

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY Inc. DISTRICT 9675

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 1 December 2104

The Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Osaka. He said the club was founded 90 years ago. Its sister club is the Rotary Club of Melbourne, which happens to be the first Rotary club in Australia. At the celebration of the Osaka club's 90th anniversary, there were 20 international visitors present and 130 of the club's own members. Bob said that at the foundation of the Osaka Rotary Club, Japan was 17 years off entering World War 11 and no doubt we ended up fighting some of the Rotarians of the time. "We hope that Christmas and peace to the world has a lot more consideration today, we have to remember these things," Bob said.

Our Guests

The club welcomed Kathleen Rome, a Year 11 student at Macarthur Girls' High, whom the club is sponsoring to attend the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra. Kathleen was accompanied by her father, Marcus, who is an accountant but in a previous career in manufacturing spent time in India, where Kathleen went to boarding school at the foot of the Himalayas. Career-wise, Kathleen wants to specialise in environmental science.

We also welcomed out exchange student, Frederik Andersen, being hosted by Natalie Cowell, with Natalie's precocious little boy Bohdan looking and acting more and more like Frederik's younger brother.

Ray Reed

The club welcomed back Ray Reed, who has suffered a series of maladies and misfortunes that have put him in and out of hospital since June. Ray says the prognosis is "good" and he will be back to good health. "It is just a matter of time, I hope," he said.

Alwyn Robinson

The club regrets the departure of Alwyn Robinson, who as a Salvation Army major was commander of the Parramatta Citadel. Alwyn joined the club 2-1/2 years ago at the urging of fellow Salvationist Steve Burfield and has not regretted the experience. Now off to join the academic training staff at Bexley North, he said that what had impressed him about the club was the respect members had shown for each other. With the rejoinder by Ralph Cadman that he was “not a bad bloke, really”, Alwyn said the atmosphere in the club was “wholesome and I thank you for that”. For the record, Alwyn is being replaced at Parramatta by Captains Grant and Sharon Sandercock-Brown. Given that the presence of one or two men, and women, of the cloth cannot fail to be uplifting to the club, we hope that Alwyn or Steve might have a quiet word with them.

Christmas Trees

Phillip Brophy said Christmas tree sales were healthy. As at Monday, we had sold 219 trees, compared with 208 for the same period last year. We were to have delivery of a further 100 trees on Wednesday and we considered getting up to 30 more to cope with anticipated demand.



PE Malcolm and dog Justin selling Christmas trees

My Career/Your Career

President Ron said he had taken on for work experience one Alex who had come from the Northcott Society's My Career/Your Career program, encouraging people with disabilities to aspire to higher goals. Alex had performed very well. "Every day we see the work he does is better and better," he said.

Kathleen Rome

Kathleen Rome, 17, spent nine years of her life in India, where her father Marcus worked in manufacturing. She went trekking in the Himalayas and was caught up in the magnificence of everything around her. She had an early introduction to environmental studies anyway, through her psychologist grandfather William.

Now in Year 11 at Macarthur Girls' High, she will be attending the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra in January and will be in a group dedicated to environmental science. "They introduce us to big organisations and different ideas and some scientists and professors give speeches. We also connect with other young people."

Kathleen said she had a lifelong interest in nature, going to the mountains, taking photographs, seeing wildlife and appreciating the beauty of it all. "I believe we have to live with it and benefit from it and not destroy it," she said. "I want to focus on sustainable energy for the future."



Kathleen Rome in her environment

Irish Wisdom

From Malcom Brown's recent tour of Ireland



A safe and Happy Christmas and New Year to All

Dates for Diaries

12 January 2015. First meeting of the club for the New Year.

26 January 2015. Australia Day BBQ breakfast in Parramatta Park.

23 February 2015. Houses and mountainsides are to be lit up to celebrate the 110th anniversary of the foundation of Rotary.

Malcolm Brown