

Rotary Connects.....the World

Rotary Club of Parramatta City

July 16th 2020
Volume 48, Issue 2

At our last meeting members were invited to bring along items to assist with the International Students enrolled at Western Sydney University Campus at Parramatta and it was pleasing to see Keith Henning's boot fully loaded. This project along with the Parramatta Club in tandem will work together on this ongoing project.

At the meeting following the news that our annual planting of trees (30,000 in three years) will not occur this year, I raised the opening of a new position within the club for anyone to drive a new project in the field of Environment that is sustainable and green, this may be a hands on or of an educational based project. Talk to your business or family about something that may be of interest to you, that our club can get behind you

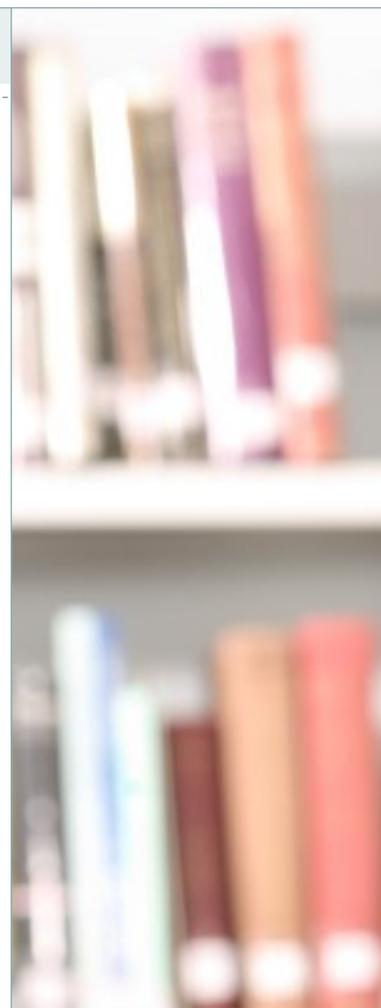
On page four of this issue is a call out from PDG Keith Roffey for assistance at the Castle Hill HEERA warehouse for the Rotary Health and Educational Equipment Repurposing Activity who needs assistance in getting containers ready for shipment overseas on August 20th. Please see if you, workmates or family can assist on the day.

At our next meeting 27th July I have Charlene Bordley from the newly formed Parramatta Chapter of Cycling Without Age who will inform us of her progress and initial training of drivers and how they will cope with the elderly and disabled under our current conditions. Further details will be emailed out at a later date.

Have a great week

Barry Antees

President



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- Notes from meeting



MEETING NOTES-MALCOLM BROWN

Rotary Club of Parramatta City

13th July 2020

This was the changeover meeting for the club. Present were the outgoing and incoming president, Barry Antees, together with Joy Gillett, Keith Henning, Natalie Cowell, Phil Brophy, Malcolm Brown, Bob Rosengreen, Elaine McRory. An apology was received from John Stamboulie who had medical matters to attend to.

Our Toast

Phil Brophy proposed an international toast to all the nations in the world which were, collectively, ultimately responsible for bringing together the assembled company.

Our Guests

Our guests included Cheryl Deguara, immediate past-president of Parramatta Rotary Club, who has produced our changeover booklet. Barry said the Parramatta Rotary Club and our club had worked well together. The other guest was Ingeborg Brown, wife of Malcolm.

The New Board

Barry thanked the outgoing board for their service and introduced the new board, comprising himself as President. The rest of the board is: President-elect and Director of Youth Services and Public Relations, **Malcolm Brown**; Secretary and Treasurer **Joy Gillett**; Foundation and International Director **Keith Henning**; Vocational Services Director **John Stamboulie**; Community Services Director **Phil Brophy**. Barry paid tribute to Natalie Cowell, who stepped down from the board after five years, including a term as president, serving as a club director.

