

## **ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675**

[www.parramattacityrotary.org.au](http://www.parramattacityrotary.org.au)

### **COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 11/2018-2019**

#### **Rotary Four-Way Test**

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 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

#### **Our Toast**

PP Phillip Brophy proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Cairo. He referred to the opening of the Boy King Tutankhamun in 1922, the lad having been wrapped up, dead and undisturbed for the previous 3,000 years. Phil said the Rotary Club of Cairo, the first English speaking Rotary Club in Egypt, had been formed in 1989 and from its webpage was very active. The first Monday of the month being for business and every two months a social event for family and friends.

#### **Our Guest**

Our guest was Joe Allen, former school principal and current president of the Parramatta Daybreak Rotary Club. President Malcolm said what was notable about Joe's conduct of his meetings was the enthusiasm and energy he put into them and the spreadsheet he could produce which outlined the club's activities for the whole year. They were two things Malcolm said which our club would be well advised to take up.

#### **The Sydney Welsh Choir**

President Malcolm said he had been negotiating with the Northmead Performing Arts High School for a concert date. The school was keen and the tentative date, suitable for the choir, is Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> June next year. Malcolm said he had yet to confirm that with the school. The concert would be done in conjunction with the school band, which would ensure a good audience. The concert would be jointly sponsored by the Parramatta City and Parramatta Daybreak Rotary Clubs.

#### **Merging of the two Sydney Rotary Districts**

President Malcolm referred to a release by DG Sue Hayward in which she pointed out the merits of merging the two Sydney Rotary districts, 9675 and 9685. Clubs would have to vote on the merger and it was not imminent. PDG Barry Antees said he wanted to know the reasons for the merger. He said it was supposed to be for financial reasons but he was not persuaded of that. For the people on the ground, he said, it meant nothing. And it might actually increase costs.

## **Christmas Tree Sales**

Joe Allen said his club had filled in a lot of the slots for the sales, which will begin on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> December. There were still five slots to fill but he was confident of doing that. "We at Parramatta Daybreak are very grateful to Parramatta City for allowing us to share with you," he said. "It is a great chance to chat with fellow Rotarians."

## **The Soar and Roar Barbecue**

Joe Allen said the Soar and Roar event would be on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> June, at Parramatta Park. Our club would be supplying the barbecue trailer and there were sufficient volunteers now to man the barbecue. Any Rotarian who wished to come and have a look at events was welcome. The event was connected with the Special Olympics for disabled athletes, the "soar" referring to athletics, the "roar" referring the cars. There would be activities at a number of sites around Sydney. The Parramatta Park event would be near the team rooms, over the road from the Parramatta RSL. Bob would deliver the barbecue at 6.30 am. The volunteers would arrive at 7 am and the cars at 7.30. The athletes would arrive at 8 am. At 8.25 am there would be a special welcome and at 8.30 the cars would depart for Eastern Creek. It was anticipated that barbecue breakfast would be given to between 60 and 80 people. It would all be finished by 9 am.

## **FOLIA**

PP Phil Brophy, our International Director, said that FOLIA (Friends of LAMB in Australia) has been formally closed but it was still open to Rotarians to connect with and support the LAMB hospital in Bangladesh through the RAWCS project. He said there was now more investment in medical infrastructure in Bangladesh which took pressure off some of the doctors and organisations like LAMB.

## **Student Trip to the Philippines**

PP Keith Henning said he had had a communication from PP) Greg Mellis informing him that his daughter, Eilidh, a media student at UTS, was to go with a student group to the Philippines as part of their course. Greg had suggested that Eilidh link with our sister club, the Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay while in Manila. PP Keith has arranged for direct contact between Eilidh and RCRM. The media student has suggested articles on road safety and disease eradication. Our sister club has a project to erect road signs outside a local school.

## **Bob Sellinger**

PP Keith Henning said he had had a communication from Bob Sellinger, an American Rotarian who has had contact with our club through Rotary conventions. A member of his Rotary club in San Francisco was coming to Sydney and may like to connect with us.

