



Strathfield Rotary Changeover Bulletin 2024-2025

Nicholas Hamilton-Kane
President 2023-2024



Alexey Prokopenko
President 2024-2025



Rotary Club of Strathfield

Rotary International District 9675

Gordon R. McNally

Rotary International President 2023-2024

Stephanie A. Urchick

Rotary International President 2024-2025

Tonia Barnes

District Governor 2023-2024

Warwick Richardson

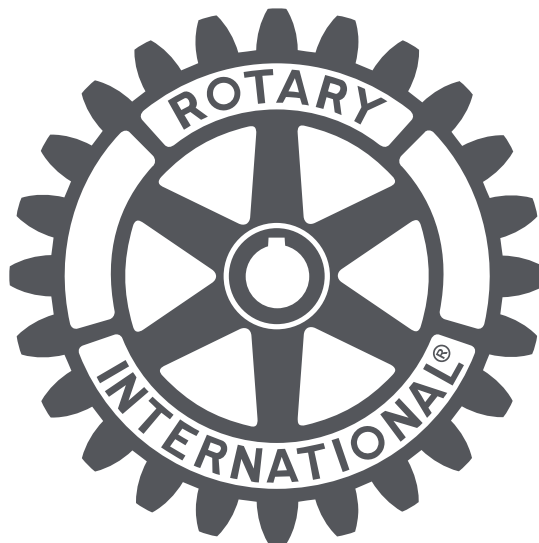
District Governor 2024-2025

Nicholas Hamilton-Kane

Club President 2023-2024

Alexey Prokopenko

Club President 2024-2025



Strathfield Rotary Presidents 1971-2025

Bill Boyce
Peter Roach
Clarrie Edwards
Maurie Moroney
Ron Thurgar
Merv Perry
Bob Taylor
Peter Foss
Lew Wilson
Brian Hennell
Gordon Gillett
David Croft AM
Bob Templeman
Harley Tarrant
Paul Lehman
Terry Rohan
George Hanlon
Kevin Lawrenson

Max Douglas
Brian Driver
Bert Houston
Doug Potter
John Elvy
Euan Watson
Joseph Saad
Peter Manenti
Ian Albertson
Angelo Franco
Peter Kilkeary
Raymond McCluskie
Roger Vince
Stephen Taylor
Keith Stockall
Keith Byrn
George Hallworth
Rod McDougall

Brian Johnson
Grahame True
Kevin Freund
Peter Smith
Trevor Duxbury
Ray Wilson OAM
Suzanne Freund
Allan Teale
Allan Petersen
Stephen Taylor
Rick Vosila
Charles Pitt
Arie Pappas
Usha Garg
Thaya Ponniah
Andrew Aravanis
Nicholas Hamilton-Kane
Alexey Prokopenko

Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc
Club Chartered 14 March 1971
Club 18086
PO Box 268 Strathfield NSW 2135
www.strathfieldrotary.org.au
info@strathfieldrotary.org.au

2024-2025 Changeover Dinner

Strathfield Event Centre

28 June 2024

Master of Ceremonies PP Rick Vosila

Pre-dinner drinks

Call to Order - PP Rick Vosila

Welcome and Introduction - PP Rick Vosila

Acknowledgement of Country - PP Rick Vosila

Toast to Rotary International - DGE Renga Chidambaranathan

Response to Toast to Rotary International - PDG David Croft AM

Raffle Announcement - Aruna Chandrala

Fellowship

Mains Served

Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions - President Nicholas Hamilton-Kane

The Maurie Awards - PP Andrew Aravanis

Outgoing President's Address - President Nicholas Hamilton-Kane

Fellowship

Dessert Course Served

Musical Interlude - Ying Ho and Evgeny Sorkin

Special Recognition - President Nicholas Hamilton-Kane

Changeover Ceremony - PP Rick Vosila

Presentation of Collar of Office and Pin to Incoming President

Presentation of Past President Pin to Outgoing President

Incoming President's Address - President Alexey Prokopenko

Introduction of 2024-25 Board and Club Officers - President Alexey Prokopenko

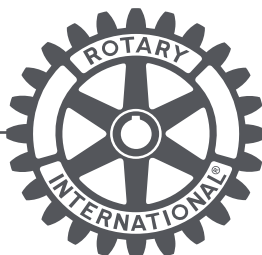
Fellowship

Raffle Draw - Aruna Chandrala

Closing Remarks - PP Rick Vosila

Music - Thomas D'Souza

Fellowship



President's Report



Thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this wonderful Club in 2023-24: it has been a great honour. I am sure people often think, why would anyone want to be President of a Rotary Club? Is it the insatiable thirst for power or just the chance to pose twice a year for photos wearing the Club's official bling? Maybe. But seriously I think the real reason why most Presidents take on the role is their genuine desire to develop friendships in the Club and the community, to work with and help other Rotarians and other dedicated individuals to do a bit of good in the world and, in taking on the inevitable challenges, to continue to develop their own personal confidence and abilities. That has certainly been the case for me.

Looking back at my presentation to the first Club Assembly of the year, setting out my plans and those of the Board for the year, I realise now that some objectives may have been a bit ambitious. There has been no grand fundraiser and no world-changing project; and we are a bit light on new members (although I am banking on quality not quantity!) Nevertheless, I believe that the Club can be very proud of its achievements this year, continuing its tradition of close fellowship, an active speaker programme, community involvement and a multitude of successful events.

