

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 8th August 2016

Our Guest

Terry Davies, manager for Australian Rotary Health. He said the ARH was to conduct an outback caravan through New South Wales and Queensland promoting mental health in 2017.

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Rio de Janeiro. Rio, which is hosting the 2016 Olympic Games, won the right to host them in 2008, at a time when Brazil's economy was riding high. Since then the economic crisis had badly affected the country and it was persevering despite extreme difficulties. Brazil was a country with 200 million people but its economy had shrunk to about that of Australia, with per capita income contrasting very badly with that enjoyed by Australians. It might be noted in passing, he said, that Brazil ranked fifth in the world in terms of the number of billionaires.

President Phil

President Phil said he was soon to go on a cruise of the Mediterranean via Rome and Athens and after next week would be replaced for a time by president-elect Natalie,

He said that on 12 September, DG Stephen Humphreys and area coordinator Vera Liondis would be visiting the club.

The Australian Rotary Health Wine, Food and Music Race Day at the Hawkesbury racecourse would be on 9 October and it would be a good day out.

The District Conference would be held at the Novotel Wollongong from 10-12 March next year.

Donations in Kind

Johnny Ching said a client had offered him a stack of school uniforms from Hills Grammar which the club was welcome to take for donation overseas. He thought it appropriate that the uniforms should go to Uganda. John Totonjian said he could pick up the uniforms in his utility and PP Malcolm offered his home as a storage place till the clothing was ready to be shipped.

PP Malcolm said he would be attending the RAWCS DIK depot in Castle Hill on Saturday to pack a container with hospital beds for shipment overseas.

Dues

Treasurer Keith said there were still come club members who had not paid their semi-annual dues.

Fundraising

Bob Rosengreen said the Carlingford Rotary Club had Sunday markets at North Rock and that the condition for membership of the club, which had about 40 members, was that every member of the club had to undertake to be on a roster at the Sunday markets. He said that everyone who attended from the public had to pay a \$2 entry fee.

The RAWCS Eastern Region Meeting

PP Malcolm said he and PP Keith had attended the RAWCS meeting at Port Macquarie, which was most illuminating, chaired by Greg Moran from the Inverell Rotary Club.

The school project in Nepal

Kerry Wood took the attendees through the Rotary Foundation global grant process, by which an initial commitment by a club could be greatly enhanced, provided the club went through the process of detailing to the Rotary Foundation exactly what it was doing and what the needs were. Her district had started with \$20,000 for a project to install heated showers and sanitation at a school in Nepal and through the global grants process had raised more than \$70,000. But the Rotary Foundation had been insistent on knowing everything, including exactly how installing these facilities helped education, the cause under which the club was making the application.

Kerry said it was important for a club wanting to make contribution to liaise with the community first to determine exactly what its needs were, rather than deciding what was good for them. At the time the project was under consideration, Nepal had been hit by an earthquake and all the local Rotary club had been able to contribute was \$100. The lead Club had to make it very clear to RF that the project could be sustained and was sustainable. The Club had indicated that there was possibility of training locals and that a tea house and shower block could be construction for service to trekkers.

Publicity and Donations

Belinda Griffen, national administrator for RAWCS now had 418 projects on the go. There had been some publicity, including five of them on A Current Affair and one on 60 Minutes. There was an extensive social media network and people were able to donate on-line. The televised projects had tremendous impact and some people struggled with donating on-line. "We get a lot of phone calls from people who do not donate on-line," she said. "They ring up and we get people crying on the line.

Belinda said that presently she remitted probably 90 payments a week. There had to be attention to various details, such as the currency to be transferred and the recipient's details. But the virtue of the website was that the donor would be able to see everything that was happening with the project. RAWCS wanted everyone to donate through the website.

Evan Burrell, who conducts classes for Rotarians on using social media – the next one being at Parramatta in November – said people needed to be able to read what Rotarians did. “We need to look at facebook advertising,” he said. “Set a budget. Advertise something you do very well. I

Bev Stalling from the Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour told the conference about a children's centre in a very disadvantaged area outside Harare. The club had been involved since 2003 and over a three-year period had received grants totalling \$240,000. The results for the children were “absolutely fantastic - you can see the change, the confidence, the pride they have,” she said. They can now afford anti-retroviral drugs and school uniforms.

