



Community Networker

Rotary Club of Parramatta City, District 9675
www.parramattacityrotary.org.au
Meeting 12/2015, 11th May 2015

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Clubs of Nepal who will certainly have been called out to assist in their country ravaged by earthquakes.

Police Officer of the Year

John Stamboulie reminded the club of the Police Officer of the Year Award at the Oatlands Golf Club on May 25.

Christmas Trees

President Ron said that our venue for selling Christmas trees for the last 30 years, Dick Smith's home at Cherrybrook, was unlikely to be available this year, given that Dick is selling up and moving. The new owners might give us permission to use their space but we could hardly rely on that for planning. PP Keith said a woman further down Glenhope Road might make her space available. John Surian said that because of the long association we had with Christmas trees and that area, it was important that we stay there.

John Surian said it was possible we could use a public space on Castle Hill Road to sell Christmas trees, and possibly liaise with Baulkham Hills Council to have a multi-purpose community shed built there that we could use at Christmas time. Steve Burfield said it was possible we could use an area outside the Koala Park for selling trees. Secretary Joy said that might be a good idea because there was nothing much to see inside the park. Steve said it was also possible that we could use the grounds of St Matthews Anglican Church in New Line Road.

The Rotary Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test challenges

Rotarians, in everything they do, to ask themselves:

Of the things we say or do:

1

Is it the **TRUTH**?

2

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

3

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

4

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Malcolm's Choral Tour

Right: Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque



PE Malcolm gave a talk on his tour with the Sydney Welsh Choir that took him to Ireland, Wales and England in September/October last year. He spoke of his stopover at Abu Dhabi and visit to Dubai, areas that were just desert populated by nomads not so long ago but which have been transformed by the discovery of oil. The areas were drooping with wealth but Malcolm thought that in their investment in exotic tourist infrastructure, such as replication of the world's famous buildings, the world's tallest building and depiction of the world's geography in sand islands, there seemed to be an air of desperation in preparing for a time when the oil was no more. But while it was there it was good, with the opportunity to visit and even worship in the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, a building housing the world's largest carpet, put up at the cost of \$US6 billion. Malcolm said he had a long-standing belief that religious extremism could be linked to extreme poverty, and that in Abu Dhabi there was religious tolerance and there was even a synagogue.

Malcolm's Choral Tour (part 2)

Malcolm said that in Dublin, time appeared to stay still, with the bullet holes left after the 1916 uprising still visible in the post office and a statue still standing without an arm, the arm having been blown off courtesy of the British artillery which had been deployed to help put down the uprising. There were also some treasures, such as the Book of Kells, one of the oldest books still in existence, a bible which had been carefully produced by monks and transported in a gold case. The book and gold case in historical times had been stolen, the gold taken and the book deposited in a bog, where it was subsequently recovered.

The British who had oppressed Ireland for centuries had left a heavy stamp. Massive cathedrals in Dublin turned out to be protestant, even though more than 90 percent of Eire was Catholic. A ship remained on River Liffey that had been used to transport starving Irish during the Potato Famine of 1845-52 – a time when the English landlords were actually exporting food from the country.

There had been efforts to project Ireland into the modern era, including the “Celtic Tiger” period of 1995-2000, when there was huge investment, but that had petered out. The culture remained, and the choir sang a combined concert with the Dublin Welsh Male Voice Choir.

The Sydney Welsh Choir took a three-hour ferry trip from Wexford in Ireland to Fishguard in Wales and ended in Tenby, on the Welsh coast, a beautiful little town where time also stands still. Only one new building has been erected in the town in the last 10 years. The choir went over much of Wales including Laugharne on the coast, where the poet Dylan Thomas did his best work. The choir also sang at the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth, which had housed important documents removed from London during the Blitz. The building was not bombed by the Germans who valued it as a landmark during their bombing sorties on English cities such as Liverpool.

Malcolm's Choral Tour (part 3)



Above: Sydney Welsh Choir in castle

The tour went through pretty Welsh and English countryside, like the Cotswolds, through village, brooks and woods, though places like Bourton-on-the-Water, Stow-on-the Wold and Chipping Campden. There, the visitor might walk across a paddock with stone fences that had been unchanged in 400 years. The tour also went to cities, like Cheltenham and Swansea and to London and to Westminster Abbey. Malcolm expressed the feeling that here, at Westminster, with the Houses of Parliament and the Abbey, one had reached the centre of world civilisation. Whatever their failings, the British had exported governance, law, military arts, technology and culture which had benefited the world.

Gift of Life Gala Ball

Dear Ron and Joy,

It is with great pleasure that the Rotary Club of Strathfield announce the inaugural "Gift of Life Gala Ball" supporting Lymphoma Australia. The event is to be held at The Great Hall, Sydney University on Saturday 22nd August 2015. The purpose of this event is to raise funds and awareness of Lymphoma. The much needed funds raised will assist patients to have the best possible resources and treatment, whilst the ultimate goal is a cure!

The 2015-16 Rotary International theme is "Be a Gift to the World". As Rotarians, we are all being challenged to transform the lives of others using our collective skills, knowledge and expertise. We are being challenged to use these gifts to benefit each other and our communities. The "Gift of Life" theme was conceived to tie the Rotary International theme in with the need to save lives of people affected by lymphoma.