A key priority has been engagement with youth and the local community. In the early part of the year we held a number of barbecues supporting community events organised by Strathfield Council and by our local MPs which, together with the Carols in the Park, gave visibility to the Rotary brand. The Club has also continued to develop its excellent relationship with the Mayor and Councillors. As for youth, this has long been an area of strength for the Club, not surprising in view of the wonderful schools in the area and Rotary's fantastic youth programmes. This year we have built on this strength by increasing the range of schools participating in the highly successful Youth Achievement Awards resulting in a highly successful and inspirational event, as well as continuing our sponsorship of the various Rotary Youth programmes and

building our relationship with school communities.

Another area where we have made an important contribution is supporting women. The highlight was of course the International Women's Day Celebration, which not only showcased the achievement of women and advances in women's health but also helped raise money for an organisation supporting victims of domestic violence. Logie award winning Paula Duncan brought a bit of star quality to our Club, speaking in aid of the fight against gynaecological cancer and, in partnership with the women's organisation Zonta, Homebush Boys' Interact and Strathfield Girls' Z Club, we are supporting a birthing kit project. And one of our most stimulating talks was from the Principal of Meriden School on the importance of sport in developing women leaders.

I would like to highlight the outstanding programme of speakers who have been at the core of our weekly meetings. All of our guests deserve our appreciation for the time they have dedicated to addressing our Club. A few, however, stick out as being particularly memorable: The medical researchers from Anzac Research Centre / Concord Hospital Burns Unit who are developing exciting new treatments for horrific injuries, and at the other end of the year, a fascinating talk from a plastic surgeon reminded us that this area is not just about facelifts; the expert who has years of experience working in the controversial field of nuclear power and the Chief Engineer at locally based Community Radio 2RDJ.

Fellowship is at the heart of what we are as a Club. This year we have enjoyed each other's company, and that of our partners and guests, not only at our meetings but also at a number of wonderful social events: an evening at Quatre Café which opened specially for our Club; and the wonderfully festive Christmas Party in December. Unfortunately, our annual croquet evening was not able to go ahead due to continual bouts of heavy rain. However, we did have a fascinating visit to NSW Parliament House with lunch in the dining room at which we were joined by our local MP

President's Report



and Rotarian, Jason Yat-sen Li.

The second half of the year has been dominated by the Club's major events at which we are able to recognise service and achievement in their contrasting forms. Apart from the highly successful International Women's Day Celebration, we honoured our brave service men and women at the moving and humbling Anzac Day Breakfast; we held the Youth Achievement Awards which recognised outstanding achievements by talented and dedicated local young people, and most recently we held the Police Officers of the Year Awards to highlight the wonderful and difficult work done by our local police area commands. These celebrations, commemorations and awards, attended not only by Rotarians but guests and dignitaries, are an important way in which the Club can tangibly demonstrate that the community cares about sacrifice, service, hard work and achievement. The Club received District recognition for Best International Project - the Sri Lankan hospital project pioneered by Thaya Ponniah.

We have supported some excellent causes. Our interest in some of these has been triggered by inspiring presentations from some of our speakers. Others, most notably the Train Ride to End Polio and Australian Rotary Health, are causes that our Club regularly participates in.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to a number of our most respected Rotarians during the year. **Ross Brown AM, Arthur Crossan** and **George Hallworth** all passed away during the year leaving a wonderful legacy of service and fellowship. We cherish their memories as Rotarians and friends and express our sincere condolences for those they leave behind.

On a brighter note, I would like to welcome our newest member, **Anjali Jain**, who will be a wonderful addition to our numbers.

I would ask all members to give Alexey, and the 2024-25 Board, their full support in taking the Club forward into the future. I would like to wish Alexey, and his wonderful family, all the best for the next Rotary year.

NICHOLAS HAMILTON-KANE

PRESIDENT



Vocational Service Report



As the Vocational Service Director of Strathfield Rotary Club, I am pleased to present the report of our activities and achievements over the past year (2023-24).

Parliament House Visit

On January 24, 2024, we successfully organized a visit to Parliament House with State MP Jason Yat-Sen Li. Thanks to Nella's assistance, we booked a tour of Parliament House which was well received by our members, who got to visit both chambers where laws are made and some of Sydney's oldest rooms in Australia's first Parliament (NSW).

The tour was for an hour, with friendly guides who showed us around the parliamentary precinct and through the historic legislative chambers. Our members experienced first-hand the beautiful colonial architecture while learning more about the role, history and work of the Parliament. The tour ended with a scrumptious lunch. The feedback from our members who attended was excellent

ANZAC Day Breakfast

ANZAC Day is a significant date in the Australian calendar. Our ANZAC Breakfast event, held on April 25, 2024, was a great success. The keynote speaker, Martin Shaw from Wounded Heroes, highlighted the important work his organisation does in providing emergency support to current ADF members, veterans, and their families facing financial crises or homelessness. MC Peter Manenti did a great job, and ensured the event ran smoothly and on time. Bugler Liam played the Last Post (Ode of Remembrance), adding a poignant touch. Rotarians Ying and Thomas performed songs relevant to ANZAC, and Wendell Drego played acoustic guitar and sang "Lest We Forget" and "The Band Played Waltzing Matilda," which were greatly appreciated by members and guests. A cheque of \$2000 was presented to Martin Shaw for his charity.