The Kokoda Hospital

Greg and Sue Moran spoke about a project at the northern end of the Kokoda Track where a hospital had been built in 1995. The initial grant had come from Prime Minister Paul Keating and AusAid. There had been extensions to the hospital but not a lot of maintenance. In 2011, Greg had taken a group of Rotarians to Kokoda. There was tremendous medical need in the province of 26,000 people, served by just 11 nurses. The hospital staff went to the outlying villages and took blood samples, in the long-standing campaign against tuberculosis and malaria.

In 2015, Greg's team had started a new project which included building a series of homes for nurses. In the next two years, another two nurses' homes would be built. Medical and educational and medical goods were dispatched from the New England area and from Queensland. New uniforms were distributed to the nurses and two or three encyclopaedias were sent to every school. Also sent were 40 sewing machines, about 50 bags of clothes, toys and other items. They took bedsheets from Macquarie Hospital and they took prefabricated concrete blocks on which to rest the containers.

Greg said that locals were trained in use of a generator that had been sent over, as well as welding and use of power tools. The nurses' homes were being renovated. “When we go back, we know they will still be there,” he said

Sue said that motherhood kits were sent to Kokoda each year. The women got free clothing for their children. A large number of sewing machines were sent. Money was raised to send the nurses off for extra training. Women were being trained in new skills, such as flower arranging, and through advances in gynaecological processes birth deaths were becoming far fewer. Successful moves had been made to making domestic violence illegal. “We are so proud they had the confidence to do that off their own bat,” Sue said.

ShelterBox

Greg said large white tents had been sent to disaster areas. The tents had the ability of withstanding winds of more than 100 kmh and they had lining which kept them warm inside even though there was snow outside. Thirty tents had been sent to Turkey after a huge earthquake there and people were looking to spending 12 to 18 months in them while the destroyed buildings were replaced. Shelter boxes had also been sent to Vanuatu after a cyclone.

The latest ShelterBox Australia newsletter is included below

ShelterBox Australia

eNewsletter August 2016

ShelterBox is proud to be a Project Partner of Rotary International



Past District Governor and ShelterBox Response Team volunteer, Greg Moran (seen here in the Philippines) epitomises the partnership between Rotary and ShelterBox

Welcome to the August 2016 eNewsletter for ShelterBox Australia

Rotary and **ShelterBox** recently renewed a three-year agreement to provide immediate, lifesaving assistance to survivors of natural disasters and conflict.

Rotary clubs worldwide have mobilized to provide immediate relief to thousands of displaced people quickly and efficiently with ShelterBox for 16 years. To date, Rotary members have donated US\$48 million to provide shelter for families in need – 40 percent of ShelterBox's total of US\$119.6 million raised.

“The partnership between Rotary and ShelterBox has provided a place of refuge to people facing some of the most difficult and uncertain moments in their lives,” said **John Hewko, General Secretary of Rotary**. *“We are happy to renew this project partnership and honor our ongoing commitment to taking action to help communities devastated by disasters and conflict.”*

Each ShelterBox container typically provides a tent designed to withstand extreme weather conditions, along with regionally-appropriate supplies such as a water purification kit, blankets, tools, solar lights, and other necessities to help a family survive for six months or more after a disaster.

As part of the communities they serve, Rotary clubs help ShelterBox identify and prioritize immediate relief needs in disaster-affected areas and assist with the deployment of shelter kits, education materials and lifesaving supplies. Rotary members also fund aid boxes, become trained relief volunteers, assist with shipping customs clearance and connect with governments and other organizations in impacted areas to facilitate the delivery of boxes and aid. **CEO of ShelterBox, Chris Warham** said, *“Rotary and ShelterBox will always stand side by side to help those less fortunate. This project partnership renewal simply indicates the strength of our long friendship, and recognizes the immense practical and funding support provided by Rotary members worldwide to enable us to reach out to families in distress.”*

This month's quote comes from Marcus Aurelius, *“You have power over your mind - not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength.”*

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries.