This will be an unforgettable evening with great food, drinks and entertainment in a magnificent venue. **Tickets are now available.** It would be great to see the Rotary Club of Parramatta City attend by booking a table and enjoying the fellowship of many other Rotarians.

Enquiries: Event\tickets\sponsorship please call Arie Pappas on **0417 700 717.**

Please feel free to distribute this email amongst your members and friends. We hope to see you there.

Kind Regards,

Arie Pappas
The Rotary Club of Strathfield

Dates for Diaries

15 May. Closing date for contributions to the ANZAC project of the Combined Rotary Clubs of Parramatta.

18 May. Club Lunch meeting. Speakers will be Ian and Jill Cochrane who will speak on the LAMB project and Livingston School in Bangladesh.

19 May. Board meeting.

24 May. The Parra-Amble t

25 May Police Officers' of the Year Award.

31 May. The Red Shield Appeal.

1 June. Kaheba Clement Honda, mental health professional and prospective member, will speak about life and conditions in the Congo.

15 June. Kylie Warry, communications specialist, speaker, author and trainer will address the club. She is the author of a book, *The Enlightened Communicator – Avoid the Common Communication Traps for Betty Connection at Work and Personally.*

28 June. District 9675 Changeover Luncheon, Campbelltown.

29 June. Our Changeover evening to welcome Malcolm as Club President. This will be at the Oatlands Golf Club, 6.30 for 7 pm. Entertainment will be provided by Ms Christine Beasley, former member of the Australian Opera, who has sung with Pavarotti.



OUR AMBASSADOR JONATHAN MANNAH WORKED TIRELESSLY TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR LYMPHOMA

DID YOU KNOW?

Lymphomas are a cancer of the cells of the immune system. There are 2 main types of lymphoma – Hodgkin (HL) and non-Hodgkin (NHL). The incidence of lymphomas has doubled in the last 20 years, making it one of the most rapidly increasing cancers in Australia.

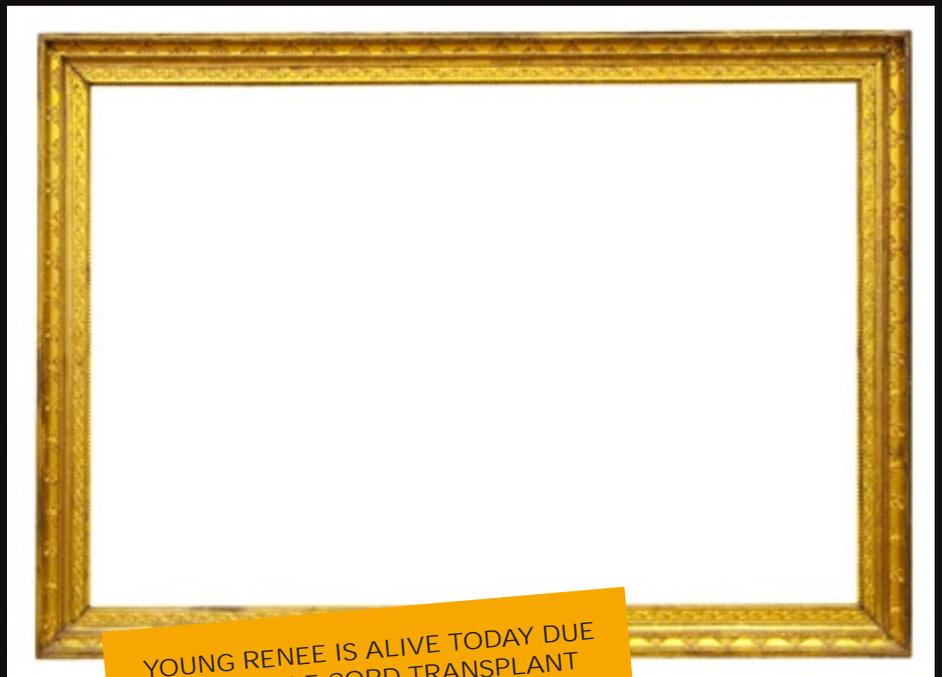
- In Australia, a person is diagnosed with lymphoma every two hours
- A life is lost to Lymphoma every six hours in Australia (Equal to skin cancer)
- Eighty per cent of Australians do not know the signs or symptoms of lymphoma

Despite these statistics, lymphomas are not treated as a significant health issue in Australia and public awareness of this cancer is low. A number of lymphomas can be cured and some incurable forms are slow growing giving the patient many years of life post their diagnosis

The Gift Of Life Gala Ball

The Gift of Life Gala Ball is an initiative of the Strathfield Rotary Club and Lymphoma Australia and will make a significant difference in raising community awareness for this cancer and the need for more Australians to join the bone marrow registry.

Whilst we cannot cure all lymphomas we can all contribute to raising awareness for this cancer to ensure Australians are diagnosed earlier. Some of us can even go one step further and join the bone marrow registry. Not all cures cost dollars – awareness, education and action can also make a world of difference.



YOUNG RENEE IS ALIVE TODAY DUE TO A DOUBLE CORD TRANSPLANT

Join us at the gift of life gala ball to help beat lymphoma