Police Officer of the Year Award 2024

Scheduled for June 13, 2024, the "Police Officer of the Year Award 2024" is our signature event of the year. Preparation began as early as October 2023 with meetings held with Burwood Police Area Command Inspector Mark George on nominations, citations, and other preparatory work. Committee chair Steven Argyris has worked tirelessly and provided mentorship to me while I was learn-

ing how to plan and organize the process.

Invitations have been sent to the Police Nominees and their partners, families & guests. The event was a great success. Officers, staff and volunteers of Auburn and Burwood Police Area Commands were recognised in the categories of Employee of the Year (Unsworn), Rotary Community Award and, of course, Police Officer of the Year. We were pleased to be joined by the Auburn and Burwood PAC Commanders Superintendents Simon Glasser and Christine MacDonald as well as by Hon. Jason Yat-sen Li, MP and Hon. Lynda Voltz MP.

The raffle was a great success, meaning the Club was able to make a donation of \$3,000 to NSW Police Legacy. Thanks as well to our sponsors whose support enabled the event to take place.

Vocational Awards

The Vocational Awards will take place on September 25, 2024. Alexey Prokopenko has been instrumental in preparing for it, with completing the website and event materials to promote this event.

International Women's Day (IWD)

IWD was another huge success, largely due to the efforts of committee chair Aruna Chandrala. We hosted excellent speakers from IVF Australia, SBS, and Cancer Council Australia. Funds raised from raffle tickets were donated to WAGEC, amounting to \$2,573. Bollyfit dancers provided entertainment. Although IWD was not under Vocational Service, I assisted with organizing and preparing the presentation slides, gaining valuable experience in event planning.

Christmas Dinner Dance

Although this event falls under Club Service, I was requested to join the committee to help organize and contribute ideas. Our club's Christmas dinner dance, held on December 9, 2024, was a huge success. I encouraged guests to attend, arranged raffle prizes, and coordinated a live band and a roving magician. Grahame True did a fantastic job bringing everything together.

Indigenous Project

The Board decided to step away from the Indigenous Training Project Grant Application this year for practical reasons. We acknowledge the significant work done by Alexey Prokopenko and

Vocational Service Report



Thaya Ponniah. Sydney Cove Rotary club will carry the Global Grant project forward.

Remote Emergency Services Project

This project, chaired by Alexey Prokopenko, is part of Vocational Services. While some initial work has been done, it has been on the back burner this year due to other commitments. We plan to advance this project in 2024-25.

Social Media

Although social media does not fall under Vocational Services, I took the initiative of taking on the following tasks and have completed them:

To help keep our Rotary club's social media channels updated, I worked on several online assets for our club, to take advantage of my marketing skills and my staff that helped me achieve these assets:

YouTube Channel: We now have our club YouTube Channel, where video content can be uploaded and promoted online:

<https://www.youtube.com/@strathfieldrotaryclub>

Facebook New Banner Design: We have an updated Banner for our Facebook Page to suit branding: <https://www.facebook.com/strathfieldrotary/> I have been involved in updating photos and videos of our weekly meetings and events.

GBP: We have a Google Business Profile (listing) that has our club's information which can be found online:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NEi2wrXV4B7zD8HQ8>

Video about our Club: To help reach out to new potential members, I created a video which is 'About our club' that explains in a nutshell what is Rotary all about, and what we do, if you are keen, you can join us. This video can be used for multiple purposes, such as new member induction, promoting it at events, and online marketing, whilst we also made use of it at our Christmas dinner & dance.

About our Club:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVbStghR4A8&t=4s>

This summary highlights our club's commitment to Vocational service and the significant impact of our events and initiatives over the past year.

THOMAS D'SOUZA

DIRECTOR – VOCATIONAL SERVICE



Community Service Report



I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to President Nick Hamilton-Kane for his exemplary service over the past year. His dedication and hard work have been deeply appreciated. I would also like to thank the board members for their invaluable assistance in organizing community events.

Our local community always looks forward to the Strathfield Rotary community BBQs. This past year, we hosted several BBQs at notable events such as the Strathfield Carols in the Park, National Tree Planting Day, Walk and Talk support events, and the Welcome to New Citizens ceremony. The BBQ and raffle at Carols in the Park, attended by thousands of residents, successfully raised funds for various local charities. A special thank you goes to Andrew Aravanis for his outstanding support at this event.

Serving our community also involves partnering with other organizations. For the first time, we partnered with the Strathfield Lions Club, chaired by Cr. Benjamin Cai, for the Homebush Moon Festival. Such partnerships allow us to share experiences and strategies for the benefit of the local community, including learning BBQ techniques from other cultures.

The community BBQs and raffles have been a hit, and they play a crucial role in raising funds for various local charities. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and effort for the BBQs and raffles.

Additionally, we have strengthened our relationship with Strathfield Council. We were honoured to have General Manager Michael Mamo and Mayor Cr. Karen Pensabene speak to our club. I am confident that there will be many more opportunities in the future for Strathfield Rotary to collaborate with the Council for the benefit of our community.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to Aruna Chandrala for her amazing organisation of the International Women's Day celebration. The event was an overwhelming success.