Many thanks for your support.

Mike

Mike Greenslade

General Manager

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DEPLOYMENTS



Sri Lanka - Floods/Landslides

Torrential rain over the Bay of Bengal in May caused heavy flooding and major landslides in Sri Lanka, displacing 1000's. Successive ShelterBox Response Teams have been working with **Rotary** and the Sri Lankan authorities to set up camps to house displaced families. **328 ShelterBoxes** have been sent to different camps and families are moving into their tents as soon as water and sanitation issues have been overcome.



Syria - Conflict

Increased fighting in and around Aleppo has only worsened conditions inside Syria and threatened the the vulnerable humanitarian corridor. ShelterBox continues to work with

NZ-based, **Relief Aid** to distribute **1500 summer shelter kits**. Distribution of **750 UN spec tents** continues with **Hand in Hand For Syria**, as plans are developed for winter tent & Non-Food Item (NFI) kits for distribution in early (Northern) autumn.

You can help by donating to our [Syria Refugee Appeal](#)



Cameroon/Niger - Conflict

Boko Haram extremists have forced thousands to flee Northern Nigeria to neighbouring Cameroon and Niger. ShelterBox has been working **Plan International** and **IEADA Relief** to help those fleeing the violence. So far, over **3,200 families**

have been helped with the provision of ShelterBoxes, relief tents, solar lights and other non food items, including Classrooms in a Box. The response is ongoing, as the situation persists.

FUNDRAISING



Peter Pearce, OAM

ShelterBox Australia Ambassador and Rotarian, Peter Pearce was recently awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the Queen's birthday honours list. Peter, from Terrigal on the NSW Central Coast has been a ShelterBox stalwart since 2006. As a Response Team member, **Peter deployed 20 times** to disasters all over the globe. As a result of one deployment to **Madagascar**,

Peter initiated a project with his **Rotary Club** in **North Gosford** to send much needed aid including wheelchairs and medical equipment to African island nation.

Peter was given his award for humanitarian services and we are proud that his efforts have been officially recognised. **Congratulations Peter!**



good2give - Workplace giving

ShelterBox Australia has been accepted by good2give, Australia's leading payroll-giving organisation. Good2give make it easy for businesses and individuals to support the charity of their choice. Ask at your workplace or visit: <https://good2give.ngo/> to find out more. Many employers (60% of those registered) will match your gift and double the impact you have on families in need.

Have you held a successful fundraising event or are you planning one? Please send me the details, including images, for inclusion in the next newsletter and promotion on the ShelterBox Australia Blog at:

mike.greenslade@shelterbox.org.au

Support the 'ShelterBox Solution' and help families who have lost everything to disaster. Please

DONATE NOW

All donations above \$2 are fully tax-deductable



ShelterBox Australia, PO Box 254, Parramatta, NSW, 2124 Tel: 1300 996 038

RAWCS Eastern Region Meeting (cont'd)

Pink Umbrella Awards

Six Pink Umbrella Awards, each worth \$1,000, are given at each Eastern region meeting to a RAWCS project. There must be a representative of the club in attendance. At this meeting, the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie got an award for work it had done in training doctors in prolapse surgery in Nepal. The Rotary Club of Liverpool Greenway got its award for a project to provide a library and teaching facilities for 1,000 children in the Philippines. The Rotary Club of Maitland Sunrise got its award for providing operating toilet and washroom facilities for a school in Vanuatu. The Rotary Club of Kogarah got an award for its Days for Girls work in Nepal. District 9650 was on the list for the work it had done on its Kokoda hospital project. The Rotary Club of Gosford North also made the list, for delivering shelter boxes to Madagascar.(see article on Peter Pearce OAM above)

For Your Diaries

15 August. Regular club meeting

20 August. FOLIA dinner at St Stephens Normanhurst.

22 August. Regular club meeting

29 August. Regular club meeting

5 September. Regular club meeting

12 September. Regular club meeting. To be attended by DG Stephen Humphreys and area coordinator Vera Liondis.

9 October. ARH Wine, Food and Music Race Day at Hawkesbury.