

## COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 22/2017-8

### 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 11th December 2017*

#### **Our Toast**

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Wellington NZ. Wellington, the southernmost capital city in the world, with 400,000 people, noted for its severe wind, had been capital of New Zealand since 1865 and its parliament house had burnt down 110 years ago. It was also here that Thomas Bracken, poet, journalist and politician, wrote "God Defend New Zealand".

#### **Christmas Trees**

PDG Barry Antees said sales of Christmas trees was going very well. The net sales over the weekend was 224 trees, of which the Scouts sold about 20. We had 160 trees delivered last Friday, 50 on Saturday and 29 on Sunday and we ended sending 15 trees back. The sales had gone much better than expected. We would start selling again on Thursday this week and continue till Sunday evening.

#### **Fees**

PDG and Treasurer Barry reminded members that the \$230 annual fee for club members was due from 1<sup>st</sup> January.

#### **Johnny Ching**

The club regrets to announce the resignation of Johnny Ching, who has advised secretary Joy that his practice is now located in Chatswood and he finds it impossible to get to club meetings. He is still helping with Christmas trees sales.

#### **Don Thomson**

Former member Don Thomson has left his job as a self-employed handyman and returned to the welfare sector, working with Technical Aid for the Disabled. Don has been helping with Christmas tree sales also.

## **Christmas Party**

The club had an enjoyable Christmas party at Zahra on the River in Parramatta on Thursday night last week, with several members trying to match it with a belly dancer and PP Malcolm managing to simulate an epileptic fit.

## **Australian Rotary Health Indigenous Scholars Night**

PP Keith said he and PP Malcolm had represented our club at the recent Indigenous Scholars night at Rydges Hotel in Parramatta. There was an impressive array of seven students, including one student, a father of two, who had gone back to study and was set to become a medical practitioner.

## **PhD Scholars**

Secretary Joy said that PhD scholars funded by Australian Rotary Health were being given training in media relations. They were to have a 2-1/2 hour training session with Professor Rob Morrison, a professor Media Studies.

## **Food Ladder**

PDG Barry said Kelly McJannett, CEO of Food Ladder, who had addressed the club on a previous occasion, would be presenting to our club in January a detailed plan and costs for a proposed new project. This could cost \$275,000 and would involve other clubs and the Rotary Foundation. It could possibly be located in an indigenous community in NSW. Food Ladder projects involved setting up solar installations where vegetables could be grown hydroponically, which could provide employment, income and good food for local communities. The Food Ladder organisation had built a dozen such units in India and in Australia. They were particularly significant for indigenous communities.

## **Pride of Workmanship Awards**

PE Malcolm said that in considering how to make our Pride of Workmanship night a more substantial event, we should perhaps link closely with the Parramatta Chamber of Commerce and get that organisation behind it. John Stamboulie, who is a member of the chamber, said the organisation was large, with perhaps 150 people turning up to monthly events, which were held in various offices, the last being at Western Sydney University. But he said that to get the chamber involved, one would have to become involved with the chamber. It was "not just a matter of turning up" and asking for help. He himself had been working with the chamber to get support for the Police Officer of the Year award

PDG Barry Antees said there was confusion in the message that was being sent out. Both Parramatta and Parramatta City Rotary Clubs were holding their Pride of Workmanship events. He said it was also necessary to re-examine the "Pride of Workmanship" name, which might not connect with business employers. John Stamboulie said there was "not much point in not doing something well". He said: "Unless you put a plan in place, you are not going to get those people involved." It might be necessary to talk to the employers to find out what they thought it should be.

PDG Barry said that in Wollongong, there was a person representing Rotary on the chamber of commerce, and the chamber did work with Rotary. It must be remembered, he said, that chambers of commerce grew out of Rotary. PP Phil agreed that it was necessary to have a link with the chamber of commerce. John Stamboulie said he did not understand why there was no link

## **RYLA Awardeee - Vanessa Dixon**

PP Keith introduced Vanessa Dixon, 20, who is attending the next RYLA camp at Yarramundi. Vanessa, 20, who has set up a business dealing in food products, has been to a youth leadership program in Los Angeles and is active in Toastmasters, where she has been secretary. Having been to Crestwood High School and resident of Baulkham Hills, this very personable young lady is an excellent candidate for our club to sponsor.

## **Joke of the Week**

We return to the Pearly Gates. This time it is the Christmas season, and an Englishman, Scotsman and Irishman turn up. St Peter says that to get in, they must show in some way that they have been involved with Christmas celebrations. "There is no problem," said the Englishman, producing a cymbal and tapping it with a gong. "These are chimes!" he said. "Sure," said St Peter. "You can come in." The Scotsman was rather at a loss, and all he could do was to pull out a set of car keys and jangle them "These are bells." He said. St Peter had to think a bit, but then said: "Yes, some in." Then it was the Irishman's turn. He had nothing much and was acutely embarrassed. Finally, he produced a pair of nickers. "These are carols," he said.

## **For Your Diaries**

18th December. The club will have its Christmas lunch.

2nd January 2018. RYLA camp at Yarramundi commences

15<sup>th</sup> January. 1<sup>st</sup> club meeting in 2018

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

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

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

Registrations

<https://arinex.eventsair.com/rippc-2018/form1/Site/Register>

26<sup>th</sup> March. Australian Rotary Health PhD Scholars Evening