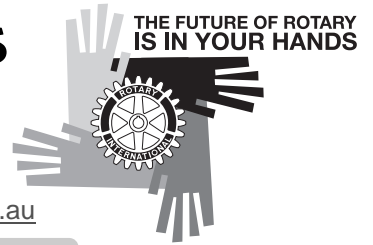


# Strathfield Rotary News



The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc.  
District 9690, New South Wales, Australia

President: Kevin Freund Website: [www.strathfieldrotary.org.au](http://www.strathfieldrotary.org.au)

## September is New Generations Month

### Kev's Conveyances

### Wednesday, September 2, 2009

The comprehensive presentation provided by Greg Rappo, last week, on the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Program (RYDA), illustrates the great work that Rotary can achieve. The program was established in 2001, when a group of Rotarians from the Hills District, shocked by the senseless loss of young lives in a horrendous car crash on Old Northern Road, set out to help avoid a repetition of this appalling accident in a practical way and establish a program that has now had over 100,000 students participating, in venues throughout Australia.

On Thursday evening I represented our club at an Australian Citizenship Ceremony, organized by Strathfield Council, where 120 new Australian Citizens swore an oath of allegiance to our nation and were presented with Citizenship Certificates by Mayor Keith Kwon. It was wonderful to witness the pride that our new citizens expressed in becoming Australians.

Saturday saw a great turn out by a group of Young Liberals, to assist Niall King and myself with gardening duties at the Study MS Centre in Lidcombe. Their enthusiasm and effort for labouring duties was commendable and very much appreciated by the residents and staff.

Then on a glorious Sunday afternoon, Steve and Denise Taylor, their son Adrian, Steve's sister Senya, Kevin Beltrame, Keith Stockall and I, joined with thousands of others in The Unity Walk

**This Week's Meeting**  
**Keith Roffey**  
 Assistant District Governor  
 Introduced by PP Angelo Franco Thanked by PP Doug Potter  
**Rotarian Revelations**  
**Suzanne Freund**

for Parkinson's around Sydney Olympic Park, which raised over \$100,000 for research. Many of the walkers then enjoyed a great afternoon of Rugby League in the ANZ Stadium. Which reminded me of a conversation I overheard between a Father and Son the previous weekend during the match between the Wallabies and the All Blacks when the young boy said "Dad, I now understand why they say this is the game they play in heaven?" "Really son?" enquired the father. "Yes, the game is dead and should be buried!"

Cheers, **President Kevin**

### Last Week's Presentation by Ian Johnson

#### RYDA

Our guest speaker was Greg Rappo the Director of Program Development for RYDA. Kevin Beltrame introduced Greg.

Greg advised us that like many Rotary programs RYDA had a modest beginning. A local club identified the number of young people being killed on the roads as an issue and asked what can Rotary do about it. The result is the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program.

Young people aged 17 to 25 constitute 15% of the population, however, this group are over-represented in road accidents accounting for 25% of them. Some of the reasons for this are:

- ◆ over confidence and risk taking
- ◆ driver inexperience
- ◆ having friends as passengers
- ◆ alcohol, drugs and busy lifestyles
- ◆ a brain not fully developed.

RYDA is run with expert input from road safety bodies such as the RTA, education departments and the police. The result is a successful program which has been running for more than nine years.

The format employed by the program is a one day school excursion at an off-site venue for Year 11 students. The students are split into groups of 25 to 30 students so



President Kevin with Judy Kell and Greg Rappo

that the sessions can be interactive.

The topics covered include:

- ◆ Safe celebrating and fatigue
- ◆ Stopping distances
- ◆ Hazard perception
- ◆ Financial responsibilities
- ◆ Making a choice - police session
- ◆ Personal stories of accident survivors who tell of the consequences to them, their families and the wider community, of their poor choices.

Greg advised us that the practical demonstration of stopping distances was an important part of the program. The demonstration of the law of physics that in doubling the speed of a motor vehicle you quadruple the stopping distance has a significant impact on participants.

When being split into groups students are given a coloured wristband to identify their group. Each wristband has written on it "My

life- My choices". The aim of the program is to influence the attitudes and awareness of participants so that it is more likely that they will make good choices when driving, or when being driven in, a motor car.

Students are encouraged to visit the RYDA web site and the relevant address is also set out on the wristbands. This has proven to be much more effective than using handouts which were often discarded soon after receipt.

Each participant pays \$15 towards the cost of running the program. Contributions from Rotary and sponsorship meet the shortfall. BOC has been the major sponsor for four years and has recently renewed their sponsorship for another four years.