NELLA HALL

DIRECTOR – COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fascinating Speakers



Personal Thanks



I would like to thank all our Club members who have contributed, both in time and financial generosity, to the activities of the Club. Your involvement has been truly appreciated and the Club's achievements would not have been possible without your involvement. However, I would particularly like to express my appreciation to a few individuals for their participation during the year.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Board, its Service Directors and Officers, for their support: **Alexey Proko-penko** (President-elect), about whom more below; **Andrew Aravanis** (Immediate Past President), who despite all the work he did during his own year as President, still found time to provide invaluable help at the Carols and provide me with his sound views on many issues; **Steven Argyris** (Club Secretary) who has managed the Board meetings and correspondence, taken great photos and always been available to support club events; **Ying Ho** (Youth Service Director) who has done a wonderful job of managing the Club's Youth portfolio (as well as her own personal youth portfolio!) including organising the Youth Achievement Awards; **Nella Hall** (Community Service Director) for her great ideas, help on various events and liaison with the Council; **Arie Pappas** (International Service Director) for his support and enthusiasm and invaluable contribution to Board discussions; **Thomas D'Souza** for doing an immense job in organising some of the key events of the year, including the Anzac Day Breakfast and Police Awards as well as being a key (or should that be keyboard) participant in the International Women's Day celebration; and **Grahame True** (Club Service Director aka "Chief Operating Officer") for his tireless work in making sure the Club runs properly and for being a constant source of help and advice, as well as organising a fantastic Christmas Party. Lastly, I would like to give a particular shout out to **Rod McDougall**: Apart from his official roles as Treasurer, and point of contact with Homebush Boys Interact Club, for me he really has been the rock on which the Club stands – Rod has been a constant and invaluable source of support for me during the year, as he has been for countless previous Presidents.

There are numerous other Rotarians who have

given amazing support to the Club. I would like to mention: **Bradley Ayres** for his work as Programme Chair putting together the fantastic speaker programme, for being the liaison with Meriden Interact Club and for his involvement in numerous events; **Raymond McLuskie** for being our reliable webmaster, unfailingly keeping the website up-to-date; Jan Barret for managing the raffles and ensuring a regular stream of prizes; **Peter van der Sleen** for making sure we are all kept informed of upcoming meetings and, along with Jan, being the Club's ambassadors in Port Vila (Vanuatu), with the Rotary Club of which we became a sister club during the year; **Aruna Chandrala** for her dedicated organisation of the International Women's Day Celebration; **Janelle Watson** for her work on the bulletins; **David Croft** for his wise words on protocol; and of course, our own man with his hands glued to the microphone, Sergeant-at-arms **Rick Vosila**; also DG Tonia Barnes and AG Bharathi Rengarajan. Without naming names, I would also like to thank members who have generously sponsored events this year, who have donated to the Rotary Foundation or have contributed to the Club's various charities and causes.

I appreciate that a number of members of the Board, as well as other members of the Club, have unfortunately been faced with difficult personal situations and challenges, as well as family and professional demands on their time, during the year. Thank you all for your efforts in the face of these difficulties.

I would also like to give a special thank you to our partners and families. Quite apart from providing support for us members as we do our Rotary stuff, I am very conscious that we have sometimes relied heavily on our partners to join us at meetings, boosting our attendance figures as well as themselves providing help with our special events. I would like to make a particular mention of my own wife, Helen, who has given me such invaluable support throughout the year.

Thanks are due as well to Strathfield Council, its Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive, as well as our local state and federal parliamentary representatives, who have been supportive over the past year. I would also like to thank Strathfield Golf Club, which has been the amazing venue for events, weekly meetings and Board meetings and whose staff have been so accommodating to our requirements.

NICHOLAS HAMILTON-KANE
PRESIDENT

Fascinating Speakers



Christmas Party



Christmas Party



Rotary Moments



Club Service Report



There are many positions that come under the banner of Club Service, all of which are important to the running of the club.

On my team I have been fortunate to have had an enthusiastic crew.

The position of bulletin editor was once again in the capable hands of Janelle. Due to unforeseen circumstances she had to step aside after the first half of the year.

Raymond in his usual form has kept the website up to date and informative which in Janelle's absence was the go-to for everybody.

Thank you Janelle and Raymond for your hard work.

Raffles this year (fun and fund raising) ably executed by Jan with Peter as her wingman – great job both of you.

Bradley being our programs chair was able to secure marvellous speakers on a vast variety of subjects, the list is in this bulletin. Bradleys ability to “twist arms” to get speakers to come and chat to us on topics both light and heavy was nothing but superb – a great job well done Bradley.

A gentle reminder each week by Peter Van Der Sleeson as to the need to register for the meetings and in addition inform us to who the guest speaker will be and their topic – thanks Peter.

Our photographer Steven with his side kick Bradley has been continuously clicking away making sure we have a photographic record of our fun and fellowship.

Rod has many hats as we know, one being catering officer and what a ‘confident caterer’ he has been with late apologies, late inclusions and meal changes – well done Rod.

Club protocol has been looked after by the Rotary “go to man” PDG David Croft and Thaya has looked after all grants that are available to us – both strong Rotarians.

There are several important tasks behind the scenes which include club history, child protec-

tion officer, harassment officer and a risk management officer thanks Ed Dunlop, Christopher Hazeldine, Jo Saad and past Rotarian Rodger Vince for covering these positions.

We have all been saddened by the loss of three members of the Strathfield Rotary family this year.

Rotarian George Hallworth was a long serving Rotarian joining the club in 1977. He served on various committees and was President of the club 2005-2006. He was awarded a PHF for his services. George passed away in October 2023.

Past Rotarian Ross Brown AM became an honorary Rotarian in 2022 due to his deteriorating health after being an active member of Strathfield Rotary since 1978 and a PHF recipient. Ross had been a major supporter of the Rotarian Foundation and on frequent occasions hosted our club members at his property in the Yarramalong Valley. Ross passed away in September 2023.

