

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?

Club Meeting 19th September 2016

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Bonn., Germany, which is the headquarters of the Paralympic Federation. He said the message of the Paralympians, expressed so well in the "Yes I Can" ad that preceded the last games, was particularly important in a world where the population was ageing and many more in the general population would suffer physical disabilities. It had wider application in a world where the internet was eliminating so many jobs. Bob presented the club with some detailed information in Paralympians, how they were classified and the rules for competition, and made the interesting observation that some of the sight-impaired swimmers had done better times than their unhandicapped counterparts in the Olympics.

Our Guest

Our guest today was Praboda Geengangae, Sri Lankan-born, a banker by profession, who came to Australia a month ago, has settled in Parramatta and plans to spend the rest of his life here. He recently married and is to bring out his bride who is still in Sri Lanka. Praboda aged 36, who was recently working in commercial banking in Doha in the Middle East, and worked for three months in Australia in 2012, said he had belonged to a Lions Club in Sri Lanka and is keen to join Rotary because he wants to learn more about the Australian culture and language. He is yet to find a job.



Praboda

Northcott - a not-for-profit disability service provider

John Surian, who is a board member of the Northcott organisation, which has an annual budget of \$45 million to \$50 million, said a new funding model (National Disability Insurance Scheme) was being applied, where a certain amount of money was allocated to a client in accordance with their assessed needs and the client then had the duty of administering that money. It was yet to be determined whether the model would work.

Huntington's Disease

John Surian said he had a personal connection with the debilitating condition, which had afflicted his brother-in-law, David Sharp, who had started developing the symptoms while a forensic accountant. The stress of David's occupation might have triggered the onset of the disease. David, now 60, was now obliged to walk using poles. John said he and others had spent some time raising money for research into the disease.

The Concert

PP Malcolm told the committee meeting on Tuesday he would make inquiries about the feasibility of staging another concert by the Sydney Welsh Choir in Parramatta next year, keeping in mind that the normal gap between that choir's visits to an area was two years. But Parramatta was a big place and he thought perhaps St John's Cathedral could be a venue.

Holroyd Rotary Community Chest Raffle

PE Natalie Cowell said the club needed someone to coordinate the Community Chest Raffle for our club. The raffle, which was instigated by the Rotary Club of Holroyd, was designed to raise money for Rotary and other charitable causes. It had been coordinated for several years by Ben Jackson but Ben was now on the verge of resigning and joining another Rotary Club.

Pride of Workmanship

PE Natalie said she and John Stamboulie were about to "walk the streets of Parramatta" to promote the event, which will be held on October 31 at Oatlands Golf Club. Nominations are required. All members should be on the lookout for prospective nominees.

Club Funds

PP Keith Henning said there was money in all our accounts and all outstanding subscriptions and debts had been paid. At 31st August there was \$4,338 in our fundraising accounts and our general account had \$7,741.

The Uniting Care Conference

PE Natalie, PP Malcolm and his wife, Inge, attending a Uniting Care conference in North Parramatta where Ben Jackson, in his capacity as a social work executive, posed questions to a group, including handicapped people and their carers. The main question was what would make a better society and several spoke up that there should be more tolerance and understanding of those who suffered from a disability. Natalie thought Rotary might be able to play a role in several ways, one by inviting carers to Rotary as respite for them and to put them in touch with other helping services. One of the thoughts expressed by a carer was that the carers and their charges should be able to have a picnic

or barbecue from time to time to get a breath of fresh air and Natalie suggested that Rotary could play a hand in that.

The School Uniforms

Bob Rosengreen said another working bee was needed at the DIK depot in Castle Hill to sort through the school uniforms which were to be dispatched overseas. He would make inquiries as to when the facility would be open again.

Christmas Trees

Bob Rosengreen said details of Christmas tree sales from a site on Castle Hill Road were still to be finalised. There was a question as to the security of the trees when the site was unattended. He would wait till President Phil returned from his holiday in mid-October to finalise matters.

Goals

PP Keith raised the point that the club should be able to set some goals and to have some direction. He said that meeting without guest speakers were a bit of a drain on him and there needed to be stronger direction and support for the club. Bob Rosengreen said one resource for speakers was other clubs, who could send someone to our club. In exchange, we should send out members to speak at other clubs.

For Your Diaries

26 September. Club meeting – Speaker is the Club's Indigenous Health Scholar - Taylor-Jai McAlister

26 September. Beginning of the Transplant Games which will be centred in Martin Place, Sydney. The games run till 1 October.

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

10 October. Hat Day for our club.

30 October. Triathlon Pink BBQ, Parramatta Park

31 October. Rotary Pride of Workmanship Awards night, Oatlands Golf Club

4 November. Police Officer of the Year Awards in Sydney.

18 November. D9675 Presidents Meeting

28 November. Million Dollar Dinner at the Epping Club

8 December. Australian Rotary Health Christmas Dinner, Epping Club

10 March 2017. District Conference at Wollongong