Greg advised us that RYDA Australia Limited is a not for profit company set up to ensure the relevance, currency and consistency of the program nationally. It is a professionally managed organisation that can meet with relevant government ministers and foster the development of the program at the highest levels.

Greg stressed the critical role of Rotary clubs in providing local school contacts, community credibility and volunteers to assist with the running of the program.

Greg stated that RYDA was very good for young people and very good for Rotary. In conclusion he noted that "Youth are our future, our inspiration, our responsibility". Greg was thanked by PP Doug Potter.

## Last Week's Proceedings Recorded by Roger Vince

### From President Kevin

Requested members to support the District Governor's visit on 16<sup>th</sup> September and the Strathfield Spring Fair on 27<sup>th</sup> September and please fill in the commitment sheets being circulated to indicate if they will be attending these special events.

Indicated brochures are available from the Burwood Rotaract Club for the Mental Health Forum for young people to be held on Tuesday evening 8<sup>th</sup> September at the Burwood RSL Club. There will be a number of speakers on mental health and attendance is free.

Encouraged members to fill in the survey they recently received in the mail and to please return them to the Club by 4<sup>th</sup> September. This is a very important survey and will help to make decisions on the future direction of the Rotary Club of Strathfield. (See panel below.)

Advised District Directories are now available.

### From PP Raymond McCluskie

Has been asked by the Strathfield School for Seniors to help with recruiting volunteers to help with computer tuition for 2 hours on Fridays in 2010. The School for Seniors works within school term times. For anybody who has ever had a desire to teach now is the time to put that ambition to work! They are a friendly bunch of people who have a thirst to learn and will listen to you, although it is a real challenge to get a message across. Please speak to Raymond if interested in this rewarding honorary position.

### From PP Steve Taylor

Mentioned the first fellowship evening

for this Rotary year to be held at the *Golden Coronet Chinese Restaurant*, Corner Liverpool Road and Homebush Road on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. (Full details in the Bulletin, see p.3)

Reminded members to support the Unity Walk in aid of Parkinson's Research on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 12 noon at the Sydney Olympic Park, either by walking or sponsoring somebody. The cost of the walk is \$20 and this includes admission to see the Bulldogs play the NZ Warriors later in the Stadium. (See p.4)

### From Youth Chairman

#### Kevin Beltrame

Announced that our Interact Club at Meriden is holding a seminar with several other Interact Clubs from District 9690 and District 9750 tomorrow at Meriden. The forum has been totally driven by the girls in our Interact Club. (AI report on the forum is included in this Bulletin, see p.4)

Requested on behalf of our RYPEN Chairman, Janelle Watson, for members to fill in the commitment sheet to take our candidates to Springwood on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Drivers would need to leave the local schools by 10am. Janelle has indicated she is still short of drivers and escorts and has requested any member who can help to please get in touch with her.

### From Niall King

Reminded members of the working bee at the MS centre garden at Lidcombe on Saturday morning August 29<sup>th</sup> and asked for volunteers to contact him.

### From Ray Wilson

Advised members of a golf day on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 11.30am for 12noon start. Ray announced this day would be the first

training session for the District Championship!

### From Bradley Ayres

As a follow up to last week's meeting he advised he had received an email from Gabriele Correy, the Literature Extension Co-ordinator at Strathfield Girls High School, to say the girls had picked the winning book, *Tales From Outer Suburbia* by Shaun Tan. This book was also the winner of the older readers section announced by The Australian Book Council last week.

### From PP Peter Foss

Spoke on behalf of the President of Breakfast Point Rotary Club to announce they are holding an Art Show on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30pm to 9.30pm. Cost is \$25 per head for drinks and nibbles on Friday evening and then \$5 per head on Saturday from 10am until 4pm, entry ticket includes a catalogue. The Art Show is to be held at the Breakfast Point Country Club. A raffle will be held in conjunction with the Art Show. (See p.4)

### From PP George Hallworth

Advised he had been in touch with John Watkins who has been very ill but is now in remission. George enjoyed a cup of coffee with John in Homebush recently and he said he was very much looking forward to coming back to meetings. John who is a long time member of our Club would enjoy a cup of coffee with any member who can spare the time.

### From Neil Kennan

Indicated that Doug Potter has been able to entice two 'celebrity speakers', Kamahl and Steve Leibmann, to visit the Club as Guest Speakers at Partners nights before Christmas.

Save the whales. Collect the whole set!  
A day without sunshine is like, night.

Honk if you love peace and quiet.  
Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow.

The early bird may get the worm, but the  
second mouse gets the cheese.

