

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 23/2017-8

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 18th December 2017

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, a part of the world in more turmoil than usual following the United States decision to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Rotary clubs were established in Palestine under British rule some 80 years ago. They continued in East Jerusalem and Ramallah under Jordanian rule until the 1960, but were dissolved after Israel acquired control of the East Bank in the 1967 war. The road to reviving the Palestinian Rotary Club was not easy. In their post-Oslo peace accords economic boon of the mid-1990s, Palestinian businessman tried to charter a group but gave up after Rotary International declined to recognise Palestine. It was only after the Amman-Petra Rotary club, from the capital city of Amman, Jordan, and the Colorado Springs Rotary club in the United States agreed to sponsor Ramallah that the Rotary International Board of Directors agreed to charter the Palestinian club. Bob proposed that we write a letter

Our Guests

Our guests included Honorary Member Ralph Cadman, Parramatta Daybreak member Ian Goldthorpe, and ADG Vera Liondas. Ian said he had replaced Joe Allan as the Parramatta Daybreak representative on the Police Officer of the Year Committee.

Charter Member Colin Gray

A warm welcome was afforded to Charter member Colin Gray who had not attended a club meeting for some time. It was great to have Colin share in our Christmas lunch.

Indian Cultural Night

President Natalie said members were invited to an Indian Cultural Night at the Concord Function Centre on 10th February next year.

Future Meetings

President Natalie said the next regular club meeting would be on 15th January next year and the first Board meeting of the year would be the following day. The speaker for our first

meeting would Vanessa Dixon, who will have attended the RYLA camp at Yarramundi early in January.

Christmas Trees

This year's Christmas tree sales have been proceeding satisfactorily, although on Sunday last week there was a moment of drama when a huge bough from a "Widow Maker" eucalyptus tree a few metres from our shelter decided enough was enough and split from the tree, colliding with a bough just beneath, and both came down in an almighty crash, perhaps a tonne of wood, which would have crushed any car underneath and killed anyone it hit. It was only the fact that the boughs were pointing in a different direction that they did not hit the shelter, where PP Malcolm, Bob Rosengreen and Parramatta Daybreak member John Richards were sitting. In fact, Bob had had a narrow escape because he had driven in a few minutes earlier and had considered parking his car under the tree but found difficulties getting to it and parked somewhere else.

PP Phil said that 604 Christmas trees had been delivered by Friday night last week. Of these, according to Bob Rosengreen, 50 or 60 had been taken by the Scouts. The last delivery, on Saturday, had brought 76 trees. On Monday, there were probably less than 30 trees left. Phil said that with raffle tickets selling well, we were probably doing the same as last year. PDG Barry said on his information, the Hills/Kellyville sales were about 30 percent down on last year, perhaps affected by an aggressive selling strategy where the club varied the prices according to the sizes of the trees. For our sales, there was a standard price of \$70, which was very competitive with other Christmas tree outlets.



PP Malcolm and the Near Miss

One female customer had returned a tree because it was not satisfactory but according to Bob this year's crop were "good, substantial trees" John Stamboulie said one woman had complained about

the price but he had asked to consider that the \$20 she was paying above what she thought she should be paying was going “to the community”. John said the club had received a lot of trade from people who had seen our sale on the web. PDG Barry said 50 percent of the people who had come had seen our sale on the internet. John Stamboulie said some people who had been alerted by mail as to the swale had asked that their new address be put onto our mailing list for next year.

Christmas Tree Hamper Prize

The winner of the hamper for Christmas tree returning customers was won by Geoff Wilhem of Normanhurst. Geoff is pictured with his son receiving his prize.



Australia Day Barbecue

John Stamboulie called for volunteers for this year’s Australia Day barbecue, where we will start cooking at 5 am. Several hands went up, but John said he needed five more.

Joke of the Week

In Hong Kong under British rule, Mr Wong started reproducing at a great rate, up to 17 children. The difficulty he had was thinking of names for them. He had Van Ming Wong, Chin Den Wong, Jun Dur Wong, Fui Sing Wong, Fui Ping Wang, Jun Guan Wong The British insisted he put the given names first on the register, so he had to come up with more names. At 17, he was exhausted, but still managed to squeeze out another name. Then his wife fell pregnant again, and what she produced was as perfectly white baby with blond hair and blue eyes. Mrs Wong assured her husband that she had been faithful and the hospital insisted that Mr Wong come up with a name. Finally, after a lot of thought, he came up with the name: Sum Ting Wong.

For Your Diaries

2nd January 2018. RYLA camp at Yarramundi commences.

15th January 2018. First club meeting of the year. Speaker – Vanessa Dixon, RYLA Graduate

16th January. First Board meeting of the year.

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
Registrations

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

26th March. Australian Rotary Health PhD Scholars Evening