

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

www.parramattacityrotary.org.au

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 12/2018-2019

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 10th December 2018

This was the club's annual general meeting, followed by a normal meeting, that followed by a meeting of directors to constitute a regular board meeting. Secretary Joy, in her normal efficient way, has done the minutes for the AGM and the board meeting, so matters brought up in all three meetings will be dealt with in this report.

Our Toast

PP Phillip Brophy proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Paris. He pointed out that on 10th December 1948, the UN General Assembly had adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Barry Antees pointed out that Rotary had had significant observer status at a preliminary meeting, in 1945, when the declaration was drafted.

Our Guests

Our guests included Serajul Haque, a civil engineer who completed his degree at Sussex University, graduation in 2013. Serajul, 24, from Dhaka in Bangladesh, practised in Bangladesh before migrating to Australia where he is presently looking for a job. Serajul has been a member of the Rotary Club of Mukto Swadesh in Bangladesh. He has also expressed interest in joining a Rotary club in Parramatta. Also present were Warren Lachmund, who in an extraordinary act of bravery in August, 2017, went into a burning house to see whether anyone needed rescuing. He heard a woman, Catherine Head, cry out that the door was locked. He rushed to the door, tore away the wire security screen with his bare hands, then kicked in the door. He said: "Come on sweetheart", and took her outside. The woman, who was treated for smoke inhalation, survived and Warren received a bravery award. He was present today to receive a Paul Harris Award from Rotary.

With him to see Warren get the award were Bob Rosengreen, wife Glenys (whose first cousin is married to Lachmund), Glenys's aunt, Mona Davenport who is related to Glenys, and Timothy Lelo, Bob's father in law, now going on 93.

The New Constitution

PDG Barry Antees said his draft for the new club constitution for the Rotary Club of Parramatta City Inc had been circulated and he had not had any challenges to it. The constitution accorded with Rotary International requirements and the NSW Associations Act He put the new constitution to the meeting, which voted unanimously that it be accepted.

President Malcolm said the club had a practice of meeting every second and fourth Monday of the month, but there were occasions when this led to a three-week gap between meetings, as had happened between the end of October and the beginning of November this year. He suggested that the club could have an additional meeting, with the result that every so often there would be a meeting on consecutive weeks. Barry said he thought the extra week, when it occurred, could be used for a social occasion.

Paul Harris Fellow Awards

Paul Harris Fellow awards were presented by President Malcolm to Warren Lachmund, in recognition of his bravery in rescuing Catherine Head; Jenny Towe, who works with club secretary Joy Gillett at the Australian Rotary Health and for years has handled apologies and other administrative details associated with club meetings; and Natalie Cowell, for her donations to The Rotary Foundation. Three other Paul Harris Fellow awards were to be presented at the club's Christmas party at Dooley's Waterview Club at Silverwater on Thursday night, 13th December. Felicity Stehouwer, partner of John Stamboulie, and Mary Stamboulie, John's sister, were to receive awards for their help to Rotary throughout the year, particularly with the Police Office of the Year event and sales of Christmas trees. Helen Brophy was to receive a Paul Harris Fellow award for her personal donation.



Warren Lachmund



Natalie Cowell



Jenny Towe

The Club Calendar

President Malcolm said a strong and updated club calendar was of great value to a club. It gave members a chance to look well ahead. PP Natalie Cowell said there already was a calendar, on our webpage, and that any new items would be emailed to her and she would insert them.

Directors for 2019-20

Barry Antees accepted nomination to be president for 2019-20. Keith Henning accepted the position of treasurer, Joy agreed to continue as club secretary, Phil Brophy agreed to continue as International Director, John Stamboulie as Club Service Director, Natalie Cowell as Community Service, Jerry Tan as Youth Director, and outgoing president Malcolm Brown as PR director.

Christmas Tree Sales

Barry Antees said the first weekend of Christmas tree sales had brought in \$1,031.05. There had been a shortfall of 50 trees. We had ordered 150 and only got 100. The trees were less than two metres tall, very bushy, but their growth affected by drought. The supplier had said he could not keep up with demand this year and had to have trees brought from Victoria. Phil Brophy said there was need for a new EFTPOS machine. Barry said that was being looked after.

Soar and Roar Event

President Malcolm said he had attended the Soar and Roar event at Parramatta Park on Sunday, 9th December, where the Parramatta Daybreak Rotary Club provided a barbecue for participants in the car rally. The rally was for the benefit of disabled athletes who are competing in the Special Olympics in Sydney. Bob Rosengreen provided our BBQ trailer. The Parramatta Rotary Club was also represented. President Malcolm made a brief speech at the event and expressed admiration for the GT cars assembled. Malcolm thanked Bob for taking the trouble to have the trailer available.

Australia Day Barbecue

John Stamboulie said he needed eight volunteers for the barbecue in Parramatta Park on 26th January and three or four the day before to set it up.

Sydney Welsh Choir Concert

President Malcolm said the Sydney Welsh Choir would perform in a combined concert at the Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School on Saturday, 15 June, next year, beginning at 2.30 pm. The choir will perform with the school band in the school assembly hall. The concert is being promoted by the Parramatta Daybreak, and Parramatta City Rotary Clubs as a fundraiser. Joe and Malcolm have had a preliminary meeting with the school's music teacher, Danial Wilson.

Mei Lin Fung

Keith Henning said he had seen on Facebook that the club's very first exchange student, Mei Lin Fung, from Singapore, whom the club had sponsored in 1974, had been put on the shortlist for the top female contributor in IT in Silicon Valley in the United States. He had made a comment on Facebook congratulating her. She had replied and mentioned that she was indebted to the Rotary Club of Parramatta North (which our club then was) for sponsoring her and helping her complete her studies at Northmead High School, where she had been dux. The exchange had also helped her meet her husband, whom she had been married to for 40 years this month. Keith had kept in touch with her and a couple of years ago he and Glennis had had a meal with her at her home in Palo Alto, USA.

Publican John

John Stamboulie announced that he had bought the Crown Hotel in Church Street, Parramatta, and had the licence. He said he would continue with his labels business and was diversifying.

Prospective District Amalgamation

President Malcolm passed on a message from DG Sue Hayward about the proposed merging of Districts 9675 and 9685 to form a district that extends from the South Illawarra to the Central Coast and takes in the eastern side of the Blue Mountains. The club will have to vote on this early next year. He passed on Sue's warning that we either decide for ourselves or we will have a new arrangement imposed on us by Rotary International.

District Grants

President Malcolm passed on an initiation from DG Sue Hayward to make application for district grants by April/May next year. Sue has said that the incoming DG Di North will have more money for distribution during her term.

Our Next Meeting

The club held its Christmas Party on Thursday, 13th December. The next club meeting will be on Monday, 14th January 2019.

Poignant Pictures



Getting into the spirit

For Your Diaries

14th December. Resumption of Christmas sales which will continue for the weekend and the whole of the following week.

22nd December. Last day of Christmas tree sales

14th January 2019. First club meeting of 2019.

25th January 2019. Preparation for Australia Day Barbecue at Parramatta Park

26th January 2019. Australia Day Barbecue

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

1st April 2019. PhD scholars night

15th June 2019. The Sydney Welsh Choir concert at Northmead High.

24th – 25th August 2019. Rotarians Against Malaria convention in Melbourne.