

## COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 4/2017

### ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

[www.parramattacityrotary.org.au](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017*

#### Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Jakarta. It was important for us to realise, he said, that the world's second-largest democracy and largest Muslim nation, with 260 million people and growing, was right on our doorstep. It had been through a fairly traumatic period. It had been through the anti-communist campaign in the mid-sixties when at least 500,000 died and up to three million on some estimates. It was also on the Pacific Rim of Fire which meant that it had 150 active volcanoes and its history had been punctuated by some massive volcanic eruptions. Rotary began in Indonesia in 1927 and closed down in 1942 because of the war. It resumed in 1946 and closed again in 1966 when Sukarno was in power. But it was going again and there were now 87 clubs in the country with 1,850 members, which meant that Rotary in that country had plenty of scope to grow.

#### Our Guest

Our guest today was Robert Jordan, who graduated in pharmacy at Sydney University in 1961 Born in Sydney in August, 1939, he married a fellow pharmacy student, Diane, in 1962 and they went on an 18-month "working honeymoon" to Britain, where they worked in pharmacies and hospitals and travelled. They returned to Australia where Robert ran a pharmacy in Kingsford and another 14 years running a pharmacy in Dural, which he sold in 2004. He then spent six years doing relieving work as a pharmacist and retired in 2010. In between his professional duties, Robert has also been a member of Strathfield Rotary Club and has spent six years as a councillor on Strathfield Council. PE Natalie said Robert was a community ambassador for Ovarian Cancer Australia and was speaking to Rotary clubs about the problem.

#### Frederik Andersen

Photogenic Fred, who was our exchange student in 2015, has made a welcome return to Sydney with his family. They have reunited with Natalie and her family and are spending time touring around.

#### Max Employment

PE Natalie has asked Diane Hamer from Max Employment to organise a speaker to come to the club and tell us about her organisation and how they would expect to work with the Rotary clubs in western Sydney. Diane has suggested that Deb Heywood, vice-president of the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, and managing director of Max Employment, fill that bill.

### **Rotary Institute Leadership Course**

PE Natalie is to attend that on 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> February and will report back.

### **Applications for District Governor**

All applications for District Governor 2019/2020 are to be lodged by 17<sup>th</sup> March.

### **PhD Scholars Night**

This is to be held at Oatlands Golf Club on 13<sup>th</sup> March. PP Keith said registration for the night must be done through the website. <https://www.trybooking.com/252842>

Already registered are District Governor, Stephen Humphreys, and his wife there, up to five Rotarians from other clubs and both our Federal and State Members of Parliament, **BUT ONLY 2 MEMBERS OF OUR OWN CLUB.**

There would be at three PhD scholars who would give presentations on such things as Prostate Cancer, Substance abuse in young people and Depression.

### **Ovarian Cancer**

Robert Jordan, our guest from Ovarian Cancer Australia, recounted the experience he and his beloved wife, Diane, had of the disease. For Diane, it had hit suddenly, requiring the summoning of medical help and hospitalisation on the one night in 2010. Over the next four years, Diane had gone through extensive treatment and Robert had been her full-time carer. A survivor of aggressive prostate cancer himself he had some idea of the challenge. He set out to give Diane the best quality of life he could. They had travelled to France three times. She had taken up tapestry to occupy her mind. Robert found that being a carer meant he had to be “lover, confidant, go-to person and best friend”. But she had succumbed to the disease in 2014, leaving Robert aggrieved and determined, just as Glenn McGrath had when his wife died of breast cancer, to campaign against it for the rest of his days.



Robert Jordan

Robert said ovarian cancer had the lowest survival rate of any women’s cancer, Robert said. It had a 43 percent survival rate, compared with 90 percent for breast cancer. Each year, 1,910 women would be diagnosed with it in Australia and 1,200 would die. Put another way, for every four women in Australia diagnosed with ovarian cancer, three would die. If diagnosed early there was a better

chance but diagnosed late, it was very, very difficult to treat successfully. Robert said the pap smear test did not pick up ovarian cancer. Mutated genes increased the chance of a woman contracting ovarian or breast cancer. The gene could come from either parent and there was a 50 percent chance of the parent passing on the gene to offspring. It commonly occurred among women who had gone through their menopause but it could strike a female at any age. There were factors that contributed, such as being overweight, smoking and having a high-fat diet.

In 2014, Robert said, a national campaign had been launched to raise funds for research into this disease. "We have developed an ambitious strategic plan to reduce the incidence by 25 percent and increase the survival rate by 25 percent by the year 2025," he said. As part of his campaign, he had set up a table at Bunnings, Carlingford, last month and on the day had raised more than \$2,000. Ovarian Cancer Australia had a website and information line. <https://ovariancancer.net.au>

PE Natalie thanked Robert for his most informative address.

### **For Your Diaries**

17 February. Presidents' Meeting

20 February. PP Bob Rosengreen – Time line continuum project

27 February. Taylor-Jai McAlister on her RYLA experience.

6 March. Dr Geoff Lee, MP for Parramatta

10-12 March. District Conference at Wollongong

13 March. ARH Scholars Night

1 April. President Elect training 2

6 May. District Assembly for all incoming Board members