Arthur Crossan was made an honorary Rotarian for his strong support of our Rotary club. He attended many functions and generously donated several of his artworks for our fund-raising ventures. He was awarded a PHF for his continuous support. Arthur passed away in November 2023.

A few highlights of the year - a restaurant evening – actor Paula Duncan came to speak- our “glitz and glamour” Christmas party – international women's day celebration and a well-attended Anzac Day.

I must give a hearty thankyou once again to Rod, always there to help, give advice, whilst still juggling many hats.

Thanks go to Alexey for assembling this change over bulletin - a task well done.

My year under President Nick and his board has been busy and fulfilling – thank you Nick for your assistance and hard work.

PP GRAHAME TRUE
DIRECTOR – CLUB SERVICE

Youth Service Report



When President Nick Hamilton-Kane began his presidency in July 2023, he made it very clear that Youth Service would be one of his areas of focus. Nick in particular wanted to involve more of our local public schools and establish relationships with schools such as Strathfield Girls High School. We started the year off with a meeting with the principal of Strathfield Girls, Mechel Pikoulas. Mechel was enthusiastic about the possibilities of partnering with Rotary in various initiatives and projects. One of the initiatives that we are very excited about and Nick has been a great champion of, is the Zonta Birthing Kit project. It involves the Zonta Club, the Strathfield Girls Z Club, and the Homebush Boys Interact Club. The different groups will come together on the 27th July to assemble birthing kits, which for the Homebush Boys especially would be quite an eye-opening experience! Strathfield Rotary helped to raise the funds of \$1250 required to put this project together. Another project we started discussions with Strathfield Girls is a mentoring program where Rotary members will volunteer to be professional mentors to students. More to come with this project next year.

Our club sponsored Rotary's other regular annual youth-focused programs such as RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), NYSF (National Youth Science Forum), RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment), and MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly). Vanessa Hamilton-Kane took part in the deeply enriching RYLA camp in January this year. She later gave a wonderful presentation about her experience at one of our club's regular Wednesday night meetings. We also endorsed and sponsored two candidates for NYSF. Both students, Hilary Chan and Genevieve Bitar, are students from Santa Sabina.

Homebush Boys High School sent a strong delegation to the two RYPEN camps, four boys to the August camp, and two boys to the May camp. All students were sponsored by Strathfield Rotary. Our club also sponsored a team from Homebush Boys for MUNA. Club members as usual volunteered for the Meriden Interact Dance.

The Citizenship awards were again wonderfully organised by Bradley Ayres. 16 local schools, both junior and senior received certificates and Dymocks book vouchers from our

club. Many Rotarians gave up their time to attend and present those awards at various school assemblies.

We were successful in our application for a Strathfield Council Community Grant for the Peter Smith Memorial Scholarship and received \$2000. This year the board decided to split the grant and present the scholarships to two schools, Homebush Boys High School, and Strathfield Girls High School. Each school will award the scholarships to the students who they deem best represent the late Peter Smith's values and community service spirit. We are grateful to the Strathfield Council for their continuous support.

The Annual Youth Achievement Awards ceremony was held on the 15th June at the newly renovated Strathfield Town Hall this year. The evening was wonderfully MC'd by J.P. Baladi. It was the first time I met J.P. so it was great to have his involvement in this event. The adjudication panel consisting of President Nick, Usha Garg and Ed Dunlop were all extremely impressed by overall exceptional quality and diversity of the nominees. They were all outstanding in their respective fields and well-deserving awardees. This year, the nominations were more evenly spread amongst the schools that included Homebush Boys High, Chalmers Road School, St Patrick's College, Strathfield Girls High, Santa Sabina College, Meriden School, and MLC School Burwood. The evening was attended by students, parents, teachers, school representatives, community leaders and Rotarians. The Deputy Mayor Sandy Reddy, Councillors Benjamin Cai, Raj Datta and Nella Hall were present. I want to thank the organising committee, Bradley Ayres, Arie Pappas, Anjali Jain, Paula Nicolas, Nick Hamilton-Kane, Rod McDougall, for their hard work in putting together this event, as well as to the adjudication panel, to MC J.P. and to photographer Steven Argyris for their contributions to the evening.

Finally, I would like to thank President Nick Hamilton-Kane for his continuous support throughout the year, and his strong advocacy in the area of youth. It is my honour and privilege to have served as our club's Youth Service Director for the past three years.

YING HO

DIRECTOR – YOUTH SERVICE

Commitment to Youth



Treasurer's Report



Another rewarding year for your outgoing treasurer. But after a number of years managing the club's debits and credits, it is definitely time!

My thanks to President Nick for his outstanding drive and enthusiasm. He ensured a great Rotary year for our club. A relatively new Rotarian, he did an amazing job. As treasurer, I especially appreciated his rigorous approach to good governance.

The club remains in an enviable financial position, with substantial funds being carried forward to 2024-25. A full, audited report of our financials will be presented at our annual general meeting.

We have a proud history of "Doing Good in the World" and once again were able to support a wide range of causes. Specific beneficiaries of our service work are shown in the accompanying table. The many projects undertaken are described elsewhere by the responsible directors.

Always a key element of our fundraising, our weekly club meeting raffles and sergeant's sessions yielded excellent results – both financial and fellowship! The financial support by members and guests at club meetings was greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to those members and organisations who supported the club through donation and sponsorship. In many cases continuing a tradition of support. See table. Without their support many of our projects would not have been viable.