## Congratulations

### Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> September **Terry Rohan**  
**Trevor Duxbury**  
4<sup>th</sup> September **Margaret Croft**  
5<sup>th</sup> September **Janelle Watson**

### Wedding Anniversaries

7<sup>th</sup> September **Peter and Jan van der Sleen**

### Rotary Anniversaries

4<sup>th</sup> September **Kevin Beltrame**  
5<sup>th</sup> September **Domenico Alvaro**

## A Final Reminder

# What are Rotarians really thinking?



Have you received your copy of the survey questionnaire posted to all members last week? Hopefully you have completed it and returned it using the reply paid envelope. Note that the survey may be completed anonymously and there is no need to include your name and address on the reverse side of the reply paid envelope.

If you have not received the form, you may request a copy from Peter Smith or Ray Wilson – or you may download one from our website at

[www.strathfieldrotary.org.au/survey.pdf](http://www.strathfieldrotary.org.au/survey.pdf)

**The completed document should be posted to Membership Survey PO Box 268 Strathfield NSW 2135 by 4 September.**

President Kevin and the board are very interested in hearing your suggestions, so please take the time to complete and return the form.

## Dates for Your Diary

For catering purposes, please remember to send apologies or details of extra attendees by  
4.00pm Tuesdays to Eric Khu 9746 0397

email: [brontin@bigpond.com](mailto:brontin@bigpond.com)

Late apologies by 5.00pm Wednesdays to Kevin Freund 0412 494 125

### 3<sup>rd</sup> September (Thursday)

#### *Tagalong Outback Experience 2009*

Inverell Rotary Club 14 day Caravan Tour. \$1,000 per vehicle plus \$20pp for evening meals. \$30 subsidy for non-vanners. Phone 02 6722 4488 or Mobile 0428 221004

### 9<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)

#### *Raising Positive Kids in a Negative World: Challenges for Schools and Parents*

Dr Julie Greenhalgh  
Principal of Meriden

Introduced by Bradley Ayres Thanked by Roger Vince

### 16<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday) [Partners Night]

#### *Visit by District Governor Paul Reid*

Introduced by Harley Tarrant Thanked by David Croft

### 23<sup>rd</sup> September (Wednesday)

#### *Presentation by 2008-9 outbound GSE Team*

Introduced by Sal Tosto Thanked by Janelle Watson

### 27<sup>th</sup> September (Sunday)

#### *Strathfield Spring Fair*

### 30<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)

#### *From the Desert to the Beach, All in the Name of Education*

Erin Greenhalgh

Introduced by Peter Manenti Thanked by Les Hockley

### 14<sup>th</sup> October (Wednesday)

#### *Travelling the Silk Road*

Brian Lawrenson

Past President

Breakfast Point Rotary Club

### 28<sup>th</sup> October (Wednesday) [Partners Night]

#### *Pride of Workmanship Awards*

### 10<sup>th</sup> November (Tuesday)

#### *District Golf Day*

### 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010 (Thursday)

Transfer meeting from 17<sup>th</sup> February

#### *Trish MS Research Foundation Golf Day*

### 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March 2010

#### *District 9690 Conference*

#### *Forster NSW*

The Rotary Club of Strathfield meets every Wednesday evening at Strathfield Golf Club, Centenary Drive, Strathfield.  
Visitors welcome

## Fellowship Event

### *Organized by Steve Taylor*

Hi fellows

Our first restaurant night out will be at  
**The Golden Coronet Chinese Restaurant**  
(We went there last year and it was great!)

268 Homebush Rd, Strathfield  
(Cnr Hume Highway)

When: **Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Time: **6.30pm for 7.00pm**

Cost: Between **\$35.00 and \$40.00**  
**for a banquet**

(drinks extra or BYO)

Commitment sheet available Wednesday at  
the club

## Rotary Grace

O, Lord and giver of all good,  
We thank you for our daily food,  
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways  
Help us to serve you all our days.

## Rotary News

*by Harley Tarrant*

### Every Rotarian an Example to Youth

In the Rotary calendar September is New Generations Month (formerly known as Youth Activities Month) when clubs are asked to give special attention to programs for youth and young adults. Australian clubs have always had a strong focus on youth and have participated strongly in programs such as **Youth Exchange**, **Rotaract**, **Interact** and **Scholarship** programs.

The RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program was initiated in Brisbane in the 1960s and was adopted as an official program of Rotary International. RYPEN (Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment) began in D-9710 (Canberra and Southern NSW) in the early 1980s and has been adopted by most districts in Australia and New Zealand. MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) was developed in Parkes and has also spread throughout the region and has been featured in a Rotary International Convention. RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness), started in northern Sydney, and is one of the more recent youth initiatives that has become an important program in most parts of Australia.

