

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 16/2017-8

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 30th October 2017

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast the Rotary Club of Ramallah, Palestine, part of the West Bank. The club was founded 80 years ago and continued in East Jerusalem and Ramallah under Jordanian rule until the Six Day War when Israel occupied the West Bank and the club was dissolved. The club was reformed and chartered in 2010. Bob also took time to commemorate the charge at Beersheba on 31st October 1917 when the Australian 4th Light Horse Brigade stormed the town of Beersheba, capturing it and breaking the Ottoman line.

Our Guests

The club welcomed back Ian Goldthorpe who belongs to the Rotary Club of Parramatta Daybreak but likes our company. It also welcomed Jay Thorogood, a member of the Rotary Club of Darling Harbour, who is conducting a campaign to publicise the club's solar lights, project, to take workable lighting devices to parts of the world where the only night-time lighting comes from fire.

Pride of Workmanship Awards Evening

President Natalie thanked Amit Patel for the hard work he had put into making the night a success. The event, held at the Oatlands Golf Club, with eight award winners, was a success, with more than 40 people present. But she and Amit had delivered pamphlets to businesses in Parramatta inviting them to provide candidates but had had a poor response. She urged all members to think hard about getting candidates for next year. PP Malcolm said that publicity might be the key and it would necessary to engage the attention of the local media, difficult as that was.

Graffiti Removal Day

PDG Barry Antees, President Natalie and PP Malcolm participated in graffiti removal in Parramatta last weekend, with help from Natalie's husband. Amit said the event should be

better known. He thought that perhaps it could be made a joint venture with one or the two other Parramatta Rotary Clubs.



Quite a change – Good work

Food Ladder

PDG Barry said there was now a move to develop a Foundation Global Grant for Food Ladder. This would enable indigenous communities to establish greenhouses were supply of fresh food to local communities and create employment. Barry had mentioned this at a Foundation training day last weekend and there was “great interest from other clubs attending to participate with funds to support the initiative”. He said we had to raise “probably a tad over \$250,000”. He said we could get some money from the Rotary Foundation. It was something we took to the board to look at. Some of the money we get from our Christmas tree sales could be seed money.

Rotary Foundation Film Night

The film night is Wednesday 8th October, a pre-viewing of Murder on the Orient Express. Cost of tickets is \$20 of which half goes to the End Polio campaign, an amount which will be tripled because of the three-to-one contribution by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Christmas Tree Sales

PP Phil said he had been in touch with Keith Stapeley regarding use of his property on Castle Hill Road to sell Christmas trees. He said we needed to get a roster out.

Phil said the price of trees from the supplier had gone up to \$40 a tree and accordingly we had to raise our prices to \$70 a tree. We had obtained an undertaking from the Scouts that they would not undersell us and the Scouts had also agreed to a drop in the number of trees we would give them as a reward for their work in unloading the trucks.

We start selling Christmas trees on Friday, 2nd December, but we need a few people a couple of days in advance to help Keith set up the site We also had to ensure that Santa would be there, properly blown up and anchored.

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Award

We need at least one nomination FAST.

What is RYLA?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) is a week-long residential personal development program for young people aged 19 to 25, which focuses on yourself, leadership and community. In Rotary District 9675, RYLA aims to:

- Give young people the chance to come together in a supportive environment to gain a better understanding of their own strengths and the unique qualities and abilities of others
- Provide an opportunity for young people to develop a network of resources to facilitate their roles and development
- Facilitate learning about teamwork, communication, motivation and to develop the leadership skills of young people through experiential workshops
- Create a greater awareness of social issues affecting young people and
- Demonstrate Rotary's commitment to young people.

When and Where is RYLA?

In District 9675 RYLA is usually held in January. In 2018, RYLA will be held at YMCA Camp, YARRAMUNDI – 11am for 12midday Tuesday 2nd January through Sunday January 7th.

Applications accepted by Rotary Club of Parramatta City until 13th November 2017

Solar Lights

Jay Thorogood said his club, Rotary Club of Darling Harbour, was continuing the work of its late member, Graham Boler, who had conceived the idea of distributing Chinese-made solar lights all over the world to developing communities that had no source of power. The solar lights could be recharged each day by exposure to the sun and would run for several hours. They were sturdy and reliable and had a life of at least five years.

It was a sobering fact, Jay said, that a quarter of the world's population had no electricity to provide lighting at night, which had many implications, being the inability to attend school or study by night. Having lighting on demand was taken for granted in developed countries, but for those without it, they had to depend of kerosene lamps, which provided poor light and had complications of fumes and fire risk.

With solar lighting, conditions were vastly improved. School attendance improved, as in Fiji. Jay's club was working with the Rotary Club of Kenya. In Uganda, some people wore them round their necks, to prevent them from being stolen and probably to provide lighting when they went out at night.

To distribute, the Rotary Club of Darling Harbour used containers of goods that were being sent by Rotarians containing other goods. The light could easily fit into places and it eliminated the need to pay freight.

Jay said that Graham, whose work was being carried on by his widow, Pam, and daughter, Karen, had also conceived the idea of taking school furniture that was being thrown out, and distributing it internationally where it was needed. A hundred containers of school furniture that would otherwise have been used for land fill had been sent around the world. The YWAM (Youth With a Mission) medical ship that travelled from Australia to Papua New Guinea. It would be back in February or March next year and it was intended to stack lights on the ship to take to Papua New Guinea.

For Your Diaries

8th November. Screening of Murder on the Orient Express at Parramatta.

13th November. Closing date for RYLA nominations to Club.

17th November. District AGM will be held at the Liverpool Catholic Club.

20th November. Rotary Foundation Dinner, Blacktown Workers' Club.

2nd December. Start of Christmas tree sales on Castle Hill Road.

2nd January 2018. RYLA camp at Yarramundi commences.

2nd – 4th March District 9675 Conference at Mudgee. Registrations now open.

<https://www.trybooking.com/311829>

17th March 2018. A Peace Conference was being held at the Sydney Town Hall