This year the board approved a new approach to management of club funds. A reserve fund to meet future needs has been established. The funds will be tightly controlled and access to them (to increase or reduce the amount) will require the explicit approval by the board of the day. Investment of the funds will attract interest and will be another form of fundraising for service projects.

I would like to express special thanks to James Heesh, Partner, Hales and Red-

don Chartered Accountants. who, over many years, has conducted, pro bono, a professional audit of our accounts.

My best wishes go to our incoming treasurer,

BENEFICIARIES

ADHD Foundation
ANZ Gynaecological Oncology Group
Anzac Research Institute
Australian Rotary Health
Cancer Council (Shitbox Rally)
Homebush Boys High School
Meriden School
NSW Police Legacy
St Paul's Church Burwood
Strathfield Girls High School
The Leukaemia Foundation
The Rotary Foundation
Women and Girls Emergency Centre
Wounded Heroes
Zonta Club of Sydney West
Rotary Citizenship Awards, Interact,
MUNA, NYSF, RYPEN, RYLA

CLUB SUPPORTERS

Alvaro Bros
Ambassador Trophies
Clixpert
Concord Rotary
George Helou
Giammarco Civil and Structural Engineering
Janelle Watson
Joseph P. Saad and Co.
Kennards Hire
Kite Union
LinkVue Communications
Manenti Quinlan and Associates
Mr Computer Tutor
Nicholas and Helen Hamilton-Kane
Paul Anton
Premier Panel Beating
Richardson & Wrench Strathfield
Rick Vosila
Roy Ellis
Selectprint (NSW)
Strathfield Council
Strathfield Golf Club

ROD McDUGALL
CLUB TREASURER

Recognition of Service



Secretary's Report



When President Elect Nick asked if I would stay on in the role of secretary for 2023-2024, I replied Yes. I felt what I had learnt in my first year, was a good foundation for evolution and improvement.

I voiced my opinion to President Nick on how we needed to better brand our club and market it better to all the businesses in our area. Without hesitation he made the brand ambassador for the club. I made my plans and had an allowance for my off time from my hand surgery to be productive. What I did not predict, was how out of action my cast and recovery process would make me.

In the end with director Thomas's knowledge and help, I was able to create the first brand cog to promote the club. Using the photographs I generate from our meetings and events, I started creating stand alone videos (with music) base on powerpoint presentation. The concept is when we approach a new member, speaker or sponsor, we have something pleasurable to view and hopefully impress them. These videos are passed on to Thomas D'Souza and Raymond McCluskie, who put them on our YouTube channel, website and Facebook page.

After a few months things started to return to normal and the events returned with a vengeance. It has been my pleasure to work closely with Thomas D'Souza on the Police Officers Of The Year (POOTY) Awards and I look forward to improving my spreadsheet guide from what Thomas and I learned from this years' POOTY. The spreadsheet started off as a Gantt chart to help future POOTY chairperson manage the event. It has become apparent to us, it needs expansion such as to include a Gantt chart for the police liaisons with useful tips.

To all the board members I would like to thank them for their help and assistance. Special thanks to past secretary Dimitry Chugg-Palmer who stood in for me at the AGM, while I was recovering from surgery.



STEVEN ARGYRIS
SECRETARY



Rotary Calendar 2023-2024



Date	Speaker / Event
Wed, 5 July 2023	Club Assesembly
Wed, 12 July 2023	State of Origin, No Meeting
Wed, 19 July 2023	Dr Joanneke Maizt and Dr. Anthony Cutrupi - Concord Burns Unit
Sun, 23 July 2023	Community event - BBQ for Strathfield Walk and Talk
Wed, 26 July 2023	Mathew Elias - Life talk
Sun, 30 July 2023	Community event - BBQ for National Tree Day with Strathfield Council
Wed, 2 August 2023	Michelle Davies, Principal Chalmers Road - Presentation of donation from Rick Vosila's charity run
Wed, 9 August 2023	Rowann O'Mullane, CEO of Strathfield Private Hospital
Wed, 16 August 2023	FIFA WWC 2023 Semi Final Australia v England - No meeting
Wed, 23 August 2023	Restaurant night - Quatre Cafe
Wed, 30 August 2023	Mayor of Strathfield Cr Karen Pensabene and GM of Strathfield Council Michael Mamo
Wed, 6 September 2023	District Governor Tonia Barnes and ADG Bharathi Rengarajan
Wed, 13 September 2023	Ying Ho - Life talk (Interviewed by Bradley Ayres)
Wed, 20 September 2023	Stuart Blundell and Allison Yee-Brogan - Inner West Neighbour Aid
Wed, 27 September 2023	Martin Thomas - Nuclear Power, Australia's Answer to Climate Change?
Wed, 4 October 2023	Sue Clark - District Community Services Chair (Dolly Parton Imagination Library)
Wed, 11 October 2023	Lisa Brown, Principal Meriden School - The Contribution of Sport to the Development of Women Leaders
Wed, 18 October 2023	Aruna Chandrala - Life talk
Sat, 21 October 2023	Community event - Great Aussie BBQ for new citizens
Tue, 24 October 2023	Train Ride for Polio - Presentation of donation at Strathfield Station
Wed, 25 October 2023	Keith Roffey - Rotary Foundation Chair
Wed, 1 November 2023	Paula Duncan - Actor, Australian Gynaecological Cancer Foundation
Wed, 8 November 2023	Victor Tagg - Life Education
Wed, 15 November 2023	Ann Shaddick and Ruth Bridger (Strathfield Croquet Club)
Wed, 22 November 2023	Fellowship night
Sat, 2 December 2023	Community event - Strathfield Carols in the Park
Wed, 6 December 2023	AGM
Sat, 9 December 2023	Christmas party
Wed, 13 December 2023	Xmas break
Wed, 17 January 2024	Croquet - cancelled due to bad weather
Wed, 24 January 2024	NSW Parliament House visit and lunch at Strangers Restaurant
Wed, 31 January 2024	Club Assembly
Wed, 7 February 2024	Simon Cowie, General Manager Heart Foundation
Wed, 14 February 2024	Laura Jamieson - History of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra
Wed, 21 February 2024	Croquet - cancelled due to bad weather
Wed, 28 February 2024	Peter Phillips, Musicologist - Reproducing piano rolls
Wed, 6 March 2024	International Womens Day Celebration
Fri-Sun, 8-10 March 2024	District Conference
Wed, 20 March 2024	Cathy and Les Milgate - Foster parenting
Wed, 3 April 2024	Phil Crosby - Chief Engineer - Radio 2RDJ - Our Story
Wed, 17 April 2024	Members and guests cocktail night - cancelled
Wed, 24 April 2024	Transfer (ANZAC Day) - No meeting
Thu, 25 April 2024	ANZAC Day Breakfast - Wounded Heroes
Wed, 1 May 2024	Patric Jansson - Reclaim Your Health: Exploring the Impact of Stress on Health and Disease
Wed, 8 May 2024	Ottaviano Bonaccorsi - S***box rally
Wed, 15 May 2024	Youth Awards for 2023/2024 year
Wed, 22 May 2024	Dympna Brbich - Chair ADHD Foundation
Wed, 29 May 2024	Dr Andre Safvat - Plastic surgeon
Wed, 5 June 2024	State of Origin - No meeting
Thu, 13 June 2024	Police Officers of the Year Awards
Wed, 19 June 2024	Craig Legender - NDIS
Wed, 26 June 2024	State of Origin - No meeting
Fri, 28 June 2024	Club Changeover

