

## COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 4/2017-8

### 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?

#### *Meeting, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017*

#### **Our Toast**

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Godhra in India, which was formed in July 70 years ago. It was a year when the partition into India and Pakistan occurred, with violence and loss of life varying from 200,000 to two million. Godhra remained in India but the violence between Muslims and Hindus broke out again in 2002 when there were serious riots.

#### **Our Guest**

President Natalie welcomed Simon Wilkins, a former member of our club, who was born in Worcestershire in England and moved to the Isle of Wight before migrating to Australia. Simon, married with four children, has worked for many years in the non-profit sector but has in more recent times taken a position with Acting Property Investing, runs a community radio program on money matters and remains heavily involved in the non-profit sector.

#### **Tree planting**

President Natalie thanked the club members who turned up for the tree planting operation at Winston Hills last Sunday. She thanked Barry for organising the club members to go. PDG Barry said it was a glorious day and he noted that the majority of people who attended were not born in Australia. Our club members had Rotary vests and he observed that it was a good opportunity to chat to people. The Lions catering operation at the barbecues was a little overtaxed and the food offering perhaps inappropriate for some of those present.

#### **Christene's Folly**

President Natalie said Christene McSeveny, president of the Parramatta Rotary Club, had been offered the chance to obtain 100 tickets costing \$20 each in a raffle, proceeds to benefit ROMAC. One of the 100 tickets is guaranteed a prize of a luxurious overnight queen size room for two on the 26th floor on opening night of the new Sofitel Hotel, an invitation for two to attend the opening night formal gala, and complimentary breakfast next morning. It will be a truly memorable and unique event.

The catch is, that if Parramatta Rotary takes up the offer they must sell the 100 tickets or come up with a total amount of \$2,000 as a donation to ROMAC. She was asking for other Parramatta Rotary clubs to join in and help sell tickets.

### **Malaria**

President Natalie said there was a National RAMS conference being coordinated by District 9675 at Wolli Creek on 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August. PP Keith said that the fight against malaria was looking up, with a breakthrough having been announced.

### **Festival of Lights**

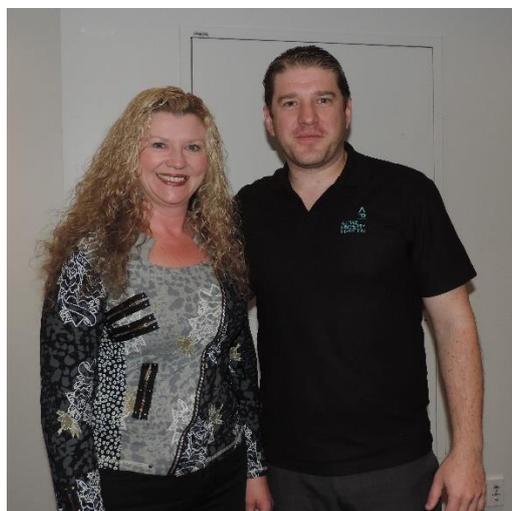
The Indian community will be holding a Festival of Lights at Parramatta and it is strongly suggested that our club take part. President Natalie said it might be a good idea to get involved and perhaps we could put up some booths, perhaps one for Australian Rotary Health, another for Shelter Box Australia.

### **School Uniforms**

PP Johnny Ching said that six boxes of school uniforms were available from Oak Flats High School in the Shellharbour area the south coast. They would be brought to us. The last batch of school uniforms went to the Philippines. PP Keith said that one shipment of hospital beds to the Philippines had used school uniforms for packing in the container.

### **Simon Wilkins**

Simon Wilkins, a Pom without an accent, a not-for-profit careerist who has become heavily involved in property investing, gave us an account of his inspired life. He had come to Australia in 2002 looking for sun and sand and had decided to stay. In 2005 he had met his wife-to-be. He now had four children, aged from three to 15. Simon had spent more than 12 years in the not-for profit sector starting as a fund-raiser. He has been a corporate relations executive with the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children. He has also worked in the area of mental health advocacy. He has been national manager for corporate relations for MS Australia and has been corporate partnership executive for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. "The best thing about working in the charity world is that it puts things in perspective," he said.



Two years ago he had changed professions and had joined Active Property Investments, a “small boutique company” as he called it. He was also running a money program, Money Matters, on community radio FM 90.5 from 2 pm till 4 pm on Tuesdays, bringing in experts, interviewing them and himself “learning something new every day”.

## **Speakers**

President Natalie has said she has no more speakers from 14<sup>th</sup> August till 18<sup>th</sup> September. PP Malcolm undertook to get the Rev Bruce Stanley to speak to us about domestic violence. President Natalie said one speaker she had lined up was Shelly Whittington, who would talk to us about human trafficking in Australia.

## **Meeting Venue**

Novotel will not be able to accommodate us next Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August because the hotel is booked out for a conference. The venue for next Monday's dinner has been organised for the board room at RI House at 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 60 Phillip Street. That is to be our strategy meeting.

## **World Polio Day**

This will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October and it was proposed at the board meeting that we get Merrylands and Parramatta High Schools involved.

## **Contributions to the Rotary Foundation**

PDG Barry moved at the board meeting that members be encouraged to give \$100 a year to the Rotary Foundation. The Board agreed to supplement the initial donation of \$100 by an amount of \$900 from past donations to enable a Paul Harris award to be made. That was passed by the board.

## **For Your Diaries**

7<sup>th</sup> August. Club lunch and strategy meeting at 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor RI House, 60 Phillip Street, Parramatta

12<sup>th</sup> August. The FOLIA dinner will be held at St Stephens, Thornleigh.

19<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> August. National MUNA event in Canberra. Our Club represented by Merrylands High School

19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August. RAMS conference at Wolli Creek.

24<sup>th</sup> August. World Polio Day.

29<sup>th</sup> August. Rotary Vocational Youth Awards at Northmead High School.

2<sup>nd</sup> September. Sydney Welsh Choir Concert at St Kevin's Church, Eastwood.

Tickets <https://www.trybooking.com/295886>

12<sup>th</sup> October. Australian Rotary Health Hat Day.

23<sup>rd</sup> October. Pride of Workmanship evening.

24<sup>th</sup> October. World Polio Day.

29<sup>th</sup> October. Graffiti Removal Day.

20<sup>th</sup> November. Rotary Foundation Dinner, Blacktown Workers' Club.

17<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Rotary International Peacebuilding Conference was being held at the Sydney Town Hall, with heavy involvement of the Sydney Rotary Club.