

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

www.parramattacityrotary.org.au

COMMUNITY NETWORKER No 15/2018-2019

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 25th February 2019

Our Toast

PP Phil Brophy proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay, our sister club in the Philippines. He said that this date in 1986 was the “People Power” revolution which toppled the Marcos family from power in that country.

Our Guest

The club welcomed Tia Iaquinto, 17, a final year student at Girraween High School, who was sponsored by our club to attend the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in Canberra in January this year. PP Keith Henning, who had taken part in the selection process, introduced her. Tia, a school prefect, did an accelerated Chemistry course in Year 11 and did the HSC exam in that subject. She had wanted to do a Bachelor of Psychology degree but her focus had now shifted to getting degrees in Science and Engineering.



Tia, with Bob Rosengreen

The New District Format

President Malcolm said he had been directed by the District Governor., Sue Hayward, to bring up the prospective amalgamation of the two Sydney districts, and redefining their boundaries. He said that though the rest of New South Wales would be divided into two districts, he felt that to have one metropolitan district would be to relegate the provincial districts to the status of poor relations. John Stamboulie said he disagreed, that the country Rotary clubs were stronger than the metropolitan ones. PP Phil Brophy said he felt an advantage of one metropolitan district was that we would be able to communicate more freely and cooperate with clubs immediately to our north, such as the Carlingford Rotary Club, which at present were in a different district. Bob Rosengreen said that when we were the Rotary Club of Parramatta North, we did speak directly to the Sydney Rotary clubs. Then we were “flogged off” to the west. Joy Gillett said that at one time we were in just one district, then we became too numerous and more districts were crating. Now that Rotary numbers were reducing, and Rotary was getting smaller, more changes were needed. Rotary was being “cut back” all over Australia.

PDG Barry Antees said he did not see any material benefits coming from the expanded Sydney metropolitan district. “Are there going to be savings in our membership fees?” he asked. “I doubt it.” dis. Barry said we would no longer have the benefit of having the district governor come and give us an inspirational talk. That would be “melted down”. Assistant district governors would pass on the DG’s message but that would tend to become diluted. But he said that when we had a district conference in the enlarged district, more people would attend and there would be a better list of speakers. Bob Rosengreen said there would be more people available; to take district leadership positions. Barry said not many people volunteered to serve at district level. It was really the projects that drove the volunteers. Keith Henning said the issue was only at discussion level anyway, and as far as he was concerned, our club should give district a green light to continue discussing the matter.

The Club agreed to support the continued discussions on amalgamation of the two Sydney districts.

Rotary District Conference

PP Keith said there was an urgent need for members of our club to attend the two-day District Conference at the Bankstown Sports Club, beginning on Friday, 15th March, and continuing over the weekend. Only he, Barry and President Malcolm had registered. Joy was going to attend one day. “The more Rotarians get involved, the better, the more Rotary will mean to you,” he said.

PDG Barry said he had been to a multi-district Rotary conference in Victoria last week and he had found it very inspirational. He had come across three projects which he would like to introduce to our club when he started his presidential year in July this year. Going to such conferences greatly expanded both your Rotary knowledge and your personal knowledge, he said. “The things I picked up in Victoria were brilliant.”

For program details go to <https://www.rotarydistrict9675.org/Stories/district-conference-2019>

To register, go to website <https://www.trybooking.com/book/sessions?eid=407448>

The District Governor Position

President Malcolm passed on a request to clubs to look among the ranks of their past-presidents to see who might be nominated for the position of district governor.

In Memoriam

President Malcolm said DG Sue had sent out a message saying she wanted information for an “In Memoriam” file on departed Rotarians. Joy undertook to get the details on the late Ray Reed and pass them on.

The Oldest Rotarian

President Malcolm said DG Sue is planning to recognise the oldest Rotarian attending the conference. Clubs were to get the details of their oldest Rotarian, the age being calculated from the time they joined Rotary, and the oldest Rotarian present would get an award. Joy said she would put together details on Keith Henning, who joined Rotary in 1972.

Membership

President Malcolm passed on an appeal from DG Sue to look to increasing membership. Women in Rotary was most important, and a goal of each club should be to get at least two new women into the club in the current financial year.

The Club’s Australian Rotary Health Dinner

PP Keith said only eight people had so far registered for the dinner, at Oatlands Golf Club, on 1st April. This event would feature PhD students who had been funded through ARH, and two had said they were coming. Registrations at <https://events.humanitix.com.au/australian-rotary-health-scholars-dinner> ASAP.

Don’t forget to invite friends and prospective Rotarians.

Rotary Foundation Training

President Malcolm said that Rotary Foundation training would be held on Saturday, 4th May, at Newington, from 8.30 am till 12.30 pm. He said there were a lot of funds to be distributed to projects but for a club to receive a global grant, at least one member of the club needed to have had Foundation training.

The Mindanao Project

President Malcolm has announced that the small team supported by Burwood Rotarian Walter Bock to work for poverty relief in Mindanao has acquired a four-wheel drive vehicle for \$23,000. Malcolm launched an appeal last year and some money came in, but the bulk of the money has been provided by Walter himself.

National Youth Science Forum Attendee – Tia Iaquinto

Tia Iaquinto expressed her gratitude to PP Keith, the club and the district for making it possible for her to attend the forum. “It provided not just a deeper understanding but allowed the participants to prepare for the future,” she said. She had gone through a 12-day program along with 600 other students. They had been to various facilities, such as the CSIRO Discovery Centre at Black Mountain and the Australian Space Agency. Students had attended lectures which introduced them to a wide range of possibilities as to how they might employ their talents. In one example, she had looked at the application of chemistry and engineering in producing clean water. In another, students were to touch wired-up bananas to produce music. “We were inspired to reach beyond the normal confines

and see how we could use it in our own lives,” she said. It had not been all work. There had been time for socialising and relaxing. Bob Rosengreen, tanking Tia, said the RYLA program gave Rotary a chance to inspire young people to do things we as older people could not do and Tia was a great example of that.

For Your Diaries

2nd March. Bollywood Dancers night at Carlingford.

11th March. Regular club meeting at the Novotel.

15 - 17 March. District Conference at the Bankstown Sports Club. This will be a three-day event. Registrations close soon. <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=407448>

1st April. PhD Scholars Night, Oatlands Golf Club. Registrations .
<https://events.humanitix.com.au/australian-rotary-health-scholars-dinner>

12th May. Mothers’ Day Classic barbecue, Parramatta Park.

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

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