BRADLEY AYRES
EVENT CO-ORDINATOR

Paul Harris Fellows



Warrent Abbott
Ian Albertson
Domenico Alvaro
Georgia Anton
Andrew Aravanis
Bradley Ayres
Janice Barrett
Kevin Beltrame
Bill Boyce
Joan Brown
Ross Brown AM
Keith Byrn
James Collins OAM
David Croft AM
Arthur Crossan
Michelle Davies
Shirley Del Prado
Max Douglas
Peter Douglas
Dr Trevor Duxbury
Roy Ellis
Peter Foss
Angelo Franco
Kevin Freund
Suzanne Freund
Connie Galletta
Dr Usha Garg
Paul Giammarco
Fred Haddon
George Hallworth
Christopher Haseldine
George Helou
Brian Hennell

Jennifer Hennell
Rick Herro
Trudy Ho
Richard Horwood
Bert Houston
Mary Ingall
Ted Ingall
Brian Johnson
Kamahl
Umesh Kamkolkar
Dr Eric Khu
Niall King OAM
Tony Lanzafame
Kevin Lawrenson
John Leftwich
John Manenti
Peter Manenti
David Martin
Raymond McCluskie
Maree McDougall
Rod McDougall
Maurice Moroney
Belinda Noonan
Arie Pappas
Allan Petersen
Andrew Petersen
Moiria Pieterse
Charles Pitt
Thaya Ponniah
Douglas Potter
Terry Rohan
Joseph Saad
Raymond Sherry

Guru Singh
Pallavi Sinha
Lesley Smallwood
Shane Smallwood
Peter Smith
Keith Stockall
Harley Tarrant
Megan Tarrant
Alan Taylor
Denise Taylor
Stephen Taylor
Allan Teale
Bob Templeman
Janel Templeman
Denise Thomas
Ron Thurgar
Sal Tosto
Grahame True
Penny True
Peter van der Sleen
Gulian Vaccari
Roger Vince
Chris Virgona
Rick Vosila
John Watkins
Euan Watson
Janelle Watson
Ray Wilson OAM
Tim Wynn Jones