## **The Waterline Challenge – ROMAC fund raising**

President Malcolm said the Waterline Challenge event, where the Parramatta and Parramatta City Rotary clubs undertook to have members walk around Lake Parramatta to raise charity money, had been done successfully on 17<sup>th</sup> November. President Malcolm and PP Natalie Cowell had represented our club, Suzanna Underwood and Yvonne Scorer the Parramatta Club. The walk had taken an hour and a quarter and when the group arrived at the café on the lake, they met Rotarians Ron Fox and his wife, and two visiting Rotarians from Armidale, who had intended to go on the walk

but had arrived an hour late and sadly had to adjourn to have coffee and await the return of the hikers. PP Natalie told the club that the amount raised was \$676, short of the \$1,000 she was aiming for. But anyone who still wished to donate was still free to do so.



Suzanne, Yvonne, Malcolm, with dog Jasper, and Natalie (sitting)

### **BowelCare**

PP Natalie Cowell said BowelCare had asked our club to be involved in its new campaign. Natalie had agreed to organize this on behalf of the Club.

### **Prospective New Members**

PDG Barry said prospective member Roy Chi Kwen was presently in Nigeria but would be back on 8<sup>th</sup> December and would be helping with the Christmas tree sales. Barry would be having a coffee with our other prospective member, Clarissa Chen.

### **The Rebadged Club**

PDG Barry Antees said the blueprint for the new club format would be presented at the club's annual general meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December. The blueprint was to be circulated. The AGM would deal with a number of issues, including the question of who was going to be president in 2019-20. Barry said that part of the blueprint was that at the end of each meeting, 10 minutes would be set aside to talk about business and business operations.

## The Rotary Foundation Dinner

Our club was represented at the Foundation Dinner at Bicentennial Park on Monday evening, 26<sup>th</sup> November. President Malcolm, PDG Barry, PP Keith Henning and PP Natalia were there. The keynote address was made by the Past President of RI, Ian Riseley. Barry and Keith both received awards as Rotary Foundation Major Donors, with DG Sue Hayward and PPIR Ian Riseley presiding.



Recipient	Major Donor
Rinna and Lee Ly	Club Liverpool West
Bruce and Barbara Downie	Frenchs Forest
John Cameron	Wahroonga
Alan Keighran	Beecroft
Barry Antees	Parramatta City
Keith Henning	Parramatta City



## Spectacles for Aborigines

Joe Allen spoke about a project initiated by Craig Elliot, son of the late Jack Elliot, to take spectacles to Aborigines in outback Australia. Craig, a lecturer at the University of New York Sydney Campus, had seen that in outback Australia, the vital task for Aboriginal elders passing on traditional wisdom to the younger generation was being inhibited. This was because the eyesight of the elderly Aborigines was failing and they would not see well enough to teach. Craig had identified one area of focus, a place called Utopia, 250 kilometres north-west of Alice Springs and had linked with the Purple Heart medical mission which had an outreach to Aboriginal Australia in the inland. Spectacles had been collected at two schools in Sydney, being the Hills and Northmead Sports High Schools. The classes had been graded by volunteers and had been taken to the community. The Aboriginal people welcomed them. The women took delight in wearing the most garish spectacles they could. The operation had gone well and another trip was planned.

## Poignant Pictures



## For Your Diaries

8<sup>th</sup> December. Beginning of Christmas tree sales, for which a roster has been circulated. Manning will be done by members of the Parramatta City and Parramatta Daybreak Rotary Clubs.

9<sup>th</sup> December. Roar and Soar, Parramatta Park.

10<sup>th</sup> December. Club Assembly and Annual General Meeting, where the Change Committee report will be presented by PDG Barry Antees and open to discussion.

22<sup>nd</sup> December. Last day of Christmas tree sales

14<sup>th</sup> January. First meeting of 2019

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019. RAWCS Eastern Region conference, hosted by District 9675, at Casula.

1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Australian Rotary Health PhD scholars evening