

COMMUNITY NETWORKER

ROTARY CLUB OF PARRAMATTA CITY, DISTRICT 9675

Rotary Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test challenges Rotarians, in everything they do, to ask 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 28 October 2013

Our guests

The club was delighted to welcome Dr Geoff Lee, Liberal Member for Parramatta in the NSW Legislative Council. Geoff won Parramatta in the 2011 election with a swing of more than 25 percent. He is presently deputy chair of the NSW Parliament's Public Accounts Committee and might well be in line for a ministry. But he holds closely to the idea that he must continue to relate directly to the people. He does not adhere to the idea of meeting them only at election time.

Two other guests were Dot and Bob Hennessy. Dot is District 9675 Vocation Service Chairperson. DG-elect Barry Antees, introducing Dot, said he had been "round the traps" for many years and had see a lot of districts in their vocational area and in this context, Dot Hennessy had been "a treasure". She was "probably one of the most innovative people I have ever met", he said. Her achievements in the area had been "spectacular". She had initiated a lot of skills programs which Rotary was looking to building on in the years to come.

Bob Hennessy, sporting like Dot a shirt advertising next year's RI Convention, came to the meeting as a loyal husband.

President Keith

Keith congratulated John Surian on the birth of a granddaughter, Emilia Mary. Keith reminded us of the My Career/Your Career seminar being held at Northcott this week, to be attended by Barry Antees, Phil Brophy and Stephen Burfield.

He said the Parramatta City Rotary website was off and running and asked members to upload their photographs into the spaces provided.

He reminded Rotarians once more to register for the RI International Convention before 15 December this year so that the district could get a substantial rebate on fees.

Keith said the joint meeting with the District Governor, Garry Browne, last week was a great success and he would be circulating a copy of Garry's speech.

He reminded us that on 18 November, there would be a transfer meeting for the Rotary Foundation at the Epping Club, starting at 6.30 pm.

He said there was an ongoing requirement for speakers at the club. Anyone who knew anyone who could speak should contact Glenn Gardner.

Bushfire Relief

President Keith reminded us of the barbecue at Bunnings in North Parramatta on Friday week and suggested that because of the urgency of the bushfire appeal that the proceeds from that should be delivered to the relief fund.

Keith said that at the last meeting, he had spoken about shelter boxes for overseas disaster areas. He was wondering whether the club might do one for the bushfire appeal..

Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Keith said the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program for people aged between 19 and 25 would be from 11-18 January next year. Applications for the award were due by mid-November. The program, for the development of people with leadership material, would be held at the Stanwell Heights Lodge. Keith said the club would like to nominate one person for the program, at a cost of \$750. He thought the club would probably not be able to fund two, but that employers might help.

Smiles and Dimples

Keith said a team from Evanston Rotary International would be coming to Parramatta City Rotary to do a video which would tell a positive story about Rotary and, if we smiled nicely, would end up with Rotary Publicity. The team was looking for people "listening to each other ... communicating and networking, communication, a sense of camaraderie and belonging". They wanted to seem, "laughter, smiles and dimples". Because the transfer meeting would be at Epping that night, Rotary city would have a "dummy meeting" at our normal venue, which would be longer than the normal meeting, up to two hours".

Mock Job Interviews

Keith said the Australian Career Business College would be having a careers workshop day for students in November and it needed some people to act as prospective employers in mock job interviews. It would be on one day between 11 and 15 November and would be between one and three hours, at 85 George Street, Parramatta. The college was looking for people do interviews between 1 and 3 pm.

Our PhD Scholar

Joy Gillett gave us the welcome news that our Rotary PhD scholar, Tonelle Handley, whom the club had sponsored for PhD studies on suicide, had been given a three-year post-doctoral scholarship worth \$250,000. Joy said Tonelle had “floored” the interview panel late last week and had received the second-highest rating among 45 people interviewed. Tonelle Handley, from Newcastle, was in addition “a lovely girl”.

A Tragedy

Phil Brophy gave us the sad news involving Amanda Ellison on October 6. Her husband Greg and his parents had been killed in a car accident outside Narrabri and her son, aged 15, also in the car, had airlifted to Tamworth Hospital in a serious condition.

Dates for Diaries

October 31st – My Career – Your Career Expo, Northcott Building, Fennell St, North Parramatta.

District Training, Liverpool Catholic Club.

November 1st – Combined Presidents meeting. Liverpool Catholic Club.

November 4th – Club Meeting, speaker PP Miriam Jacka, Donations in Kind (DIK)

November 8th – Bunnings BBQ

November 11th – Club Meeting, speaker Linda Sirol, Succession Planning.

