

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 24/2017-8

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 15th January 2018

Our Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of The Hague Metropolitan, one of four English-speaking clubs in the Netherlands. It has been presented an award on numerous occasions for being the largest charity contributor per capita of the 350 or so Rotary clubs in the country. Bob pointed out that 19th January, being Friday this week, is the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Chemical Weapons Convention, an international agreement to ban the use of chemical weapons in warfare. Bob pointed out that the First World War, that ended 100 years ago this year, had been blighted by the wholesale use of chemical weapons, such as mustard gas. He pointed out that a host of countries, including India, Libya, Russia and South Korea, had no chemical weapons. Iraq and Syria were on the suspect list but the United States, the self-declared world policeman, had 2,770 metric tonnes in storage.

Our Guests

Our Guests today included Vanessa Dixon, a most engaging young woman who works as a professional lifeguard and hopes to build up a business on the internet dedicated to health and lifestyle. Vanessa would like to start up her own price line on skin care. She was sponsored by our club to attend the RYLA camp at Yarramundi . She would now like to join a Rotaract club. Also present was 10-year-old, home-schooled Shadrzad Biutitama, present with her grandfather, PDG Barry Antees.

The Australia Day Barbecue

Some members went to Bob Rosegreen's home on Wednesday this week to clean the barbecue trailer in preparation for the Australia Day barbecue. Members will also be going to Parramatta Park at noon on 25th January to set up the barbecue. The barbecue itself will begin at 5 am on Australia Day and continue till about noon. John Stamboulie has called for more volunteers. He needs about 10 people to have it operating successfully. At present we have John Stamboulie, Keith Henning, Malcolm Brown and wife Ingeborg, John Totonjian and Dr Amit Patel.

Sydney Rotary Meeting with Premier

Tony Benner, Rotary Club of Sydney, sends invitations to Lunch with The Premier of NSW, Gladys Berejiklian, at the Rotary Club of Sydney's luncheon on Tuesday 30th January 2018. Please [BOOK ONLINE](#).

Meeting with Julie Owens

President Natalia said Christene McSeveny, president of Parramatta Rotary Club, has invited our club to a joint meeting on the evening of Monday, 19th February, to hear the Federal Member for Parramatta, Julie Owens, speak. President Natalie proposed that our club could have a transfer meeting for that night so we could have a joint meeting with the Parramatta club.

Australia Day Meeting with the Premier

President Natalie said members were invited to a function at the Bowman Hall, 35 Campbell Street, Blacktown, between 1.30 and 3.30 pm on Australia Day to meet the Premier, Gladys Berejiklian.

ROMAC Anniversary

Members are welcome to attend an anniversary dinner of Rotary Australia Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) at the Strangers' Dining Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney, at 7 pm on Friday, 16th March, where the Minister for Health and Medical Research, Brad Hazard, and the ROMAC Chair, Rob Wilkinson, will be present, along with the RI President, Ian Riseley, and his wife, Juliet. The cost is \$150 per ticket. Enquiries: events@romac.org.au.

Annual Fees

PDG Barry reminded members that the \$230 semi-annual subscription fee is now due and payable.

Christmas Tree Sales

PDG Barry said he had also received all the funds from our Christmas tree sales, including money from the Scouts. We would now have to distribute money on a pro-rata basis to the Parramatta Daybreak Rotary Club. PP Phil Brophy said we had sold 592 trees, comprising 447 we sold ourselves and 145 the Scouts sold. The total revenue was \$11,700, of which about \$8,242.09 would come to us and about \$3,130.82 to Parramatta Daybreak. He said there had been a \$5 rise in the wholesale price of the trees this year and we had not raised our own prices by \$5 to match it but because the percentage rise of the wholesale price was higher than the percentage rise of our price we had taken less money than last year. We were down \$1,003.09 on last year's result.

A pleasing incident in the Christmas tree sales, mentioned by Bob Rosengreen, was that just before we closed up for the year, someone had come at night, taken a tree and left \$80 waiting for us on a chair.

Keith Stapeley

Bob Rosengreen said that Keith's support for our Christmas tree sales where he had made his property available and provided the shelter had been invaluable and that we should show our appreciation by making a donation to his Hills-Kellyville Rotary Club. This was important also because Hills-Kellyville Rotary Club had not had a successful Christmas tree sales experience at the

Bull'n'Bush Hotel and there was pressure on Keith to make his site available to his own club instead of to our Club. PP Phil Brophy thought that perhaps we should consider giving Keith a Paul Harris Fellowship. The club board at its meeting on Tuesday decided to make the \$1,000 donation to the club.

Dream Cricket

President Natali is continuing negotiations over a Dream Cricket event. She will meet with Paul Reid and Keith from Northcott on 9th February.