There are other programs such as ROMAC (Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children) that have a special emphasis on service to younger generations and each district and many clubs have their own special programs. Our own club has its Youth Awards program that it runs in conjunction with Strathfield Council.

From an individual Rotarian's point of view, the emphasis is on providing an example to which young people can aspire.

## More Rotary News

from Roger Vince, Interact Chairman D9690

### Interact Forum held at Meriden School 27<sup>th</sup> August 2009

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2009 the girls of the Interact Club at Meriden School, Strathfield, hosted Interactors from Caringbah High School and Granville Boys' High School to an Interact Forum with fellowship and lunch, a guest speaker and discussion on fund raising and other Interact ideas. Granville Boys' High is the newest Interact Club in District 9690 and was a direct result of the attendance of several of the boys at the RYPEN camp held at Springwood in May 2009. They were so impressed with the enthusiasm of the Meriden Interact girls who attended RYPEN that they approached Granville Rotary Club to form their own Interact Club. John Cory from the Rotary Club of Granville, who also attended the Meriden Forum, has been their mentor to help form the new Club. Fourteen enthusiastic boys travelled by train from Granville with their Co-ordinator Mr Owen Egan to attend the Forum. Also in attendance were four more enthusiastic Interactors from Caringbah High School who came with their Co-ordinator Ms Linda Brandt. The forum was organised by the executive of the Meriden Interact Club under the capable leadership of their President, Clarissa Fasanella, their Meriden Interact Co-ordinator, Ms Tanya Naticchia, and twenty enthusiastic Meriden Interactors. Rotary was also represented by Kevin Beltrame and Roger Vince from the Rotary Club of Strathfield, the sponsoring Club for the Meriden Interact Club, and special Guest Speaker, PDG Lloyd Roever, from the Rotary Club of Burwood. Apologies were received from several other invited Interact Clubs from D9690 and D9750.

PDG Lloyd gave an inspirational talk on his role in the Polio Plus campaign and his visit to India earlier this year with an international group, which included two Interactors from Jamaica. He also spoke of the leadership benefits of being an Interactor and of his own personal experience of leadership activities with young people. After a delicious lunch the Interactors let off steam on the School oval playing touch football and then returned to a discussion about increasing Interact status in schools and developing a means of communicating with each other to share fund raising ideas. A bonus for PDG Lloyd was a donation of \$60 from the Interactors to add to the Polio Plus campaign. From the enthusiasm generated from the Forum it was voted a great success and was a tribute to the organisational skills of the Meriden Interactors and all who attended.



## The Last Laugh



### An Engineer in Hell?

An engineer died and ended up in Hell. He was not pleased with the level of comfort in Hell and began to redesign and build improvements. After a while they had toilets that flushed, air conditioning, and escalators. Everyone grew fond of him.

One day God called Satan to mock him, "So, how's it going down there in Hell?"

Satan replied, "Hey, things are great. We've got air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators, and there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."

God was surprised, "What? You've got an engineer? That's a mistake. He should never have gone down there in the first place. Send him up here."

"No way," replied Satan. "I like having an engineer and I'm keeping him."

God threatened, "Send him up here now or I'll sue!"

Satan laughed and answered, "Yeah right. And just where are you going to get a lawyer?"

### Unity Walk

On Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon the 4km Unity Walk in aid of Parkinson's Disease research took place around Sydney Olympic Park. The walk raised over \$100,000 for Parkinson's research with numbers up 60% on the first walk, held last year.



The photo is of President Kevin, PP Keith, Denise Taylor, Adrian Taylor, Senya Parker (Steve's sister) and PP Steve. Missing from the photo is Kevin Beltrame who also walked, but was too quick for us.

PP Steve would like to thank Kevin, Keith and Kevin for their time and their donation to the cause of fighting this disease.

### Breakfast Point Rotary Art Show

Open from 10am till 4.30 pm on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> September, in the Breakfast Point Country Club . Admission plus catalogue \$5.

#### Last Meeting's Statistics

**Attendance: 32**  
Visiting Rotarians: 3  
Judy Kell (Central Blue Mountains)  
Greg Rappo (St. Ives) Guest Speaker  
Apologies: 15  
Non-Apologies: 10

**The Sergeants raised \$106.60**

**Raffle raised \$195.00**

#### Winners

Kevin Beltrame  
Roger Vince  
Peter Smith  
Les Hockley

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