alexey@kiteunion.com.au or 0432 833 024



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



Strathfield Rotary







VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE 2025 AWARDS

PARTNERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

ARE WELCOME



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## MEMBER'S NEWS



Immediate Past President Alexey Prokopenko's company, Kite Union, has won the IT Services: Software & App Development category at the Bx Business xCellence Awards 2025.

Our member, Janelle Watson, recently received a 30-Year Anniversary Recognition Letter from Stephanie A. Urchick, Rotary International President 2024-2025, in honour of her three decades of dedicated service to Rotary. This prestigious recognition reflects Janelle's commitment, passion, and countless contributions to our club and the wider community over the years.

We look forward to formally presenting her letter at our club's next major event, where we can celebrate this wonderful milestone together.



- PP Clarence (Clarrie) Griffiths Edwards (1937-2025) passed away recently and will be fondly remembered for his outstanding service to Strathfield. He was Mayor from 1977-1983, Alderman from 1973-1983, a foundation member and third president of the Rotary Club of Strathfield, and well known as the newsagent for Homebush.
- Past member Eric Khu, who passed away on 4 July aged 92, is remembered as "a Rotary stalwart" and "the real doctor" for his PhD in electrical engineering, leaving many cherished memories.
- Megan Tarrant, wife of Past District Governor Harley Tarrant, passed away on 7 July. We remember her warmly and extend our heartfelt condolences to Harley and his family.



# GETINVOLVED, MAKEA DIFFERENCE!

### VISIT US AT THE CLUB AND SHOW YOUR INTEREST IF YOU'RE READY TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE!

Strathfield Rotary Club was chartered on 14 March 1971

The Club meets on Wednesday, 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

Meetings are held at the Event Centre Strathfield Golf Club

52 Weeroona Rd, Strathfield NSW 2135

ph +61 (0) 2 9642 0326

Contact Secretary Nick Hamilton-Kane

email <a href="mailto:info@strathfieldrotary.org.au">info@strathfieldrotary.org.au</a> or PO Box 268 Strathfield, NSW 2135

# SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS







Rotarian Bradley Ayres Rotarian Steven Argyris

PERFORMER | VOICE COACH



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