

Rotary Connects.....the World

Rotary Club of Parramatta City

May 5th 2020
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Last week as you can read in Malcolm's report we had a bit of fun and interesting to hear how Inge Brown is a treasure trove of Star Wars information, so much we need to bring her back along with her memorabilia.

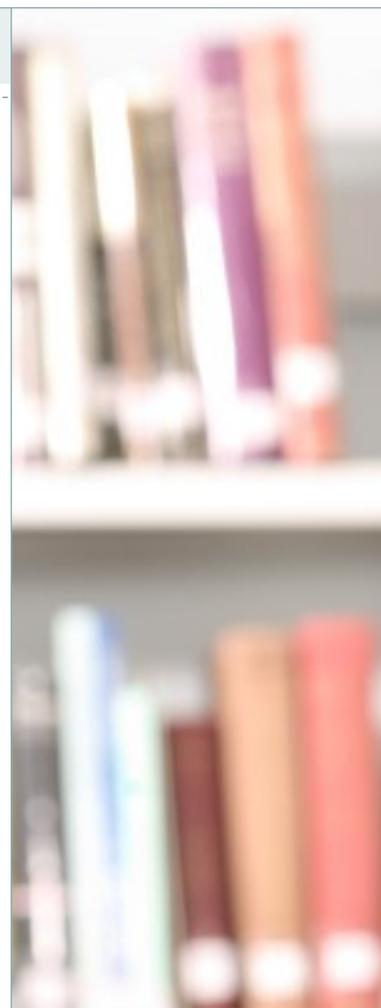
We are coming to end of this Rotary year and we are calling for a Club Assembly this coming Monday for all members to attend and have an input into shaping the direction of the club for the next 12 months. We need to rethink of some of fund raising efforts and explore new avenues so we can maintain our projects. Of course membership will be on the agenda. I bring some good news coming in from the USA statistics have shown that there has been a 288% increase in volunteering requests across all areas. I believe that here in Australia we will see the same numbers as the Covid 19 has brought communities together, we all share a common enemy , that being the virus.

The reports of neighbours coming together like it has never happened before, to offer assistance and support leads me to believe it will happen. So how are we going to capitalize on this? The answers will come from you, whether you are a member, past member or friend of our club join us on Monday and lend your support, details on page 5 to login.

I hope to see you at the Monday week's meeting and if you missed any of our previous speakers they are on the Clubs Youtube channel, search under the club's name or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClv8_YX8Tu9KosEkob6MyVA

As well I encourage to use our facebook page, like it and subscribe to our Youtube channel as well

President Barry Antees



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Notes from meeting

MEETING NOTES-MALCOLM BROWN

4th May 2020

Yet another e-meeting with, namely president Barry Antees, PPs Phil Brophy and Malcolm Brown, Secretary Joy Gillett, and one guest, Ingeborg Brown. The half-hour we had was devoted to Star Wars (“May the Fourth Be With You.”). Barry welcomed everyone by introducing Darth Vader, cunningly disguised as a child.

A Consideration of Star Wars

Star Wars burst onto the big screen in 1977 and captured the imagination of millions. It was so successful that the producers had to think of a sequel. Since then there have been eight sequels, the last being in 2019 with *The Rise of Luke Skywalker*. The producers had to go back to the first *Star Wars* movie and give it another name. They called it *New Hope*. The movies and all the spin-off products like toys were in such demand and the characters so popular that not even Carrie Fisher’s death could stop her being resurrected in digital form to act in yet another movie. The money rolled in in extraordinary amounts. Barry said annual sales were worth \$70 billion, an “amazing result”, secretary Joy observed. To which Barry added that between the first movie and the last, there had been such an extraordinary improvement in technical matters that the first movie, from that point of view, was put into the shade.



Members were asked to make a contribution to the discussion. Phil came up with a quote from Yoda, the little green man with big ears who gave sage advice to Luke Skywalker. It went along the lines of fear was the path of the Dark Side, that fear produced anger, anger hate and hate suffering and that we should not fear The Force. PP Phil had to concede that he had “never really graduated” from *Lost in Space*, to which Barry immediately responded that there was new version of *Lost in Space* in Netflix.

