

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 28/2017-8

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 12th February 2018

Our Toasts

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Manchester, the birthplace of the famous suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst, who has been named in 2002 as number 27 in the BBC's poll of the 100 Greatest Britons and will have her statue unveiled in Manchester next year. Emmeline died in 1928 and it was another 50 years before one Rotary club had the temerity to allow three women into its ranks, a move that was opposed but was the forerunner of change.

PP Phil Brophy proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Shropshire. Charles Darwin was born in Shrewsbury on 12th February 1809, the very day in which another mover-and-shaker on the world stage, Abraham Lincoln, was born in America.

PDG Barry Antees proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Pretoria Hatfield where Nelson Mandela was released on 12th February, 1990. In 1997, at the Rotary International Convention in Scotland, Mandela was awarded Rotary's highest honour, the International Humanitarian Award.

Transfer meeting 19th February -bookings required

President Natalie said the meeting next week would be a transfer meeting where we should join with the Parramatta Rotary Club to listen to MP Julie Owens. President Christene McSeveny wanted all people intending to go to RSVP using <https://www.trybooking.com/351243>

Johnny Ching

President Natalie said she had made contact with former club president Johnny Ching who had been obliged to resign because of work commitments. He was favourably disposed to an event in his honour but our club has to work out the details. It will be necessary to invite members of Johnny's other former club, Granville Rotary Club, to participate.

Walgett's Blue Light Disco

PDG Barry said our district had asked our club to contribute \$100, as was the requirement of other clubs, to raise \$10,000 to go to the establishment of a Blue Light Disco for Walgett.

Inter-Country Committee

PDG Barry said he had had a meeting with the president of an organisation called ICC which forms relationships with other countries. France, Germany, Canada and other countries had membership. A branch of ICC had been formed in Australia. Barry explained the prospect of a French club becoming our partners. As a result of his meeting, Barry had become the ICC president in Australia. He said that financially our club was going all right. We would probably put a fair amount of money in as the main driver of the event, he said, but we could not proceed without proper documentation. Barry writes:

The mission of an Inter-Country Committee is to connect people in facilitating the creation, development and progress of an effective and sustainable international network of bilateral relations and activities to catch all opportunities in a tuned effort to promote a climate for maintaining Peace and improving Understanding, worldwide.

Inter-Country Committees have been part of our Rotary World since 1950 and, as you might know, they represent a further strategy to accomplish Rotary's objectives. A strategy that looks ahead in paving the way for stronger, positive, effective relations among different cultures, engaging diversities, overcoming barriers and this:

- Serving as ambassadors of countries,
- Learning more about other countries,
- Assistance in finding partner clubs in other countries,
- Developing networks of sister clubs,
- Focusing on shared visions and common interests,
- Organizing events to learn more about each other, eliminating existing stereotypes,
- Fostering, through public relations efforts, new fellowships and possibly new friendships,
- Assistance in finding partners for interesting club projects,
- Showing the best examples of successful bilateral cooperation,
- Involving the young generation in ICC activities,
- Presenting an outstanding example of innovative manners to improve peace and understanding,
- Supporting all strategic areas of focus of Rotary International.

There are over 400 of these committees throughout the world and only one in Australia, that being between Australia and France.

Police Officer of the Year

John Stamboulie said he was working on this year's event, which would take place on 30th July. He had put out brochures and contacted other clubs.

Australian Rotary Health PhD Scholars' Night

PP Keith Henning said arrangements were being made for this year's event, which would be at Oatlands Golf Club on 26th March. The tariff would be \$65 a head. Keith said he had prepared brochures promoting the event.

Ray Reed

PDG Ray Reed, who has just turned 92, and till recent times has been a stalwart of the club, is now in the Coronary Care Unit at the Sanitarium Hospital.

Pride of Workmanship

President Natalie said there were serious concerns whether Pride of Workmanship should continue. John Stamboulie said that perhaps the name was a bit old and a new name might work. Natalie said the concept was important because it gave an opportunity for recognition of someone who would not otherwise be recognised. Barry thought a name like "Vocational Excellence" might work. He thought a company like Deloitte might be interested. In many large companies, there was internal acknowledgement of employees, but after 12 months of having "Employee of the Month" awards, it became just "so-so" for a lot of employees. On the other hand, an award from Rotary was recognised throughout the world. "I think it is what we should try to push," he said. Even if someone had to be paid to write the right words, the awards should be made to have some prestige. Barry thought the idea should be shared with other clubs. "We need to have the three clubs together to say, 'This is a problem'," he said. The way it was now, different clubs were having their own awards, and that was sending out mixed messages.

PP Malcolm Brown said he thought the idea could be taken further, with the three Rotary clubs of Parramatta becoming one club with different branches, and presenting something like "Pride of Workmanship" as a presentation of one single, large club. Barry Antees said the idea was worth pursuing and had been raised before, but that the Parramatta and Parramatta Daybreak clubs had been unenthusiastic.

John Stamboulie said the idea could be able to work "hand-in-hand" with the Chamber of Commerce and that the idea should be "pushed" towards employers. Natalie said she would organise a meeting with Christene McSeveny and Joe Allen. Keith said that if the idea worked, some of the businessmen involved might become Rotarians. PP Phil said we should target an organisation like the Commonwealth Bank.

Sponsorship

PDG Barry said it was possible to have corporate bodies sponsor events. John Stamboulie said that if some corporate body came up with a donation of \$1,000 to sponsor the PhD Scholars' Night, it would make the event more valuable. "I think we should go and sell our Rotary cause," he said. Perhaps, he said, the Commonwealth Bank could be asked to donate \$15,000 and in return its name would be displayed at each of our events."

Joke of the Week

Seeing your humble scribe has failed to even raise a murmur with his last effort at humour, focussing on misplaced portions of the human anatomy, then I might as well return to harmless jokes about the foibles of little old ladies. Like the one who took the family car to go shopping, then got back into the passenger's seat at Woolworths and waited with increasing irritation and impatience for her husband to drive her home. When a worried by-passer called her home, the husband said: "Oh, my wife took the car two hours ago to do shopping." Then there's the one about the little old lady who sat down at the kitchen table to work on a jigsaw puzzle. After an hour, utterly frustrated, she rang Joe across the street for help. She said she was trying to put together a picture of a rooster, the picture right in front of her. He came, summed up the situation and said: "Daisy dear, just go off and have a cup of tea to settle down. Then I will help you put the cornflakes back into the packet."

For Your Diaries

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

18th February. PETS training at Bankstown Sports Club.

19th February. Joint meeting with Parramatta Rotary Club. There will be no lunchtime meeting.
Bookings <https://www.trybooking.com/351243>

2nd – 4th March District 9675 Conference at Mudgee. Registrations now open.
<https://www.trybooking.com/31182>

5th March. Regular club meeting. Alex Heighway to speak to the club about surviving a cardiac attack.

12th March. Regular club meeting. Alex Palmer will be guest speaker, Alex having been autistic and a client of the Northcott Society, since then an architectural technician with special talents.

16th March. ROMAC Anniversary meeting, Parliament House.

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

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

19th March. Club meeting, to be addressed by Louise Skilbeck of the Top Blokes Foundation.

26th March. Evening transfer meeting, the occasion of a Aust Rotary Health PhD Scholars night.