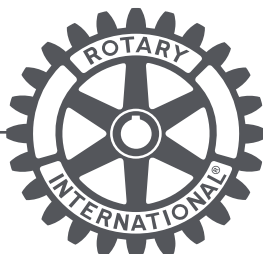


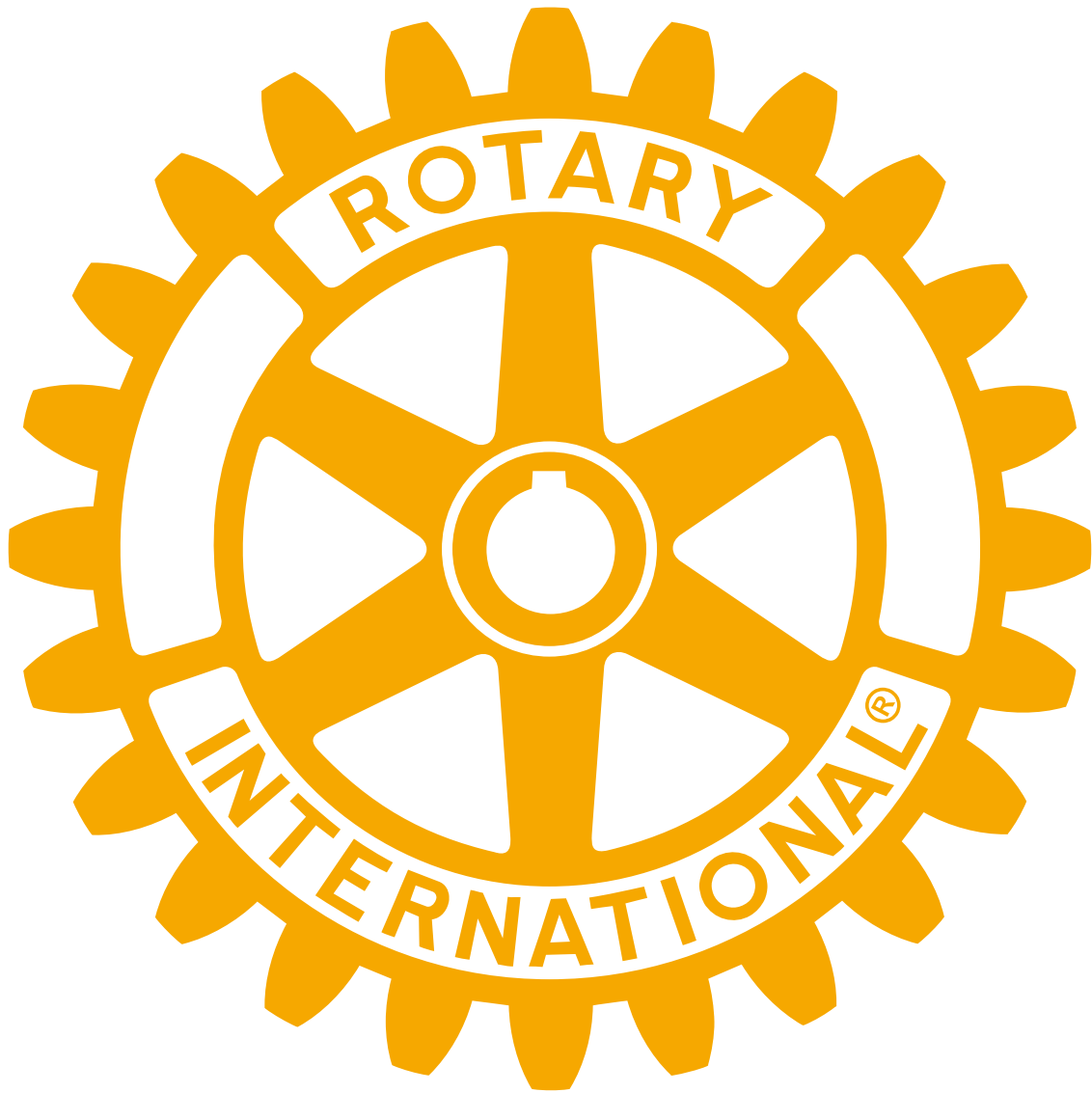
Rotary Club of Strathfield

Membership 2023-2024

Alvaro, Domenico	Building Construction	Li, Jason Yat-sen	Company Director
Anton, Paul	Property Management	Manenti, Peter	Hospitality Business Broker
Aravanis, Andrew	Insolvency Services	McCluskie, Raymond	Vocational Education
Argyris, Steven	Sales Engineer	McDougall, Rod	Information Technology
Ayres, Bradley	Electronic Manufacturing	Nair, Anoop	IT Professional
Bala OAM, A.	Medicine, Physician	Nicolas, Paula	Charity Organiser
Baladi, John-Paul	International Relations	Pappas, Arie	Real Estate Investor
Barrett, Janice	Special Education	Pitt, Charles	Accounting Services
Byrn, Keith	Motor Vehicle Repair	Ponniah, Thaya	Information Technology
Carney, William	Barrister	Prokopenko, Alexey	Information Technology
Challa, Jaya	Business Administration	Ratnam, Ranjan	Social Media Specialist
Chandrala, Aruna	Social Activist	Saad, Joe	Commercial Law
Chugg-Palmer, Dimitry	Government	Sinha, Prabhat	Medical Practitioner
Croft AM, David	Power Engineering	Teale, Allan	Tertiary Education
D'Souza, Thomas	Digital Marketing	True, Grahame	Electrical Contracting
Dunlop, Ed	NFP Management	Vaccari, Gulian	Pharmacy
Elias, Mathew	Dentist	van der Sleesen, Peter	Electronic Engineering
Ellis, Roy	Plastic Injection Moulding	Virgona, Chris	Real Estate Management
Garg, Usha	Safety Management	Vosila, Rick	Information Technology
Giammarco, Paolo	Development & Construction	Watson, Janelle	Library Administration
Giri, Kundan	Doctor	HONORARY MEMBERS:	
Hall, Nella	Legal Services	Brown AM, Ross*	
Hallworth, George*	Grocery Retailing	Crossan, Arthur*	
Hamilton-Kane, Nick	Financial Law	Freund, Suzanne	
Haseldine, Christopher	Solicitor	Galletta, Connie	
Helou, George	Food Wholesale Distribution	King OAM, Niall	
Ho, Ying	Musician	Leftwich, John	
Jain, Anjali	Dermatologist	Vince, Roger	
		Wilson OAM, Ray	

* PASSED AWAY DURING THE YEAR





Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc Rotary International District 9675

With thanks to our great contributors of this year's club changeover



Artwork: Alexey Prokopenko
Photography: Steven Argyris &
Bradley Ayres



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