Barry said he had taken his infant son to the movies in 1977 to see the first *Star Wars* but the boy was too young to take it in. But by the second *Star Wars* (*The Empire Strikes Back*, 1980), he understood it and by the time their third came round (*Return of the Jedi*, 1983), he was “right into it”. It was unique in the sense that adults and youngsters could understand it at different levels and could afterwards converse meaningfully about. Joy said her grandson, Sam, was probably the one in her offspring most into it. Her son, Ben, had no interest and her daughter, Amanda, put up with it because of Sam. Joy herself had seen the first *Star Wars* but after a while had become “sick of it”.

MEETING NOTES-MALCOLM BROWN

PP Malcolm said he and Ingeborg had met a family in England where the son, Chris, had an intellectual disability. Chris worked at a supermarket stacking shelves but his abiding interest was in Star Wars. Ingeborg also had a fascination and over the years had built up an “encyclopaedic knowledge” of the subject. So, when Chris and Inge had got together to compare notes they could not be separated, and the correspondence had continued internationally. Chris had sent *Star Wars* material at Christmas time, including a calendar. Inge in the meantime had bought a book, *Star Wars, Revenge of the Sith*, which featured Palpatine, initially a good guy, who had become a monster. Asked who their favourite characters were, Phil said he was rather partial to Yoda. Joy said she was really attracted to Hans Solo. Barry said he had a soft spot for Darth Vader and Malcolm said he rather fancied Jabba the Hut, who delighted in eating people and having their beg for their lives before he condemned them to a lingering thousand-year consumption by a carnivorous plant. According to Barry, Harrison Ford, who did such a magnificent job saving the universe as Hans Solo, came rather down to earth with a thud when picked up in the United States last week for a driving offence.

Poignant Pictures



City to Surf Race

As you will all recall, our Treasurer Keith Henning did the City to Surf to personally raise funds to being able to pay for a ARH Indigenous Health Scholarship he now able to share the great news that a scholarship has just been awarded using funds contributed by himself and his sponsors for his fundraising in the 2019 City to Surf run. The scholarship is worth \$5000 pa and, subject to satisfactory results, will assist the student for the 2020-2022 academic years.

The recipient is Jordan Amos, a 3rd year medical student studying at University of Newcastle. Her CV is very impressive. This scholarship will be of great benefit to her. Keith hope's to meet up with her soon (COVID-19 permitting)



Further very interesting details about Jordan can be found at <https://australianrotary-health.org.au/jordan-amos/>

Our Charity– The Rotary Foundation

Incoming Foundation Chair Keith Henning sent an email 6th April asking members to consider personal giving this year to the Rotary Foundation

As you are aware the Rotary Foundation is the major charity of Rotary International. In the year ended 30 June 2018 over US\$85 million in grants were made by the Foundation – see attached. This Rotary year our club has been the recipient of a small grant to acquire the graffiti trailer.

At the Rotary Foundation dinner held in late 2019, our President was the proud recipient of an award given to the club that had the highest per capita donations in District 9675. This was due to contributions by a majority of club members and by a donation of \$2500 from club funds.

However, to date this financial year, only 2 of our members have made contributions to the Foundation. So, let's get going and see if we can do more to help others, and, at the same time see if we can retain for President Barry the title which we claimed last year.

Message from our School project in Uganda-St Peters

Generally, our COVID-19 situation is not bad. To date we have 97 cases, more than half of this are foreign truck drivers entering from Kenya and Tanzania. There is no death case yet and more than 55 cases of recovery now.

Schools are still closed and people are very anxious and felt disappointed by the government announcement yesterday. It looks like schools will open in August or September. The government only relaxed measures re-opening whole sale business, insurance, welding and wood workshops, garages, legal services, and printing. All other sectors remain closed.

Our biggest challenge now is the suffering from the lockdown especially food. Our teachers are doing badly and they have run out of food. They have frequently called me to support them but this has not been possible because with the lockdown I also do not have money.

Robert Opira

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Virtual club meetings

Monday May 11th 2020 at 1.00pm

Club Assembly will be held this Monday, it is important for all members to attend to have you voice in the operations of the club.

We now have a permanent GOTO details which I will repeat but for those who want to make this a permanent in your calendars

RC Parramatta City Monday Lunch Meetings

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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ROTARY

WE CONNECT PEOPLE

Rotary unites more than a million people

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

WE TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

We take action locally and globally

Each day, our members pour their passion, integrity, and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact. We persevere until we deliver real, lasting solutions.

Giving to Our Causes



Promoting Peace



Fighting Disease



Providing Clean Water



Saving Mothers and Children



Supporting Education



Growing Local Economies



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