

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

www.parramattacityrotary.org.au

Rotary Four Way Test

The Four Way Test challenges Rotarians, in everything they do, to ask of 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?

Meeting 11 July 2016

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Independence, Missouri. Independence is the 4th largest city in Missouri and was named after the Declaration of Independence.

Northcott Visit Next Week

President Phillip reminded us that next week's meeting will be at Northcott Society. We will be visiting Transitioning to Work people from 11.30am. Sandwiches will be served from 12.30pm. Lunch will be charged as normal and we will donate any proceeds to Northcott.

General Business

President Phillip has received an email from Graham Cook, President of Parramatta Club, as he wants to meet up to discuss "Donate Life Week" from 31/7 to 07/08. Members agreed to get involved and we will put to Graham that they join us for lunch on 1 August.

Vocational Youth Awards are to be held at Arthur Phillip High School on Sunday 11 September. We have been asked to participate in the Awards ceremony. President Phillip to seek guidance as to what is required of the club.

It was discussed among members our involvement with the other Parramatta clubs and if we want to collaborate with them. President Phillip will discuss with the other clubs.

Our Guest Speaker

Dr Rinna Ly, President of Liverpool West Club presented the RAWCS Project, Australian Aid 4 Cambodia. He is a survivor of Khmer Rouge regime and now wants to assist fellow refugees in Cambodia.

Dr Ly has been in Australia for 37 years and came here with \$10 in his pocket. On his journey to Australia he faced many obstacles including mines and soldiers. He started to study his BSc and was working in Australia at the same time. He wants fellow Cambodians to have the best they can in life. Dr Ly's expertise is in child education and he has been teaching for nearly 20 years. Presently he is teaching language in primary school.

Dr Ly and his wife returned to Cambodia to find beggars on the street outside restaurants. When they returned to Australia they felt they had to do something. So they started the Australian Aid 4 Cambodia project. The organisation consists of teachers and friends. They aim to help Cambodians living in extreme poverty.

There are 3 centres in Cambodia now. The 3 schools are in Siem Reap, Prey Veng and Kandal. The organisation also provides assistance to the Floating School and the National Paediatric Hospital of Cambodia in Phnom Penh. The vision is that the younger generation will become educated, skilled and empowered leaders,



Initially the school had to move every 2 years as they couldn't afford a piece of land. Rotary has assisted in acquiring land for a school. Pgney Chey school currently has 40 to 50 students. The school feeds the children a rice based porridge and also feeds their families as they may not get another meal at home.

Dr Ly has taken desktop computers into the school and the children are also taught dancing and they give performances. The children are also taught English. The program has built

water wells and huts for the villagers. The children can go to school until they are 13. Thereafter they are sent out to earn money for the family.

The library in Prey Veng has no books so Australian Aid 4 Cambodia is assisting in providing books.

The current challenges for the organisation are as follows:

- Teacher's wages, school equipment and utilities are funded by teachers, retired people in Australia, collections and an annual fund raiser night.
- The Cambodian government is widening the road in Siem Reap and has advised that the fence and workshop/classrooms need to be demolished. Australian Aid 4 Cambodia need \$1950 USD to help to rebuild the school.

Dr Ly is seeking donations to assist with school fees, feeding the children, a future mobile library and other future projects.

Bob Rosengreen thanked Dr Ly for his wonderful presentation and praised him for his thinking towards the future rather than dwelling on the past.

A Note from the Treasurer

Half yearly dues are now payable. Invoices were sent on 30 June. Payment can be made to Club bank account BSB 032078 A/C No 790950 or at a regular meeting.

For Your Diaries

18 July. Regular club meeting at Northcott, 1 Fennell St, North Parramatta

19 July. Board Meeting 4.30pm Aust Rotary Health office – *note correction from date shown in last week's bulletin*

25 July. Regular club meeting

1 August. Regular club meeting.

7 August. Bunnings Barbecue North Parramatta. – please reply to Ben Jackson's email