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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 29ᵗʰ May 2017

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Indonesia, which was founded in 1927, closed down twice, once during World War 11 and the second by President Soekarno in 1961. President Soeharto allowed it to revive in 1966 and it has continued ever since, in a country which got its present name 100 years ago, is home to 258 million people, most of whom are Muslims, leaving us with the thought that with all those Muslims on our doorstep it might be smart to learn to live with people of that religious persuasion.

Our Guest

Our visiting Rotarian guest was once again Sher Khan. who is chief executive officer of an Australian multicultural charity.

PP Malcolm's Birthday

PP Malcolm, having reached his three-score and ten, looked around for the cheering crowds, fireworks displays and goodwill messages from monarchy. Not noticing any of this, he bought his own birthday cake, took it to Rotary and shared it with club members, who wished him well.

PDG Barry's Portrait

PDG Barry told us he had attended a meeting of the Belmore Rotary Club where a cartoonist did his caricature for $50. The result, a rather crude likeness, to be perfectly frank, is to be offered for auction at the changeover, but Barry will match the winning bid with a contribution of his own.

Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay

PP Keith gave us a report on the very busy program being pursued by our sister club, the Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay, in Metro Manila. The club has 24 members and that represents nine new members who have joined in the past year and a retention rate of existing members of 100 percent.

Presidents Meeting

PP Malcolm represented the club at the recent Presidents meeting at the Liverpool Catholic Club. He took particular note of an address by Dot Hennessy, who said one way to increase membership was to retain contact with the "Rotary Alumni", being young people who have had the benefit of Rotary scholarships or been sponsored by Rotary in some other way, and would be most likely to be receptive to approaches at a later stage to join Rotary. She said we should look at the list of alumni over the last five years to see whether we could get them on board. We should develop a list of alumni and put them onto our potential membership list. Malcolm also mentioned a woman who had had a baby on a remote island in the Philippines, and seeing the baby was tiny and needed medical assistance, took him through the jungle, got into a canoe and paddled into the open ocean to get help. Rotary had since helped with the child's medical needs, and the child was there with her at the meeting that night.

The RAWCS Eastern Division Quarterly meeting

PP Malcolm reported on a very agreeable RAWCS meeting at Belmont last weekend, attended by himself, Keith Henning, and Bob and Glenys Rosengreen.

Bob's Computers

Bob Rosengreen gave us a presentation on the computer revolution which is now sweeping the world but which has brought with it a new breed of criminals and mischief-makers.

He called on PP Malcolm to relate his own expedience when he had almost fallen for the Telstra s came, when he had given remote access to someone purporting to be from Telstra and had only woken up to what was happening when the caller requested urgent access to his bank account. When he told the caller what he thought of him, the caller said he had sent in a virus which would make Malcolm's computer unusable. But Malcolm's anti-virus system had saved the day.

Bob said the world had become so dependent on the machines that an event such as the recent shut-down of computers in British Airways had thrown the system into chaos, with nobody knowing who was booked on what plane or who had paid. When the system went down, the technicians had to go back through the upgrades to the system to see where the problem was. It took a long time to get the system up and running again. That was probably a power outage but there were plenty of agencies ready to willfully thrown systems into chaos.

The Wanna Cry virus, part of the ransomware genus, demanding payment to unlock computers, had similarly created chaos throughout the world. Because of the way Windows had developed, superimposing new systems over old, it meant the system was vulnerable. Banks that had adopted computer systems decades ago were stuck with them and had to do their best to keep ahead of the hackers. At this stage, for private individuals, those who had Microsoft 10, the latest version, were probably better off than those who had earlier versions.

Bob had been with computers a long time and knew that mischief makers had been with it since its inception. Between 35 and 40 years ago he had visited a computer centre in Melbourne and even then students were trying to find ways of making a computer crash. In the early years, that had amounted to a practical joke but as time had gone on that had become more serious.

There were many ways that malware, so it was called, to get into the system. Downloading an email from a stranger was one way of getting it. Others were to send a virus as a "Trojan horse', which could infect a computer without the user's knowledge, but might be activated at a signal, perhaps on

a particular date. The malware exponents could send in a "worm" which would destroy the comp0uter files. It could find its way into an address list on a computer and send out bogus emails to people on the list.

Bob said that when areas of vulnerability were discovered, they were closed off. But there were potentially new ones to be discovered. When software manufacturers had put out their products they had put in a "back door" so that system s could be and manipulated in the future. These back doors, once discovered , were worth money, and even governments had paid big money to acquire then as potential weapons in future "cyberwar". One of the big purchasers was the US National Security Service.,

When Sony sold its CDs, it had included a virus that could enter the user's computer the first time the CD was played and prevent the computer from copying it. That purpose had been legitimate enough, but other viruses were not. Spyware could be downloaded into a computer which would allow others to see what the user was up to. Government agencies might be alerted when someone was looking up bomb-making equipment but what other intelligence was being divulged?

Bob said that Apple computers were less vulnerable but they lack the flexibility of Microsoft. Apple did not release its code. But the restrictions were such that not even a memory stick could be used on an Apple computer. IBM had come in on the ground floor and Bill Gates, who had initially been approached and had paid out $50,000 for an operating system to develop, had hit the jackpot, for himself and for IBM, but with the advance had come the problems.

Bob said it was important for the user to have a backup system so he would not lose the information when the system went down. Windows Seven had a better backup system than others. In China, 70 percent of the computer systems had been adopted illegally and they did not have the backup systems which had been taken out by the original purchasers. For that reason, China had been hit particularly hard by the recent Wanna Cry virus.

 Bob said the rules people should observe were never to download an email form someone you did not know, and not to go onto a link indicated by an unknown sender.

For Your Diaries

7 June, Club meeting, followed by a board meeting at the Novotel.

16 June. Rotary Club of Parramatta Daybreak, 25th Anniversary Dinner & Changeover

19th June Club Meeting Guest Speaker Kathleen Rome past NYSF student

26 June. Club Changeover – Novotel Hotel 6pm for 6.30pm

1 July. Parramatta Rotary Changeover Bookings https://www.trybooking.com/277591

2 July, District 9685 Changeover. 12 noon. St George Motor Boat Club
                                        Bookings https://www.trybooking.com/283732

10 July. Police Officer of Year event.

15 July. Volunteers' day at Minchinbury.

2 September. Sydney Welsh Choir Concert at St Kevin's Church, Eastwood