

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

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

### Rotary Four Way Test

**The Four Way Test challenges Rotarians, in everything they do, to ask of themselves:**

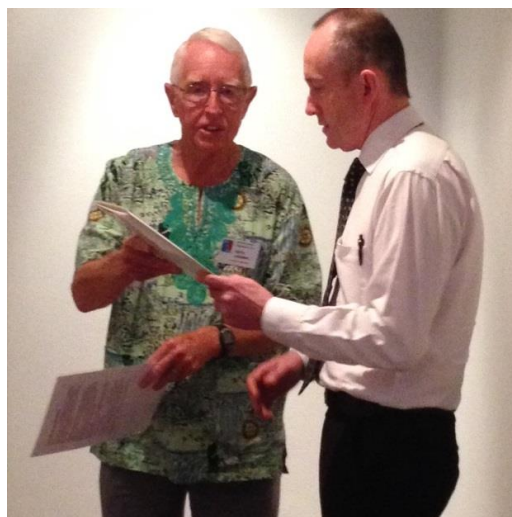
Of the things we say or do:

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 26 May 2014**

### Our New Club Member

We are pleased to welcome as a new member Don Thomson, who was inducted at the meeting. Don, 52, officer manager for the Northcott Society at Hornsby, has been with Northcott for eight years. He was formerly team leader for the society's Disability Employment Service. He is married with two children and lives in Baulkham Hills.



President Keith with Don

### Barry Antees

President Keith urged the club to support our own Barry Antees at the District Governor changeover luncheon when Barry would be taking the chair.

## **The RI Convention**

President Keith pointed out that the convention is upon us. The convention would give us all a feel for the internationality of Rotary. We would be participating in the Great Aussie Barbecue on Sunday 1 June, with many other Clubs, when 8,000 people are expected to be fed. Bob Rosengreen and Don Thomson are on cooking duties

On this Friday afternoon Craig Alford from the Rotary Club of Armadale in Perth, Western Australia will arrive in Parramatta riding his Hustler Super Z ride-on mower.

A number of years ago he thought of a unique Rotary Fundraiser, to ride a mower around Australia over six years and raise \$1,000,000 for various charities. He organized a Team and commenced this project in 2012 and named it "Ride to the Other Side". He and his team have so far completed two legs of our trip; in 2012 from Perth to Kalgoorlie and 2013 from Kalgoorlie to Adelaide. The latest leg of the trip which commenced in early May in Adelaide, has taken in Melbourne, Hobart, Canberra and ends in Sydney for the start of the Rotary Convention on the 31<sup>st</sup> May.

## **Distribution of Charity Funds**

Keith said that at our board meeting last week, some decisions had been made regarding distribution of our money. Subject to funds being available, we would be giving \$5,000 to the Rotary Foundation, of which 50% would go to Polio Plus, \$5,000 to Aust Rotary Health, of which \$2,500 would fund an indigenous health scholarship for 12 months of study. We would give \$1,000 to the Salvation Army in Parramatta for a music therapy teacher, \$1,000 to the Post-Polio Organisation and \$500 each to the Northcott Society and Parramatta Mission. The club would also give \$2,500 to St Peter's School in Uganda and that amount would be matched by a District Grant. Also we would be purchasing a shelter box at a cost of \$1,000 and donating \$1,000 to FOLIA – Friends of Lamb in Australia – who assist the Lamb hospital in Bangladesh.

## **The Red Shield Appeal**

Thank you to the six club members and about 12 other volunteers who set out in West Pennant Hills on Sunday to raise money. We raised almost \$5,000. The Parramatta area raised \$48,000 and the Greater Western Sydney Division just under \$600,000, contributing to a national amount of \$4.9 million. Impressive though that sounds, Steve Burfield said the national figure was a million dollars down on last year. He blamed part of that shortfall to some adverse publicity the Salvation Army had suffered over the past 12 months. But still and all, he added, how many other organisations could make a national appeal and raise \$5 million in one weekend?

Our special thanks to Bob and Glenys Rosengreen for making their property available as a base and also for putting on such a lovely BBQ for the returning collectors.

## **International Evening 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

If you haven't RSVP'd to President Keith yet, please do it NOW.

## **A Man Called Mohammed**

Bob Rosengreen told us an uplifting story of how he lost all five of his credit cards and felt doomed, only to get a call from Parramatta police telling him that a man named Mohammed had picked them up and handed them in.

## **Our Visiting Rotarian Guest**

Bob Selinger, of Arizona USA, a member of the Newport Irvine Rotary Club, came as a guest. A Rotarian since 1972, when he joined in Sacramento, California, he is what might be described as an enthusiastic Rotarian. His wife, Jean, was just as enthusiastic and he took her and the children to 15 conventions world-wide. "You will find how warm and wonderful it is to be in the family of Rotary," he said.

He had been told by a Norwegian RI president that there was a great need in Livingstone, Zambia, and had met the president of the Livingstone Rotary Club. Because of his previous fund-raising experience with the Boy Scouts of America, he thought he could help and ended staying in Livingstone for more than seven years, flying out every month to the United States to raise funds. He raised funds for the project from all over the world, including Australia.

There were some terrible problems in Livingstone, one being that it was the "prostitution capital of Africa", yet many of the women who took it up were doing it out of desperation, having been deprived of education and needing to feed their families. He had taken the initiative to set up a program to teach them to become seamstresses, to make Hawaiian shirts for Rotarians. The project has now been going for eight years and is been extremely successful. "We have trained four classes of women a year and now they are making school uniforms," he said. Three RI presidents had visited the project and had been amazed.



Bob Selinger wearing a shirt produced by one of project beneficiaries. Shirts will be on sale at RI Convention.

And Bob is hardly going to rest on his laurels. He is now forming another Rotary Club, in Robson Ranch-Eloy in Arizona, and will be its Charter President.

## **End Polio Now – Make History Today 3K Walk**

It's not too late! Register now for the **End Polio Now – Make History Today 3K Walk** during the Rotary Convention in Sydney on Saturday, 31 May!

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to walk down the historic Olympic boulevard and experience all of the beautiful parks surrounding Sydney Olympic Park, while raising awareness about the fight to end polio. Join your friends and family and help kick off the convention with this exciting event!

**[Register Now!](#)**

### **EVENT DETAILS**

Date: Saturday, 31 May 2014

Place: Cathy Freeman Park

Start Time: 10.00 (AM)

### **On-site Registration and T-shirt Pick-up**

- Thursday, 29 May 2014. 13.00 – 19.00.  
At Convention Registration – Sydney Showground Exhibit Hall 5.
- Friday, 30 May 2014. 08.00 – 19.00.  
At Convention Registration – Sydney Showground Exhibit Hall 5.
- Saturday, 31 May 2014. 08.00 – 09.30.  
At walk start area – Cathy Freeman Park  
(across road from Convention Registration)

### **Dates for Diaries**

#### **31 May.**

1 June. BBQ at Sydney Olympic Park – Rotary International Convention

3 June. Special Club Night for Rotary International visitors – Ginger Indian Restaurant

From 6pm – cost \$45.00 for 3 course meal.

30 June. Changeover – Ginger Indian Restaurant.

5 July. Bunnings BBQ

**Malcolm Brown**