Barry's Report

Barry said the 12 months to 30th June had been difficult, because of drought, bushfires and the Covid-19 crisis. The result was that the club had not been able to push forward with a lot of its plans and its disposable surplus, which would normally benefit others, had suffered. He thought the next 12 months had a lot of promise but the club had to be quicker in its response to some situations. We did have funds for a youth program that occurred before Christmas and after that we would have Christmas tree sales. Barry said the Police Officer of the Year event had been postponed and there was some doubt whether it could be staged this financial year. It might not be held till July next year. The other event to look forward to was the Festival of Pangea. "I am really hoping it will take off," he said.

The Needy Students of the UWS

Keith Henning said the names of four students at UWS had been supplied by the university's Chaplaincy Department. They were in serious need. He said the Coptic Christian Church of St Mary and St Merkourios. The church had a warehouse in South Strathfield where food was taken in, packaged up and sent to the needy. Keith had picked up packages at the warehouse and had located three of the four students who lives at Toongabbie, Telopea and Parramatta. He had delivered a package to the fourth student later. Parramatta Rotary Club had joined with us in this project. Keith would be working in concert with Christine McSeventy, the club's Service Director, to ensure that the whole system, which would rely on weekly donations of food by club members, went smoothly. We needed volunteers to help distribute the food. Malcolm Brown had volunteered his services. If there were enough volunteers, we might take on more students.

St Peter's College

Keith Henning said the college in Uganda had closed in March because of the coronavirus, which meant that the teachers who had staffed the college had not been paid. The private schools in Uganda were in a dreadful situation, with some having to sell their assets and close for good.

MEETING NOTES-MALCOLM BROWN

The Christmas Trees

Phil Brophy said we had had sales in previous years affected by drought and by a fierce storm and this year it was likely we would have to contend with the coronavirus. We would have to address the question of social distancing when people came to look at the trees.

Cycling Without Age

Barry said a Cycling Without Age project had started in Parramatta. The project was based in a car park in Horwood Place in Parramatta, where there was a bicycle rack, and there had been a training session last Friday. The organisers were looking forward to a formal launch in February once people were properly trained.

Mental Health Day

Barry said it was hoped we would have a Mental Health Day in October. It would be good if we could get a High Tea organised as part of the event. There was some grant money available for us to do some mental health promotion.

The Environment

Barry said the district had put priority on environmental causes and sustainability projects. We did not have a position on the board for someone who wanted to take that up but if someone did have something to offer in that area. He would “leave the floor open” for anyone with an idea on environmental sustainability. On such idea might be to give lectures to school students about responsible disposal of plastic waste. They were welcomed to come onto the board. Last year, the club had participated in a National Tree Day where the aim had been to plant 10,000 trees.

Membership

Barry said we needed more members. In particular, we would like to have a real estate agent and an accountant among our members. He said the recent new members included Laurence Wilson. Another, Elaine McRory, had demonstrated her friendliness, good humor and commitment to the club. We had also recently joined by Joy Nel, of the Smith Family, along with Waranee Nuij, who had been very good, supportive and productive.

Poignant Pictures



HEALTH & EDUCATION EQUIPMENT REPURPOSING ACTIVITY

6th July 2020

Dear Rotarians,

Health & Educational Equipment Repurposing Activity (HEERA) is an activity of Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited (RAWCS). The purpose of HEERA, is to provide humanitarian aid through the provision and distribution of used and redundant goods, mainly educational and medical equipment and supplies to assist Rotarians and other charitable organisations to access and distribute these goods overseas, nationally and locally.

We are seeking assistance from clubs with sorting and preparing goods and equipment ready for shipment. The work is not heavy; however, it will involve standing, lifting and bending.

COVID-19 social distancing and working criteria will be in place.

We would require up to five members of your club to be available on **Thursday 20th August** between 10:00am – 2:00pm to assist.

Please advise members availability and names by **Wednesday 19th August**.

Tea & coffee and a light lunch will be provided.

Address:

Unit 4, 12 – 16 Anella Avenue
Castle Hill

Contacts:

Keith Roffey 0419 046 688
Janis Harvey 0415 439 022

We thank you for your consideration and hope that your members can assist us.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Roffey - *Supervisor*

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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