

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 23 June 2014**

**Governors and Presidents**

Barry Antees steps into the role of District Governor of District 9675 at the Liverpool Catholic Club on Sunday. Thirteen members of our club will be at the changeover, which should mark the beginning of a memorable year. The Parramatta City Club will be having its own changeover the next night, June 30, at Ginger Restaurant in Harris Park where Ron Edgar takes over from Keith. Keith's service as president of the club over the last 12 months has been warmly applauded.

Ron at the time of this meeting was unwell. But official duties take little heed of illness and we must now do something to prepare for Barry's official visit as District Governor on July 14. Joy thinks the Oatlands Golf Club would be suitable. There would be five clubs represented there, which would be about 100 people. Cost is \$45 a head for a two-course meal.

**Presentation to DGE Barry Antees.**



At last week's meeting President Keith presented DGE Barry Antees with a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow pin containing additional stones.

This is in recognition of Barry's continued support of the Rotary Foundation.

Well done Barry

## Our Guest

Ian Cochrane, a volunteer worker in community development in Bangladesh, along with his wife Jill, made a seventh visit to the club. Ian, introduced by Glenn Gardner, had a career in the NSW Education Department where he was principal of several high schools. Glenn, who has known Ian and his wife since 1968, said Ian and Jill had developed a great interest in Bangladesh and had been working in the LAMB project. This is based on a 150-bed general hospital in the Dinajpur District of Bangladesh. Opened in 1983 by Lutheran Aid, it has since provided health care for the neighbouring community, especially poor. It has been taken into the portfolio of the Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) program.

## Email received from Ride to the Other Side.



Dear Joy, Janis and Keith,

Well our Ride to the Other Side Rotary fundraiser is over for another year and we are all safely back in Perth. This year we covered 2500km on the Lawnmower and on present indications with donations and sponsorship we look like we have raised around \$75,000. This puts us over \$200,000 since we started 3 years ago. We had a great welcome riding into the Sydney Convention.

We could not do this without the support of Rotary Clubs like yours and I would just like to thank you on behalf of the team and the charities we support for your assistance on this year's journey. It certainly helps keep our costs down thereby enabling the money to go to those who need it most- the charities we support. Janis, many thanks for organizing the Roland Hassell School accommodation for us. It was very comfortable.

Kind regards,

Kim Larsen

[secretary@ridetotheotherside.org.au](mailto:secretary@ridetotheotherside.org.au)

0408958332

## Exchange Students

President Keith said he had been contacted by the chairman of the Rotary Exchange Committee desperate to find host families for a 16-year-old Danish boy who was coming to the district as one of 16 to 18 Rotary Exchange students. Might our club provide at least two host families who could take the boy for a period of three months?

## Barbecues

Keith reminded us about the Bunnings Barbecue on Saturday week, July 5.

## Can you help?? Ranfurly Book Aid Inc needs help.

Ranfurly Book Aid Inc sends used school books to the Pacific Islands and to PNG. The cost of sea freight is causing them concern.

They have an opportunity to send an occasional consignment to PNG free of charge if they can deliver it to Toll Transport's depot in the Western Suburbs, Toll will deliver to a container being sent by a commercial organisation in Brisbane to their PNG representatives.

This gets an occasional consignment to PNG via Brisbane free of charge for them. Ranfurly have to deliver to the Container in Brisbane to benefit from this arrangement. Toll will transport to Brisbane Free of charge, however they have to deliver to the Toll Depot in Western Sydney

Ranfurly are looking for a Rotarian, or two, who either has a good sized trailer or Ute who might like to volunteer for this very worthwhile task. Each consignment is 12 cartons of used school books, the measurement is .8 cu metre. This would likely be not much more than a few times per year.

Toll's depot is in the outer western Sydney suburbs, Eastern Creek, Ranfurly's warehouse is at Rozelle.

## Disadvantaged Bangladesh



Ian Cochrane with members of the Baridhara Rotary Club, Bangladesh

Ian expressed appreciation for the support our club had given to the LAMB project in Bangladesh. He said there was enormous need in that country, which had won most of the “prizes” for the most extreme conditions, such as the worst drinking water and worst domestic violence. It had 160 million people crowding into a country the size of Tasmania. The Lamb Hospital had been built more than 10 hours by train from the capital, Dacca. The hospital and health service reached out to a million people. It had 20 health centres and there was a training centre running 30 to 40 courses year-round.

Since 2005, Ian had been working at a medium school which had a unit for disabled children. Jill was a counsellor, training locals in mediation and conflict resolution. Ian said the LAMB project reached out to the poorest of the poor. Nobody was turned away from the hospital. Bangladesh was 98 percent Muslim but the Muslims were supporting the Christian hospital – the kind of benevolent aspect of Islam that did not make the news. All but two members of the Rotary Club of Dacca were Muslim but they had raised money and members had taken the train trip to see the project for themselves.

In 2005, Ian and Jill had formed Friends of LAMB in Australia. This was now part of Rotary Australian World Community Service (RAWCS). Money had been raised for the disability unit, which with that support was to do many good things, in particular in the area of autism. Money raised had enabled the project to acquire hospital equipment, an ambulance, a people mover and a transporter of oxygen. Now it needed money the disability unit. Ian gave a case study of a boy called Proman, who had suffered from an autistic disorder but had had his life transformed, along with that of his family, by the infusion of money to provide a teacher for him. Providing a teacher for a year for a boy like Proman cost \$1,450.

Ian said that half a kilometre from the LAMB Project was a school called Livingstone with 200 children, which went up to Year Six. The school offered English, Geography, Maths, Music and Science. Ian now had to raise \$34,000 to train teachers. He said that of the 200 children, 198 were the first in the history of their families to ever have attended school.

In answer to questions, Ian said that it was most important to educate women. He said that 70 to 80 percent of children born in Bangladesh died before the age of five. A woman would go through 10 or 12 pregnancies in the hope that a boy would survive. The educated people in Bangladesh who had access to medical facilities did not have such problems and might only have two children. If poor people had the same access to medical facilities, the number of pregnancies among them would dwindle. But there was a long way to go. “When we started this school, only three children had enough food for the day,” he said. “The other children had one meal in four days. We could not feed children with empty stomachs so we gave them breakfast. No child, he said, was turned away from the school.

In answer to what the government of Bangladesh was doing, Ian said the government was so corrupt that everyone voted into government would be soon corrupted and the work he was doing had to be left to others.

Secretary Joy thanked Ian for his talk and presented him with a cheque for \$1,000, which Ian said would go to providing a teacher for the disabled boy Proman for the next year.



Ian Cochrane with friends in Bangladesh

### **Dates for Diaries**

29 June. Changeover for the District Governorship at the Liverpool Catholic Club.

30 June. Changeover night for club presidency.

5 July. Bunnings barbecue

14 July. District Governors Visit – our own DG Barry – combined evening meeting with other clubs in area.

### **Malcolm Brown**