Hugging

PDG Barry has been advised that a "kissing booth" would not be as effective as a "hugging booth" because the hugging booth would be more beneficial. He now envisages a booth at a time and date to be fixed where starts such as players from the Parramatta Eels and Western Sydney Wanderers teams plus such identities as the general manager of Parramatta City Council would hug people. Proceeds of the event going for research on mental health. He will bring the idea up at the District Conference in Mudgee in March.

Bunnings Barbecue

PP Keith Henning has written to Bunnings at Rydalmere asking what availability they have for our Club to be included on the barbecue roster.

FOLIA

PP Phil Brophy said he had been contacted by the Rotary Club of Cardiff about our FOLIA project. That club wanted to support FOLIA. Phil had replied telling the club what we were doing.

Noel Trevaskis's Address

President Natalie said she had received an invitation to attend a talk by Noel Trevaskis on how to improve Rotary. It would be held at Rooty Hill on 14th February and would cost \$36.50 a head for a three-course meal.

Bowel Screening

Amit Patel has said that the bowel screening campaign would continue this year. Kits would be distributed to five pharmacies in March/April and collected at the end of May.

Australian Rotary Health PhD Scholars' Night

President Natalie said that on 26th March, we would have a transfer meeting where we attended a PhD Scholars' Night, probably at Oatlands Golf Club, and other Rotary clubs in Parramatta had been invited to attend.

The IMB Bank Foundation

PP Phil Brophy said the IMB Bank Foundation had allowed \$500,000 for spending with community-based organisations and would work with Rotary Clubs on suitable projects such as the U-Turn program initiated by the Rotary Club of Moss Vale and other clubs;. He said a suitable recipient we

could come up with was the Top Bokes Foundation and that one school where Top Bokes could be funded to operate was Parramatta High School. Phil would approach Top Bokes to see whether the organisation would like to participate.

Kaheba Honda

PP Keith said he had received a message from Kaheba Honda, who is still in Africa serving his fellow man.

Bob Sellinger

PP Keith said he had also received word that Bob Sellinger, who had visited our club when we had our RI Convention in Sydney, was in hospital with a leg infection.

Bob Rosengreen

BOB Rosengreen informed the club that he has a cancerous growth on the side of his neck and has been booked into the Sanitarium Hospital on 22nd January to have it removed. He will be hospitalised for five days. All members wished him well and a speedy recovery.

Johnny Ching

PP Johnny Ching has resigned from the club because he is obliged to work in Chatswood. PDG Barry suggested that in recognition of Johnny's long and good service, we should have a special night for him to thank him, and Granville Rotary Club, of which Johnny had also been a president, should be invited to join us.

Vanessa Dixon

Vanessa Dixon gave us a spirited account of her six days at the RYLA camp at Yarramundi, which featured initiative and thinking tests, an obstacle course, and some addresses by some inspired speakers. She said she had been a little inhibited in meeting strangers but was forced to and found she could do it. "I do not push myself out of my comfort zone," she said. "But it was nice to see people wanting to do the same. I feel a lot more confident. We are now going to meet up on Australia Day."

The speakers included Rebecca Wegona from Rotaract and Mark, a representative from the State Emergency Service who had formerly been in the Army and had said that the way of keeping command in the SES, a volunteer organisation, was quite different from the method used in the Army. One, Anthony Gunn, had told the group that the way to handle anxiety was not to deny it but to acknowledge and accept it.

Joke of the Week

Apparently, a true story. A US armoured regiment was being trained for deployment to Afghanistan. On exercise in Philadelphia, they were ordered to maintain strict radio silence. One trooper decided to clear his throat on air. Another trooper then said "Who-a dat?" To which a third asked: "Who-a dat!?" Then of course they all joined in, with hundreds of "who-a dats" clogging the airwaves. The general officer commanding then thundered on-air: "Any more of that and the entire squadron loses a week's pre-embarkation leave!" There was shocked silence for a few seconds, then a lone voice came over the air waves: "Who-a dat?"

For Your Diaries

26th January. Australia Day Barbecue

26th January. Meeting of invited guests with NSW Premier, Blacktown

30th January. Sydney Rotary Club meeting with Premier.

10th February. Indian Cultural Night at Concord Events Centre.

14th February. Address by Noel Trevaskis at Rooty Hill on ways to improve Rotary.

16th February. Presidents' Meeting at Toowood Lounge Sans Souci.

19th February. Joint meeting with Parramatta Rotary Club.

8th February. PETS training at Bankstown Sports Club.

11th February. Discussion for prospective nominees as District Governor, RDU Parramatta.

18th February. PETS training at Bankstown Sports Club.

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

<https://www.trybooking.com/31182>

16th March. ROMAC Anniversary meeting, Parliament House.

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

Registrations

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

18th March. New Members' Breakfast, Camden Golf Club.

26th March. Evening transfer meeting, PhD Scholars' night at Oatlands Golf Club