November

DG-elect Barry Antees has put out the following message:

It's Movember and I'll be growing a moustache for Movember to raise funds and awareness for men's health. It's going to be a hairy journey and I want you to be part of it. If you feel as strongly as I do about changing the face of men's health, enlist for Movember and join my team now: <http://moteam.co/parramatta-city-rotary>

A moustache is the mark of a man, and today it is a symbol to spark conversations about important health issues. So guys, pledge to grow a Mo today, or ladies, join the team to support my Mo. Find out more about why you should join me and Movember, by taking a look at the causes we are fighting for: <http://au.movember.com/programs>.

Thanks in advance for supporting me and helping to change the face of men's health.



Dot Hennessy with Natalie Cowell

Vocational Skills

Rotary District Vocational Service Chairperson, Dot Hennessy, said she had led a vocational team to the east coast of Canada in 2010, at a time when the new Vocational Training Team concept was “on trial” as opposed to Group Study Exchange. She had taken five young health professionals, each in working in youth mental health and for her it was a “life-changing experience”. “We all apply our ethical standards in what we do,” she said. “More importantly we recognise our vocations as opportunities to do other things and to use our talents for the benefit of others.”

Dot said that in the Illawarra, where she operated, there was strong support from the local media. On Tuesday night, there would be a presentation of Pride of Workmanship Awards and Vocational Awards in Wollongong. It was a chance to

recognise people who had done outstanding things and also to promote Rotary. It was a great opportunity to promote her Club and for other people to join any of the 11 clubs in the area. "Our District training team is working on a range of professional development activities," she said. "I encourage you and invite you to those presentations," she said. "There is a lot of hard work that goes into delivery. It is a wonderful opportunity that we can provide for our Rotarians."

The District Conference on 1 March next year was very important for our development. "This is an opportunity to do something different," she said. "It is an opportunity for you to use your vocation to encourage and promote, others to join you to experience this event." On the subject of Rotary membership, she said: "I have been in Rotary for 19 years and have been able to invite a new member each year. It is important that the person chooses a Rotary Club as a place where they are going to be happy. Then they start to invite members and it means that the club grows."

There were some good programs in operation including RYLA and Rotary's Ambassadorial Scholarships and Youth Exchange. The third Emergency Services Awards had just been held, and these events were a great opportunity for Rotary and the community to celebrate the achievements of the seven emergency service organisations in New South Wales.

Dot said there was a program in the Illawarra for youth and youth at risk between the ages of 12 and 18. They were bussed into a central location and bussed back to their front doors. The group was divided into six groups, four to play a sport competitively, this term being basketball, while two groups attend a personal development workshop in life skills topics etc. "We cater, most weeks for 100 to 120 people and it is a project that can be moved anywhere," she said. "Bob and I go home at night saying we have made a difference. And the kids look for it now."

Dot said the NSW Training Awards were conducted by the Department of Community Education, which held events in each of their Regions in NSW, recognising apprentices and trainees, other categories and businesses. The winners went on to contest the State Awards, and people up to age 23 years of age could represent Australia in a world skills competition. They were called the "Skillaroos". "It used to be called the Skill Olympics," Dot said. "It is just life-changing to see these young people at regional level, competing in the trades, and the winners from these they go on to national competition," she said.

WorldSkill was part of an international network. "I think the memorandum of understanding our District has initiated with WorldSkill is certainly a first in Australia, and probably a first in the world," Dot said. She would like all the Rotary Clubs in Australia to support the young people in that competition. "Our young people have to work first and train after-hours, then go on to 'take on the world'," she said. National Skills Week, celebrated in August/September each year, was also associated with vocations. "I have tried to encourage our clubs to celebrate and toast vocations in our meetings, each week or once a month similar to an International Toast," she

said. "Also, when we have our club vocational service awards to celebrate all our vocations. It is another way of getting the message out."

Apologies and Guests

Apologies to Joy Gillett opn 8837 1900 before 9.30 am on Monay morning.

This is the latest time apologies can be accepted as numbers must to be given to the hotel buy this time.

If you a bringing a a guest please also advice this to Joy by that time to ensure a meal is prepared.

The Club is required to pay for the number of lunches ordered. Invoices for the cost of a meal will be sent to members by Vandana if you do not apologise for none-attendance by the time stated.

Silly Stuff

I don't have anything to blow off at this week, so I thought I would include a link for a most important video sent to me by my son's nutty Chinese father-in-law.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5gK2MxGR0M&feature=youtube_gdata_player

Malcolm Brown